

1 **Revision of the geological context of the Port-au-Prince**
2 **metropolitan area, Haiti: Implications for seismic**
3 **microzonation**

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11 **Abstract**

12 Following the earthquake of January 12th, 2010 in the Port-au-Prince area, the Haitian
13 government in close cooperation with BRGM, the French geological Survey, decided to
14 undertake a seismic microzonation study of the metropolitan area of the capital in order to
15 take more fully into account the seismic risk in the urbanization and planning of the city under
16 reconstruction. As the first step of the microzonation project, a geological study has been
17 carried out. Deposits of Miocene and Pliocene formations in a marine environment have been
18 identified. These deposits are affected by the Enriquillo-Plantain Garden N80°E fault system
19 and N110°E faults. Tectonic observations and morphological analysis indicate quaternary
20 activity of several faults mapped in the area of Port-au-Prince. These faults have a N110°
21 trend and show a reverse – sinistral strike-slip motion. Moreover, on the basis of these
22 geological results and of new topographical data, a hazard assessment of ground movements
23 has been made. Along with the map of active faults, the hazard map of ground movements is
24 an integral component of the seismic microzonation study.

25 **Keywords:** Geology, fault, ground movement, seismic microzonation, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

1 **1 Context**

2 On January 12th, 2010, Haiti was struck by one of the most violent earthquakes to have
3 affected the country during the last two centuries. According to the DEC (Disasters
4 Emergency committee, website <http://www.dec.org.uk/haiti-earthquake-facts-and-figures>), the
5 earthquake left 220,000 dead, 300,000 injured, and over a million homeless. Port-au-Prince,
6 the capital city of Haiti, and its metropolitan area have suffered massive losses. The study of
7 the historical archives (Bakun and *al*, 2012) indicates that the island of Hispaniola has been
8 hit by several major earthquakes over the past centuries. These earthquakes are concentrated
9 in the Northern or in the Southern parts of the island. In addition to the 2010 earthquake, Port-
10 au-Prince has already been destroyed by the earthquakes of 1751 and 1770.

11 In order to better integrate seismic risk parameters into the reconstruction and development
12 planning of the capital city, a seismic microzonation study has started in 2011. It has
13 concerned the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area. The work has been carried out by two Haitian
14 institutions, Laboratoire National du Bâtiment et des Travaux Publics (LNBTP) and Bureau
15 des Mines et de l'Énergie (BME) and BRGM, the French Geological Survey. The selected
16 zoning scale is 1:25,000 over the metropolitan area as a whole and 1:10,000 for strategic
17 sectors. The zonation work takes into account the seismic ground motion in the bedrock
18 (regional hazard) and modifications produced by this motion in relation with the local
19 topographic and lithology conditions (location and characterization of site effects and
20 induced effects). The techniques implemented for this mapping initiative rely on available
21 scientific knowledge, completed and updated by on-site investigations (geological,
22 geophysical and geotechnical) and/or modeling. Intended for decision-makers, development
23 planners, structural engineers and architects, but also for the public at large, this seismic
24 microzonation work is of major interest both for the rebuilding of devastated zones of the
25 Haitian territory and for preventive actions within the framework of a well managed
26 development planning policy.

27 **2 The geodynamic background**

28 The island of Hispaniola is occupied by the Republic of Haiti to the west and by the
29 Dominican Republic to the east. With the islands of Cuba, Jamaica and Puerto-Rico it goes to
30 make the Greater Antilles archipelago. The latter marks the boundary between the North-
31 American and the Caribbean tectonic plates. The main motion between the two plates

1 amounts to a relative mean rate of 2 cm/yr., with a converging direction of these two plates of
2 N70°E that is oblique with respect to the E-W plate margins (Mann and *al.*, 2002). In the
3 island of Hispaniola, two great fault systems mark the boundary to the running along the north
4 of Hispaniola, and the Enriquillo-Plantain Garden fault zone (EPGFZ), to the south (see Fig.
5 1).

6 The SFZ cuts across the north of Haiti and the Dominican Republic and is extending
7 westward beyond southern Cuba. The mean slip measured is 12 mm/yr. (Calais *et al.*, 2010;
8 website <http://web.ics.purdue.edu>). The strongest known earthquake associated with this fault
9 system, having a magnitude estimated at 8, is that of May 7, 1842. This event caused the
10 death of half of the population and considerable damage in several towns in northern Haiti
11 (Bakun *et al.*, 2012).

12 The EPGFZ runs along the southern Peninsula of Haiti. To the west, this fault system reaches
13 the island of Jamaica (the Plantain Garden plain). To the east of the Haiti and Dominican
14 Republic border, the EPGFZ ends against the Muertos fault system, which corresponds to the
15 subduction of the Caribbean plate beneath the Greater Antilles archipelago. The mean slip
16 measured on the EPGFZ is 7(±2) mm/yr. (Calais *et al.*, 2010; website
17 <http://web.ics.purdue.edu>). In addition to the January 12, 2010 seismic event, other major
18 historical earthquakes during the last centuries (1701, 1751, 1770, and 1860) are ascribed to
19 this structure. According to Bakun *et al.* (2012), the 1751 event had a magnitude of at least
20 7.4, and for the one in 1770, the magnitude is estimated at 7.5.

21 In the center of the island of Hispaniola, a number of large active thrust faults trending NW-
22 SE are visible in the present-day morphology (Calais *et al.*, 1992; Pubellier *et al.*, 2000).
23 These faults are structuring the Transhaitian Belt. To the north, they are connecting to the
24 SFZ and, to the south, to the Muertos fault system. The thrust of the Matheux range
25 corresponds to the northern boundary of the Plaine de Cul-de-Sac (see Fig. 1). This is the
26 main structure of the Transhaitian Belt. According to GPS data, the mean measured slip on
27 this thrust is approximately 1 mm/yr. (Calais *et al.*, 2010; website <http://web.ics.purdue.edu>).
28 Seismic profiles implemented in the Gulf of La Gonâve (Mann *et al.*, 1995) reveal the
29 presence of folds and reverse faults dating in age from the Miocene to the Quaternary, which
30 make the active frontal edge of the Transhaitian Belt. The reverse motion of the Transhaitian
31 fault system partially compensates the oblique component of the convergence of the North-
32 American and Caribbean plates with respect to their edges.

1 The January 12, 2010 earthquake reached a magnitude M_w of 7.1; its focal depth was 13 km.
2 The epicenter was located between the island of La Gonâve and the eastern end of Haiti's
3 Southern Peninsula (see Fig. 1). The focal mechanisms computed for the main shock and the
4 aftershocks, radar interferometry measurements, and GPS data indicate a motion along a fault
5 striking ENE-WSW ($N71^\circ E$), that is north-dipping with a reverse left-lateral component
6 (Calais *et al.*, 2010). Thus, this fault is slightly oblique with respect to the trend of the EPGFZ
7 ($N80^\circ E$) and lies to the north of this zone. Named the "Léogâne fault" (Calais *et al.*, 2010), it
8 is interpreted as being a blind thrust. According to the analysis of aftershocks of the January
9 12, 2010 event, the main rupture on the Léogâne fault appears to have triggered a reverse
10 movement on a $N120^\circ E$ fault (the Trois-Baies Fault), interpreted as a secondary fault of the
11 EPGFZ (Mercier de Lépinay *et al.*, 2011), and the reactivation at depth in a left-lateral strike
12 of the main fault plane of the EPGFZ (Hayes *et al.*, 2011; Douilly *et al.*, 2012).

13 **3 Geological study of the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area**

14 The map of lithological facies of the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area constitutes the essential
15 input data controlling both the soil (and the bedrock) responses to seismic vibrations and the
16 susceptibility to ground movements. Before the study, the geological information available
17 for the Port-au-Prince area was relatively poor. It mainly consisted in the geological map of
18 Haiti at 1:250,000 scale (Momplaisir and Boisson, 1987) and the recent geomorphological
19 sketchmap by Bachhuber *et al.* (2010), at 1/50,000 scale.

20 In order to make a reliable seismic microzonation mapping, it was necessary to improve the
21 knowledge of the geological context of the area under study. Our geological study consisted
22 in observing several dozen of outcrops, supplemented by the analysis of geotechnical
23 boreholes drilled earlier, together with the interpretation of aerial photographs from 2002,
24 plus the analysis of the Digital Terrain Model with 2 m pixels to a side calculated from 2012
25 Pleiades satellite images (KalHaiti, SERTIT/CNES), SPOT 2010 ortho-images, and 3D-view
26 satellite images of various dates under Google Earth.

27 **3.1 Mapping of the lithological facies**

28 The Port-au-Prince metropolitan area lies in the Cul-de-Sac alluvial plain (see Fig. 2).
29 Eastwards, the urban area ends near the Rivière Grise, while to the west, the city is limited by
30 the sea. In a southerly direction, the city abuts on the Mornes of Saint-Laurent and Hôpital in

1 the La Selle mountains range. These Mornes are bounded to the south by the Rivière Froide,
2 of which the course is, in turn, determined by the EPGFZ.

3 The various lithological facies found in the field have been classified into ten types or units
4 ranging from the oldest to the most recent: F1 (Upper Eocene) through F10 (Plio-Quaternary
5 to Present) (Fig. 3). The estimated ages of these units are derived from the work of Butterlin
6 (1960). The rocky substratum consists of limestones, silts, marls or conglomerates (or
7 breccia). Sandy facies are rarely met. Marls are frequently associated with limestones to form
8 “marly-limestone” alternations more or less rich in marine fossils depending on the site. The
9 present-day topography is largely the result of the Mio-Pliocene orogeny and of the activation
10 of the faults that delimit tectonic blocks, atop which Quaternary and recent erosion has
11 occurred.

12 At the Mornes of Saint-Laurent and Hôpital, Eocene to Oligocene limestones outcrop to the
13 south and Miocene conglomerates to the north. The main orographic axis is N80°E, parallel to
14 the EPGFZ. Between the Cul-de-Sac alluvial plain to the north and the northern slope of
15 Morne Hôpital, small hills of secondary origin and trending globally N110°E mark the
16 topography. The marly limestones and Mio-Pliocene marls or silts form the base of this hilly
17 topography. Here, the stratigraphic surfaces of these formations trend WNW-ESE and dip
18 steeply (angle greater than 45°) towards the north or the south (see Fig. 2). These reliefs are
19 bounded, to the east and north, by the alluvial formations of the Rivière Grise, and to the west
20 by marine alluvia. To the south, colluvial deposits or dejection cones cover these reliefs in
21 places. The colluvia in place are mostly fairly shallow, with thicknesses generally ranging
22 between 0.1 and 0.5 m on more rugged relief and from 0.5 to 1 m on average in less hilly
23 areas. These remobilized surface deposits can reach thicknesses of several meters in narrow
24 valley bottoms.

25 On Fig. 3, the analysis of the Miocene to Pliocene terrains in the Plaine de Cul-de-Sac shows:
26 i) deepwater to sublittoral marine deposits (marly limestones, mudstones, fine-grained
27 sandstones and silts) characteristic of low-energy environments and ii) sharp intercalation of
28 detritic formations related to sequences of sandy and gravelly to silty turbiditic deposits
29 (conglomerates). These formations correspond to marine deposits with a proportionally
30 variable limestone component, overlain by flysch sequences that become increasingly regular
31 and frequent at the end of the Miocene and the beginning of the Pliocene. These sharp detritic

1 intercalations, considered to be tectonic in origin, are ascribed to the continual activation
2 during the Mio-Pliocene of the faults bounding the Port-au-Prince plain to the south.

3 These Miocene and Pliocene formations are several hundreds of meters thick, with a possible
4 high exceeding a thousand meters, on the strength of the marine seismic profiles in the Gulf
5 of Gonâve (Mann *et al.*, 1995) as well as the borehole drilled in the Plaine de Cul-du-Sac by
6 ATLANTIC REFINING in 1947 (Momplaisir, 1986).

7 **3.2 Fault mapping**

8 As to fault mapping, this work was performed by observing outcropping fault planes (Fig. 2),
9 supplemented by the interpretation of morphological data. A majority of the fault planes
10 measured are trending E-W to NW-SE. Most of them show reverse left-lateral activation (Fig.
11 4). In several locations, the contact via the fault between quaternary alluvia and Miocene to
12 Pliocene formations is visible (Fig. 5).

13 In the central part of the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince, a conglomerate formation made
14 of uncemented, graded, polymetric limestone elements embedded in a marly sandy matrix,
15 overlies the Mio-Pliocene marly limestone and silt formations. This formation corresponds to
16 a piedmont alluvial cone which was probably deposited between the end of the Pliocene and
17 the early Quaternary. The hydrographic system responsible for this deposit is to be sought in
18 the limestone relief to the south, quite probably in the upstream portion of the Bristout River
19 catchment area (Fig. 6). The debris cone is characterized by three distinct assemblages,
20 interpreted as successive deposits from the drainage basin. The oldest part is located at the
21 north ; at the south, the most recent part is still fed by the present-day Bristout river. Based
22 on the central axis of the north and center portions of the cone, the hypothesis of a 1000-meter
23 offset cannot be excluded (Fig. 6). This would indicate a horizontal displacement rate of 0.6
24 (± 0.2) mm/yr. for the WNW-ESE fault systems mapped at this location. This estimate is
25 compatible with the values from GPS measurements on the compressive deformations of the
26 Transhaitian Belt (Fig. 1).

27 Furthermore, between the Musseau and Chavannes districts, the hydrographic network
28 presents a number of inflections in hydrographic drains following a WNW-ESE trend. These
29 inflections may locally have sizes up to 300 m. This mean value is coherent with the
30 hypothesized horizontal displacement rate indicated above, bearing in mind, in this instance,
31 that these are markers of more recent date (Middle to Upper Quaternary).

1 **4 Hazard assessment of ground movements**

2 **4.1 Method used**

3 Ground movements may be triggered by seismic vibrations. This is why they must be
4 analyzed in the seismic microzonation process, as potential site effects. In addition to local
5 topographic conditions, the lithologic nature of the terrains constitutes one of the main
6 environmental factors governing ground stability.

7 For this part of the study, the main steps were: (i) an inventory of the ground movements of
8 the region of Port-au-Prince (location, type of instability, geological and morphological
9 context), (ii) depending on the type of ground movements and based on past events, an
10 analysis of predisposing factors (involved lithology, slopes value), (iii) preliminary mapping
11 of the susceptibility of the land for instability, (iv) study in the field and analysis of aerial
12 photographs in 3D vision (definition of the different levels of hazard, and mapping of the
13 boundaries of the hazard zones); (v) restitution under a GIS of the hazard map.

14 The geological map made within the framework of the microzonation project, the Digital
15 Terrain Model calculated using Pléiades satellite images (KalHaiti, SERTIT/CNES), and the
16 inventory of ground movements make up the cartographic reference data for the hazard
17 assessment of ground movements. As attested by the past ground movements, listed in Table
18 1, Port-au-Prince is often concerned by slope instabilities. The inventory of ground
19 movements results from on site observations, interpretation of aerial photographs (especially
20 for the instability triggered by the earthquake of 2010) and local testimonies. Among the forty
21 or so events recorded in the area, nineteen are documented by precise data as location,
22 lithological facies and the instability's geometry. For the remainder, it generally consists of
23 eyewitness accounts indicating events triggered by the 2010 earthquake. These events fall into
24 two main categories: landslides and rockfalls (see Table 1). The extent of the phenomena has
25 been estimated from observations in the field and/or by interpretation of aerial photographs.
26 In the area under study, identified landslides can reach large to very large volumes (hundreds
27 of thousands of m³ to more than a million m³), while the size of rockfall events is more
28 limited. Rockfalls up to 10 000 m³ are scarce.

29
30 Landslides generally involve marly limestone formations (F4, F5 and F6, cf. Fig. 3), which
31 may be overlain by more recent layers of deposits (F7 and F8), while rockfall events concern
32 mainly consolidated rocky layers (such as F3 and F2). In a few instances, calccretizations may

1 be at issue (they can be up to 1 m thick) observed at the roof of the Morne Delmas geological
2 formation (F6 to F8) or the shelly limestone banks (F6) in the marly limestone alternations.

3 While the lithological nature of the rocks largely conditions the type and the extent of potential
4 ground movement, the hill slope takes also a significant part in the ground instability
5 assessment. Other factors influence also the susceptibility of hillsides instabilities. Anyway,
6 they are often difficult to integrate at the scale of this study. Among them, are, for example,
7 structural data (as the dip of stratigraphic or fracture planes), lithological variations within
8 geological formations, and hydrogeological conditions.

9 For each geological formation studied, slope thresholds have been defined, mostly calibrated
10 by means of the feedback given by the inventory (Table 1). Thus, a preliminary map was
11 produced thanks to a data digital cross-comparison, with a 5m-resolution. At each spot, a
12 value was assigned according to the geological nature of the geological formation and the
13 value of the slope. This digital processing yields a preliminary assessment of the landslide or
14 rockfall susceptibilities at each point of the study area.

15 This preliminary map is a precious document to direct the field work and the demarcation of
16 the various zones of hazard.

17 **4.2 Ground movement hazard map**

18 The finalized hazard map for ground movements is at 1:10,000 scale. It shows the distinction
19 between the two types of ground movements, i.e. landslide and rockfall (Fig. 7). Virtually half
20 of the studied area is concerned by landslides. The rockfall phenomenon, involving less than
21 10% of the studied area, is concentrated along the southern boundary of the studied zone as
22 well as on the foothills of the La Selle mountain range. Landslides remain by far the most
23 frequent and most damaging phenomenon identified.

24 Four levels of susceptibility of increasing severity have been defined. Their corresponding
25 zonation is as follows:

26 1) Zones assigned to a hazard that is weak or non-existent. It applies to areas that are flat
27 or with gently slopes ($< 5^\circ$). These zones are generally not or little affected by
28 landslide or rockfall events. The few events that may occur are minor;

29 2) Zones assigned to a moderate hazard level. They can be subject to landslides of
30 limited (a few hundred m^3) or moderate (a few thousand m^3) volume. The concerned

1 areas present gentle slopes (between 5 and 10° on average), made of Miocene geologic
2 formations consisting of marl, marly limestone or silt (Formations F4 to F8);

3 3) Zones assigned to an intermediate hazard level. They are regularly affected by
4 landslides of intermediate intensity (several thousand m³) and, exceptionally, by
5 larger-scale phenomena (several hundred thousand m³), as the Delmas 32 famous
6 event that has caused the destruction of 200 houses in 1989. The concerned areas
7 have either slopes ranging between 10 and 20°, composed of marl, marly limestone,
8 silt or alluvia, or areas are exposed to the propagation of landslides initiated on steeper
9 inclines upslope. Zones with intermediate hazard level can also be exposed to
10 rockfalls. In this case, the terrains involved are rocky, with slopes exceeding 10°, or
11 zones liable to the propagation of rockfall from above.

12 4) Zones assigned to a high level of hazard are prone either to frequent superficial
13 landslides or to large-scale events (active or potential). They are characterized by
14 intermediate to steep slopes with unfavorable geological conditions or land-use factors
15 (typical configurations of the historical well-known landslides like Vivy Mitchell 1
16 and 2, Musseau), or they are concerned by massive landslide propagation from
17 higher altitude. Thus, included under this category, we find small rivers and foot
18 slopes, which are receptacles for materials that have slipped off slopes and can be
19 remobilized in the rivers as mudflows.

20 **5 Implications for preventive seismic recommendations**

21 Within the framework of the seismic microzonation project, the next step was to complete
22 these geological data with geotechnical and geophysical investigations, and then to map the
23 ground responses to seismic activity. Moreover this next step has taken into account the
24 topographical conditions of the city of Port-au-Prince. A first comparison between the
25 distribution of damage caused by the 2010 earthquake (UNOSAT, 2010) and the lithological
26 and topographic data shows a concentration of damage at right of topographical buttes on the
27 one hand, and on the edge of the coastline above the alluvial marine deposits (Fig. 2, see F10-
28 ma), on the other hand.

29 The map of the active faults and the hazard map of ground movements which are two full
30 components of the seismic microzonation survey were integrated into the final products.

1 The geological study of Port-au-Prince reveals that the capital of Haiti is located near or
2 directly over two active fault systems (Fig. 2), which have been taken into account in the
3 hazard risk assessment: i) the EPGFZ, which bounds the southern limit of the Port-au-Prince
4 urban area, and ii) the N110°E faults. The latest faults set corresponds very probably u to the
5 south-easterly extension of the reverse faults located in the Gulf of Gonâve and which
6 connectsto the EPGFZ to the east. The N110°E faults system mapped on land has a maximum
7 length of 15 km but, as indicated by offshore geophysical data, this system almost certainly
8 extends WNW into the Gulf of Léogâne. Tectonic deformations in terrains dated presumably
9 to the middle or recent Quaternary is observed at several locations along these faults. Taken in
10 conjunction with the morphostructural data, it indicates a reverse left-lateral displacement,
11 associated with a mean horizontal slip on the order of 0.6 (± 0.2) mm/yr.

12 Thus, as a main result of the study, in the context of the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area, it is
13 highly recommended to prohibit the construction of high-stake buildings as schools, hospitals,
14 disaster relief centers or structures of strategic importance in the vicinity of active faults.

15 Concerning the ground movement hazard, each specific zone identified on the hazard
16 zonation map (Fig. 7) is subject to specific recommendations (measures) designed to take the
17 ground movement hazard into account in existing constructed areas or for future urban land-
18 use development. No recommendation is made for zones of low hazard level. It just makes
19 sense to plan and to build according to appropriate construction rules. The zones associated
20 with a moderate, intermediate or high hazard level are governed by specific recommendations
21 which depend of the hazard level.

22 **6 Conclusions**

23 The geological study performed within the framework of the seismic microzonation project of
24 the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince has enabled the environmental context of the deposits
25 of the Miocene and Pliocene geological formations to be established. They are marine
26 deposits, either deep or sublittoral, which are characteristic of low-energy environments and
27 occasionally showing sudden inputs of detrital materials. These inputs are turbidites related
28 to the continual activation of the southern boundary faults of the Port-au-Prince Plain during
29 Miocene and Pliocene. Moreover, the study confirms the presence of several active faults that
30 include not only the EPGFZ bounding the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area to the south, but
31 also faults trending N110°E that are directly visible within it.

1 There are still uncertainties. Among them, the age of the lithological units should be
2 confirmed by chronostratigraphic dating. It is also necessary to determine the relationships
3 and contours for units F6 to F8, which are characterized by specific environments of
4 deposition. Furthermore, the deposit of the F9 unit needs to be determined with greater
5 precision, notably concerning its relationship with the upstream portion of the catchment area.
6 Recommendations are made for taking into account the hazard of surface rupture along active
7 faults, but it would be preferable to reduce uncertainties on the fault traces and to better
8 understand the seismogenic potential of these structures. To this end, the analysis could be
9 pursued by local geophysical studies and paleoseismic trench investigations.

10 The hazard map of ground movements at a scale 1:10,000 has been made mainly on the basis
11 of the geological map and an inventory of past events. It takes into account both the initial
12 predisposition and the propagation of instabilities, while also distinguishing between landslide
13 and rockfall phenomena. The results will be directly integrated into the seismic microzonation
14 map of the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince.

15 The location and characterization of lithological or topographical site effects is the aim of
16 another phase of the seismic microzonation of Port-au-Prince. To this end, the realized
17 lithological map will be an essential input.

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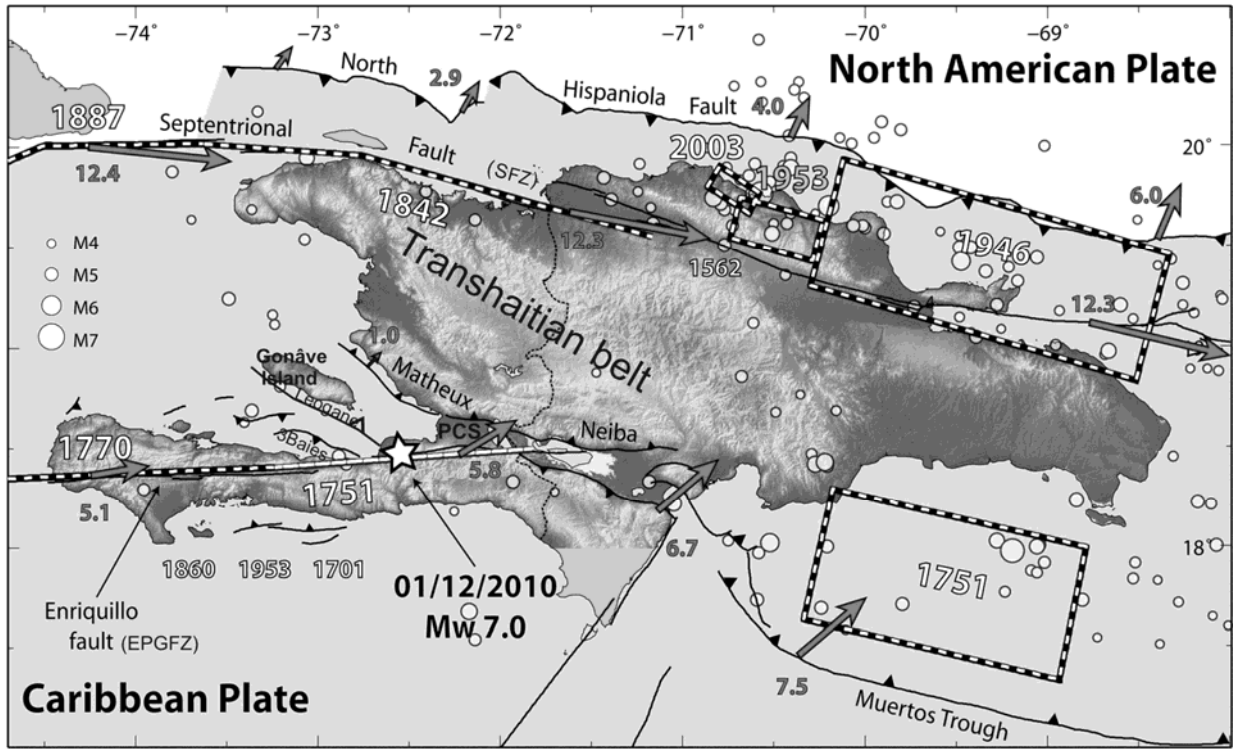
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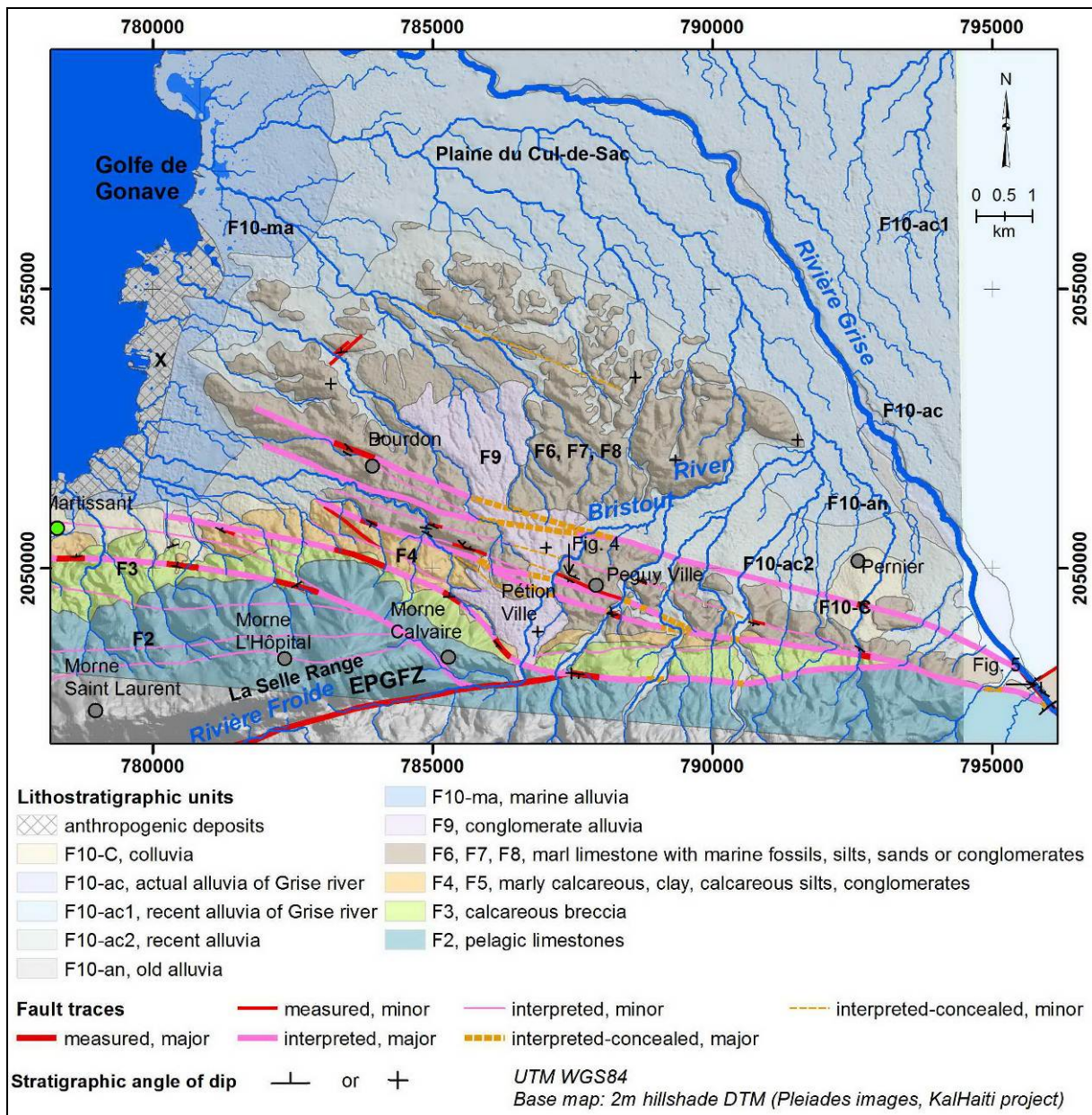
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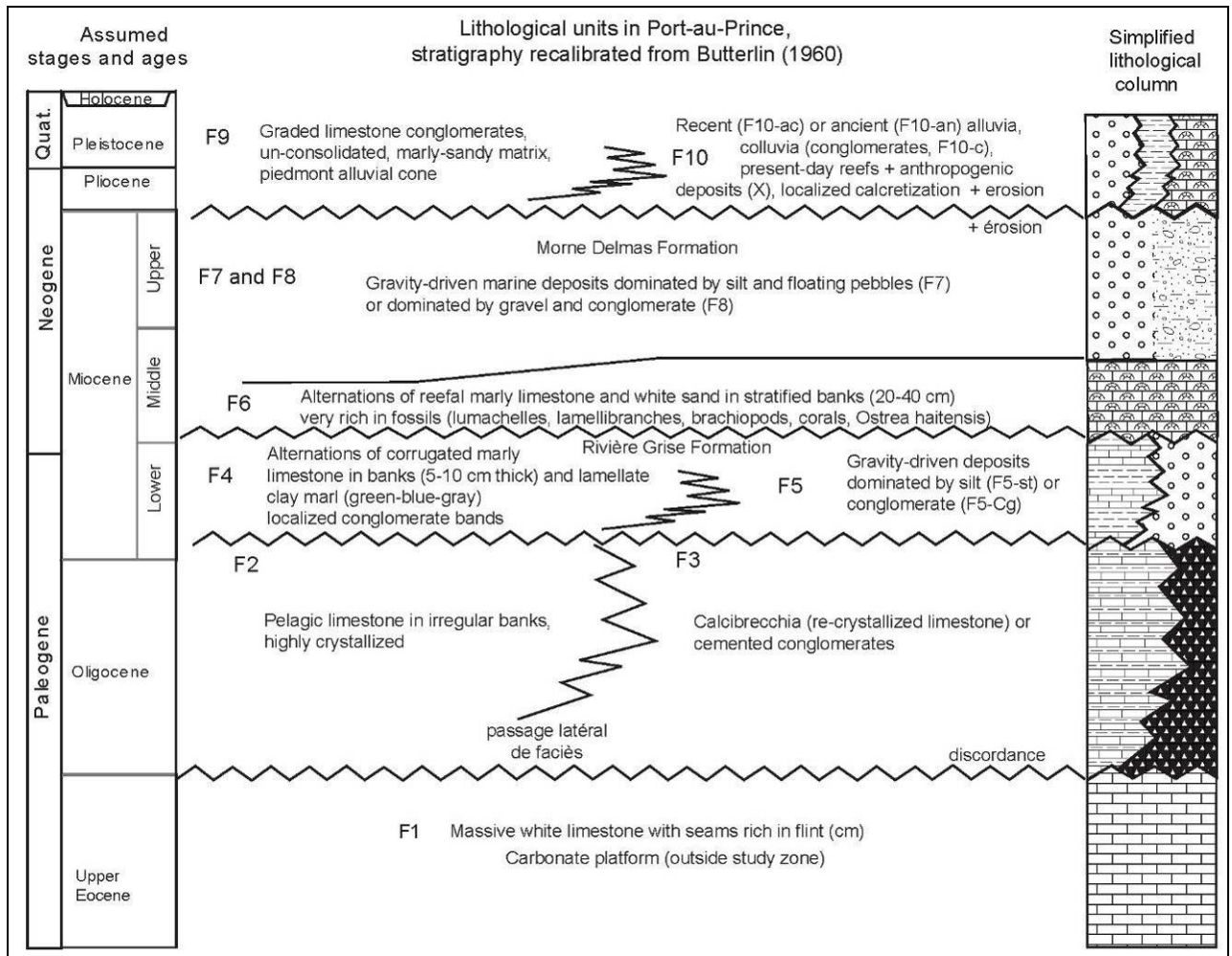
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Figure 1 – Location of historical rupture zones and indications (arrows) of the active slip rates (in mm/yr) derived from geodetic measurements (modified from Calais and *al.*, 2010, <http://web.ics.purdue.edu/~ecalais/haiti/context/>). (PCS: Plaine de Cul-de-Sac)



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Figure 2 – Geological map of the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area.



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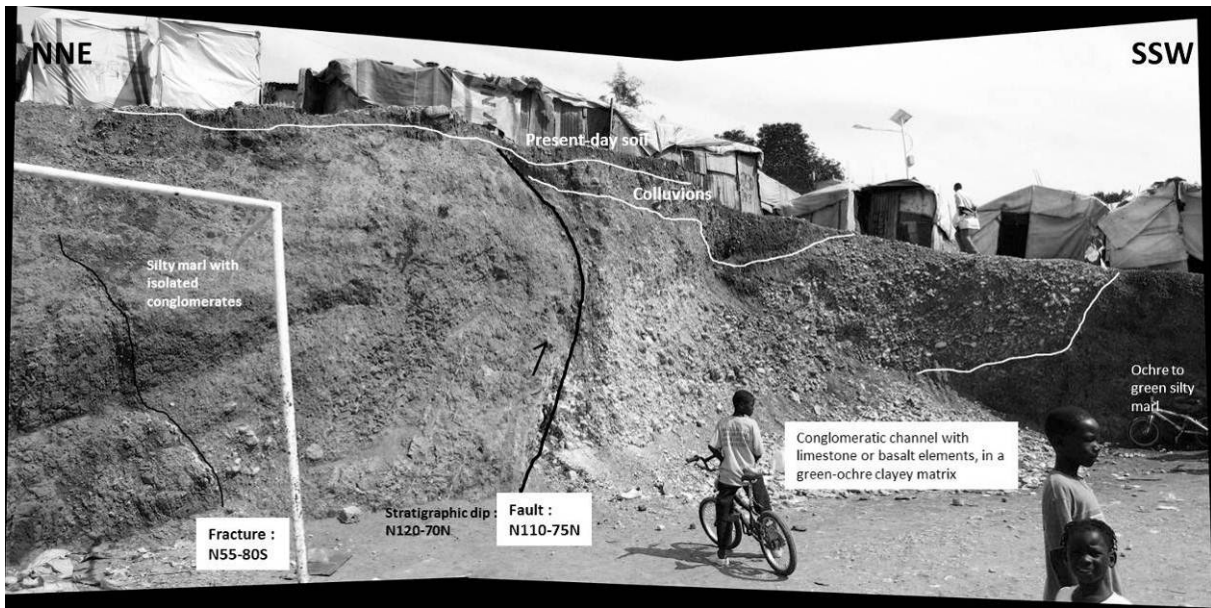
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4 Figure 3 – Litho-stratigraphic synthesis for the Port-au-Prince study sector (stratigraphic séquence
 5 based on the work by Butterlin (1960).

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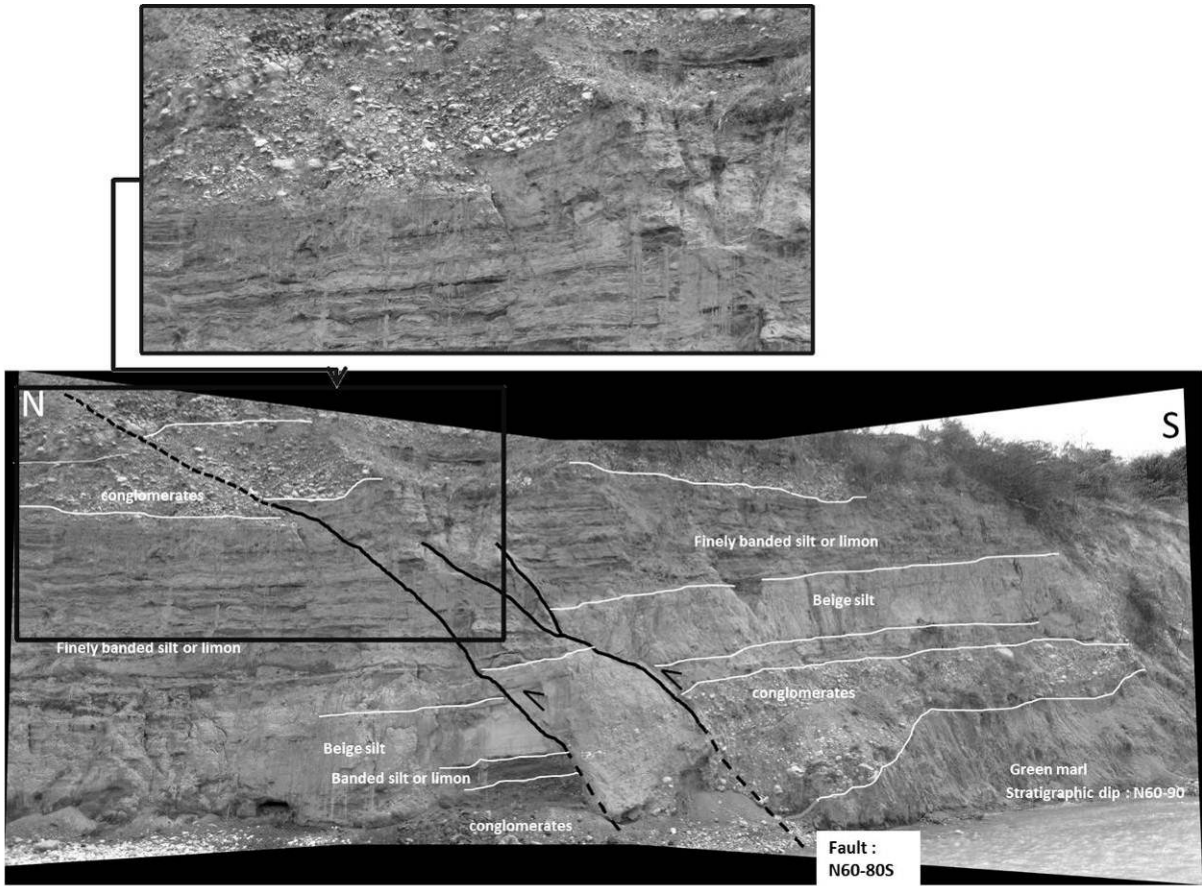
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Figure 4 – Fault contact in Mio-Pliocene terrains between the deposits of sandy, ochre-colored silts and conglomerates, location fig. 2 (Photo M. Terrier).

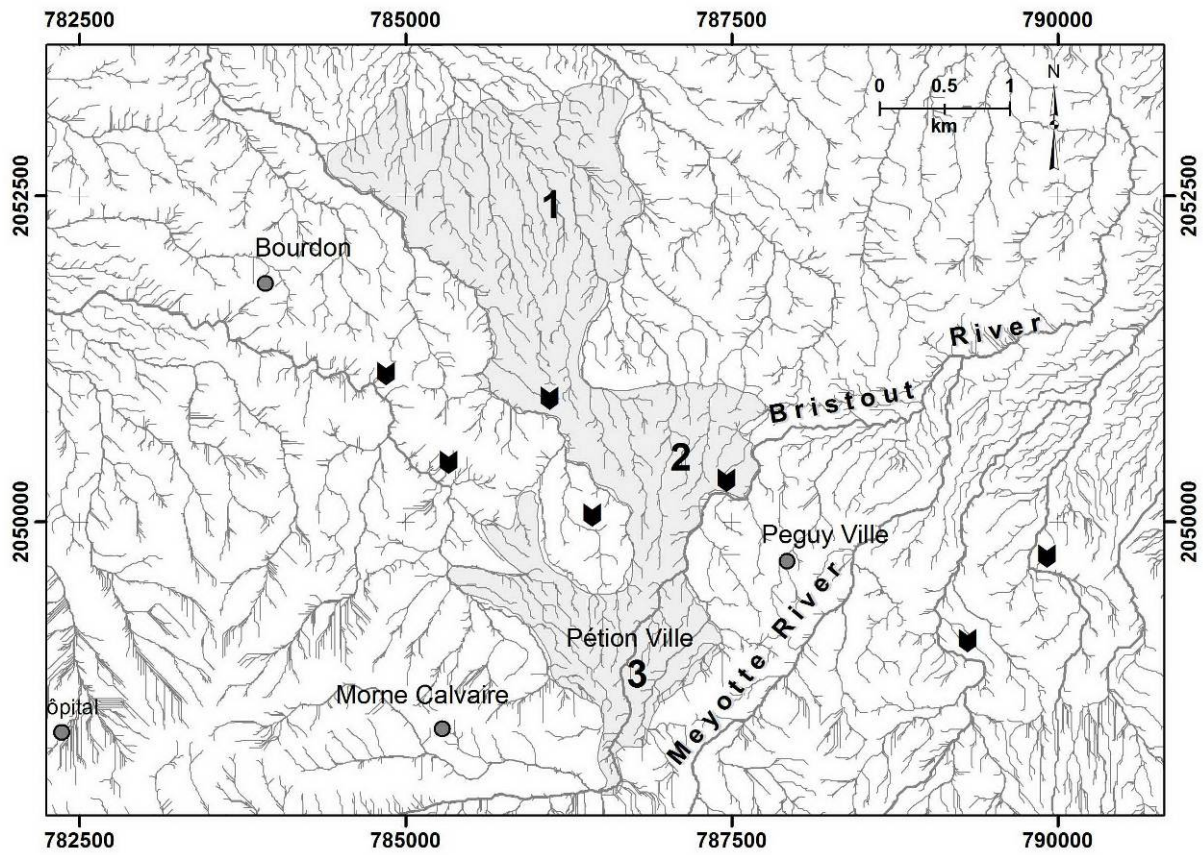


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Figure 5 - Reverse faults trending NE-SW, visible along Rivière Grise in the Quaternary conglomerates and silt deposits, location fig.2 (Photo M. Terrier).

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Figure 6 – Hydrographic network calculated from the Pléiades DTM: zoom on the catchment area of the Bristout and Meyotte Rivers. Numbers 1 to 3: successive segments of the alluvial cone (ranging from the oldest to the youngest; black arrows: inflexions of the water course; grey area: F9 unit.

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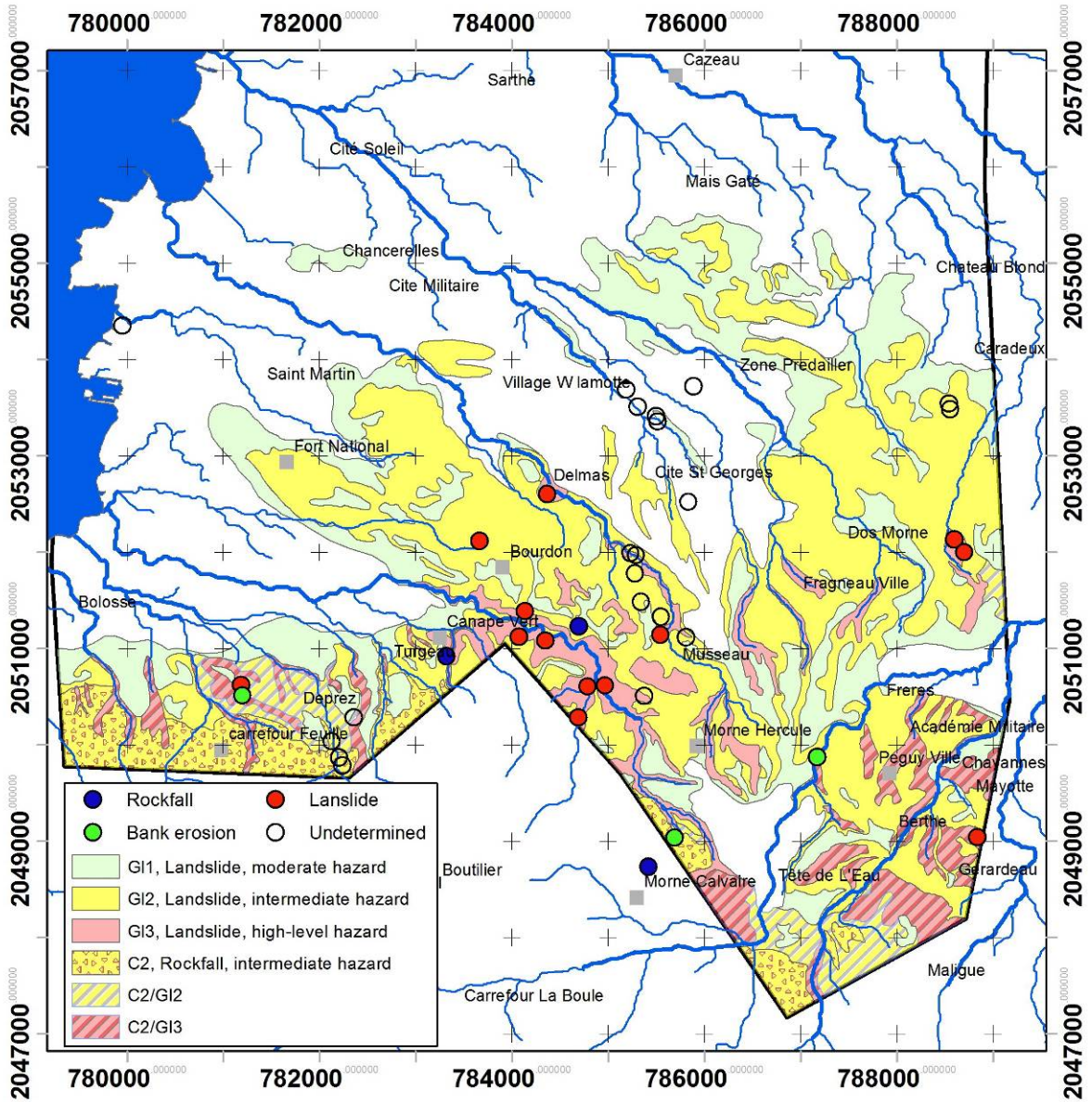
Table 1 - Characteristics of the most important ground movements inventories over the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area (L: landslide; R: Rockfall; B: Bank Erosion)

NAME	Type of MVT	DAMAGE	DESCRIPTION	LITHOLOGY	Triggering factor	DATE	OBSERVATION	SEEN	Size
Musseau, imp Avalon	L	Several houses destroyed	30 m high by 50 m wide, initial slope > 37°. Bordered at the base by the Musseau ravine	Limey channel silt isolated from conglomerates (F7, F8). Marly layer at the base (F6?)	Heavy rains	2008	Accentuation in 2008 of an earlier landslide.	Yes	Large to very large
Djobel1	L	7 fatalities and 11 houses destroyed	Scarp 25 m high, by 50 m wide	Brown argillaceous silts with more indurated levels of very fine sand	Heavy rains	2003	Triggered in 2001.	Yes	Large to very large
Djobel3	L/R	None	Subvertical scarp. Rockslide over a width of 40 m and a height of 60 m.	Poorly consolidated conglomerate banks	Heavy rains, ravine	Après 2002	Bordered at the base by a ravine.	Yes	Large to very large
Djobel2	L/R	None	Scarp 40 m high. Rockslide over a width of 10 m.		Heavy rains		Slope of approximately 35°	Yes	Intermediate
Marcadieu	L	Road blocked	Rockslide over a height of 40 m and a width of 40 m	Poorly consolidated conglomerate banks	Heavy rains, ravine	1987?	Bordered at the base by the Bois de Chaîne ravine.	Yes	Large
Vivy Mitchell 2	L	5 houses destroyed, some ten houses displaying cracking	125 m long by 30 m high. Over 100,000 m ³ . Moderate slope (< 20°).	Marly limestone (F6?) overlain by calcretization at the summit. Same dip as the topography	Heavy rains	>2002	Triggered in 1998. Clearly visible from DTM shading	Yes	Large to very large?
Vivy Mitchell 1	L	Several houses destroyed or with cracking	Landslide scar revealed over 60 m. Moderate slope (< 20°)	Marly limestone (F6?) overlain by calcretization at the summit. Same dip as the topography	?	Post 2002	Same configuration as Vivy Mitchell 2.	Yes	Large
Boulard / Acacia	L	Cracking in some thirty houses			Micro-earthquake	2003	Information by word-of-mouth. Nothing in the field. Intensely built-up area. Gentle slope	No	Large?
Rue Rosa	R ?		150 m long by 10 m wide.	-	?	?		No	Intermediate
Ravine Bristout	B	Houses		Alluvia (F10)	?	?		No	Limited to intermediate

Morne Calvaire	R	None	Blocks measuring approximately 1 m ³	Calcibrecchia (F3)	Earthquake	?		No	Limited
Desermite	B	Houses	Deposit of detritic material	Calcibrecchia (F3)	?	?		No	Limited
PanAméricaine_2	L		Suspected landslide	Marly limestone (F5, F6, F7, F8)	?	?	Gabion retaining wall uphill from the highway and stabilization wall below	Yes	Intermediate?
RivBoisDeChaine	L	-	Over some 100 m along the Bois de Chaine ravine and 20 m in height. Probably the same configuration as Marcadieu.	Recent formations overlying the Delmas formation?	Rain, ravine?	Prior to 2010	Niche of plucking visible from the rue Panaméricaine. Probably triggered by the action of the ravine.	Yes	Intermediate to large
Meyotte	L		Undulating terrain observed on the hillside	-	?	?		Yes	Intermediate?
PanAméricaine_1	R	-	Rockfall on the roadway, approximately 1 m ³	Calcretization	?	?	Several blocks on the pavement along the rue Panaméricaine	Yes	Limited
Delmas32	L	200 houses destroyed, 60 reported injured	Hillside with a limited slope (< 15°), over ca. 30,000 m ²		Rains / earthquake	1989	Moderately-sloping hillside (< 20°)	No	Very large
StGérard_2	B	One house	Sliding of the banks that probably carried off the house	Recent, poorly consolidated conglomerate	Ravine at the base?	2010?	Influence of the ravine at the base. No explicit outcrop of marl	Yes	Limited
StGérard_1	L	-	Landslide niches some 15 m long by 8 m high	Conglomerate overlying marly limestone	Ravine at the base?	?	Influence of the ravine at the base? Marly limestone outcropping at the base	Yes	Limited to intermediate

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Figure 7: Hazard map of ground movements for the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area