



**The World Bank**

Haiti Emergency Resilient Agriculture for Food Security Project (P177072)

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# Project Information Document (PID)

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Appraisal Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 15-Feb-2022 | Report No: PIDA32537

**BASIC INFORMATION****A. Basic Project Data**

Country Haiti	Project ID P177072	Project Name Haiti Emergency Resilient Agriculture for Food Security Project	Parent Project ID (if any)
Region LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN	Estimated Appraisal Date 24-Jan-2022	Estimated Board Date 17-Mar-2022	Practice Area (Lead) Agriculture and Food
Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Ministry of Economy and Finance	Implementing Agency Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development	

## Proposed Development Objective(s)

The Project Development Objectives (PDOs) are to (i) support project beneficiaries' access to nutritious food, and increase climate- and nutrition-smart agricultural production, including in earthquake-affected areas; and (ii) enable the Government of Haiti to respond effectively to an eligible emergency.

## Components

Support project beneficiaries' access to nutritious food

Increase climate- and nutrition-smart agricultural production

Promote access to nutritious food and increase climate- and nutrition-smart agricultural production in earthquake-affected areas

Project management, monitoring and evaluation, and studies

Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC)

The processing of this project is applying the policy requirements exceptions for situations of urgent need of assistance or capacity constraints that are outlined in OP 10.00, paragraph 12.

Yes

**PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)****SUMMARY**

Total Project Cost	102.00
Total Financing	102.00
of which IBRD/IDA	102.00
Financing Gap	0.00



## DETAILS

### World Bank Group Financing

International Development Association (IDA)	102.00
IDA Grant	102.00

Environmental and Social Risk Classification

Substantial

Decision

The review did authorize the team to appraise and negotiate

Other Decision (as needed)

## B. Introduction and Context

Country Context

- Haiti remains locked in a cycle of low growth and limited poverty reduction.** The third-largest Caribbean nation by area (27,560 square kilometers) and largest by population (11.3 million), Haiti remains the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere and one of the poorest in the world, with a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita of US\$1,177 in 2020. Growth has stagnated since 2017, contracting by 3.3 percent in 2020, even as the cost of the Minimum Food Basket (MFB) increased by 25 percent in the year to September 2020, eroding households' purchasing power.<sup>1</sup> As a result, poverty has risen sharply in recent years, from an estimated 47 percent in 2018 to 51 percent of the population in 2020.<sup>2</sup> The vast majority of extremely poor households are concentrated in rural areas, where 75 percent of the population live in poverty and 27 percent live in extreme poverty.<sup>3</sup> Political instability and related institutional fragility have resulted in persistent poverty and exclusion for most of Haiti's population.
- Haiti is one of the countries with the highest exposures in the world to multiple natural hazards, and risks have increased with climate change.** More than 93 percent of the country's surface and more than 96 percent of its population are exposed to two or more hazards. The human and economic impacts of disasters have been severe: damages and losses associated with hydrometeorological events alone shaved off almost 2 percent of GDP per year during 1961-2012.<sup>4</sup> Climate change is expected to further increase this vulnerability, including via a projected 50 percent reduction in

<sup>1</sup> World Development Indicators, 2020, available at: <https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators>.

<sup>2</sup> WB Macro Poverty Outlook, available at [https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/macro-poverty-outlook/mpo\\_lac](https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/macro-poverty-outlook/mpo_lac).

<sup>3</sup> Haiti Macro Poverty Outlook, October 2020. <http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/302511582655271446/mpo-lac.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> World Bank and the ONPES (National Observatory of Poverty and Social Exclusion). 2014. *Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, Think Hazard Haiti Profile* (<https://thinkhazard.org/en/report/108-haiti>).



precipitation and a projected 4°C rise in temperatures by 2080, resulting in more frequent and more extreme climate events such as droughts and floods, a higher incidence of climate-sensitive diseases (e.g. dengue), less reliable water resources, a loss of biodiversity and lower agricultural productivity.

#### Sectoral and Institutional Context

3. **Haiti's population is suffering from very high levels of food insecurity and malnutrition, and the country is facing a growing food insecurity crisis.** Rising staple food prices, the volatility of the gourde, sociopolitical unrest, deteriorating security conditions, and declines in agricultural production have greatly reduced access to nutritious food for the poorest households. As of January 2020, 13.6 percent of children under age 5 were suffering from global acute malnutrition (up from 4.1 percent in 2012), while 23 percent suffered from chronic malnutrition, which is more prevalent in rural than in urban areas. According to the most recent estimates by the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), as of September 2021, 4.4 million people (44 percent of the population) were facing Crisis conditions or worse (IPC Phase 3 and higher), and this number is projected to increase to 4.6 million (46 percent) by June 2022, due to reduced access to food as incomes remain depressed and food prices soar.<sup>5</sup> Moreover, negative coping strategies to meet immediate food needs, e.g. consumption of seed stocks and the sale of reproductive livestock, are compromising longer-term livelihoods. Moreover, climate change is exacerbating the risks of food insecurity and malnutrition by resulting in more frequent and intense natural disasters, such as droughts, floods and storms, that destroy crops, livestock and agricultural infrastructure, such as irrigation channels, storage facilities and rural roads.
4. **Agriculture is critical and fundamental to addressing food insecurity in Haiti but is beset with problems.** Agriculture accounts for more than 20 percent of GDP and around 50 percent of overall employment, but most farmers have limited access to agricultural inputs and knowledge, and rural infrastructure and agriculture value chains to access markets are underdeveloped. Women farmers account for around 47 percent of farmers and face particular challenges in accessing improved technology and technical support. Agricultural production has stagnated due to repeated natural disasters, including hurricanes, floods, droughts, and the severe earthquake of August 2021 that resulted in the deaths of more than 2,000 Haitians and economic damages of over US\$1.1 billion.

#### C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

##### Development Objective(s) (From PAD)

5. **The Project Development Objectives (PDOs)** are to (i) support project beneficiaries' access to nutritious food, and increase climate- and nutrition-smart agricultural production, including in earthquake-affected areas; and (ii) enable the Government of Haiti to respond effectively to an eligible emergency.

##### Key Results

6. **Key expected outcomes include:** improved Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) ratings for targeted beneficiaries, including in earthquake-affected areas; the adoption of improved climate-smart technologies and approaches; an increased volume of nutritious agri-food products produced by beneficiaries; and the recovery of land for climate-smart agricultural production following the

<sup>5</sup> IPC 2020. Haiti: Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Snapshot September 2021 - June 2022. Available at: [http://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC\\_Haiti\\_Acute\\_Food\\_Insecurity\\_2021Sept2022June\\_Snapshot\\_English\\_rural\\_urban.pdf](http://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_Haiti_Acute_Food_Insecurity_2021Sept2022June_Snapshot_English_rural_urban.pdf).



severe earthquake in August 14, 2021. The main beneficiaries of the proposed Project will be around 75,000 farmers, 55 percent of whom would be women farmers, in rural households comprising around 375,000 people, in the Haitian Departments of Grand'Anse, Sud, Les Nippes and Centre. The proposed Project would constitute a net carbon sink of 2,610,470 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>eq) over a 20-year period, or 130,524 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq per year.

#### D. Project Description

7. **The Resilient Agriculture for Food Security Project (PARSA) will address crisis levels of food insecurity for targeted beneficiaries in selected Departments in Haiti.** The Project will address both effective demand for and the supply of food in farming communities facing crisis food insecurity conditions (IPC3), and will promote the adoption of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) technologies and practices to enhance longer-term resilience to natural disasters and climate change in the four targeted Departments. The Project will also target specific support to farming households adversely affected by the August 2021 earthquake. The US\$102 million PARSA Project will be financed by an IDA Grant of US\$22 million, a Crisis Response Window (CRW) Grant of US\$30 million and a CRW Early Response Financing (ERF) Grant of US\$50 million. PARSA will have the following components:
8. **Component 1: Support project beneficiaries' access to nutritious food (US\$22 million).** The component will improve access to food, as measured by improvements in the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) ratings for targeted households in the Departments of Grand'Anse, Les Nippes, Sud and Centre, by financing temporary employment programs for communities living in IPC3 food insecurity. These public works programs will strengthen infrastructure for land and water management (e.g. irrigation channels, terracing and vegetative cover) to enhance climate resilience. Temporary employment will also be created in activities such as childcare and meal preparation to generate opportunities for persons who may not be able to engage in physically demanding infrastructure works. Beneficiaries will be selected using a participatory community approach, complemented by data from the Information System of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor.
9. **Component 2: Increase climate- and nutrition-smart agricultural production (US\$38 million).** This component will support farming communities in the four targeted Departments facing IPC3 food insecurity with climate-smart crop and livestock input packages, equipment, small structures, technical assistance (TA) and training to promote climate-smart and nutrition-smart agricultural production, improved post-harvest management practices and climate-resilient backyard production of food. Beneficiaries will be selected using a participatory community approach, with cross-checking of their status as farming households in the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development's (MARNDR) Farmer Registry.
10. **Component 3: Promote access to nutritious food and increase climate- and nutrition-smart agricultural production in earthquake-affected areas (US\$30 million).** Component 3 will support the recovery of earthquake-affected farming households in the worst-affected areas of the Sud, Grand'Anse and Les Nippes Departments by financing temporary employment programs, equipment, works, inputs and technical services to help vulnerable households recover following the August 2021 earthquake, and increase resilience to climate change and weather events. Activities to be finance include: rehabilitation of damaged irrigation infrastructure; rehabilitation of rural roads to improve access to irrigated perimeters and agricultural areas; investment in soil and water conservation measures to strengthen resilience to earthquakes and other natural disasters; rehabilitation of small-scale, hydraulic infrastructure and equipment destroyed by the earthquake; provision of input



packages to farmers decapitalized by the earthquake, and temporary employment programs in key supporting areas such as childcare and meal preparation.

**11. Component 4: Project management, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), and studies (US\$12 million).**

Component 4 will finance activities carried out by the PIU to implement the Project in line with the Project Operational Manual (POM). It will finance incremental and operating costs, including fiduciary, environment and social, and M&E staffing, as well as office space, equipment and goods for the purposes of managing the Project, as well as external audits. The Project's M&E system will draw on the Kobo Toolbox and will track key Project performance indicators on a gender-disaggregated basis. Component 4 will also finance selected studies, including studies that can help GoH develop a comprehensive food security plan in line with requirements under the CRW, and will support the National Food Security Commission (CNSA) in its role as national coordinator of food security responses, and will strengthen MARNDR's services.

**12. Component 5: Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC) (US\$0 million).** This contingent financing mechanism will permit Haiti rapid access to World Bank support in the event of an eligible crisis or emergency. The mechanism for triggering the CERC will be established in the CERC Operations Manual, detailing the applicable fiduciary, environmental and social, monitoring, reporting, and other implementation arrangements required for implementing the activities to be financed. In case of an event triggering the CERC, funds will be reallocated to this component to finance emergency purchases and activities, including goods, works and technical assistance to respond to the emergency. The implementation agency for the CERC will be determined in the CERC Manual.

Legal Operational Policies

Triggered?

Projects on International Waterways OP 7.50	No
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Projects in Disputed Areas OP 7.60	No
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Summary of Assessment of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

**13. Environmental and Social risks are rated Substantial.** The majority of potential negative environmental impacts will most likely be minimal and localized, for example risks related to disposal of any debris from minor infrastructure works and natural resource use risks particularly for water resources for surface- and rain-water irrigated or harvested. In other situations, the range of activities undertaken would be expected to generate Moderate environmental risk. In addition, any negative impacts encountered are likely to be reversible. Given the complex operating environment in Haiti, the wide geographic (nation-wide) scope of the project, and potential for negative impacts especially through occupational health and safety (OHS) risks and impacts in the labor-intensive works to be carried out, the Project is currently assessed as carrying Substantial environmental risk. While the overall social benefits are expected to be positive, identified social risks and potential impacts include: (i) contextual social risks and political fragility, a deteriorating security situation and travel restrictions, which constitute a significant risk in terms limiting the borrower's capacity to deliver and supervise project activities, (ii) social exclusion risks especially for vulnerable stakeholders, including the risk



that women, youth and persons with disabilities may not fully access the project benefits; (iii) perceived inequities in the selection of beneficiaries; and (iv) potential inadequate implementation of a robust stakeholder engagement strategy, including differentiated approaches to reach the most vulnerable stakeholders. The environmental and social risk management instruments will present an overview of the main risks and potential impacts associated with the project, and robust mitigation measures will be developed. These include an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) and Labor Management Procedures (LMP).

## E. Implementation

### Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

14. **The Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (MARNDR) will have overall responsibility for the Project.** It will chair the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and will coordinate closely with CNSA, which will be represented on the PSC, along with the Ministry of Finance, the Directors of the Agricultural Departments for Grand'Anse, Les Nippes, Sud and Centre, and the PIU Director. The final composition of the PSC will be determined and recorded in the POM.
15. **The Project will be implemented by MARNDR's existing PIU in charge of the ongoing Bank-funded RESEPAG-II Project (P126744), which has a strong and experienced team.** As under the ongoing operation, the PIU will be responsible for: (i) preparing an annual work plan and budget; (ii) managing financial management and procurement activities for the Project; (iii) ensuring implementation and monitoring of the ESMF; (iv) ensuring gender gaps are addressed in project activities; (v) managing communications outreach to beneficiary communities; (vi) administering the Project's M&E system, and (vii) organizing all project-related work and reporting. The PIU is located in two places, namely at the central level in Port-au-Prince and at the local level in the Sud Department, near the areas of interventions in the *Grand Sud*. Both units are fully staffed with appropriate expertise, although the Project will strengthen the fiduciary and environmental and social risk management staffing as needed to manage the additional workload. An additional local PIU with appropriate expertise will be established to support implementation in the Centre Department.

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**APPROVAL**

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