

PROGRAM TO SUPPORT BASIC HEALTH SERVICES AND HIV/AIDS

(TC-O1-09-021)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Requester:	Republic of Haiti		
Executing agency:	IDB		
Amount and source:	IDB: (FSO)	US\$	1,000,000
	Local:	US\$	60,000
	Total:	US\$	1,060,000
Terms:	Execution Period:	36 months	
	Disbursement Period	42 months	
Objectives:	The program’s objective is to provide assistance to the Government of Haiti in the formulation and early implementation of a comprehensive HIV/AIDS care program.		
Description:	The program will provide technical assistance for (i) developing, monitoring, and adjusting a National Strategic Plan (NSP) for combating HIV/AIDS in Haiti, (ii) designing, implementing, and evaluating a Local Capacity-Building Initiative to strengthen and integrate existing networks of care for the delivery of HIV/AIDS-related services in at least two municipalities outside Port-Au Prince; (iii) improving the institutional capacities required for the screening of blood and its derivatives for HIV and other infectious diseases. (Par. 2.2)		
	The NSP will be developed with the participation of civil society organizations and with additional financing from other international agencies working in HIV/AIDS in Haiti, including but not limited to the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Beyond developing a framework for HIV/AIDS interventions in the Country, the project will also finance the development of prioritization and costing mechanisms for an incremental implementation plan, and the design of a monitoring and evaluation system for the NSP.		
	The initiative for strengthening and integrating existing local networks will be based on a capacity-building approach to local development and will be focused on the delivery of social and community services for persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLHAs) as well as for the general community.		

The lessons that are learned from the execution of this initiative will be used to execute training activities and the dissemination of best practices among key stakeholders, including but not limited to civil society organizations, the media, health care providers, as well as provincial and local authorities.

The blood safety program will be aimed at improving the quality of the regulatory and supervisory role the Ministry of Health holds in controlling blood supply and distribution in the Country. The project will also provide technical assistance for improvements in the surveillance of blood supplies and in the coordination with civil society organizations dealing with blood and its derivatives

**Environmental/
social review:**

Project activities will be targeted towards, and enhance the technical capacity of local organizations in Haiti, with a particular emphasis on Persons Living with HIV/AIDS, thereby contributing to the creation of social capital in the Country and a reduction in the social exclusion and vulnerability related to AIDS. Several of the services that will be financed by the local capacity-building initiative will promote gender equity.

The program does not contemplate activities with a direct impact on the environment.

**Benefits and
beneficiaries:**

The main beneficiaries of the program are the communities that will receive the services provided by the project, both the direct social and health services, as well as the assistance to develop and/or strengthen local organizations and social capital. The Government of Haiti (GHA) will also be assisted in the monitoring and adjustment of its National Strategic Plan (NSP) for HIV/AIDS, the implementation of prioritization mechanisms for financing HIV/AIDS-related activities, and the implementation of improved blood safety procedures. These initiatives will facilitate the country's coherent and organized management of the HIV/AIDS-epidemic.

Risks:

The main output of the program will be the lessons learned from the execution and evaluation of the local capacity-building initiative which, in turn, may be used to adjust the National Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS. The lack of political will, civil society participation, or financial resources as well as the continuation or deepening of the current economic and political situation would each reduce the feasibility for implementing the NSP and can thus be considered the major risks facing the project.

**Bank's country
and sector
strategy:**

The reduction of the most severe poverty of the hemisphere is the overarching goal of the Bank's strategy. To this end a key element of the Bank's strategy is a long-term commitment to institution building and policy reform.

This project is an integral part of a broader development plan, the National Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS, owned and developed by the country and supported by the coordinated efforts of external donor agencies and private partnerships (NGOs, private sector, civil society). It aims at encouraging the participation of a wide range of affected population groups and to ensure capacity development for sustainable service delivery.

Given the limited public sector capacity to tackle the HIV/AIDS challenge, the Government is encouraged to continue to facilitate coordinated efforts to address the AIDS issue and leave the delivery of HIV/AIDS care services to the private and /or NGO sectors to the maximum extent possible. The Bank is committed to helping prepare and implement the National HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan for Haiti.

**Special
contractual
conditions:**

None.

**Exceptions to
Bank policy:**

As an exception to the Bank's established procurement procedures, the direct contracting of the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) is recommended