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PREPEP

Programme de Revitalisation et de Promotion de l'Entente et de la Paix

Background:

Conflict mitigation, management and stabilization began in 2004 with the Haiti Transition Initiative (HTI) which built upon and expanded DCHA/OTI's successful intervention in communities in areas of conflict throughout the world. On August 15, 2006, management of HTI was transferred to USAID/Haiti and subsequently renamed PREPEP – Programme de Revitalization et de Promotion de l'Entente et de la Paix (Program for Revitalization and Promotion of Understanding and Peace).

Objectives:

1. Enhance citizen confidence and participation in peaceful political transition;
2. Empower citizens and the Haitian government to address priority community needs;
3. Build cooperative frameworks between citizens and government entities at all levels; and
4. Promote peaceful interaction among conflicted populations.

Activities:

PREPEP works with community-based groups in targeted, conflict-prone areas to identify small scale, high-impact projects designed to engage a wide cross-section of the community in its own stabilization and improvement. The program bridges the gap between the government and marginalized communities by creating opportunities for dialogue and collaboration around the rehabilitation of small infrastructure and socio-cultural activities, especially for youth. Basketball courts, soccer fields, schools, small roads, bridges, peri-urban agriculture and irrigation infrastructure activities are part of a larger campaign to promote positive participation, community cohesion and reconciliation. Rehabilitation works employ labor intensive methods to the extent possible to maximize the number of residents who benefit from short-term jobs. These activities are designed to highlight the importance of community commitment to and involvement in peace and reconciliation.

USAID Support:

Through the end of September 2008, USAID/Haiti has committed more than \$52.1 million to implement small-scale infrastructure projects in at-risk communities of the project geographic focus. PREPEP is a quick response program that has enabled USAID to take advantage of the DOD Section 1207 funds for the Haiti Stabilization Initiative in Cite Soleil (\$6.45 million), to respond to crises such as the April 2008 food riots (\$6.5 million) and the devastating 2008 hurricane season (\$14.6 million), and funding designated for drinking water system rehabilitation (\$500,000).

Life of Project:

May 2004 to September 2010

Geographic Focus:

Port-au-Prince and its surroundings (Delmas, Cite Soleil), Cap-Haitian, Gonaives, St-Marc, Petit-Goave, and Les Cayes.

Implementing Mechanism and Partner:

The project is funded through a cooperative agreement with the International Organization for Migration. The latter works with community organizations to help plan the projects while also developing partnerships with local officials and government ministries, such as the ministries of Education, Public Works, Health, Environment, and Planning.

FY 2008 Project Results:

Since the beginning of the program in 2004 until the end of September 2008, PREPEP has implemented 1,611 small-scale infrastructure projects worth \$35.04 million. Throughout these projects more 145,000 people gained badly needed employment opportunities. While constructing or rehabilitating long-lasting public infrastructure, the PREPEP empowers and builds cohesion in vulnerable communities to actively participate in positive community change. More than 2,000 leaders from around 700 community based organizations received capacity building training in leadership and conflict mitigation. PREPEP supports the credibility and capacity of government

institutions of all five target areas to respond to community needs; balances cooperation and communication among local leaders and groups, Haitian civil society, and government; and isolates “spoilers” (drivers of conflict) by filling the gaps they could exploit.

Expected Results Over Life of Project

Across the six target areas, the PREPEP executes community-identified, durable and utilitarian projects that seek to achieve the following results:

- Mitigation of conflict;
- Creation of community cohesion and leadership;
- Isolation and disempowerment of negative elements, specifically spoilers;
- Strengthened community associations;
- Rehabilitation of public infrastructure;
- Creation of short-term wage labor opportunities; and,
- Involvement and support of the Government of Haiti.