



Evaluating Flexible Approaches to Cash Transfers for Emergency Response in Haiti

Country

Haiti

Caribbean Regional Resilience Building Facility Component

Adaptation Facility for Leveraging Investments in Resilience in the Caribbean

Amount Approved

€435,500 / \$492,150

Duration

06/2020 – 10/2022

Context and Objectives

Haiti is currently facing one of the worst political, socio-economic and humanitarian crises of its history after years of cycles of political and economic dysfunction. In response to the food insecurity and COVID-19 socio-economic crises, the government - led by the Ministry of Interior and Local Authorities in partnership with the World Food Program and the Ministry of Social Affairs, implemented an emergency cash transfer program, reaching an estimated 34,000 households in selected urban and peri-urban areas.

This project's objective was to evaluate the effectiveness of emergency cash transfers and on-demand registration as part of the COVID-19 emergency response. While the distribution of cash transfers aimed to reduce the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on vulnerable

households, understanding the efficiency of this type of instrument as well as mobile payment delivery in responding to shocks is valuable for all disaster response applications.

Main Activities

- An evaluation of emergency cash transfers and social and behavioral change communication activities.
- An evaluation of a pilot mobile payment delivery mechanism for cash transfer.
- A qualitative evaluation of the processes for registering households in the social registry.

Results

The evaluation produced under this project was undertaken through a partnership between two non-governmental organizations: ImpactInitiatives and Acted. This evaluation focused on several areas related to both the design of the transfer, as well as its outcomes, and assessed how it reduced the socio-economic impact of and increased awareness around COVID-19. The baseline data analysis shed light on the level of adoption of mobile payment platforms among the beneficiary population and was used to develop a report on household perceptions of transfer design, which was delivered in September 2021.

This progress was complemented by a qualitative evaluation of the process to register households in the social registry that assessed how coverage was increased, and potential beneficiaries identified, during emergencies. The creation of these knowledge products was supported by continuous policy dialogue with the government of Haiti to build on the evidence and improve the effectiveness of the social protection system.

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL RESILIENCE BUILDING FACILITY



GFDRR
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery



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Partnerships and Coordination

The project was implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor and the Ministry of Interior and Local Authorities. The World Bank coordinated its efforts with the EU Delegation in Haiti and in partnership with the World Food Program.