



UP FRONT

NGA Supports Haiti Earthquake Recovery Efforts

BY SUSAN MEISNER



DOD Photo

Haitian citizens remain in the street afraid or unable to return to their homes after a 7.0 magnitude earthquake caused severe damage Jan. 12, 2010.

The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency has been supporting the U.S. State Department, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.S. Southern Command and the Department of Homeland Security with analysis, unclassified commercial satellite imagery and geospatial intelligence products of the Haitian areas devastated by the Jan. 12 earthquake.

In addition, NGA has provided GEOINT products to supported agencies, including graphics of major infrastructure and damage assessments, which provide a common operating picture and greatly assist first responders and relief efforts.

“We’re looking at infrastructure and force protection and producing products for the Command,” said Thomas M., director, NGA Support Team to SOUTHCOM. “We are prepared to send analysts into the region to provide support on-site.”

NGA has also provided public access to some of its geospatial intelligence products, including imagery and maps, as they have become available via NGA’s crisis response portal, NGA-Earth, www.nga-earth.org, a satellite imagery and map viewer. The site provides links to other federal agency sites and is updated as new geospatial intelligence products are made available.

USAID’s Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance is leading U.S. disaster relief efforts, and SOUTHCOM will serve a supporting role to its efforts. **P**

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