

**January 12th,2010 : Earthquake**  
35 fatal seconds... more than  
220.000 dead people



# The National Palace



The longest seconds of the haitian history have left ruinations and destructions. These beloved houses transform into traps and coffins.



Fresh out of the building of the newspaper Le Nouvelliste, Gilles Freslet, journalist of Ticket has the reflex to photograph the mass crowd in the street of Rue du Centre. The attitudes of prayer and surprise will be the same throughout the metropolitan area and elsewhere.



first injured



Dead people amass on the ground of The State University  
Hospital of Haïti.



General Director of the National Library of Haiti  
Mrs Françoise BEAULIEU-THYBULLE, MLIS





## **The National Library of Haiti**

Before the Earthquake

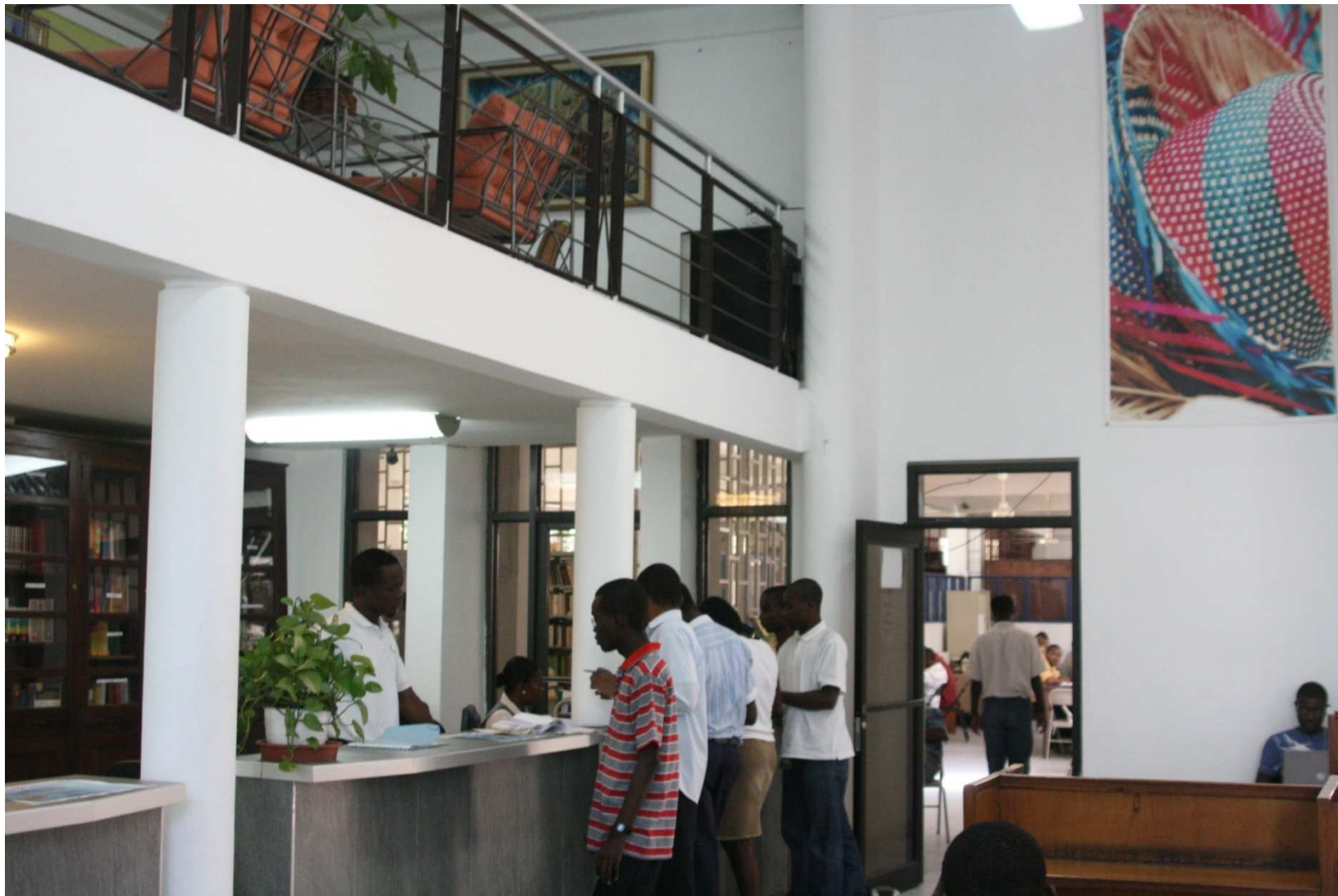


Created in 1949, the Library was very affected by the dictatorship because of the frequent use of the scholars who raised awareness about the violation of human rights.....

Then a fatal blow from two successive hurricanes 1978(David) 1979(Allen). The building was restored in 1980 and reopened in 1984.



The Library manages a network of 20 municipal libraries in the cities but needs a 100 more to cover the territory.





# The National Library of Haiti after the earthquake



# 1-The Services







## 2-Inside view of the library





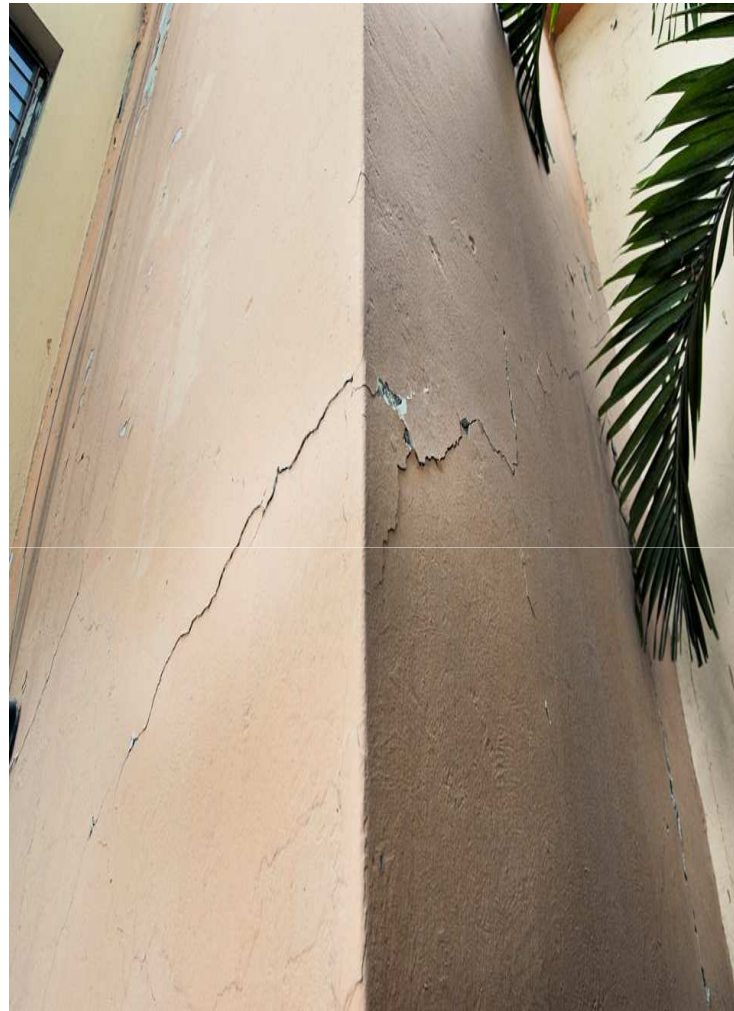






### 3-Outside view of the library





**The cracks on the building were not structural.**



**BIBLIOTHEQUE NATIONALE**

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**STENIO VINCENT**

**PRESIDENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE  
DEPARTEMENT DES TRAVAUX PUBLICS**

**MARS 1940**

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# THE PATRIMONIALS LIBRAIRIES POST-EARTHQUAKE SITUATION RESULTS AND OUTLOOKS

Most of the documents were saved, but many were damaged by the fallen shelves and covered with dust.



- A personnel of about 25 clerks and paraprofessionals.
- A collection of 60 000 haitian books and 700 periodicals titles .
- The Library seated 400 hundreds users a day before the earthquake.
- The patrons are mostly students working on thesis, professionals and public servants, journalists and scholars researching on Haiti.

# The Personel

- No one was injured,one employee lost her whole family,mother,brothers,sisters and her unique child.
- Fourty percent lost their houses,Sixty percent had to be displaced.

# Personel,Strategy,Recovery

- Within 48 hours,as soon as communication was reestablished,a phone chain,contacted to every employee to asses their situation.
- 72 hours later,some cash advanced was distributed to help them cop with difficults survival reality.
- After 2 months,sister librarians of the carribean took 12 employees for internship abroad for a period of 6 weeks to three months.

- Work started as soon as government gave clearance to enter the building.(15 days later)
- For 3 months,we work 3 days a week,later full time,after 6 months.
- Funding from **UNESCO** helped the library save about 50 private libraries from the rubbers,they were boxed and sheltered.

# The Patrimonial Library of Saint Louis de Gonzague Institute/FIC





**Was repaired and reopened in march 2011.  
It serves about twenty (20) users /day.**





**Twenty thousands dollars grant from Fokal permitted the rehabilitation of the FIC Library.**





# The Patrimonial Library of the priests of the Holy Spirit/Saint-Martial











**Had to be completely demolished**



# The Municipal Library of Petit Goave

Destroyed by the earthquake









# **Refugees Camp at Petit-Goâve**

Post-Earthquake Animation  
Program for Childs directed by The  
Municipal Library of Petit Goâve













# National Library of Haiti

The Library reopen on march 2011 in the city environment very affected and evacuated by the surrounding businesses.





**Only one third of the users came back  
since the earthquake**











# Municipal Library of Mirebalais

The first library to reopen after the  
earthquake

October 2010











**It is equipped with 20 computers, internet, a full AV/Room and a capacity to seat 70 people, 6000 books and 3 assistant librarians.**





**The Senator, Edmonde Supplice Beauzile**

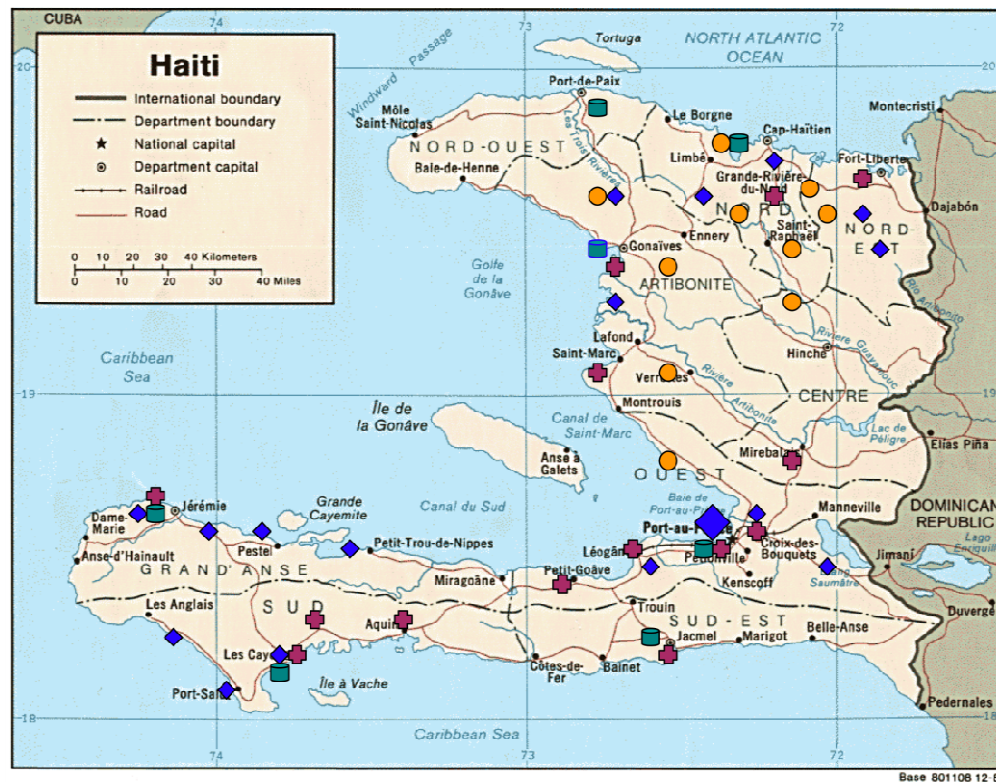


**The Taiwan Ambassador in Haiti in his inaugural speech.**

# HAITI LIBRARY REBUILDING UPDATE

FOKAL Libraries  
Elizabeth Pierre-Louis

# Public Libraries in Haiti before the earthquake



*Map 2 Les Bibliothèques en Haïti)*

- ◆ Bibliothèques de proximité de la FOKAL. Le grand symbole de Port-au-Prince, représente un groupe of 15 Bibliothèques
- Bibliothèques Municipales
- Bibliothèques des Alliances Françaises
- CLAC

# The Public library sector before 2010

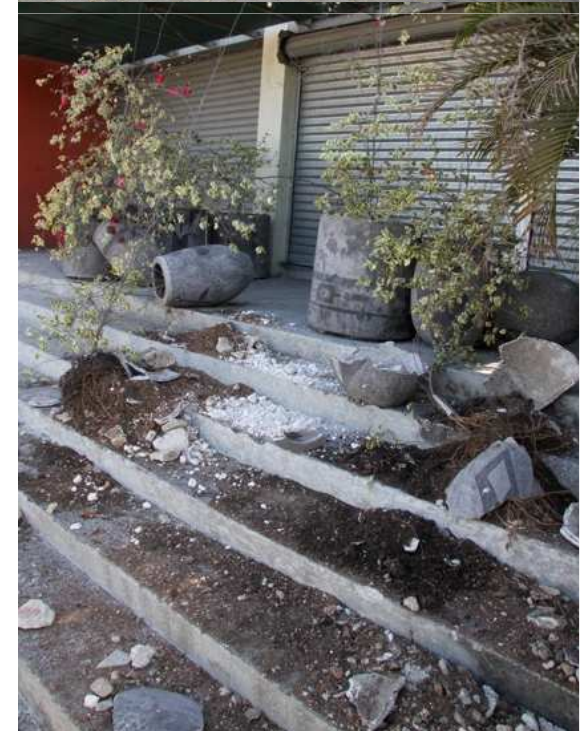
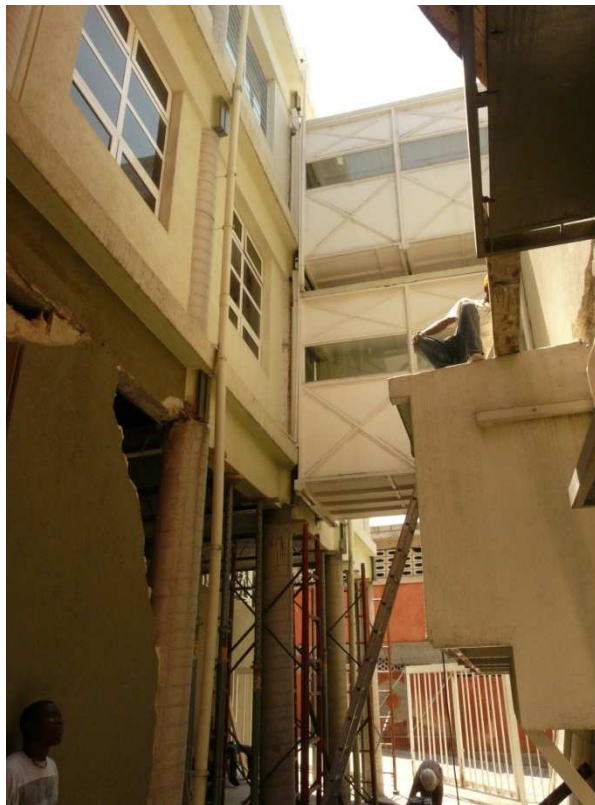
- Less than 30 cities out of 137 have libraries
- Very little respect for standards
- Less than 5000 square meters of equipment when the minimum should be 50 000
- Less than 20 qualified professionals
- No help for the local level (city council) to help libraries
- Dispersion of the aid and no coordinated efforts
- There are 16 municipal libraries under supervision of the National Library, 10 CLAC (supervised by the Direction Nationale du Livre), 6 Alliances Françaises (French cooperation) and 30 community libraries supported by FOKAL

# FOKAL



- ❑ Created in 1995, FOKAL is a national foundation, part of the Open Society Foundations financed by George Soros to help societies in transition.
- ❑ Mission : Empowerment of communities
- ❑ The library program does not create libraries but supports local initiatives that are recognized by their communities and have a leadership position.
- ❑ For more information [www.fokal.org](http://www.fokal.org)

# FOKAL Cultural Center



# Community Libraries



- They are a space that provide books, access to knowledge and culture.

# Community Libraries



12 out of the 16 community libraries are severely damaged.

# FOKAL network After the quake



Etoile Filante	Degats legers			
Maison de la Gde Anse	Severement endommagée			
SHAA	St Vincent : Endommagée - Delmas : Severement endommagée			
Pye Poudre	Severement endommagée			
COSAFH	severement endommagée			
Rasin Lespwa	Degats legers			
Etzer Vilaire	Endommagée			
Fond Hnne Culture Soc	Fermée au public			
Roussol Lauture	Tres legeres fissures			
CECREJ	Legeres fissures			
Justin Lherisson	Non-Endommagée			
ARAKA	Fissures graves - Non fonctionnelle			
Comm Fonds Parisien	Pas de degats			
Bib. du Soleil	Batiment detruit			
Louverture Cleary .JPL	Pas de degats			
BMC	Batiment principal OK, annexe attenante endommagée			

# New tasks for librarians

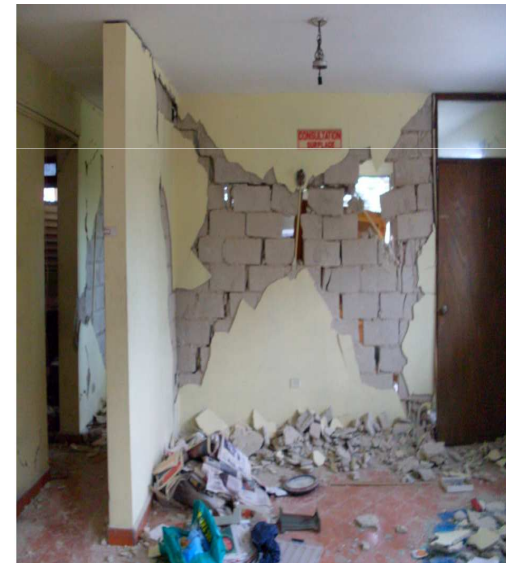


- ❑ Buildings to be repaired and reconstructed
- ❑ New property to be purchased
- ❑ New constructions
- ❑ Maintaining basic activities
- ❑ Keeping the staff engaged and motivated
- ❑ Hands on training
- ❑ Participating in conferences, events to keep informed and started new collaborations

# Partners

- Association of Caribbean University Research Institution Libraries (ACURIL)
- Libraries without Borders (BSF)
- Association des Bibliothécaires de France (ABF)
- International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA)
- Haitian Studies Association (HAS)
- Assises de la lecture publique en Martinique
- American Library Association (ALA)
- United Nations for Education, Science, Culture (UNESCO)
- University of the West Indies (UWI)

# Community Library of Pyepoudre



# Pyepoudre



- ❑ One of the most important libraries of the network
- ❑ Specific fundraising on the ALA page
- ❑ Over 12 000\$ raised
- ❑ Middleton Public Library; Rowley Public Library; Orange County Library Association
- ❑ Pyepoudre gained the “Reconnaissance d’Utilite Publique from the Haitian State
- ❑ Purchase of land

# Many initiatives

- ❑ Bloomfield High School for the Cecrej Library
- ❑ Students to do bike rides
- ❑ The support is not only financial it is a form of advocacy
- ❑ Recognition of the library sector in Haiti



# Accomplishments



- ❑ Opening the Harold Courlander American Corner in the Monique Calixte Library
- ❑ Reopening of FOKAL cultural center and the library
- ❑ New FOKAL website [www.fokal.org](http://www.fokal.org)
- ❑ Weekly newsletter of Fokal activities: Nouvel FOKAL
- ❑ Electrical rewiring of 9 community libraries for mini computer labs
- ❑ Two computerized libraries
- ❑ Construction Plans for the Katherine Dunham Cultural Center in Martissant Park Project

# THANK YOU



**END OF THE PRESENTATION**

Directed By  
**IT SERVICES**  
from the National Library of Haïti

June 2011

