

Just the Facts

THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA'S RESPONSE to the earthquake in Haiti involved handling 50,000 calls, opening 6,527 files on affected persons, assisting the departure from Haiti of 4,620 people on 49 flights and deploying 222 staff to help on the ground.

ABOUT 2.8 MILLION CANADIANS LIVE outside of Canada, and Canadians took more than 56 million trips abroad in 2010, including 2.9 million trips to destinations, including China, Cuba, Mexico and Thailand.

BETWEEN JANUARY 29 AND APRIL 18 of this year, 350 volunteer members of the Emergency Response Community worked 10,800 hours in the Operations Centre, 60 people were hired on casual contracts and 100 staff were deployed to "hot spots."

IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS, the number of Canadians asking for consular assistance abroad has increased by 21 percent. The nature of the cases opened during this period was as follows: 803 involving medical assistance, 1,894 arrest/detention, 34 murder/death, 698 well-being/whereabouts and 22 kidnapping.

DFAIT DEALT WITH 210,736 CONSULAR cases in 2010, a number that has climbed steadily since 2001, when there were 131,346 such cases.

75 PERCENT OF CONSULAR CASES in 2010 concerned passports, 22 percent were routine inquiries, and 3 percent involved distress cases.

SPRING SURGE—THE NUMBER OF CALLS received during the recent emergencies:
Japan: 12,600
New Zealand: 308
Libya: 2,800
Egypt: 18,500
Côte d'Ivoire: 387 (as of April 23, 2011)

50 Crises in 15 Months ▼

From January 2010 to April 2011, DFAIT staff, regional emergency management offices, missions, wardens, volunteers and other government departments responded to 50 international crises in 36 countries. These emergencies have included everything from bus accidents to devastating natural disasters. They all have two things in common: they needed a coordinated departmental response, and Canadians were affected. Here is just a partial list of some of the urgent situations we have dealt with in recent months. For a larger and more detailed list, please visit *Our World Online*.

Haiti, January 2010

7.0 magnitude earthquake
230,000 dead
1 million left homeless



Chile, February 2010

8.8 magnitude earthquake
562 dead
\$15-30 billion in losses to Chilean economy



Pakistan, July 2010

Devastating floods
2,000 dead
Over 20 million affected



Middle East, Jan. 2011–present

Civil unrest
16,000 dead (estimated)



Japan, March 2011

9.0 magnitude earthquake,
tsunami, nuclear emergency
15,628 dead
4,823 people missing
One of the five strongest recorded
earthquakes in history

