

PROJECT PROFILE

HAITI

I. BASIC DATA

Project name:	New Technologies and Institutional Capacity Building in the Government of Haiti		
Project number:	HA-L1051		
Project team:	Team Leader: Silvana Rubino-Hallman (ICF/ICS); Paloma Baena (ICF/ICS); Dana King (ICF/ICS); Gary Olius (ICS/CHA); Joana Pascual Jordana (MIF/MIF); Hyun Jung Lee (LEG/SGO); Jorge Quinteros (PDP/PFM); Ariel Rodriguez (PDP/CHA); Marise Etienne Salnave (PDP/CHA); and Valeria Wedolowski (ICF/ICS)		
Grantee:	Republic of Haiti		
Source of funding:	IDB Grant Facility		
Executing agency:	Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), General Secretariat de la Primature		
Financing plan:	IDB:	US\$	3,000,000
	Local:	US\$	
	Total:	US\$	3,000,000
Safeguards:	Policies triggered:	Operation has not triggered any Policy Directives	
	Classification:	C	

II. GENERAL JUSTIFICATION AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The massive destruction caused by the January 12, 2010 earthquake requires the implementation of an enormous reconstruction effort and turns the satisfaction of the population's most urgent needs into a critical priority. Due to the critical situation, infrastructure damage and urgent needs of the Haitian people, there has been a never-seen before worldwide outpouring of resources and pledges for further contribution. At the recent international donors conference held at the United Nations (UN) headquarters, more than US\$9.8 billion were pledged¹, of which at least 53% was pledged for the next 18 months, to be managed through the Interim Commission for the Reconstruction of Haiti (CIRH), an official institution that will have the legal mandate to manage the reconstruction².
- 2.2 The widespread death and destruction observed in the aftermath of Haiti's earthquake will require a strong, coordinated and effective direction for the Government of Haiti (GOH). In particular, information management will be critical, not only to ensure timely, adequate and effective distribution of aid resources, but to institutionalize transparency and promoting accountability in so doing³. The earthquake damage, however, has directly affected the government infrastructure and personnel, weakening further its capacity to lead the

¹ See <http://www.haiticonference.org/story.html>

² Established by Order in April 21, 2010, pursuant to Articles 7(17) and 14 of the April 15, 2010 Law amending the State of Emergency Law of September 9, 2008 (idbdocs #35169992).

³ Similar disaster situations have shown that timely management of information and strengthening of government's capacity to lead the reconstruction efforts are crucial factors of success. This has been particularly documented in the case of the post-Tsunami reconstruction efforts.

reconstruction effort. In addition, the majority of the paper-based registries disappeared and most of the existing information systems have been weakened at best and destroyed in most cases.

- 2.3 For GOH authorities to lead the reconstructions efforts and provide much needed government services, the availability of reliable information and the ability to manage such information in real-time become urgent needs for rapid and effective response. Moreover, the critical situation will be soon aggravated by the approaching rain season, increasing the demand for basic needs and services. Therefore, guaranteeing results, and promoting transparency and accountability of the reconstruction effort become of paramount importance for the GOH and its international partners.
- 2.4 As time passes by, more and more international donors and other partners in the reconstruction efforts will counter this situation by creating their own information systems. While these might provide a short term solution, in the long term they will weaken GOH capacity to continue to lead the reconstruction process and build institutions for sustainable development in Haiti by: (i) favoring the creation of multiple and dispersed "vertical silos of information" throughout public entities; (ii) limiting access to information by the GOH, through the use of proprietary systems and requiring specialized training to access their information and (iii) ignoring sustainability requirements, including GOH capacity, for their maintenance and improvement. Overall, in addition to serving a short term purpose, they might lead to a dependency on external sources of information to implement basic functions that are GOH responsibility.
- 2.5 This Program addresses these concerns by providing specific tools to: (i) increase the efficiency and the impact of the reconstruction efforts, reducing time and costs associated with the planning and execution, and improving coordination among international donors, government and non-government entities as well as among decision-makers; (ii) institutionalize transparency and promote accountability of all parties involved, improving the capacity to track the use of resources and measure results, and building trust on GOH's ability to identify and respond to the Haitian people's needs; (iii) facilitate communication and the dissemination of the reconstruction process' results, not only among Haitian citizens but also to the diaspora and Haiti's international partners in this effort; (iv) provide a secure virtual space to: (a) foster collaboration among government entities and reconstruction partners; (b) develop and host government-wide information system initiatives (existing⁴ or future); (c) support GOH decentralization efforts, (d) in the medium term, provide government services online, and (d) improve significantly the quality of government planning, decision-making, policy design, monitoring and evaluation.

⁴ Key among existing information system capabilities is the database of the Office of National Identity (ONI) containing identification information of approximately 35% of Haitian citizens. The HIGP will provide secure infrastructure to access the information contained in this and other similar databases implemented by international donors (such as beneficiary registries, rosters of population living in tent cities, food distribution databases, etc.) and combine it with other applications in the platform such as the GIS map, to produce information and analysis critical to program design, resources distribution and decision-making. The Bank is working on a complementary initiative to develop a beneficiary identification and citizen registry system, in coordination with the OAS.

- 2.6 **Program Objective.** The Program's objective is to contribute to the creation and strengthening of GOH capacity to lead the reconstruction effort through the implementation of a technology platform that will make possible transparent and effective information-sharing and collaboration among all government entities and other participating partners, thereby establishing the conditions to strengthen GOH's institutional capacity in the long term. The components of the program are as follows:
- 2.7 **Component 1. Haiti Integrated Government Platform (HIGP) (US\$2,150,000):** The objective of this component is to finance the activities necessary⁵ to set up an institutional framework as well as to acquire equipment and hire personnel needed for the design, implementation, management and operation of an integrated technology platform to host *RefonderHaiti.gouv.ht* (see component 2), implement *Ayiti.ht* (a government services portal), as well as other applications developed by donors during the period immediately following the earthquake. This open platform will allow flexible access through multiple channels (including mobile devices and Web 2.0 tools) and will also make possible collaboration and data sharing among all government entities, non-state partners, international donors, the private sector, the diaspora, and Haitian citizens, providing a virtual space to create new applications and/or secure interoperability of existing and future information technology applications. Among the critical information systems to incorporate are databases from the Office of National Identification (ONI). Additionally, this component will design⁶ the connectivity and technology infrastructure needed to decentralize government information and services, and to strengthen local government internal capabilities.
- Component 2. *RefonderHaiti.gouv.ht* (US\$480,000):** The objective of this component is to finance the activities necessary to set up a Web-based dashboard to gather and aggregate detailed information on available resources from international agencies and other reconstruction partners, and to manage reconstruction projects' information and results. Data on project implementation will be incorporated in a decentralized manner, directly from authorized Executing Units, reconstruction partners, GOH entities and/or international partners, as needed. All content in the application will be aggregated and analyzed using different tools (graphs, reports, GIS mapping applications, etc.) providing invaluable support for high-level decision making and policy design, monitoring and evaluation. This application will incorporate data from other information systems, existing or currently under implementation, such as the Directory of NGOs developed by the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) working in Haiti (www.csohaiti.org), the Aid Management Program⁷ developed by the Office of the Special Envoy and the UNDP, and other similar initiatives.
- Component 3. Sustainability Initiatives Identification and Design (US\$170,000):** This component will finance the necessary activities to identify additional capacity building needs to leverage the impact on institutional capacity of components 1 and 2, to include a GOH capacity assessment. The main deliverable of this component will be a five-year institutional capacity building proposal and action plan with detailed recommendations to not only guarantee the sustainability of this Program but also identifying additional initiatives needed to strengthen medium and long term GOH capacity.

⁵ The component will finance these activities during the execution period of this Program (18 months). An assessment will be made as part of the preparation activities to determine resources needed beyond this period.

⁶ A business plan will be produced with detailed financial and operational information to inform implementation.

⁷ An initiative of the UNDP and Development Gateway, implemented for the Ministry of Planning, www.refondationhaiti.org.

- 2.8 **Bank's Country Strategy.** The proposed program is consistent with Bank's Haiti Country Strategy 2007-2011 of providing immediate support to the GOH reconstruction efforts and creation of long-term capacity. In addition, the program is also consistent with the current country strategy objective of strengthening governance and building institutional capacity, specifically through fighting corruption, modernizing the central government and decentralizing the administration.

III. TECHNICAL ISSUES AND SECTOR KNOWLEDGE

- 3.1 **Coordination with other donors.** During preparation activities, the project team met with representatives of international agencies working in the PDNA efforts and the formulation of National Recovery Plan. The project team is working in coordination with the UNDP, the Office of the Special Envoy and other partners to Haiti to ensure there is no duplication, and furthermore, to find areas of collaboration. Additionally, the team is currently working to establish mechanisms of coordination with, the Organization of American States, the US Department of State, the World Bank and other international partners.
- 3.2 **Partnership with Microsoft.** The Bank has approached Microsoft within the framework of an agreement signed between the two entities for philanthropic causes, and the team has been working with Microsoft and one of its development partners (Infusion) on a preliminary design for the technology platform architecture. The terms and financial significance of this collaboration, as well as potential partnerships with other companies, will be reflected in detail in the Proposal for Operational Development (POD).
- 3.3 **Added Value.** The Bank is providing technical expertise and lessons learned from successful use of information and communication technologies in government initiatives in order to assist the GOH in the implementation of this program. Additionally, this program includes a component to identify sustainability actions that increase GOH capacity to manage and improve on the use of new technologies beyond immediate needs, building strong institutional capacity for years to come.

IV. SAFEGUARDS AND FIDUCIARY ISSUES

- 4.1 According to the Safeguard Policy Filter and the Safeguard Screening Form, Policy Directive OP-703, the environmental and social safeguard classification of the program is "C". The program will increase the likelihood of positive social impacts by strengthening the capacity of government institutions and civil society to address issues of efficiency, transparency and accountability of GOH institutions.
- 4.2 No special fiduciary issues are anticipated, and the team has incorporated both fiduciary specialists from Country Office in Haiti (financial management and procurement). They will conduct a review to confirm the executing agency readiness in this regard, in particular its fiduciary capability to execute this program, and make the appropriate recommendations. Procurement processes for this program will follow the dispositions contained in the following documents: GN-2349-7, GN-2350-7 and OP-387-1. To minimize fiduciary risks involved in the management of resources, all payments to consultants and those destined to the purchase of equipment will be made via direct payment by the Bank. The Executing Unit will prepare and

submit to the Bank all requests for payment. An advance of funds for the financing of administrative expenses (ex. salaries of executing unit personnel and office supplies) will be provided based on financial needs for 6 months period.

- 4.3 The program will benefit the Office of the Prime Minister, all Ministries using the HIGP, the CIRH, as well as all GOH institutions, NGOs, international donors and other entities involved in the execution of reconstruction projects and in day-to-day Government operations. The ultimate beneficiaries of the program will be Haitian citizens (up-to-date information, better services, transparency, and private sector investment due to more confidence in the system). The main risks are associated with ownership, participation and sustainability of the initiatives. Regarding ownership, this risk is being mitigated from the onset, through the early and active involvement of the *Groupe sur les Technologies de l'Information et Communication (GTIC)*⁸ in the design of this program. In addition, the identification mission conducted initial dialogue with representatives from the public and private sectors, and incorporated their suggestions and concerns into the Program's design. The team plans to continue consultations throughout the preparation of the POD. To facilitate and encourage participation and use of the tools developed under the Program; the IDB has been and will continue to actively coordinate with other donors. Finally, regarding sustainability of the efforts, in the short term, a capacity needs assessment will be undertaken in order to identify the sustainability requirements of the HIGP and related applications for a period of five years. In addition, and as discussed above in Component 3, the Program includes resources to identify additional needs and priorities to inform the design of a five-year GOH institutional capacity strengthening program.

V. OTHER ISSUES

- 5.1 Ownership, sustainability and fiduciary functions (financial management and procurement) are presently under review. Strong efforts are being directed towards more effective coordination of all parties involved, a main source of delays in the past. Macroeconomic conditions in the country represent a high risk, but mitigation measures to reduce public expenditures and increase fiscal revenues are being implemented. In terms of monitoring and evaluation, Bank staff will conduct semi-annual inspection visit to verify compliance with Bank policies. The Executing Unit will hire an independent audit firm approved by the Bank to perform annual audit of the program.

VI. RESOURCES AND TIMETABLE

- 5.2 The POD is expected to be distributed on June 3, 2010. The total needed for preparation is US\$115,518, of which US\$72,000 will be funded from the Transactional Budget (consultancies US\$57,000; missions US\$15,000), US\$40,000 from the TC HA-T1122⁹ to hire consultants, and US\$3,518 from HA-L1018 to finance mission travel (already executed). The personnel required represent 1.40 FTEs (see Annex V for details).

⁸ The GTIC is a 21 member Presidential Commission appointed by President Préval in January 2009 to advise GOH on all issues related to the use of ICT in government and the potential of ICTs for economic development which has extensively worked on e-Governance and ICT Legal Framework issues, enhanced national awareness on the matter and has made concrete proposals taken into consideration in this program.

⁹ Some resources from the TC HA-T1122 (ATN/SF-11986-HA) are being used to fund consultants' work in activities related to the preparation of this program's execution. The TC was approved in December 2009 to support the GTIC.

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SAFEGUARD POLICY FILTER REPORT

PROJECT DETAILS	IDB Sector	REFORM / MODERNIZATION OF THE STATE-REFORM AND PUBLIC SECTOR SUPPORT
	Type of Operation	Other Lending or Financing Instrument (enter details in final report)
	Additional Operation Details	
	Investment Checklist	Institutional Development Investment
	Team Leader	Rubino-Hallman, Silvana (SRUBINO@iadb.org)
	Project Title	New Technologies and Institutional Capacity Strengthening in the Government of H
	Project Number	HA-L1051
	Safeguard Specialist(s)	Hoffman, Nathalie Alexandra (NATHALIEH@iadb.org)
	Assessment Date	2010-05-04
	Additional Comments	

SAFEGUARD POLICY FILTER RESULTS	Type of Operation	Loan Operation	
	Safeguard Policy Items Identified (Yes)	Activities to be financed in the project area are located within a geographical area or sector exposed to natural hazards (Type 1 Disaster Risk Scenario).	OP-704 A-2
		The Bank will make available to the public the relevant Project documents.	OP-102
		The Bank will monitor the executing agency/borrower's compliance with all safeguard requirements stipulated in the loan agreement and project operating or credit regulations.	(B.07)
	Potential Safeguard Policy Items(?)	No potential issues identified	
	Recommended Action:	<p>Operation has triggered 1 or more Policy Directives; please refer to appropriate Directive(s). Complete Project Classification Tool. Submit Safeguard Policy Filter Report, PCD (or equivalent) and Safeguard Screening Form to ESR.</p> <p>The project triggered the Disaster Risk Management policy (OP-704).</p> <p>A Disaster Risk Assessment (DRA), is required, as established under Directive A-2 of the DRM Policy OP-704). Please contact a Natural Disaster Specialist in VPS/ESG or INE/RND for guidance.</p>	
	Additional Comments:		

ASSESSOR DETAILS	Name of person who completed screening:	Hoffman, Nathalie Alexandra (NATHALIEH@iadb.org)
	Title:	
	Date:	2010-05-04

SAFEGUARD SCREENING FORM

PROJECT DETAILS	IDB Sector	REFORM / MODERNIZATION OF THE STATE-REFORM AND PUBLIC SECTOR SUPPORT
	Type of Operation	Other Lending or Financing Instrument (enter details in final report)
	Additional Operation Details	
	Country	HAITI
	Project Status	
	Investment Checklist	Institutional Development Investment
	Team Leader	Rubino-Hallman, Silvana (SRUBINO@iadb.org)
	Project Title	New Technologies and Institutional Capacity Strengthening in the Government of H
	Project Number	HA-L1051
	Safeguard Specialist(s)	Hoffman, Nathalie Alexandra (NATHALIEH@iadb.org)
	Assessment Date	2010-05-04
	Additional Comments	

PROJECT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY	Project Category: C	Override Rating:	Override Justification:
			Comments:
	Conditions/ Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No environmental assessment studies or consultations are required for Category "C" operations. Some Category "C" operations may require specific safeguard or monitoring requirements (Policy Directive B.3).Where relevant, these operations will establish safeguard, or monitoring requirements to address environmental and other risks (social, disaster, cultural, health and safety etc.). The Project Team must send the PP or PCD (or equivalent) containing the Environmental and Social Strategy (the requirements for an ESS are described in the Environment Policy Guideline: Directive B.3) as well as the Safeguard Policy Filter and Safeguard Screening Form Reports. 	

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS/RISKS AND POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS	Identified Impacts/Risks	Potential Solutions

DISASTER SUMMARY	Details The Project should include the necessary measures to reduce disaster risk to acceptable levels as determined by the Bank on the basis of generally accepted standards and practices. Alternative prevention and mitigation measures that decrease vulnerability must be analyzed and included in project design and implementation as applicable. These measures should include safety and contingency planning to protect human health and economic assets. Expert opinion and adherence to international standards should be sought, where reasonably necessary.	Actions A Disaster Risk Assessment (DRA), is required, as established under Directive A-2 of the DRM Policy OP-704). Please contact a Natural Disaster Specialist in VPS/ESG or INE/RND for guidance.

ASSESSOR DETAILS	Name of person who completed screening:	Hoffman, Nathalie Alexandra (NATHALIEH@iadb.org)
	Title:	
	Date:	2010-05-04

ANNEX III

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY

- 1.1 According to the Safeguard Policy Filter and the Safeguard Screening Form, Policy Directive OP-703, the environmental and social safeguard classification of the Program is “C”.
- 1.2 The Program will increase the likelihood of positive social impacts by strengthening the capacity of government institutions and civil society to address issues of efficiency, transparency and accountability of GOH institutions. Program activities will increase GOH capacity to communicate with citizens and articulate their demands, improve Government services to the private sector at a time when private investment is actively sought, and generate opportunities for local developers. No negative environmental effects are foreseen.

INDEX FOR COMPLETED AND PROPOSED SECTOR WORK

Topic	Description	Estimated Dates	References and Electronic Links
Project Description	Brochure presentation for the Bank Haiti Task Force and to present to the Government of Haiti	February 2010	http://idbdocs.iadb.org/WSDocs/getDocument.aspx?DOCNUM=35159407
Conceptual Note	Conceptual description of project components prepared at the request of the Office of the Prime Minister, while on identification mission	March 2010	http://idbdocs.iadb.org/WSDocs/getDocument.aspx?DOCNUM=35159414
RefonderHaiti.ht and HIGP Demo	Description of the Haiti Integrated Government Platform, and the Web application RefonderHaiti.ht	March 2010	http://idbdocs.iadb.org/WSDocs/getDocument.aspx?DOCNUM=35159423
Fiducially management, monitoring and evaluation systems	We don't anticipate fiduciary issues. For monitoring and development, a baseline will be developed to measure Program impact	N/A	
Governance Challenges diagnostic	Diagnostic elaborated by the international community and the GOH after the earthquake to identify critical areas of intervention	March 2010	http://idbdocs.iadb.org/WSDocs/getDocument.aspx?DOCNUM=35159257

Topic	Description	Estimated Dates	References and Electronic Links
Support to the project team in the identification of areas of collaboration among government entities	National Consultant	April-October 2010	
Support to the project team in updating diagnostic of ICT capabilities in GOH entities, and identification of legacy information systems that could be integrated to the HIGP	National Consultant	May-July 2010	
Support to the project team in the identification of opportunities and potential for mobile government applications.	National Consultant	May-September 2010	
Gather information and analysis to inform project results.	Identify indicators to measure Program impact. Develop a logical framework workshoo during analysis mission or immediately after.	May-July 2010	

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