

Haiti

Womens Economic Empowerment through Income Generation Activities



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

This initiative created economic opportunities for women within the Joint Programme for Conflict Prevention and Social Cohesion, implemented by several UN agencies, among them UNDP, to rehabilitate earthquake-affected neighborhoods in Port-au-Prince and encourage people living in camps to return to their neighborhoods. Based on lessons learned from the implementation of this project, a vision on women's economic empowerment was developed to support policies aimed at women's economic integration.

UNDP's Role

Partnership has been at the heart of UNDP approach to make this project a success. This was a very short term project, so the idea was to invest in people and organizations that have capacities and that are already well rooted within the communities. That's the reason why the project was able to show results in such a small lapse of time.

UNDP has developed partnerships with the Ministry of Women's Affairs to support the development of public policies to promote women's economic empowerment, and with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, in order to promote inclusive economic public policies. In parallel to the support provided to Government counterparts, UNDP also supported interventions in the field through partnering with civil society organizations to offer immediate livelihoods support. The best practices and lessons learned from these initiatives are being used to feed national public strategies.

Impact

- 750+ women completed vocational and professional training programs developed in line with the demands of the market
- 450+ new jobs created and 350+ micro-enterprises established
- 400+ enterprises supported through training, mentoring and access to credit
- 550+ young women (ages 18 to 34) participated in UNDP/MDG-F Championship for Young Female Entrepreneurs.
- A formal network of national and international actors established to promote women entrepreneurship as a motor of inclusive growth
- Government used this project as a model for scaling up

Elements of Success

- Partnerships were built with people and organizations that have capacities and are already well rooted within the communities in order to synergize on their efforts and deliver results quickly.
- The project's bottom-up approach ensured that the lessons learned from the field interventions contributed to enriching the knowledge management process.
- The very grass roots efforts were linked to national priorities by creating partnerships with national institutions including the Ministries of Women's Affairs, the Ministry of Youth and the Ministry of Commerce. Joint efforts with these Ministries are underway to scale up the model to other parts of the country.
- The success of the model is being used by the Haitian Government to identify regional markets, share knowledge, and create job centers to reach even more vulnerable populations nationally.



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IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

Korea-UNDP MDG Trust Fund, MDG-F, Ministry of Women's Affairs, Ministry of Youth, NGOs (Femmes en Democratie, FONKOZE, BRAC, International Rescue Committee, Grupo SOFONIAS, GOAL, J/P HRO, Secours Islamique France)