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Labadee Clean and Productive Environment Global Development Alliance

Background:

Royal Caribbean Cruise Line (RCCL) currently brings 500,000 cruise ship guests a year for day-long excursions at the Labadee resort on the north coast of Haiti, which is run by its wholly-owned subsidiary Société Labadee Nord (SLN). The Solano Foundation (SF) is a nonprofit organization created in 2006 as the social, environmental and community livelihood arm of RCCL and SLN. Its main goals are to coordinate and expand existing and new social, environmental and community livelihood activities in the region around the Labadee resort, known as the 'Section Communale de la Bande du Nord'.

The regional population of Bande du Nord continues to expand and put pressure on the already deteriorated natural environment. This is especially true for the Labadie Village, which has expanded from less than a thousand people to more than five thousand over the last ten years. Both human health and the tourist resources are threatened by environmental deterioration which is aggravated by overpopulation. The Solano Foundation works toward sustainable livelihoods through tourism, considering that there are plans to substantially increase cruise ship traffic to Labadee resort in the near future.

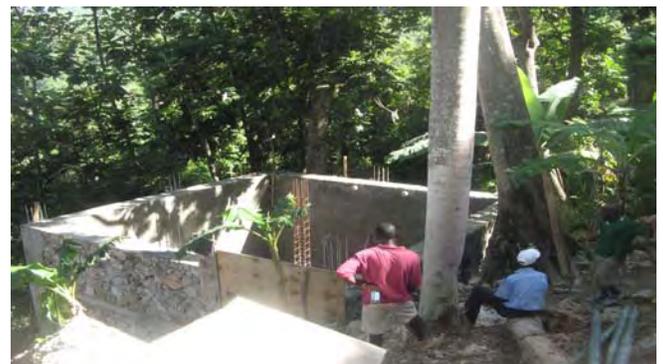
Objectives:

The project aims at creating sustainable livelihoods through tourism.

Activities:

The project has three major activities that reinforce each other by addressing the background challenges to sustainability (health and environment), and by providing immediate employment and new job skills:

- Create a clean and productive environment around Labadie Village: this component will include water supply management, solid waste management, and community training.
- Develop trade and investment activities, such as job training related to tourism: RCCL will train workers in a variety of skills related to on-shore and on-ship positions.
- Create new attractions/activities that will focus on the environmental and cultural diversity of Haiti. This will create jobs and contribute to giving visitors a positive image of the country.



Construction of a water reservoir that will supply water to the Labadie village

USAID Support:

\$350,000

Life of Program:

February 2008 to February 2011

Geographic Focus

This program will be carried out in the region around the Labadee resort, known as the 'Section Communale de la Bande du Nord'.

Implementing Mechanism and Partner:

This Global Development Alliance (GDA) is being implemented by the SOLANO Foundation. The following partners will contribute to the implementation of the program:

- The Royal Caribbean International
- The 'Société Labadie Nord'
- The Fondation Connaissance et Liberté

FY 2008 Program Results

- Construction of a 28k gallon water impoundment structure with the capacity to supply up to 400 water distribution points within Labadie Villiage;
- Support of local clinic in Labadie Villiage with medical supplies and equipment.

Anticipated Results over Life of Program:

The following results are expected over life of the GDA:

- Sustainable natural resources management in Labadie Village;
- 1,800 new jobs created directly on-board or on-site;
- Increase in tourist traffic to the site and surrounding areas, increasing revenues.