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HAITI

COUNTRY PROFILE

APRIL 2024

As Haiti weathers an intense period of gang violence and leadership transition, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) works to build a Haiti that is more stable, secure, and resilient to environmental, political, and economic shocks and stresses; advances more inclusive, locally-driven economic growth and social development; and promotes governance that is more responsive to citizens' needs to develop the capacities in people, households, communities, and systems that build inclusive progress and create local demand for improved governance.

OUR WORK

USAID strengthens the capacity of Haitians to create and sustain a more resilient and democratic future through development and humanitarian assistance with a wide array of stakeholders. This systems-approach works with the private sector, civil society, local government, and inter-agency colleagues for locally-led development and humanitarian assistance in the following key sectors.

HEALTH

USAID helps meet immediate health needs, while also working with the Government of Haiti (GOH) and other stakeholders to build long-term solutions to chronic health challenges. USAID supports comprehensive primary health care through a network of 170 primary health care facilities, many in remote locations, with: timely availability of family planning methods; antenatal, delivery, and post-natal care services; routine immunization to protect people from preventable diseases including vaccines against childhood illness, cholera, and COVID-19;

treatment of malnourished children; case management, post-exposure prophylaxis and psychological support, awareness raising, and a telephone hotline for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV); and vitamin A and mass drug administration to eliminate neglected tropical diseases. USAID also supports HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and treatment services with antiretroviral therapy and provides pre-exposure prophylaxis to prevent HIV transmission among high-risk individuals. HIV services are integrated within primary health care facilities to provide holistic, patient-centered care and reduce stigma.

CITIZEN SECURITY, DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND GOVERNANCE

The Haiti Citizen Security Program works in Port-au-Prince neighborhoods (prioritized by the Haitian National Police and GOH) to expand the presence of community policing units; improve police-citizen relations; reduce youth involvement in illicit activities; increase access to safe spaces; and enlarge the capacity and presence of frontline workers, first responders, and other service providers to help survivors of crime and violence. USAID supports survivors of SGBV in violence-affected neighborhoods with increased training, strengthening referral systems, and providing small grants to service providers. USAID's pre-elections program will increase institutional capacity to hold credible elections and peaceful transitions of power. Programming will support credible elections observation efforts and electoral reform, conduct voter education efforts and media-related activities to counter misinformation, and facilitate the administration of elections through direct support to the Provisional Electoral Council. The National Identity (ID) Card program will register and distribute over two million ID cards throughout Haiti's ten departments, increasing the voter list and enabling more Haitians to receive government services. Further, USAID will roll out a new justice sector program in 2024 that will focus on improving the ability of Haiti's justice sector to function during periods of instability while also strengthening its ability to adjudicate cases fairly and efficiently over the longer term. Finally, USAID's program with the UN International Organization for Migration (IOM) supports the GOH's reintegration of migrants, which provides individual level support to returned migrants, as well as the community level support via community stabilization and social cohesion initiatives.

EDUCATION

With the Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training, USAID supports literacy instruction in primary and pre-primary education. USAID has provided more than 500,000 children and 11,000 teachers with innovative, phonics-based reading curricula that meet international standards, and trained teachers and administrators to use this approach in the classroom. Violence targeting schools has escalated, severely undermining the country's education system. USAID pivoted to radio lessons while schools were closed; and provided resources for social and emotional learning (SEL) for pre-primary learners, interactive literacy activities for first and second graders, and strategies for parents to support learning at home. USAID ensures continuity of learning through distance and classroom learning and strengthens schools, local governing structures, and local education and community structures such as parent-teacher associations. USAID's Continuity of Learning activity supplements reading materials while continuing joint literacy and SEL training for more than 25,000 students and supports more than 1,500 teachers to improve instruction and the classroom environment.

ECONOMIC GROWTH, AGRICULTURE, and CLIMATE CHANGE

To improve economic and food security in Haiti, USAID engages with the GOH, private sector, donors, civil society, and non-governmental organizations to: increase market efficiency, productivity, and private sector engagement in agriculture and livestock development; improve access, availability, and utilization of nutritious food; increase household and community level resilience; and enhance economic opportunities for women. USAID connects

farmers to markets to strengthen selected crop and livestock value chains. USAID partners with universities to support higher education in agriculture and research that provides solutions to food production and processing barriers. USAID developed a facilitation platform to help inject capital into critical sectors such as agriculture, clean energy, and financial services. This new model of investment works through a network of primarily local business advisory firms to help underserved, including women-owned, micro, small, and medium enterprises become investment-ready by facilitating linkages between these businesses and capital providers. It provides support to a network of twelve business advisory firms that have prepared over 60 Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and thousands of micro businesses to access capital. This has resulted in 20 SMEs accessing \$29 million in debt and equity and an additional 8,000 microenterprises receiving \$8 million in micro-loans. USAID also engages diverse capital providers, including the Haitian diaspora, to amplify investment in SMEs in Haiti.

USAID's intensive landscape restoration in the North and Northeast departments has planted 4.5 million trees on about 24,000 hectares of land and contributed to sequestration or avoidance of approximately 54,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide. More than 43,000 farmers, livestock owners, and beekeepers increased their income and diversified livelihood sources to adapt to and mitigate the negative impacts of drought and flooding events. USAID worked with the local private sector, government entities, and community organizations to manufacture and promote the use of liquefied petroleum gas cookstoves, benefiting over 10,000 individuals and improving the resilience of agricultural and livestock systems to climate impacts.

Infrastructure and Energy: Only 30 percent of the Haitian population is connected to a power grid and 80 percent of Haiti's electricity is produced from expensive imported fuels. USAID is supporting the transition away from public sector dominated electricity production and distribution to a private sector-led off-grid solar energy market model in Haiti. The market for off-grid solar energy in Haiti has been surging, and with USAID support will further grow into a source for productive private sector investment. USAID is funding the building of a 12 megawatt solar plant in the Caracol Industrial Park that will lower electricity prices for industrial tenants and communities in the Northeast department. USAID is also modernizing operations at the Cap Haitien Port through the construction of new facilities to manage freight and customs operations more efficiently and securely.

WATER SECURITY, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

USAID is supporting communities, institutions and businesses in Haiti to better manage water resources and sustainably deliver water and sanitation services. Approximately 44 percent of Haitians are without access to protected water sources and about 31 percent still practice open defecation. USAID's investment in the water security and sanitation sector has increased sustainable access to safe water services for over 350,000 Haitians and has helped increase access to sanitation services for over 78,000 Haitians. USAID's establishment of a water testing laboratory and a Center for Water Resilience at Haiti's State University at Limonade in the north, will offer sustainable management of water resources and safe, equitable service delivery to benefit domestic, agricultural and industrial productivity.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

USAID provides immediate assistance to displaced populations and individuals adversely affected by natural disasters and responds to the complex emergency crisis rising from the increasing Organized Criminal Group violence, and supports disaster risk reduction programs that promote local and national self-sufficiency in disaster preparedness, response, and management.

Complex Emergency Response: In March 2024, the U.S. announced an additional \$58 million in humanitarian assistance for Haiti. This brings the total USAID emergency assistance in Haiti to nearly \$171 million, providing more than 1.5 million people with lifesaving assistance since October 2022. With additional funding, USAID will support the UN and nongovernmental organization partners to provide in-kind food assistance, nutrition support for infants and young children, essential health services, and SGBV prevention and response activities. The funding will also bolster assistance for internally displaced persons through relocation support, psychosocial support services, and the delivery of potable drinking water.

Early Recovery, Risk Reduction, and Resilience (ER4) Programming: In 2023, USAID provided about \$13.6 million for ER4 and Resilience Food Security Activities to augment food security; enhance resilience to sudden shocks, such as earthquakes; and strengthen livelihoods. USAID supported: Catholic Relief Services to improve agricultural livelihoods and food availability in local markets in Northeast and South departments; Miyamoto International and the Pan American Development Foundation to rehabilitate water distribution points; and community engagement to implement disaster risk management countermeasures, particularly for youth.

LOCALIZATION

In 2020, USAID/Haiti intensified local engagement in Haiti with civil society, faith-based, and diaspora organizations. This aims to transfer decision-making power and influence to local actors by 2030, allowing them to take the lead in determining priorities, designing activities, implementing programs, and evaluating results for at least 50 percent of USAID's initiatives. USAID's collaboration with local partners during program design is enhancing the capacity of local subrecipients to effectively partner with USAID. Transition Awards enable local sub-awardees to enhance their capabilities by partnering with experienced prime awardees to then receive funding directly from USAID.



USAID is fighting food insecurity in Haiti by providing food assistance to households in the most vulnerable areas. USAID



USAID is supporting the modernization of the Cap-Haitien port, creating more jobs and economic opportunities. USAID



USAID works with Haitian service providers to give the Haitian population access to clean water and safe sanitation services. USAID

USAID works to build a stable and viable Haiti, and provides life-saving humanitarian assistance to Haiti's most vulnerable and hard-to-reach people. <https://www.usaid.gov/haiti> and follow @USAID/Haiti on X and Facebook.

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