



## COUNTRY PROFILE



Haitian workers sort washed mangoes for export.

Grown exclusively in Haiti, the award-winning Haitian Francique mango has irresistible tropical aroma and sweetness. The primary importer of Francique mangoes is the United States.

USAID and the United States Department of Agriculture work together to assist mango producers and exporters to improve the quality of their product and the efficiency of pre-export clearance requirements.

### HAITI SNAPSHOT

Date of independence: 1804  
Population: 8.5 million (2006)  
Income per person: \$ 600 (yr)

### USAID IN HAITI

<http://www.usaid.gov/ht>

### OVERVIEW

Haiti is the least-developed country in the Western Hemisphere and one of the poorest in the world. With an estimated population over 8.5 million, Haiti's limited but diverse agricultural and natural resources remain the country's greatest assets for the future, in addition to its hard-working citizens. Under the leadership of President Préval since May 2006, economic growth turned positive (2.5% in 2006), despite many challenges:



- 6.2 million live below the poverty line;
- 1 out of 8 children die before they reach the age of five;
- Illiteracy is estimated to be 44%;
- Formal unemployment rate is 70% nationally;
- Nearly 7.2 million Haitians lack access to reliable energy;
- Environmental degradation is pervasive;
- Haiti ranks 154 of 177 countries in the UN's Human Development Index;
- Life expectancy is 56 (women) and 52 (men) years old;
- A UN Stability Mission is currently authorized at 7,200 troops and 1,951 civilian police.\*

U.S. policy toward Haiti is designed to foster and strengthen democracy; help alleviate poverty, illiteracy, and malnutrition; promote respect for human rights; and counter illegal migration and drug trafficking. Stability in Haiti, while very tenuous, has increased as a result of the combined efforts of USG assistance and political support. USAID supports Haiti in its efforts to promote stability, implement democratic reforms, build public institutions, provide access to services for its citizens, particularly in health and education, increase economic growth and job opportunities, and respond to natural disasters.

### PROGRAMS

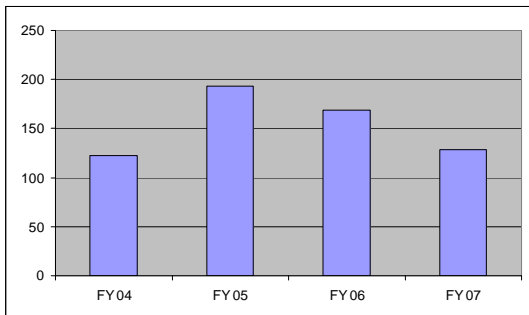
#### PEACE AND SECURITY

Under this objective, USAID conflict mitigation programs complement U.S. Embassy security programs in communities, where USG partners in 2007 employed nearly 115,000 people, benefiting over 750,000 at risk individuals, in 143 hotspot neighborhoods in Haiti's six principal cities.



## COUNTRY PROFILE CONTINUED

**USAID ASSISTANCE TO HAITI**  
**(\$ In Millions)**



### GOVERNING JUSTLY AND DEMOCRATICALLY

USAID and U.S. Embassy programs strengthen Haitian democracy, as evidenced by successful local elections and the establishment of two presidential justice commissions in 2007. Civic education and political party programs encourage peaceful voter participation. Support to the Legislature has facilitated adoption of critical legislation including the UN convention against corruption, and the law establishing a Judicial Council. USAID assistance enables the GOH to greatly increase transparency and oversight of public finances.

### INVESTING IN PEOPLE

USAID has helped increase the Haitian Government's leadership and management capacity in the Health and Education sectors during 2007. Access to basic health services was provided to 47% of the population (about 4.1 million people). 60,000 children were fully vaccinated; 75,000 were treated for diarrhea diseases and acute respiratory infections; and 350,000 reproductive health services were delivered. Over 400,000 persons were reached in AIDS prevention activities and 30,000 AIDS-related orphans and vulnerable children received support. Development of a national school license program improved management of the primary education system. 96,589 students benefited from distance-based education; 16,500 students received scholarships; and 675 PTAs were trained. USAID also provided funding for nearly 2.4 million school textbooks.

### ECONOMIC GROWTH

USAID programs improve economic opportunities and livelihoods for Haitians. In 2007, USAID increased access to financial services for 244,000 micro-enterprises and linked 7,000 to value chain activities. Support for an Investment Facilitation Center reduces paperwork and delays in registering new businesses. A workforce development program reached 2,200 unemployed youth. Haiti's 3 principal ports were certified as compliant with international security standards as a result of combined USAID and US Coast Guard support. USAID also designed new watershed management programs in agriculture and the environment.

### HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

More than 10,000 of the most vulnerable segments of the population (orphans, handicapped, elderly) benefit from a USAID-funded package of services including nutritional supplements, health and hygiene. USAID supports the National System for Disaster and Risk Management through training provided to the National Food Security Coordination Agency (CNSA) and the Civil Protection Directorate (DPC).

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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