



## UNITED NATIONS WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

# CASH AND FOOD FOR WORK

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- In Haiti, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has moved beyond the initial emergency phase to a long-term food security strategy and has launched a programme to support reconstruction and disaster risk reduction, increase the sustainability of agricultural rehabilitation and stimulate the local economy.
- To date, more than 150 Cash and Food for Work projects have been undertaken, giving employment to a total of 80,000 Haitians. Activities are implemented in collaboration with the Government, local authorities, UN agencies and NGO partners.
- The objective of the programme is to employ 140,000 Haitians. Workers are paid the equivalent of 200 Gourdes (US\$ 5) daily in cash, food or a combination of the two. Food is a part of most salaries and labourers receive rations for a family of five, which means that the programme will increase food security for a total of 700,000 Haitians.
- During the early stages of the programme, WFP focused on low-risk/low-tech activities. These included rubble removal, removing debris and cleaning drainage ditches and canals to prevent flooding. In rural areas, projects supported agriculture rehabilitation through work on irrigation canals, watershed management and the building of feeder roads.
- As the programme evolves, projects are shifting towards longer-term activities designed to increase the sustainability of agricultural production and reduce the vulnerability to natural disasters. Integrated watershed management, along with investments in irrigation, is an area of emphasis.
- The programme advances the goals of the Government's National Recovery and Development Plan. Projects take place in areas where the earthquake has disrupted livelihoods and in regions that suffer from food insecurity.
- The wage rates reflect Government's policies and individual activities are reviewed by the government-led Technical Working Groups established in each Department.



Seventy-six percent of the 10 million Haitians live on less than US\$ 2 per day and 56 percent on less than US\$ 1 per day. In these households more than 60% of all income is spent on food.

The unemployment rate is estimated at 70-80%.

Between 2.5 and 3.3 million people nationally are considered food insecure.

Haiti imports about half its food - including more than 80% of its rice.

In 2009, local food production covered only 50% of consumption needs while imports covered 47% and food aid 3% of the food consumption needs.

25 out of 30 of the country's watersheds have been declared "severely degraded" by environmental experts.

Half of Haiti's hillsides have slopes with gradients of more than 40 per cent.

Only 1 to 2 per cent of the country's forest cover remains intact.

The combination of steep and deforested hillsides with flood-prone areas makes the country particularly vulnerable to hurricanes and tropical storms.