

Strategic Program for Climate Resilience for Haiti

Responses to comments received from the PPCR Sub-Committee members

The Government of Haiti, the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank would like to express their sincere gratitude to the Governments of the United Kingdom, Australia and Canada for their detailed review of the SPCR document and constructive feedback, which will help improve the SPCR for Haiti as we move forward, and will inform the development of the PPCR Investment Projects.

Comments Received	Response
PART A - Comments from the UK	
<p>The UK welcomes the SPCR for Haiti. We particularly welcome the recognition of the importance of information (historical series of meteorological data and other climate information gaps) to help planners anticipate future climate events and the measures that are proposed to ensure the long-term sustainability and add value to the investments in hard infrastructure which include technical assistance component, climate information and risk and vulnerability assessments for decision making will be generated and tools to facilitate implementation of adaptation measures. It will also be very important to ensure that the infrastructure investment is maintained in terms of its physical functions and the availability of finance to support its continued operations including for example staff salaries.</p>	<p>Thank you for this encouraging comment.</p> <p>With regard to infrastructure maintenance, it should be noted that Investment Project 1 of the PPCR is articulated and builds on the Center and Artibonite Regional Development Project (P133352 to be implemented through the World Bank, \$50M IDA funds). To ensure sustainability, during project preparation, various maintenance and efficiency mechanism options will be examined, such as through the Road Maintenance Fund (FER – <i>Fonds d'Entretien Routier</i>) or local maintenance centers of MTPTEC as well as road services of some municipalities.</p>
<p>Point for clarification: - The relationship between the SCPR proposal and the Action Plan for National Recovery and Development (PARDN) is not entirely clear. If, as the proposal states, the PARDN identifies a need for \$11.5bn of investment in the environment then it would be helpful to know more about the relationship between the other parts of PARDN and the \$25m of proposed SCPR projects sits and how it fits in the wider strategic investment portfolio. Without this information but recognizing the existence of the PARDN, it is difficult to judge the value of the SCPR proposals.</p>	<p>Point taken, thank you.</p> <p>The PARDH is expected to guide national authorities and international partners' interventions across the country in a recovery phase and a long-term scenario. In parallel, a Strategic Plan for Development (PSDH) has been put in place with a 20-year timeframe. Priority actions and specific interventions for the PSDH are defined on a 3-year basis and mandated by Government priorities. The current PSDH (2013-2016) lists employment, education, rule of law and environment as priorities. The PSDH underlines the need to structure the territory, among other things, by planning land use, managing watersheds, renovating urban areas, putting in place a transport network. Some of these issues (ex: watershed management; transport network) are thoroughly addressed in the SPCR; others (urban renovation, land planning) constitute key elements of Haiti's action in the main areas of SPCR projects (for example the Center Artibonite Loop, conceived as a reference of land planning), and will provide added value to those projects.</p>
<p>Point for clarification: It is not clear how the 4 investment areas were decided on and what the allocation of finance across the 4 areas was based on. It would be useful to know how the investment areas were prioritized because it could be argued that investment area 4 is a more significant and urgent task and currently, the project costs (estimated at \$2m) suggest a very significant underestimate of need.</p>	<p>Thank you for this comment.</p> <p>Criteria for areas of intervention of the PPCR are defined in the SPCR document (responding to rural/urban dual reality in Haiti and disaster prone vs. less vulnerable enclaves, see executive summary table), these have determined the two main geographical zones for the project: Center Artibonite Loop (covered by investments</p>

	<p>projects 1 and 2) and the Gulf of Gonâve arc from Léogâne to Saint-Marc (covered by investment project 3). Budget for hard investments (infrastructure, etc., logically having a larger size than soft investments) has been allocated between these two zones (\$8M in the Loop and \$7M in the Gulf).</p> <p>Investment Project 4 (mostly technical assistance and support to policy work) has a total budget of \$5,5M, with \$4,25M for soft investments, such as up-grading and strengthening capacities (staff and equipment) in the national institutions responsible for generating, processing and managing hydro-meteorological information and climate change data. Investments in this area build on a WMO \$6M project on meteorological information capacity development and will be coordinated with on-going activities under the regional PPCR program in the Caribbean. Furthermore, during the investment project preparation phase, additional funding for the hydro-meteorological information management component will be sought through the GFDRR.</p>
<p>World Bank acknowledges that its very focused on the more physical side of things (reforestation, road, drainage, etc), as opposed to the more social components of building resilience (social protection, insurance), so it will be important that this broader view is taken on board during implementation and how this program will link up with these and other investments (including the ones referred to in the annexes).</p>	<p>Thank you for this insightful comment.</p> <p>Indeed, it is foreseen by the WB during the next phase of development of Investment Projects to explore and strengthen the links between PPCR investments and other on-going operations seeking to build resilience and reduce vulnerabilities through the reinforcement of social safety nets. For example, Investment Project 1 seeks to establish linkages with an on-going operation on “Maternal and Child Health through Integrated Social Services Project” (P123706, \$70M operation), undertaking socio-economic vulnerability studies and active at local and community level in the Centre Artibonite region. This successful initiative will be up-scaled at national level through a new operation on Health and Social Services.</p> <p>In addition, Investment Project 2 of the program seeks to improve the revenue of farmers, considering the improvement of their livelihoods will allow them to cope with climate change. Revenue increase will also impact positively on farmers’ social conditions.</p>
<p>We would like more information on how the private sector will be drawn in.</p>	<p>Within Investment Project 1, a Climate Adaptation Grant Facility (CAGF) will be put in place. This component would finance a pilot project for micro-grants for climate change adaptation activities. The CAGF would avail financial capital to private sector entities (from firms and MSMEs to communities and households) for investments contributing to climate adaptation and/or disaster vulnerability reduction in the Center Artibonite Loop.</p> <p>The engagement of the private sector within Investment Project 2 (on agriculture) will involve a series of activities including workshops, partnership fora in order to disseminate information and build capacity related to the adoption and investment in climate change initiatives. In addition, private sector engagement will build on the ongoing dialogue between the private sector arms of the IDB group and the agro-producers, associations and cooperatives within the Artibonite Loop, intended to identify and take advantage of any potential opportunities for climate change investments.</p>

<p>There are a number of indicators included in the results framework, which appear hard to measure. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Level of integration of the issue of climate change in government policies, plans, programs and projects and public budgets. - Quantity and quality of operational tools put in place to facilitate local government 's appropriation of the PPCR project, its implementation, monitoring and evaluation <p>(We hope more detail on how these indicators will be measured will be included in the individual project proposals.)</p>	<p>Thanks, this difficulty is acknowledged.</p> <p>Indeed, each investment project will develop a complete M&E framework with specific indicators, targets and ways of verification.</p> <p>The indicators included in the results framework at the SPCR level correspond to the 5 core indicators outlined in the PPCR Revised Results Framework (January 2013). Haiti has now submitted its M&E Work Plan to the CIF Administrative Unit and, in addition to developing project level results frameworks in the coming months, we will work to refine the SPCR level indicators, as well as define baselines and targets at program level.</p>
<p>The Haiti SPCR independent review usefully pointed out some areas for development. In particular, we agree with the particular point made in the review that it would be useful to indicate what approaches will be undertaken to manage the risks articulated for each project and it would also be useful to provide a measure of the level of each risk i.e. medium, high or low.</p>	<p>Thank you for this observation. Indeed, the point was made by the independent reviewer and acknowledged by the SPCR team in the response to the reviewer's comments.</p> <p>At the Investment Project development stage, a complete Risk Log-frame will be drafted with more level of detail. In particular, for operations administered by IBRD, potential risks to achieving the investment project objectives will be identified and mitigation measures proposed to minimize the potential impact of these risks. These will be detailed in an Operational Risk Assessment Framework, that would also be used to monitor and re-assess risks and review mitigation measures during Project implementation.</p>
<p>Part B – Comments from Canada and Australia</p>	
<p>Canada and Australia welcome Haiti's SPCR. The program addresses Haiti's critical need to improve the risk management of natural disasters and reduce the impact of climate change on people and infrastructure. The program provides additional projects that will have impacts at the community level and national level, such as policy development and capacity building.</p>	<p>Thank you very much for these encouraging comments.</p>
<p>To improve the SPCR as it is being finalized, there are still some issues that should be clarified/addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government of Haiti: in order to develop national and local capacities to increase climate resilience, there needs to be a call for a national dialogue and political will to create an environment conducive to the mobilization of resources to promote environmental changes sought. Please explain how the Government of Haiti will support the interventions after the initial resources provided from PPCR are used. 	<p>Thank you for this forward-looking question.</p> <p>Energizing the policy dialogue, public awareness -raising around climate change (including organization of a conference on resilience to climate change in Haiti and the publication of conference proceedings; various studies and evaluations; putting in place specialist training for stakeholders and decision makers, and so forth) are initiatives conceived within the formulation of Investment Project 4. Beyond those specific activities, mainstreaming climate risks into development planning and budgeting and supporting the integration of climate change into public policy design is conceived as a long-term strategy to ensure a conducive policy environment for climate change action in the future.</p> <p>The SPCR underlines that it will contribute to the development of a set of laws contributing to climate resilience. Actions mentioned above will be supported by the legal framework to be established.</p>

<p>Point for clarification:</p> <p>- Role of local officials (Institutional Analysis - Section 1.6, p.63): the SPCR specifies the roles of government, private sector and civil society, but not those of local officials, who are essential for the success of interventions. Please explicitly set out the role of local officials in the final SPCR.</p>	<p>Point well taken, thank you.</p> <p>Haiti's governance structure is highly centralized with administrative and executive powers located in Port-au-Prince, and limited decentralization. The country's history of political instability presented challenges in building, and building upon, existing institutions to achieve development goals in all sectors and throughout the country. To streamline regional development and land use planning activities, CIAT was created to develop and coordinate a territorial planning vision. However, to date, there is no executive mandated structure at either the central or local level to host and guide that vision through formal decision-making processes.</p> <p>Despite this fact, from their inception, the Center-Artibonite Loop components of the PPCR (and related projects on infrastructure and agriculture administered by MDBs) have worked on strengthening local ownership, under CIAT's leadership. CIAT's "<i>Boucle Centre Artibonite</i>" vision is now largely owned by the region, its departments, municipalities, civil society and local population. The initial analytical studies conducted by CIAT involved the local level (with the Arrondissements, Municipalities, CASECs, the local private sector and civil society). CIAT is also leading a multi-stakeholder consultation process that is resulting in local beneficiaries taking ownership of the program and strengthening their institutional capacities for further engagement in the project implementation phase.</p> <p>On the other hand, CIAT is part of the process initiated by the Government, through notably the Ministry of the Interior and Local Authorities, which consist on training civil engineers ("<i>Ingénieurs municipaux</i>") to work at local level, in order to help the ownership of the projects by local authorities. To this same end, it is also important to note the effort made by the Ministry of the Interior to put in place the <i>Agences Techniques Locales</i> ("Local Technical Agencies") constituted by professionals from different technical backgrounds engineers, finance experts, urban planners, etc.).</p>
<p>Point for clarification:</p> <p>- Strategy and description of components (Section 1.7, p.67): The program should include tailored approaches for local participation (i.e., local and national ownership, civic responsibility, etc.) in the projects, as is the best practice for SPCR pilot projects. Please revise the SPCR accordingly.</p>	<p>Point well taken. Please see above for clarification on this matter.</p>
<p>Point for clarification:</p> <p>Similarly, the revised SPCR should include a description of possible synergies between this program and other relevant projects/interventions, and insight on how the necessary interfaces should be developed.</p>	<p>We appreciate this suggestion, thank you.</p> <p>Annex 4 includes a table of national and international projects in Haiti with potential links to climate resilience, in order to facilitate the exploration of potential synergies, by geographic and thematic areas of intervention, during the Investment Projects development phase.</p> <p>Some of these complementarities and potential synergies have already been identified and reflected in the description of Investment projects 1, 2 and 3 within the SPCR document (PPCR funds will either be blended with MDB operation under preparation or provide additional financing to on-going MDB</p>

<p>Point for clarification:</p> <p>Organization Chart and Coordination (Section 2.9) – In the final SPCR, please elaborate on how coordination can be done at a more strategic level with all stakeholders for more effective information sharing. For example, a permanent structure to discuss climate change resilience issues or a sectoral table might be good platforms for such coordination.</p>	<p>operations).</p> <p>Thank you for the suggestion, this is an important point.</p> <p>The <i>Cadre de Coordination de l'Aide Externe d'Haiti</i> (CAED) was introduced by the Prime Minister in November 2012. This instrument acknowledges the need for coordination at three levels: strategic, territorial and sectoral. Within the domain of disaster risk reduction (DRR) there is general consensus to establish a Thematic Table on DRR, co-chaired by the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Planning and External Aid. Although this platform is not operational yet, some of the GoH key partners (including EU, IADB, WB) have suggested it should encompass adaptation to climate change and other dimensions of vulnerability and to become a Sectoral Table on Resilience. Under direct dependence of the Prime Minister, as this idea evolves at institutional level, CIAT will be attentive to strategic ways to link PPCR operations with a future mechanism for sectoral coordination on resilience at national level.</p>
<p>Gender Equality:</p> <p>The gender equality section is an important element of the SPCR and, to improved it further, it should include more comprehensive assessments to inform interventions. For example, the SPCR notes the difficulty faced by women in retrieving clean water, which is complicated by drought. The assessment should be strengthened by including reference to the increase in water-borne diseases due to poor environmental management, as well as the potential of violence against women due to the increased distance and isolation of water sources.</p>	<p>Suggestions well noted, thank you.</p> <p>Gender issues are cause of serious concern in Haiti. For instance, Haiti recognizes the need to “ensure that water supply schemes and the location of water points are more secure for women and girls¹. However, those issues (including the increase in water-borne diseases due to poor environmental management) are not well documented. Generally, as rightly mentioned, there is a lack of data and studies on gender-specific impacts of climate change. Haiti was involved in the regional study on this matter undertaken by the Regional PPCR program in the Caribbean. As results from this study emerge, the need to produce more country specific data and potentially enlarge the dimensions of this study will be addressed in the Investment Project development phase of the PPCR.</p> <p>Within the SPCR, Gender Issues, Children and Youth section (1.1.1.10) provides a general overview of gender equality in Haiti. It shows the level of commitment of the Government of Haiti with gender issues and offers some data of the real situation of women in the country. It includes a quick overview of the most representative gender issues: work, education, land, food security, and water.</p> <p>Twenty-seven percent of all women and girls over the age of 15 experienced gender-based violence² (GBV). In this context, limited access to clean water, and sanitation facilities have become security risks variables. Rapes often take</p>

¹ Ministère à la Condition Féminine et aux Droits de la Femme. 2008. Intégration des besoins différenciés des Femmes, Filles, Hommes et Garçons dans l'Action Humanitaire: Instruments de systématisation de l'Analyse Comparative selon le Sexe.

² Cayemittes, Michel, Marie Florence Placide, Soumaïla Mariko, Bernard Barrère, Blaise Sévère, Canez Alexandre. 2007. Enquête Mortalité, Morbidité et Utilisation des Services, Haïti, 2005-2006. Calverton, Maryland, USA : Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population, Institut Haïtien de l'Enfance et Macro International Inc

	<p>place around sanitation facilities at night and lack of hygiene lead to higher infection rates in women, which could be avoided with appropriate water and sanitation, hygiene planning, especially in internally displaced persons camps. In rural areas, the population has access to drinking water at 51.6% and 24.8% has sanitation services³, which fosters cholera rages.</p> <p>Data to be provided by the regional study on gender specific impacts of climate change may help address some of the underlying issues related to women and specific issues in Haiti.</p>
<p>Lessons learned and good practices (Section 1.8):</p> <p>Several environmental projects including watershed management took place in Haiti with lower than expected results. The document should elaborate on the lessons learned from these past experiences by focusing on recommendations that are viable and realistic. For example, section 1.1.1.15 (Tidal Waves) recommends moving roads located too close to the coast and relocating people living next to the sea, but it is not clear how such recommendations would this be put into practice. Please elaborate in the final SPCR, or revise this.</p>	<p>Thank you for noting this.</p> <p>Watershed management was initially conceived as one of the focus areas for PPCR. During the SPCR formulation it was noted that a significant number of actors and initiatives are already active in watershed management in the country (see table 2 in annex 4). Aid coordination and division of labor criteria were applied and the prevalence of this focus area was decreased within the PPCR.</p>

³ Teixeira, 2005.