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# Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief



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Project HOPE has a long history of providing humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to countries in need. HOPE's two-phase approach begins by immediately responding to needs with emergency medical support including delivering supplies, medicines and volunteer medical help following disasters. We then transition relief efforts into long-term health programs that address gaps in depleted and damaged medical systems and provide sustainable solutions for the affected communities.

## Case Study

### Rehabilitation in Haiti

Following the devastating 2010 earthquake in Haiti, Project HOPE delivered more than \$80 million in medicines and supplies and mobilized over 100 medical volunteers to provide immediate care to the most severe trauma cases. After providing immediate aid to the people hit hardest by the disaster, HOPE focused on Haiti's recovery by helping victims disabled by the earthquake to overcome their injuries and improve their quality of life by establishing one of the country's first free, comprehensive rehabilitation and prosthetic facilities for amputee victims. Due to its success, HOPE continues to work with hospitals and health care centers across the country to advance the quality of rehabilitative care available to patients. As of January 2014, more than 2,146 disabled persons have been directly served by HOPE's program with another 1,344 people indirectly benefitting from services.



Rehabilitation and Reintegration Program – Haiti



Medical Volunteers Respond to Typhoon Haiyan - Philippines



Annually, Project HOPE ships an average of \$200,000 million in donated medicines and medical supplies around the globe - Winchester, Virginia Distribution Center

## The Need

- More than 81 million people are in need of humanitarian aid around the world.
- Pregnant women have more miscarriages, premature deliveries, and low birth weight infants following disasters.
- 88% of diarrheal deaths are due to unsafe water, inappropriate sanitation and lack of hygiene – all of which are exacerbated by natural disasters and humanitarian crises.

Sources:

1. United Nations
2. National Center for Biotechnology Information
3. World Health Organization

## Our Expertise

**Gifts-in-Kind:** Project HOPE provides critically needed medicines, vaccines, medical supplies and equipment to promote quality health care around the world, particularly in response to natural disasters and humanitarian need. HOPE's team of logistics specialists, pharmacists and physicians work with local health officials to select products and rigorously follow protocols to ensure that donated commodities are properly used and the service providers are properly trained on their use. Typically, HOPE delivers medical product valued at more than \$200 million every year, to areas most in need.

**Supply Chain Management:** An experienced Project HOPE supply chain management team handles the receipt, warehousing and distribution of donated medicines, medical supplies and equipment. Project HOPE is well known for its stringent monitoring and reporting guidelines, receiving high marks in this area from private donors and funding agencies including the U.S. State Department.

**Volunteerism:** Volunteerism has been at the heart of Project HOPE's work since its beginning as a floating

hospital ship – the SS HOPE – in 1958. Today, medical volunteers for HOPE participate in ship-based care in partnership with the U.S. Navy, as well as land-based missions to provide medical assistance to those in need around the world. In recent years, HOPE volunteers have been involved in disaster relief efforts in Indonesia following the 2004 Tsunami, after Hurricane Katrina in 2005, in Haiti following the 2010 earthquake and the Philippines in response to Typhoon Haiyan in 2013.

**Long Term Disaster Response:** While Project HOPE does respond in the short-term to natural disasters, we also recognize the need for long-term support of health systems and communities in order to build a sustainable and strengthened health care infrastructure in disaster affected communities. Through activities including upgrading medical equipment at local facilities and updating the skills and knowledge of community health providers, HOPE helps to rehabilitate and strengthen health systems in crisis – with the goal of establishing sustainable, quality health care for communities in need.