



FACT SHEET

Electrical Substation Rehabilitation

The Electrical Substation Rehabilitation project is improving and expanding access to electricity in Haiti.



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An electrical transformer located in Port-au-Prince.

USAID has supported the development of the technical specifications for the rehabilitation of five substations located in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area.

Rehabilitation of these substations will begin in the coming months.

Overview

Prior to the January 2010 earthquake, the power sector in Haiti already faced significant obstacles. Only an estimated 25 percent of the population had access to electricity services, and half of these connections were illegally connected to the power grid. Even for those with access to electricity, the average person in Port-au-Prince only had access to electricity 10 hours per day.

The power sector utility, Electricite d'Haiti (EDH), faces considerable technical and managerial challenges, which have significantly degraded the commercial viability of EDH and require the utility to receive an annual subsidy from the Government of Haiti of approximately \$100 million—representing approximately 12 percent of the national budget.

Much of the infrastructure needs repair, with many of the sub-stations and portions of the distribution system in need of rehabilitation prior to the earthquake. As a result of the earthquake, the fragile power sector faced further complications. The total estimated financial damage and loss assessment from the earthquake equals approximately \$57 million. In response, the U.S. Government commissioned an evaluation of the post-earthquake conditions and identified improvements needed to the existing system.

Based on these assessments, the repair and upgrade of five substations in the capital of Port-au-Prince were identified to be critical priorities for the electrical sector. The underperformance of these substations was drastically reducing the system's capacity for transmission and distribution of electrical power, leaving a large number of people in the capital without access to electricity.

Objectives

The Electrical Substation Rehabilitation project aims to improve the physical infrastructure needed to reduce technical losses and enhance efficiencies of the EDH electrical distribution system, ultimately increasing the availability of electricity for the people of Haiti.

Activities

In November 2010, USAID awarded a contract for the development of the technical specifications for the rehabilitation of the five substations located in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area: Canape Vert, Carrefour Feuille, Toussaint Brave, Croix-des-Bouquets, and Nouveau Delmas. In 2011, we awarded a contract for the rehabilitation of the substations; the contractor is working closely with EDH to move forward on next steps for rehabilitation of the substations.

Life of Project: November 2010 – February 2013

Implementing Partners: AECOM/Perini