CARIBBEAN REGIONAL RESILIENCE BUILDING FACILITY







Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management in Public Infrastructure Management in Haiti

Country

Haiti

Caribbean Regional Resilience Building Facility Component

Adaptation Facility for Leveraging Investments in Resilience in the Caribbean

Amount Approved

€436,800 / \$475,000

Duration

05/2020 - 02/2024

Context and Objectives

As a result of vulnerable infrastructure, unplanned and rapid urbanization, and institutional fragility, Haiti is at severe risk of natural hazards and disaster events, the frequency and intensity of which are being exacerbated by climate change. Most of the country is exposed to two or more major hazards including tsunamis, hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, and landslides. In these circumstances, even moderate events have disastrous consequences, resulting in significant loss of life. It is therefore critical, in order to protect lives and development gains, that vital public infrastructure be made disaster-resilient.

The project's objective was to support the government in mainstreaming disaster risk management in the regulation, planning, designing, construction, and management of

public infrastructure, with a focus on school facilities. The technical assistance supported the implementation of the World Bank-financed Haiti Development Policy Financing with a Catastrophe-Deferred Draw Down Option (Cat-DDO).

Main Activities

- An Education Infrastructure Disaster Risk Diagnostic and Analysis.
- A Diagnostic on the Resilience of Critical Public Infrastructure.

Results

The education infrastructure diagnostic was finalized, and a roadmap for strengthening school resilience and a nationwide safer schools' program was produced, including market analysis of the construction sector. A series of outputs were delivered, including a desk review on school construction markets, updated hazard and disaster impact data on school infrastructure, and a GIS report overlaying recent flood maps and existing school locations. This technical support enhanced understanding of education sector needs, vulnerability, and exposure when designing new investments.

A collaboration with the World Bank's Water GP was undertaken to enhance the knowledge of the water and sanitation sector on climate change projections, impacts, and adaptation and mitigation measures. A report was also produced whose results informed the 'Sustainable and Resilient Rural Water and Sanitation Project'. This work deepened the understanding of the water and sanitation sector on these topics and enhanced the resilience of the rural and small-town water supply.

Further technical assistance provided support to the government in its data collection capacities, which included development of a sampling strategy, definition of data to be collected, and development of questionnaires. In addition, technical support was offered to identify tactical urban upgrades in Cap

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Haitien, with result being enhanced knowledge and capacity with regard to managing rainwater run-off, groundwater resorption capacity, and nature-based infrastructure integration.

Partnerships and Coordination

The project was implemented in collaboration with 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 Economy and Finance; and the Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation. The World Bank coordinated its efforts with the EU Delegation in Haiti.