

# Haiti

## Fresh from the Field

worldrenew.net

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Greetings from Haiti! It is always a pleasure to inform you about the agencies of the CRCNA and their various partners in Haiti. Your diligent support and prayers have been instrumental to strengthen us in our work and to keep us going. In the midst of uncertainty and challenges, we remain hopeful.

The organizations that we choose to partner with have made great progress; they have demonstrated a great sense of responsibility and accountability. Their engagement reflects a deep knowledge of our community transformation approach.

We are very grateful for your support of our work in Haiti.

Shalom,

On behalf of the entire team

## The Office Addition Project

PRIHA, the French-language ministry of Back to God Ministries International in Haiti, has been experiencing difficulties with locations. The solution we came up with, to add more space to our joint offices, is aimed at strengthening the cooperation between the three agencies of the CRCNA in Haiti: World Renew, CRWM, and PRIHA. The goal is to be located in the same space and to become more efficient. With more office space on the rooftop of the office, we can bring PRIHA in and save money and energy. Construction began in January; if it goes as planned, the construction will end in two months. We believe this office addition will allow PRIHA to pursue its ministry through its radio programs, Bible study, and follow-up center while improving and facilitating its collaboration with World Renew and CRWM. This construction project allowed workers to learn new skills.

A few service and learning teams have come from the United States and Canada to work alongside Haitians, build relationships, and learn about Haiti and construction in Haiti. These trips are always eye-opening experiences for the trip participants, especially in Haiti as you have the opportunity to witness the work of three CRCNA agencies.

Instead of using blocks and other typical heavy materials that are often used in construction in Haiti, we decided to use lighter materials. Working together, Haitians and North Americans installed Styrofoam walls and did some preliminary work to be followed up in the next few weeks. Inauguration is scheduled for May.

Keep us in your prayers!



*The Ministry of  
the Christian Reformed Church in North America  
working in Haiti under the name Sous Espwa*



*This is how the rooftop currently looks.*



*Team from Goderich, Ontario working alongside Haitian workers.*

# The Léogane Project

## A Story of Transformation



**By Troy Sanon**  
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Haiti Team

The 17 communities that World Renew works with in Léogane are located in the hills. Our involvement in those communities has facilitated the rebuilding of several homes and livelihoods damaged by the 2010 earthquake. We continue to help those communities be more resilient by increasing their ability to absorb change, self-organize, overcome traumatic and disaster events, and innovate to learn for the future.

Each of the communities has a Local Agricultural Technician (LAT). The LAT is a member of a local association supported by World Renew to work with the community. The LAT is trained by our agronomists and in turn trains community members. He/she advises farmers, supervises farms, takes care of animals, distributes seeds to farmers, performs gap analysis, and facilitates discussions and the introduction of new initiatives in the community.

At the end of each month, one LAT hosts a gathering of the LATs. The purpose of this meeting is to allow the LATs to share the results of their work in the communities. The LAT that hosts the meeting presents his or her work; the goal is to encourage the other LATs to take initiatives. Those gatherings have allowed the LATs to present their community's small projects and share their experiences. In this past semester, six meetings were held in six communities: Nan Roche, Sainte-Thérèse, Jes-some, Bordes, Gerard, and Zabriko.

In one of the communities, an "experiment space" is being used for training. It's a half-hectare plot of land, approximately one acre, that the LAT and community members have used to experiment with different agricultural techniques, strengthening the community's knowledge base.

In February 2015, 100 papaya trees from the Gerard tree nursery were planted using a new method, and we expect those trees to produce papaya by next year. A total of 51 community leaders from the 17 associations were trained in participatory and organizational assessment through a SWOT analysis. The results of this assessment were presented to each association to help them identify strengths and gaps in their communities. As part of the assessment, three LATs participated in a two-week training organized by World Renew during



*Tree planting day: May 1st 2015 in Gerard*

the weeks of January 26-31 and April 13-17 focused on community mobilization. The training was designed to help the technicians reinforce the capability of the associations.

These 17 local associations (along with three others supported by World Renew through the livelihoods project) have joined forces to form a federation. The Fédération des Organisations et des Techniciens Agricoles pour le Développement de Léogane (FOTADEL) has a provisional committee of eleven members, of which four are women. All eleven members of the federation are from different local associations. The federation recently received its legal paperwork from the Haitian government.

A reservoir was built in Bouda Chita, one of the 17 communities where World Renew works in Léogane. A group of World Renew volunteers from the United States and Canada joined with Haitian workers in this construction project. The reservoir has a capacity of 6,000 gallons. It will be used to collect rain water for use by the community and the tree nurseries in Bouda Chita, especially during dry seasons.



*Side view of the reservoir*