CARIBBEAN REGIONAL RESILIENCE BUILDING FACILITY







Building Physical, Fiscal, and Inclusive Resilience in Haiti

Country

Haiti

Caribbean Regional Resilience Building Facility Component

Adaptation Facility for Leveraging Investments in Resilience in the Caribbean

Amount Approved

€551,675 / \$603,000

Duration

05/2020 - 02/2023

Context and Objectives

Poverty and exposure to disasters are closely related in Haiti, as most households whose consumption level is just above the poverty line are at risk from at least one hazard such as hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, landslides, and drought. Due to the frequent occurrence of hazards, Haiti is subjected almost annually to catastrophic events with disastrous impacts, resulting in significant loss of life and adversely affecting poverty reduction efforts, economic growth, and fiscal stability.

The objective of this project was to strengthen DRM institutions and emergency preparedness and response capabilities, mainstream DRM in critical sectors, strengthen disaster risk financing (DRF), and improve the understanding of impacts of disasters on the poor and

women. This work complemented the 'Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management in Public Infrastructure Management in Haiti' project, also implemented under the Caribbean Regional Resilience Building Facility.

Main Activities

- Strengthening DRM institutions and emergency preparedness and response
- Mainstreaming DRM in key sectors
- Strengthening disaster risk financing
- Improving the understanding of impacts of disasters on the poor and women

Results

Following the approval of the DRM Law in June 2020, the Civil Protection Directorate General (DGPC) became a fully-fledged General Directorate within the government of Haiti. The project team provided technical assistance to the DGPC in this transition through the development of institutional and organizational diagnostics and via workshops incorporating experiences from across the Latin Americana and Caribbean region. This effort led to an enhanced understanding of the institutional and operational adjustments needed to support the transition.

Technical assistance was provided to the DGPC to prepare for the Post Disaster Needs Assessment after the earthquake and tropical storm in 2021. This equipped the government with the skills to use geospatial and drone data that then informed the work of estimating damage, losses and societal needs. The assistance helped to gather data to be used by humanitarian actors working with the DGPC.

DRM planning and coordination capacity was notably advanced through targeted support for the Haiti Hydrometeorological Unit that expanded its capacities in the areas of hydrology, meteorology, and data management. Related activities supported the drafting of a memorandum of understanding for all actors involved in the development of the new geospatial platform entitled "Haitidata" (www.HaitiData.org).

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Technical assistance to supervise the installation of hydromet stations in Haiti was also provided as well as technical support to the government in meteorological aspects for the improvement of the national early warning system and a communication strategy for national early warning, accompanied by approved and adopted protocols adapted to local conditions. This resulted in the government being better equipped to monitor and act on emergency situations.

In addition, a DRM Gender Gap Analysis was finalized in early 2022, with lessons learned informing the preparation of a chapter on gender and DRM in wider World Bank reporting on gender. Additionally, a DRF Strategy was finalized but the unstable situation in Haiti has delayed the stategy's validation by the government.

Partnerships and Coordination

The project was implemented in collaboration with the General Directorate for Civil Protection within the Ministry of Interior and Local Authorities; the Ministry of Public Works, the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development; the Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training; the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor; the Ministry of Economy and Finance; and the Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation. The World Bank coordinated its efforts with the EU Delegation in Haiti.