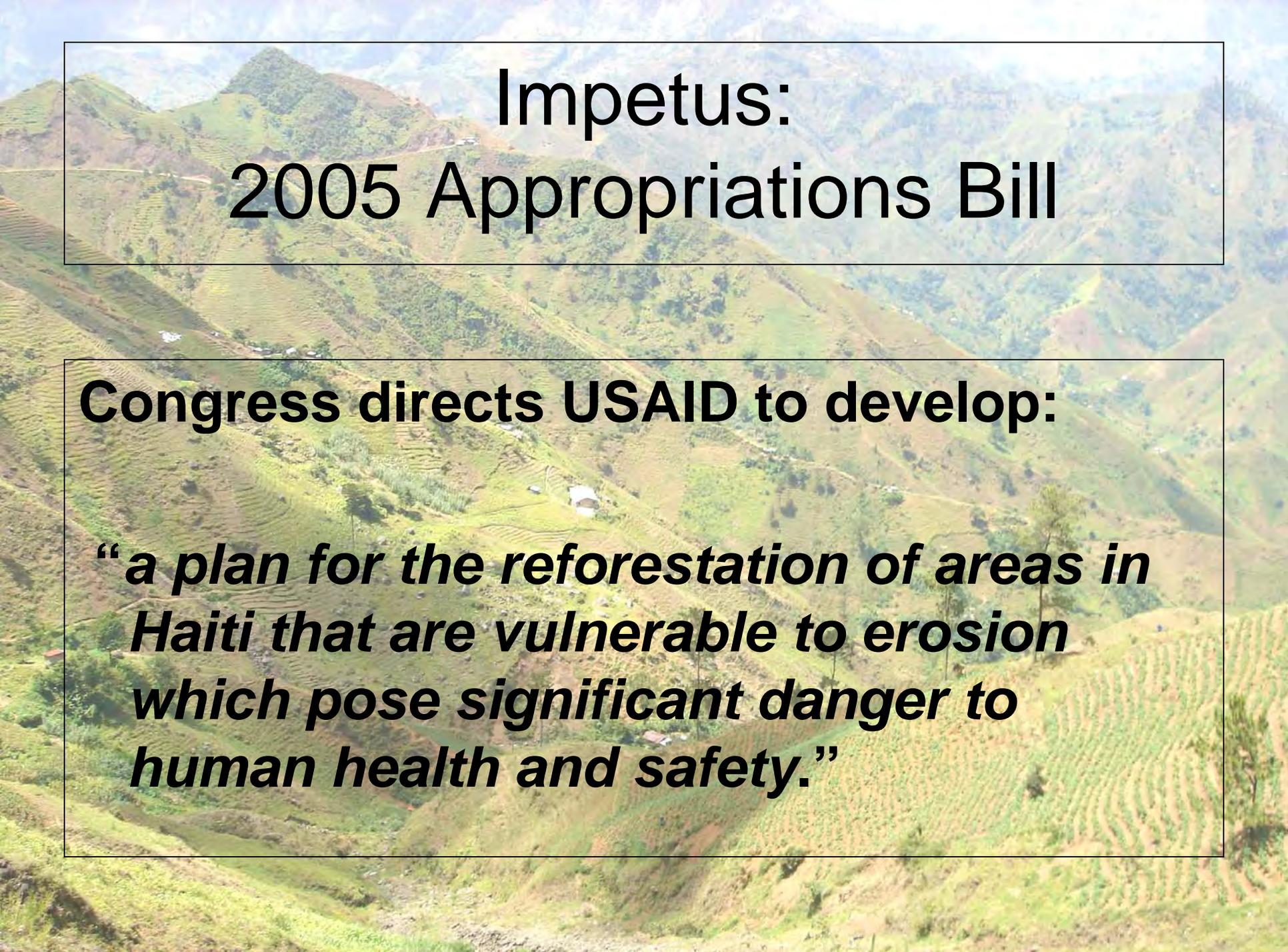


From *Reforestation* to *Environmental Vulnerability*

**Assessment of opportunities &
challenges for
USAID strategic interventions**

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An aerial photograph of a mountainous region in Haiti, showing extensive terraced hillsides. The terraces are a mix of green and brown, indicating some areas are planted while others are bare or recently cleared. A few small white buildings are visible in the valley. The sky is blue with light clouds.

Impetus: 2005 Appropriations Bill

Congress directs USAID to develop:

“a plan for the reforestation of areas in Haiti that are vulnerable to erosion which pose significant danger to human health and safety.”

Assessment Parameters

- **Interpretation: broad mandate to examine**
 - Management of critical watersheds
 - Improvement of rural livelihoods
 - Sustainable forest management
 - Reduction of vulnerability to natural disasters
- **Interventions that are:**
 - Likely to be effective
 - Able to produce impact at broad scale
 - Within USAID's manageable interest
 - Complementary to programs of other donors and NGOs
 - Responsive to GOH priorities

Assessment Scope

- **Watershed management**
- **Agroforestry**
- **Forest & parks management**
- **Population-environment-health links**
- **Disaster preparedness & urban planning**
- **Policy & institutional reform**
- **Energy alternatives (including biofuels)**
- **Value-added agricultural commodities**

Assessment Team

- **Glenn Smucker (anthropologist)**
- **Jean Andre Victor (legal & policy specialist)**
- **Marc Antoine Noel (agronomist, governance expert)**
- **Joel Timyan (forest ecologist)**
- **Michael Bannister (agroforester)**
- **Yves Gossin (agronomist)**
- **Ronald Toussaint (biodiversity specialist)**
- **Heather D'Agnes & Rochelle Rainey (population-environment-health specialists)**
- **Marc Portnoff (engineer & biofuels expert)**
- **Scot Smith (GIS analyst)**

Assessment Methods

- **March 2005 assessment of USAID's Hillside Agroforestry Program**
- **Phase 1**
 - **Review of literature**
 - **Overview of USG and other donor programs**
 - **GOH capacity assessment**
 - **Identification of key stakeholders**

Assessment Methods (cont.)

- **Phase 2**

- **Continued technical & policy meetings with stakeholder groups**
 - **USG inter-agency group**
 - **Major donors**
 - **Transition government and current GOH ministers and staff**
 - **Civil society groups (NGOs & grassroots farmer groups)**
 - **Private sector/business leaders**
- **Field visits**
- **GIS analysis of watersheds**
- **Stakeholder workshops in Port-au-Prince & Washington**

Desired Outcomes

- **Concrete recommendations for scaling up of successful interventions**
- **Prioritization of watersheds**
- **Support from Congress**
- **Improved donor coordination and stakeholder support**
- **Holistic approach to environmental vulnerability**