



FACT SHEET

Emergency Capacity Assistance Program (ECAP)

By leveraging the expertise of Haitian Diaspora, USAID provides technical support to oversee the implementation of Haiti's shelter and settlements initiatives.

ECAP is helping municipal governments in the North plan for new housing settlements by preparing for the selection of beneficiary households that will acquire starter houses which they will expand through their own sweat equity, as well as supporting municipal and community planning to maintain new infrastructure and services in these new settlements.

ECAP is also providing technical assistance to a number of Government of Haiti ministries, including the Ministry of Public Works, Transportation, and Communications to improve the technical and management skills of 60 engineers who are responsible for ensuring technical oversight and quality control of reconstruction and resettlement projects in metropolitan Port-au-Prince.

Additional information on ECAP can be found here: <http://haiti-ecap.com/>

Overview

Following the January 12, 2010, earthquake, housing and infrastructure reconstruction became a priority of the Government of Haiti (GOH) and international community in an effort to provide shelter for those who lost their houses during the earthquake. With USAID support, Habitat for Humanity International—drawing upon the Haitian Diaspora recruitment by Development Innovations Group (DIG)—is providing technical assistance to allow us to more effectively provide permanent shelter options for earthquake-displaced households. ECAP is being implemented in Croix-des-Bouquets, Cabaret, and Cap-Haïtien—all within the priority development corridors identified by the U.S. Government (USG).

ECAP leverages the expertise of the Haitian Diaspora, who possess the unique cultural understanding and language capabilities that are vital when providing on-the-ground technical support. ECAP advisors are providing technical assistance to local authorities to enable inclusive, productive, and sustainable new settlements that are well managed with a view to ensure efficient use of both financial and natural resources—both limited in Haiti due to untenable practices.

Objectives

At the national, local, and community levels of governance, ECAP aims to strengthen institutions to improve oversight for more efficient use of resources and strengthen capacity for improved service delivery and planning for urban expansion.

Activities

ECAP advisors provide community-focused, on the ground technical support to GOH agencies tasked with overseeing Haiti's shelter and settlements initiatives.

1. **Land Tenure Issues:** To assist the legal transfer of land for housing from public or private entities, ECAP advisors work closely with community management committees (CMCs) and other stakeholders to support USAID new settlements by providing technical assistance and equipment.
2. **Service Delivery:** Forge communication links between new settlements and respective municipalities regarding service delivery.
3. **Building Code Dissemination:** Strengthen knowledge and capacity in disaster risk reduction building technology.
4. **Community Development:** Strengthen communities to have a voice in municipal service provision through establishment and capacity building of CMCs.
5. **IDP Resettlement:** Work with USAID, the GOH, and other stakeholders to formulate and implement an exit strategy for displaced populations—in support of President Martelly's 16/6 plan.
6. **Beneficiary Selection:** Bring together community stakeholders of new settlements authorities, in conjunction with the Housing Unit in the Prime Minister's Office, to agree to viable approaches for beneficiary selection of USG-sponsored houses in new settlements.

Life of Project: June 2011 – October 2012

Implementing Partner: Habitat for Humanity International