

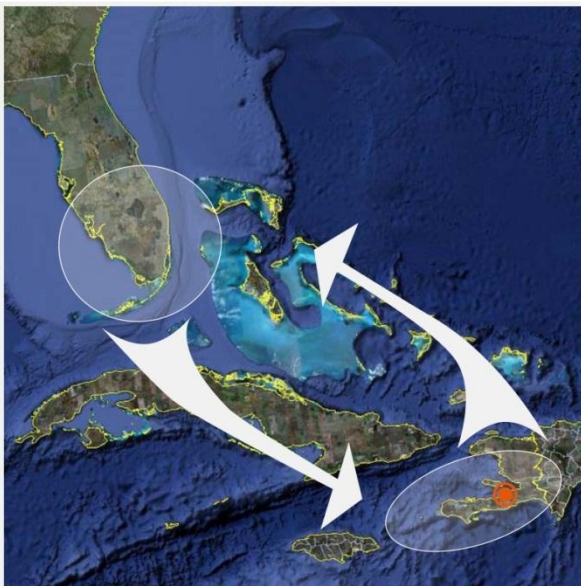
Haitian-Americans as “Critical Bridges” and “Lifelines” for Recovery and Rebuilding in Haiti

VPT Lab Project Summary • www.vpt.fau.edu

Personnel

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Project Description



The catastrophic magnitude 7 earthquake that struck Haiti on January 12, 2010 impacted over 1.5 million people directly. The slow pace of recovery to date highlights the systemic societal vulnerabilities and the inherent but understudied complexities of disaster recovery. This NSF funded project focused on the role of diaspora groups and host communities in post-disaster recovery and reconstruction, with specific focus on South Florida. Findings indicate that these organizations and host communities played a vital role in disaster relief and response processes, as well as assisting earthquake survivors who came to South Florida. The findings are based on interviews conducted (June 2010 to March 2011) with representatives from Haitian organizations and professional coalitions, other non-profits (e.g. the United Way), faith-based organizations, government agencies, school districts, school principals, media, immigration advocates, Florida Department of Children and Families Refugee Services, hospitals and health care administrators, Haitian diplomats and other Haitian American representatives on special task forces and commissions.

Publications

- 📖 Sapat, A. and A-M Esnard. 2012. Displacement and Disaster Recovery: Transnational Governance and Sociological Issues following the 2010 Haiti Earthquake. *Journal of Risk, Hazards and Crisis in Public Policy*, Vol. 3: Iss. 1, Article 2.
- 📖 Esnard, A-M. and A. Sapat. 2011. “Diasporas, Disasters, and Host Communities: Insights in the Aftermath of the Haiti Earthquake,” *Journal of Disaster Research* 6(3):331-342.
- 📖 Sapat, A. and A-M. Esnard. 2011. “Haiti’s Post-Disaster Recovery through a Social Construction Framework and Socio-Legal Lens in South Florida.” Paper presented at the “Workshop on Disasters and Sociological Studies”, sponsored by the National Science Foundation, Onati, Spain, July 21-22 2011 (forthcoming in Onati Socio-Legal Series).

