



Context/Problem

In 2010 the massive earthquake in Haiti left the country in shambles. After this a series of disasters struck Haiti and despite aid pouring into the country, Haiti continued to struggle to re-build. This crisis was a logistical nightmare, and though billions were allocated to Haiti after the earthquake, the process of delivering aid was incredibly slow and inefficient and left the already vulnerable country in a state of dependency.

What Field Ready is doing

As our pilot program, Haiti served as a beneficial experience for us proving that useful things can be made in the field. We used nimble manufacturing, and created useful items during our program in Haiti.

Umbilical cord clamps were one of the first designs we created. This idea came to fruition after hearing of a local nurse having to use medical gloves to tie off umbilical cords due to lack of supplies, risking both her safety and the infants. Not only was it quicker but 40% cheaper without a supply chain and when made in the field. We were able to equip the hospital Real Hope for Haiti with nearly all the umbilical cords needed for newborns each month. Through working with health facilities other useful medical designs were created like buckets, prosthetics and other supplies needed in hospitals.

We worked with innovation spaces such as iLAB to teach principles such as design, prototyping and printing. The purpose of this co-creation was to create opportunities for Haitians to learn these skills so that after the duration of our project they were equipped to continue to make supplies on demand. We trained a dozen people in basic CAD and 3D printing. This not only allows our work to have a greater reach but also creates livelihood opportunities making our project more sustainable.

Partners



Impact

Our work in Haiti served as the starting point for the programs to come. We printed over 50 IV bags hooks, 30 oxygen splitters and 50 umbilical cord clamps. We learned that it is possible to locally manufacture supplies, and learned that there are more efficient ways to deliver aid than the current process. Our trainings helped shift away from dependency and created opportunity to learn new skills that can generate income. We are eager to see our designs expand in sectors such as health, WASH, SAR and reach more people globally.