



GOVERNANCE

CARE Haiti

Poor or lack of governance is an underlying cause of poverty in most developing countries. CARE Haiti places strong emphasis on developing the principles of good governance in all its programme sectors. CARE defines **Governance** as the **effective, participatory, transparent, equitable and accountable management of public affairs** guided by agreed procedures and principles, to achieve the goals of sustainable poverty reduction and social justice. Good governance ensures that corruption is minimized, the views of minorities - particularly women and children - are taken into account, and that the voices of the most vulnerable in society are heard. Good governance is also responsive to the present and future needs of a society. In addition to incorporating good governance in cross-cutting sectors, CARE develops and supports governance initiatives in specific community based activities lead by local actors.

Objectives

- Strengthen capacity of local leaders in the development of their communities
- Improve citizen participation in the democratic processes from planning to implementation
- Raise awareness on rights and responsibilities through governance related networks

Projects

The **Partnership Council of Seine Maritime** in the town of Dame Marie aims to foster an institutional partnership between the Department of Seine Maritime in France and the Commune of Dame Marie in northwestern Haiti. The project focuses on the areas of emergency relief and sustainable development in land use, housing, economy and employment. Activities center on the development of fishing, agriculture, environment, culture, youth and sport, health, infrastructure and capacity building of the Community. The projects also seek to strengthen ties with neighboring municipalities and more generally strengthen links between all towns within the Grand Anse region in Haiti.

Seine Maritime Progress Update

- *In-depth study on the socio-economic impact and value of fishing*
- *Development of an economic stimulus project in agriculture and fisheries*
- *Creation of a Municipal Development Plan and Consultative Committee*
- *Purchase and delivery of agricultural tools*
- *35% of profit from crop harvest to returned to the community*



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PRODEP (National Project for Participatory Community Development) implements a Government development program in five municipalities within two departments of the Artibonite (Gros Morne and Anse Rouge) and three departments of the Northwest (Basin Bleu, Jean Rabel and Baie de Henne). Activities include the support of Community Organizations (CBOs); organization and support of existing PRODEP projects and the implementation of new sub-projects; transformation of PRODEP to Community Development Support organizations (CADEC) and garnering legal recognition within municipal governments. The project also focuses on capacity building of CBOs, CADEC and Town Councils.

PRODEP Progress update

- **Sensitization events average 56% in women participants**
- **Promotion of community participation in communal initiatives**
- **Community awareness on issues of HIV / AIDS, cholera and environmental degradation**
- **Capacity building with local authorities, CBOs and CADEC (disbursement of funds, sub-projects, accounting workshops, bank accounts, preparation and filing of legal documents)**
- **\$13,687 in funding to support 28 initiatives in former projects**
- **\$347,529 in funding to support 25 new community sub-projects**

Gros Morne Local Development Project (PDLG) promotes the Haitian Government objective to decentralize capacities into local communities. The project works to develop mechanisms of good governance via democratic and participative management of public affairs within the community. This is done via the creation and/or

PDLG Progress update

- 1025 beneficiaries (751 women) trained on gender equality
- Elected officials and local stakeholders trained on municipal, financial and project management
- Town tax department established and equipped
- \$2,828 in municipal taxes raised within 5 months of first fiscal year of program, increasing to \$3,016 and \$17,296 in following quarters*
- Taxes support community agricultural projects
- 1587 women (47%) designated for small project implementation
- 30% women participation in decision making and development activities

*average yearly income in Haiti is \$600US

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