



FACT SHEET

Northern Corridor (Housing): Caracol EKAM

USAID supported site development of 1,500 plots on the Caracol EKAM site, and we are now constructing 750 houses on the site.



USAID staff

Caracol EKAM site, prior to USAID interventions.

Overview

The development of the Caracol Industrial Park in Haiti's northern corridor represents an opportunity for Haiti to rebuild its light manufacturing sector, which will increase economic prosperity for Haitians by providing affordable, quality apparel goods to the American consumer. In proximity to the Park—which is being developed by the Government of Haiti (GOH), in conjunction with the Inter-American Development Bank and the U.S. Government (USG)—USAID plans to construct permanent housing on the Caracol EKAM site.

Objectives

The purpose of the program is to provide a culturally appropriate modest dwelling for Haitians affected by the earthquake, made preferably from locally available materials that can be easily repaired or expanded and that are capable of safely resisting the geo-hazards of the country—including hurricanes and earthquakes.

Activities

USAID contracted with CEEPCO Contracting to do the civil site development for 1,500 plots on the Caracol EKAM site. Site preparation includes design and layout for roads, water distribution systems, drainage, and sanitation solutions.

In April 2012, we signed a contract with THOR Construction for construction of 750 housing units on Caracol-Ekam. The project is consistent with the GOH's reconstruction plan, including its focus on decentralization, and went through 18 months of consultations with stakeholders at all levels, including community members, local mayors, and President Martelly.

Following requests from members of Parliament of the North and Northeast, the housing settlement at Caracol will be set back from the Route National 6, providing a buffer of 120 meters for vegetation. There will also be a 59-meter buffer to the highway to Trou Du Nord on the other side of the settlement. This will accommodate long-term development plans for a four-lane highway and necessary buffer zones on both sides of the settlement to allow for the future growth of the Northern Development Corridor.

Life of Project: June 2011 – November 2012

Implementing Partner: CEEPCO Contracting/ THOR Construction