

**FOR EXTERNAL USE**

***Background***

France has pledged an aid package of nearly half a billion dollars towards the recovery of Haiti. This coincides with the French Prime minister Nicolas Sarkozy visiting Haiti to see the progress being made. This is the first time a French prime minister has ever visited Haiti despite the strong colonial ties. However there were protests during the visit in some of the camps to highlight the desperate need for more help and support. These are particularly aimed at the Haitian Prime Minister Preval.

***Key Messages***

***General Overview of the Humanitarian Situation***

People continue to live in makeshift camps around the city, despite the best efforts of the shelter cluster and individual aid agencies to ensure more weather resilient tents are being erected. This work is ongoing.

***Official figures***

***UN figures***

***External Assessment***

[See previous Sitrep](#)

***Response***

To date (February 17, 2010), ARCH has treated more than 1600 animals, mostly dogs. Other animals helped include cats, goats, sheep, pigs and cattle. ARCH is covering different areas or neighborhoods in Port-au-Prince and surrounding cities in an organized manner. While treating animals, we are taking note of the owner's name, dog name, age, and more. All of this information helps us monitor the overall efforts and avoid any repetition in treatments. In addition, we've supplied a batch of collars that are given to each dog and cat. The new collars not only provide a good replacement for old or inappropriate materials that are sometimes harmful to animals, but also allows for an easy and visible record of an ARCH-treated animal.

Animals treated in Haiti are not taken to a shelter for various reasons. The most important reason for this is that the animals have owners or a group of people in the community that look after them as pets or farm animals. In addition, there are no suitable shelters or capacity in Haiti to shelter stray animals. ARCH teams are therefore setting up mobile clinics to treat animals in place and educating the community on proper responsible pet ownership and farm animal husbandry.

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