

Quarterly Project Report Narrative



FY 2016: April 2016-June 2016

Summary, Part B

B1. Project Information

Project Name:	Canaan Upgrading and Community Development (CUCD)		
Location:	Port-au-Prince, Haiti	Grant # or ID:	
Project Sector:	Infrastructure & Housing	Program Manager:	
Project Sub-Sector (s):	Livelihoods	ARC Field Delegate:	
		ARC Program Officer:	
Project Start Date:	June 19, 2015	Project End Date:	June 18, 2017
Total Budget Amount:	\$14,643,251.00	AP Code:	
ARC-Funded:			
Cost-Share:	\$941,660.00	Report Prepared by:	Sinan Al Najjar & Carolyn McDonald
LOP Beneficiaries:		Date:	July 4, 2016
# Direct:			
# Indirect:			

B2. Current Quarter in Review

Current Accomplishments

- Completion of the Canaan-Wide Urban Renovation and Projects Identification report and submission to the UCLBP for validation. This report includes the results of the participative assessment and location identification of CUCD's Canaan-Wide infrastructure interventions such

as the water network, solid waste management, street lighting, community center and public places. Additionally, this report includes a Canaan-Wide urban and social analysis, the community vision and expectations, guidelines for urban renovation and development of the area, strategic areas of intervention and other necessary projects.

- A large site visit was held with over 40 participants from the UCLBP and 2 consultants, American Red Cross (ARC), engineering study and design firms such as Emergent Vernacular Architecture (EVA) and ESC, Ingénieurs Conseils (ESC), representatives of the city councils of Croix de Bouquets and Thomazeau) to facilitate their approval of CUCD's infrastructure sites. The visit was an accomplishment because it was the first visit of such size with all partners in attendance for overall coordination.
- Continued and reinforced cooperation with other implementers in Canaan such as Habitat for Humanity, Mercy Corps, UN Habitat, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Continuing the network of private sector engagement for Canaan. Many companies have expressed interest in expanding their business endeavors to Canaan; Digicel among the first to partner with the program in building mobile money kiosks and recharging stations.
- VSLA groups have reached 23 groups with 76.3% of members which are women in the past 6 months.
- Fostered trust and ownership within the community for project activities. Many community members came forward to offer their time as volunteers.
- Identification of sites for Quick-Impact Projects (QUIP) with the community. One potential QUIP includes narrowing down the most imperative locations for the solar lamps with the community after they had proposed over 100 places for 75 solar lamp locations.

Challenges In the beginning of this quarter the community was experiencing assessment fatigue. They put pressure on community mobilizers, expressing their frustration with multiple international organizations entering into the community to facilitate numerous assessments that did not lead to visible accomplishments to meet their needs. The community became unreceptive towards CUCD efforts in order to express their frustration with lack of project completion. The CUCD team is mitigating this challenge by pressing forward to complete the Quick Impact Projects (QUIPs). The QUIPs were identified through community participation and mobilization to complete four projects: 1) Solar Lamps 2) Digicel Mobile Money Kiosks 3) Digicel Recharging Stations and 4) Digicel Foundation National School. An Environmental Monitoring and Mitigation Plan was completed to get environmental approval from USAID to complete these projects and is still in process so that projects can reach completion.

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- The political instability, wide-spread demonstrations, and a lack of government for an extended period of time hindered our ability to effectively implement throughout the early conception of the project. This continues to affect the program's main government partner, the Unit for the Construction of Housing and Public Buildings (UCLBP) and their ability to properly function and make decisions.
- Global Communities is still waiting for the UCLBP to validate the final report and the sites identified by CUCD for all the major infrastructure projects of the program. Global Communities sought insight from USAID and ARC on this matter and is awaiting feedback.
- Global Communities is working with the donor to create a feasible construction contracts bonding policy with regard to the context of Haitian law. Approval or rejection of Global Communities' proposed bonding policy is currently pending.
- The issue of compensation for structures (residential and commercial) that need to be demolished needs to be resolved to allow for the implementation of infrastructure projects.

Plan of Action

Given the challenges listed in the previous section, Global Communities will continue to work with the donors to seek solutions to all issues obstructing implementation of the program. Once all issues are solved a new implementation plan with a practical timeline will be submitted.

American Red Cross Action Needed

B3. Project Overview

The Canaan Upgrading and Community Development (CUCD) program goal is to support the Government of Haiti's (GOH) vision to promote equitable and resilient urban development in the Canaan zone. CUCD harnesses the energy and investments of Canaan's residents and set the northern expansion of metropolitan Port-au-Prince on a path of inclusive planned growth. CUCD will improve physical and social connections to the rest of the Port-au-Prince urban fabric, transforming the economic and cultural life of its residents. Life for Canaan residents will significantly improve through a comprehensive set of interventions they will identify and prioritize through participatory planning processes.

Global Communities is responsible for Pillar II (Livelihoods) and Pillar III (Physical Renewal) while the American Red Cross is responsible for Pillar I (Community Mobilization).

Pillar 2 encourages the growth of both the informal and formal sectors in Canaan which will be critical to advancing livelihoods while building on viable value chains. This is done through providing access to finance (formal bank and SME credit), improving micro-enterprises business skills, Village Saving Loan Associations (VSLA), vocational training, mobile money, solar charging stations, micro-franchising project, and business linkages.

Pillar 3 activities are defined by an urban study that aims to incorporate the Neighborhood Upgrading Strategy Report and Plan and the Canaan-Wide Strategy Report and Development Plan to the Canaan Center. While providing necessary services (water and electricity) throughout the Canaan area, the program plans to implement more infrastructure-based initiatives (main road, market, transportation/tap-tap station, banks, and public places) in the Canaan-Center area in order to create a model/show-case to the GOH and donors for future development in the rest of Canaan.

Project Progress to Date

The Global Communities CUCD team has orchestrated over 142 stakeholder engagement events to date which have resulted in progress towards the overall goals of the CUCD project to grow the informal and formal business sectors and infrastructure development. These events and activities include but are not limited to:

Pillar I Livelihoods activities and events:

- Workshops and networking events for the Haitian private sector to encourage investment and livelihoods opportunities in the project area. These workshops and events also served to expose the vastness of Canaan resulting in increased interest in Canaan. A workshop about CUCD's matching grants was held with the Haitian private sector, around eighty (80) representatives attended. The session included a presentation of the CUCD program and Q&A's about the grant competitive process. The purpose of the grants is to attract investment into Canaan with regard to job creation, knowledge transfer, and wealth creation.
- Community round table meetings to identify beneficiaries. This quarter Digicel mobile phone charging stations (40 stations in total) beneficiaries were identified. Also, Coordination with the Red Cross staff for criteria in selecting beneficiaries for Digicel Mon

Cash (mobile money) kiosks. Both activities are a component to increase income generating opportunities within communities.

- There are currently 23 Village Saving Loan Associations (VSLA) groups that are functioning and receiving facilitation assistance and training.
- Due to arid nature of Canaan and its noticeable difference from the surrounding areas, a technical study to identify the appropriate trees for the reforestation of Canaan and the identification of potential value chains was launched. The study identified the type of trees that can grow successfully in Canaan. It concluded that the Moringa Oleifera tree has the highest potential to develop a value chain, its leaves and seeds are in high demand locally and internationally.

Pillar II Physical Renewal activities and events:

- Coordination meetings with GoH in relation to infrastructure development. Meetings were held with the mayor of Thomazeau to discuss the methodology for collaboration and cooperation within the CUCD project in the neighborhood of Onaville.
- Coordination meetings with project partners. Global Communities met with ESC (the consulting firm providing support for supervision and design of roads, bridges and ravines) and EVA (the architecture firm providing support in supervision and design for public spaces and buildings) this quarter to facilitate their collaboration with each other on site studies for sites that will connect.
- Participants were trained this quarter on Safer Building in Jérusalem, St-Christophe, Canaan and Corail in which participants posed important questions about construction methods and were informed on safe construction practices.
- Multiple coordination meetings and site visits to gain approval of sites. This quarter the Minister of Education & UCLBP discussed the construction of a National School in Canaan and work on approval and collaboration.
- Multiple community engagement events to increase the physical appearance and conditions of Canaan. For example, this quarter, visited and discussed with artisans to view design models for metallic art on streetlights. Also visited with community leaders to evaluate their proposed locations for the 75 street lamps and narrowed down their proposed sites of over 100 to 75.
- The facilitation of the private sector building and construction. This quarter, held a field visit with SOGEBANK to show them the proposed banks site and first draft of the bank building design. Also visited Canaan in general so the SOGEBANK could identify potential opportunities or construction sites for business.

Quarter Details

B5. Project Staffing¹

Personnel Type	Personnel Requirements	Positions Currently Filled	Comments
Expatriate Staff	1	1	
Local Staff	27	22	
Volunteers	0	0	

General Staffing Issues

As program implementation activities progress, Global Communities will continue to hire the remainder of the required staff. There are several positions (finance, contracts, administration and drivers) that are shared with other Global Communities programs and not included in the table above.

B6. Analysis

General Overview:

Project activities undertaken during the last quarter have not achieved the target due to several challenges at the administrative level such as approvals for infrastructure sites, approval of a feasible bounding policy, resolution of demolition compensation, and expedition of USAID engineering design review. While the project continues to have success from close collaboration with partners and the community, there are difficulties that must be resolved within the next quarter in order to accomplish

¹ Put all paid positions in full-time equivalent; Count as a volunteer any person recruited specifically for the tasks under the project who work greater than 4 hours per year.

set targets during the LOP. Once the issues are resolved, a revision of the program timeline will be required.

The collaboration and coordination between ARC mobilization team and Global Communities continued smoothly through this quarter and was a key factor in avoiding issues or friction with the community. The continuous community engagement meetings are showing results in the form of better community understanding of the program and expectations management.

Six (6) small existing public places rehabilitation and upgrading projects were ongoing during this quarter. These are part of the quick impact projects which were launched in the Canaan-Wide area to appease the community and provide them with assurance that CUCD will continue working with them while the planning of activities are ongoing.

The third and last part of Canaan Strategy, Projects Identification and Urban Renovation report (Canaan-Wide area – deliverable 3) was completed and submitted last quarter. This report was discussed with USAID and ARC early April and later with UCLBP, USAID, ARC, and concerned partners early June. Global communities is still waiting for the UCLBP to validate the final report and the sites identified by CUCD for all the major infrastructure projects of the program. Global Communities requested USAID and ARC's advice and is still waiting.

During an internal compliance review process last quarter, Global Communities realized that CUCD's Cooperative Agreement did not include all the construction activities in the "Description, Construction Activities USNGO (AUG 2013), of Attachment C Mandatory Standard Provisions. The provision stipulates that (Construction is not eligible for reimbursement under this award unless specifically identified....). Therefore, Global Communities submitted late last quarter a modification request to include all the construction activities included in the program proposal and attachments. The modification was received late in this quarter.

During the preparation of the first sub-award that includes construction, Global Communities discovered an imprecision in a previous donor communication regarding the bonding policy requirements that applies to CUCD's construction contracts. It was uncovered that the regulation applicable bonding requirements are (a 5% bid bond, a 100% payment bond and a 100% performance bond). The same regulation mentions "...the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity may accept the bonding policy and requirements of the non-Federal entity provided that the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity has made a determination that the Federal interest is adequately protected....". Global communities believes that the Haitian conditions do not permit the full implementation of the aforementioned bonding policy. Accordingly, Global Communities submitted a request to the donor to approve its Haiti bonding policy that has been successfully used in the country for several years. Global Communities did not receive an answer whether the donor accepted its Haiti bonding policy or not.

During the preparation of the program Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP), Global Communities came to know that per the new EMMP version (Dec 2015 update) a USAID Engineer design revision and approval process is required per mission order 36. This will add unanticipated delays to the design process of all construction projects.

Global Communities informed USAID, ARC and UCLBP of the impending issue of needing to demolish

parts or whole structures (commercial and residential) in order to allow the construction of the infrastructure projects since FY16 Q1 (Oct-Dec 2016). The verbal positions are; USAID cannot get involved, ARC will assess once compensation costs are identified and UCLBP can implement resident's relocation but does not have the funds to do so.

In general, these challenges have hindered the ability to implement the project and complete targeted objectives.

Objectives analysis:

Objective 1: Implement community-prioritized projects that will improve local resiliency.

1.1. Community and Stakeholder Consensus on Neighborhood-Level Planning Initiatives Achieved

- Multiple coordination meetings with UCLBP, USAID, ARC, UN Habitat & Habitat for Humanity to coordinate activities in Canaan to continue fostering partnerships between stakeholders.
- A visit to all CUCD infrastructure sites with UCLBP, USAID, ARC, UN Habitat, Habitat for Humanity and the municipalities of both Croix des Bouquets and Thomazou. An Urban Planning consultant and an Engineering consultant were hired by UCLBP. The purpose of the visit was to seek consensus on the site locations. Coordination with UN Habitat to validate the inclusion of CUCD infrastructure sites within the urban master plan that is being prepared. Additionally, UN Habitat is providing information on the flood levels for each site.
- Planning meetings to on the technical studies and designs with the firms EVA and ESC.
- Multiple community meetings to discuss community round tables needs and perceptions, VSLA promotion and education meeting, coordination meetings with Digicel Group and Digicel Foundation, and meetings with local authorities (municipalities, CAZECs and AZECs) were held throughout the quarter with team leads and field mobilizers.
 - o A large meeting was held with the community members of Onaville. They expressed their need for water, roads, education and many other points of discussion. The program activities were also explained to the community thoroughly for their further comprehension.

1.2. Canaan Downtown Upgraded, providing a growth pole for future development and a model for GoH and donor investments in other areas of Canaan.

Overall, this objective has experienced delays for this quarter due to UCLBP delays in providing approvals for infrastructure sites, the donor approval of Haiti bonding policy, obtaining other approvals including updating the construction list, and the application of mission order 36 to CUCD. Despite delays the following updates for this objective include:

- The consulting firms EVA and ESC were mobilized this quarter to begin collaborating on the evaluations that will be done of the Route Canaan, Tap-Tap station, and three large public spaces in Canaan 1, 2, and 3.
- The National School site has been approved by the Ministry of Education (MENFP). The design of the school was selected and the Environmental Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (EMMP) is being reviewed and is awaiting approval by USAID to move forward with tender

launching for construction. Construction is slated to begin in a timely manner next quarter in coordination with the mayor of Croix-de-Bouquets.

- Public lighting was identified as a QUIP and all locations have been selected with the community. A contract award for installation will be given upon USAID's EMMP approval. Entrepreneurs have been selected through GC's community participation process and Digicel is prepared for partnership in installing the recharging stations.
- The Citizen Service Center was visited by GoH officials for their approval of the site and the design has been completed including revisions requested by SogeXpress.

1.3. Physical Environment and Urban Management of the Larger Canaan Zone Improved.

This objective has also experienced similar delays as mentioned above, however, the following updates for these activities include:

- Global Communities contracted two construction study, design, and supervision firms:
 - o The architectural and engineering firm Emergent Vernacular Architecture (EVA) for public spaces including public market, tap-tap station, community centers, and public/green places.
 - o The engineering firm Ingénieurs Conseils (ESC) for roads, drainage, bridges and ravine works.

Each firm will undertake the identified construction study/design and supervision relevant activities.

- Six (6) small public places projects were launched and will be completed based on EMMP approval. The public places are Place La Visite, Place Onaville, Place Canaan 3B, Place Jacob, Place Coin de Ville, and Place Atouris.
- Street naming in Canaan began with the partner Habitat for Humanity, they have transferred the street names to GC and Digicel has the street posts ready for donation.
- 16 Safe Building trainings and information session were held with over 600 total participants this quarter.
- Coordination meetings with SogeXpress to revise the architectural plan of the SogeXpress bank, microfinance, money transfer and service center.

Objective 2: Create a more dynamic and equitable livelihoods sector fostered through efforts to reduce barriers and inefficiencies and stimulate new economic opportunities.

For this project objective, there has been delays because CUCD changed strategy and methods as well as the aforementioned issues of government delays etc. Initial proposals from the private sector lacked the capacity to meet the essential needs identified in Canaan and returns on investment were low, therefore, an RFA was posted for Integrated Business Development Services and Employment Creation and the award was given to PADF.

2.1. Canaan Market and Livelihood Assessment

- ARC put survey data gathered on households and their mapping of small businesses in Canaan on Open Street Maps in this quarter. Therefore, CUCD and other partners have the information readily available and easily accessible.
- The Canaan market & value chain assessment study was launched and is anticipated to mid next quarter.

2.2. Barriers to Livelihoods Reduced

As for the CUCD's livelihood activities that are not interrelated to infrastructure projects, the program had been able to advance this quarter as the following:

- The Village Saving and Loans Associations activity has been very successful. CUCD created 23 VSLA groups, comprising 465 members (76.3% out of them are women), with 323,230 HTG in savings to date. A comprehensive upgraded training on all VSLA training modules for all VSLA committees to consolidate their knowledge and increase their performance began this quarter as well as 60 different meetings with the Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLA) groups on formation of groups and election modules, internal regulations and rules of the funds to improve their management capacity.
- Under the business development, increase access to financial services and employment generation components, the \$1.75 million Integrated Business Development Systems and Employment Creation (IBDSEC) sub-award was developed, the approval was sent to the donor and was received at the end of the quarter. The sub-award will be signed with PADF early next quarter, however, due to the delay in approval the program was reduced from 12 months to 11 to remain within the LOP.
- Meetings with 5 technical training schools: JB Damier, ENAM, CETEMOH, Centre Pilote, Canado to discuss the technical training scholarships and evaluate if they have the capacity to complete the desired training due to the unique needs of the community i.e. some of the students may not have an adequate level of education. Proposals were received by technical schools for vocational trainings, however, given the proposals discrepancies with the required information, it was requested that the vocational schools update their proposals.
- Workshops and networking events for the Haitian private sector to encourage investment and livelihoods opportunities in the project area are ongoing.
- Preliminary meetings with the Coordinator of the Community Resource Centre (CRC) were held to analyze the possibility of a sustainable plan of action for the structures functioning instead of reliance on Global Communities for salaries.
- Identified community members eligible to receive the Digicel Charging stations through election process with the community.

- As for livelihoods activities related to infrastructure:
 - o The sub-award with SogeXpress was developed. SogeXpress will provide banking, microfinance, transfers and other financial services in Canaan once the Bank/MFI building is completed.
 - o Proposals for implementing the construction relevant vocational trainings (masonry, tiling, plumbing, windows and electricity installation, etc.) were received from 3 vocational institutions and were analyzed. The sub-award will be signed once it is clear when infrastructure projects will be implemented as the vocational hands-on training component will be done on these projects.
 - o Digicel Group was awarded a contract to provide mobile money services and will construct kiosks in Canaan, the EMMP has been submitted and is awaiting approval. The community mobilization team has distributed the site criteria to the community and will identify the kiosk sites next quarter.

Key Accomplishments –

According to indicator achievements see below. Other accomplishments have been described above.

7	Project Baseline	Q1 Reporting Period October 2015 - December 2015				Q2 Reporting Period January 2016 - March 2016				Q3 Reporting Period April 2016- June 2016				
		Date	Value	M	F	Total	Target	M	F	Total	Target	M	F	Total
40	RESULT 2: A More Dynamic & Equitable Livelihoods Sector Fostered through Efforts to Reduce Barriers, Inefficiencies & Stimulate new Econ Opportunities													
42	Number of direct person/days of employment generated		0	0	0	219	30	249		911	114	1025		
43	Infrastructure-related employment for reporting to GOH		0	0	0	5	0	5		8	1	9		

The number of direct person/days of employment is over 1,000 for this quarter this indicates that over 100 people have been employed for the recorded amount of days.

7	Project Baseline	Q1 Reporting Period October 2015 - December 2015				Q2 Reporting Period January 2016 - March 2016				Q3 Reporting Period April 2016- June 2016				
		Date	Value	M	F	Total	Target	M	F	Total	Target	M	F	Total
22	IR 1.1: Community and Stakeholder Consensus on Neighborhood-Level Planning Initiatives Achieved													
24	% of Community members who state their government/ local government responds to the input of communities					29	NA	NA	NA	52				
25	Number of stakeholder engagement events held	NA	NA	NA	NA	29	NA	NA	NA	52			142	

CUCD held 142 stakeholder coordination this quarter compared to 52 last quarter. This indicates a very high level of coordination efforts this quarter.

7	Project Baseline	Q1 Reporting Period October 2015 - December 2015				Q2 Reporting Period January 2016 - March 2016				Q3 Reporting Period April 2016- June 2016					
		Date	Value	M	F	Total	Target	M	F	Total	Target	M	F	Total	Target
54	Number of households with increased savings											110	355	465	

Since January the VSLA groups have increased to 23 with 465 members with 323,230 HTG in savings.

Key Challenges –

The key challenges for meeting targeted indicators are due to the over-all delay in the project and previous difficulties from Q 1-2:

- Administrative approvals and validation of the infrastructure identified sites.
- The development of a procedure to compensate owners of the structures that need to be demolished to allow the infrastructure construction.

Plan of Action –

Global Communities will continue to work with the donors to find solutions to administrative issues obstructing the program and once all resolved a new implementation plan with a feasible timeline will be submitted.

B7. Work Plan for Next Quarter

No work plan is submitted this quarter because it is still unclear when infrastructure projects can start.

Comments on Work Plan for Next Quarter:

NA.

B8. Cross-Cutting Themes

Global Communities infrastructure will positively impact women and children after completion. Roads will provide improved and safer access to households. The national school construction will benefit children. Global Communities will work with contractors to encourage the hiring of women. A complete activity comprising the provision of 40 solar charging and lighting stations will be dedicated to women entrepreneurs.

Global Communities is ensuring that its public spaces are able to offer safe sites for all community members. An integral part of its interventions is the lighting of public spaces and roads. Global Communities has required that all its technical designs integrate sufficient lighting.

Environmental protection remains at the core of Global Communities' construction activities. For each project, Global Communities submits a detailed Environmental Monitoring and Mitigation Plan to USAID. This incorporates environmental mitigation measures which are followed by the contractors and monitored by Global Communities staff.

Global Communities is working towards adopting ARC's Accountability to Beneficiaries (AtB) Strategy in its team. All Global Communities mobilization team attended ARC AtB training. Global Communities will continue to support the ARC-established joint Feedback and Response Mechanism (FRM). Global Communities provides responses to inquiries provided to ARC from zone residents.

Global Communities will work with ARC's team to identify DRR interventions for the local disaster response teams that will be created by ARC.

B9. Transition Strategy

While early in the program, Global Communities will pattern its transition strategy on similar projects carried out in Haiti. Global Communities will sign MOUs with the Ministry of Public Works (MTPTC), the national water authority (OREPA) and the national electricity network (EDH). Global Communities develops its technical designs with the stakeholder or institution eventually responsible for operating and maintaining a specific infrastructure. For example, the MTPTC will approve the technical design for the construction of roads, and will provide a technical team for supervising the works in conjunction with Global Communities, and as the responsible for this sector, will approve the construction works at the end of the project. Global Communities will develop and sign a transfer document with MTPTC, DINEPA and EDH for any infrastructure under their purview.

For community centers, Global Communities will work with community structures and ARC mobilization team staff for these beneficiaries to assume responsibility for maintaining these facilities. Global Communities will deliver infrastructure specific training to these community groups.

At an administrative level, for close-out, Global Communities will develop and submit to USAID a disposition of its assets.

B10. Annexes

1. Indicator Tracking Table