

RESUME

This study aims to make a diagnosis of the human security situation in Haiti. A sample of 20 communes in five geographic departments has been chosen, at the rate of five communes per department, in order to bring out the diversity of human insecurities in the country.

The study is based on people's feelings of fear about the threats posed by natural disasters, the needs and expectations of individuals, their dignity and their representations of each dimension of human securities.

A documentary research based on the main dimensions of human securities was carried out followed by the collection of empirical data through observation grids, semi-structured interview, focus group animation and a survey questionnaire.

Target populations, including women, men, people with disabilities and the elderly, were selected through the different sites of the study. Among the selected departments, three were victims of natural disasters: Grand'Anse, South and North-West. In these departments, respondents focus on the threats related to the rising tide, the Tsunami (in case of an earthquake), as well as serious health problems, fragile health infrastructure. Women are particularly concerned about post-disaster sexual assault.

In the other two departments, (North and Northeast), the main threats mainly concern agricultural activities, floods and drought considered as natural disasters in the Northeast.

In the five departments, the main threats identified by the respondents concern both social and natural aspects. Regarding social issues, they consider, among others, famine, anarchic constructions, deforestation, the mentality of the population on waste management, the lack of leadership of government authorities in terms of public policy making and law enforcement relating to disaster. For the natural dimension, respondents mentioned hurricanes, floods, drought, earthquakes that destroying lives and property.

The main needs and expectations of the population are expressed at three levels: first, during the emergency period, the public policy makers, NGOs and International Organizations should intervene in a synergistic manner in order to feed, care of affected population and prevent epidemics; secondly, during the post-disaster period, they should support economic activities recoveries, the recapitalization of small and medium-sized entrepreneurs; thirdly, to prevent improvisation, they should finally make public policies for natural disaster management.

A difference was noted in the expression of needs according to the sex of the respondents. If women focus on small business, sexually transmitted diseases prevention, caring for the elderly and children, men prefer farming, fishing, and offering money to their wives, among others.

Social and aspects are linked in terms of natural disaster management, but they are expressed in a differentiated manner, according to the sex of the respondents.

Perceptions of the dignity of individuals are expressed in all departments according to the sex of the respondents. For example, if for women losing their dignity is to be raped or to cheat on her husband; for men, losing their dignity is stealing or witnessing the rape of their daughter or their wife, watching their children die hungry, sick, dying without the possibility of supporting. As for people with disabilities, they think they lose their dignity when they are treated as children or when they are a burden for others in time of natural disasters.