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FROM RELIEF TO DEVELOPMENT: NEXT STEPS FOR EDUCATION IN HAITI

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PROCEEDINGS

MS. ANDERSON: Hi. Good afternoon, everyone. On behalf of the

Center for Universal Education at the Brookings Institution, I'm very pleased to welcome

you all here.

I'm Allison Anderson. I'm a Fellow at the Center for Universal Education.

And over the next hour-and-a-half, we're going to focus on the next steps for education in

Haiti, as it transitions from relief to development.

I think, as everyone in this room is well aware, the earthquake on the 12th

of January devastated what was already one of the world's poorest countries. More than

220,000 people were killed; 1.3 million people were left homeless. And more than 1,300

education facilities collapsed, rending as many as 90 percent of them in the most affected

areas unusable.

And this was on top of what was already considered to be an education

crisis in Haiti. More than 55 percent of school-aged children were not in school. And

about 80 percent of classrooms were run by private entities, where there was very little

oversight or quality control from the Ministry of Education. And quality varied immensely

in the education that was being offered.

We're extremely fortunate today to have three experts who are going to

look back at what worked, examine the current education reform efforts, analyze lessons

from the recovery that can be towards the development process, and discuss the future

of education in Haiti.

We have Peter Holland, who's an education specialist and the Haiti

Team Leader at the World Bank.

We have Lisa Doherty, the Regional Education in Emergencies

Specialist at UNICEF for Eastern and Southern Africa.

And Marcelo Cabrol, the Chief of the Education Division at the Inter-

American Development Bank.

And you all have bios on these three very distinguished speakers, so you

can see information on their very extensive work experience and accomplishments. And

I'm not going to take the time here to go over that verbally. Instead, what we'd like to do

for the next 30 minutes is to hear from them -- and I have a question, a pointed question

for each of them -- and then, after that, we'll open up for discussions -- questions and

discussion -- to really move forward this topic.

Before we get started, I would like to ask that if you haven't done

so already, please silence your cell phones. I'll just give you a second to do that. So

we're going to start with Lisa who -- as I introduced her, she's currently been working with

UNICEF in Eastern and Southern Africa. But for several months this summer she worked

in Haiti with the IASC Education Cluster in the earthquake response. For those of you

who aren't familiar with the Cluster, it is the mechanism for humanitarian coordination in

emergency and crisis contexts.

And just to open up -- Lisa, given your experience working with the

Cluster, and looking back at the response effort, and now the transition into recovery and,

eventually, development, how did coordination work? What worked well? What didn't?

MS. DOHERTY: So, the Education Cluster was established in the first

days of the earthquake response, under the co-leadership of UNICEF and Save the

Children, as is the global agreement for the IASC Education Cluster. And the

coordination mechanism brought together all of the different actors who were working on

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the education response in Haiti -- UN agencies, NGOs, international and national,

religious groups, academic and private institutions -- with the objective of ensuring that all

of the response efforts were effectively coordinated to ensure that needs were met, but

also to ensure that the Ministry of Education, with the ultimate responsibility for the

education sector, was well supported.

So in the initial stages, there were literally dozens of different

organizations and individuals who were part of the Cluster. That has grown enormously

over the six, eight, nine months since. Now the Cluster has over 300 different members,

200 different organizations. So, really, a huge variety of actors working in the sector.

And the role of the Cluster at the initial stages, for the acute response

phase, was to ensure that information was properly gathered on the extent of the impact

of the earthquake, needs assessments were conducted in a coordinated way -- making

sure that all affected areas, not just in Port au Prince, but also outside, in Léogâne and

Jacmel and other parts of the affected zone were adequately looked at, and gaps were

identified. We wanted to make sure that there was no duplication of efforts between the

various partners working in the affected areas.

And working with the Ministry of Education to really get a good picture of

the impacts of the earthquake -- which was in or around 5,000 schools affected, and

that's really an enormous number, and really took a lot of efforts from the very broad

composition of the Cluster partners to make sure that the needs of those learners and

teachers and schools were met.

So, in the initial stages, coordination focused, as I said, on assessments,

but also fund-raising. And the appeal was launched in January, February, which looked

at the initial estimate of needs and damage, and really focused Education Cluster

partners on the initial response needs around establishment of temporary learning

spaces which were safe environments for learners to return to. Teacher training on

psycho-social support, so that teachers could identify and conduct activities within the

classroom for children affected, and refer them to specialist services, where needed.

And also on risk reduction because, of course, the children were very scared about the

impact of the earthquake, and the teachers needed to be able to teach them about what

had happened and what to do if it happened again.

The Cluster partners also focused very much on supporting the Ministry

of Education to develop a condensed curriculum, which was then rolled out across the

affected zones.

So, everything really was culminating in efforts to support reopening of

schools in April. And that was the initial phase, let's say, of the acute response of the

Cluster.

Then we moved onwards, looking at the longer-term recovery. Really,

the composition of the Cluster had to change to ensure that those needs were being

identified and addressed; looking at making sure that at sub-national level the Cluster

was really reaching all of the affected areas. So we had sub-national clusters in a

number of different towns, but we also then established commune clusters in Port-au-

Prince itself, which were co-led or co-chaired by the cluster and the school inspectors for

those communes. And that really ensured that the Ministry was very much engaged at

the local levels. Obviously, the inspectors knew the schools very well, so we were able to

work with them to do more in-depth assessments beyond school infrastructure, but

looking at needs in terms of materials, in terms of water, sanitation, et cetera.

So, at this stage, then, we also looked at revision of the appeal, which was also an opportunity to take stock of where we were in the response, and what the longer-term needs would be. A lot on looking at, obviously, school reconstruction, working with the Ministry on norms and standards for infrastructure reconstruction, building-back-better, making sure that schools were disaster-resistant, looking at teacher training on the actual condensed curriculum so that teachers were able to go out an teach an accelerated curriculum which often had, you know, double the number of children in a class than had been there before.

And all of the partners would meet regularly. We had cut down the frequency of Education Cluster meetings to ensure that, you know, people weren't just sitting in meetings all the time, but that information was getting out, and was being shared appropriately, and that partners were reporting back so we in the Cluster were able to act as a liaison, really, between all of the partners and the Ministry, and making sure that they knew what was happening and where.

We had different tools and mechanisms for that. Who-does-what-where tools -- very simply, just making sure that we knew what actual activities were being conducted, and making sure that they were meeting the needs as they emerged as we moved along.

It was also very important at that stage to ensure that the Cluster, which had been really focused on the initial response, was aligning with the existing sector-coordination mechanism. And that, in Haiti, is the GSE -- *Groupe Sectoriel d'Education* --which really was composed, is composed, of the bilateral partners. And within that group, they were looking at the longer-term reconstruction strategy, and reorganization plans for the sector.

Obviously, it was very important for the Cluster, with such a broad membership of partners who were working on immediate needs and medium-term needs to also align well with those structures. So our sub-groups within the Cluster looking at school reconstruction, for example, teacher training, early learning, they were as closely as possible aligned to the broader sector-coordination mechanisms. And that is definitely something we've learned -- it's very important to initiate those linkages early on, and to really focus on ensuring that those -- there's obviously complementarities between both mechanisms, but also overlap. So we have to make sure that we were aligning well, without duplicating our efforts.

And then, obviously, because we were coming into cyclone season, the Cluster was very focused on preparedness and broader disaster risk reduction. So we worked closely with the Ministry of Education at departmental and local levels -- the school inspectors and the disaster management's body within the government -- to conduct and roll out training on risk-reduction, on preparedness, on contingency planning, really getting ready for what was predicted to be a very severe cyclone season. Obviously, with people living in camps and makeshift schools, we wanted to make sure that they were protected.

So that was a focus through the recovery phase of the Cluster, as well.

MS. ANDERSON: Great. Thank you. Thank you.

And I think what you said is really true -- the need to align with the other sort of sector or coordination groups. And that's something we've seen over and over again as a problem. So it's great to hear that that was something that was really focused on for better coordination -- in addition to, as you said, some of the information management, who does what where, making sure there aren't those gaps.

MS. DOHERTY: Yes.

MS. ANDERSON: Not just gaps, but there aren't duplication of efforts.

Thank you.

I'm going to turn now to Peter Holland.

And from your experience working within the World Bank on Haiti, and working in Haiti over the last several years, how would you characterize the ongoing reform efforts right now? You know, what are some of the major barriers? And what are some opportunities that we have in front of us?

MR. HOLLAND: Thanks, Allison. Thanks for the introduction and for the question. It's a good one. I think reform is at the forefront of our minds as we see how we can move forward in rebuilding Haiti's education sector.

What I'd like to do is compare this latest reform, that's kind of still ongoing, with the most previous wave. As you may know, Haiti's been undergoing sort of a continuous reform since 1982, with various attempts. And none of them have been terribly successful.

So the latest reform is what we refer to as the "education for all" strategy. It's part of the education for all fast-track initiative process. And it was endorsed at the global level by the donors in 2008.

And that strategy focused largely on five things. And, of course, the overall goal that we're talking about is universal free education, free primary education.

So the five things -- and the strategy didn't necessarily -- I mean, I say "focus," it didn't really have much of a focus. It had a laundry list of very good things, as we've become accustomed to in Haiti.

But five of the main things were, one, to build a system of what they call

"écoles de proximite" -- so these are kind of small, incomplete rural schools -- to reduce

the time it takes children to get to school, basically. So maybe two classrooms type of

thing.

Second, build more public schools. Of course, the country only has

about 10 percent of the institutions that are public.

Third, to provide public financing to private schools -- so, to those 90

percent of education providers -- in order to reduce school fees for families.

Fourth, to reform the teacher training system from a three-year program

to a one-year program, to get more teachers on the market sooner.

And then, five, to design an accelerated program for older, out-of-school

youth -- the idea being that these 12 and 15-year-olds that have never been to school,

let's see if we can get them into school and out of school without them being 25 when

they graduate.

And then this plan had been financed, or is being financed by CETA, in

part, by the Caribbean Development Bank, in part, by the World Bank, in part -- most

recently, by the Education for all Fast Track Initiatives' Catalytic Fund, that provided a

\$22 million grant, and soon by the IDB, as well, that are coming in and co-financing this

tuition waiver program -- this public financing of private schools to reduce tuition fees.

And overall, it's about \$100 million since 2007. And there's now a trust

fund in place, housed at the World Bank, to channel more resources to finance this

education strategy and other education strategies in a way that reduces the costs for the

government and the donors to get more funds into the sector.

The new reform takes on the five areas that I've just mentioned. And the new reform sort of started -- so, the new reform does two things differently. First, it undertook a two-year consultation process, led by this Presidential commission, led by Jacky Lumarque, who's one of the foremost authorities in Haiti on education.

And this was a significant process. This wasn't just about talking to the local education cronies in Port-au-Prince. This was actually going out to the rural areas and really getting a sense of the pulse out there, and building what they call a national "pact" -- including with the Diaspora, and financed and coordinated by the IDB -- to get this kind of agreement together. This is a significant thing. And that's not something that the previous reform did.

A second major difference is that this new reform, which was recently presented to the Commission, the Reconstruction Commission in Haiti, and is now ready to operationalize -- so, in addition to taking on these five things, at the primary and kind of pre-school level, it maps out priorities or activities for secondary education, tertiary education, vocational training -- and even ECD more kind of comprehensively. That is, it's very ambitious. It's even more ambitious than the previous ambitious plan. (Laughter.)

Those are the two areas where it's different. Otherwise, it's very similar - both in terms of the substance, as I just mentioned -- similar in terms of the
weaknesses. Both plans don't make any of the difficult decisions. They're going to
tackle access; they're going to tackle quality. The targets are -- you know, as Alberto
Begué likes to highlight -- the targets are 100 percent across the board. Everything is
100 percent this, and 100 percent that, and we're going to all of these things in next three
years.

Second, that there's no real prioritization. It doesn't say these are -- this

is the sequencing, these are the activities that need to happen first, and then we can do

the other activities. And these are really the sine qua non.

Third, neither plan really assigns responsibility -- so, who is responsible

for achieving these targets.

I could go on, but I think you guys get the gist, and I don't think it's really

useful. I mean, I don't think that it's useful for donors to embark in kind of this academic

back-and-forth with the local authorities, and amongst ourselves, to say, "Oh, this target

should be this," and, you know.

These plans come and go, and there's good capacity in Haiti for

developing these plans. The challenge is implementing them. And so we really just need

to see how we can move forward and start implementing the critical parts of these plans -

- which there's kind of agreement on.

So I'm going to switch to the second part of the question, which is the

opportunities and barriers. And I'll try to wrap it up quickly.

But as I see it, there's three of each -- or I'll mention three of each.

There are many more barriers than three, of course.

But one -- and these are well known -- but limited capacity. There's

limited government capacity. It was weak before the earthquake and it's even weaker

now. The Ministry of Education was particularly hard hit. It lost some really good staff.

And even the FAES, which is the social fund, which implements a lot of the school

construction activities -- which has excellent capacity, and which the IDB has used very

effectively in the last few years to construct schools -- they're now swimming, maybe

drowning, in money. They will continue to execute well, but they have their constraints --

or their limits.

And, of course, the NGOs that are there -- and the NGOs that are now

there -- have swelled. And so there's competition for the few, scarce local skilled

resources that can implement some of this stuff.

The second barrier is political uncertainty. I'm not going to get into it,

because I think I'm running out of time. But suffice it to say, elections are upcoming and

it's not good. Maybe we can into it in the question-and-answers. It's not clear which

direction things are heading.

Third barrier, donor and resource coordination. Yes, the resources are

unprecedented. So is the capacity on the government side to coordinate us. I think, thus

far, the Ministry of Education has done a fairly good job -- thanks to logistical support by

the IDB, I might add. You would think that I work for the IDB. My gosh. But now we're

going to start seeing all of the demands on the scarce time of policy-makers, with the

influx of the money. And now we're going to really see the cracks in their capacity to kind

of shepherd us, or -- I mean, it's sort of like herding the cats.

This kind of leads me to the first of the opportunities, which is

unprecedented resources. And I really do think this is an opportunity. For example, the

WFP has incredible sums of money. They could feed all of the potential school children

in Haiti this year and next year. They could. I mean, they've got that much money. So,

combined with an approach of massive school construction -- as proposed by the IDB --

community-based approaches to increasing supply -- which is something that we're

working with the Ministry of Education -- we could, you know, transform the education

sector permanently in Haiti.

Second opportunity is political will. There is a consensus on what needs to happen. Whether it's speaking to the Ministry of Education, whether it's speaking to Jacky Lumarque, this leader of the Presidential Commission, whether it's attending events at the Inter-American Dialogue, or listening to Marcelo, or talking to UNICEF and others in Haiti -- I mean, there is incredible consensus on what are the key actions that need to happen.

And although the ideas themselves may not be new, I think the degree to which they are ubiquitous is new. And that is a great opportunity for gaining traction.

Third -- and I'll end with this -- is momentum. I think that there's been good momentum infused into the educational sector. There's a new generation, like a new guard, of education officers that are in place there. I mean, I think, literally, UNICEF, UNESCO, World Bank, IDB, the Spanish, the Canadians all have new people on the ground in Haiti. Which isn't to say we had to get rid of the old guard because -- with all due respect to myself as part of the old guard (laughter) -- we did things relatively well. And we had our successes. But the paradigm has shifted, and we need to be coordinating in a way that goes way beyond what had happened in the past. And I think that there's the energy and the leadership amongst those individuals to do that.

So I'm going to end with this last statement which is that the first thing that needs to happen, for which donors need to take responsibility, is a highly coordinated, time-bound, results-focused institutional strengthening program (laughter). Highly coordinated, time-bound, results-focused institutional strengthening program -- and one which divvies up responsibilities for transforming and modernizing the educational sector.

So what I mean is -- by "highly coordinated," I mean seamless. I mean

donors moving way past "sharing information," and actually working together in a way

that we have not yet seen. And the price, otherwise, will be duplication, at best. And at

worst, we will pull the Ministry into different and contradictory directions.

By "time-bound," I mean -- and I think it's pretty self-evident, but I mean

demonstrating successes early, because we need to keep morale high.

And then, by "results-focused," I mean, some examples, we need to

have an administrative office in the Ministry of Education that can manage international

resources well and transparently so that we can phase out the role of the World Bank in

housing a trust fund. We need to have a bona fide accreditation system for those non-

public schools, to recognize them and to get them on the track to improve the quality of

services that they offer. We need a bona fide inspectorate to ensure and enforce those

minimum standards of quality.

And actually, it's in this vein -- and I'm going to end on this little positive

note -- that UNICEF has convened us, in Port-au-Prince in the next few weeks, to have a

two-day retreat to delve deeper into how we can actually work together and move beyond

these -- the superficial level of the conversation, and really -- in French you say,

"responsabiliser" -- you know, assign responsibility, I suppose, to the donors so that we

become more accountable for also helping the Ministry achieve these targets.

MS. ANDERSON: Thank you. Thank you, Peter. That's a huge amount

that you gave us, particularly on those barriers and opportunities that I think will definitely

feed into the discussion.

And it also segues guite well to Marcelo, who -- you know, given this

recommendation of yours for this highly coordinated, time-bound, institutional

strengthening program -- given that the Inter-American Development Bank has worked

very closely with the government to develop a national education plan, which has just

been endorsed by the Haitian Interim Recovery Commission.

And I wonder, Marcelo, if you can talk about whether this planning

process has drawn on some of the lessons from the relief and recovery, looking towards

development? And how will support of the new plan work, really? And, you know, as a

small question for you -- what does the future hold?

MR. CABROL: Thank you for inviting me. The question, all the

questions, are very difficult in the context in which we are. But let me start from the very

beginning, and refer to before the plan, and not during the discussion.

I'm not an expert on Haiti. I've been working quite a bit in the last six

months, after the earthquake -- nine months, actually. And what started the

conversation, essentially, was that in the early after the earthquake, the education sector

in Haiti, in the conversations with the government, ranked very poorly in terms of

priorities.

So the first message that I, you know, we need to send here is that, in

part, the conversation has evolved in the last nine months. And today we have

everybody looking at the education sector as an area of immense challenges -- and I

agree with Peter on that -- but also immense opportunities. So that's the first important

message that I need to send you.

Everybody is looking at this. Accountability is built in, simply because of

the conversation. And this accountability will survive, hopefully -- I'm going to touch on

that point -- throughout the transition, the political transition period that is coming. So this

is the first message.

Second message that is important, the plan is not innovative. The plan

is not innovative. And the plan is, of course, ambitious. But there are several things that

need to be underlined.

The first one is ownership by the government of Haiti. And this is a

statement that you need to check. But I make it here, for all of you to know. This plan

was developed at the same time that the Ministry of Education is coping with all the

emergency, and the situations of the case. At the same time, the Ministry of Education

was capable of appointing a task force comprised mostly by people from the Ministry of

Education and from the Presidential Commission on Education, and put together a plan.

So, for all the weakness that was recognized in the institutions, in education, in Haiti, this

is a second important point that we need to keep in mind.

The plan, of course, reflects on things that were already happening in

Haiti, and make systemic choices that were not there before. One example is the

subsidy system to non-public providers. This is now in the plan, adopted as a policy -- as

a systemic policy, and not merely as a pilot or a limited effort.

There are other things that the plan is doing well, in our perspective. I

think that it's taking on things that already there, that had the promise to work, and taking,

or promising, that they could take it up to scale -- and incrementally be changing them as

we go, but not necessarily refunding what is already working. I go to the same example

again. The subsidy system, as Peter said, was there, was working, and has a lot of

promise.

Of course, there are incremental changes that I would like to make,

technically speaking. But from the political point of view, I think that the plan is very wise

on taking on those issues.

It takes an operational -- from the relief and from the recovery effort, it's

taking on some lessons. Of course, it's very early to incorporate lessons, because it's

almost parallel, the process.

But I have two things, at least, that I want to put as lessons that are

taken on well.

The first one, it's a clear differentiation between the short term and the

medium to long term. The plan has a three-month period, a back-to-school effort, which

is very important and very visible. And you're going to see it on the headlines of every

newspaper from now until the end of the year. And it separates the three-month effort

from an 18-month effort.

The 18-month effort -- it's what Peter was referring to -- it's going to be

the challenge of both putting together an institutional coalition -- and I'm going to get that

point in a second -- that makes the plan possible. But also, to start working for the five-

year, third period of the plan. That is to say, the plan has a five-year time horizon, and

the 18 months are critical for that.

One problem of coordination, or one difficulty for the government at this

point, is that all the cameras and all the newspapers will be focusing on the three-month.

The 18-month will be something that, you know, you do if you have time, and if you have

the inclination. We are trying to separate, a little bit, the discussion, and trying to cover

both at the same time. I'm going to get to that point in a second.

So the first thing is separating one from the other.

The other one is, as Peter said, the issue of institutional strengthening.

Institutional strengthening cannot happen by grace of the Minister or the Ministry itself. It

needs to happen with our effort. There have been five efforts in the last 10 years, of

institutional strengthening of the Ministry. And I'm talking about the most important ones;

I'm not talking about the minor ones.

We are trying to draw lessons from what happened on those efforts, as

Peter said. They were not highly successful -- and maybe that's the understatement of

the year (laughter), but, you know, they were not highly successful. And one of the things

that is very clear to us is that we need, as donors, to work with the Ministry of Education

in clear outputs, with a time period that is clearly defined. This is re-sounding what Peter

said. Of course, the issue here is the same way as we developed the plan. The plan had

clear deadlines, and the government moved, working with those deadlines.

We need to use the same type of approach to do the 18-month effort.

That is very important.

Let me tell you two things about the challenge. And I'm not going to

repeat what Peter said, I'm going to go to a much more political discussion.

The first challenge is for this plan to survive the transition in Haiti. The

political transition is a difficult one, as you well know. We don't know what the outcome

of the election is going to be. The confusion is going to come from both sides -- from the

sides of the outgoing government, and from the side of a new government that probably

will not have the structure to take on a situation as the one that we have now.

This is why it is so important, the work of the Interim Commission. And

this is, I guess, a very important political message.

The Prime Minister, the President, and President Clinton will be very

important for us as actors, asking all the time about how this project, or this program --

this plan -- is implementing. So, everyone should be asking about, A, how the Interim

Commission is working -- because that's an open question for everybody. And, second,

how it's working vis-à-vis the education plan.

Let me do a little footnote here. Why this is so important? The

Commission -- the plan was the first and only plan so far that is sector-wide, that was

presented to the Commission. So education is the only sector that has been completely

presented to the Commission, and the Commission has the possibility of not only making

political decisions, but also helping the coordination of the efforts.

So, remember -- two things: maintaining the momentum, and also

coordinating better. There is political function there. It's not only the goodwill of the

donors and the capacity of the Ministry.

The last thing that I want to say -- money. That's the part that I know.

Okay? (Laughter.)

The plan is very ambitious, in terms of money -- \$4.3 billion. Okay?

That's an immense amount of money. The plan also has \$100 million needed for first

three months, \$500 million for the first 18 months, and the rest will come for five years.

What we recognize now is that the plan has the capacity to be

implemented in a modular way. The challenge in the very short term for everybody is to

get to the \$100 million for the back-to-school. At this point, we have \$25 million that the

IDB has pledged for that effort. And we know that the money is there for the rest, to get

to the \$100 million.

The problem is to clarify what kind of pledges we're going to do to that.

We're working on that issue -- I told you. And, separately, is the issue of the \$495 million,

almost \$500 million that is needed for the 18 months. And this is very important, because

all the infrastructure that the plan -- institutional and infrastructure that the plan is

supporting depends on this money. At this point, we have \$100 million. And I'm talking

about the IDB because I have certainty about what the IDB can do. That doesn't mean

that there's no other money out there. I want to be very clear about that.

But it's very important that, at least in the short term, we do the back-to-

school very well, and we do the 18-month plan very well, fully finance. To the extent --

and this is a hypothesis, it's a working hypothesis, and there's a lot not to believe about

this -- to the extent that in the next 18 months results are shown -- that is to say, we get

to train 10,000 teachers, we get to give a million, 750,000 subsidies -- to the extent that

we can finance that effort -- there is a lot of donors and international institutions that

would be willing to keep funding this plan.

In terms of sustainability -- and with this, I'll finish because, I'm sure other

questions are going to come -- the plan is, from the financial point of view, it's based on

two conditions. Okay? So I want to be very clear. The first one, Haiti goes from 2

percent of the GDP, in terms of public expenditure on education, to 4 percent of the GDP.

That is to say, still one point below what Latin America spends. And, remember, the per

capita expenditure in Haiti is very low.

So it's a reachable effort. It's not impossible -- okay? So that's a

discussion that, to the extent that we're to SWAP-type of approaches, we need to help

with the government. The other, the plan still depends on 100 to \$130 million dollars of

foreign aid coming every year to education. Okay? This is not a self-sustained plan.

To the extent that Haiti can go to a 5.2 percent of GDP expenditure that

Latin America has, on average, it would be a self-sustaining plan. But that's the future.

That's the real, real future.

Thank you.

MS. ANDERSON: Thank you so much.

What I'm going to do at this time is actually we're going to open it up to discussion, to questions and discussion.

We have, I think, two people with microphones. Is that the case? In the back? Yes, we do.

And so what I'm going to ask is that you raise your hand, and when I point to you, someone will come with the microphone -- to please identify yourself. Give both your name and your affiliation. And we'll take about three or four questions each time, and then the panelists can respond.

And I'd also just like to say at the outset that I think we all very much appreciate that there are a lot of experts in this room. But we'd like to ask you, if you are going to -- if you're going to make a statement, to please be following that with a question. We don't want any just formal, you know, statements or presentations. So please be thinking about a question for the discussion.

Okay. Great.

So, I'll start here -- and these two women in the back. Yes.

MS. FAGEN: Thank you. Patricia Fagen, U.S. Institute for Peace. And thanks to all the presentations, which were excellent and really informative.

I was so happy to hear the two magic words for me capacity building and institutional strengthening -- coming from just about all of the speakers.

But let me turn to the point Marcelo made, first, but Peter really elaborated more -- which was the importance of teacher training as a key marker, key indicator of success of the plan.

Is the teacher training going to take place in Haiti? And will Haitians be

part of this long-term capacity-building effort, which is, indeed, something future? And

will Haitian universities be engaged in training the teachers? And, if so, how is that going

to work?

MS. ANDERSON: Okay. Thank you.

MS. AUGUSTIN: Hi. I'm Nathalie Augustin, with Save the Children,

here in D.C.

Children, parents and communities need to actively participate in the

assessment planning, design and implementation, monitoring and evaluation of early

childhood care and educational programs.

To what extent was the input of children, parents and communities

sought in the development of the IEDB plan? And to what extent will it continue to be

part of the implementation of that plan, going forward?

Thank you.

MS. SWAYHOOVER: Hi. My name is Lisa Swayhoover, with the

National Education Association. And my question piggybacks on her question about

teacher training -- for Peter, is that you mentioned reducing the length of the teacher

preparation from three years to one.

My question is how does that get to the issue of quality? We had a

session here, a panel, on September 8th about International Literacy Day that saw that

there were not great gains in education, and it's a quality issue.

And the second part of that is how much have you interacted or engaged

with the local teacher unions?

MS. ANDERSON: Great.

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Well, why don't we start with those two?

Actually, what I'd recommend is maybe that, first, whoever wants to take it, the question about community participation within the development of the IDB plan, and moving forward. And then we move from there to the teacher training question.

MR. CABROL: I'm not go answering the articulated question. I'm going to make a very important clarification. And I hope that this makes it very clear what our institutional perspective is.

The moment we talk about "the IDB plan" -- okay? -- We are talking about a different kind of conversation. The IDB plan is what we discuss with our board of directors, in the context of our potential support for the effort in Haiti.

To the extent that this is "the IDB plan," or anybody's plan, this is not going to go anywhere. So it's an important clarification. But I think that to the extent that we leave here thinking that this is "the IDB plan," I guarantee that it's not going to succeed. Okay?

MS. ANDERSON: So, "the National Education Plan" -- what about that?

If we start talking about --

MR. CABROL: I think that, you know --

MS. ANDERSON: Participation within --

MR. CABROL: -- we can use "the plan." And then we can think whether we believe or not this plan is going to work or not.

And then, who is going to implement this plan? Because designing the plan is 20 percent -- as we all know here in this room -- 20 percent of the effort. The other 80 percent is implementation.

MS. ANDERSON: But I think -- if I'm correct, the question was going to

the National Education Plan that was just endorsed.

MR. CABROL: Mm-hmm.

MS. ANDERSON: So I'm wondering, can you speak to the community

participation in the development? And how that will continue, or even be enhanced in the

implementation of that.

MR. CABROL: Yes, the Presidential Commission had, as Peter said, two

years of consultations in Haiti. That was, of course, before the earthquake. The

consultations were wide, included not only communities, but also labor unions and the

private sector. And other things that included the Diaspora, as well, which is very active

still in the discussion.

There were no consultations after the earthquake. President Préval has

plans for the next three months of consultation with the political parties, or the candidates

that are there, and some of the key institutions of society. That's going to happen in the

next three months. But it's going to be limited in terms of we are in the middle of political

transition, so consultations are going to be difficult.

I know the plan will need, to the extent that it's being implemented,

parallel processes of consultation.

MS. ANDERSON: Okay.

And now perhaps we could transition to the question of teacher training

and capacity-building, and the much larger effort there.

Do you want to start, Peter?

MR. HOLLAND: Yes. So, there are various parts to it, but the reform

that's been ongoing -- it's been, probably the hardest part of what we've been trying to

implement over the last three years, in implementing the EFA strategy, in part because of

the stakeholder analysis, if you will.

And we did work closely, actually, with teachers' unions. The most vocal

-- and this was expected -- people against the reform were students that were in the

program, you know, that had already done two years. Well, like, "What about me?" You

know, like -- now -- you know.

But those things are managed, and we spent two years of getting the

program up and running, and designing it. And now it's starting to be implemented.

Unfortunately, we lost a lot of student-teachers in the earthquake -- I think, about -- well,

300 in one institution and, overall, I think about 800. And so we've reduced all of the

targets, in terms of how many were hoping to graduate and all that sort of thing.

But the teachers' unions -- I mean, there are many teachers' unions in

Haiti. There isn't sort of one teachers' union. And it doesn't -- it's not a very strong and

vocal entity. But we did, during preparation -- we do have good relations with them, on

the whole. And actually, the head of the project is the former head of a teachers' union,

which helps kind of keeping the -- the wolves at bay? I don't know, I can't really find a

good expression.

The involvement of the universities? So, our experience to date has

been that, of the teacher-training agencies that have been involved in the reform, the

universities have been the worst performing teacher-training agencies. And the vision is

certainly to have universities involved in the future. And the way that we had seen it at

conception was that universities would play a kind of quality-control role over the teacher-

training agencies themselves -- but wouldn't necessarily be doing teacher training.

That's kind of evolved, and they have been doing some training themselves.

I don't actually follow this very closely, so I've basically just said

everything that I know about teacher training in Haiti. (Laughter.) But suffice it to say it's

been a very problematic part of the reform, but it's now on track in a way that it hasn't

been previously.

So -- I don't know, Marcelo may have things to add on teacher training.

MR. CABROL: No, I think that all the ingredients that Patricia was

discussing will be there. I said that this is something that is taking on past efforts, trying

to make incremental changes.

So I don't see a radical change of strategy in the short term. It probably

will take on what was done before, and discuss whether it will be one year, two years.

But, for sure, it's going to be building on what is left of the universities in Haiti. They are

also rebuilding. And, for sure, it's going to be a massive effort at the beginning, to ignite

a quality transformation in Haiti.

MR. HOLLAND: Actually, I just wanted to touch on the quality question. I

forgot to tackle that one.

The recruitment for the student-teachers was the first part of the reform.

And it's led to much higher quality entrants into the program -- which is the main way that

we're improving the quality of the teachers that come out on the other end.

But -- and, in fact -- and you in this room probably know this far better

than I -- but there are many experiences in Africa, in Benin, in Mali, et cetera, that have

gone to these accelerated teacher-training programs with very good results. And this is,

in large part, building on those experiences.

I see a few people shaking their heads, saying, no, that's not true. (Laughter.)

MS. ANDERSON: Well, we can open it up to another round of questions,

and perhaps some comments on -- if people wanted to make comments on those

lessons-learned.

We'll start here, and then go here.

MS. McHUGH: Hi. I'm Diana McHugh, and I'm an undergraduate at

George Mason University.

And I want to teach in Haiti, or train teachers in Haiti. And this is all -- I'm

not an expert in this area at all. So I was just wondering what advice do you guys have

for me. Or what resources can you refer me to, to help prepare me for that.

MS. ANDERSON: Great. And we have two over here.

MS. ROSE-AVILA: Hi. My name is Carolyn Rose-Avila. I'm with Plan

USA. Talk about "plan." I guess I'm trying, this is maybe an elementary question, maybe

everybody understands it.

How are all you folks coordinated? Is that what's happening in this

meeting that's coming up? Because I heard Marcelo talk about the "National Plan." How

is the World Bank supporting that? How is UNICEF supporting that? How is the Cluster

Groups involved?

There seems to be a plethora of resources around to back up the

national government, and to back up the Ministry of Education. So cup half full, half

empty kind of thing.

Secondly, is it focused country-wide? Are we talking country-wide?

Because I know there's good teacher training going on -- or there was, prior to the

earthquake, in other parts of the country -- in Port Salut, for example.

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Is there a -- the word is "decentralization." That comes up all the time.

But is there some kind of strategy that pulls in the rest of the country, where it wasn't

completely battered by the earthquake that can actually play a part of moving this kind of

strategy forward?

Thank you.

MS. ANDERSON: All right. And one more. The gentleman back there.

MR. FAST: My name is Mike Fast, from AIR.

My question is, from your perspective, what is the role of the IHRC in

taking decisions in the near future as to the implementation process for the education

sector? And what is your level of confidence that that is the group that will begin to

effectively oversee that process?

MS. ANDERSON: Great.

What I'm going to suggest is that we start with the question about, you

know, all of these groups are coordinating different plans, but who's coordinating them?

And how are they coordinating together?

And, in particular, I feel like we haven't heard that much from Lisa

because so much has been focused on the future. But it would be interesting to also

hear how has the work that the Clusters started been folded into these other efforts? And

how is that coordination working?

And then we have the question on the Interim Haitian Recovery

Commission, and how's that decision-making working?

And then a question, finally, on advice for how to get involved in

teaching, and where to look for resources and opportunities.

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MS. DOHERTY: Okay. So, in terms of coordinating amongst ourselves, I

kind of mentioned it, that it was certainly a learning for us, as the Cluster, that it was so

important to be really well aligned with the Groupe Sectoriel d'Education, the sector

coordination mechanism, which is really -- you know, these guys, and all of the big

players looking at the strategic planning for the reconstruction, et cetera.

It happens. We're certainly part of that mechanism now. The present

Cluster coordinator who's there is very active with that group. The upcoming meeting is

very much involving both the Cluster, and represented by the Cluster coordinator and

team, and the wider group.

So it's definitely something that maybe we were a little late coming at,

because the immediate needs were so great, and the Cluster partners were so busy

meeting those needs. But it's certainly something that we reflected on and addressed as

soon as possible.

So the Cluster is definitely a part of that.

But the Cluster had responsibility for the initial response and recovery --

within the earthquake zone specifically. Obviously, learners in communities that were

moved to other parts of the country, displaced because of the earthquake, were still part

of our responsibility, too.

But the broader plan, the education sector plan, definitely looks at the

whole country, and not just the quake zone. So that was the other part of that question.

MS. ANDERSON: And then from -- yes?

MR. HOLLAND: Well, could tackle the IHRC question?

MS. ANDERSON: Okay. Do you mind if we first just stay --

MR. HOLLAND: Okay, sorry.

MS. ANDERSON: -- who is coordinating?

So, for the national education plan that's moving forward now, who is coordinating all of the actors? We could stay on that, and then move to the Commission.

MR. HOLLAND: Well, in theory -- right? -- there's *sectoriel*, which is kind of chaired by the Minister, and has participation from the non-public actors and the donors, right? It's sort of like the sector -- well, it's supposed to meet quarterly, or something. It's met maybe once in the last two years or so.

So that's not on paper, that's the one that's coordinating everybody.

I don't know that it's possible to coordinate everybody -- especially just given the plethora of NGOs that are operating in the country, and that are doing their little thing -- you know, that are building their little school over in Jacmel, or whatnot.

I think that what we've done in the past in terms of coordinating among the international donors, it's been -- you know, we've had this kind of various donors take leadership on various issues. So, for instance, Canada has leadership on statistics, and the kind of planning part of the -- of what happens with the Ministry of Education. The French had leadership on teacher professional development. The IDB was very much leading on school construction. We were leading on kind of private-public partnerships, that sort of thing.

Looking forward -- I mean, I'm not going to repeat what I said, but looking forward, we need to take this now from a sharing of information and a kind of -- I think the concept of dividing and conquering is good. We need to just take it up a notch -- or 10 -- and really have more accountability between the donor and that part of the system that they're going to strengthen. If it's public-private partnerships, then it's getting this *Office*

National du Partenariat en Education up and running, which is part of the plan -- and I

won't go into it. If it's teacher training -- you know, et cetera, et cetera.

MS. ANDERSON: And, just as a follow-on, is it a problem that the

ministry -- the department, or whoever said was supposed to be coordinating quarterly --

isn't? Or is that part of the strengthening, capacity strengthening plan, that ultimately

they will be coordinating this?

MR. HOLLAND: I mean, I think that those meetings need to happen

more frequently. But what we can really achieve with them, I'm not sure. I mean, I think

that the best thing we can do is have this plan that outlines a vision that we've all

endorsed. And then -- this kind of segues into the IHRC question -- you know, people are

-- various organizations that are preparing interventions in the sector, you know, need to

be within that plan. And if they're not within that plan, then they need to be -- they need

to be approved by the IHRC.

MS. ANDERSON: Okay.

MR. HOLLAND: Because the IHRC -- this is -- Marcelo will correct me.

I'm moving in the IHRC question now, is that okay?

MS. ANDERSON: Yes.

MR. HOLLAND: And this is off the record, right? (Laughter.)

So the IHRC endorsed this plan. And now activities that are under that

plan -- as I see it -- have the blessing to move forward. Activities that are not under that

plan do not have the blessing to go forward, and would have to go to the IHRC.

And then I don't really see a role for the IHRC in the actual

implementation. I mean, I don't think that we're going to get IHRC officers that are going

to come and supervise the activities, or anything like that. I mean, with all due respect to

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the IHRC, it has enough trouble needing and reading the proposals that they're receiving,

and passing them on to the Haiti Reconstruction Fund for financing.

So I think the role is really limited to gatekeeper, "Yes, this is a national

priority. Go ahead." Rather than, "Go ahead. And how are you guys doing? And please

report back in to us every three months," and et cetera, et cetera.

Marcelo, do you think that's a good --

MR. CABROL: Yes. The first thing, on coordination -- coordination, it's a

-- I'm going to say a truism here -- it's a difficult thing. It's a complicated issue. And

coordination doesn't happen in meetings. You can have as many meetings as you want.

So I think that what Peter is saying is, the 18-month plan that the plan

include, basically, is based on an approach that will include actual work from the donors -

- and from the Minister. And I'm saying the donors and the Minister under the same roof,

moving under deadlines, and with clear results. And that can be accomplished. That can

be accomplished.

It's not going to be accomplished in the discussions, in meetings.

Whether weekly meetings, bi-weekly meetings or whatever, it's not going to happen

there. It's going to happen the same way that the plan was developed: a task force, in

which the Minister or the Ministry's leading, with the donors, probably with a division of

labor -- as Peter is saying -- and with clear products that need to be defined.

They're not going to be perfect. Because that's the other issue. I mean,

perfection, perfect components will not come out from this effort. Doable things need to

come out from this effort. So this is an important thing.

With the Interim Commission, this is a difficult question, too. Let's put it

this way -- the Interim Commission has international visibility. President Clinton has, of

course, a lot in that agenda, and they will not have the capacity to add any technical

value in the short term to the discussion. I don't think that that's going to be the outcome

of the Interim Commission.

What they will do, or what they could do, is to have the issue of

implementation of the plan as a political issue. And this is not, again, a technical issue.

It's not checking on anybody's work. It's saying look, you know, we are the agent that for

the next six months to a year, we'll be asking, in each meeting that we have, "How is this

going? Or how is this not going?" Okay? For us, this is why we -- when we talk with

President Clinton, that's always the discussion. The discussion is not that they're going

to be a parallel Ministry of Education, or a parallel government -- because they cannot be.

But in this narrow issue of education, I think that we have a clear

discussion of what they could do for us.

MS. ANDERSON: Okay, thank you.

Before we move one, actually, just to get to the question of teachers,

how to -- you know, where to look for teacher resources and opportunities to teach in

Haiti.

Either of you three have any responses?

MR. CABROL: There was a lot of noise in the discussion at the

beginning of this conversation about programs like Teach for America and these kinds of

efforts. Still the conversations are going. They are very slow -- by my standards. So I

don't know if they're going to happen or not.

MS. ANDERSON: Well, I can say online there are certainly a lot of

resources that you could find, whether Teachers Without Borders, even the Interagency

Network for Educational Emergencies -- many, many groups would have some links

there that could be interesting. For resources, not for the --

MR. HOLLAND: Yes. I mean, I would think your best bet are, like, the

NGOs, like Plan, and like SAVE -- if I could just put the onus on the people that are in the

audience. Those might be your best.

MS. DOHERTY: There is a OneResponse website that has -- lists all of

the various partners who are working on different aspects of the response. I can give

that to you.

MS. ANDERSON: Great.

We have a question back here?

MS. WEINER: Very quick. I am Annick Weiner, Science Counselor at

the French Embassy.

And I have, again, a question of coordination -- which was already

quoted.

I think Peter already answered more or less about coordination between

countries. You said that it's good. I mean, so is it easy? Is it going well?

And the second is more technical, about the language for children, and

for also training of teachers -- okay? How can you manage? Because -- can you?

Thank you.

MS. ANDERSON: Thank you.

And I saw another hand -- two hands over here.

SPEAKER: Hi, my name is Aya. I just graduated from Fletcher School,

at Tufts University.

I heard a lot about donor coordination from you, but I wonder -- what

about government engagement and involvement?

You've talked about ownership is crucial, but is there any concrete

results that is out there -- for example, any more school inspectors and teachers out there

in place? Or are there any strengthened trust between teachers and parents, or school

inspectors and teachers?

And is there any, like, job descriptions in place among the Ministry of

Education officials, and sign of following those responsibilities? Those concrete signs, I

would like to know, after the earthquake.

And also, my second question is, given the very little capacity even

before the earthquake, and immense amount of money, I cannot help think about the

corruption issue. Is the money really reaching the children -- or teachers? Or is it

stopped at the government high-level officials?

So those are my questions. Thank you.

MS. NICOLAI: Hi. Susan Nicolai with the Global Education Cluster Unit

in Geneva.

I was actually interested to hear a little bit more about the approach to

private-sector providers, given that they're really the vast majority of schooling in Haiti.

And you had mentioned something about a subsidy plan to non-public providers. And

just to hear a little bit more about how that issue is being tackled.

MS. ANDERSON: Great. So we have a plethora of issues for this

response.

We've got a question on the private-sector providers, a question on

corruption, a question on how -- we've heard a lot about the coordination and the donor

coordination, how is it actually working?

A question about the language issue -- which is a really difficult one, of

course, historically and presently. And a question of, sort of, given government

engagement, what are some of the concrete results in strengthening capacity for

inspection and engagement, especially at the local level, it sounds like you're talking

about.

So -- I don't know -- Peter, do you feel like --

MR. HOLLAND: I'll start with the ones that I can answer (laughter), and

then will address the others later.

The subsidy program -- and I'm going to tie it into the corruption.

So, the idea is that we believe in public services, that they be free. And

we believe in public financing of those public services and then if the provision is private

or public in Haiti right now, it's a secondary issue, and we're not too concerned about it.

The way that the program works is that we finance -- when the school

enters into the program in grade one -- when the school enters into the program, all the

students in grade one that are entering grade one for the first time, that are between the

ages of six and eight -- which was UNICEF's insistence, a very good one, to make sure

that we're getting the kids starting on time -- are eligible for the tuition waiver.

Our social analyses were telling us that it was better to say -- to target

the school, rather than to try to target the kids within the school and say, "You -- yes, you

-- no," because you end up just sort of fomenting more divisions at the community level.

So if the school's in, all of the children in that grade are in.

And then there's third-party technical audits that visit each and every one

of the schools. So it's not like a sample audit. It's every school then gets visited by a firm

-- so, not a school inspector. They also get visited by the school inspectors that go to

collect the financial reports.

But this third party goes and counts -- "You said you had 42 students in

grade one," and you count, you know, "We only count 37." Or -- and check with the

communities. They also check with the parents to make sure that they haven't paid

tuition, because that tuition has been paid through the program.

And then the students that are subsidized need to have manuals.

So, really, there are two conditions to get into the program: one, you

need to have some kind of accreditation. That is, they can't be functioning in total

illegality, because it's just difficult from a legal perspective. And, second they need to be

providing textbooks. And then, they can't be charging fees, obviously, to the parents.

The funds flow from Washington or Ottawa or Barbados -- the Caribbean

Development Bank -- to an account in the Central Bank in Haiti. And then from there,

they're transferred directly onto the bank accounts of the schools that are opened by the

school management committees and the directors, school directors, jointly. And the

school management committee and the director -- so, representatives of the parents,

basically, and the director co-sign on that money.

This is a way to minimize the corruption that happens in Port-au-Prince,

and that happens at the higher levels of government. And there was sort of a conscious

decision to say let's take the risks more at the community level -- and then we have the

third-party verification, we have the schools and the parents involved. I mean, there's no

such thing as a perfect system, but we decided to err on the risk of having leakage -- as

we refer to it -- in these, you know, more remote rural areas, than to have leakage

happen in Port-au-Prince.

I'll stop there, but I tried to address those two questions.

Oh, while I'm at it, with the parents' involvement with the schools, we're

actually trying to foment more distress between parents and teachers -- because what we

want to see is that teachers are being accountable to parents. Right now, I think I would

say we have a situation of trust, or a situation of fear. But the parents would never

confront the teacher, or check on the teacher, or report if the teacher was absent, or

intoxicated, or whatnot. So what we're trying to do is empower parents to have -- and to

have teachers be a little bit more accountable, all the while making sure that there's

something in it for the teacher -- right? Because these guys are working super hard --

and, I mean, I use the term "guys," and most of them are women -- and they're often not

paid.

So you have to have the tuition waiver program with the money arriving,

you know, early, and teachers' being paid and then, in exchange their being monitored by

the parents.

MS. ANDERSON: Okay. Do either of you want to follow on those issues,

which were both on, sort of, some corruption issues, and also strengthening -- you know,

in the end, it was a lot about parents-teacher-community involvement and capacity.

MR. CABROL: Just to say that both subsidies and accreditation, of

course they go together. They are not perfect at this point. They have two problems.

They have the problem of, you know, whether they're technically well calibrated for the

incentives that we're going to put in the system -- that is to say, more control by the

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parents, or less control by the schools. We need to work on that, and that's part of the

18-month discussion.

And the other issue, of course, it's the calibration of the money -- how

much of the subsidy?

The accreditation part, it's also a very difficult one. We have very few

schools fully accredited by the Ministry of Education. It's a cumbersome process, and

there's no capacity to do that. So the plan is talking about a very simply type of

accreditation that probably will survive for the next five years. And that's going to be to

count how many teachers they have, what kind of training they have, and whether they're

in school or not.

MS. ANDERSON: Lisa, did you have anything on that?

MS. DOHERTY: No, I was going to talk about the government's

engagement question.

MS. ANDERSON: Okay.

Ollay.

MS. DOHERTY: Just from the perspective of the Cluster, in any case --

but we were very conscious of ensuring that the Ministry of Education leading the

response efforts with our support, rather than the other way around. And we had to

reorganize ourselves, how we were coordinated, to make sure that that happened

meaningfully, and not just in terms of chairing a meeting.

And, really, that was probably most successful at the local levels,

because we directly involved the inspectors. As I mentioned, the inspector knows the

community very well, knows the schools very well.

It wasn't easy. They have, obviously, limited capacity. In many cases,

we lost of the Ministry of Education staff, as we've heard. But it was definitely a focus of

our outreach and capacity-development, making sure that when doing needs

assessments, that those were done under the leadership of the inspector -- you know,

providing training so that they would be able to develop and conduct those assessments,

training on planning, and contingency planning, particularly, coming up to cyclone

season, as I mentioned.

It's a hierarchical structure, of course, and if they didn't have the okay of

their supervisors it became very difficult. So that was something we had to counter.

At national level, we made sure that the national Cluster, particularly the

Strategic Group element, and then we had an open forum of the broader membership,

that those were co-led by the Cluster and the Ministry. And having a dedicated focal

point, and meeting regularly, and planning jointly with the Ministry ensured that that

happened.

So it was something we had to work very hard at, but the results were

very evident, then, on the ground.

MS. ANDERSON: Do any of you feel comfortable tackling the issue of

language? Getting Creole, French, English?

MR. HOLLAND: I mean, people in this room know this far better than I

do, but it's pretty difficult to teach a child to read in a foreign language -- which is, for 95

percent of Haitian households, the reality when kids go into school and try to learn

French.

In fact, if we can teach them to read in Creole, in grades one and two,

then they will learn French much more easily when they get into grades three and four.

But, I'm already kind of out of a limb here, in terms of my knowledge, so

I'm going to leave it at that.

MR. CABROL: The plan embraces that kind of approach. It's -- what I

understand, I'm not an expert on this issue -- but what I understand is that it embraces a

bilingual approach. And I think that, in spite of the recommendation of the Commission

that it was to do Creole and then French, but the plan went against that recommendation,

if I understand correctly.

This is one of the key examples of how Haitians, working by themselves

with our capacity added, they can solve or make decisions about important issues about

the future of education there.

This was a difficult discussion, and they needed to, you know, get

together and get to a decision, and they did.

MS. ANDERSON: Okay. We have five minutes left, and we haven't

tackled the very big issue that Susan brought up, as well, around private-sector

providers, and how is, also, the plan, National Education Plan, tackling that issue, given

that 80 to 90 percent of education was provided by the private sector. And how to bring

quality and accountability more in line.

MR. HOLLAND: So, the vision with the -- so, the tuition waiver program

that I described is obviously for private providers -- right? And the idea there -- and I

mentioned the very basic conditions, right now, to participate.

The strategy in the medium term and the longer term is one of shifting

the goal posts. So, as the facts on the ground change, and as we have more trained

teachers on the market, then we can say, "Well, in order to qualify for this program, not

only do you have to give the textbooks and waive the tuition, you also have to have a

trained teacher teaching in grade one," or teaching in each grade that's subsidized. Or,

you know -- as Marcelo mentioned, it's all a question of calibration. Because you need to

continuously provide the incentives and the support in order for them to be improving

their quality. And, you know, some schools will drop off in the bottom end that can't, you

know, meet those standards. And you'll, hopefully, just, little by little, increase the

standards and the quality of education in these schools.

But, I mean, it's -- so, donors have to be in there for the long term.

MR. CABROL: The effort probably will start with the schools that are --

it's very heterogeneous, the supply of schools in the non-public sector. Of course we

understand that. So the discussion will probably start with the bottom of the distribution,

not with the top of the distribution. Because to have \$120 subsidy that this program will

bring, will not entice, necessarily, the participation at the beginning, unless there is some

sort of calibration, in terms of how much the parents still contribute to education, and how

much the subsidy covers.

But this is going to be a gradual discussion. There's not going to be one

subsidy. In the future, there will be more than one subsidy. But that's a question of

institutional capacity, again. The moment we start to slice it very thinly, the institutional

capacity is not there to differentiate between one type of operation and the other. That

could be in the future.

MS. ANDERSON: Okay.

Before we move to closing, I'd like to offer all of the panelists, you know,

an opportunity to say a few concluding remarks -- again, keeping in mind the theme of,

from relief to development what are the next steps.

If there are some issues that you feel haven't been brought up that you'd

like to highlight for us. You know, or if it's some of the issues that you have brought up

that you'd really like us to keep in our minds as we, you know, leave this room -- just to

offer you each a minute or so to offer that.

So, we could go in the same speaking order, actually. So, Lisa, do you

want to start?

MS. DOHERTY: Okay. Well, it strikes me, really, sitting here listening to

everyone, that we really are covering the full spectrum, not only of the response to the

recovery and the longer-term reconstruction, but also, you know, the school classroom-

level engagements, right up to the institutions, and the broader political sphere.

But, you know, I have to wave the flag, and my responsibility as Cluster

coordinator was to represent a very large group of partners who were doing, and are

continuing to do, tremendous work on the ground. And, you know, that little NGO

working on that little school in Jacmel -- you know, when you combine the efforts of the

enormous number of partners who are doing that, it's quite amazing the impact they're

having.

And one thing that struck me very much while working in Haiti was how

much Haitians prioritize education -- up to 70 percent of household incomes, in some

cases, going on school fees.

So all of us together have a real responsibility and a real opportunity to

make the transformative changes we've discussed.

MS. ANDERSON: Peter?

MR. HOLLAND: Yes. I mean, I don't really have much else to add. I

was just going to also echo this idea of opportunity -- that in the wake of the earthquake,

you did hear people say, "Oh, it's devastating. But, really, this could be a real

opportunity." And then lately I've been hearing, you know, "Oh, that was --" -- you know,

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that it wasn't an opportunity, it was just devastation. And we heard that at the dialogue a

couple weeks ago, when Rand presented their report. And I'm sure they mentioned -- a

similar message at the Institute of Peace, when they presented there.

Actually, it is still like this incredible window to change things

permanently in Haiti. And when we lose sight of that historic moment that we are in, then

it -- you know, it's a bit sad.

I think we need to keep up the energy and the enthusiasm, and that's

how we're going to kind of seize this moment. Because it comes down to individuals, and

it comes down to just that momentum.

I think that momentum is there. I've seen it. And I hope we can keep it

up. I mean, I know that we can keep it up. I hope that we do keep it up.

MS. ANDERSON: Thank you.

Marcelo.

MR. CABROL: Not an institutional story, a personal story -- very quickly.

I lived in Haiti after the earthquake for a month-and-a-half, and I've been

going back and forth quite a bit. I work with another 25 countries, but Haiti has been my

focus in the last nine months -- and will continue to be.

Most of the time -- and for all of you that have experience in Haiti, the

feeling was that I was doing one step ahead, and two to the back -- behind -- I don't know

how to say it. So, essentially, I was doing no progress.

Every day, I came back to my trailer, or whatever it was -- a container,

essentially -- and I had to recover to continue working on the project.

We are very proud, as an institution, to be able to support the Haitian

government in the next 10 years, for education change in Haiti. But for me, personally, it

was the most rewarding, or it has been the most rewarding effort that I've done in 14

years working development in Latin America.

MS. ANDERSON: Well, thank you.

I want to thank everyone in the audience for your time and your

questions and your thoughtfulness. And I particularly want to thank Peter and Lisa and

Marcelo.

And I hope everyone here is leaving with what I'm leaving with, which is

a feeling of overarching opportunity, despite the barriers. But the opportunities to

continue this momentum, and continue with sustained engagement that all of us in this

room, hopefully, are bringing and taking forward.

So thank you all. Thank you.

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