

**PEACEBUILDING FUND
PROGRESS REPORT**

STATUS REPORT AS OF 31 March 2011

Recipient UN Org.:	UNDP Haiti		
National Authority:	Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation		
Project Number:	PBF/IRF – 17		
Title:	Recovery through Employment generation, environmental rehabilitation and disaster mitigation		
Total budget	\$3,000,000	Funds received	\$3,000,000
Funds Committed:	\$3,000,000	% implemented from Approved:	100%
Funds Disbursed:	\$2,500,000	% implemented from of Approved:	83%
Forecast Final Date:	December 2011	Delay (Months):	9 months

Objectives:	Achievements/Results:	Percentage of implementation:
Watershed Management: Rehabilitation / construction of stonework for protection against flooding	Protection of 616 hectares of watersheds against hydro-erosion thus increasing prevention against flooding in future rainy/hurricane seasons. 11 collectives of agricultural workers were trained in the construction of anti-erosive nets for watersheds.	100%
Reduction of soil erosion in key agricultural areas resulting in sustained land management and disaster mitigation	824,794m ditches have been prepared in order to manage river flow and reduce soil erosion. Reforestation and planting of plants in order to protect 29 Ravines.	100%
Increase access to water in rural areas and improved sanitation	423 water basins have been created in order to retain around 36,920m ³ of water. Given the improvement in the overall watershed management, the water systems have an increased storage capacity thus improving access to water for the community.	100%
Sustainable revenues for	1. This initiative created	In Gonaïves: 100%

families in :1. Gonaïves and; 2. Port au Prince	employment for 7420 high intensity labour workers (40% women) were employed for more than a month under this programme 2. This component of the project is currently being finalized	In Port-au-Prince: 0%
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Qualitative achievements against objectives and results:

The earthquake of a magnitude-7.0 that hit Haiti on 12 January, 2010 created massive new challenges in Haiti, already the poorest country¹ in the Western Hemisphere. It killed over 220,000 people and devastated the capital city of Port-au-Prince, causing damages and losses estimated at US\$8 billion, or 120 percent of GDP. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises—the foundations of economic and employment opportunities in Haiti—were extensively affected by the earthquake leading inter alia to price instability and the loss of entire companies, infrastructure and inventories. This has led to heavy losses of assets, livelihoods and employment in all of the departments directly affected by the earthquake (Haiti Earthquake Post-Disaster Needs Assessment, 2010).

Although Artibonite was not impacted heavily by the Earthquake itself, this Department did receive around 162,000 Internally Displaced People (IDPs) who fled the area of Port au Prince. Most of the IDPs were taken in by Host Families and Communities in St. Marc and Gonaive. The presence of an increased number of vulnerable people, many of whom lost everything in the Earthquake, put extra pressure on the social fabric and increased the need for immediate income and protection against disasters.

Given the success of previous watershed programmes in this area and the potential for immediate job creation, the PSF funded programme for **Recovery through Employment generation, environmental rehabilitation and disaster mitigation** was launched by UNDP, ILO and WFP.

This project provided the local community in Gonaives with immediate access to cash, increasing their purchasing power to buy and providing a safety net for vulnerable families. The project also helped to introduce cash rapidly into the community. By capitalising on existing partnerships, UNDP, ILO and WFP teamed up to allow beneficiaries to receive a combination of food and cash for their work. Building on past experiences in this area, the project also consolidated previous efforts to substantially to improving living and sanitation conditions in the rural areas of Gonaives, particularly in the La Quinte watershed system. Combining these different components in one project proved to have an important impact on the human security in the area and helped to consolidate peacebuilding initiatives.

By using a participative watershed management approach, community empowerment was promoted. Thanks to the technical advice and supervision provided by experts, the communities

¹ It ranks 149th out of 179 countries in the UNDP Human Development Index. According to the World Bank, around 54 percent of the population lives on less than US\$1 a day and 78 percent on less than US\$2 (2001 data). There is a high infant mortality rate (57 for every 1000 births) and the prevalence of HIV among those aged 15-49 is 2.2 percent, the highest national rate outside Sub-Saharan Africa.

were also given the opportunity to improve watershed management skills using new techniques and including disaster risk reduction elements in local planning. The watersheds will be essential for reducing and/or preventing flooding and mudslides in future hurricane seasons.

UNDP and ILO (implementing partner for PBF funds) drew on experience, existing capacities and partnerships to build local capacities. National and local ownership of the project helped to increase accountability and ensure sustainability. In particular, efforts were made to ensure government participation in the selection and follow-up of infrastructure to be rehabilitated in order to ensure that the emergency cash for work initiatives were compatible with pre-existing government development plans.

Carrying out small community projects with beneficiaries from the community helped to ensure commitment to the job and motivation. In addition, having team leaders from the community to encourage and animate workers also helped to keep up the rhythm. Local youth were particularly implicated in maintaining high morale among workers.

In October 2010, a Cholera Epidemic broke-out in the Department of Artibonite. Project activities were not directly affected by this outbreak as it appeared towards the end of the implementation period. Indirect impact of the outbreak on the project will be explored in the project evaluation to be carried out shortly.

With regard to the Port au Prince revenue creation initiative originally foreseen in the project document, and bearing in mind the devastation caused by the Earthquake, this component has incurred substantial delays. Although the original community-run briquette factory continued to operate after the Earthquake, it was unable to absorb the additional injection of funds assigned for 2010. This issue has now been resolved and the funds will be fully committed by April 15th: A replication of the briquette factory in the nearby neighbourhood of Bel Air. The community of Bel Air faces considerable challenges in terms of poverty, social tension and citizen insecurity and will benefit greatly from an initiative which seeks to produce environmentally friendly income generation and contribute to improving living conditions and stability in the area. The project will be integrated within a larger job creation and environmental management initiative targeted on vulnerable youths and in improving livelihood of households.