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Haiti Relief Through Cooperative Development Foundation

Many local cooperatives, as well as the International Cooperative Alliance, have organized donation drives for Haiti relief. For the U.S., the Cooperative Development Foundation (CDF) is offering a way for all co-ops to contribute to this effort.

CDF maintains a Cooperative Emergency Fund that is accepting donations for Haiti recovery, and in its first week raised over \$10,000. Donations will be used to help cooperatives and cooperators affected by the earthquake to rebuild their facilities and their lives. CDF is sending volunteers to help in this effort, working with ACDI/VOCA and the NRECA International Foundation, which maintain cooperative development programs in Haiti.

"CDF will be working to fund long-term relief efforts, which take time," said CDF Executive Director Steve Thomas. "Working to augment the efforts of two well-regarded cooperative organizations with familiarity and programs in Haiti helps ensure that your money is in fact being used for the right purpose."



CDF does not take any fee or charge any overhead for any use of its Emergency Fund, so every cent donated will go toward helping cooperatives and cooperators affected by the earthquake.

Donations made through Google checkout will not be assessed any processing fee, due to a grant received from Google. CDF has received and distributed over \$275,000 for cooperative relief and recovery for previous disasters, including the 1997 flooding in North Dakota, the 1998 Kenyan embassy bombing, the 2001 earthquake in El Salvador, the 2004 Asian tsunami, and Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

If you would like to contribute online, go to www.cdf.coop. If you would like to contribute by check, make it payable to Cooperative Development Foundation, note that it is for Haiti, and send it to:

Cooperative Development Foundation
2011 Crystal Drive, Suite 800
Arlington, VA 22202

For further information, contact Steve Thomas, CDF executive director, at 703/302-8093 or sthomas@cdf.coop. ■

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