



Fact Sheet
Office of the Spokesman
 Washington, DC
 December 29, 2003

U.S. Assistance to Haiti

The U.S. Government is Haiti's largest donor. The U.S. is working with the island nation to reduce poverty, illiteracy, and malnutrition. U.S. aid also promotes the rule of law and respect for human rights. In spite of Haiti's deteriorating economy, social indicators clearly show improvement in the areas of intervention.

During fiscal years 1995 to 2003, the U.S. gave Haiti more than \$850 million in direct bilateral assistance, and the U.S. is seeking \$55 million for fiscal year 2004, to provide the following:

#55M
 AMOUNTS
 TO APP.
 \$7 = PER
 HAITIAN
 AND
 20 CENTS
 PER
 AMERICAN.

- Food Security (\$24 million sought): for food assistance under P.L. 480 Title II, for nutritional well-being and food security, particularly for nursing mothers and for children under age 5.
- Health (\$21.8 million): A U.S.-supported network of over 30 local organizations serves 2.5 million Haitians. In U.S.-assisted areas, child immunization rates are nearly double the national average, and have increased by 85% in some areas. Thanks to U.S. aid, child malnutrition rates fell from 32% to 22% in 1995-2000; the national percentage of women seeking prenatal consultation increased from 68% to 79%; and the national contraceptive use rate increased, as part of the expanded AIDS prevention program. Haiti may also benefit from United States support for the Global Fund against AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria.
- Democracy (\$2.9 million): U.S. programs increase political party professionalism, strengthen independent media and civil society organizations, promote judicial reform and human rights, and support independent election observation groups. U.S. public diplomacy programs bring Haitian Government officials, journalists, and academics to the United States to learn about public policies and programs.
- Education (\$2.5 million): U.S. aid resulted in a pass rate increase for third and fourth grade students through improved training for 4,000 teachers and school directors; radio education in math and Creole; and books, teaching aids, and curriculum guides.
- Economic Growth (\$1.75 million): Income for the poor through small business loans to urban micro-entrepreneurs is on the rise, due to U.S. aid. Programs also offer assistance to small farmers in marketing valuable export crops such as coffee, cacao, and mangos; and help Haitian artisans to find niche export markets. Beneficiaries include small entrepreneurs (80% women), 25,000 hillside farmers, and 2,000 artisans.

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