

# UP-SCALING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE THROUGH ECOSYSTEM-BASED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION HAITI

## introduction

The Netherlands Red Cross, in collaboration with the Haitian Red Cross, is implementing a project to increase the resilience of communities by reducing disaster risks through ecosystem management. This 30-month project, funded by the European Commission, is implemented from May 2019 to December 2021, in the Southern department.

Through a community based approach (including farmers and landowners) and integrated risk management, the Red Cross will implement ecosystem restoration and management activities, such as the improvement and adaptation of livelihoods to climate change and the reduction of disaster risks.

Despite the central role the department authority used to play in the management of eco-systems, water and agricultural resources, many ecosystems have become severely degraded. The project aims to capacitate governance through integrated and inclusive risk management.

The Red Cross and its partners support the implementation of participative monitoring and promote policies and practices that are resilient to disasters and climate change, including a focus on engaging youth and women.



## PROGRAMME PILLARS:

### Resilient livelihoods

- Households, farmers and land-owners are adopting sustainable livelihood practices to increase resilience and reduce disaster risks.

### Soil restoration and erosion prevention measures

- Local authorities have increased knowledge and are adopting soil restoration and erosion prevention measures.

### Community-based early warning system

- The haitian red cross and civil society organizations (csos) improve their capacity to establish community-based early warning systems and gender sensitive contingency plans.

## THE ENVIRONMENTAL SITUATION AND DISASTER RISKS IN THE SOUTHERN DEPARTMENT

- The Southern Department faces multiple environmental challenges, such as deforestation and devegetation of hills and mountains, soil erosion, overexploitation of fish resources and the exploitation of mangrove wood.
- In addition, the department must prepare for climate change and the increase of natural hazards, increasing droughts and heat waves, more intense and unpredictable precipitation and cyclones.
- As a result, the Southern Department has to sustain severe challenges related to drinking water, land irrigation, reduced agricultural production, food security, disaster risks, rural flight, cutting of trees for charcoal and construction, and poor land use and planning.



For more information: [www.partnersforresilience.nl/en/eco-drr](http://www.partnersforresilience.nl/en/eco-drr)

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