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PROMOTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL HAITIANS

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The World Bank Group in Haiti

The World Bank Group (WBG) supports the efforts of the Government of Haiti to reduce poverty and provide economic opportunities for all its people. This joint strategy is based on three priority pillars, namely promoting economic opportunities for all Haitians, strengthening human capital, and enhancing resilience to natural disasters and one cross-cutting pillar on governance.

"We are working in partnership with the Haitian Government to support the country's efforts to reduce poverty and promote opportunities for all. We are also in Haiti to support the country's transition toward a more resilient economy in the face of climate disasters"

Anabela Abreu

World Bank Country Director for Haiti



Key Figures

The World Bank's portfolio in Haiti now stands at over **\$879 million** and covers **19 active projects**. This is complemented by almost **\$123 million from trust funds** that support the implementation of these projects.

PROMOTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL



From farm to fork

In Haiti, around 50% of the population lives in rural areas where agriculture is the main economic activity, producing 45% of the country's food needs. More than 70% of rural households are poor. Our support is designed to improve agricultural output, increase income flows for small farmers, and enhance resilience in the face of climate change, through:



Restoration or conversion of **1,100 hectares to agroforestry**;



Around **28,000 training days** on best practices in agriculture, health, and marketing techniques, about half of which targeted women farmers and members of organizations



Registration of close to **42,000 farmers** in the national registry



The provision of co-financing to **over 110 organizations of rural producers** to strengthen value chains



Grants and the distribution of quality inputs to 9,300 farmers, 45% of whom are women.

"Since 2015, the support from the Ministry of Agriculture has helped us rehabilitate our premises and buy the equipment and supplies needed to process cocoa. We have also been able to develop a whole range of new products, such as chocolate, cocoa butter, and chocolate bars and milk, and this has allowed us to access other markets.

We also benefited from training sessions on best practices in hygiene, as well as in marketing and micro-enterprise management techniques," explains Ernise Petigny, founding member of a women's organization that processes cocoa into chocolate in the Limonade commune in the Nord region.



Focus on grand nord

Each year, a half million tourists visit the beaches of Labadie in northern Haiti, but only a fraction of these go on to visit the historic city center and National Park of Cap-Haïtien, located just a few kilometers from the seaside resort. Today, the city's chaotic growth is hindering the sustainable economic development of the region and preventing it from fully embarking on the path to development as a tourist destination. The World Bank is investing in the renovation and development of infrastructure in Cap-Haïtien and in the other cities close to the National History Park.

"This project will improve living and working conditions and reduce poverty among artisans belonging to the SOPOP and those living in the community," explains Luckner Monpoint. This craftsman from the Grand Nord is the director of the 30-year old Cooperative Society for Progress (SOPOP in French) pottery workshop, located near Dondon. SOPOP has been trying to find ways to access the tourism markets of the Nord Region.



Around 35,000 inhabitants of the Nord region benefit from the Cultural Heritage Preservation and Tourism Sector Support project, through improvements to infrastructure, better economic opportunities, and support for the organization of cultural events;



Renovation being carried out in the National History Park, which includes the Citadelle Henri Christophe, the Sans Souci Palace, the Sans Souci Chapel and the Ramiers site;



Stabilization of the strategic roadways of the transport network of the Boucle Centre Artibonite region, through various rehabilitation and preservation projects that guarantee all-weather access for **10,000 additional people** to agricultural areas and markets.



Mobilizing the private sector

IFC supports the country's efforts to develop the private sector through a portfolio standing at \$109 million, \$42 million of which was mobilized from other partners. IFC investments and advisory operations in the areas of energy, water, transport, manufacturing, financial markets, and the hotel industry have promoted:

 The creation of **8,000 jobs** and the preservation of **5,000 others**

 The training of **3,000 entrepreneurs** and business managers, 45% of whom were women

 The provision of natural disaster risk insurance to **60,000 micro-entrepreneurs**

 The establishment of the Haitian Credit Bureau that, up to end-2018, had logged over **200,000 meetings**

"To succeed as an entrepreneur, you need clear goals and, above all, strong discipline," explains Marielle Jacques, a Haitian entrepreneur doing well in the Tabarre business district of metropolitan Port-au-Prince. "I am proud of what I have achieved in my 30-year career. My company now employs 14 people and I have opened a new branch in a provincial town." Marielle obtained a loan from a commercial bank to open two stores and develop her business. She obtained this loan with the support of an IFC advisory program designed to help financial institutions provide access to financing for small and medium enterprises.



Better lighting for better living

Only 30% of Haitians across the country have access to electricity, and only 11% in rural areas. Our support is designed to improve access to electricity and the quality of the public grid, while promoting the use of renewable energies.



Expansion of access to electricity for 410,000 users, through the rehabilitation of four power distribution circuits in Port-au-Prince, the electrical infrastructure in the cities of Cayes and Jeremie, and the hydropower plant in Drouet (Artibonite)



Expansion of access to electricity for **over 500 schools in rural areas**



Installation of over **1,000 solar street lights** in priority urban areas



Government support for the roll out of the "Energy" Unit to better monitor the activities of companies operating in this sector



Holding his ball, young Pierre Ansy declares: "We now have solar street lights, so we can play at night." A total of 30 street lights have been installed. Pierre says that players come from neighborhoods all around. They even got permission to block off the road to organize a basketball championship.

INVESTING IN HUMAN CAPITAL



Attending school and learning

The net primary school attendance rate in Haiti grew from an average of 54% in 2000 to 84% in 2017.

On average Haitian children attend 11.4 years of school by age 18, which is equivalent of 6.3 years in real terms. A child born today will be only 45% as productive as an adult than a child who would have had full education and health.

The World Bank and its partners support schooling for children and quality education in Haiti, through:



The distribution of school textbooks and kits to over **23,000 children** in the Grand Sud region of Haiti



Support to **61 public basic schools and 61 community-managed public schools** in the Sud, Grand'Anse, Sud-Est, and Nippes departments



Grants for the enrollment of **9,500 pupils** in 43 non-public schools in the Sud, Grand'Anse, Sud-Est, and Nippes departments



The construction and rehabilitation of **91 schools** or semi-permanent structures, following the passage of Hurricane Matthew in October 2016



The provision of hot meals and snacks served to over **23,000 children** in public basic schools in the Sud, Grand'Anse, Sud-Est, and Nippes departments



The distribution of **over 18,000 school kits** and items of furniture to schools affected by Hurricane Matthew



"The Education for All program has helped me go far. Without it, I don't know where I would be. I want to be a nurse so that if a member of my family gets sick I can take care of them. To make this happen, I need to finish my education. I need to study hard to move up to the next grade," says Jessica Prudent. Jessica lives in one of the poorest districts of Port-au-Prince and is among those who managed to complete primary school at the normal age.



Better health care

Notwithstanding the improvements in certain health indicators, such as longer life expectancy and the 50% reduction in the infant and maternal mortality rate between 1990 and 2015, Haiti continues to face many challenges in the area of health. Infant and maternal mortality remains four to five times higher than the rate for the Latin America and Caribbean region as a whole. Our support is designed to improve access to maternal health for mothers and children under five, and to strengthen cholera prevention, by:



"When I called my aunt to tell her about my pregnancy, she immediately advised me to come to this hospital for my checkups. At first I wasn't sure because I was afraid I wouldn't be able to afford the medical fees. When I got here, I was surprised to see that the cost was affordable. I was also very impressed by the welcome and quality of the service," says Choumane Hilaire.



Increasing the vaccination coverage rate for **50% of children under five** living in the Nord-Est, Centre, Nord-Ouest, and Sud departments



Financing all routine vaccinations across the country between 2016 and 2017, as well as the special diphtheria vaccination campaign between 2017 and 2018



Providing for at least four prenatal care visits for 40% of women in the Nord-Est, Centre, Nord-Ouest, and Sud departments



Cholera prevention training for close to 4 million people and 6,000 health and hygiene workers, which contributed to a significant reduction in cholera cases.



Guaranteeing access to drinking water

Over 10.5 million Haitians lack permanent access to drinking water, with 4.6 million having no access at all. Furthermore, 8 million Haitians, particularly those living in rural areas, have no access to toilets. Waterborne diseases caused by poor hygiene or sanitation kill more children under five than HIV, malaria, and measles combined. The World Bank is committed to improving access to water and sanitation services by:



Providing expanded and improved access to drinking water for 314,000 users through the construction, rehabilitation, and extension of drinking water supply systems



Emergency intervention in six communes to prevent the resurgence of waterborne diseases, including cholera



Rehabilitation of health and water supply equipment in over **60 schools** and some thirty refurbished markets



Support to the Direction Nationale de l'Eau Potable et de l'Assainissement (National Drinking Water and Sanitation Department DINEPA) for the preparation of a **national strategy on the management of drinking water supply and sanitation services**.

Jean-Michel lives in a rural community close to the border town of Hinche. His entire family and their neighbors use water from a natural stream located some thirty minutes away from their home: "Fetching water was a real chore. We were exposed to all kinds of waterborne illnesses." Thanks to a World Bank-financed program, he now has access to clean water at home, a development that has greatly improved his quality of life. This program has led to a major reduction in the incidence of water diarrhea cases that were so prevalent in this region.



STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE



Resilient mobility

A 2015 study showed that less than 40% of the rural Haitian population had access to all-weather roads. Furthermore, the country's infrastructure is highly exposed to climate hazards and climate change, and is, therefore, very vulnerable. In this context, the World Bank supports the Government through an investment program designed to enhance the resilience of the road network and improve connectivity. The initiatives include:



Many of my friends had to move to Cap because of the road. The journey was too arduous. And they were almost always late. Before the road was repaired, the journey took over an hour. The road was in an extremely poor state. It was rocky; travelers would often fall ill. Now, with the new road, the journey lasts only 20 to 25 minutes," says Merline Pierre, resident of Labadie and a 10th grade student in Cap-Haïtien. Reducing the travel time has improved living conditions. This road is gradually becoming a lifeline for the local communities, thanks to the new dynamic that it brings to the village.



The rehabilitation of 8 km of road linking the historic Cap-Haïtien city center and Labadie



The construction of the Ladigue bridge in the wake of Hurricane Matthew, thereby reconnecting **over 2 million Haitians** in the Nippes, Sud, and Grand'Anse departments



The restoration of the road linking Port-au-Prince to Jacmel, thereby enabling **half a million Haitians** living in the country's Sud-Est region to stay connected to the capital



Stabilization of the Marigot-Jacmel and Port-Salut-Les Anglais main roads



The reconstruction of the Chalon, Dolin, Fauché, La Thème, and Boucan Carré bridges and rehabilitation of 100 small bridges and culverts



The protection and repair of over 20 major civil engineering structures.



The future of cities

urban areas have undergone rapid development over the past two decades, but with virtually no regulation or urban planning. Many city dwellers are living in poverty and suffer from unemployment and limited access to public services. The Bank's support has been targeted at promoting the reconstruction of poor neighborhoods and community-driven urban development, with the result that:



50,000 people have been able to move out of temporary settlements to safe housing, thanks to a rent subsidy system



More than 200,000 people have benefited from improved infrastructure in neighborhoods affected by the earthquake, including road expansion, better street lighting, and strengthening of embankments



Financing of over 400 community projects, including solar street lights that provide access to electricity for **around 120,000 people**; water treatment and distribution sites; and over 100 income-generating initiatives.



"After the earthquake, we attended many training sessions on the techniques best suited to risk-prone construction projects. This helped me to gain confidence when working on building rehabilitation and reconstruction, particularly in a complex such as this that houses so many families," said Edner. Thanks to the training provided under the PREKAD-PRODEPUR project, Edner worked as a mason to build and rehabilitate housing units, as a result of which tens of thousands of families affected by the 2010 earthquake were able to return to more secure homes.



Strengthening risk management



"We are only just recovering from the devastating effects of Hurricane Matthew in October 2016. The roof of our house was blown off. I had to run with my wife and four children to take shelter in a school," recalls Mamanne, a 48 year-old fisherman. For the past six years, the Haitian Government has been conducting regular simulation drills to evaluate the disaster response capacity of the civil protection services. "The simulation drills allow us to better understand the emergency procedures to be followed in the event of a climate catastrophe," explains Mamanne.

In 2016, Hurricane Matthew claimed over 500 lives in Haiti and caused material damage of \$1.9 billion, equivalent to 22% of the country's GDP. Such climate-induced disasters have disastrous consequences for economic growth, budgetary stability, and infrastructure. According to experts, the temperature rise in the Caribbean region could, over the coming years, increase the likelihood of extreme rainfall events and flash flooding. Currently, almost 95% of Haitians live with the threat of a climate-induced catastrophe. The World Bank provides support to strengthen climate resilience and to enable the country to better respond to disasters, through:



The conduct of a more thorough analysis of natural hazards and improved management of public resources in post-disaster situations through data collection and the publication of geospatial maps



Support to establish **over 140 commune-level protection committees** and build their capacity in emergency planning and management.



Supporting good governance

The statistics currently being used in Haiti are no longer a true reflection of the country's socio-demographic reality. The last census was conducted in 2003. This lack of reliable information is an obstacle to the promotion of good governance in the country. Access to reliable data will make it easier to evaluate development projects, draft good legislation, and determine the areas to be targeted for national and international investments. The World Bank supports Haiti's census campaigns and its efforts to strengthen the effectiveness and transparency of the country's public services. It does so by:



Supplying the Government with a solid analytical basis to support the development of national policies that are based on well-founded diagnostic analyses



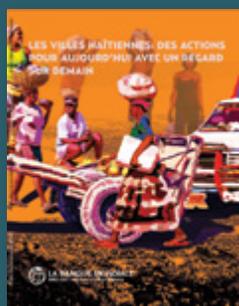
Building the technical and institutional capacities of ministries and government institutions



Publications



The Systematic Country Diagnostic: **“Haiti: Opportunities for All”** identifies the main opportunities and constraints to more rapid, sustainable, and inclusive growth in the country. The report indicates that faster economic growth alone will not be enough to improve the living standards of the majority of Haitians, and proposes key priorities for building a new social contract between the Haitian State and its citizens. “Every candidate, every businessman, every voter must have a copy of this World Bank report on Haiti and read it,” said Frantz Duval, Editor-in-Chief of the newspaper “Le Nouvelliste.”



The report entitled **“Haitian Cities: Actions for Today with an Eye on Tomorrow”** notes that Haiti is the third most urbanized country in Latin America and the Caribbean, after Trinidad and Tobago and Mexico. Nevertheless, contrary to the usual tendency associated with the phenomenon of urbanization, the rapid growth of cities has not been paired with economic growth. To address the challenges, this Urbanization Review makes a number of recommendations based on the three dimensions of urban development, namely planning, connecting, and financing.



The report **“Better Spending, Better Care: A Look at Haiti's Health Financing,”** emphasizes that public investment in the health sector needs to be increased and expenditure needs to be better allocated to promote improved access to health care for all Haitians. The report proposes a number of options to ensure “better spending better care” and provide better health coverage for the poorest Haitians.



The report **“Better Spending, Better Services,”** Haiti's first Public Expenditure Review in almost 30 years, examines the country's public finances over the past decade and proposes options to improve the effectiveness of public spending in lifting people out of poverty. The report emphasizes that to forge ahead and reduce poverty, the main challenge facing Haiti is to improve the effectiveness of public spending.