



CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE ET D'INDUSTRIE HAITI-BENELUX

DIAGNOSIS OF THE SITUATION OF THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR

CHARACTERIZATION OF HAITIAN AGRICULTURE

The Republic of Haiti has an area of 27,750 km² and a population estimated at more than 9 million people today. This is a predominantly mountainous country with more than half of the lands with slopes greater than 40% and plains occupy only 550 000 ha, or 20% of its total area. The exploitable potential is 7700 km² (29%), while the area actually cultivated is of the order of 11 900 km² (44%), indicating that 420 000 hectares of marginal land is brought under cultivation.

Property

The land situation in Haiti is characterized by the small size of farms (1.8 ha on average), access difficulties increasingly important, and the predominance of informal modes of management and land insecurity. This is due to many factors: expansion of areas in undivided, non-legalized land transactions alienation of land leased, ownership of large areas by absentee and allocation of the land for sharecropping. Almost 75% of rural land are managed informally by farmers, based on customs.

The insecurity of land tenure breeds reluctance or even afraid to invest, and the emergence of violent conflicts disturbing social peace and that can be the cause of loss of life and extensive material damage. In all cases we find ourselves in a situation where the environment is not conducive to productive investment in the areas concerned and to the development of agriculture. Insecure tenure limits opportunities for investment both in Watershed at the level of irrigation. This results in a degradation of these areas could make a significant contribution to food security in Haiti.

To remedy this situation, the National Institute of Agrarian Reform (INARA) was established. But the effects will not be followed, because of weaknesses linked to other low degree of coordination between the various state bodies involved, inadequate Maps with the current land system and inadequate resources (human and material) allocated to the Institute.

Watersheds

About 85% of watersheds in the country are degraded or very quickly processed, causing frequent flooding in the country, depletion or disappearance of the basic factors of agricultural production, detrimental effects on downstream production facilities, etc. Soils parallel to timber resources are deteriorating rapidly. The exploitable potential is 7700 km² (29%), or the area actually cultivated is of the order of 11 900 km² (44%),

which means that 420 000 hectares of marginal land is brought under cultivation. Thus, soil erosion is estimated at about 12 000 ha per year. The main factors behind this deterioration are among others mismanagement of space, the fragility of the physical environment (steep slopes, nature of materials), high population pressure, low agricultural productivity, violence climatic phenomena, conservation tillage practices, intensive cutting wood for energy needs and for construction.

The irrigation and Hydro-agricultural infrastructure

MARNDR inventoried in 1999, 243 irrigation systems covering an area of about 75,000 ha, including 35,000 ha devoted to rice, 8,000 ha in the cultivation of bananas and much to crops corn, beans and vegetables.

Currently, there are five (5) types of irrigation system (SI) characterized by their size: the big SI, one of the Artibonite Valley which spans 38,000 ha; SI medium formed by twelve (12) systems located in La Plaine du Cul de Sac, Cabaret, Arcahaie, Leogane, Gonaives, Les Cayes and Saint-Raphael), and extending over an area Total 34 000 ha; approximately sixty (60) small SI that control as the case of varied size areas (between 30 and 900 ha) and covers a total of 13,000 ha; pumping stations and water wells; hill lakes, ponds and small lakes.

Irrigation infrastructure serving these areas have undergone over time successive deteriorations due to lack of maintenance and periodic cyclones. The operation of these systems is fraught with further management problems, due largely to the low involvement of users.

Other agricultural and rural infrastructure

The situation of the supporting infrastructure for agricultural and rural development is critical. The road network is estimated at 3400km in poor condition to 80%. Many areas with high production potential in the country is landlocked and virtually inaccessible in rainy seasons. Livestock infrastructure is in a poor condition. storage structures and preservation of agricultural products are scarce and adequate when they exist. This brings the producers usually sell their products immediately after harvest. This results in major price variations over the year and the marketing of products of low quality, such as meat, fruits and vegetables. The unavailability of electricity as a major constraint to the development of certain agricultural sectors.

Large groups of actors in the agricultural sector

The actors and state operators including ministries and local authorities. The Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (MARNDR) is the industry leader providing as much as possible the provision of services to farmers. The Local Authorities, in accordance with the law of April 4, 1996, are the privileged managers of the resources available in rural areas and are key partners MARNDR for the development of rural areas.

- Farmers, farmers' associations and other operators, contractors of the traditional private sector.
- Service providers (NGOs, firms, Agricultural Organisations, International Organisations);
- Agents of marketing and / or processing, including women who actively participate in these stages;
- Financial partners in the agricultural sector.

The supply of agricultural inputs

A major obstacle to improving agricultural productivity is low availability and limited access to agricultural inputs such as quality seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, veterinary products, animal feed, etc. The wonderful field that represent the urban organic waste has not practically exploited.

The farmer usually used as seed seeds from the output or bought in the rural market. So that farmers now have a local germplasm low yields. Weak agricultural tools are evident all over the country.

Today, thanks to the decrease in oil prices in the international market and the fertilizer subsidy program in progress at MARNDR, prices of chemical fertilizers were down on the local market. However, it should be found in the medium term, budgetary resources to finance such a grant program in fertilizer prices.

Rural finance

Currently, there is a strong demand for credit from various stakeholders in the agricultural and agro-industrial sector (companies, cooperatives, producer groups, households, etc.). The BCA, state institution that provides credit in rural areas, today strongly decapitalized, because of low reimbursement rates is unable to play its role. Banks have very little involvement in rural areas, because of the risks associated with agricultural production. The weakness of state institutions and the virtual absence of the conventional financial sector have created a favorable space for the operation of a variety of micro finance institutions in rural areas. They are of several types: cooperatives, NGOs, associations, etc. In fact, the financing of rural areas by formal credit institutions is very low compared to the needs. This results in a reduction of productive activities and use of usurious credit. There is therefore an important and urgent need to make rural fresh capital to facilitate productive investment in agriculture. The microfinance institutions dominate the landscape but are mostly interested in urban and suburban areas. Moreover, they mainly provide loans to non-agricultural activities such as trade. The offer is very diversified, with predefined conditions, non-negotiable that are generally unsuited to the main activities of the rural world and, especially its rate of reimbursement is often monthly and its short duration. This situation causes a reduction of productive activities in the area, yet has a productive investment urgently needed.

The production system and branches

Haiti's agricultural sector has three main production systems: livestock, fisheries and aquaculture; cereal; other food products. These three systems are closely interlinked, almost all farms practicing polyculture and poly-rearing and most fishermen also have an agricultural activity.

The production system: farming, fishing and aquaculture

Livestock plays an extremely important role in the system of saving family farms 1,000,000. Indeed, 35% of farms totaled over 1,000,000 pigs, 55%, 1.5 million cattle; 65%, 2.5 million goats and 80%, 4,000,000 poultry.

Aging in small family farms represents over 90% of national production. It meets most of the current demand within the country and annually exports to the Dominican Republic for about \$ 50,000 goats US 2,000,000 excluding cattle and poultry rustic.

Domestic production does not meet the demand of the local market in eggs, dairy products and industrial poultry meat that is offset by significant commercial imports, to the tune of US \$ 20 million / year for 360 million of eggs, US \$ 50 million / year to 90,000 TM milk equivalent of dairy products and the equivalent of 12.5 million chickens, 90% in cut pieces.

The cattle with about 500,000 adult cows has a potential of more than 100,000 MT per year, capable of meeting the current effective demand for dairy products. But lack of infrastructure for the processing and marketing, this sub-sector cannot enjoy a market currently filled to 80% by commercial imports (90,000 MT).

On poultry farming, there is a potential layout for 5000 family units of laying with 200 heads per unit. Which can ensure national production of 24 million eggs per month.

The increase of aquaculture production requires better management and rational exploitation of lakes and ponds. Fishing is underdeveloped and faces the weakness of equipment, lack of processing infrastructure and conservation and the scarcity of credit sources.

The development of livestock sectors, fisheries and aquaculture faces many constraints such, the low availability of fodder inputs and watering infrastructure, low availability of fingerlings within aquaculture and technological weakness the high prices of imported food for poultry, aquaculture and intensive pig farming, poor access to credit, the weaknesses in the professionalization of the sub-sector in a context of lack of protection of domestic production.

The production system: Cereal

Irrigated rice is produced at a couple of areas with a high concentration in the Artibonite Valley, which supplies about 60% of national production. Rice cultivation occupies 130,000 households, including 90,000 in the Artibonite, including 30,000 workers' sharecroppers.

The domestic rice production has been declining for over a decade. This decrease is mainly caused by the inefficient management of irrigation water and poor drainage perimeter of Artibonite, difficult access of farmers to inputs, competition from imported rice, etc. The recent support provided by MARNDR form of inputs, agricultural equipment and rehabilitation of irrigation infrastructure, however, contributed to an improvement of the technical performance of the rice.

Domestic rice demand is satisfied to 80% by imported rice, to 12% of the rice produced in the Artibonite and 8% of the rice produced in other rice-growing areas of the country and the rice milling waste the Dominican Republic, called cabecit.

Regarding corn, we find in the domestic market local corn and imported corn. The concentration of basin production of local corn is located in the plain of Les Cayes (South Department) with 24,000 hectares approximately 250,000 hectares across the country. Include sub-zones of relatively large production in the Grande-Anse, North, Central Plateau and Artibonite. The corn relates very little to producers by its low efficiency, despite technological advances in the plain of Les Cayes.

Sorghum is the third-largest cereal in Haiti after rice and corn. It is one for the future of Haiti cultures threatened by water scarcity. Sorghum production is far less expensive than corn that needs lots of water. It is not served by a strong network of business intermediaries that provide its processing and marketing. Its marketing is preferably in the production culture media.

Tubers sector

Local production of tubers is important. FAO esteem around 750,000 TM, 45% of cassava, mainly bitter varieties for the production of wafers. The tubers are grown in combination with food and cash crops in all production areas: cassava in the dry and semi-moist area, sweet potato in semi-humid and humid zones in plain and mountain, yam and malanga in wet areas at all altitudes, the "mazonbèl" (*Colocasia "dasheen"* in the anglophone Caribbean) in waterlogged depressions low altitude.

There are about a dozen varieties of yams produced, the main ones being yellow yam and "Guinea", with white flesh. One hundred sweet potato varieties are grown, most varieties are endogenous, few new varieties introduced efforts were undertaken.

Tubers exports total less than 500 TM per year and are directed towards the Turkish Islands, the Dominican Republic, the United States and the Bahamas. More than 300 TM go to the islands to the north. The annual yam shipments to Turkey and Caicos were estimated at more than 250 TM and those sweet potatoes approximately 60 TM (Capital Consult, 2004). For the Dominican Republic, they consist of small quantities of yams, malanga and cassava for border cassaveries. The United States came in last place with less than 25 TM yam annually in 2003 and 2004 (USDA / ERS, 2005).

The vegetable sector

There are more than thirty vegetables and condiments commonly produced in Haiti. The production areas are scattered throughout the country, in mountain areas and humid plains and irrigated plains.

The most important areas are found in the outskirts of Port-au-Prince (Kenscoff Seguin-axis), Pine Forest and the plains of Artibonite, Les Cayes, Gonaives and Cul de Sac. Only the Grande-Anse, despite favorable weather conditions, has no well-defined market garden areas, except for ginger that is concentrated in the area of Dame-Marie-Anse d'Hainault. The production is almost exclusively made of the peasant farms. The strongest demand is that of the capital and focuses on five products that are grown in the country: the kazoo (chayote), onion, cabbage, leek and carrot.

Fruit sector

Ecosystem diversity of the country permits the cultivation of a wide variety of fruits, including temperate productions. Nearly 150 species and varieties of fruit are grown or exist in a natural state. However, less than a dozen fruits constitute the bulk of marketed and consumed quantities. Mango, banana, avocado, coconut, breadfruit and citrus fruits are the main products and marketed. These fruits are from the production of peasant farms where trees are grown in combination with food crops (tubers, bananas, beans mainly) or coffee. Fruit exports are much diversified in the recent period. Consisting almost exclusively of mangoes in 1985-95, they

spread with avocado, tamarind, passion fruit, cashew and other minor products for the development of trade with the Dominican Republic.

Coffee sector

Coffee growing is the small farmers in Haiti. There are more than 200,000 families that would be involved in coffee production in the country. The average area per family farm would be broadly at 0.50ha. The average area of farms are larger in Beaumont regions (Grande Anse) Thiote (Sud'Est) and Baptiste (center) while they are much lower in areas of Plaisance / Dondon (North), d'Anse A Foleur / St-Louis du Nord (North West) and Cahos (Artibonite). Producers sell their coffee or cooperatives and associations which serve nearly 50,000 producers across four network marketing or intermediaries traditional channels whose main agents are underwater (intermediate unlicensed) speculators (intermediate patented) and exporters, or the Dominicans intermediate in number 20 that receive natural coffee from submarines outfielders in large number that market by unit small volumes (less than 100 bags per year by outfielders or industrial roasters (6) or multiple small artisanal roasters consisting mainly of women distributing their products in public procurement towns and villages.

Cocoa sector

Cocoa (*Theobroma cacao*) once constituted after coffee and sugar cane one of the largest sources generating currency for Haiti. The marketing of this product involved a large number of players. However, cocoa production does not vary greatly, but it is camouflaged under the emergence and increase in production of the other major producing countries. Cocoa cultivation is concentrated in two main areas of the country: North and Grande'Anse. This production of cocoa is almost the result of small planters, but they do not ensure the marketing of their products in international markets, resulting in the intervention of several intermediaries in the chain of this product.

Depending on the marketing lines, distribution channels it arise. Generally, include upstream producers themselves release their commodities speculators or cooperative, which sell the products to exporters that condition for sending them abroad; got there, the cocoa is bought by processors after conversion into finished products to provide distributors who finally deliver them to consumers.

INTEGRATION OF HAITIAN AGRICULTURE IN THE NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND WORLD ECONOMY TODAY

Contribution of the agro sector to the national economy

Agriculture has always been the main source of tax revenue of the country into the decade of 1960-1970. The participation of the agricultural sector to the GDP was 45% in the 70 against 26% today, down 19% over the period and about 0.5% per year. Agricultural exports fell more, with the disappearance of traditional products such as sugar and meat, table exports. For example, the amount of foreign exchange generated by coffee exports rose from 52.5 to 3,800,000 dollars. Cocoa and essential oils evolve randomly, while the average value of mango exports only diminishes despite global growth demand.

Growth in the agricultural sector, although knowing a primer recent months remains low and variable. The food supply is always characterized by his failure with the demand. The food production deficit makes the country much dependent on food imports. According to estimates by the National Coordination for Food Security (CNSA) in 2009, domestic production ensured that 49% of food needs, available (in tonnes of grain equivalent) imports, 46% and food aid, 5% . On food security, the latest surveys show that the CNSA nutritional needs of a large fraction of the Haitian population (approximately 1.9 million people before the earthquake of 12 January 2010 and to 3.3 million after 12 January) are not satisfied.

Evolution of the macroeconomic framework and its impact on the functioning of the agricultural sector

According to FAO data, agricultural production per capita have declined sharply between 1980 and 1994 and stabilized thereafter. The deficit has been filled by imports of food products that were then increased by 8.5% in 1981 to 1984, with a peak of 32% in 1996.

The growing increase in imports of food products has contributed to the deterioration of the trade balance, higher inflation, the depreciation of the flask - reinforced by the accumulated budget deficits - and thus to higher prices of products imported. Price stability is then presented as one of the priority objectives of economic policy.

The external trade liberalization policy followed since 1987 has increased in 1994. It has not produced the desired results of reducing food prices and export promotion. On the contrary, liberalization justified by the lack of supply has only further weaken the agricultural sector.

Moreover, the direction of economic policy focused on monetary and fiscal restraint has resulted in a high real interest rates, overvaluation of the gourd and a reduction in public spending. Competitive price and non-price competitiveness of the Haitian economy, especially the agricultural sector, were penalized. This policy has also caused a decline in terms of trade in the rural sector compared to other sectors of the economy and thus penalized farmers' incomes. The purchasing power of all households, but especially rural shows a notable decline that has accelerated since the mid 90. In rural areas, incomes fell and wages too. Imported foods that are needed in mass in the same rural areas, became a net buyer of food, become increasingly unaffordable because revenues are not following rampant inflation.

Involvement of international and regional trade agreements

Haiti has signed several agreements that may impact on the economy in general and agriculture in particular. This is the case with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank Agreement Facility Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility (ESAF) which covers the period 2006-2009 and which aims to make the more competitive Haitian economy and facilitate its integration into the global economy. This agreement stipulated *"the complete liberalization of agriculture by the drastic reduction of agricultural tariffs and elimination of non-tariff barriers, the abolition of export taxes."* This resulted in the reduction to 4.5% of the average tariff for agriculture. Whereas previously the tariffs for agricultural products were evolving in the range 40-50%. For example, they are currently set at 5% (rice), 3.5% (sugar), 5% (chicken, pork) or 0% (banana, egg and milk (3.5%)), whereas they were for these product categories, respectively 50%, 40% and 50%.

As a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO), Haiti is a party to the Agreement on Agriculture under discussion within the organization. This agreement aims to increase market access and reduce subsidies for agricultural production in member countries with some exceptions for LDCs.

Haiti is a member since 1989 of the Lomé Convention and is part of the ACP (Africa-Caribbean-Pacific). This agreement was governed for more than two decades of trade based on the granting of preferences among this group of countries and the European Union.

However, the Lomé trade provisions were deemed incompatible with the new rules of international trade. Under WTO rules, the preferences were described as discriminatory. Thus, in June 2000, was signed in Cotonou a new agreement between the 77 ACP countries, including Haiti, and the European Union.

The Cotonou Agreement is a global partnership agreement for a period of twenty years and revised every five years. It allows goods from Africa, Caribbean and Pacific meet criteria established by the community to access free of duty to the territory of the European Community. It is through a waiver from WTO rules.

A new framework for trade relations established between the EU and the six ACP regions, including Haiti, through the Economic Partnership Agreements. These are reciprocal free trade agreements compatible with WTO rules which, considering the reduction and progressive and reciprocal elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers, technical barriers to trade, and include, among others, trade in agriculture, fisheries and services.

Since 1996, Haiti joined the Caribbean Countries Community (CARICOM). This regional integration would be a valuable asset for Haiti with the economic and commercial benefits through the creation of opportunities for trade with other countries in the region.

Following the ratification of the revised Treaty of Chaguaramas and the Agriculture Protocol, CARICOM has chosen to direct agriculture to the international market and is committed to protecting the agricultural sector against dumping subsidized products, and other protectionist measures of trading partners can affect the production of the region. Member countries are also allowed to support their agriculture in the form of subsidies.

The Common External Tariff (CET) is one of the main instruments used by the community to protect the various sectors of the regional economy. Customs duties on agricultural products can be up to 40% maximum.

According to CARICOM, the rates in force in the country are relatively low, the CET would result in a substantial increase in tariffs. As a result, Haiti has received suspensions of the CET on some 500 products for five years, corresponding to a revolving adjustment, scheduled to begin on ratification of the CARICOM Treaty by the Haitian Parliament. Haiti has postponed its membership in CARICOM Common Market in calling for a moratorium, not yet implemented the provisions relating to the Treaty of Chaguaramas.

Apart from these multilateral commitments, it is important to mention specific agreements in some sectors such as the International Coffee Agreement, the International Cocoa Agreement and other bilateral trade agreements with a number of countries.

The projections on the future of agriculture in the regional and international context

It should be remembered that the neoliberal policy has had many adverse effects on the Haitian agricultural sector. At the macro level, it has contributed to the decline in agricultural production, falling exports, soaring food imports, the reduction in support for food crop production. At the meso and micro levels, is associated with a reduction in public investment in the sector and technical assistance, with the effect of declining productivity of domestic production and farm incomes.

This has led to the impoverishment of farmers for whom it has become more difficult to live their profession and satisfy the needs of their families.

In perspective, thanks to the Agreements on Agriculture of the WTO and the Common External Tariff (CET) of CARICOM, it is possible to make interventions on the border to revise tariffs. However, although there are opportunities for application of the tariff option in certain agreements (TEC Agreements on Agriculture of the WTO) commitments under other agreements such as those with BWI can go against these opportunities and limit their mobilization. Thus, it is in compliance actions under the management of the sub-sector.

SUMMARY: LIMITATIONS AND STRENGTHS OF AGRICULTURE

The low agricultural performance is linked to a set of constraints that can be listed as follows:

- The accelerated degradation of natural resources (soil water, forests) with particular consequences for the gradual reduction of the productive capacity of land
- The recurrence of natural disasters, coupled with the high vulnerability level of certain areas of the country
- Poor management of infrastructure and irrigation water
- Accelerated urbanization of land irrigated or humid plains
- Limited access to agricultural inputs and equipment
- A land tenure characterized by tenure insecurity (access sharecropping or tenant farming with very short-term leases, or undivided family access), the small size of most farms, land conflicts in some areas of the country
- A financial system very underdeveloped in rural areas and not really suited to the needs of operators
- Impairment of agricultural research and technical support
- Impairment of agricultural and rural infrastructure including irrigation and drainage infrastructure, see the secondary access, storage and conservation facilities, processing facilities
- Low investment in the sub-sectors of livestock and fisheries
- the marked decrease in agricultural by-products and animal feed in general
- degeneration of local genotypes as a result of uncontrolled projections, the unavailability of quality broodstock
- attacks of pests on plants and animals
- lack of epidemiological control, regular campaign prophylaxis and health monitoring
- losses after high crop
- the lack of standards and quality control system
- Too excessive liberalization of the agricultural market (low rates, quantitative restrictions eliminations)
- An unfavorable fiscal policy devoting scarce public resources to the agricultural sector
- A lack of articulation with other actions of other state sectors on the one hand and the other private

Advantages

Despite this difficult environment, the agricultural sector has strong advantages likely to be assessed as part of actions to its development. They can be summarized as follows:

- Large areas and good undeveloped land value (eg., Northeast)
- The availability of irrigation water and irrigated land
- A diversity of agro-ecological environments authorizing the establishment of a wide range of sustainable production systems
- The possibility of livestock development, especially at the hillsides, with the strengthening of animal health services to reach the agro-processing milk, meat in the various municipalities of the country
- 1535 kilometers of coast for fishing and fish farming, and ability to develop deep-sea fishing
- The existence of proven technical models that can be disseminated for improved agricultural production
- The crop and livestock production primarily biological
- The existence of a local market to satisfy
- The close proximity to the US market and the Dominican Republic
- The existence of producer organizations networks
- The presence of MARNDR to municipal level

ISSUES, VISION AND OBJECTIVES OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY

The main challenges of the agricultural sector are:

- The reduction of food dependency in a food sovereignty perspective (search of the maximum satisfaction of domestic food demand);
- The creation of rural employment opportunities to curb urban migration;
- Increasing the contribution of the agricultural sector in foreign currency;
- Reduction of environmental vulnerability.

VISION OF THE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Agricultural Development Policy is part of a long-term vision of agriculture

- modern agro-ecological, based on effectiveness and efficiency of family farms and the promotion of agricultural enterprises through the private sector involvement;
- productive and competitive in the local market and the international market, to ensure food security of the population;
- providing a decent income to its assets;
- concerned with the preservation of the environment and natural resources;
- building up surpluses for the operation of food companies

THE AIMS

As part of this vision, and given the stakes, the objectives for 2025 are:

General objective

The overall objective of the implementation of agricultural policy is to contribute sustainably to meeting the food needs of the Haitian people and to develop the country's social and economic.

Specific objectives

The following specific objectives are targeted:

- coverage of national consumption by domestic production from 45% to 70%;
- the agricultural sector has about 500,000 farms, providing a decent income for farmers;
- coverage of imports by agricultural exports going to "5%" (2009 figure) to 50% in 2025;
- the part of the rotation covered by annual crops tilled in areas of hill and mountain is greatly reduced.

These objectives reflect the concerns of the Government making the agricultural sector the mainstay of growth and poverty reduction in the country, as it appears in official documents, including the PRSP (Growth National Strategy Paper the Poverty Reduction). The main attractions of this document regarding the agricultural sector are:

- Promotion of sustainable agriculture and improved land management;
- Boosting agricultural production through better organization of supply chains;
- Modernization of rural infrastructure;
- Promotion of fishing and aquaculture;
- Revival of agro processing;
- Promotion of a new marketing strategy;
- Financing agriculture.

This interest in the sector was reiterated after the earthquake of 12 January 2010 in the various documents circulated by the Government, including the Action Plan for National Recovery and Development of Haiti, one of the 4 major shipyards, economic rebuilding, also the agricultural sector a pillar of stability in the country and an essential axis of its development.

COMMITMENTS OF THE HAITIAN STATE

Achievement of objectives of agricultural policy is based on the Haitian State commitments to:

- encourage the development of initiatives and private investment in agriculture, particularly for farmers but also the producer organizations and firms supplying goods and services to farmers;
- practicing good governance of public resources, through dialogue between the different categories of actors, the search for consensus between different stakeholders, and transparent management of budgetary resources available;

- ensure active participation of key stakeholders, ie farmers and their organizations in the definition and implementation of programs, plans and projects that will come from this agricultural development policy;
- promote the advancement of women and rural youth who derive income from agricultural production, including strengthening access to inputs, appropriate technologies, training, employment. In particular, the inclusion of young people will be built through entrepreneurship development strategies to ensure a dynamic succession, wealth.
- Ensure ongoing participation through institutional mechanisms, representatives of civil society (NGOs, private sector, producer organizations and other value chain actors) in developing operational strategies for implementing programs and also their monitoring and evaluation
- increase of 3% "x% 1" on the part of national budgetary resources to the agricultural sector between 2010 and 2025.

THE PRIORITY AREAS OF INTERVENTION

- Support for the accessibility of producers to basic production factors including (i) secure access to land as a guarantee of long-term investment, (ii) access to irrigation water and participatory management of infrastructure and water resources, (iii) the management of other natural resources (soil, residual forests, fisheries), (iv) prevention and risk management and natural disasters;
- The development of the agricultural sector and promotion of markets including (i) the development of the various sectors considered carriers: food crops (rice, banana, pigeon peas, vegetables, tubers), export crops (coffee, cocoa, fruits) livestock, fisheries and aquaculture, (ii) the development of processing products, (iii) promotion of national, regional and international levels to stimulate production, (iv) the establishment of safety nets and preventive storage
- The regulation of agricultural markets as well as private goods and services to support the sector: tariff protection, public procurement, storage, agricultural inputs and equipment, financial services (insurance, credit). The offer should be improved so that these goods and services are available at all times where the producers in need.
- Development of an offer public service to agriculture and farmers: health protection, research and development and agricultural extension, generalizing participatory approach to enable all stakeholders to be involved in the identification needs and themes;
- Institutional strengthening comprising (i) integration of the gender perspective, (ii) communications, (iii) strengthening the steering and coordination capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture, (iv) internal restructuring (v) human resource management, (vi) strengthening monitoring and evaluation capacity, (vii) capacity building of farmers and professional organizations.

"THERE'S MUCH MORE THAT CONNECTS US THAN JUST THE SEA"

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