



USAID | HAITI

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

U.S – Haiti Higher Education Partnership Program

USAID strengthens Haiti's higher education system.



Five returning MS graduates in Computer Science from Virginia Tech and Carnegie-Mellon pose with USAID Mission Director Carleene Dei (6/6/2012).

Andrew Smith/USAID

USAID's support has encouraged economic growth and social prosperity by improving Haiti's higher education system. Results include:

- Forty faculty, students, and administrators participated in exchange programs.
- 650 host-country individuals received training from U.S. university partners in the forms of internships, seminars and workshops.
- Five students completed their bachelor's degrees and pursued their Master's degree in Computer Science.
- Seven undergraduate students completed their Bachelor's degrees in Accounting/Finance.

Overview

Haiti's institutions of higher education have been in serious decline for decades. The net university enrollment rate is less than 1 percent, the lowest in the Western Hemisphere. For Haiti to achieve its development goals, the nation must strengthen the capacity of its higher education institutions in order to create a professional workforce and a new cadre of leadership. USAID has partnered with the American Council on Education (ACE) and its executive office the Higher Education for Development (HED) to bolster the higher education system within Haiti and cultivate a new generation of educated professionals. Our efforts support Haitian universities to better prepare students to play active roles in the country's pursuit of economic growth, employment, and prosperity.

We have established a direct partnership between four Haitian institutions of higher education: State University of Haiti's Institut National d'Administration, de Gestion et des Hautes Etudes Internationales and Faculté d'Agronomie et de Médecine Vétérinaire, Ecole Supérieure d'Infotronique d'Haiti, Université Quisqueya, and four U.S. universities: Missouri Southern State University, University of Massachusetts-Boston, University of Florida-Gainesville, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and State University. This partnership has strengthened the design, curricula, and delivery of undergraduate and graduate programs in computer science, agribusiness, business management, and accounting/international finance.

Objectives

USAID's program will build the capacity of Haitian universities and enable them to deliver quality degree programs, while training university students in fields that address Haiti's urgent development needs.

Activities

1. **Develop** and modernize curricula and degree programs in four Haitian institutions of higher education.
2. **Introduce** online course delivery methods and technologies, increasing the spheres of influence of Haitian universities.
3. **Implement** faculty exchanges and faculty development workshops to improve the quality of Haitian education networks.
4. **Establish** faculty and student mentoring opportunities/internships, as well as degree completion programs in four U.S. universities.
5. **Develop** systems to strengthen Haitian university management and governance.

Life of Project: June 2007 – September 2012

Implementing Partner: ACE/HED