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QUARTERLY REPORT

APPUI À LA VALORISATION DU POTENTIEL AGRICOLE DU NORD,
POUR LA SÉCURITÉ ÉCONOMIQUE ET ENVIRONNEMENTALE

(AVANSE)



APRIL 2015

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Title page photo: an AVANSE field technician explains to demonstration block members the anti-erosion benefits of grasses and shrubs planted in these terraced trenches during a konbit work day in Perches. This quarter, the IR 2 team oversaw the installation of over 31 linear kilometers of such soil-conservation structures and the distribution of over 82,000 trees to protect vulnerable hillsides like this one. By the end of the project, AVANSE will have protected thousands of hectares of at-risk land with sustainable agro-forestry systems.

Inside cover: a natural-resource management expert considers an IR 2 hillside conservation site directly above the main irrigation canal in Grison Garde as part of an environmental assessment. AVANSE's interventions are designed to reinforce each other, like these rows of shallow trenches planted with erosion-controlling grasses, which will reduce the alluvium deposits in the canal downhill that AVANSE is rehabilitating under the IR 1 infrastructure activities. This quarter, a (draft) programmatic environmental assessment found the project to have a net positive environmental impact, in part because it spatially coordinates its activities in this way.

The authors' views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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ABBREVIATIONS

APS	Annual program statement
AVANSE	Appui à la Valorisation du potentiel Agricole du Nord, pour la Sécurité Économique et environnementale
BAC	Bureaux Agricoles Communaux (local-level branches of the Ministry of Agriculture)
CACHE	Caribbean Council of Higher Education in Agriculture
CNSA	Conseil National pour la Sécurité Alimentaire (national council for food security)
DDA	Directions Départementales Agricoles (regional-level branches of the Ministry of Agriculture)
DEED	Développement Économique pour un Environnement Durable (“economic development for a sustainable environment”, a predecessor project to AVANSE implemented by DAI)
DFPEA	Direction de Formation et de Promotion des Entreprises Agricoles (“Directorate for the training and promotion of agro-enterprises”)
DGI	directorate general of taxes (in French)
DR	Dominican Republic
EOI	expression of interest
FAMV/UEH	Faculté d’Agriculture et de Médecine Vétérinaire/Université d’État d’Haïti
FFS	farmer field school
FOG	fixed-obligation grant
FY	fiscal year
Gds	(Haitian) gourdes
GIS	geographic information system
ha	hectare
HIMO	high-intensity main d’œuvre
ICT	information and communications technology
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
INARA	National institute for the application of agrarian reform (in French)
IP	implementing partner

IR	intermediate result— <i>refers both to programmatic result and technical team dedicated to achieving this result</i>
LTTA	long-term technical assistance
M&E	monitoring and evaluation
MARNDR	Ministry of agriculture, natural resources and rural development (in French)
MDE	Ministry of the environment (in French)
ME	micro-enterprise
MIS	market information system
MT	metric ton
NGO	non-governmental organization
NRM	natural-resource management
NUPAS	non-us organization pre-award survey
OCA	organizational capacity assessment
ORE	Organization for the rehabilitation of the environment (in French)
PERSUAP	pesticide evaluation review and safe use action plan
PEA	programmatic environmental assessment
PIA	MARNDR agricultural intensification program
PIF	production intensive par fragmentation
PMP	performance monitoring plan
PO	producer organization
PPI	Projet de Developpement de la Petite Irrigation “Petits Périmetres Irrigués” (MARNDR irrigation program)
PPP	public-private partnership
PTTA	Projet de Transfert de Technologie Agricole (MARNDR agricultural extension program)
RESEPAG	strengthening of agricultural public services project (in French)
RFP/RFA	request for proposals/request for applications
SME	small and medium-sized enterprise
SNS	National seed services
SOW	scope of work

SRI	système rizicole intensive (intensive rice-planting system)
SRA	système rizicole amélioré (“improved” rice-planting system, an AVANSE adaptation of SRI to zones that cannot fully implement SRI)
STTA	short-term technical assistance
SWMB	sub-watershed management body
TAMIS	technical and administrative management information system
ToT	training of trainers
UCNH	Université Chrétienne du Nord d’Haïti
URHC	Université Roi Henri Christophe
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	U.S. Dollars
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
WUA	water-users association

INTRODUCTION

AVANSE (which means 'move forward' in Haitian Creole) is a project with the objective of catalyzing inclusive, sustainable economic growth in Haiti's potentially highly productive Northern Corridor. The flagship Feed the Future program in the region, AVANSE works to increase agricultural productivity among a wide circle of small farmers in targeted plains; improve watershed stability above the targeted plains; strengthen agricultural markets; develop the capacity of Haitian agricultural enterprises and associations; and improve infrastructure related to these results, such as irrigation systems, large erosion-control structures, and rural roads to fertile but inaccessible farmland.

The quarterly report covering the eighth quarter of the USAID-funded AVANSE project discusses activities and accomplishments from January 1 to March 31 2015. This report consists of a summary of the key results achieved this quarter followed by sections dedicated to each technical area of the project. It concludes with notes on project management and key activities projected for next quarter, accompanied by a set of annexes providing detail relative to the information presented in the earlier parts of the report.



A young hillside agro-forestry parcel at Beudoret. The watershed-management (IR 2) component of AVANSE made particularly noteworthy progress towards its targets this quarter.



A bean field near Caracol planted with the assistance of AVANSE. This quarter, IR 1 beans farmers in some areas saw a particularly large harvest, a welcome change after the drought of last summer. The drought had forced them to plant later in the fall than usual, and so their crops benefitted from more from the winter rains and produced more than usual.

KEY RESULTS IN THE NORTHERN CORRIDOR

AVANSE made noteworthy progress this quarter toward achieving all of its intermediate results:

IR 1: Agricultural production increased

This quarter, the IR 1 team worked with approximately 1,800 rice farmers, 890 banana farmers, 4,600 cacao farmers, and 1,700 farmers of maize and beans in its agricultural extension work. It is providing these farmers with training and materials to introduce more productive technologies to their land. Particularly noteworthy was the distribution of cacao seedlings: AVANSE is now approaching 1 million cacao trees distributed to date. This quarter alone, the crop teams enrolled approximately 6,000 more farmers for extension work later this year. The results of the post-harvest survey, completed this

quarter, also allow us to report on the progress on agricultural production indicators (see IPTTs in Annex A for more details) for short-cycle crops¹ as of the close of FY 2014:

TABLE 1: FY 2014 YIELD RESULTS FOR SHORT-CYCLE CROPS

Crop	Baseline 2013			PHS 2014		
	Count of beneficiaries	Total area (ha)	Yield (kg/ha)	Count of beneficiaries	Total area (ha)	Yield (kg/ha)
Maize	148	140.66	411	362	201.87	105 ²
Beans	148	102.86	395	597	263.00	236 ³
Rice	76	101.10	1,561	351	288.75	2,593

The team also made progress supporting Haitian universities through its work with Auburn University, reinforcing the local branches of the Ministry of Agriculture under AVANSE’s MOU with the Ministry, and building the capacity of water-user associations. While awaiting the results of the final programmatic environmental assessment (PEA), the infrastructure team took steps to pre-qualify infrastructure firms so that this work can be executed as quickly as possible.

IR 2: Watershed stability improved

This quarter, the IR 2 team and its beneficiaries worked on approximately 80 plots of land covering 60 hectares to install over 30,000 linear meters of soil-conservation structures and plant trees and agro-forestry crops to prevent erosion. Their hillside agro-forestry work included the distribution of over 80,000 trees. The project also continued its home-garden program to increase the participation of women in its programming and led a modest environmental-education effort for 786 schoolchildren to foster community engagement in agro-forestry.

AVANSE also signed 38 grant agreements to provide in-kind support to local plant nurseries in order to improve the overall capacity within the project zone to support activities such as AVANSE’s. At the end of the quarter, the team was preparing to propose grants for 18 local organizations to scale up IR 2’s hillside-conservation activities and issue RFPs for implementing partners to conduct larger-scale reforestation on degraded hillsides of strategic interest to IR 1. This work will be reinforced by the large-scale ravine corrections planned by the infrastructure team. The team also began work in earnest with its three implementing partners building the capacity of sub-watershed management bodies to ensure the sustainability of AVANSE’s work after the close of the project.

¹ Because banana and cacao crops take several years to bear fruit, we will include yield data on these from the next post-harvest survey.

² Note that the unsatisfactory yields for maize in FY 2014 can be attributed mostly to the two seasons of drought during the year (many farmers lost their entire crops). See the FY 2014 AVANSE annual report (published October 30, 2014) for more details.

³ Note that the unsatisfactory yields for beans in FY 2014 can be mostly attributed to the two seasons of drought that year.

IR 3: Agricultural markets strengthened

This quarter, the IR 3 team made progress implementing two collaboration agreements in the cacao value chain and worked towards formulating and signing six more in other value chains. The team also completed a feasibility study for a promising banana-export partnership that could create thousands of jobs in the Northern Corridor and generate \$17 million in export value annually. In partnership with Making Cents and SOFITRAINING, the team also continued its training programs for 16 medium-sized enterprises and prepared to engage more small and micro-enterprises by the end of next quarter.

The team also completed a second round of selection of agro-enterprise grants applicants and, at the end of the quarter, was preparing to do responsibility determinations with the project's grants officers for the most promising 12 applicants in order to submit these potential grantees to USAID for approval next quarter.

IR 4: Capacity of local organizations strengthened

The IR 4 team focused its work this quarter on six promising Haitian implementing partners it prepares for USAID to evaluate and qualify to eventually administer direct USAID awards. Its original consortium partners AgroConsult and Agridev made progress as well. The team also continued its activities to build the general capacity of organizations in the project zone and is preparing a training program for 76 high-potential CBOs next quarter.



Representatives of AVANSE IR 2, grants & subcontracts, senior management, and 38 local plant nurseries at a grant-signing event at the beginning of this quarter.

IR 1: AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY INCREASED

AVANSE's team dedicated to increasing agricultural production in the North relies on a combination of improved crop technologies, farmer training and material support for inputs, and upgraded infrastructure). This quarter, the team updated its technical packages in manuals for all five target crops (the manuals are in their final draft form and under review as of the close of the quarter), incorporated feedback from the post-harvest survey, launched a new rice-production season with an expanded number of farmers, prepared for the first harvests of cacao from trees that benefitted from AVANSE technical assistance, and made important progress towards establishing water-governance bodies.

SUB-RESULT 1.1: KNOWLEDGE AND AVAILABILITY OF IMPROVED PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGIES & SYSTEMS INCREASED

The IR 1 team focused this quarter on implementing larger-scale farmer field school (FFS) programming to keep up with the agricultural seasons and scaling up to work with implementing partners to diffuse this model. At the same time, however, they work constantly to refine their technical approach. The team is planning next quarter to consider strategies to better integrate the project's voucher program into maize, beans, and bananas value chains (not just rice) as well as potentially including seeds in addition to fertilizer.

IR 1 technicians have observed that approximately four out of five FFS initial participants are now using the intensive rice cultivation (*ystème de riziculture intensive* or SRI) method. Even more important, however, is the fact that the rice-production methods promoted by AVANSE are spreading widely and rapidly. The project has observed that large numbers of farmers who are not receiving any instruction from AVANSE as FFS (i.e. "non-FFS" beneficiaries) are borrowing roller markers and roto-weeders provided by AVANSE and the MARNDR (or producing imitations of the tools to the best of their ability) in order to use SRI techniques on their own land. AVANSE's M&E team is working with IR 1 to develop a tool to measure the extent of this diffusion of technology in the next quarter.

Additionally, in response to requests from the department-level Ministry of Agriculture (DDA), AVANSE is preparing instructional documents on the SRI technique for DDA staff responsible for assisting farmers in the application of the improved method. These non-FFS farmers represent an expansion of SRI methods beyond AVANSE initial targeted beneficiaries.



Rice farmers at Grison Garde using roller markers to plot out where to sow each rice seed. This tool controls the spacing of the rice plants, an important element of the SRI method.

AVANSE staff have observed neighboring farmers improvising similar tools.

UPDATING TECHNICAL MANUALS AND TRAINING AIDS

This quarter, the team collaborated closely with the AVANSE voucher group to finish a draft pesticide technical manual, which the AVANSE communications department was proof-reading and laying out at the end of the quarter.⁴ Each crop specialist is also working on updating AVANSE's overall crop technical packages in the form of a manual. These are reaching the final draft stage and IR 1 anticipates completing them next quarter.

These manuals capture in a written and visual form the information taught in the context of FFSs, and they will be both a resource for future projects working in agriculture in northern Haiti and also as a way of passively diffusing knowledge of improved production technologies.

TEXT BOX: TRAINING ON AVANSE-PROMOTED TECHNICAL PACKAGES SPREADS

Last year, AVANSE taught the PIF (*plantules issus de fragments*) method of banana propagation in a series of workshops (more are planned for next quarter). This quarter, a university student who had attended a PIF training replicated it on his own for twenty other students at the Université Anténor Firmin. AVANSE learned of the natural diffusion of this technique at this nearby university through a letter the student wrote to the IR 1 bananas specialist thanking AVANSE for offering the initial PIF training.

ADJUSTING CROP MODELS BASED ON NEW YIELDS DATA

AVANSE also completed and analyzed the post-harvest survey covering FY 2014 during this quarter. The M&E section of this report discusses the post-harvest survey activity in more detail. The conclusions of the study, however, will inform

⁴ AVANSE will share all completed manuals with USAID and make them publicly available on the Development Experience Clearinghouse (DEC) so that they are available to other projects and the general public.

AVANSE's strategic thinking about its crop models moving forward. Impacts of the drought, for instance, were very significant last year, especially for the maize and beans FFSs (see Table 1 above, under "Key results"). By investigating the results in more detail and supplementing it with an agronomic analysis based on more detailed monitoring of trial plots, the project was able to identify several ways to use these data to improve the AVANSE, especially for its maize and beans models.



One of the IAEC unit data collectors interviews an AVANSE beneficiary in Plaine du Nord about his harvest in FY 2014. The post-harvest survey completed this quarter is one source of feedback the IR 1 team will incorporate into its crop-extension strategy moving forward.

Like the post-harvest survey, the trial plot agronomic results monitoring system produces data on harvests and yields (albeit with a different methodology), while also collecting more detailed qualitative data on the application of different elements recommended by AVANSE's technical packages. In the case of the 2013–2014 winter beans cycle, application of a more complete technical package helped explain the significant difference in harvest success between producers in Caracol and those in Grison Garde and Maribaroux. In Caracol, a preponderance of farmers irrigated, weeded, and applied pesticides and fertilizers at least once, as recommended in the

models promoted by AVANSE. Farmers in the other two target zones did not follow these recommendations to the same degree, with deviations in recommended irrigation practices. The farmers in Caracol are dependent on irrigation for the production of any crop, including beans (Caracol is a drylands zone), whereas Grison Garde and Maribahoux typically rely on rainfall. During the season in question, the rain came very late, which affected the different zones disproportionately: Grison Garde and Maribahoux farmers were not able to irrigate, but the Caracol farmers had already installed water pumps in some wells. This allowed them to apply the full AVANSE technical package. The maize and beans specialist is working with the IR 1 team lead to finalize the technical manual for those crops and integrate a more flexible package that would be equally productive but more responsive to the actual capabilities of farmers, which vary from zone to zone.

SUB-RESULT 1.2: STRENGTHENED EXTENSION OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGIES AND NUTRITION INFORMATION

The AVANSE farmer field schools are part of a constellation of strategies for promoting the IR 1 technical packages. Extension efforts are effective as long as they result in the full application of these technologies in the practices of community members, the real guarantors of sustainability. AVANSE is now using the FFSs, direct instruction for certain “non-FFS beneficiaries”,⁵ and (soon) implementation of the same strategies through Haitian partners.⁶

RICE

This quarter saw the beginning of the 2015 winter rice season. AVANSE programming reached 1,601 rice farmers in eighty farmer field schools this quarter. These farmers received six tons of rice seeds, and in March they began to purchase the vouchers for fertilizer products imported by Haitian vendors in affiliation with AVANSE.⁷ A further 200 farmers are also working with IR 1 technicians but without participating in the input voucher program.



The trunk of a cacao tree heavy with pods ready for harvesting. Next quarter, cacao farmers will harvest the first pods from trees on which they applied techniques they learned from AVANSE.

At the request of the MARNDR, AVANSE is enrolling an additional 1,000 beneficiary households, mainly in the area of Ferrier, for the upcoming rice summer season. By that time, AVANSE expects to have signed a contract with an implementing partner to oversee the scaled-up training efforts. The IR 1 team finalized the terms of reference for this activity and expects to launch the RFP in the first weeks of the new quarter.

⁵ Non-FFS beneficiaries typically are of a higher socio-economic status and have larger landholdings than FFS beneficiaries. AVANSE has determined that it can reach them more effectively through less formal visits from technicians, but AVANSE tracks them the same way from a monitoring perspective.

⁶ In order not to present preliminary data that have not yet been validated by M&E or risk any confusion with the data in the IPTTs, we are omitting the “FFS tables” that we have included in this section and in the annexes in past reports as a rapid-reporting tool matched to the quarterly report submission timeframe.

⁷ See the account of the AVANSE voucher program under IR 3 for more details.

CACAO

This quarter, the cacao group prepared for a new cacao planting season and the first harvest of cacao from trees that benefitted from AVANSE technical assistance in 2013. Also this quarter, the team distributed a new round of cacao seedlings to the approximately 4,600 farmers it works with, bringing the total distributed to date to approximately 851,000. The team also finalized a list of 4,000 participants for the new season and at the end of the quarter was finalizing the training calendar. The formal FFS sessions begin the first full week of April.

Even more exciting than the larger-scale cacao operation in April and May is the beginning of the first harvest of cacao pods in the gardens where maintenance, pruning and control of shade technics and practices have been applied by farmers receiving AVANSE assistance in 2013 (especially the pruning techniques AVANSE taught for adult and nearly-adult trees; the trees planted as seedlings under the AVANSE program will not begin to bear fruit until the end of 2016). This harvest began in the very last weeks of this quarter and will continue through the next. IR 1 looks forward to what it expects will be positive data on cacao productivity in the next post-harvest survey.



An IR 1 technician coaches this Quartier Morin banana farmer on the appropriate way to apply AVANSE-supplied fertilizer to her young banana trees.

AVANSE's strategy for scaling up cacao activities is based in the collaboration agreement mechanism with local cacao firms like Novella and PISA. Please see the first section of the chapter dedicated to IR 3 for more details.

BANANAS

January, February and March were not planting seasons for bananas, although the harvest began for some of the 893 farmers AVANSE is currently working with. The banana group therefore took advantage of the relative lull in activities to register new beneficiaries for the next season (approximately 1,000 new ones as of the end of the quarter), distribute approximately 25,000 kg of fertilizer to current participating banana farmers, and consider its extension strategy overall. To stimulate attendance in FFSs, the component is considering incentives like organizing visits to banana producers in other areas within and beyond the Northern Corridor, which is a strategy that has succeeded in energizing participants in the past. Another priority for the team is integrating the fertilizer products needed

into the AVANSE voucher program's market-driven mechanism. The IR 1 team has also begun developing the terms of reference for the IP(s) to scale up the bananas technical training.

MAIZE AND BEANS

The staff overseeing the maize and beans component of IR 1 monitored the particularly large winter harvest of crops that were planted late in 2014 due to the drought (this delay turned out to be a fortuitous one because the plants benefitted from the winter rains). As discussed under the heading for the post-harvest survey above, they also considered their strategy during the quarter at the same time that they prepared for the spring 2015 planting season.



Harvesting beans in Caracol. Some beans farmers saw an unusually large beans harvest this quarter thanks to the timing of the winter rains.

More than 1,750 farmers are already enrolled to participate in the winter 2014–2015 beans cycle, and AVANSE distributed more than 14,000 kg of bean seed and 400 kg of maize seed to farmers. It is also distributing a fertilizer/pesticide package of powder and foliar NPK, Actara, Sevin, and dithane to farmers along with application equipment after completing safe-use training through the FFSs. AVANSE also stationed four temporary irrigation pumps in the Caracol area. The package of chemicals and equipment is based on lessons learned from the harvest season one year ago.

Because of initial delays in obtaining solid fertilizer, the project procured foliar and liquid fertilizer (which is more quickly absorbed through the leaves and or roots), which can be applied at a different stage in the plant's life cycle than regular solid fertilizer. Next



An IR 1 field technician in Caracol working on one of the small irrigation pumps AVANSE provided to beans farmers in that drylands area.

quarter, the project will procure both types of fertilizer in order to be able to better respond to such contingencies. AVANSE's pesticide package targets the white fly and caterpillars prevalent in some areas.

AVANSE anticipates rapidly scaling up the maize and beans activities in the next season thanks to the recruitment of an implementing partner. This quarter, AVANSE evaluated bids and selected an apparent winner; as the quarter closed, the grants and subcontracts department was seeking technical and financial clarifications before finalizing the award.

STRENGTHENING HAITIAN UNIVERSITIES IN THE NORTH

AVANSE is working with Auburn University to strengthen the agronomic capacity of Haitian universities in the North. In February, AVANSE led training on soil-sampling methods for 20 chemistry and soils science professors and students under the initial partnership with Auburn. Later in the quarter, the project submitted to USAID a concept paper outlining a group of proposed activities to increase the capacity of universities in northern Haiti with respect to agronomy and natural-resource management. With USAID approval of the concept paper, AVANSE will launch next quarter a program of grants to support agronomic training in the North and to establish a simple soil-testing facility. The soil-testing facility will be capable of providing low-cost, rapid analysis to permit farmers to tailor fertilizer application to the actual needs of their soil. AVANSE will work with Auburn University to solidify a formal network of agronomic education institutions in northern Haiti, with specific grant windows aimed at providing material assistance with ICT tools to member institutions, research support for students and professors, equipment for the rehabilitation of experimental farms, and support for the planned soil-testing capacity.

In February, AVANSE followed up the articulation of this concept paper with a meeting with the universities that would potentially belong to this network to discuss concrete needs for each activity so that once the concept paper is approved, AVANSE and Auburn can begin implementing.

ENSURING SUSTAINABILITY OF AVANSE INITIATIVES THROUGH PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MARNDR

AVANSE works closely with the department- (DDAs) and commune-level (BACs) branches of the Haitian Ministry of Agriculture in formulating all of the project's strategies. The MOU signed between the MARNDR and AVANSE also provides for capacity-building support to the local BACs and the joint implementation of several activities. This is not only important because it strengthens the Ministry and provides AVANSE with essential guidance, but because it ensures the sustainability of much of AVANSE's work after the project closes (as early as the beginning of 2016).

On March 10, AVANSE met with the DDA for the North and Northeast and determined that the collaboration between the two groups would focus on integrating BAC-level technicians and managers into AVANSE activities to make them aware of AVANSE models, provide in-kind assistance to rehabilitate several BAC facilities, and collaborate on small, urgently-needed interventions as allowed by the AVANSE FY 2015 workplan.

The director of the DDA–Northeast also visited two sites of beans and rice farmers working with AVANSE during this winter planting season.

AVANSE is planning to have a monthly meeting with the directors of the DDA to keep them informed of the project’s progress and coordinate activities to reinforce each other’s efforts and avoid duplication.

SUB-RESULT 1.3: ACCESS TO INPUTS INCREASED

The IR 3 section of this report covers the activities related to AVANSE’s voucher program, the primary activity related to this sub-result. See also the section dedicated to IR 2 (specifically, under Sub-result 2.3) for information about AVANSE’s efforts to increase the production capacity of local tree nurseries to produce inputs for the cacao and banana value chains.

SUB-RESULT 1.4: MANAGEMENT CAPACITY OF USER ASSOCIATIONS INCREASED

Rice, bananas, maize and beans can all benefit from irrigation, and so AVANSE is complementing its initiatives to improve production technologies and overall yields with investments in irrigation infrastructure (covered in this report under Sub-result 1.6 in a separate infrastructure section) and management capacity. Specifically, the project is building the capacity of water-users associations (WUAs) to sustainably manage irrigation systems. These associations will first co-manage the rehabilitated and extended systems AVANSE builds while they are still receiving support through the project, and then they will gradually transition to autonomous management. The associations collect water-use fees to fund basic maintenance of irrigation systems, and WUAs have proven an effective means of ensuring the sustainability of irrigation infrastructure in Haiti.⁸

This quarter, implementing partner Comité Protos Haïti (CPH) completed its intermediate report on the capacity of WUAs in targeted irrigation sites. In the meantime, the training firm GeoSociety submitted its first report on a training curriculum and the creation of WUAs. Next quarter, AVANSE will focus on the process of legalizing new WUAs, but some of the assistance must wait until the completion of the irrigation works themselves.

Finally, the IR 1 and infrastructure teams finalized the detailed plans to install five small irrigation pumps near Caracol, and next quarter, assuming approval of the programmatic environmental assessment, AVANSE will begin installation of the pumps as well as a series of community awareness-raising activities to ensure the pumps are used and maintained properly. The team will collaborate with the USAID LOKAL+ project, which addresses issues of local governance in the AVANSE project zone.

⁸ The joint project between the MARNDR, implementer Société du Canal de Provence, and the WUAs of Arcahaie between Port-au-Prince and Saint Marc is the best example of the long-term success of this strategy.

TEXT BOX: BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF WATER-USER ASSOCIATIONS

Strong users organizations are the most important element in ensuring that AVANSE's irrigation activities are sustainable beyond the end of the project. Without the community investment and management, history shows for such projects in Haiti, the systems AVANSE will construct or expand risk falling into disuse. However, strong WUAs have a proven history in Haiti to sustainably manage these systems in the long term.

AVANSE's capacity-building program for WUAs hinges on a thorough understanding of the challenges facing users in each zone, as well as hands-on support as they integrate the new, expanded irrigation infrastructure into their management systems. The first step in the process is therefore the diagnostic that CPH will complete next quarter. This diagnostic identifies structural and social challenges to water-resource management, evaluates the organizational and material capacity of WUAs or pre-associations, identifies challenges to gender integration, and reports generally on the land tenure situation. On the basis of this assessment, the diagnostics team proposes a workplan for reinforcing existing WUAs and creating new ones.

The next step in the process focuses on providing coaching and training to reinforce core competencies with the WUAs, such as organizational structure and conflict management. This coaching curriculum will also focus on legalizing any WUAs without legal status and formalizing the internal regulations of existing associations. The coaches will also help create brand-new WUAs in some areas.

AVANSE is also considering ways that IR 3 and IR 4 can lend expertise in other areas that will be useful to the WUAs. Some WUAs also function like agribusinesses (for instance, the Grison Garde WUA owns a rice mill as well as several tractors, which it hires out for ploughing services), so IR 3 may be able to lend training or material support to improve their functionality, which would in turn increase their financial capacity to sustain irrigation infrastructure under their purview.

The final phase of the coaching consists of practical work through the establishment of new policies and water-user fee schedules in order to incorporate the new or improved irrigation structures into their management system. This phase begins once construction is near completion.

SUB-RESULT 1.5: PROPERTY SECURITY STRENGTHENED

Property security is one of the many challenges facing dryland farmers. Without secure land tenure, it is difficult to justify an investment (such as digging a well for irrigation) that would make the land more productive and profitable. Just as AVANSE is intervening in irrigated areas to strengthen governance of natural resources, it is also supporting drylands development through direct assistance and its planned grants program.



Water-user associations are a key element of AVANSE's strategy for sustainability beyond the end of the project. These associations consist of representatives of community members benefitting from irrigation-water resources and are responsible for the management and routine maintenance of the irrigation infrastructure. They accomplish this with a modest budget based on water-user fees as well as the service of volunteers, such as this water-gate monitor, a member of the Grison Garde WUA.

AVANSE is providing capacity-building support to associations like Grison Garde's through implementing partner GeoSociety.

The first step is a diagnostic study to determine the land-tenure situation of the areas AVANSE would target for investment. Property being used by someone without right to it is an unwise investment; on the other hand, in many cases this is just a matter of securing a formal title, and AVANSE is prepared to coach landowners through this process. AVANSE received the first draft of the diagnostic study on March 31, and it will provide feedback to the consultant who executed the study and expect a final draft by April 30. The data and recommendations from this study, together with the results of the PEA, will allow AVANSE to move forward with its planned activities and grants. In the same vein, AVANSE is translating the Code Rurale (a compilation of decrees and laws relevant to land and water-resource management, rights and obligations) into Creole for use in training and as a reference tool for beneficiary groups. AVANSE has also been developing a relationship with the PROJJUSTICE project, which works with area municipal and judicial authorities on mitigation of land tenure conflicts.

This quarter, IR 1 worked with the AVANSE grants officers to define the nature of the anticipated grants window, and the team also began to identify potential sites for new irrigation pumps. With the support of INARA and in close coordination with projects to improve the availability of water for irrigation, they will launch activities in those areas to support farmers in obtaining titles to their land during the upcoming quarters.



The members of this demonstration block at Perches take a break from the intense work of cutting rows of erosion-control structures into the hillside. IR 2 teaches the method of using a simple A-frame level device (center left) to trace the contour of the slope, digging earthen trenches supported by stakes and living plant material, and then planting grasses and shrubs (like vetiver grass) in the trench to combat erosion.

IR 2: WATERSHED STABILITY IMPROVED

The AVANSE IR 2 team increases overall agricultural incomes in the Northern Corridor by working to improve the agricultural productivity of steep, degraded land by promoting integrated agro-forestry systems, which in turn protects the fertile land downhill from flooding and alluvium accumulation. The IR 2 strategy incorporates both the human and bio-mechanic elements of watershed management: under Sub-result 2.1, it builds the capacity of communities to govern their own watersheds, and under Sub-result 2.3, it installs soil-conservation structures and plants trees and agro-forestry crops in its innovative “demonstration blocks”.⁹

This quarter, the sub-watershed management bodies (SWMBs) supported by IR 2 began work with three implementing partners recruited in late 2014 to define the sub-watershed

⁹ See the FY 2014 annual report (published October 30 2014) for more detail on the demonstration block strategy.

management plans that will structure these local organizations and their interventions moving forward. With the arrival of the winter rainy season, the team completed a new round of soil-conservation structures and tree-plantings as they finalized the 18 agro-forestry grants that will bring this demonstration block activity to scale.

SUB-RESULT 2.1: WATERSHED GOVERNANCE BODIES ESTABLISHED AT THE SUB-WATERSHED LEVEL

Sub-watershed management bodies serve in conjunction with local government as a community forum for the resolution of land-use issues, particularly with respect to watershed management. In FY 2014, AVANSE helped form twelve of these SWMBs in watersheds across the project zone. At the end of the calendar year, it recruited three implementing partners to provide targeted coaching and capacity-building assistance to these twelve SWMBs as well as six other SWMBs formed under previous projects.

Sub-watershed management committee elections at Trou du Nord last year.

This quarter, implementing partner GeoSociety began holding meetings with these committees to set the groundwork for developing land-use maps.

SWMBs, like the WUAs being established under IR 1, are key to the sustainability of AVANSE's IR 2 interventions.



These three IPs (GeoSociety, Ayiti Gouvènans, and Stratège) signed contracts with AVANSE at the beginning of the quarter and began holding introductory meetings and planning sessions with the SWMBs. The next step in the process outlined in Table 2 is the creation of sub-watershed management plans (SWMPs), which are based on land-use maps and developed through a community discussion of what tracts of land are most appropriate for what type of use from an ecosystem perspective. The elaboration of these plans is an iterative process that involves the entire community, and it takes a minimum of three months to complete. AVANSE originally anticipated having the maps validated by the end of this quarter, but the IP training schedule is slightly behind; communities will begin validating these maps in April. Despite this slight delay, the implementation calendars submitted by GeoSociety, Ayiti Gouvènans, and Stratège anticipate beginning to put the SWMPs in place starting in May.

**TABLE 2: PROGRESS OF SUB-WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BODIES,
JANUARY–MARCH 2015**

	Creation of sub-watershed management bodies				Elaboration and execution of sub-watershed management plans				
Completed previously	Initial Organization Workshop With Local Governments	Geographic Division of Sub Watershed	Election of SWMB Committee	Trainings on Role of SWMB Completed	Engagement of IP(s); (name of IP assigned to SWMB)	Sub-Watershed Maps presented to SWMBs for modification and verification	Participative Design of Community Land-Use Map	Finalization of Sub-Watershed Management Plan	Implementation of works under SWMP
Completed this quarter									
TROU-DU-NORD WATERSHED									
Sub-watershed 1: Sainte Suzanne					(GeoSociety)				
Sub-watershed 2: Trou du Nord					(GeoSociety)				
Sub-watershed 3: Caracol					(GeoSociety)				
MARION WATERSHED									
Sub-watershed 1: Perches					(Ayiti Gouvènans)				
Sub-watershed 2: Acul Samedi					(Ayiti Gouvènans)				
Sub-watershed 3: Dum/Fol					(Ayiti Gouvènans)				
HAUT-DU-CAP WATERSHED									
Sub-watershed 1: Cap Haitien	SWMB FORMED BY ANOTHER ORGANIZATION AND VALIDATED BY AVANSE				(GeoSociety)	SWMPs FORMED WITH OTHER ORGANIZATION			
Sub-watershed 2: Acul du Nord					(Stratège)				
Sub-watershed 3: Milot/Quartier Morin					(Ayiti Gouvènans)				
GRANDE RIVIÈRE WATERSHED									
Sub-watershed 1: Jolitrou					(GeoSociety)				

	Creation of sub-watershed management bodies				Elaboration and execution of sub-watershed management plans				
Completed previously	Initial Organization Workshop With Local Governments	Geographic Division of Sub Watershed	Election of SWMB Committee	Trainings on Role of SWMB Completed	Engagement of IP(s); (name of IP assigned to SWMB)	Sub-Watershed Maps presented to SWMBs for modification and verification	Participative Design of Community Land-Use Map	Finalization of Sub-Watershed Management Plan	Implementation of works under SWMP
Completed this quarter									
JASSA WATERSHED									
Sub-watershed 1: Ouanaminthe					(Stratège)				
Sub-watershed 2: Gens de Nantes					(Stratège)				
Sub-watershed 3: Acul des Pins					(Stratège)				
LIMBÉ WATERSHED									
Sub-watershed 1: BALI	DONE UNDER DEED				(GeoSociety)	DONE UNDER DEED			
Sub-watershed 2: RAHALIC					(Stratège)				
Sub-watershed 3: SOLCAMA					(Ayiti Gouvènans)				
Sub-watershed 4: SACOGRA					(Stratège)				
Sub-watershed 5: MARLA					(Ayiti Gouvènans)				

The table above captures graphically the progress of the SWMB for each sub-watershed towards the completion and validation of a land-use map and implementation of activities under the resulting SWMP. The Cap Haïtien SWMB and the SWMBs in the Limbé watershed were formed under previous projects, but will receive support from AVANSE to put their SWMPs into practice. This quarter, the three implementing partners signed contracts with AVANSE, made initial contact with these communities, and began work on the sub-watershed maps.



An IR 2 konbit on a degraded hillside at Perches. These collective work sessions are a way to share the heavy labor required to cut soil-conservation structures into the hillside and then support them with stakes, brush, and then living plants. Demonstration block members doing this work measure carefully to ensure that the trenches follow the contour of the hillside. Once complete, the structures will slow down rainwater as it runs down the hill, both reducing erosion and increasing soil penetration in order to make the land more fertile.

At a subsequent session, the community will plant a mixed agro-forestry species between the trenches, making the land productive and sustainable.

SUB-RESULT 2.3: CRITICAL SLOPES STABILIZED THROUGH FARMER-LEVEL INVESTMENT

The AVANSE FY 2015 workplan provides for stabilizing critical slopes in areas uphill from IR 2 implementation sites and divides these slopes into two categories: 879 hectares of land to be protected directly by AVANSE (by the end of June 2015), and 2,430 hectares of land to be protected by March 2016 through grant support to community-based organizations that will replicate AVANSE's demonstration block model.

This quarter, the IR 2 team oversaw 144 *konbit*¹⁰ work days to install soil-conservation structures protecting 60 hectares of new land. One of the IR 2 field technicians is

¹⁰ A *konbit* is a traditional Haitian labor-exchange mechanism in which a community gathers to perform work on a neighbor's land, usually to complete a task too large for an individual or household to do, and usually in exchange for a shared meal.

present at each of these *konbit*, which they typically schedule across two weeks to have time to visit each of the 12 demonstration blocks for which he or she is responsible. IR 2 also distributed the trees, grasses and crops procured last quarter to transform these plots into sustainable agro-forestry systems.

TABLE 3: DEMONSTRATION BLOCK ACTIVITIES TO DATE

TARGET ZONES	Demonstration Blocs	Number of HA targeted for protection	Number of Participants	Number of HA treated through September 2014	Number of HA treated from October to December 2014	Number of HA treated from January to March 2015	Number of HA reaching "protected status"	% Percentage of HA protected	Number of demonstration plots established through September 2014	Number of demonstration plots established from October to December 2014	Number of demonstration plots established from January to March 2015	TOTAL demonstration plots established	Number of linear meters treated through September 2014	Number of linear meters treated from October to December 2014	Number of linear meters treated from January to March 2015	TOTAL linear meters treated
Camp Coq/Marmelade	Massabiel	38.0	25	11.6	0.0	1.4	12.9	33.9	26	0	1	27	4,280.0	5.0	1,021.0	5,306.0
	Ravines des Roches	33.0	25	6.9	0.0	1.5	8.4	25.5	25	0	3	28	2,633.0	0.0	965.0	3,598.0
Ravine des Roches/Limbe	Camp-Coq	35.6	25	8.0	0.0	0.4	8.4	23.5	25	0	2	27	3,355.0	0.0	418.0	3,773.0
	Beudoret	34.0	25	7.7	0.0	2.2	9.9	29.2	25	0	7	32	3,051.5	0.0	2,207.0	5,258.5
Grison Garde/Robillard	Milot	11.5	25	5.8	0.0	0.8	6.6	57.1	17	0	6	23	3,620.0	0.0	600.0	4,220.0
	La Bruyere	15.0	25	10.3	0.0	1.2	11.5	76.8	24	0	6	30	4,520.0	0.0	521.0	5,041.0
	Coupe Davide	13.0	25	8.0	0.0	1.2	9.2	71.0	22	0	6	28	3,302.0	0.0	855.8	4,157.8
La Suisse/Bord de Mer	Grison Garde	14.5	25	11.5	0.0	1.5	13.0	89.5	18	0	0	18	5,385.0	0.0	1,000.0	6,385.0
Ste Suzanne/ Gens de Nantes	Jolitrou	41.0	50	21.3	0.0	3.4	24.7	60.3	45	0	14	59	4,735.3	0.0	3,845.6	8,580.9
	Distrou	37.2	50	18.1	0.0	2.3	20.4	54.9	46	0	12	58	3,000.0	0.0	2,120.0	5,120.0
Ste Suzanne/Gens de Nantes	Garcin	30.4	25	29.4	0.0	0.0	29.4	96.6	27	0	0	27	5,741.1	0.0	0.0	5,741.1
	Sarazin	39.0	25	40.3	5.0	7.0	52.3	134.0	27	5	10	42	12,809.2	960.0	2,600.0	16,369.2
	Burotte	48.0	25	43.7	0.0	0.0	43.7	91.0	29	0	0	29	9,806.2	0.0	0.0	9,806.2
	Foulon	38.0	25	35.4	17.0	7.0	59.4	156.3	32	13	7	52	12,409.5	3,300.0	3,507.0	19,216.5
Ste Suzanne/Gens de Nantes	Acul Samedi	85.0	50	81.8	0.0	7.9	89.7	105.5	46	0	0	46	28,000.0	0.0	2,272.0	30,272.0
	Perches	110.0	50	111.4	0.0	8.5	119.8	108.9	50	0	0	50	32,760.0	0.0	4,075.0	36,835.0
Ste Suzanne/Gens de Nantes	Acul des Pins	83.0	50	34.7	0.0	4.9	39.5	47.6	28	0	7	35	4,927.0	0.0	1,367.0	6,294.0
	Gens de Nantes	173.0	50	167.6	6.0	9.0	182.6	105.6	50	6	0	56	12,165.5	1,270.0	3,940.0	17,375.5
5	18	879.2	600	653.2	28.0	60.1	741.4	84.3	562	24	81	667	156,500.3	5,535.0	31,314.4	193,349.6

This table above summarizes the progress of the IR 2 beneficiaries towards the goal of 879 hectares of hillsides protected by agro-forestry systems. This quarter, they established 81 new plots covering 60.1 hectares.

TABLE 4: TREE DISTRIBUTIONS THIS QUARTER

Bassin Versant	Zone de Livraison	Total distributed through December 2014	Distributed this quarter									Total distributed this quarter	Total distributed to date
			Noix d'acajou	Manguier	Citrus	Cocotier	Avocatier	Chêne	Cèdre	Acacia	Acajou Venezuela		
Limbe	Massabiel & Ravine des Roches	13,310	2,000	2,000	2,000	200	500	2,000	2,000		1,000	23,400	36,710
	Camp Coq & Beudoret		2,000	2,000	2,000	200	500	2,000	2,000		1,000		
Haut du Cap	Milot & La bruyère	16,880	1,000	1,000	1,000	200	250	500	1,000		1,000	10,400	27,280
	Coupe Davide & Grison Garde		1,000	1,000	500	200	250	500			1,000		
Grande Rivière	Jolitrou	17,183	1,000	1,000	500	200	500	500		2,000	1,000	12,900	30,083
	Distrou		1,000	1,000	1,000	200	500	500		2,000			
Trou du Nord	Garcin & Sarazin	15,549	1,000	1,500	1,000	150	500	1,000	1,000		700	14,000	29,549
	Burotte & Foulon		1,000	1,500	1,000	150	500	1,000	1,000		1,000		
Marion	Acul Samedi & Perches	19,275	1,000	1,500	1,000	200		500	1,000	2,000	1,000	8,200	27,475
Jassa	Acul des Pins	12,659		1,000	500	100	500	500		2,000		13,800	26,459
	Gens de Nantes		1,000	1,500	1,500	200		1,000	2,000	2,000			
TOTAL	18	94,856	12,000	15,000	12,000	2,000	4,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	7,700	82,700	177,556

This table summarizes the tree distributions to date for FY 2015 by target zone. Note that we are publishing a slight correction to the FY 2014 tree distribution numbers in Annex B, which is reflected here as well. The correction reflects a review of all procurement documentation and beneficiary distribution sheets undertaken by IR 2, M&E, and procurement staff this quarter.

SUPPORTING LOCAL TREE NURSERIES

One of AVANSE's recurring operational challenges is locating enough high-quality seeds, grasses, and tree seedlings in the Northern Corridor to supply its ambitious program. Procuring such plant material in time for IR 1 or IR 2 activities has occasionally delayed overall project implementation, and so the FY 2015 workplan set aside resources for targeted support to AVANSE tree nurseries.

This quarter, the project signed in-kind grant agreements with 38 tree nurseries in the project zone. Under these agreements, AVANSE will provide these nurseries with a kit of equipment that will allow them to increase the quantity and quality of their production. The RFQ for the equipment had been finalized at the end of the quarter for release in the first week of April. Once the materials are delivered, AVANSE will guide the nurseries in assembling improved tree-production operations.



At the beginning of this quarter, AVANSE signed in-kind grant agreements supporting 38 tree nurseries in the project zone. The materials provided under these grants will help these small agri-businesses produce higher-quality seedlings to supply agro-forestry work in the project zone.

Above: the owner of one nursery receiving grant support from AVANSE explains the limitations his business faces without high-quality nursery equipment.

Right: the grant signing event at the AVANSE offices outside of Cap Haitian.



With a similar goal in mind, AVANSE has been facilitating the training and certification of “master grafters” focused on producing high-quality fruit trees. This quarter, implementing partner CEHPAPE completed the first round of training (and many of the trees served in the environmental education sessions described later in this section). AVANSE is preparing the solicitation for follow-on activities, and the master grafters are preparing for certification from the MARNDR.

AVANSE hopes that the improved tree-production capacity of the Northern Corridor will benefit both its scaled-up agroforestry and reforestation initiatives as well as future efforts in the zone after the close of the project.

SCALING UP THROUGH GRANTS

AVANSE's reach is limited by its manpower and location (it only has offices in Bréda, just outside of Cap Haitian). However, by leveraging the resources of community-based organizations, the project can increase its impact. With the existing demonstration blocks providing a model for each zone, AVANSE is using grants to enable CBOs to replicate this soil-conservation and agro-forestry work on a larger scale.

This quarter, the IR 2 team reviewed proposals from 64 organizations and selected 18 CBOs, one in each target zone. At the end of the quarter, the AVANSE grants team had



Students receiving high-quality grafted fruit trees through an IR 2 training program stand with their trees and the IR 2 technical lead during a press event after one of the training sessions.

This quarter, IR 2 piloted an environmental-education program through the SWMBs to strengthen the community's commitment to agro-forestry practices and sustainable watershed management (see next page).



prepared the 18 grants for USAID approval and these were being reviewed by DAI in Bethesda before submission. These grants will enable communities to protect 2,430 hectares of land and involve 3,600 beneficiaries.

RECLAIMING AND REFORESTING LAND ON A LARGER SCALE

The IR 2 team also completed the terms of reference to recruit implementing partners to oversee large-scale reforestation and land reclamation—12,000 hectares total. AVANSE anticipates selecting six IPs (one for each watershed) to oversee this work on the largest and most degraded slopes in the project zone.

INCREASING COMMUNITY COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Sustainable watershed management is more than simply a matter of governance structures, or trees and soil-retention walls: it is also a mindset. It is for this reason that AVANSE was pleased to facilitate this quarter a small-scale environmental-education program focused on youth. Because the SWMBs organized and led the sessions, it also served as a way to reify these new governance bodies. AVANSE IR 2 technicians conducted training sessions for 262 SWMB members and 786 schoolchildren on watersheds, the value of agro-forestry, and environmental issues generally. Each participant received one or two high-quality grafted fruit trees to plant in his or her home garden. IR 2 engages in this type of small, low-cost activity (much like the *jàden lakou* program it piloted in 2014 and continued this quarter to improve the inclusion of women in its programming) to strengthen the commitment of communities to sustainable resource-management practices. It will continue to support this type of work as it scales up through implementing partners.

SUB-RESULT 2.4.: CRISIS-MANAGEMENT CAPACITY ESTABLISHED

This quarter, AVANSE completed the delivery of six generators to the civil-protection committees that the project has been working with since FY 2014. The delivery of this last tranche of equipment concludes the major activities under this sub-result. Next quarter, IR 2 will review the new emergency-management plans of these committees and consider further support as appropriate.



An IR 2 beneficiary in Acul Samedi receiving mango, cashew, and citrus tree seedlings to plant in his family's hillside agro-forestry garden. This quarter, IR 2 distributed over 82,000 trees purchased from local tree nurseries. The team's approach promotes agro-forestry systems and strengthens small agri-businesses at the same time.

IR 3: AGRICULTURAL MARKETS STRENGTHENED

The AVANSE agribusiness and markets team complements the IR 1 and IR 2 components by increasing the efficiency of the markets that supply inputs and absorb agricultural production in the North. IR 3 strengthens AVANSE target value chains by providing training and material support to Haitian agribusinesses, linking producers to processors and consumers of agricultural products, improving access to finance in the zone, and facilitating the sharing of market information between value chain actors.

This quarter, the IR 3 team:

- Continued its medium-enterprise training program and prepared a similar program for small and micro-enterprises;
- Continued the implementation of the collaboration agreements with cacao exporters Novella and PISA;
- Moved towards new collaboration agreements in the sisal, maize and beans value chains;
- Evaluated over two hundred agri-business grants applications;
- Identified a partner to pilot a mobile money program;
- Began discussions with the MARNDR to expand the Ministry's existing market-information system in the North and to make it more accessible to farmers through SMS messaging; and
- Provided rice farmers with fertilizer through its agricultural input voucher program¹¹ with implementing partner Transversal S.A.

SUB-RESULT 3.2: IMPROVED ACCESS TO STORAGE AND PROCESSING FACILITIES AND SUB-RESULT 3.5: RELATIONSHIPS IN TARGETED VALUE CHAINS STRENGTHENED

These two sub-results comprise a diverse set of activities that strengthen value chains, including training and materials support to upgrade agro-enterprises, collaboration agreements and more informal linkages with major market actors, and the AVANSE voucher program. IR 3 also undertakes activities under Sub-result 3.2 to use value chain and agro-enterprise data to inform its strategy and facilitate growth.

¹¹ *Système d'incitation via les bons d'achat* or 'SIBA' in French.

COMPLETING A BANANA-EXPORT FEASIBILITY STUDY

This quarter, a team of consultants and AVANSE consortium partner Agridev assembled just such value chain data in the form of a banana-export feasibility study. AVANSE aims to considerably increase banana production in the Northern Corridor under IR 1, but that production translates into increased agricultural incomes only if there is a market to absorb that production. Bananas for export is one promising way to accomplish this, but there are many hurdles to overcome at each link of the value chain, from rural transportation to cold storage at port facilities, and it is impossible to know at a glance whether, once exported, Haitian bananas would be competitive and also profitable for Haitian farmers.

Agridev therefore launched a study in late 2014 with two consultants specializing in banana value chains to determine the feasibility of bananas for export. This quarter, they completed the study and presented it to USAID. The study started with three banana plantations of different sizes and then examined the market opportunities, regional potential, and production requirements. It concluded with recommendations and next steps. The study determined that if several constraints can be overcome, AVANSE and USAID could facilitate the creation of a profitable banana-export market in the North that would create thousands of jobs and generate \$17 million in export value annually. AVANSE presented this study to USAID in March, and at the end of the quarter the team was readying the final version of the report for submission.

TEXT BOX: STUDYING THE FEASIBILITY OF EXPORTING BANANAS

AVANSE and Agridev conducted a study this quarter of the feasibility of exporting bananas from the Northern Corridor. The Agridev team and two consultants studied three example farms in sizes ranging from 15 to 1,000 hectares as well as the transportation, storage, and shipping infrastructure necessary to export the produce from these farms.

Constraints

The study identified a number of factors constraining this sort of export market. The environmental impact of large banana plantations must be taken into consideration, especially the amount of water use. To this end, irrigation and drainage infrastructure must be upgraded. Land tenure issues also play a role: given the cost of transporting bananas, for an export operation to be profitable the banana farms would need to be located in the same area and land must be available to lease in large blocs. This would minimize shipping costs and reduce damage to the bananas from excessive handling. Moreover, the lack of cold storage facilities in the Cap Haitian port would need to be overcome by using refrigerated containers and shipping through the nearby fully-equipped existing banana export facilities in the nearby Dominican port of Manzanillo. The study team has identified a Dominican partner willing to handle marketing and export logistics—significantly reducing the overall commercial risk.

Potential

However, the study concluded, if these constraints can be overcome (and AVANSE has activities in place addressing each of them), the new banana-for-export market could be profitable and self-sustaining. According to the study's estimates, this market could generate an annual export value of \$17.4 million and create 1,048 direct jobs and 2,600 indirect jobs in the local economy.

As AVANSE addresses the constraints identified in the study (which include irrigation challenges and lack of cold storage infrastructure), it is planning a proof of concept activity with grant support to test its approach before leveraging agreements with large private-sector actors and bring this activity to scale. The project has already identified a local landowner with approximately 50 hectares dedicated to bananas as a potential site for this proof of concept.

TRAINING LOCAL ENTERPRISES IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

AVANSE is offering a series of workshops tailored specifically to the needs of medium, small, and micro-enterprises in agriculture value chains in the Northern Corridor through consortium partner Making Cents, which specializes in pedagogical methodologies for agro-enterprises operating at different scales and with different levels of literacy and numeracy. AVANSE and Making Cents are delivering this business-management training in two tracks: one for medium-sized enterprises, and one for small and micro-enterprises.

Training local medium-sized enterprises

Several of the trainers from implementing partner SOFITRAINING fell ill this quarter, which delayed the training activities in this track. The eight new medium-sized enterprises identified at the end of FY 2014 were still completing the first phase—a diagnostic of the enterprise’s needs—at the end of the quarter. AVANSE now anticipates starting the second phase—creating work plans tailored to each enterprise’s needs—with all sixteen medium-sized enterprises in June.

Training small and micro-enterprises

AVANSE accelerated its progress in the small and micro-enterprise track this quarter. A consultant from Making Cents travelled to Cap Haitian to assemble a draft curriculum that was being finalized with the IR 3 team at the end of the quarter. In order to accelerate this activity to meet the workplan goal of beginning micro-enterprise training activities by the end of June, AVANSE released an RFQ for services for the formalization of the first 50 micro-enterprise participants in this program, and IR 3 prepared the RFP for the subcontractor that will conduct the micro-enterprise training program itself. This last RFP is being finalized by the AVANSE Grants/Subcontracts team, and AVANSE plans to release it in the first two weeks of April.

To complement this training program, which is designed to upgrade participating agri-businesses’ management systems, AVANSE is also preparing to award agro-enterprise grants to selected enterprises to help them upgrade their infrastructure. This activity is covered under Sub-result 3.3 below.

IMPLEMENTING COLLABORATION AGREEMENTS WITH CACAO EXPORTERS

AVANSE continued on track with the two collaboration agreements with cacao exporters Novella and PISA. Novella continued registering groups of cacao farmers for the direct-buying arrangements that allow farmers to sell their cacao crops directly to Novella for a higher price than through the traditional middlemen, whereby Novella benefits from traceability of the cacao it processes and exports. This quarter, they registered 311 cacao farmers in 12 new groups, for a total of 587 farmers and 25 groups that have signed agreements with Novella to date. IR 3 hopes to reach all 4,000 cacao farmers in the zones where Novella operates. As part of AVANSE’s commitment under the collaboration agreement with Novella, it distributed 16 scales to the farmer groups. The scales will empower the cacao-selling groups by allowing them to

measure the weight of cacao (instead of a less accurate volumetric measurement) brought at the collection points and eliminate discrepancies with measurements at Novella.

AVANSE also launched an RFQ for 750 cacao drying tables to be distributed to cacao farmers in May. The drying tables are important because previous studies show that inappropriate drying (on pavements or dirt floors) has been the major cause of low-quality mold-ridden cacao.

This quarter, the AVANSE IR 3 and Infrastructure teams also visited a disused coffee mill in Grande Rivière du Nord that Novella plans to turn into a cacao fermentation center (fermented cacao commands a higher price on the world market, and part of AVANSE's collaboration agreement with Novella includes assisting the firm to develop the capacity to produce fermented cacao). AVANSE's engineers will draw up the plans for repurposing the facility, and AVANSE and Novella are working to determine what AVANSE's formal contribution to the facility will be, taking into account the recommendations of the draft programmatic environmental assessment pending approval.

IR 3 is also preparing the terms of reference to hire a local firm to assist with organic and fair trade certification and will launch the process of certifying the farmers working with both Novella and PISA in the next quarter.



The IR 3 team visits a PISA, S.A. facility. One of the elements AVANSE is contributing under the AVANSE–PISA collaboration agreement is support to upgrade the cacao exporter's facilities.

PREPARING NEW COLLABORATION AGREEMENTS

In addition to the two collaboration agreements already under way, this quarter AVANSE finalized an additional four agreements it is preparing to send for review by USAID. One of the proposed agreements, with FECCANO cocoa federation, will function similarly to the agreements already in place with PISA and Novella. The other three are with sisal and peanut processing firms. These proposed collaboration agreements would support the production of sisal intercropped with peanuts, maize and beans in the drylands of the Northern Corridor. These agreements would increase the agricultural incomes of small farmers with drylands holdings, representing an important contribution by AVANSE to this type of farmer.

The project continues to explore the possibility of a joint investment in a rice-milling operation, and it expects progress on a banana collaboration agreement now that the export feasibility study is complete.

The table below summarizes the status of the collaboration agreement and more informal market linkage mechanisms by which AVANSE is strengthening the value chains in targeted crops in the North.

TABLE 5: AVANSE COLLABORATION AGREEMENTS AND MARKET LINKAGES

Potential Private Firm Partner	Nature of Business	Major Goals of Joint Project	Potential Collaboration Mechanism	Current Status of Agreement	Potential Private Sector Investment	Actions undertaken in quarter	Actions Foreseen in next quarter
Signed collaboration agreements:							
Maison NOVELLA	Cacao export	(1) Increase cacao production in partnership with small farmer in North; (2) expand to fermented cacao; (3) Improve post-harvest treatment to raise quality and improve farmer price incentives; (4) certify supply chain & improve traceability ; 5) Disseminate price information's to farmers	Collaboration Agreement	Implementation	1.3 million USD	<i>Continued implementation</i> ¹²	<i>Continue implementation</i>
Rebo/PISA	Cacao export	(1) Increase cacao production in partnership with small farmer in North; (2) Develop an operation of exporting fermented cacao; (3) Improve post-harvest treatment to raise quality and improve farmer price incentives; (4) certify supply chain & improve traceability	Collaboration Agreement	Implementation	800,000 USD	<i>Continued implementation</i>	<i>Continue implementation</i>
Total signed collaboration agreements:					2.1M USD		

¹² Cells shaded in light green with italic typeface highlight actions that occurred this quarter.

Potential Private Firm Partner	Nature of Business	Major Goals of Joint Project	Potential Collaboration Mechanism	Current Status of Agreement	Potential Private Sector Investment	Actions undertaken in quarter	Actions Foreseen in next quarter
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Potential collaboration agreements foreseen in FY 2015:

SEPAC	Rice processing	Install a rice milling operation in North east region	Collaboration Agreement	SEPAC investment is tied to AVANSE's drainage/irrigation investments Ferrier	TBD	Worked with PEA team on drainage project in Ferrier area	Finalize and sign MOU before the end of the quarter
Banamiel Group	Banana export	Develop an integrated Haitian-Dominican banana production-export program with Dominican firm Banamiel	PPP	Finalizing feasibility Study	TBD	<i>Presentation made to USAID</i> <i>Study finalized.</i> <i>Agreement drafted and submitted to local partner</i>	Sign MOU with Collag Partners
FECCANO	Cacao export	(1) Increase cacao production in partnership with small farmer in North; (2) expand to fermented cacao; (3) Improve post-harvest treatment to raise quality and improve farmer price incentives; (4) certify supply chain	Collaboration Agreement	FECCANO board is reviewing the final version of the Collag.	TBD	<i>Agreement finalized</i>	<i>Signing of agreement</i> <i>Start implementation</i>
ACCESO	Supply chain impact	<i>Increase production and marketing of maize, beans, peanuts, sisal in the North</i>	Collaboration Agreement	<i>AVANSE is reviewing ACCESO's proposal</i>	<i>440,000 USD</i>	<i>Agreement finalized</i>	<i>Signing of agreement</i> <i>Start implementation</i>
SISALCO	Sisal Processing and Export	<i>Support production of sisal by small farmers in dry lands to increase supply of sisal</i>	Collaboration agreement	<i>AVANSE reviewing Agreement before submission to USAID for approval</i>	<i>1.5 Million US</i>	<i>Finalized Agreement</i>	<i>Sign Agreement</i> <i>Start implementation</i>
North Coast Development Corporation	Sisal Production and Processing	<i>Support production of sisal by small farmers in dry lands to increase supply of sisal</i>	Collaboration agreement	<i>Finalizing Agreement</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Agreement Negotiation</i>	<i>Finalize Agreement</i> <i>Sign Agreement</i> <i>Start Implementation</i>
Total potential collaboration agreements:					<i>> 2.5 million USD</i>		

Market linkage partnerships:

Potential Private Firm Partner	Nature of Business	Major Goals of Joint Project	Potential Collaboration Mechanism	Current Status of Agreement	Potential Private Sector Investment	Actions undertaken in quarter	Actions Foreseen in next quarter
CALI	Corn processing	Facilitating market linkages activities to sell corn	Market Linkage	Idle. Waiting on equipment upgrade to improve capacity and quality	None	Reviewed CALI Grant Application	Award grant to CALI Link to private sector buyers
LEA Trading/ ParkCaracol	Food distribution	Sale of local products to Caracol park employees	Market Linkage	<i>Price negotiations</i>	None	None	<i>Finalize linkage</i> <i>Monitor sales</i>
AIGG	Rice processing	Facilitating market linkages activities to sell rice	Market Linkage	Waiting for harvest	None	None	Finalize market linkage with LEA trading
CLES	Rice processors	Market linkage with buyers	Market Linkage	Waiting for harvest	None	Assist CLES in securing a order of rice from Caracol Park	Finalize market linkage with Caracol
Quisqueya	Food processor	Market linkage for the supply of dry banana chips to Quisqueya	Market linkage	Idle. Price not competitive	None	Worked with IR1 to identify banana producers with significant volumes	None
RAFAVAL	Cocoa processing	Link RAFAVAL to US buyer	Market Linkage	Idle. Waiting on equipment upgrade to improve capacity and quality	None	RAFAVAL grant application reviewed Link established with US Buyer	Award grant to RAFAVAL Support on processing, packaging and export

SCALING UP THE AVANSE VOUCHER PROGRAM ('SIBA')

The AVANSE voucher program is another mechanism by which IR 3 strengthens agricultural markets in the Northern Corridor. The program connects small farmers to vendors of agricultural inputs by offering partial subsidies on appropriate elements of the technical packages promoted by IR 1. The voucher team works with IR 1 to select products to subsidize and identify farmers eligible to use them. AVANSE then issues individualized, nominative vouchers for purchase from local branches of micro-finance institutions and redemption at a participating agro-chemical vendor, who exchanges the farmer's voucher for the corresponding product. AVANSE reimburses the dealer for the full face value of the voucher—which includes the farmer's contribution (about 25% of market price this quarter for rice farmers, for example) and AVANSE's subsidy. The system primes demand for agricultural inputs by inciting a market-based connection between vendors and farmers. It also guarantees a market so that agro-chemical vendors can invest in a large inventory of products or new locations closer to the farmers—"priming the market" in this way is an essential element of the strategy for the sustainability of this strengthened market after AVANSE closes.



A partner micro-credit institution (above left) and affiliated agricultural input vendor (right) use smartphones to track the sale and redemption of AVANSE's input vouchers for fertilizer.

Implementing partner Transversal specializes in this voucher system, which enables instantaneous traceability of vouchers through a database updated in real time.

This quarter, AVANSE also completed the process of bringing its current partner vendors into environmental compliance, assisting partners like Jâden Lakay (above right) to install locked display cases for its chemical products.



This quarter, the AVANSE voucher program supported the winter rice season—which issued 5,900 vouchers to 1,601 rice farmers—in the first round of its partnership with Transversal, a voucher administration firm specializing in administering vouchers with smartphones to scan and transmit voucher information to a central database, which improves traceability and also allows instantaneous, up-to-date reporting (see Annex C for a summary table from the database). AVANSE also collaborates with fertilizer importers in this activity, and the arrangement it piloted last summer—working directly with importers and avoiding distortionary direct subsidies on imports—was effective: there have not been any shortages of fertilizer so far this rice season (a major success compared to past seasons).

The team reached another milestone this quarter as it brought its affiliated vendors into full environmental compliance with USAID standards. Moreover, it has used its experience with these input stores to work with the Ministry of Agriculture to encourage other input suppliers in the area to adopt the same practices (more on this below). One challenge that remains for AVANSE's affiliated vendors is their limited financial capacity to place bulk orders at the beginning of the season. The voucher team plans to work with the rest of IR 3 to link these vendors to financial institutions and create ties that will stretch beyond the end of AVANSE. The report describes this in more detail under the access to finance sub-result below.

Building the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture

The AVANSE voucher program also provides support to the MARNDR for its own fertilizer-subsidy programs. In 2014, AVANSE subscribed to the internationally recognized database ICIS to monitor international fertilizer prices, which informs both the MARNDR and AVANSE during their negotiations with importers. In the previous quarter, the voucher team planned work with the MARNDR to create a price-monitoring unit for fertilizer at the MARNDR with the help of AVANSE's international voucher expert. However, because of political disruptions in Port au Prince, it was impossible to complete this last quarter. AVANSE is now planning the next trip for this consultant for the upcoming quarter and will incorporate this training into that trip.

One of the team's main achievements this quarter was to mobilize MARNDR's directorate of plant production (*Direction de la Production Vegetale* (DPV) in French) at the central level to define good environmental practices. AVANSE has used its own experience with the upgrading of input stores to act as a facilitator around that topic with the MARNDR/PTTA, the IDB and the DPV. Complying with these good environmental practices will be one of the criteria for including input stores in the MARNDR's voucher programs. Next quarter, AVANSE and the MARNDR/PTTA will organize an information session on this topic for input stores in the North and Northeast.



AVANSE staff evaluating proposals submitted under the agro-enterprise grant window. The team expects to award 12 grants next quarter.

This quarter, the MARNDR also requested to incorporate AVANSE's beneficiaries into its national register of producers, and AVANSE's M&E team now has direct access to the PTTA program's SIGI platform and will work to upload this data next quarter. The Ministry is also including AVANSE's experience with input vouchers in its Procedural Manual for Incentive program, which will serve as the basis for current MARNDR subsidy initiatives and future programs as well. AVANSE looks forward to deepening this partnership next quarter.

SUB-RESULT 3.3: INCREASED ACCESS TO FINANCIAL PRODUCTS

SELECTING AGRO-ENTERPRISE GRANTEES

In January, IR 3 finished reviewing the second round of applications for the agro-enterprise grants window and selected the top twelve applicants. At the end of the quarter, the grants/subcontracts team was doing its due diligence to screen applicants and prepare the twelve proposed grantees to submit to USAID for approval once the governing PEA is approved and its recommendations

incorporated into the proposed grant programs. These top twelve applicants include cacao processors, maize processors, banana processors, rice processors, and enterprises manufacturing agricultural equipment and providing ploughing services. AVANSE anticipates proposing a total of \$1,077,000 in funding under these grants.

PREPARING TO CONNECT AGRO-ENTERPRISES TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND PARTNERS

The agribusiness team mobilized its LTTA access to finance specialist at the beginning of the quarter, marking the end of an extended, challenging recruitment effort. The Access to Finance Specialist prepared aggressively to advance the activities under this sub-result this quarter, and IR 3 and the AVANSE communications team have set May 23rd as the date for a much-anticipated “agribusiness finance fair” at the University of Limonade to connect local agribusinesses with financial backers. He also connected collaboration agreement partner PISA with funder Roots Capital, and the two parties are discussing a potential large line of credit to help PISA for the purchase of cacao.

PILOTING NEW MOBILE-MONEY PRODUCTS

AVANSE is currently collaborating with Haiti Pay (which operates Lajan Cash) to begin a pilot of a mobile-money product with cacao producers and exporters. This quarter, Haiti Pay completed a set of initial field visits, began identifying mobile-money agents in the areas covered by AVANSE collaboration agreements with Novella and PISA, and defined the payment system. In April, the firm will begin registering and training farmers and exporters, register and train agents, and launch a pilot with two hundred farmers. Feedback on the pilot will inform a larger-scale roll-out of this mobile-money product for cacao farmers and exporters and, later, similar arrangements in other value chains if practical.

SUB-RESULT 3.4: IMPROVED MARKET-INFORMATION SYSTEMS

This quarter, AVANSE met with both the MARNDR’s statistical service (which implements a nation-wide MIS diffused through email) and project managers from the USAID/PASA project (which is supporting this MIS activity in the MARNDR). Participants left the meeting agreeing that, with support from the PASA team, the MARNDR will prepare a proposal to expand the range of markets and products covered in the AVANSE project zone and initiate an activity that will send real-time information to farmers via SMSs. AVANSE will work with the MARNDR next quarter to map out the plan and provide support through either a grant or subcontract mechanism to local organizations that can assist with data management and the interfaces needed to support an SMS-based platform.

IR 4: CAPACITY OF LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS STRENGTHENED

AVANSE's IR 4 component is focused on developing the administrative and financial capacity of implementing partners in line with USAID–FORWARD objectives. Haitian organizations completing the IR 4 capacity-building program will be equipped to administer direct USAID awards in the form of contracts, cooperative agreements, or fixed-obligation grants.

This quarter, the IR 4 team completed legalization workshops with community-based organizations and focused on targeted training and coaching efforts with the implementing partners it plans to begin qualifying for direct USAID assistance in June. A number of these made progress upgrading their internal systems, and IR 4 was encouraged to see them taking a number of actions indicating their commitment to the process. Nevertheless, as the first round of implementers prepares for certification, a number of questions require clarification concerning specific USAID criteria for auditing IR 4 beneficiaries that have received a passing score from AVANSE and how AVANSE will eventually help certified organizations transition to receive direct USAID funding. AVANSE has articulated these questions in a memorandum submitted to USAID this quarter and looks forward to a response.

SUB-RESULT 4.1: STRENGTHENING OF IPS AND POTENTIAL DIRECT AWARD-HOLDERS TO RESPOND TO USAID–FORWARD OBJECTIVES

AVANSE's capacity-building objectives are oriented around two tracks: preparing organizations to receive direct USAID assistance, and generally strengthening local organizations. Sub-result 4.1 comprises this first track, and it was the focus of IR 4 activities this quarter.

EXECUTING ACTION PLANS FOR NEW IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

The IR 4 team conducted three organizational capacity assessments this quarter, finalized four action plans, and conducted fourteen coaching sessions with six promising implementing partners. The organizational capacity assessment (OCA) tool employed by the IR4 team reviews the strengths and weaknesses of the organization. It assigns a score of 1 to 4 (AVANSE has set a score of 3 'adequate' as the threshold to be submitted for USAID qualification). On the basis of the OCA, AVANSE works with the organization to develop a detailed action plan to improve the organization's score. These action plans consist of the areas to be strengthened (for instance, financial management) and the practical steps to be taken by AVANSE and the organization to improve in those areas (e.g. offering a training in indirect-rate accounting and hiring a full-time accountant). Many of the corrective actions require a program of phased changes in management procedures that cannot all be implemented at once, so IR 4 staff are engaging the implementing partners in rigorous coaching sessions, typically on a monthly basis, to follow up on each step in the action plan and provide guidance to ensure implementation and adoption.

As IR 4 and the IPs prepare for the next round of OCAs scheduled for May, AVANSE is encouraged by the commitment of these organizations to the goals of the program:

One organization¹³ completed the first draft of its administrative and financial procedure manual this quarter with AVANSE's help, as well as articulating a succession plan and redefining its mission statement. It also revised its organizational chart and added more details to the template forms it uses for financial and procurement transactions. The IR 4 team was particularly heartened to see that this organization has been changing the way it functions practically on a day-to-day basis in addition to the changes on paper. The organization completed its legal documentation, launched a major effort to reorganize all of its paper and electronic files, initiated a formal process for recording and archiving the minutes from its meetings, and recruited and hired three women as full-time staff to supervise human resources, procurement, and accounting. These upgrades allowed the organization to respond to four RFPs this quarter. IR 4 staff have also noticed that this organization regularly consults the USAID/Haiti website to find information on regulations and new business opportunities.

A second organization created a web site this quarter and has begun to update it with its past performance data. It implemented an electronic file-storage system across the organization using Dropbox, and it also elaborated a strategic plan, hired additional staff, put into place a rigorous timesheet system, and adopted several revisions to its manuals of procedures with AVANSE's guidance.

A third organization in the IR 4 coaching program completed the first draft of its administrative and accounting procedures manual, formalized its organizational chart, and recruited an expert with 10 years of experience with USAID-financed projects to support the organization in the implementation of these new procedures. The other three organizations in this cohort made similar progress. IR 4 will continue this coaching process next quarter and offer financial conformity training and other modules developed last quarter by the IR 4 training specialist.

IR 4 also continues to work with AVANSE's consortium partners Agridev and AgroConsult as well as the three affiliate micro-finance institutions of the Le Levier network that are involved in the IR 3 voucher program ('SIBA'). The progress with all of these organizations is summarized in Table 6.

Although AVANSE will likely not see quantitative changes in scores for these organizations until the next round of OCAs begins in May, the weekly progress of these IR 4 beneficiaries is encouraging.

¹³ Since this quarterly report is a public document, our partners have requested that we not attribute details of their internal management changes to them by name.

TABLE 6: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS ON TRACK FOR FORWARD CERTIFICATION

#	Partner	Type of Organization	Date of 1st OCA	Qualification Level (FOG/Direct Obligation)	Action Plan Developed	Major Areas of Weakness	Trainings thus far	Projected Date next OCA	2nd OCA Score	Status
1	Agridev (FP)	Ag Consulting Firm	16, 19 and 20, August 2013	Direct Obligation	Yes	Financial Management	Doing Business with USAID- USAID Financial conformity-HR procedures	May-15		Supported by CECEC, accounting firm in the process of upgrading their institutional capacities
2	AgroConsult (FP)	Ag Consulting Firm	12- 14, August 2013	Direct Obligation	Yes	Financial Management	Doing Business with USAID - Strategic Planning Activity - USAID financial conformity	May-15		Supported by CECEC, accounting firm in the process of upgrading their institutional capacities
3	Scagitech (NP)	Training consulting firm	10, March 2014	FOG	Yes	Financial Management	Doing Business with USAID	May-15		Ongoing coaching activities in the process of upgrading their institutional capacities
4	Veterimed (NP)	Ag Goods and Services	22, May, 2014	FOG	Yes	Sustainability, Access to finance	None	May-15		Ongoing coaching activities in the process of upgrading their institutional capacities
5	Somir (FP)	Ag Goods and Services	29, May, 2014	FOG	Yes	Financial Management	Strategic planning	May-15		Ongoing coaching activities in the process of upgrading their institutional capacities

#	Partner	Type of Organization	Date of 1st OCA	Qualification Level (FOG/Direct Obligation)	Action Plan Developed	Major Areas of Weakness	Trainings thus far	Projected Date next OCA	2nd OCA Score	Status
6	CPD/LEVIER (NP)	Financial Institution	20 octobre 2014	Direct Obligation	Yes	Project management, USAID financial conformity	None	May-15		To be qualified under the LEVIER
7	CPF/LEVIER (NP)	Financial Institution	10 octobre 2014	Direct Obligation	Yes	Project management, USAID financial conformity	None	May-15		To be qualified under the LEVIER
8	KPTAT/LEVIER (NP)	Financial Institution	29 octobre 2014	Direct Obligation	Yes	Project management, USAID financial conformity	None	May-15		To be qualified under the LEVIER
9	Geosociety (FP)	Engineering consulting firm	9 décembre 2014	FOG	No	Comprehensive capacity strengthening assistance	None	N/A		Unlikely to be able to upgrade organizational capacity standards given the present structure of the organization
10	Sofitraining (Sofihdes)	Training consulting firm	2015	Direct Obligation	No	Project management, USAID financial conformity	None	May-15		OCA still need to be completed with administrative and financial officers - activities delayed because of SOFHIDES audit activities

#	Partner	Type of Organization	Date of 1st OCA	Qualification Level (FOG/Direct Obligation)	Action Plan Developed	Major Areas of Weakness	Trainings thus far	Projected Date next OCA	2nd OCA Score	Status
11	Prodev (FP)	Ag Goods and Services	9-Dec-14	FOG	No	We found out that two different companies have the same name. Need to clarify this element before going further	none	N/A		Unlikely to be able to upgrade organizational capacity standards given the present structure of the organization
12	CEHPAPE (NP)	Ag Support Institution	26-Jan-15	FOG	Yes	Financial Management, manual of procedures	none	May-15		Demonstrates excellent commitment in the process of upgrading their institutional capacities - coaching ongoing
13	CPH (FP)	Ag Support Institution	19-Feb-15	FOG	Yes	Financial Management, manual of procedures	none	May-15		Demonstrates excellent commitment in the process of upgrading their institutional capacities - coaching ongoing. Lack of availability of personnel to carry on the work load



IR 4 staff assisting in the grant application review process.

ADDRESSING CHALLENGES TO LONG-TERM COMMITMENT

The close interactions between AVANSE and these implementing partners surrounding the coaching sessions have also provided insight into some of the major challenges to the objective of building the capacity of entities in the Northern Corridor to directly receive USAID funding. Despite the progress the IR 4 team has witnessed in some areas this quarter, many partners are still reluctant to make the necessary investments (for instance, in accounting software). Also, AVANSE is unable to make long-term commitments beyond the project base period, which concludes in March 2016, so it is currently seeking clarifications from USAID on how the agency will provide direct awards in the form of future contracts, cooperative agreements, or fixed-obligation to Haitian organizations it deems eligible to receive such direct funding. A clear understanding of this process will allow the IR 4 team to better prepare the beneficiaries for responding to specified award mechanisms and provide an incentive for these beneficiaries to make the internal investments necessary to graduate to USAID funding.

SUB-RESULT 4.2: GENERAL CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR PARTNERS AND BENEFICIARIES IN THE PROJECT ZONE

This quarter, IR 4's capacity-building officers concluded the series of legalization workshops attended by representatives of 254 community-based organizations. Although this type of

general capacity-building work does not prepare organizations to receive direct funding from USAID, it strengthens the ecosystem of organizations in the North and deepens the pool of potential contributors to future programming (including successor programs to AVANSE).

The legalization workshops focused on making CBOs legal entities with bank accounts and the ability to own property and sign contracts. Many small, local associations struggle with the complicated legalization process, which requires frequent trips to departmental centers and full literacy in French. IR 4 completed these trainings in January. Later in the quarter, the team put in place a system to monitor the progress of these CBOs. Ten per cent of the CBOs have already initiated the procedures needed for legalization, and IR 4 will continue to monitor this in the coming months.

IR 4 also increased to 76 the number of CBOs it considers to have high potential to benefit from indirect USAID programming (for instance, through grants by AVANSE or other USAID-funded projects in the area). IR 4 will offer a training program for these CBOs starting next quarter.



One segment of the irrigation system at La Suisse that AVANSE is targeting for rehabilitation.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The AVANSE infrastructure team contributes directly to the achievement of sub-results under IR 1, IR 2, and IR 3. Irrigation is a critical factor for plains farmers, and so the AVANSE engineers are overseeing irrigation and drainage rehabilitation and expansion under Sub-result 1.6. To support IR 2's watershed-management mission, the team is managing large-scale ravine stabilization (Sub-result 2.2). The team's contribution to market linkages lies in the rehabilitation of rural road networks (Sub-result 3.1).

This quarter during the programmatic environmental assessment (a pre-condition for any infrastructure construction), the team laid the groundwork for these infrastructure projects to begin in earnest, continuing the technical studies on ravines, roads, and irrigation systems, and pre-qualifying engineering firms that will eventually build the works once the technical studies are complete and incorporate the recommendations of the PEA.

SUB-RESULT 1: IRRIGATION REHABILITATION/CONSTRUCTION [1.6]

AVANSE is supervising large-scale irrigation works planned in concert with IR 1 at the beginning of the AVANSE program and updated in the FY 2015 workplan. This quarter, the firms completing the technical studies for these irrigation projects made progress at Dubré, La Suisse, and Grison Garde. By the end of the quarter, the firm working on the plans for the irrigation and drainage works at Dubré had nearly completed the study—all that remained was to incorporate the recommendations of the draft PEA and present the final results to AVANSE. The final technical study will then form the basis of the RFP for the actual construction work. AVANSE's engineers followed each of these technical studies closely to provide oversight and technical guidance. Oversight of these irrigation studies (and also the roads studies, described later) consumed the majority of the team's time this quarter. The team completed the terms of



AVANSE engineers consider this dam on the Jassa River, the first in a series of such dams that divert the river water into adjoining irrigation systems, and the potential consequences of the proposed work.

This quarter, the infrastructure team re-examined the terms of reference for the technical study for this system at Robino in light of the recommendations of the draft programmatic environmental assessment.

reference for the extension of the Robino system in calendar 2014, but this quarter required several revisions of the RFP on the basis of the ongoing PEA, and, due to the medical absence of the lead infrastructure specialist, AVANSE will not issue the RFP for the technical study of this project until the beginning of next quarter.

The table below summarizes progress this quarter:

TABLE 7: PROGRESS OF IRRIGATION WORKS AS OF 31 MARCH 2015

Activity	Length or surface area	Preliminary site visits	Cost-benefit analysis	Preliminary technical evaluation	SOW for detailed technical studies	Expression of interest for technical studies	RFP for technical studies	Technical studies	RFP for construction	Implementation of construction works
Activity 1.1: Ongoing larger-scale irrigation works/Irrigation and drainage works at Dubre	120 ha	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	In Progress	Not complete	Not complete
Activity 1.2: Ongoing larger-scale irrigation works/Irrigation and drainage works at La Suisse	160 ha	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	In Progress	Not complete	Not complete
Activity 1.3: Ongoing larger-scale irrigation works/Rehabilitation of the Grison Garde Irrigation System	350 ha	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	In Progress	Not complete	Not complete
Activity 1.4: Ongoing larger-scale irrigation works/Extension of the Robino Irrigation Site (Haut Maribahoux)	250 ha	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	In revision	Not complete	Not complete	Not complete
Activity 1.5: Ongoing larger-scale irrigation works/Construction of Irrigation Site at Chalopin	300 ha	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Validating PPI-2 study	Not complete	Not complete

Note that for the project at Chalopin, AVANSE's team is simply validating the study done by the MARNDR PPI-2 project and incorporating recommendations from the PEA. AVANSE expects to issue RFPs for this work in four of the five sites next quarter, with work at all five sites in progress in the second half of 2015. The technical study for the Robino system will likely be completed in time for work to begin in August.



The PEA team assessing the state of the irrigation system at Grison Garde, above. The final plans for AVANSE’s infrastructure projects depend on the final, approved PEA, which considers the social and environmental impact of the project’s anticipated construction work.

SUB-RESULT 2: HILLSIDE STABILIZATION WORKS [2.2]

The engineers on AVANSE’s infrastructure team continued the design work for the large-scale ravine stabilization project at Blondo this quarter and nearly completed the pre-qualification phase (“expression of interest for construction”) for firms to execute the work planned at Bréda. However, the final project design must incorporate the results of the PEA before an RFP can be released and actual construction work can begin. The table on the next page summarizes the status of each of the three projects.



The ravine at Bréda (left) targeted for large stabilization structures. Stabilizing the ravine uphill can prevent dangerous flooding downhill (next page).

AVANSE strategically locates the ravines it targets uphill from roads and irrigation structures to magnify the impact of its work.

TABLE 8: PROGRESS OF RAVINE CORRECTION WORKS AS OF 31 MARCH 2015

Activity	Length or surface area	Preliminary site visits	Cost-benefit analysis	Preliminary technical evaluation	Technical studies by AVANSE	Expression of interest for construction	RFP for construction	Implementation of construction works
Activity 1.1: Large-scale ravine stabilization requiring public works/Ravine stabilization at Breda	4.27 km	Finished	N/A	Finished	Finished	In progress	Not complete	Not complete
Activity 1.2: Large-scale ravine stabilization requiring public works/Ravine stabilization at Blondo	3.8 km	Finished	N/A	Finished	In progress	Not complete	Not complete	Not complete
Activity 1.3: Large-scale ravine stabilization requiring public works/Ravine stabilization TBD	TBD	Not complete	N/A	Not complete	Not complete	Not complete	Not complete	Not complete

In the end of calendar 2014, AVANSE determined that the ravine located at Divial was not in fact the best use of AVANSE resources under the infrastructure component, and so the team began a process to locate an alternative ravine. Infrastructure has planned a meeting with local government and the AVANSE IR 2 group to finalize the selection by the end of April.

The results of a normal rainstorm downhill from the degraded Bréda ravine. When rains are heavier, like they were last November when Cap Haitian flooded, these channels can overflow with water and damage people's homes.

AVANSE's planned ravine correction work will reduce the dangers to people and property and also protect its investments in rural roads and irrigation systems.





Two sections of the Carrefour Séminaire–Acul Jeannot road AVANSE plans to rehabilitate. In its current state, it is nearly impassable for anything but four-wheel drive vehicles.

Rehabilitating rural roads like these is an important contribution to the region's economy because lack of transport infrastructure is often the major constraint in linking small farmers to markets for products in AVANSE's five target value chains.

SUB-RESULT 3: FEEDER ROAD REHABILITATION/CONSTRUCTION [3.1]

This quarter, the technical studies for the six roads AVANSE has targeted continued according to schedule, delineating the route itself, studying the topography of the surroundings, analyzing traffic patterns, and developing a budget and a list of materials needed for execution of the works. Five of the six projects are nearly complete. As with the other works in this section, these studies cannot be finalized without input from the PEA. Once this is complete, AVANSE will issue RFPs for construction firms.

TABLE 9: ROAD REHABILITATION PROGRESS AS OF 31 MARCH 2015

Activity	Length or surface area	Preliminary site visits	Cost-benefit analysis	Preliminary technical evaluation	SOW for detailed technical studies	Expression of interest for technical studies	RFP technical studies	Technical studies	RFP for construction	Implementation of construction works
Activity 1.1: Rural road rehabilitation/ Carrefour Bergen - Haut Madeleine	4.0 km	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	In progress	Not complete	Not complete
Activity 1.2: Rural road rehabilitation/ Route Nationale 6 at Coicou	6.3 km	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	In progress	Not complete	Not complete
Activity 1.3: Rural road rehabilitation/ Roches Plates - Juchereau	5.8 km	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	In progress	Not complete	Not complete
Activity 1.4: Rural road rehabilitation/ Carrefour Seminaire - Acul Jeannot	3.5 km	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	In progress	Not complete	Not complete
Activity 1.5: Rural road rehabilitation/ Limonade - Bois-de-Lance	6.4 km	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	In progress	Not complete	Not complete
Activity 1.6: Rural road rehabilitation/ Robillard - Grison Garde	6.9 km	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	In progress	Not complete	Not complete
Activity 1.7: Rural road rehabilitation/ Petit Bourg de Borgne – Borgne	11 km	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	Finished	N/A	MTPTC executing	N/A

In order to minimize the delay caused by the PEA requirements, this quarter AVANSE pre-qualified firms to execute this work under the guidance of a senior DAI infrastructure and

contracts specialist. This will expedite the selection process after AVANSE issues the RFPs next quarter so that construction on all six road segments can begin by the end of the summer.



A road segment targeted for rehabilitation by AVANSE that connects Robillard to Grison Garde.



The programmatic environmental assessment team considers the social and ecological questions at stake at Grison Garde. This quarter, a team of environmental experts completed the draft PEA for AVANSE, which took into account issues such as the impact of planned irrigation activities on the water flow in this small river, considering the needs of both humans and animals downstream.

INFORMATION, ANALYSIS, AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

The IAEC unit, created in 2014 to facilitate project-wide access to the services provided by transversal teams, comprises the teams that provide cross-cutting services to the other components. The two largest groups in the unit are the environmental compliance team and the information & analysis team. The environmental compliance team is led by the Senior Project Environmental Officer and ensures project-wide environmental compliance. The information & analysis team comprises the field data collection agents, M&E specialist, data management specialist, and the GIS specialists and will be led by the information & analysis team leader. This group collects, manages, and analyzes project performance data. In addition to the environmental compliance and the information & analysis teams, the IAEC unit includes the project economic analysts and will include the gender specialist upon her approval. Since the

IAEC was created, cross-component collaboration and information-sharing has increased markedly.

This quarter, two major studies—a programmatic environmental assessment of the Northern Corridor and the FY 2014 post-harvest survey—principally occupied IAEC staff.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The monitoring and evaluation, database-management, and data collection and analysis personnel focused most of their efforts this quarter on re-submitting the FY 2015 M&E plan for another round of USAID comments, re-distributing some life-of-project indicator targets, strengthening data management systems, and completing the FY 2014 post-harvest survey. AVANSE looks forward to implementing further guidance from USAID on monitoring protocols with the onboarding of the information and analysis team leader next quarter.

Of all of these activities, the FY 2014 post-harvest survey was the most demanding.



Two post-harvest survey data collectors compare notes near Lombard Caracol.

In order to capture a representative sample of beneficiaries, AVANSE's data collectors had to reach nearly a thousand households across all six watersheds.

COMPLETING THE 2014 POST-HARVEST SURVEY

AVANSE experienced some logistical and managerial difficulties during the quarter that delayed implementation of the FY2014 post-harvest survey. Because of the broad geographic and technical scope of the project, the survey must reach an acceptable sample size of households in diverse areas and value chains and request a wide range of information from them, including recall of crop yields, sale prices, and the costs of inputs. It is a demanding, time-consuming activity that the project's M&E team

completed for the first time this quarter.

Taking into account USAID guidance on methodological questions about the baseline analysis in late 2014, the monitoring and evaluation team created a representative sample frame of 918 households from the total 4,663 beneficiary households eligible to be surveyed and updated the survey instrument from the baseline analysis to capture AVANSE's progress on the following indicators:

- The volume of cacao exports as a result of USG assistance, calculated based on surveys of sales volumes of AVANSE beneficiaries and reduced by the average loss rate (the rate of cacao lost between the producer and the exporter);
- The value of exports of cacao as a result of USG assistance, based on the above with export level prices;
- The average increase in agriculture income for AVANSE beneficiary households thanks to the project's intervention, calculated based on comparing the current agricultural income of surveyed households against the average baseline income;
- The gross (profit) margin per hectare, calculated by surveying farmers on their agricultural costs and revenues and dividing this by the area under cultivation;
- The value of incremental sales;
- The yield per hectare of maize, beans, bananas, rice, and cacao, based on surveys of individual households; and
- The number of beneficiary households with increased agricultural incomes; the post-harvest survey also enables AVANSE to quantify those households that have doubled their revenue.



Tabulating post-harvest survey results in the IAEC unit offices.

All the data from these surveys are being entered into a relational database that by the end of next quarter will be able to automatically disaggregate information needed for AVANSE's indicator reporting and also automatically identify duplicate entries and other potential errors.

Starting in December 2014, teams of AVANSE data collectors brought this survey instrument to the homes of these 918 families. The M&E team analyzed the data from these questionnaires and processed them into updates to the AVANSE indicator tables (IPTTs) and drew several conclusions from the results.

The results of the post-harvest survey confirmed several observations the IR 1 team had made over the course of FY 2014—for instance, that the maize and beans crops of 2014 suffered acutely from the drought: many of these indicators are in fact negative with respect to the baseline yields and profits. The IR 1 team has already carried out a more detailed and more

qualitative evaluation of maize and beans practices in the active zones and modulating its technical strategy accordingly (refer back to the section under Sub-result 1.1 for more details). More closely related to the functioning of the M&E team, the delayed completion of the survey and subsequent discovery at the analysis phase that there were too many incorrectly completed questionnaires from cacao beneficiaries in order to reach definitive results (thus necessitating a supplemental survey) points to an ongoing challenge AVANSE faces in producing reliable data about its many indicators in a timely manner. At the close of the quarter, AVANSE management was re-examining staffing and roles and responsibilities within the IAEC to bring the staffing levels and senior technical oversight required to make the data-management unit more responsive (see the management section near the end of this quarterly report for more details). The unit is rapidly organizing a supplementary cacao study to complete the missing data.

Another notable result of the post-harvest survey is offering some insight into why AVANSE fell markedly short of its original goals for FY 2014 in terms of the total number of beneficiary households reached. The project set its FY 2014 objective of 15,350 households on the basis of the original project strategy articulated in DAI's technical proposal, and although the final number will not be available until the supplementary cacao survey is complete, AVANSE did not reach that target. Survey respondents made it clear that this was due to a combination of factors. The drought was one major deterrent from participating in AVANSE programming because many farmers who would have participated simply chose not to plant. Another unanticipated challenge was the limited capacity of implementing partners in the AVANSE project zone; the lack of qualified implementing partners in the project zone delayed the planned scale-up of the FFS model and WUA and drylands activities under IR 1 and the SWMB training and large-scale reforestation activities planned by IR 2. Just as there are a limited number of qualified implementing partners in the North and Northeast, there are insufficient material inputs for the intended scale of AVANSE's original plan, particularly high-quality seed stocks, tree seedlings, and locally available fertilizer.

Although disappointing on one level, AVANSE was reassured that these were the main reasons for this shortfall because they made two things clear: first, that given the drought and the availability of essential inputs (especially fertilizer), the target of 15,350 households for FY 2014 was unrealistic; and second, that AVANSE was already quite aware of each of these challenges and had already taken steps to address them. The results of the post-harvest survey were not a surprise. Although AVANSE can never entirely mitigate against forces of nature like drought and flooding, it has planned irrigation-pump activities in vulnerable areas and allowed for a rapid-response contingency in its FY 2015 workplan, one that it put into effect in November 2014 when floodwaters filled banana fields in Bas-Limbé. AVANSE also revised its IP-engagement strategy in the FY 2015 workplan, and it has now signed contracts with strong, qualified partners now implementing activities under Sub-results 1.4 and 2.2 and is preparing to issue the RFPs to recruit organizations to scale up the FFS model. The IR 2 and IR 3 teams have also taken steps to increase the material resources available in the zone through the in-kind grant program for tree nurseries launched this quarter and the AVANSE voucher program's very successful negotiations with fertilizer importers to open up a new import channel into the North that does not depend on the Haitian government's fertilizer import subsidy program.

Despite some shortfalls, the post-harvest survey also showed some very positive results: as discussed in the section under Sub-result 1.1, these data show that for the indicators that

concerned rice harvests, AVANSE is on target in spite of the challenges that rice farmers faced obtaining fertilizer last year. AVANSE hopes that with more regular access to inputs and more systematic application of the SRI model, it will exceed its targets and see further increases in yields. It is also very optimistic about the performance of its cacao program once cacao farmers begin to see the impact of their new techniques.

This quarterly report captures the detailed results of the post-harvest survey in Annex A of this report. Note that because there was not a complete banana harvest in FY 2014 on the basis of banana trees planted with AVANSE assistance, it was not possible to compute overall results for bananas; these will be counted in the next post-harvest survey.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

AVANSE's environmental compliance team is responsible for ensuring that all the project's activities are in conformity with regulation 22 CFR 216, taking into consideration environmental factors (baseline physical, biological, and socio-economic issues) for all AVANSE implementation. The team's environmental officers are assigned to each IR and follow up on planning and implementation of mitigation measures with each activity in each site, with specific assistance from the IR teams.

The programmatic environmental assessment (PEA) for AVANSE was the highest priority for the environmental compliance team this quarter, but it also considered its staffing needs to manage the large pipeline of upcoming grants and infrastructure work and laid the groundwork for the creation of a very large number of internal EMPRs for pre-approved umbrella activities and site-specific EMPR reviews.

COMPLETING THE PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

When AVANSE began to plan its first concrete activities, it was functioning under an umbrella EMPR, developed in mid-2013 and formally approved in March 2014, which informed the mitigation measures and monitoring activities implemented in conjunction with each applicable workplan activity. This EMPR was based in turn on a 2011 initial environmental examination¹⁴ that found a negative determination with conditions¹⁵ for Feed the Future activities in the North and Northeast departments. However, later in 2014, USAID issued an amendment to the this initial assessment¹⁶ that found a positive determination for AVANSE activities, requiring AVANSE to undertake a full programmatic environmental assessment of the program's cumulative impact, considering all ongoing and planned activities implemented by AVANSE and other entities working in the project's six watersheds and two cacao extension zones.

Assembling the report

AVANSE designed the scoping statement for the PEA in FY 2014 to serve not only as a step necessary to ensure the program's compliance with 22 CFR 216, but also to assess ongoing AVANSE activities and to rapidly iterate EMPRs for those with sufficient planning data available.

¹⁴ LAC-IEE- 11-14.

¹⁵ Put very simply, a negative determination or negative determination with conditions means that the activity may proceed without a full assessment as long as the implementer creates EMPRs and follows certain blanket guidelines. By contrast, a positive determination means that a full, site-specific environmental assessment is required before developing mitigation measures and proceeding with the program or activity.

¹⁶ LAC-IEE-14-17.

Within five weeks of receiving approval on the final scoping statement at the end of December, DAI had recruited a team of six senior environmental experts, received USAID approval for them, and mobilized them to Cap Haitian to begin the PEA. The team worked closely with the LTTA environmental compliance team and the other technical teams for eight weeks on the assessment, with the overall support of the senior project environmental officer. The PEA was based on a detailed review of the AVANSE FY 2015 workplan, interviews with AVANSE technical staff on currently planned and potential future activities currently under consideration, and especially interviews with stakeholders and numerous site visits. The team's sociologist designed and oversaw a detailed survey of 57 stakeholders administered by a specially-trained cadre of data collectors from the IAEC unit, and the PEA team held a day-long meeting to collect community feedback and address questions and concerns in one of the only large conference venues in Cap Haitian. They incorporated all of this feedback into the semi-final version of the report, which AVANSE sent to USAID for comments.



The PEA team and IAEC unit staff interview stakeholders at Grison Garde.

Identifying the environmental impact of AVANSE

The draft report, submitted to USAID on March 30 for review, concluded that the overall effect of the AVANSE on the environment will be a net positive one, both at the level of the household or individual farm and for the region cumulatively.¹⁷ For instance, the IR 1 activities with farmer field schools and IR 2 activities with agro-forestry, watershed planning, and reforestation have already introduced practices which have less impact on the environment than the pre-AVANSE

¹⁷ This conclusion is, of course, pending supporting M&E data.

practices: promote the adoption of crop practices using less fertilizer and pesticide, decreasing the water needs of irrigated crops, and improving soil retention on hillsides. The planned infrastructure works for rural road rehabilitation and ravine stabilization with both also have very significant erosion-reduction effects in the long term. Moreover, AVANSE activities almost exclusively target areas already heavily altered by humans (crop land, existing roads, etc.), so according to the first draft of the assessment, AVANSE will have a minimal or non-existent impact on the few remaining natural areas or cultural resources in northern Haiti.

Informing project implementation

The PEA also discusses alternative strategies for implementing the program overall that will actually increase the overall environmental benefits without substantively changing the activities. These enhanced environmental benefits alternative recommendations include:

- Geographically clustering activities to amplify benefits, especially locating IR 2 watershed-stabilization sites directly uphill of irrigation canals, rural roads, and ravine stabilization projects.
- Increase the emphasis on cover crops, which would provide green manure and further reduce soil erosion by covering bare soil.
- Incorporate annual crop management into watershed stabilization to ensure sustainable income for farmers converting their land to agro-forestry.

To some extent, AVANSE is already incorporating these recommendations: the project strategically selected all IR 1, IR 2, and infrastructure sites with spatial considerations in mind, IR 2 is already planning to emphasize pigeon peas (*Cajanus cajan*, *alias* in Creole *pwa kongo*) in its agro-forestry systems, and providing a sustainable source of income throughout the process of agro-forestry implementation has always been part of the IR 2 program. However, with the approval of the PEA, technical teams will follow these recommendations more systematically in the future, in particular with respect to documenting the relationship between the different components—especially important as the project transitions its activities to implementing partners.



A working group at the conference AVANSE hosted as part of the PEA. Groups of stakeholders discussed the possible impacts an agricultural program like AVANSE on the environment in the North and then presented their conclusions to the conference.

Proposing concrete mitigation measures

While the draft PEA forecasts the overall environmental effect of AVANSE to be positive, some of its planned activities have a small environmental impact that can be acceptably reduced or eliminated with proper mitigation measures. The PEA team also devised framework EMPRs for most of AVANSE's main activities on the basis of the PEA results so that these activities can continue on schedule. The only activities for which the team was not able to make concrete recommendations (essentially two classes of activities with positive determinations, described in more detail below) were not yet defined specifically enough to evaluate at the time of the assessment: these classes of activities are still planned far enough in the future to allow adequate time for supplementary assessments and the development of EMPRs. Moreover, the activities in question are only a portion of the planned infrastructure work.

Setting the scope for future assessments

The semi-final report also identifies some programming areas that have not yet been planned in sufficient detail to evaluate comprehensively and assess for environmental risk. The draft assessment assigned a positive determination to these activities, specifically:

- Irrigation projects requiring increased surface water withdrawals. Unlike wells, which draw on more or less generous aquifers, surface water in the North is generally scarce in dry seasons. There have been other donor-funded projects in the zone that have failed to plan for this effectively in their irrigation projects, resulting in the disappearance of water for downstream users or ecosystems.
- Major drainage construction. AVANSE is still in the diagnostic phase of planning these projects, and therefore the PEA team was unable to evaluate specific project sites with specific plans and data. However, because some potential sites for major drainage work are close enough to the ocean to make it the logical direct outlet of new drainage canals, there is an implicit risk of destruction of mangrove habitat¹⁸ which must be thoroughly assessed before any such drainage works could move forward.

These activities represent a very small portion of AVANSE's overall programming and are still in the planning phase. If these findings in the draft PEA are validated, AVANSE will do separate, site-specific environmental assessments of each of these construction projects before moving forward with them to ensure compliance with 22 CFR 216.

The completion of the draft PEA represents USAID and AVANSE's commitment to responsible program implementation in the Northern Corridor, both as guidance to AVANSE's environmental mitigation measures, reporting systems, and monitoring procedures and those of future programs in the region. Moreover, many of the project's activities (particularly grants and infrastructure) have been on hold pending the finalization of the PEA, and AVANSE is optimistic about moving forward with these now that the PEA is pending approval.

BUILDING THE AVANSE ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE TEAM AND MONITORING ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Despite the time and resource demands of the PEA, the environmental compliance team managed to continue its regular responsibilities monitoring ongoing activities (for IR 1, IR 2 and

¹⁸ The exploitation of mangroves is prohibited by Haitian ministerial decree of July 10, 2013.

the voucher program in IR 3) and gathering background information for the production of site-specific infrastructure EMPRs intended to be integrated into the final PEA. This quarter, environmental compliance officers:

- Helped IR 1 plan its new maize/beans season activities with respect to PERSUAP and GAP implementation;
- Assisted with the planning of the current rice planting/harvest cycle;
- Contributed to the performance assessments of rice and cacao harvests to date, especially the status of cacao “super trees”;
- Conducted field visits to assure that FFS members were applying protocols correctly for all crops;
- Provided capacity-building assistance to the agricultural-input vendors affiliated with the AVANSE voucher program (SIBA) and completed reports on the status of their EMPRs;
- Completed several monitoring trips covering the IR 2 *jàden lakou* home-vegetable-garden program;
- Wrote two framework documents on environmental principles to incorporate into IR 2 agro-forestry practices and community engagement; and
- Completed much of the site-visit and survey work necessary to complete EMPRs for the major road and irrigation projects under the infrastructure component;

The results of this monitoring are promising: all AVANSE activities appear to be in compliance with GAP and PERSUAP guidelines, the team found the new sites for the voucher-program partner vendors to be in compliance with environmental-compliance norms, and IR 2 staff and beneficiaries have shown themselves fully committed to environmental issues.

However, taking into account the considerable workload involved in providing ongoing environmental compliance assurance and the additional needs expected for grantee screening and infrastructure construction work oversight, the environmental compliance department is re-assessing its staffing needs.

GENDER INTEGRATION

AVANSE integrates gender concerns across all areas of project implementation through a cross-cutting gender task force, a group of specialists from each of the project’s technical areas (and a representative from grants/subcontracts) who ensure that gender is integrated into the daily work of each team and helps keep the project on track to meet gender targets.

This quarter, women made up approximately 29% of those beneficiaries receiving technical support from IR 1 in one of the five target crops, exceeding AVANSE’s target of 25%. Under IR 2, AVANSE continues to promote its home vegetable garden (“*jàden lakou*”) program to include more women in its programming and to build communities around agro-forestry principles. The program began in 2014 as a small, low-cost pilot activity that provides revenue-earning potential to women members of households participating in demonstration blocks, increasing the willingness of households to contribute the labor and effort needed to install soil-conservation structures as well as their ability to maintain a steady household income while the land is transitioning (an important consideration when implementing agro-forestry systems). The

program has been well received, and AVANSE is continuing it on a small scale to complement its primary agro-forestry work.

IR 3 also saw progress this quarter: of the 311 farmers signing agreements with Novella this quarter, 52% were women. IR 4 has been particularly successful in reaching women: the final census of participants in the CBO legalization trainings showed that more than half of the 254 participating CBOs were women CBOs, and 41% of the overall 454 participants were women.

RECRUITING FOR GENDER ACTIVITIES

In FY 2014, AVANSE consortium partner Making Cents provided a gender advisor for a trip to Cap Haitian to work with the gender task force to develop a detailed plan for moving forward with certain transversal gender activities during the rest of FY 2015. Results from this assignment included a documented framework and approach for effective AVANSE gender integration, examples of specific activities that could be undertaken with little extra effort or budget to advance the gender program, and the identification of the major gender constraints affecting AVANSE value chains.

At the end of this quarter, Making Cents had identified a promising candidate for the LTTA gender specialist, which DAI and Making Cents hope to submit for USAID approval in the first half of April. The STTA gender advisor will be proposed to play a supportive role over the next six months in onboarding and advising the LTTA gender specialist and transversal gender task force to implement the updated gender strategy.

The LTTA gender specialist, who is familiar with agriculture production and marketing, value chains, and management, will lead the development and implementation of the AVANSE gender strategy over the rest of the fiscal year to design and execute appropriate gender-based interventions to enhance AVANSE's impact with all stakeholders as well as current and potential partners. The specialist will prioritize in particular the coordination of data and information gathering and analysis with respect to gender. This LTTA specialist will also serve as the gender spokesperson for AVANSE, develop existing and new partnerships, networking and relationship building that will enhance the success of the program.

AVANSE is optimistic that the proposed staffing plan will enable AVANSE to meet targets and effectively integrate gender concerns into all elements of its programming.

COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH

The communications team supports AVANSE's mission by raising public awareness of how the different components of the project fit together to increase agricultural incomes. Many aspects of this work depend on community support, so clear communication and constant outreach are important for the success and sustainability of the project. AVANSE communications staff are also a valuable resource for getting the word out about specific project initiatives, like its voucher program. The team also oversees branding, facilitates the production of reports, and helps manage internal communications. This quarter, the team completed a public-outreach database, organized a media event around an IR 2 training activity, supported the consultative work of the PEA, began to offer a mass-mobile messaging service, and prepared to launch an AVANSE radio program.

CONDUCTING AN INVENTORY OF PROJECT BRANDING

In the end of 2014, AVANSE installed worksite signs across the project zone. This quarter, the communications team worked with the IAEC geo-spatial team to complete a geo-referenced survey of all the signs, including photographs and notes on the conditions of each sign. These data are plotted on the watershed map in Annex D¹⁹. The team's new public communications officer also coordinated meetings with mayoral officials this quarter to pay the fees associated with the installation of the signs and to start planning future signage for scaled-up field activities.

REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY

Updating public-outreach databases

Two new LTTA communications officers joined AVANSE in January, and the fully-staffed team launched several new initiatives in January, beginning with updated contact lists for public outreach. After their work this quarter, the team now maintains databases of:

- Media outlets working in the region;
- Journalists working in the region (including correspondent of national media outlets);
- Local and regional authorities;
- Representatives of the Haitian government;
- Delegates and senators of the North and Northeast;
- Mayors in the North and Northeast; and
- Partners and other institutions (including universities) in the area.

Facilitating an IR 2 media event

In March, the communications team used its new media-contacts database to promote the IR 2 environmental education program through an event based at one of the educational sessions at

¹⁹ This map is also available in a separate, higher-resolution file available upon request.

Caracol on March 26. Journalists from the *Nouvelliste* newspaper, Radio Tele Africa (RTA), Radio Kontak Inter, and Radio Tele Nationale d’Haiti (RTNH) attended.



Radio journalists interview the IR 2 component leader at a press event organized by the AVANSE communications team for the environmental education program piloted by IR 2 this quarter (above). Below, a representative of a marine preservation organization speaks at the PEA public consultation that AVANSE’s communications department hosted this quarter.



Supporting the community-consultation work of the programmatic environmental assessment
The communication department also hosted the public consultation event for the programmatic environmental assessment that took place on March 4. The communications department

prepared the general presentation for AVANSE and the public communications officer served as the master of ceremonies.

Updating outreach material

To strengthen the content of AVANSE's outreach efforts, the communications team prepared a general AVANSE fact sheet and presentation (see fact sheet in Annex E). The team used both of these in the outreach events it coordinated this quarter, and the team will update these every two to three months with the most recent data on the project's impact.

PREPARING FOR OUTREACH ON A REGIONAL SCALE

Finalizing a mobile mass broadcasting service

This quarter, AVANSE established a contract with the mobile mass broadcasting company Dixivox. This service will allow AVANSE to send audio messages (with variable literacy rates among project beneficiaries, audio messages are an excellent communications tool) to masses of mobile telephone numbers identified by AVANSE. Dixivox provides metrics on the progress of each broadcast (for instance, the number of message recipients who answered, called back, etc.). The first message is already prepared for the launch of the next season of the voucher program: it will be broadcast at the beginning of next quarter and inform the beneficiaries taking part in the program that the new voucher season has begun and that they now purchase vouchers at their nearest participating micro-finance institution.

Beginning next quarter, this mobile mass broadcasting service will be available to all the departments of AVANSE to use in order to better communicate with beneficiaries.

Preparing an AVANSE radio program

This quarter, AVANSE's radio communications officer visited thirty radio stations in the project zone to update contact information and understand each station's audience and coverage. Early next quarter, AVANSE will determine which station is best positioned to transmit the much-anticipated AVANSE radio program. In order to prepare for that program, AVANSE procured equipment this quarter that will allow the communications team to assemble high-quality audio material outside of a studio setting—notably, collecting interviews with beneficiaries in their homes and fields.

AVANSE expects to broadcast its first program by the end of June.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

AVANSE's project management teams in Cap Haitian and Washington work to ensure that the project's staffing, systems, and other resources are sufficient for implementing and monitoring its activities. This quarter, they focused on recruitment of the personnel needed for scaled-up activities, strategies to make AVANSE's data reporting and management more responsive, and support for the programmatic environmental assessment.

This quarter saw the departure of several staff in the finance, operations, grants and subcontracts units, most notably the LTTA Grants and Subcontracts Manager. Within days of her resignation notice, the management team was able to identify two senior consultants with previous experience on AVANSE to fill that important position on a short-term basis while recruiting a long-term replacement. At the end of the quarter, the team had identified several potential candidates, but finding an experienced manager with the necessary qualifications remains challenging. In the course of reviewing the needs of AVANSE's grants and subcontracts team, the project also determined to prioritize filling the remaining open positions with experienced CCN specialists in order to manage the project's ambitious grants pipeline. This quarter, a senior subcontracts manager and a senior grants manager joined the team. The project may also create additional, specialized posts. This quarter, AVANSE also mobilized a senior specialist in infrastructure contracting and environmental compliance to lay the groundwork for upcoming road and irrigation work over the course of two trips. At the end of the quarter, DAI was locating more short-term support to serve as a stopgap measure to ensure that the grants programs and infrastructure contracting work will not be delayed as a result of staff vacancies.

One notable recruitment success this quarter was the identification of a highly qualified DCOP candidate, who worked in an STTA capacity in January and February. His approval as LTTA DCOP was pending as of the end of the quarter.

The completion of the post-harvest survey made it clear that AVANSE's data collection and management are still in need of improvement. Most notably, the current database configuration and data-entry and -validation processes are not sufficient to promptly and accurately report summary data and analysis on the level required by AVANSE's numerous and detailed indicators.

AVANSE management has been working to address this problem. The project received approval for additional LOE for a DAI database specialist to complete and test the relational database that will correct many of these problems next quarter. AVANSE also completed a long and challenging recruitment for a more senior M&E specialist to lead the information and analysis team and provide more continuous oversight and hands-on management of data collection and management and reporting processes. He was approved at the end of the quarter and begins work early next quarter in the IAEC unit, where he will provide day-to-day coordination between the members of the IAEC unit's information and analysis team, assuring the integrity of AVANSE data. He will also be accountable for the reporting requirements of the FY 2015 M&E plan, which was re-submitted at the end of the quarter for further comments from

USAID. Early next quarter, the information and analysis team will also implement some systemic improvements to how it conducts surveys with the aim of better aligning them to the crop harvest cycle.

AVANSE also worked to align the process and documentation used for distributing agricultural inputs to beneficiaries so that (among other things) a single form meets the administrative needs of the procurement office, the data needs of the information and analysis team, the beneficiary tracking and management needs of the IRs, and the monitoring requirements of the grants and subcontracts office. Designing and testing the process and forms was a cross-cutting activity led this quarter by the IAEC, which next quarter will train field technicians and data collectors to ensure they are using the forms correctly and consistently. AVANSE and DAI are optimistic that these practical steps will greatly improve the timeliness, accuracy, and completeness of future indicator reporting.

AVANSE project management also worked this quarter to respond to a number of USAID requests and accommodate visitors from the mission, including a visit from the USAID environmental compliance team to follow the progress of the PEA, a presentation for AVANSE staff on compliance requirements, a three-day end-use inventory check, a scouting visit from the new USAID KONBIT capacity-building team, and numerous field visits to AVANSE activity sites.

Early in the quarter, the project was also in regular communication with the programmatic audit team to provide information to follow up on the evaluation from December 2014. The team dedicated several personnel to responding to questions about its inventory report, and at the close of the quarter assisted the USAID COR with an end-user check of its expendable and non-expendable inventory. At the end of the quarter, it also completed an outline of plan for sustainability of its infrastructure projects after the close of the project, currently projected for March 2016, to assist USAID complete the 611(e) sustainability certification for upcoming infrastructure works. The management team also worked this quarter to frame several basic clarification questions regarding the Haitian organizations it is preparing for certification by USAID in June under IR 4. AVANSE looks forward to receiving guidance on USAID's strategy in this area.

One major accomplishment of the project management and operations team was mobilizing and supporting the programmatic environmental assessment that took place this quarter. Within several weeks of receiving approval for the scoping statement for the assessment, DAI and AVANSE mobilized six senior environmental experts to Cap Haitian, where they completed the PEA over the following eight weeks in a concentrated effort that required considerable logistical support from the Washington and Cap Haitian offices. The PEA team not only completed an environmental assessment of six watersheds and two cacao extension zones, but they also created EMPRs or EMPR templates for most of AVANSE's activities so that they may proceed without further delay (only two categories of activity require supplementary assessment once those activities are more precisely defined). The members of the team still have several days of LOE remaining in their scopes of work to respond to any questions from USAID as the mission reviews the report submitted at the end of the quarter.

The AVANSE management team remains optimistic about the ability of the project to meet its goals, looks forward to the continued guidance from USAID, and will continue to adjust its approach to help the project meet its objectives for next quarter.



KEY ACTIONS FOR NEXT QUARTER

IR 1: Agricultural production increased

- Complete the spring rice, maize and beans season and follow the ongoing harvests for bananas and cacao;
- Begin work with 4,000 additional beneficiaries receiving FFS and "non-FFS" technical support in the maize/bean target crop; prepare for work with new round of rice training in July and bananas in September;
- Conduct additional banana PIF training sessions;
- Design a methodology to measure indirect uptake of SRI methods and finalize agronomic results reports on trial plots for maize, bananas and cacao;
- Begin implementing with IP identified to scale up maize and beans extension efforts; recruit implementing partner to scale up rice (in July) and beans (in November) extension efforts; complete the development of the SOW for a banana-extension IP;
- Begin implementing activities with Auburn University as articulated in concept paper submitted to USAID;
- Complete WUA diagnostic study and launch legalization process for WUAs;
- Begin installation of pilot pump project.

IR 2: Watershed stability improved

- Complete land-use maps and begin implementing sub-watershed management plans;
- Complete installation of soil-conservation structures and agro-forestry systems on the remaining parcels of the 879 hectares being protected by direct action by the project;
- Begin implementing grants with 18 CBOs to scale up soil-conservation and agro-forestry work;
- Deliver technical kits to tree nurseries under in-kind grant agreements signed this quarter;
- Launch RFP for implementing partners to complete larger-scale hillside reforestation;

IR 3: Agricultural markets strengthened

- Complete customized work plans with 16 medium-sized enterprises in training program;
- Recruit firm to implement small- and micro-enterprise training program;
- Submit finalized banana-export feasibility to USAID for review, solicit feedback, and begin proof of concept for banana-export activity on a medium-sized farm;
- Continue to register cacao farmers under collaboration agreement with Novella;
- Sign three new collaboration agreements;
- Continue implementation of scaled-up voucher program with IP Transversal;
- Submit twelve agro-enterprise grants for approval;
- Launch pilot mobile-money activity with Haiti Pay;
- Evaluate proposal from PASA for cacao market-information system and begin implementation.

IR 4: Capacity of local organizations strengthened

- Continue coaching sessions with IPs identified as strong candidates for certification;
- With benefit of USAID guidance on capacity-building strategy, adjust IP engagement strategy to maximize the incentive to commit to IR 4 programming;
- Complete final round of OCAs and determine which of 11 promising IPs to submit for USAID certification in June/July;
- Survey CBOs that participated in legalization workshops to report on success rate.
- Continue training programming for high-potential CBOs.

Infrastructure

- Complete technical studies for roads, ravines, and irrigation projects, integrating recommendations of the PEA;
- Issue RFPs for construction works.

Information, Analysis, and Environmental Compliance

- Complete supplemental cacao post-harvest survey;
- Prepare for post-harvest survey for first half of FY 2015;
- Finalize relational database;
- Receive approval for PEA and implement recommendations and activity EMPRs.

Communications

- Issue first mass mobile message broadcasts for voucher program and other AVANSE technical components;
- Select radio station and launch AVANSE radio program.



A completed soil-conservation trench at Perches. The demonstration block members have since planted with grasses and shrubs that will control erosion and form part of a sustainable agro-forestry system. By the end of next quarter, AVANSE's IR 2 team will have protected nearly 900 hectares of at-risk slopes with such structures. The team is also preparing 18 grants with the potential increase the scale of hillside-stabilization activities to more than 2,000 additional hectares of vulnerable land.

ANNEX A: INDICATOR PERFORMANCE TRACKING TABLES

TABLE 10: IPTTs INCORPORATING DATA AVAILABLE AS OF 31 MARCH 2015²⁰

Indicator #	Indicator title	Unit	Disaggregation	Data Source	Baseline Year	Baseline value	FY 13 targets	FY 13 actual	FY 14 target	FY14 results	FY 15 target	FY15 re-sults	FY 16 target	FY16 re-sults	FY 17 target	FY17 re-sults	LOP targets
USAID FY2011 - FY2015 Goal 0.0 Stable and Economically viable Haiti																	
USAID/Haiti Feed the Future Objective: Increased Food Security																	
Impact	Per Capita Expenditure (as proxy for income)			USAID-Haiti Corridor Level HH survey													
Impact	Prevalence of underweight children under 5			USAID-Haiti Corridor Level HH survey													
FTF North objective: Increased Agricultural Income																	
(0.2) 4.5.2-36 FTF	Value of exports of targeted commodities as a result of USG assistance	USD	commodity (cacao)	Post harvest surveys of northern corridor producers and exporters	2013												
			Regional			904,666		257,556		1,580,961		2,533,218		4,393,196		4,393,196	
			Outside of region			37,694		10,731		65,873		105,551		183,050		183,050	
			Total Value of Exports in USD			942,360		268,287	PHS underway	1,646,834		2,638,769		4,576,246		4,576,246	
(0.3) custom	Volume of cacao exports as a result of USG assistance	Metric Ton	Total	Post harvest export surveys of northern corridor cacao producers and exporters	2013	427		121	PHS underway	745		1,194		2,071		2,071	
			Regional			410		116	PHS underway	715		1,146		1,988		1,988	
			Outside of Region			17		5	PHS underway	30		48		83		83	
(0.3) 4.5-11 FTF	Market Discount of targeted agricultural commodities (S)	%	None	Post harvest export surveys of northern	2013	6.36% (N:2209 D:2359)			6.36%	5.01% (N:2843 D:2993)	5%		0%		0%		0%

²⁰ Note that these are the same data as those submitted with the revised M&E plan on 28 March.

Indicator #	Indicator title	Unit	Disaggregation	Data Source	Baseline Year	Baseline value	FY 13 targets	FY 13 actual	FY 14 target	FY14 results	FY 15 target	FY15 re-sults	FY 16 target	FY16 re-sults	FY 17 target	FY17 re-sults	LOP targets
	(cacao)			corridor cacao exporters													
(0.4) custom	Average increase in agricultural income for beneficiary households due to USG assistance	%	Total	Project record	2013 (\$ 443)	0%			30%	PHS underway	60%		70%		88%		88%
			Total New/Continuing														
			New			0		30	PHS underway	60		70		88		88	
			Continuing			0		0	PHS underway	50		80		80		80	
			Gendered household Type														
			Adult Female No Adult Male (FNM)			0		20	PHS underway	40		60		60		60	
			Adult Male No Adult Female (MNF)			0		25	PHS underway	60		80		80		80	
			Male and Female Adult (M&F)			0		30	PHS underway	40		80		80		80	
			Child no Adult (CAN)			0		0	PHS underway	0		0		0		0	
(1.1) 4.5 - 16,17,18 FtF	Gross margin per hectare, animal, or cage of selected product	\$USD/ha	Corn	Post harvest survey of beneficiary producers	2013	116 (# Ben:362)			317 (# Ben:1000)	-199 (# Ben:362)	317 (# Ben:11000)		317 (# Ben:12500)		317 (# Ben:12500)		317
			Beans			415 (# Ben:597)			958 (# Ben:1000)	1.5 (# Ben:597)	958 (# Ben:3000)		958 (# Ben:9500)		958 (# Ben:9500)		958
			Rice			217 (# Ben:351)			873 (# Ben:1000)	825 (# Ben:351)	873 (# Ben:3000)		873 (# Ben:4500)		873 (# Ben:4500)		873
			Plantain			5,035 (# Ben:421)			6545 (# Ben:1000)	PHS underway	9214 (# Ben:6000)		9214 (# Ben:6500)		9214 (# Ben:6500)		9,214
			Cacao			205 (# Ben:2277)			247 (# Ben:4000)	PHS underway	375 (# Ben:8000)		450 (# Ben:10000)		532 (# Ben:10000)		532
			Male_corn			179			250	PHS underway	168		168		168		168
			Female_corn			-139			0	PHS underway	0		27		27		27
			Joint_corn			-25			0	PHS underway	0		8		8		8

Indicator #	Indicator title	Unit	Disaggregation	Data Source	Baseline Year	Baseline value	FY 13 targets	FY 13 actual	FY 14 target	FY14 results	FY 15 target	FY15 re-sults	FY 16 target	FY16 re-sults	FY 17 target	FY17 re-sults	LOP targets	
			Association-applied_cor n															
			Male_beans			448		583	PHS underway	1043		1043		1043		1043		1043
			Female_beans			90		117	PHS underway	153		153		153		153		153
			Joint_beans			437		568	PHS underway	868		868		868		868		868
			Male-rice			287		401	PHS underway	730		730		730		730		730
			Female-rice			908		0	PHS underway	-		-		-		-		-
			Joint-rice			437		0	PHS underway	1051		1051		1051		1051		1051
			Male-plantain			5641		6019	PHS underway	6205		6770		7898		7898		7898
			Female-plantain			3106		2893	PHS underway	3417		3728		4349		4349		4349
			Joint-plantain			4807		5354	PHS underway	5288		5769		6730		6730		6730
			Male-cacao			172		165	PHS underway	190		216		216		216		216
			Female-cacao			314		304	PHS underway	346		393		393		393		393
			Joint-cacao			220		232	PHS underway	242		275		275		275		275
			(1.2) 4.5.2-23 FTF			Value of incremental sales (collected at farm-level) attributed to FTF implementation (RIA)	Value (USD)	Total	Post harvest survey of beneficiary producers	2013	2,540,102 (# Ben: 4516)			4,123,858 (# Ben: 8000)	PHS underway	29,925,447 (# Ben: 21100)		40416769 (# Ben: 43000)
Corn	85782 (# Ben: 362)				451302 (# Ben: 1000)			-81598 (# Ben: 362)			4964322 (# Ben: 11000)		5641275 (# Ben: 12500)		5641275 (# Ben: 12500)		5641275 (# Ben: 12500)	
Beans	357946 (# Ben: 597)				909611 (# Ben: 1000)			-301255 (# Ben: 597)			2728833 (# Ben: 3000)		8641306 (# Ben: 9500)		8641306 (# Ben: 9500)		8641306 (# Ben: 9500)	
Rice	267736 (# Ben: 351)				1190894 (# Ben: 1000)			98410 (# Ben: 351)			3572682 (# Ben: 3000)		5359023 (# Ben: 4500)		5359023 (# Ben: 4500)		5359023 (# Ben: 4500)	
Plantain	1,337,456 (# Ben: 421)				1505868 (# Ben: 1000)			PHS underway			18400556 (# Ben: 6000)		19934044 (# Ben: 6500)		19934044 (# Ben: 6500)		19934044 (# Ben: 6500)	
Cacao	491180 (# Ben: 2277)				66182 (# Ben: 4000)			PHS underway			259052 (# Ben: 8000)		841120 (# Ben: 10000)		2065760 (# Ben: 10000)		2065760 (# Ben: 10000)	
(1.3) 4.5.2-5 FTF	Number of farmers and others who have applied		LOP Totals			0		-	19200		22000		18500		3800		63500	
			Prior Year Unmet									4200		4010		3977		

Indicator #	Indicator title	Unit	Disaggregation	Data Source	Baseline Year	Baseline value	FY 13 targets	FY 13 actual	FY 14 target	FY14 results	FY 15 target	FY15 re-sults	FY 16 target	FY16 re-sults	FY 17 target	FY17 re-sults	LOP targets				
	improved technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance (RiA) (WOG)		Annual Totals			0		-		7013	26200		22510		7777		63500				
			Total Sex					19200	7013	26200		22510		7777		63500					
			Male					15360	5302	18340		15757		5443		44842					
			Female					3840	1711	7860		6753		2334		18658					
			Producers/					19200	7007	26190		22500		7777		63274					
			Others					0	6	10		10		10		30					
			Technology Type																		
			SRI							1000	400	2000		1500		250		4750			
			Improved certified Rice Variety (Seed)							1000	400	2000		1500		250		4750			
			Improved corn Variety seeds (Chicken Corn)								1000	600	10000		1500		350		12900		
			Improved Bean Variety seeds (Icta Liger)								1000	700	2000		6500		350		9800		
			Use of Pesticides (In Corn and Bean)								2000	500	12000		8000		500		22500		
			IPM on Plantain (Sigatoka)								1500	500	5000		550		300		7350		
			New cacao Plantation Techniques								5000	2500	5000		2000		0		12000		
			Biomechanical Structures								5000	650	5000		5000		2500		17500		
Hedgerows						5000	650	5000		5000		2500		17500							
Introduction of Agroforestry cropping						5000	650	5000		5000		2500		17500							
Contiguous Demonstration Blocks						5000	650	5000		5000		3000		17500							
(1.4) 4.5.2-2 FTF	Number of (l) hectares under improved technologies or management practices as a		LOP Totals			0			6600	3942	14400		10250		500		31750				
			Prior Year Unmet							885		885		888							
			Annual Totals			0	-	-	3942	15285		11135		1388		31750					

Indicator #	Indicator title	Unit	Disaggregation	Data Source	Baseline Year	Baseline value	FY 13 targets	FY 13 actual	FY 14 target	FY14 results	FY 15 target	FY15 re-sults	FY 16 target	FY16 re-sults	FY 17 target	FY17 re-sults	LOP targets
	result of USG assistance		Cultural Practices														
			Improved certified Rice Variety (Seed)						200	125	750		750		200		1900
			Improved CornVariety seeds (Chicken Corn)						500	125	1500		2000		200		4200
			Improved Bean Variety seeds (Icta Liger)						250	300	1000		1500		200		2950
			New Cacao Plantation Techniques						3000	675	4000		2500		200		9700
			Technology Total														
			pest management														
			Use of Pesticides (In Corn and Bean)						750	400	2500		3500		400		7150
			disease management														
			IPM on Plantain (Sigatoka)						900	400	3000		3000		300		7200
			Soil-related														
			Biomechanical Structures						3500	600	3500		4000		500		11500
			Hedgerows						4000	600	4000		4000		500		12500
			Introduction of Agroforestry cropping						5000	850	5000		5000		500		15500
			Contiguous Demonstration Blocks						5000	550	5000		5000		500		15500
			irrigation						200	125	750		750		200		1900
			water management						200	125	750		750		200		1900
			climate mitigation or adaptation						3500	250	5000		4000		500		13000
			other						0	0	0		0		0		0
			total w/one						6600	3900	15250		11100		1300		

Indicator #	Indicator title	Unit	Disaggregation	Data Source	Baseline Year	Baseline value	FY 13 targets	FY 13 actual	FY 14 target	FY14 results	FY 15 target	FY15 re-sults	FY 16 target	FY16 re-sults	FY 17 target	FY17 re-sults	LOP targets
			or more improved technology														31,550
			Sex total						6600	3942	15285		11135		1388		31,750
			Male						4620	2759	10699	0	7794	0	971	0	22,225
			Female						1320	788	3057	0	2227	0	277	0	6,350
			Joint						660	394	1528	0	1113	0	138	0	3,175
			association-applied						0	0	0		0		0		0
(1.5) Custom	Number of technologies or management practices made available to farmers as a result of USG assistance	#	None	Project records	2013	0			8	12	10		4		0		22
(1.6) Custom	Number of beneficiary households with increased agricultural income	#	Total	Postharvest survey of beneficiary producers		0			15350	PHS underway	17600		14800		3050		50800
			New						15350	PHS underway	17600		14800		3050		50800
			Continuing						0	PHS underway	3520		3110		670		7300
			income doubled						13200	PHS underway	15100		12700		2500		43500
			Income increased						15350	PHS underway	17600		14800		3050		50800
			FNM						921		1056		888		183		3048
			MNF						614		704		592		122		2032
			M&F						13815		15840		13320		2745		45720
			CAN						0		0		0		0		0
(1.1.1) Custom	Yield per hectare for USG assisted target crops	Kg/ha	Corn	Post-harvest survey of beneficiary producers	2013	411			764	105	1,200		1,200		1,200		1,200
			Beans			395			561	236	1,000		1,000		1,000		1,000
			Rice			1561			2591	2593	3,184		3,184		3,184		3,184
			Plantain			6040			9,060	PHS underway	12,000		12,000		12,000		12,000
			Cacao			319			319	PHS underway	351		383		479		479
			LOP Totals			0			19,200	4,658	21,600		17,900		6,900		65,600
			Prior year unmet								6,000		6,500		2,042		14,542
			Annual Totals			0				4,658	27,600		24,400		8,942		65,600
			New						19,200	4,658	27,600		24,400		8,942		65,600

Indicator #	Indicator title	Unit	Disaggregation	Data Source	Baseline Year	Baseline value	FY 13 targets	FY 13 actual	FY 14 target	FY14 results	FY 15 target	FY15 re-sults	FY 16 target	FY16 re-sults	FY 17 target	FY17 re-sults	LOP targets
(1.1.2) 4.5.2-13 F	Number of rural households benefiting directly from USG interventions (S)		Continuing						0	0	4,520		4,880		1,780		11,180
			Gendered household Type														
			Adult Female No Adult Male (FNM)	Project record					0	280	1,656	0	1,464	0	537	0	3,937
			Adult Male No Adult Female (MNF)						0	186	1,104	0	976	0	358	0	2,624
			Male and Female Adult (M&F)						0	4,192	24,840	0	21,960	0	8,048	0	59,040
			Child no Adult (CAN)						0	0	0		0		0		0
			LOP Totals			0			16325	10508	22575		18900		7700		65500
			Prior Year Unmet										3100		92		5817
			Annual Totals			0				10508	25200		22000		7792		65500
			Total Sex						16325	10508	25200		22000		7792		65500
			Male						11427	7425	17640		15400		5454		45850
			Female						4898	3083	7560		6600		2338		19650
			Type of individuals														
			producers						14690	9108	23975		21650		7742		62475
			People in government						40	0	50		50		50		190
			People in private sector						75	35	775		0		0		810
			People in civil society (NGOs, CBOs, CSOs, research and academic organizations)						1520	1365	400		300		0		2065
(1.2.1) 4.5.2-7 FTF	Number of individuals who have received USG supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RiA) (WOG)	#		Training attendance forms	2013												
			LOP Totals			0			19,200	5,446	22,000		18,500		3,800	-	63,500
			Prior year unmet								4,400		4,300		5,054		13,754
(1.3.1.) custom	Number of farmers who have access to improved	#		Project record, SIBA agricultural inputs	2013												

Indicator #	Indicator title	Unit	Disaggregation	Data Source	Baseline Year	Baseline value	FY 13 targets	FY 13 actual	FY 14 target	FY14 results	FY 15 target	FY15 re-sults	FY 16 target	FY16 re-sults	FY 17 target	FY17 re-sults	LOP targets
	agricultural inputs due to USG assistance		Annual Totals			0				5,446	26,400		22,800		8,854		63,500
			Sex total					5446	5446	26400	22800	8854	63500				
			Male					15,360	4045	18,480	15,960	6,198	44,450				
			Female					3,840	1401	7,920	6,840	2,656	19,050				
			LOP Totals			0			1,400	0	2,000		600		0		4,000
			Prior year unmet								1,000		400		0		1,400
(1.4.1) 4.5.1-28 F	Hectares under new or improved/rehabilitated irrigation and drainage services as a result of USG assistance (RIA) (WOG)	Ha	Annual Totals	Project record, maps	2013	0				0	3,000		4,000		4000		4,000
			LOP Totals						28	0	40		12		7		87
(1.4.2.) custom	Number of kilometers of irrigation systems repaired due to USG assistance	Kms	Prior year unmet	Project record		0					8		20		0		
			Annual Totals							0	48		80		87		87
(1.5.1) 4.5.1-22 FtF	Number of rural hectares mapped and adjudicated (S)	Ha	LOP Totals	Project record	2013	0			30	0	120		90		240		480
			Prior year unmet						0		30		0				
			Annual Totals							120		240		480		480	
			Male						0	0	84	0	168	0	336	0	336
			Female						0	0	36	0	72	0	144	0	144
			Joint communal						0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
			LOP Totals						5,000	863	6,000		8,000		4,000		23,000
(2.1) 4.8.1-26	Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance	Ha	Prior year unmet	GIS Map, Qualitative observations on site							2,000		1,000		1,136		4,137

Indicator #	Indicator title	Unit	Disaggregation	Data Source	Baseline Year	Baseline value	FY 13 targets	FY 13 actual	FY 14 target	FY14 results	FY 15 target	FY15 re-sults	FY 16 target	FY16 re-sults	FY 17 target	FY17 re-sults	LOP targets
			Annual Totals							863	8,863		17,863		22,999		23,000
			LOP Totals						4000	863	4800		6400		3200		18400
(2.3) F 4.8.1-1	Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources showing improved physical conditions as a result of USG assistance	Ha	Prior year unmet	GIS Map, Qualitative observations on site							1000		1500		636		
			Annual Totals							863	6663		14563		18399		18400
(2.1.1) custom	Number of sub-watershed management bodies formed due to USG assistance	#	None	Project inventory and record	2013	5			12	12	0		0		0		12
(2.2.1) custom	Kilometers of biological & mechanical conservation structures built/rehabilitated	#	Total	Project record	2013				113	156	253		394		464		464
Biological						0	90	156	210	330	400	400					
Mechanical						0	23	0	43	64	64	64					
(2.3.1) custom	Survival rates of USG assisted tree planting	%	None	Plot site tree counts, sample	2013	0			50	45% (N: 27,249 D: 60,117)	60		70		70		
(2.4.1) 4.8.2-26 F	Number of stakeholders with increased capacity to adapt to the impacts of climate variability and change as a result of USG assistance	#	LOP Totals	Project record	2013	0			5,000	1,690	15,000		15,000		5,000		40,000
			Prior Year Unmet							1,000	1,000	1,310					
			Annual Totals						1,690	17,690	33,690	40,000	40,000				
			Implementin g risk-reducing practices or actions to improve resilience to climate change					4500	1690	14152	26952	36000	36000				

Indicator #	Indicator title	Unit	Disaggregation	Data Source	Baseline Year	Baseline value	FY 13 targets	FY 13 actual	FY 14 target	FY14 results	FY 15 target	FY15 re-sults	FY 16 target	FY16 re-sults	FY 17 target	FY17 re-sults	LOP targets
			using climate information in decision making						500	0	3538		6738		4000		4000
(2.4.2) 4.8.1-6 F	Number of people with increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance	#	New/LOP Totals	Project record, IR2 conservation enrollment and attendance form	2013	0			4,500	3250	5,500		6,000		4,000		20,000
			Prior year unmet							1,000		0		250			
			Annual Totals							3250	9,750		15,750		20,000		20,000
			male						3,150	2275	6,825		11,025		14,000		14,000
			Female						1350	975	2925		4725		6000		6000
(2.4.3) custom	Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and /or biodiversity conservation		LOP Totals	Project record, attendance form	2013	0			3,000		3,000		2,500		1,500		10,000
			Prior year unmet								249						
			Annual Totals							2,751	3,000		2,749		1,500		10,000
			Male						2,100	2,089	2,100		1,924		1,050		7,163
			female						900	662	900		825		450		2,837
			LOP Totals					500,000	0	1,500,000		1,000,000		500,000		3,500,000	
			Prior year unmet	Enterprises, Record Survey										500,000		500,000	
(3.1) 4.5.2- 38 FTF	Value of new private sector investments in the agricultural sector and food chain leveraged by FTF implementation (RIA)	USD	Annual Totals			0				0	1,500,000		1,000,000		1,000,000		3,500,000
(3.2) custom	Value of agribusiness sales due to USG assistance	USD	Total	Project records	2013				0	24,828	6,921,200		7,745,320		8,900,518		23,567,038.00
			Small &Medium							24,828	314,600		478,060		525,866		1,318,526.00
			Novella								6,606,600		7,267,260		8,374,652		22,248,512.00
			Corn						30,000		0	24,828	35,000		40,000		50,000

Indicator #	Indicator title	Unit	Disaggregation	Data Source	Baseline Year	Baseline value	FY 13 targets	FY 13 actual	FY 14 target	FY14 results	FY 15 target	FY15 re-sults	FY 16 target	FY16 re-sults	FY 17 target	FY17 re-sults	LOP targets		
			Rice			63,000			0	0	75,000		100,000		110,000		285,000.00		
			Beans			0			0	0	0		0		0		0		0
			Plantain			63,000			0	0	74,996		191,000		260,000		525,996		
			Cacao			5,304,000			0	0	6,740,000		7,414,000		8,480,000		22,634,000		
			Producers			60,000			0	0	70,000		90,000		200,000		360,000		
			Traders/ass embles			5,400,000.00			0	0	6,851,000		7,655,320		8,700,518		23,206,838		
(3.3) 4.5.2-43 FTF	Number of firms (excluding farms) or Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)engaged in Agricultural and Food security-related manufacturing and services now operating more profitably (at or above cost) because of USG assistance (RiA)	#	LOP Totals	Project record	2013				20		90		90		50		250		
			Prior Year unmet							10		10							
			Annual Totals						0		100		100		50		250		
			Firm						10	0	75		75		50		200		
			CSO						10	0	25		25		0		50		
(3.1.1) 4.5.1-17 FTF /	Kilometers of roads improved or constructed (RiA) (WOG)	Kms	LOP Totals	Project record	2013	0			40	0	30		30		22		122		
			Prior Year unmet							5		20		15		40			
			Annual Totals						0		35		85		122		122		
			Improved						40	0	28		70		99		99		
Constructed				0	0	7		15		23		23							
(3.1.2) Custom	Number of beneficiaries receiving improved transport services due to USG	#	LOP Totals	Public records, trftransport survey	2013				100,000	0	75,000		75,000		55,000		305,000		
			Prior year unmet							12,500		50,000		37,500		100,000			
			Annual Totals			0			0		87,500		125,000		92,500		305,000		
			Male						48,000	0	45,500		65,000		48,100		158,600		
			Female						52,000	0	42,000		60,000		44,400		146,400		
			LOP Totals					5	0	20		50		35		110			
			Prior year unmet							5						5			
(3.2.1)	Number of	#	Annual	Project	2013	0				0									

Indicator #	Indicator title	Unit	Disaggregation	Data Source	Baseline Year	Baseline value	FY 13 targets	FY 13 actual	FY 14 target	FY14 results	FY 15 target	FY15 re-sults	FY 16 target	FY16 re-sults	FY 17 target	FY17 re-sults	LOP targets		
custom	storage facilities installed as a result of USG assistance		Totals	record							25		50		35		110		
		#	LOP Totals	Project record	2013				5	0	26		5		0		36		
			Prior year unmet										5		0		5		
(3.2.2) custom	Number of processing facilities established or improved due to USG assistance		Annual Totals			0				0	26		10		0		36		
			Corn-processing facilities						3	0	10		5		0		15		
			Rice-processing facilities						2	0	10		5		0		15		
			Cacao-processing facilities						0	0	6		0		0		6		
(3.2.3) 4.5-10 FTF	Total increase in installed storage capacity (m3) (S)	cubic meters	LOP Totals	Project inventory and record	2013	0			4000	0	2000		3000		1000		10000		
			Prior year unmet									2000		1000		1000			
			Annual Totals								0	4000		4000		2000		10000	
			Dry storage								4000	0	4000		4000		2000		10000
			Cold Storage								0	0	0		0		0		0
(3.3.1) 4.5.2-29 F	Value of agricultural and Rural loans	USD	LOP Totals	Survey of beneficiaries	2013	0			25,000	0	200,000		200,000		75,000		500,000		
			Prior year unmet														25,000		
			Annual Totals								0	200,000		200,000		100,000		500,000	
			Producers								0	0	0		0		0		0
			Local Traders/Ass emblers								25000	0	200,000		200,000		75000		500,000
			Wholesalers								0	0	0		0		0		
			others								0	0	0		0		0		
			Total Sex																
			Male								0	0	0		0		0		0
			Female								0	0	0		0		0		0
			Joint								0	0	0		0		0		0
			Asociacion -Applied								0	0	0		0		0		0
(3.4.1) Custom	Number of farmers accessing	#	LOP Totals	Project reconrd, Phone list	2013	0			4000	0	8,000		12,000		6,000		30,000		
			Prior year																

Indicator #	Indicator title	Unit	Disaggregation	Data Source	Baseline Year	Baseline value	FY 13 targets	FY 13 actual	FY 14 target	FY14 results	FY 15 target	FY15 re-sults	FY 16 target	FY16 re-sults	FY 17 target	FY17 re-sults	LOP targets	
	market information due to USG assistance		unmet								4,000							
			Annual Totals										0	12,000	12,000	6,000	30,000	
			Male									2,800	0	8,400	8,400	4,200	23,800	
			Female									1,200	0	3,600	3,600	1,800	10,200	
(3.5.1) 4.5.2-12 FtF -F	Number of public-private partnerships formed as a result of FTF assistance (S)	#	LOP Totals			0			2	2	2	2	2	2	2	8		
			Agricultural production							2	2	1	1	1	5			
			Agricultural post-harvest transformation							0	0	1	1	1	3			
			nutrition						Project record	2013		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
			other areas								0	0	0	0	0	0		
			multi-focus								0	0	0	0	0			
(3.5.2) 4.5.2 FTF	Number of jobs attributed to FTF implementation (RiA)	#	LOP Totals	Project record, agribusiness survey	2013	0		800	0	1125	1125	700	3750					
			Prior year unmet							800	800							
			Annual Totals					0	1125	1125	1500	3750						
			Urban				0	0	0	0	0							
			Rural				800	0	1125	1125	1500	3750						
			New				800	0	1125	1125	1500	3750						
			Continuing				0	0	225	225	140	590						
			Male				560	780	795	490	2625							
			Female				240	345	330	210	1125							
(4.1) 4.5.2-11 FTF	Number of food security private enterprises, producers organizations, water users associations, women's groups, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations (CBOs) receiving USG assistance (RiA) (WOG)	#	LOP Totals	Project record	2013	0		960	780	780	738	413	2891					
			Prior year unmet							180	180							
			Annual Totals				0	780	780	738	593	2891						
			total New/Continuing				960	0	780	738	593	2891						
			new				960	0	780	738	593	2891						
			continuing				0	0	155	148	263	566						
			Type or organizations															
			private enterprises				100	9	225	250	375	850						
			producers organizations				15	0	30	40	40	125						
			water user associations				5	0	15	18	18	56						

Indicator #	Indicator title	Unit	Disaggregation	Data Source	Baseline Year	Baseline value	FY 13 targets	FY 13 actual	FY 14 target	FY14 results	FY 15 target	FY15 re-sults	FY 16 target	FY16 re-sults	FY 17 target	FY17 re-sults	LOP targets
			women's groups						15	0	30		45		45		135
			trade and business associations						15	34	30		35		35		115
			Community based organizations						810	737	450		350		80		1610
			LOP Totals			0			270	6	246		250		220		986
			Prior year unmet										20		132		264
			Annual Totals							6	266		382		332		986
			total New/Continuing						270	6	266		382		332		986
			new						270	6	266		382		232		886
			continuing						0	0	6		40		54		100
			type of enterprises														
			private enterprises						42	6	140		130		130		406
			producers organizations						10	0	20		30		30		80
			water user associations						3	0	10		20		20		50
			women's groups						5	0	20		40		34		94
			trade and business associations						10	0	25		50		50		125
			Community based organizations						200	0	51		90		90		231
(4.2.1) 4.5.2- 42 FtF	Number of private enterprises, producers organizations, water users associations, women's groups, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations (CBOs) that applied new technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance (RiA) (WOG)	#		Project record, Organization survey	2013												

ANNEX B: CORRECTED FY 2014 TREE-DISTRIBUTION TABLE²¹

TABLE 11: FY 2014 TREE-DISTRIBUTION TABLE

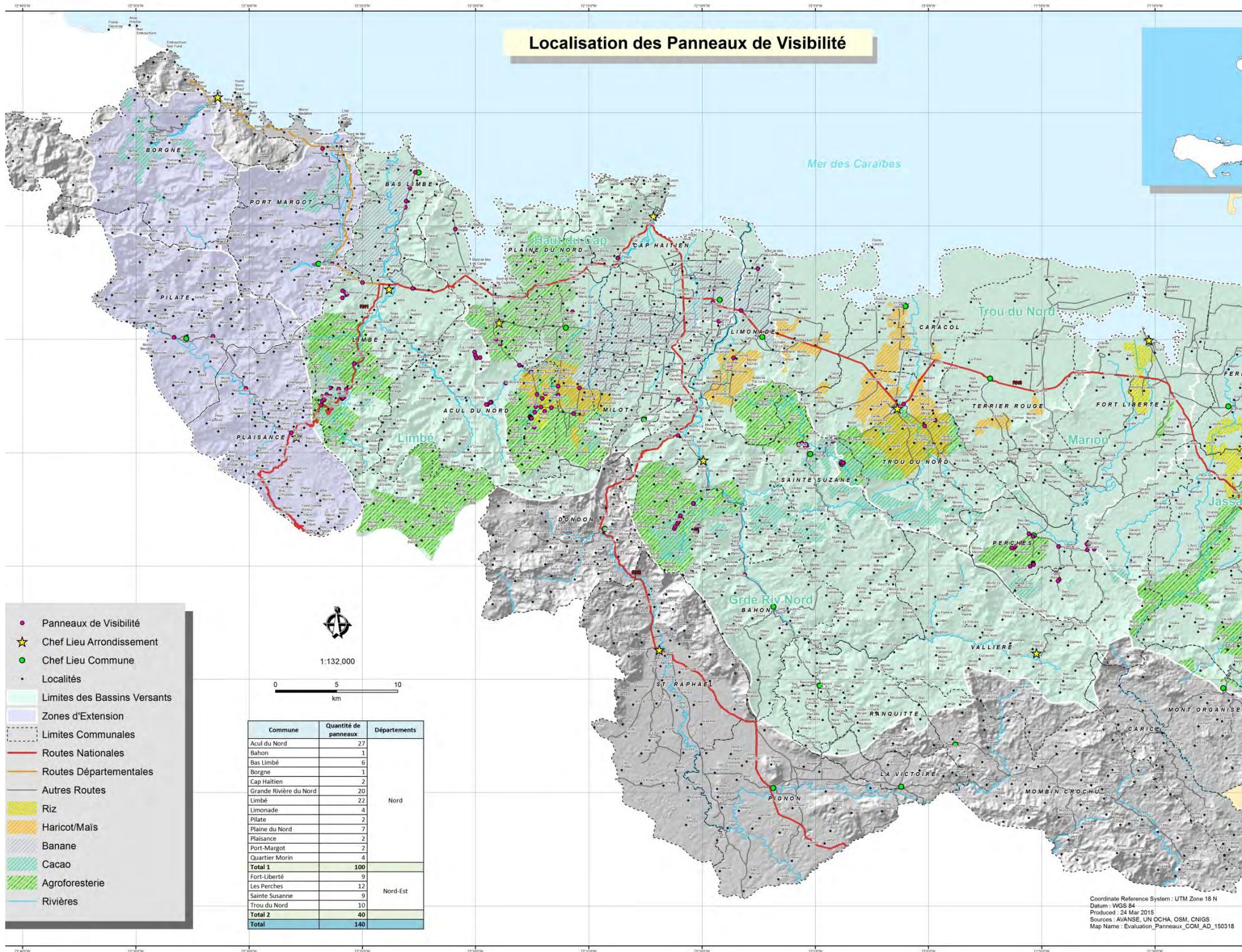
Bassin Versant	Zone de Livraison	Distributed in FY 2014 (correction)								Total
		Noix d'acajou	Manguier	Citrus	Avocatier	Chêne	Cèdre	Acacia	Acajou Venezuela	
Limbe	Massabiel & Ravine des Roches	1385		1470	982	2823	1990	2950	1710	13,310
	Camp Coq & Beudoret									
Haut du Cap	Milot & La bruyère	2880	2880	1440		2000	2880	2880	1920	16,880
	Coupe Davide & Grison Garde									
Grande Rivière	Jolitrou	3090	3090	1030	188	1030	2575	4120	2060	17,183
	Distrou									
Trou du Nord	Garcin & Sarazin	1925	3000	1884	1000	1000	2490	2230	2020	15,549
	Burotte & Foulon									
Marion	Acul Samedi & Perches	4635	3720	2340	750	1710	2655	1140	2325	19,275
Jassa	Acul des Pins	1000	1500	1009	750	1500	3900	1000	2000	12,659
	Gens de Nantes									
TOTAL	18	14,915	14,190	9,173	3,670	10,063	16,490	14,320	12,035	94,856

²¹ This table captures several slight corrections to the tree-distribution table presented in the FY 2014 annual report. The corrections are based on an internal review of distribution documentation lists and integrating this with M&E record-keeping and documentation.

ANNEX D: MAP OF DISTRIBUTION OF AVANSE WORKSITE SIGNS

[SEE NEXT PAGE; WORKSITE SIGNS (“PANNEAUX DE VISIBILITE”) APPEAR AS SMALL, PURPLE CIRCLES]

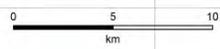
Localisation des Panneaux de Visibilité



- Panneaux de Visibilité
- ★ Chef Lieu Arrondissement
- Chef Lieu Commune
- Localités
- Limites des Bassins Versants
- Zones d'Extension
- - - Limites Communales
- Routes Nationales
- Routes Départementales
- Autres Routes
- Riz
- Haricot/Mais
- Banane
- Cacao
- Agroforesterie
- Rivières



1:132,000



Commune	Quantité de panneaux	Départements
Acul du Nord	27	Nord
Bahon	1	
Bas Limbé	6	
Borgne	1	
Cap Haïtien	2	
Grande Rivière du Nord	20	
Limbé	22	
Limonade	4	
Pilate	2	
Plaine du Nord	7	
Plaisance	2	
Port-Margot	2	
Quartier Morin	4	
Total 1	100	
Fort-Liberté	9	Nord-Est
Les Perches	12	
Sainte-Suzanne	9	
Trou du Nord	10	
Total 2	40	
Total	140	

Coordinate Reference System : UTM Zone 18 N
 Datum : WGS 84
 Produced : 24 Mar 2015
 Sources : AVANSE, UN OCHA, OSM, CNIGS
 Map Name : Evaluation_Panneaux_COM_AD_150318

ANNEX E: UPDATED PROJECT FACT SHEET²²

[SEE NEXT PAGE]

²² This is a one-page tool finalized by the communications department this quarter in order to promote AVANSE at publicity events and distribute to visitors.



AVANSE

Appui à la Valorisation du Potentiel Agricole Nord pour la Sécurité Economique et Environnementale



AVANSE FACT SHEET



About AVANSE

The AVANSE project is a 5-year project in Haiti's northern corridor funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by DAI.

AVANSE (which means 'move forward' in Haitian Creole) is an \$87-million dollar project which will increase agricultural incomes for farmers in northern Haiti. As the flagship Feed the Future project in the region, AVANSE will achieve this through key investments in farm productivity, natural resource management, marketing systems, agribusinesses, and agricultural infrastructure.

CROPS



RICE



BANANA



CACAO



BEANS & MAIZ

Components

- ⇒ Agricultural Productivity Increased (IR1)
- ⇒ Soil Conservation Improved (IR2)
- ⇒ Agricultural Markets Strengthened (IR3)
- ⇒ Capacity of Local Organizations Strengthened (IR4)
- ⇒ Voucher Program
- ⇒ Infrastructure
- ⇒ Grants
- ⇒ Environment



AVANSE HAS PROJECT ACTIVITES IN 6 WATERSHEDS



5 FOCUS CROPS



FARMER FIELD SCHOOLS

The Farmer Field School model organizes farmers into groups of 20-30 members. Through these FFS, AVANSE diffuses new methodologies and best practices in crop production and soil conservation. Each member of the FFS applies the methods and material to their land and these sites then serve as demonstration plots. These demonstration plots then serve as training sites for the community as a whole.

Agricultural Productivity

AVANSE is improving agricultural productivity through the delivery of new agricultural technologies. It focuses on five targeted value-chain crops: rice, cacao, banana, beans and maize. It organizes farmers into farmer field schools (between 20-30 members each) through which it teaches best practices and distributes improved technology and inputs. AVANSE also uses a voucher program to distribute agricultural products wherefore farmers themselves have to invest by paying the non-subsidize portion of the voucher.

QUICK FACTS AGRO PRODUCTIVITY

- 43,500** farmers targeted by end of project
- 880,000** cacao trees distributed
- 400,000** banana cuttings distributed
- 53,000** kg of bean seed distributed
- 6** tons of rice produced now per hectare on average by AVANSE farmers, when before it was on average 1.8tons/ha

** All figures of distributed planting material are approximate.*

Capacity of Local Organizations Increased



AVANSE is building the capacity of local organizations by helping develop their administrative capabilities, increasing the likelihood of their success and ability to access USAID funding in the future.

FACTS CAPACITY BUILDING

- 765** CBOs given organizational capacity building training
- 176** CBOs selected to continue training
- 254** CBOs took part in legalization workshops
- 11** implementing partners going through strategic planning guidance



Soil Conservation

AVANSE engages the community to practice soil conservation methods by building structures on the ground to minimize soil runoff, training farmers on soil management best practices, introducing agro-forestry systems, and demonstrating new technologies.

QUICK FACTS SOIL CONSERVATION

- 193,000** linear meters of biomechanical erosion control structures built
- 741** hectares now treated and considered protected status
- 18** Sub-Watershed Management Bodies supported
- 667** demonstration plots created
- 177,000** trees distributed and planted
- 1,349,000** plants (ex. grasses, pineapples, bananas) distributed and planted

** All figures of distributed planting material are approximate.*

Agricultural Markets Strengthened

AVANSE is strengthening linkages between farmers, producers, and markets through increased access to storage, processing, and financial products to improve market information and values chains.

QUICK FACTS AGRICULTURAL MARKETS STRENGTHED

- 841** agro-enterprises registered in database
- 2** collaborative agreements signed with cacao exporters
- 25** contracts signings between cacao exporter Novella and farmers which was coordinated by AVANSE
- 64** capacity building trainings given to local agro-enterprises on business skills

Infrastructure

Improved infrastructure plays a critical role in the goal to increase agricultural productivity. AVANSE will increase production by rehabilitating irrigation systems, stabilizing watersheds, linking producers to markets via roads, and improving warehousing for agricultural enterprises.

TARGETED WORKS

- 8** km of ravine stabilization
- 33** km of road improvements
- 1,180** ha of irrigation canal rehabilitation

ANNEX F: SUCCESS STORIES THIS QUARTER

[SEE NEXT PAGES]



AVANSE SUCCESS STORY | JANUARY 2015

NEW ERA FOR CACAO FARMERS!

AVANSE-brokered deals result in direct trading between Cacao farmers and exporter Novella

Cacao production in Haiti has entered a new era as for the first time in decades, farmers are able to sell directly to exporters. Eliminating intermediaries, sometimes as many as three, has doubled cacao farmers' income while enabling exporters to have closer control over quality.

The change is the result of landmark agreements between cacao farmers and Novella, Haiti's largest exporters of cacao. Since the first deal was inked last October, twelve more have been signed and another six will be concluded before the end of February. The agreements, signed in person by Novella's director Daniel Zephyr, affect 276 farmers, most of whom Zephyr met when he travelled on-site for the signing.

"Before, it was the speculators who profited from our cacao," says

Ghislaine Déléazar, a matronly figure from Platon, Port Margot. "As the name of the project is AVANSE, I can say that now the farmers advance for real!"

As part of the project, AVANSE helped farmers organize into groups of between 25 and 35. Members bring their cacao produce to one of the two delegates elected by each group and they, in turn, coordinate with Novella to have the cacao transported there at Novella's expense.

Madame Déléazar is a delegate and owns 350 trees. Like her parents and grandparents, she grows cacao; but unlike them, she now sells her cacao directly to the exporter rather than to middlemen.

"I used to sell my cacao for 25 or 30 gourdes a pound. Now, for the first time, I sold it for 50 gourdes," she says.

Madame Déléazar adds that organizing and motivating the other farmers in her area wasn't hard because of her experience organizing various community events. This experience also helped her with administrative tasks like logging individual members' harvests—data that will help her and the other farmers keep a record of their cocoa production. "It was the first time I took note of how much I harvested and how much I gained."

AVANSE Business Training Specialist Jean-Osmy Chery says coordinating the groups was easy because "it was the farmers who have organized themselves and elected their own delegates. They are together by affinity." Their experience, and the result of receiving higher prices for their cocoa, has motivated other farmers to join.



Ghislaine Déléazar sells her cacao for the first time in generations of cacao farmers directly to Haiti's biggest exporter Novella, represented here by its Director, Daniel Zephyr.

"This was a proof, evidence," he adds. "They took their produce, they got the better price, and now they are convinced and motivated. And others want to organize themselves to sell as well directly to Novella."

The only problem encountered by some groups was weighing as farmers' estimates of their crop weight differed from what Novella's scales showed. It's been an easy problem to solve.

"AVANSE has already addressed this issue by ordering fifty scales, which will be given to each association to use," says Chery.

QUICK FACTS

13 Agreements already signed between cacao farmers and Novella

276 farmers who have signed Agreements to directly sell to Novella

4,000 farmers (in first phase) that AVANSE aims to reach to coordinate Trade Agreement signings with Novella



USAID | **AYITI**
ÈD PÈP AMERIKEN

SUCCESS STORY

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SRI CAMPAIGN SUCCESS

AVANSE registers 1,600 new members for its rice farmer field schools

One of AVANSE’s top hits is its campaign to introduce Haitian rice growers to the System of Rice Intensification, or SRI, method of farming. The new campaign, AVANSE’s third, has registered 1,600 new members for the rice Farmer Field Schools.

In February, sixty farmers—all leaders from each of the Farmer Field Schools in AVANSE’s target zone—took part in a three-day training workshop on the SRI technique, followed by hands-on training led by AVANSE field technicians. After two days of rain, it’s a sunny day as the group in Grison-Garde sets out to apply what they had learned at the Limbé Training Center.

“At the Limbé Training Centre, producers received formal training, so at Grison-Garde it’s the practical work session. Then each representative will work with 19 other producers of each Farmer Field School to spread the SRI with the support of a field agronomist,” says AVANSE Rice Specialist Jean Buddy Lucien.

The program’s success created growing demand for training in all areas of AVANSE project implementation, and information about SRI is being disseminated as widely as possible. The aim is for the method to be used in all rice farming by the time the AVANSE programs ends.

“That will be our greatest satisfaction,” Mr Lucien says. “At Ferrier, the producers used to harvest three tons of rice per hectare. Now with the SRI techniques, producers are able to produce up an average of seven tons per hectare.”

Farmers who have adopted the method are excited by its higher yield. Fifty-year-old Franklin Philstin says seeing crops produced by fellow-farmers using the SRI method led him to switch from the traditional rice growing methods he has used for 28 years.

“The training is very interesting. We learned a lot of new techniques; I did not know we could create a dry nursery. In addition to this training, my harvest will be more than doubled. I used to harvest 150 rice bowls; after this training I will certainly have more than 400 bowls of rice,” he says.

Farmers’ enthusiastic embrace of SRI is gratifying—but leaves a lot to do. New adopters of the method don’t know what to expect after the harvest, while Philstin admits it’s a challenge for all of them. “After this campaign, it is true my harvest will increase but we farmers, we don’t have a potential buyer. Our crops are sold on credit to small dealers and it is very negative.”



(Top) AVANSE’s Agronomist Rodney Manigat shows the new FFS leaders the use of the Roller Marker. This tool is used to mark out 25-centimeter squares (Middle), with rice seedlings planted in the corners of each square (Bottom). The SRI methodology promoted by AVANSE teaches farmers to use less seeds, less water, less fertilizer – yet more than doubles their harvest results.

QUICK FACTS

- 650** hectares planted with SRI last season
- 800** estimated hectares planted with SRI this season
- 1,600** new rice farmers registered this season
- 2,942** rice farmers in total part of the AVANSE program
- 147** Rice Farmer Field Schools (total)



AVANSE SUCCESS STORY | MARCH 2015

SOIL CONSERVATION SUCCESS

The wind of hope blows through Acul-Samedi

Sitting near a young cashew tree, Jacquilot Jules introduces himself. “I am a former schoolmaster, a farmer, and a father,” he says. “I have five children. My wife has chronic mental illness—she has suffered from it for 25 years. Agriculture is our main source of income, and I am a beneficiary of the AVANSE project.”

The cashew tree is one of several grown from seedlings distributed to 25 AVANSE beneficiaries at Acul-Samedi in the Northeast of Haiti. Their participation enables AVANSE to implement a key project objective of improving watershed stability above the plain. The cashews are important element in this project as the increase vegetation cover.

“AVANSE is really a wind of hope blowing through Acul-Samedi,” Jules says. “The more trees we have, the more it will rain. Without water, our gardens will not produce. Whenever we plant a tree, erosion regresses thus our fields will produce and we will make a lot of money.”

He says locals are also grateful for AVANSE support because “it helps us protect the environment in Acul-Samedi.”

Comparing AVANSE to non-governmental agencies who worked in Acul-Samedi before its arrival, Jules notes that a key difference is AVANSE’s hands-on approach.

“The way AVANSE proceeds on the field, it has a rigorous monitoring and a strong technical supervision and this program has distrib-



Jacquilot Jules has been able to expand the agricultural production of his plot through the technical advice he received from the AVANSE field team. He especially has high hopes for the pineapple seedlings he received through the soil erosion program.

“THE MORE TREES WE HAVE, THE MORE IT WILL RAIN!”

uted a lot of agricultural input such as seeds, plant and technical supervision.

This is where the difference lies.”

AVANSE’s integration of local traditions into modern agricultural techniques has also made it more acceptable and its methods more accessible. An example is the revival of the *konbit*, a tradition of sharing labor and skills. Jules says *konbit* is important because it fosters communal work among farmers that allows them to grow their fields without cash outlays for labor.

Jules, 55, appreciates the change AVANSE has brought to his life and the positive impact it has had.

“Through the technical advice of the AVANSE project, I actually now possess a sweet cassava reserve that I didn’t have be-

fore. So I have it now from the parcel of AVANSE and it’s one of the plots that I cherish a lot because within this parcel we have masses of products growing up such as pineapple, fruit trees, citrus and the acacia tree. [The produce] will help people of Acul-Samedi to make a lot of money,” he says.

In fact, pineapple is one of the crops he looks to for a boost in his income: ““Because the pineapple seedling is in high demand in Acul-Samedi and we are, and will remain, a reference zone in the production of pineapple seedling.”

But Jules is optimistic about more than just pineapples. Haiti’s northeastern quarter lacked food security—something he says AVANSE is helping eliminate. “I feel great now because we will have more technical training. And the more we are trained, the more effective we will be. AVANSE announces we will have about 200 model fields that will be developed in Marion watershed. So with AVANSE we expect that the producers of Acul-Samedi will make a great step toward food safety.”