Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure
Infrastructure Resilience Accelerator Fund

PROJECT ANNUAL REPORT

Project Title:	Revision of the Haitian National Building Code	**Project ID:**	00140544
Recipient Participating Organisation:	Build Change	Total Approved Budget [in USD]:	**499 752,43**
Project Start Date:	12.01.2024	Total Budget Received [in USD]:	**499 752,43**
Project End Date[1]:	11.06.2026	Annual Expenditure [in USD]:	
Reporting Period:	12.01.2024 to 31.12. 2024	Cumulative Expenditure [in USD]:	
Details of Budget Revision [*if applicable*]		Utilisation [%]:	Delivery Rate [%]:
		Delays & extensions (if any)	5 months

ANNUAL Report Submitted by:	**Date of Submission:**
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ANNUAL Report Submitted to:	
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[1] If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the original end date. The end date is the operational closure date when all activities must have been completed

[2] In case of a multi-country project, all governments are recipients of the Project Quarterly Report.

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I. Executive Summary

Progress rating: ***On-Track with minor delay***

The project aimed to revise the national building code, adapt international standards to local conditions, and make the new standards widely accessible and disseminate to professionals and institutions. The revised CNBH includes major improvements in high-wind resistance, seismic design, and guidance for vernacular construction. Through its publication and dissemination, the new code now guides construction practices and supports safer and more resilient development across the country.

Key Achievements This Year

- Completion and official approval of the revised National Building Code (CNBH 2025).
- Organization of a national public review and wide dissemination through online platforms and media.
- Launch of the official CNBH website, reaching more than 400 visitors.
- Media campaign reaching more than 10,000 people nationwide.

Major Milestones

- Validation of all technical chapters by the Steering Committee.
- Signature of a licensing agreement with the International Code Council.
- Ministerial approval of the CNBH 2025 on December 19, 2025.
- Publication of the final code on the official website.

Challenges and Responses

The main challenges were related to the technical complexity of the code and the security situation, which limited field activities. The development of solutions adapted to cyclonic and seismic risks required more time than initially planned. In response, the project strengthened coordination, adjusted schedules, and prioritized critical technical tasks. Security constraints also affected dissemination. To address this, the project shifted toward online dissemination through virtual webinar, and an official website that became the main platform for public review, publication, and training registration. This approach proved more effective than initially planned in-person activities.

Budget Utilization Summary

Budget implementation remained mostly aligned with the approved workplan. Resources were mainly used for technical development, stakeholder engagement, dissemination activities, and preparation of training materials. Expenditures followed project priorities, and no major financial constraints affected implementation.

Progress Against the Sustainability Plan

The Ministry of Public Works led the revision process and remains actively involved in promoting the code. The institutionalization of the Steering Committee, the ICC partnership, and the integration of CNBH content into vocational and university training programmes strengthen long-term capacity. The project website will be transferred to the Ministry and integrated into its official platform, ensuring continued public access after the project. Training materials will also be used by national training institutions.

Looking Ahead: Priorities for 2026

In 2026, the main priorities will be to finalize the dissemination and training of the CNBH, ensure its ratification and official publication in the *Moniteur*, complete the training materials and the builder guide, train engineers, architects, builders, and local authorities, and continue awareness and dissemination activities, in order to ensure that the revised code is effectively applied in practice and contributes to safer, more resilient, and more inclusive construction in Haiti.

II. Progress Toward Objectives

Project Outcome 1 : Haiti has an increased access to knowledge and resources to increase the resilience and inclusivity of their existing and future critical infrastructure systems.

On-Track with minor delays

Significant progress has been made toward this outcome through the completion and approval of the revised National Building Code of Haiti (CNBH) under the leadership of the Ministry of Public Work, Transportation and Communication (MTPTC). The new code provides updated, comprehensive, and locally adapted technical guidance to improve the safety, resilience, and inclusivity of buildings in Haiti, particularly in relation to seismic, cyclonic, and climate-related risks.

The revised CNBH includes strengthened provisions on high-wind resistance, seismic design, retrofitting of existing masonry buildings, and vernacular construction typologies such as timber frame houses. These elements directly contribute to improving construction practices and reducing vulnerability to natural hazards. The integration of international standards adapted to local conditions has also improved the technical quality and usability of the code.

In parallel, important efforts have been made to disseminate the code and make it accessible to professionals and stakeholders, notably through the dedicated website, public review, awareness activities, and engagement with professional associations. These actions have increased access to technical knowledge and promoted ownership of the new standards among key stakeholders.

While the technical and regulatory framework is now in place, the full achievement of this outcome will depend on the implementation of training and capacity-building activities that has been postponed to 2026, due to delays in the code development. These trainings will be essential to ensure that engineers, architects, builders, and local authorities are able to effectively apply the new provisions in practice.

Overall, the project is on track in achieving this outcome. The completion of the CNBH 2025 represents a major milestone, and the upcoming training phase will further consolidate access to knowledge and resources for resilient and inclusive infrastructure development in Haiti.

Project Output 1 : The National Building Code (CNBH) is revised, approved and published

Key output indicators achieved:

- 169 individuals were engaged , representing 42 organizations
- 100% of the content of the new CNBH has been produced, reviewed and approved by the Steering Committee.
- Final Approval and publication of the CNBH 2025

Key outputs remaining

- Ratification of the code by the Government of Haiti and official publication in *Le Moniteur*.

On-Track with significant results

The project successfully completed the revision, approval, and publication of the National Building Code of Haiti (CNBH). Despite facing complex technical and contextual challenges, the project maintained steady progress and delivered high-quality results aligned with national priorities and international standards.

The main focus of project activities this year was the finalization of the technical content of the revised building standards and the completion of the review and approval process. In practice, this phase required sustained technical

and coordination efforts over an extended period. Significant efforts were dedicated to developing construction solutions adapted to Haiti's exposure to local hazards (including cyclonic and seismic risks) and to the limited availability of quality construction materials. In particular, updated provisions for seismic-resistant buildings, the development of new provisions for cyclonic-resistant roofs, and the vernacular construction work with CRAterre required extensive technical analysis, several design iterations, and careful adaptation of international standards to local conditions. This work was carried out in close coordination with national and international experts. These efforts ensured that the CNBH provides realistic, applicable, and resilient construction guidance.

In the same time, a licensing agreement with the International Code Council (ICC) was signed to enable the MTPTC to adapt some part of the International Building Code in the new CNBH, reinforcing its technical credibility and alignment with international best practices.

The project also placed strong emphasis on quality assurance and stakeholder engagement throughout the revision process. Indeed, external peer reviewers, the MTPTC review committee and the steering committee's members were actively involved in reviewing and refining the draft code for each part produced and not only at the end. Practical training and house design exercises, conducted as part of the preparation of training activities, revealed several technical and instructional gaps in the initial drafts.These findings were used to strengthen the content, improve clarity, and enhance usability for future practitioners. Additionally a public review was organized to collect feedback from a wide range of stakeholders, including professionals, institutions, and civil society actors. This participatory approach helped ensure that the code reflects local practices and constraints, while remaining aligned with international standards. This inclusive approach contributed to improving the relevance, acceptance, and legitimacy of the final document.

As a result, the finalization phase required significant consolidation work (including harmonization of chapters, verification of internal consistency, alignment of technical provisions with illustrations and annexes, and multiple rounds of editing and validation). This process was particularly time-consuming but necessary to ensure the technical quality and legal robustness of the code.

All these factors (technical complexity, intensive consultation, quality control requirements, and lengthy finalization procedures) contributed to delays compared to the initial planning, but were considered necessary to secure a solid and sustainable outcome, while strengthening the overall quality of the CNBH.

Following the integration of technical, institutional, and public feedback, the final version of the CNBH 2025 was validated by the Steering Committee on December 11 and formally approved by the Minister of Public Works, Transport and Communications on December 19, 2025. The approval ceremony marked the official completion of the revision process and confirmed the construction sector's commitment to strengthening building safety and resilience nationwide. The next step in 2026 is the ratification of the CNBH and its publication in the official journal *Le Moniteur*, making it legally enforceable.

The finalized code was published on the official CNBH website and disseminated through printed copies and summary flyers linked to the website that will be distributed during public events.

Overall, the output was completed with significant results. The project delivered a technically robust, context-sensitive, and institutionally validated national building code that reflects Haiti's risk profile and construction realities. The revised CNBH provides a solid foundation for improving construction practices, enhancing disaster resilience, and supporting safer and more sustainable development across the country.

Project Output 2 : Training conducted and knowledge products disseminated for integration of best practices from the revised CNBN

Key output indicators achieved:

- 410 visitors in the official project website
- More than 10 000 people reached

Key outputs remaining

- Finalization of the training presentation
- Finalization of the builder guide
- Training of 1 000 people
- Continue the awareness campaign

The second half of the 2025 has been very active in terms of dissemination of the CNBH 2025 despite being affected by the delays in the production of the CNBH 2025, and by the security situation, which limited field activities and required many planned actions to be implemented virtually.

In response to these constraints, the project adapted its dissemination strategy. A key adjustment was the introduction of a public review phase at the end of the standard development process, which also served as a major dissemination tool. This approach proved very productive, as it helped attract the attention of the target audience. Promoting the new standards while inviting stakeholders to review and provide comments was more engaging and strengthened their sense of ownership, as their feedback was taken into account.

To further increase the engagement of the Haitian engineering and architecture community, two webinars were organized: one in collaboration with the alumni association of the State University and another with the Shelter Cluster. These events provided an effective platform for engineers and architects to participate actively in the revision process.

The security situation also required the project team to remain flexible and responsive to changing conditions. In particular, the occupation of the MTPTC Directorate of Public Works prevented the Ministry from organizing planned training sessions and exhibitions. To address this challenge, the project developed a dissemination plan based on several security scenarios. As part of this strategy, in place of the exhibition, an official website (https://cnbh2025.com/) was created to centralize and disseminate project deliverables. The website was first used to support the public review process, allowing stakeholders to access the draft CNBH 2025 online and submit public comments. Following the approval of the code, the final version was published on the platform and will be the main channel for publication and training dissemination. The website has also been used to collect registration information for the training sessions planned for Q1 2026 and to publish training-related materials. This approach has been very successful, with more than 400 visitors, exceeding the original project target.

The approval ceremony of the CNBH 2025, with high-level representatives of the government, was not only the conclusion of an important technical process but also a major milestone for dissemination. The event received strong national media coverage, bringing together the most widely read newspapers, television channels, and radio stations in Haiti. This communication campaign was very successful and reached at least 10,000 people. Street banners were also used to display the new code along two very busy roads, increasing public visibility of the initiative. This communication strategy will continue next year, in particular around the January 12 anniversary and in parallel with the training activities.

In parallel, the project produced part of the training materials to be used in Q4 and continued updating the builder guide to integrate the CNBH 2025 modifications. In particular, calculation tools were developed to support both training activities and knowledge dissemination. Although this component was delayed compared to the original schedule, finalization is expected soon, allowing training activities to be organized in Q1 and Q2 2026.

A comprehensive dissemination plan was prepared and is now guiding the organization of training sessions, which will be mainly delivered online, with some specific sessions in hybrid format. For builders, the project will work with

the INFP (Institut National de Formation Professionnelle), which has strong experience in vocational training and continues to operate in the provinces. This partnership will allow the CNBH 2025 content to be integrated into national training curricula.

Project Output 3 : Project results shared for increased resilience and inclusivity of their critical infrastructure systems

On-Track with significant results

The project has been showcased at different events throughout the year, including technical webinars (ICDRI webinar *Learning from the Haiti Earthquake*, *Bridging Science, Policy and Finance for Resilient Coastal Futures*), regional conferences (Regional Workshop on Resilient Recovery and Building Back Better in Santo Domingo), and international conferences (ICDRI Conference in Nice, with the participation of the MTPTC, and the COP Conference in Belém). These events provided opportunities to present project results and exchange with a wide range of stakeholders, reaching more than 200 participants.

Through these events, the project highlighted the importance of building standards in strengthening resilience. It also demonstrated how the work carried out in Haiti can serve as an example of good practice, showing how internationally recognized standards can be effectively adapted to local contexts and construction practices.

III. Highlights and Success Stories

The main achievements of the project was the successful completion of a comprehensive and technically robust revision of the CNBH 2025, despite a complex operational and security environment. The revised code is adapted to Haiti's multi-hazard context while remaining aligned with international standards and grounded in local construction practices.

The signature of a licensing agreement with ICC has enabled Haiti to access international standards and represents a major institutional achievement. This partnership also creates a strong basis for future revisions, with ICC as a long-term technical partner.

A key lesson learned relates to the importance of combining technical development with early and continuous stakeholder engagement. The active involvement of technical experts, public institutions, professional associations, and civil society throughout the process strengthened the quality, relevance, and acceptance of the final document. The public review phase proved to be an effective tool for both quality improvement and dissemination, as it helped improve the content while building ownership among future users.

Another important lesson concerns the adaptation of international standards to a context where local materials and construction techniques are limited. Rather than applying standards rigidly, the project adopted flexible and pragmatic solutions that balance safety requirements with local feasibility. Minimum requirements were defined to ensure structural resilience, while more advanced techniques and higher-quality materials were introduced as recommendations to encourage gradual improvement.

The technical development process also highlighted the importance of allocating sufficient time to address complex hazards. In particular, developing roof solutions adapted to cyclonic risks required additional time due to the exceptionally high wind speeds observed in Haiti and the limitations of locally available materials. While this extended the timeline, it resulted in viable and context-appropriate solutions. This confirmed the need to anticipate longer design phases for technically demanding risks, especially in constrained contexts.

From a governance perspective, the establishment of a permanent Steering Committee working closely with the Technical Committee proved highly effective. The progressive approval of sections of the code at each Steering

Committee meeting, rather than a single final approval, facilitated smoother validation and allowed technical issues to be addressed early. Clear documentation of approved content in meeting minutes strengthened transparency and accountability.

The project also demonstrated the value of flexible dissemination approaches, adapted to the security and operational context. The development of an official online platform enables continuous access to project deliverables and facilitates preparation for training activities. This digital approach proves particularly relevant in a context affected by security constraints and mobility limitations. Overall, online dissemination proved more effective to reach more people, than initially planned in-person activities.

IV. Challenges and Adaptive Management

The project has remained broadly on track, although several challenges affected the pace of implementation. The main difficulties were related to the complexity of the technical work and the evolving security situation.

Significant delays occurred during the finalization of the technical content and the public review required before official approval. These delays were largely due to the technical complexity of the code and the need for multiple rounds of review and harmonization. While time-consuming, this careful process improved the quality, clarity, and credibility of the final document. In response, the project strengthened coordination mechanisms, adjusted internal planning, and prioritized critical deliverables. Dissemination activities were initiated before formal approval of the CNBH 2025, which helped build public awareness, manage expectations, and generate strong engagement ahead of the official approval ceremony.

The security context posed a major constraint on field-based activities, including training, public events, and exhibitions. The temporary occupation of the MTPTC Directorate of Public Works further limited institutional capacity. To mitigate these risks, the project adopted adaptive management measures, including increased reliance on online consultations, virtual meetings, and digital dissemination tools.

One key adaptation was the shift toward an online dissemination strategy using the official CNBH website as the central platform for public review, publication, and training registration. This adjustment not only addressed security-related constraints but also improved accessibility and continuity of activities, proving more effective than originally planned in-person dissemination approaches.

No major revisions to the project's expected outputs were required. However, timelines for dissemination and training were adjusted, and some activities were rescheduled to better align with contextual constraints. Overall, these adaptive measures allowed the project to maintain coherence, improve results, and deliver a stronger and more widely accepted final product.

V. Cross Cutting Components

Gender Equality Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI):

GEDSI aspects were first incorporated into the review and drafting process by introducing new provisions addressing the needs of vulnerable populations. This included standards for vernacular houses, particularly timber frame buildings commonly used by low-income households in rural areas, as well as mixed-use building provisions allowing women-led small businesses to have a small business in their first floor.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) specifications were strengthened through the inclusion of new provisions with gender-sensitive requirements. These measures aim to ensure equitable access to safe and hygienic facilities, particularly for women and girls, while remaining adapted to low-resource contexts. Accessibility standards were also reinforced to cover access conditions, space requirements, and bathroom and water supply facilities.

Engagement with specialized stakeholders, including the WASH and Shelter Cluster and the Office of the Secretary of State for the Integration of Persons with Disabilities (BSEIPH), contributed to refining GEDSI-related provisions during the public review phase. Their inputs helped ensure that the final document reflects both technical requirements and user needs.

The approved CNBH 2025 now incorporates GEDSI considerations across different building typologies and uses. These aspects were highlighted during dissemination and awareness-raising activities, including the official approval ceremony, to promote inclusive and equitable construction practices.

Communications:

Communication activities focused on increasing the visibility of the CNBH 2025 and facilitating access to project outputs. The official website served as the main communication and dissemination channel, providing public access to key documents, announcements, and training information. Communication material (flyers, street banners, roll up) has been developed to support the dissemination campaign..

Media coverage (radio, television newspaper), during the approval ceremony, helped raise awareness of the revised code and its importance for safer and more resilient construction. The contribution of the CDRI Coalition and Fund partners was systematically acknowledged in communication materials, public presentations, and dissemination activities at national and international levels.

In addition, the project was presented during webinar, regional and international conferences, which contributed to sharing results and lessons learned with a wider regional and global audience and further enhanced the visibility of the initiative.

Knowledge Exchange and Peer Learning:

Knowledge exchange and peer learning were promoted through regular technical meetings and collaborative reviews involving MTPTC engineers, local and international engineers and steering committee members. These exchanges supported the adaptation of international standards to the Haitian context and strengthened national technical capacities.

The public review process and webinars organized for the dissemination also encouraged peer learning by bringing together professional associations, universities, and partners to improve the final document.

Participation in regional and international conferences and webinars further supported the exchange of experiences and lessons learned, contributing to continuous improvement of project practices.

VI. Partnerships and Collaboration

National ownership and sustainability:

Strong national ownership was demonstrated throughout the project. The MTPTC played a central role in defining technical content, coordinating the revision process, and leading institutional approval procedures. The MTPTC is actively promoting the CNBH 2025 at different events, in particular during the upcoming 12 January earthquake anniversary, and will be able to continue supporting dissemination after the project. They are particularly proud of the new code and act as its main ambassadors.The active engagement of the Technical Committee and the Steering Committee also demonstrated stakeholder commitment to improving construction quality through the new code.

The approval ceremony brought together many high-level government representatives, showing strong national interest and willingness to ratify the code in 2026. The public review process also made it possible to present the code to a wide range of users. The project coordinated closely with line departments, professional associations,

universities, and training institutions. Collaboration with the INFP supports the integration of CNBH content into vocational training programmes for builders and technicians.

The project website will be handed over to the MTPTC and integrated into its official website, ensuring that project outputs remain available and accessible after completion. The ICC licensing agreement between the MTPTC and ICC also reflects a long-term commitment to improving standards and to organizing regular code revisions.

The organization of webinars by former students of the State University and by the National College of Engineers and Architects shows the strong involvement of the private and educational sectors in improving infrastructure resilience. The institutionalization of the Steering Committee, with representatives from all construction sectors, will facilitate future code revisions and dissemination.

Training materials prepared under the project will be shared with universities and professional training centers, including the INFP, and integrated into their curricula to ensure continued dissemination after the project.

VII. Catalytic Effect

The project contributed to mobilizing approximately USD 30,000 in additional funding from Catholic Relief Services for a complementary study conducted by CRAterre on timber frame and vernacular construction. This study addressed technical aspects not initially included in the project and may continue to support dissemination activities related to timber frame structures with masonry infill.

The establishment of the Steering Committee under this initiative has also created a framework that can facilitate future fundraising for CNBH revisions. The Ministry intends to integrate regular code updates, at least every five years, into national planning, which should support future resource mobilization.

The revision of the CNBH can also strengthen confidence among development partners and institutions in construction quality and risk management, helping to integrate resilience standards into ongoing and planned infrastructure programmes.

Overall, while major new investments have not yet been generated, the project has helped create more favorable institutional and technical conditions for mobilizing future resources and supporting resilient infrastructure development in Haiti.

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VIII. Indicators-based Performance Assessment

No.	Outcome/Output	Indicator	Baseline	Achieved		
				2024	2025	2026
OP 1	The National Building Code (CNBH) is revised, approved and published	Number of persons consulted during the engagement phase for the revision of the CNBH	0	169	169	
		% of revised code articles peer reviewed and approved by the Technical Committee	0	100%	100%	
		% of revised code articles submitted by the Technical Committee approved by the Steering Committee	0	100%	100%	
		Number of copies of approved CNBH published and distributed	0	0	70	
OP 2	Training conducted and knowledge products disseminated for integration of best practices from the revised CNBH	Awareness and training plan for dissemination of the approved CNBH	0	0	1	
		Number of updated guides published and distributed	0	0	0	
		~~Number of persons participated in the exhibition[b], disaggregated by SAD~~ Number of person visiting the project website	0	0	410	
		Number of persons trained on the approved CNBH, disaggregated by SAD	0	0	0	
		Number of persons sensitized about resilient housing construction practices	0		10 000	
OP 3	Project results shared for increased resilience and inclusivity of their critical	Report prepared and disseminated	0	0	0	

	infrastructure systems	No. of outreach events, disaggregated by SIDS regions	0	0	5	
		No. of registered participants of the outreach events (conference, specific sessions), disaggregated by SAD	0	0	100	

a. *This figure includes hard copies of the CNBH 2025 as well as summary flyers featuring QR codes for online consultation.*

b. *Due to the security situation, the exhibition could not take place at the MTPTC office; consequently, a website was created to support dissemination and data reported are not disaggregated by SAD.*

c. *As most dissemination activities will rely on mass media coverage (radio, written press, television), no attendance sheets will be produced; the figures will be justified by the estimated audience of the various media outlets.*

d. *Estimates were made for the various events where the project has been showcased, but we did not receive attendance sheets to allow for data disaggregated by SAD. To avoid double counting estimation has been reduced of 25%*