



SHELTERBOX: NOTABLE RESPONSES



Gujarat Earthquake, 2001

On 26 January 2001, a powerful earthquake hit the state of Gujarat, western India. The earthquake, also known as the Bhuj earthquake, killed nearly 20,000 people and destroyed nearly 400,000 homes in India. The 7.7 magnitude earthquake destroyed over 1 million structures including historic buildings. This was the first disaster that the newly formed ShelterBox team were able to respond to. Working in partnership with local Rotary contacts, we supported families with emergency shelter aid and other essential items.

Boxing Day Tsunami, 2004

On 26 December 2004, the Indian Ocean tsunami killed nearly a quarter of a million people and left nearly 2 million homeless. The deadly tsunami devastated the nearest coastlines of Indonesia, although a total of 14 countries were affected, including Thailand, India, Sri Lanka, and even Somalia, the Seychelles and South Africa. The waves devastated everything they hit, and retreating waters eroded whole shorelines. A massive surge of support from around the world for the people affected by this huge disaster enabled the ShelterBox team to launch its largest-ever response in the organisation's short history. Working closely with local Rotary partners in Indonesia and Sri Lanka, we provided emergency shelter aid and other essential items to thousands of affected families.





Haiti Earthquake, 2010

On 12 January 2010, a powerful earthquake struck Haiti, bringing chaos and destruction. The initial shock of 7.0 magnitude was quickly followed by aftershocks of 5.9 and 5.5. Aftershocks continued to batter the area throughout the following weeks. The devastation was on a scale previously unimaginable – homes were turned to rubble, families were separated, and livelihoods were completely destroyed. Following the devastating earthquake in 2010, over 28,000 families were supported with essential ShelterBox aid. This included tents to provide families with emergency shelter to start recovering, kitchen sets to allow them to cook and eat together again, and mosquito nets to protect against Insect-borne diseases like malaria.

Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, 2011

On 11 March 2011, an earthquake off the Pacific coast of Tohoku, measuring magnitude 9 ravaged Japan. The earthquake triggered a tsunami with giant waves of up to 10 meters. Aftershocks also hit the area the next day, at 6.2 magnitude. Over 20,000 people lost their lives, and over half a million were made homeless. Similar to the Boxing Day tsunami, it was caused by a type of earthquake called a 'megathrust earthquake', which forces one of the earth's tectonic plates to be thrust under another and shifting the earth's crust. Working with local Rotary groups, ShelterBox worked throughout the affected coastal areas in Japan, providing emergency shelter aid as well as winter gloves, scarves and hats to help people survive the freezing conditions.



Typhoon Haiyan, 2013

On 8 November 2013, Super Typhoon Haiyan slammed into the Philippines, causing catastrophic damage. With winds of 195mph and waves up to 7ms, the typhoon is still the largest storm ever recorded to make landfall. It is the deadliest on record in the Philippines, with more than 7,000 people losing their lives. A total of around 11 million people were affected, with 6 million people displaced. 6 million workers lost their source of income when agriculture and boats were destroyed. ShelterBox's response was large and complex, helping communities across seven different islands, working to ensure that emergency shelter aid and other essential equipment reached thousands of vulnerable families.