INTERIM
HAITI
RECOVERY
COMMISSION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **What is the role of the IHRC?**

   The IHRC was created following the devastating January 2010 earthquake in order to undertake the expeditious planning, coordination, and facilitation of reconstruction and development projects in line with those priorities identified by the Government of Haiti. Specifically, the IHRC reviews and approves projects and programs funded by NGOs, bilateral and multilateral donors and the private sector.

2. **Does the IHRC implement reconstruction programs or projects?**

   No. The IHRC aids in planning, coordinating and facilitating programs and projects that fall in line with reconstruction priorities defined by the Government of Haiti. Once the projects are planned and approved, it is up to the various NGOs, multilaterals and other stakeholders to implement the projects.

3. **Does the IHRC fund reconstruction projects?**

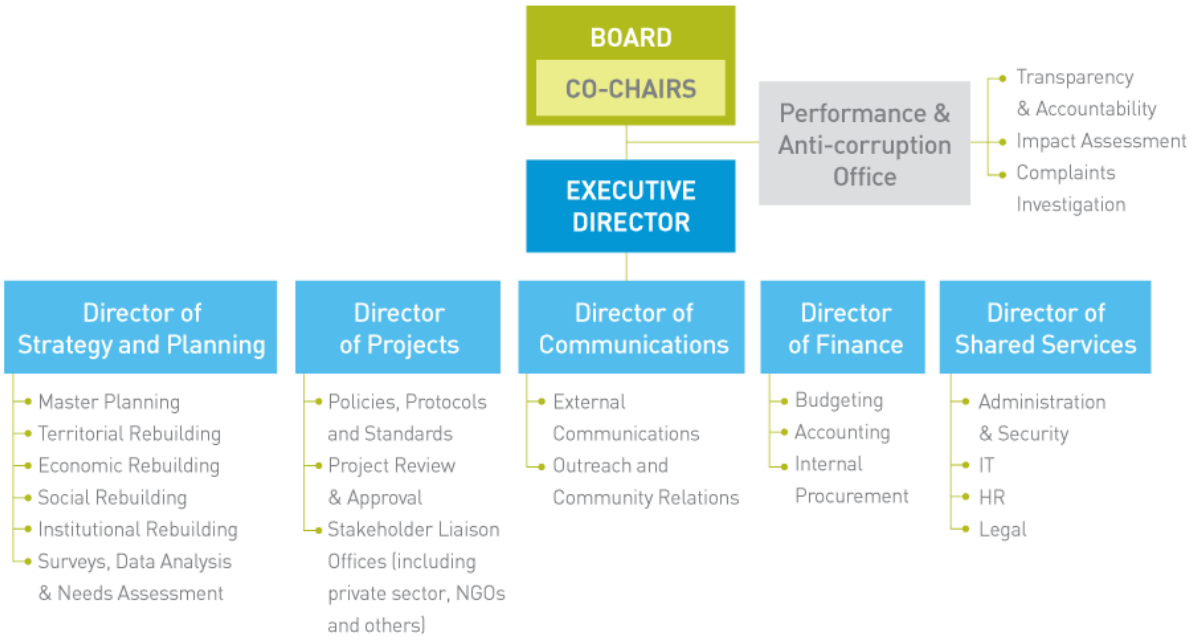
   No. The IHRC works to align funding from the international donor community with priority reconstruction projects and programs identified by the Government of Haiti. The IHRC does not have funds itself, nor does it disburse funds. The IHRC can help facilitate funding flows by publicizing to donors all funding gaps that exist for IHRC approved projects and by connecting partially funded projects/programs to entities that can disburse funds, such as the Haiti Reconstruction Fund (HRF).

4. Is the IHRC a permanent agency?

No. As its name indicates, the IHRC is an interim body with a finite mandate. The bylaws of the IHRC, which were incorporated upon the creation of the Commission, set forth an October 2011 date for the end of the mandate.

5. What is the leadership structure of the IHRC?

The IHRC is co-chaired by Prime Minister of Haiti Jean-Max Bellerive and President Bill Clinton, a longtime friend and supporter of Haiti. Additionally, the Commission has a voting Board comprised equally of Haitian members and members of the international community. The day-to-day operations of the Commission are managed by an executive director.



6. **What exactly is the role of the IHRC then?**

Stakeholder Alignment - Improve prioritization of investment priorities by sharing information on sector progress and needs, actively promote partnerships (both across and within sectors) to improve effectiveness and resolve conflicts or duplication of effort, and leverage stakeholder resources (e.g., donors) external agencies and existing mechanisms.

Information Sharing – Provide transparency into the recovery process, ensure open communication channels exist for all stakeholders, collect and share information on ongoing and planned projects.

Facilitating Funding Flows– Track the disbursement of pledges and coordinate with funding resources (e.g., HRF) to ensure approved projects are funded

Project Alignment – Approve or reject any project funded by bilateral and multilateral donors and civil society organizations, and select private sector efforts.

Monitoring Progress & Performance – Monitor progress, conducting spot-checks and full audits where necessary and address complaints to ensure penalties and sanctions are enforced as needed.

7. **Who makes up the staff of the IHRC?**

The IHRC staff is staffed by a group of dedicated professionals from Haiti and the international community, alike.

8. If the work of the IHRC is not complete by October 2011, is there a possibility that the Commission will be extended?

This is a decision that must be made by the Government of Haiti. Until then, the IHRC will continue to focus on facilitating the reconstruction process and further integrating recovery coordination functions and capacity building with the Government of Haiti.

9. Is the IHRC focused on short-term or long-term reconstruction goals?

Initially, the work of the IHRC aimed to address emergency short-term needs brought on by the natural disaster. As the country continues to recover, the work of the IHRC is increasingly focused on the goal of "building back better" for the long-term. This long-term approach does not simply aim to address those areas directly affected by the earthquake, but encompasses the country of Haiti as a whole with an eye to decentralization and developing a nationwide infrastructure network that will underpin its economic development efforts.

10. Does the IHRC work closely with – or independently of – the Government of Haiti?

The IHRC works in close coordination with the Government of Haiti. Technical staff from the Commission share their expertise with their professional counterparts in the Government and also coordinate reconstruction projects with Haitian civil servants to ensure that

reconstruction goals aligned with the Government's plan are met. This close working relationship is critical to ensuring a successful reconstruction process, as well as strengthening the institutional capacity of the Government.