As an affiliate of the Organization of American States, the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF) has strong relationships with important regional bodies, such as the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). During our 40 years in Haiti we have collaborated with numerous government ministries and national agencies, allowing for rapid project start-up and smooth implementation. PADF’s experience in rural and urban infrastructure development is particularly well-suited for the USAID Haiti WASH Task Order.

Our work in WASH has four components:

1. Infrastructure
2. Enterprise Development
3. Education
4. Disaster Management

Sanitation Infrastructure

PADF is implementing a USAID/OFDA-funded water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) project in disadvantaged neighborhoods of Port-au-Prince and the Northeast Department. The Urban Planning to Generate Resiliency against Disaster Events (UPGRADE) project will improve sanitation infrastructure in schools and churches, many of which also serve as certified disaster shelters. This includes extending water supply networks, establishing community distribution points and the construction of sanitary facilities such as toilets and hand-washing stations.

PADF collaborated with Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines to rehabilitate the water and sanitation systems in the coastal village of Labadie. PADF cleared and renovated a natural spring that serves as a primary source of the town’s potable water, planting some 8,000 trees to protect the watershed. PADF upgraded the main water reservoir, installed a new water catchment system and refurbished a public clean water kiosk. The project installed solar water pumps, repaired water storage tanks, and cleaned water collection receptacles to reduce the risk of
contamination. PADF also constructed restrooms and community. Repairs to the water system were accompanied by a hygiene awareness campaign as well as training for on how to properly dispose of wastewater.

In each of three communes in the Southeast, PADF built or rehabilitated community water systems, installed cisterns and water points and improved piped infrastructure in coordination with the Haitian water authority DINEPA. PADF helped to established local water management committees and provided training on infrastructure maintenance to ensure long-term sustainability.

Enterprise Development

Our current programs include the highly successful Leveraging Effective Application of Direct Investments (LEAD) program, funded by USAID, which supports a variety of Haitian small and medium-sized enterprises in the WASH sector. Dio Haiti (commercially known as Ovive) uses an innovative kiosk-based distribution model to bring potable water to underserved communities. With support from LEAD, CASTMI has grown into one of the biggest water treatment companies in northern Haiti. Another LEAD grantee, Industrie Kayimit S.A. (IKSA), a water treatment center in Saint-Marc, produces and sells “Blue Heaven” brand bottled drinking water and ice cube bags. Finally, LEAD award-winner Glory Industries is the first company to manufacture toilet paper in Haiti. In total, LEAD leverages more than US$13M in private investment, including from the Haitian diaspora, to develop the small and medium enterprise sector and create nearly 16,000 new jobs in Haiti.

Hygiene Education

Often, schools and churches serve as evacuation shelters in times of crisis. By working within schools, PADF is leveraging the Haitian government’s “Hygiene Friendly School” initiative, building knowledge and promoting good hygiene practices to teachers and students alike. Repairs to the water system in the village of Labadie, northwest Haiti, were accompanied by a hygiene awareness campaign as well as training on how to properly dispose of wastewater.
Disaster Response and Preparedness

In response to the October 2016 Hurricane Matthew, PADF partnered with the Caribbean Desalination Association (CaribDA) to provide nearly 300 water filtration kits to schools in affected communities in the South Department, benefitting 13,500 residents. While the kits are simple to use, PADF staff offered training for staff, students and community members at participating schools on the use of the system and the proper storage of clean water.

PADF worked with the American Red Cross (ARC) to rehabilitate and upgrade 19 emergency evacuation shelters and 17 school facilities in Haiti’s three northern departments. Upgrades included the construction or rehabilitation of toilets and shower facilities, improvements to ensure handicapped accessibility and structural improvements to buildings to increase their ability to withstand severe storms.

A Community-Led Approach

Our close collaboration with Haitian communities led to PADF’s signature and widely emulated Community-Driven Development (CDD) methodology. PADF pioneered this methodology in the rural community development project (PRODEP) and urban community development projects (PRODEPUR and PRODEPUR HABITAT). Under PRODEPUR and PRODEP, PADF implemented more than 1,200 small infrastructure projects between 2009 and 2016. Prioritized and managed by communities themselves, these included WASH projects such as water points, and water system management projects such as drainage improvements. PADF’s CDD model has been key to its successful delivery of its post-earthquake reconstruction interventions in the Delmas 32 neighborhood of Port-au-Prince. PADF supported DINEPA in the extension of the water supply network and worked with residents to ensure positive development outcomes.

PADF in Haiti

Led by a Country Director and overseen by PADF’s management and technical staff at its Washington, D.C. headquarters, PADF has a fully-staffed office in Port-au-Prince, employing more than 80 Haitian professionals. Our Haiti staff brings years of expertise and practical experience in the Haitian context across technical areas. These include financial and administrative professionals to ensure the effective implementation of projects as well as strong oversight and stewardship of donor funds. PADF Haiti’s established financial and project management systems ensure rapid start-up, effective implementation, sustainability and proper maintenance of investments.

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