

## TC Document

### I. Basic Information for TC

▪ Country/Region:	HAITI
▪ TC Name:	Strengthening Social Protection Coordination in Haiti
▪ TC Number:	HA-T1329
▪ Team Leader/Members:	Magri, Nicola (SCL/SPH) Team Leader; Monin, Emmanuelle (SCL/SPH) Alternate Team Leader; Joseph, Cedrick Guy (CID/CHA); Forero Sanchez Juan David (SCL/SPH); Bermudez Plaza Neili Carolina (SCL/SPH); Rivera Ocampo, Roberto Mauricio (SCL/SPH); Alessi Flavia (SCL/SPH); Casco, Mario A. (ITE/IPS); Gilles, Aurelie Flavy (CID/CID); Vila Saint Etienne, Sara (LEG/SGO)
▪ Taxonomy:	Operational Support
▪ Operation Supported by the TC:	HA-J0005, HA-J0007, HA-J0008.
▪ Date of TC Abstract authorization:	23 Jul 2024.
▪ Beneficiary:	The Republic of Haiti
▪ Executing Agency and contact name:	Inter-American Development Bank
▪ Donors providing funding:	OC SDP Window 1 - Operational Capacity and Policy Dialogue for OC-concessional eligible countries(W1D)
▪ IDB Funding Requested:	US\$350,000.00
▪ Local counterpart funding, if any:	US\$0
▪ Disbursement period (which includes Execution period):	36 months
▪ Required start date:	November 2024
▪ Types of consultants:	Individuals; Firms
▪ Prepared by Unit:	SCL/SPH-Social Protection & Health
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	SCL/SPH-Social Protection & Health
▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n):	Y
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	N
▪ Alignment to the Institutional Strategy 2024-2030:	Social inclusion and equality

### II. Description of the Associated Guarantee

2.1 Haiti has faced chronic fragility due to natural disasters, the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19, the cholera outbreak in 2022, worsening insecurity, and social and political unrest. Ranked 10th in the 2023 Fragile State Index, the country experienced a sixth consecutive year of economic contraction in fiscal year 2024. Vulnerable Haitians suffer from food insecurity, limited health access, and poor emotional safety and social inclusion, particularly affecting children, and youths. In early 2024, insecurity worsened significantly, especially in Port-Au-Prince, with gangs targeting public infrastructure and services creating an additional burden on Haitian economic due to high global costs, fiscal deficit financing, exchange rate depreciation, supply interruptions, and fuel shortages that led to high inflation, peaking at 49.3% in January 2023. The National

Coordination on Food Security (CNSA) reports that according to the latest IPC,<sup>1</sup> as of September 2024, 5.4 million people (50 percent of the analyzed population) remains at level 3 of the IPC classification and Emergency (IPC Phase 4), and nearly 6,000 people in displacement camps are classified as being in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5).

- 2.2 The persistence of widespread areas classified in crisis is due to food inflation and ongoing insecurity that disrupts supply chains. Inflation rate in Haiti increase to 30% in July 2024 and the country is also facing an internal displacement (IDP) crisis: between the end of February and April 2024, the number of IDPs seeking safer areas, particularly within the Port-au-Prince Metropolitan Area (MPAP), reached 173,156 by September 2024.<sup>2</sup> Access to essential healthcare services remains extremely limited. According to a recent Rapid Crisis Impact Assessment conducted by the Government of Haiti (GoH), with the support of major donors and stakeholders, assessing the impact of the recent crisis on the Ouest department and the MPAP, 60% of healthcare facilities have been damaged and remain only partially operational as of July 2024.<sup>3</sup>
- 2.3 As a result of the increased fragility, in the last years the GoH has increased its initiatives to strengthen social support systems to address multiple crises. Since 2018, the Bank has supported these efforts with six operations executed by FAES, an autonomous agency under the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) tasked with delivering social protection interventions. The Social Protection and Health portfolio of operations implemented by FAES has allowed to provide large-scale temporary safety nets to vulnerable segments of the population through the involvement of various NGOs and specialized agencies across the country. Main activities include unconditional cash transfers, cash transfers to access basic health services, and cash-for-work programs. Under (a) “Temporary Social Safety Net and Skills for Youth - [4657/GR-HA](#)” approved in 2018, and in its final year of execution, as of October 15<sup>th</sup> 2024, FAES has provided: (i) temporary income to more than 69,000 youth aged 18, 35 through 429 cash-for-work projects throughout Haiti that restore or build needed community assets prioritized by the communities, contributing to building their resilience to climate change; (ii) vocational training to more than 2,000 youth in the energy, water, and IT sectors; and (iii) incubation training and seed funding to 90 youth startups. (b) Under “Safety Nets for Vulnerable People Affected by Coronavirus in Haiti - [5068/GR-HA](#)”, approved in July 2020, and fully executed, 98,000 children received school meals during academic year 2020-2021, 170,000 households (680,000 people) received 4 cycles of cash and food transfers of US\$100 each, 31,000 households were added to the Information System of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor (SIMAST), and 54,000 workers of the textile sector received compensation during the closure factories due to COVID-19. (c) Under “Expansion of Safety Nets for Vulnerable Populations Affected by the Socio-Economic Consequences of Coronavirus - [5288/GR-HA](#)”, approved in June 2021 and currently under closure, as of October 15<sup>th</sup> 2024, 128,000 children received school meals during academic year 2021-2022 and 44,000 during school year 2022 and 2023; 65,000 households (325,000 people) have received 4 cash transfers of US\$100 each, 6,000 vulnerable women received two cash transfers of US\$100 each

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<sup>1</sup> [IPC](#), is a common global scale for classifying the severity and magnitude of food insecurity and malnutrition. This tool allows classification of areas with acute food insecurity: 1/Minimal, 2/Stressed, 3/Crisis, 4/Emergency and 5/Famine.

<sup>2</sup> [Haiti - Report on internal displacement, September 2024](#)

<sup>3</sup> According to data provided by PAHO in July 2024 to the donors' community, only 37% of healthcare facilities are fully functional in the Ouest department

combined with complimentary services based on their needs and of those of their family, and 47,000 households have been added to SIMAST. Under (d) “Program to Strengthen Safety Nets for Vulnerable Populations - [5591/GR-HA](#)”, approved in November 2022 and whose implementation started in June 2023, 40,000 households (200,000 people) will receive four unconditional transfers of US\$100 each, 12,000 households (60,000 people) will receive transfers conditional to the temporary employment of one family member in 180 cash for work projects to restore or build community assets that contribute to resilience to climate change, 82,500 households will be added to SIMAST and 22,000 vulnerable patients, mostly women, will receive two cash transfers of US\$100 combined with essential healthcare services based on their needs and those of their family. Under (e) “Tackling Food Insecurity and Fostering Resilience through Safety Net for Vulnerable Populations - [5817/GR-HA](#)”, 16,000 beneficiaries will receive cash transfers for their participation in cash-for-work projects, 18,000 beneficiary patients will receive transfers conditional to the compliance with preventive and treatment healthcare services, and 70,000 new households will be registered in SIMAST registry. Finally, (f) the operation titled “Community-based program to foster human security in Haiti [5894/GR-HA](#)”, was approved by the Board in June 2024 and, among other results, will provide conditional transfers, through cash-for-work, to a total of 16,000 beneficiaries, and essential healthcare services to 18,000 beneficiaries.

- 2.4 In Haiti, *the Groupe de Travail des Partenaires et Bailleurs de Fonds de la Protection Sociale* (GTPPS) was created to ensure that development partners in the social protection sector provide predictable, coordinated support for the national development policies, strategies and priorities set by the government, particularly in the social protection (SP) sector. GTPPS is guided by the principles set out in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. The Group’s frame of reference is the *Politique Nationale de Protection et de Promotion Sociales* (PNPPS) adopted by the government in June 2020, and its *Plan d’Action National 2023-2025*. The GTPPS is open to representatives and/or focal points of institutions and agencies whose function is to provide support to the social protection sector in Haiti. This includes bilateral and multilateral donors and development partners which provide technical and/or financial support to the sector. At present, the IDB and the World Bank are co-leading the Group, in which the World Food Program, UNICEF, International Labor Organization, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Swiss Cooperation, the European Union Delegation, ECHO and U.S. Agency for International Development are actively participating.
- 2.5 FAES’s social protection portfolio has been expanding in recent years, alongside increased investments from multiple donors in social protection programs, which poses risks of duplication and a lack of coordination. While the SIMAST social registry exists and serves as a crucial tool for targeting vulnerable populations, it requires further strengthening and geographic expansion to fully support the growing demands of these programs and improve the efficiency of beneficiary identification across the country. In a context like Haiti, where security challenges and logistical difficulties are prevalent, the use of AI could play a crucial role in improving data gathering and updating for SIMAST. For this reason, this TC will pilot the use of AI for data collection and analysis, leveraging expertise from other fragile contexts in the LAC region.

### III. Objectives and Justification of the TC

- 3.1 **The objective of this Technical Cooperation (TC)** is to enhance the impact of social protection interventions in Haiti by supporting the Government, particularly FAES and MAST, in strengthening coordination and building capacity within the social protection system. Specifically, the TC will improve key operational aspects, including facilitating coordination among social protection donors and stakeholders, expanding and optimizing the use of the SIMAST social registry, and promoting best practices in data gathering and analysis, including data analysis on repatriated people and youth needs. It will also focus on piloting innovative initiatives, such as new data collection methods and the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to better target vulnerable households, especially in remote areas. Furthermore, the TC will facilitate knowledge sharing and the exchange of good practices and lessons learned on social registries with other actors in the region, contributing to a more efficient social protection system in Haiti.
- 3.2 **Strategic Alignment.** The TC is consistent with the IDB Group Institutional Strategy: Transforming for Scale and Impact (CA-631) and is aligned with the objective of “reduce poverty and inequality” by supporting the coordination among relevant donors and stakeholder to strengthening Haiti’s social protection system for the population living in poverty or vulnerability. The TC is also aligned with the operational focus areas of: (i) institutional capacity, rule of law, and citizen security; and (ii) social protection and human capital development.
- 3.3 The TC is aligned with the current Haiti Country Strategy 2017-2021 (GN- 2904-3),<sup>4</sup> as it contributes to “render key services more accessible to enhance human development” and is relevant to the country development challenge of inclusion and poverty. Moreover, the Program is aligned with the following Sector Frameworks: Social Protection and Poverty (GN-2784-12) because it will ensure that social protection interventions are implemented smoothly, and best practices and lessons learned are documented; Food Security (GN-2825-8); Early Childhood Development (GN-2966-2). Finally, the TC is aligned with the objectives established in the Strategic Program for Ordinary Capital Development (OC SPD) (GN-2819-14) with Window 1 (W1D), Pre-established Commitment 4 "Operational capacity and policy dialogue for countries eligible for concessional financing of Ordinary Capital" through eligible activities to conduct studies of regulatory and institutional analysis as an input to strengthen models of care for vulnerable populations. The scope of this TC is the most vulnerable people among which are women, children, young, repatriated and diverse people. Although, this TC is focused on strengthening and improving the impact of social protection programs through technical support to donors' coordination, the use of IA and the exchange of experiences on social registry.
- 3.4 **Valued added for the country.** This TC, built on collaborative work between the GoH throughout the MEF and FAES and the IDB, will make a substantive contribution to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of Haiti's social protection system through concrete actions that will lead to a better coordination among donors and technical partners; the exchange of best practices related to social registry; and the piloting of a faster and more accurate data collection on vulnerability using AI. In this regard, this TC will support the implementation of operations [5591/GR-HA](#), [5817/GR-HA](#) and [5894/GR-HA](#).

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<sup>4</sup> GN-2904 has been extended until December 31, 2024.

#### **IV. Description of activities/components and budget**

- 4.1 **Component I: Strengthen Coordination among Donors and Technical Partners to Increase the Impact of Social Protection Programs (US\$80,000).** This component will finance one consultant who will be responsible for delivering concrete outputs related to the strategy of increasing the impact of social programs through the strengthening of donor coordination among the members of the Social Protection and Social Promotion Working Group -such as to gather information and design a work plan, mapping interventions, assessment of their level of coordination, and disseminating knowledge both within the group and to external actors. The consultant will be supported by a knowledge dissemination consultant, tasked with assisting in the dissemination of results and materials produced within the group.
- 4.2 **Component II: Enhance Efficiency and Effectiveness of the Social Registry (US\$100,000).** This component will finance a consultancy service for a diagnostic of regional experiences on social registry. The participation of MAST in the Social Registry Network meetings, coordinated by IDB, WB, and CEPAL, and comprising 15 countries in the region, will also be financed. This network aims to exchange best practices and set shared goals for their registries. Additionally, this component will finance a series of strategic dialogue with some Social Registry institutions from the region, as SIUBEN from Dominican Republic, to facilitate the exchange of lessons learned on these two institutions from neighbor countries.
- 4.3 **Component III: Identify Innovative Strategies for Social Protection of the Future (US100,000).** It will finance a consultancy service to identify innovative activities (e.g. satellite images and mobile data for rapid data collection) and increase the effectiveness of field social workers for searching potential beneficiaries of social programs. This TC will provide support for testing innovative modalities such as AI to gather data, irrespective of its size, to mitigate the availability of data that is a major problem in Haiti and small pilot activities using the AI for preparing social protection intervention. It will also finance training needed for the main stakeholders of the Haitian Social Protection System to explore the use of AI in social protection.
- 4.4 **Other costs: Resources for administration and contingencies (US\$70,000).** These resources will be used for interpretation services, when needed (Creole and French) and logistic activities to deploy workshops, dialogues and training activities to gather information, share lessons learned, and disseminate results. Workshops will take place in Port-au-Prince or other areas of Haiti if basic security conditions are met. Furthermore, workshops may take place outside of Haiti if these involve regional topics concerning the participants countries of the Social Registry Network.
- 4.5 **Expected outcomes.** This TC has three expected outcomes: (i) Improving coordination among the main donors and technical partners on social protection leading to more aligned and coordinated social protection interventions, minimizing duplication of efforts, and optimizing resource allocation; (ii) strengthening of SIMAST, improving its effectiveness in targeting vulnerable populations, through the participation of the Government of Haiti in knowledge exchange on best practices with other countries in the region, while also sharing Haiti's own successful experiences; and (iii) piloting an AI-driven approach to strengthen the accuracy and speed of data collection for SIMAST, aimed at improving its effectiveness in identifying vulnerable populations, enabling faster and more precise data updates, particularly in remote areas. The products instrumental to the achievement of these outcomes are: (i) the reports of the donor's group meetings, including a mapping of interventions across

donors and stakeholders, reducing duplication; (ii) the reports of the participation of MAST in the Social Registry Network meetings, and the report of lessons learned exchange between MAST and SIUBEN; and (iii) a pilot project report on the use of AI-driven data collection for SIMAST.

- 4.6 **Budget.** The total cost of this TC is US\$350,000 and will be financed by the OC SDP Window 1 – Operational Capacity and Policy Dialogue for OC-concessional eligible countries (W1D). There will be no local counterpart funding, and the disbursement period (which includes the execution period) is 36 months.

**Indicative Budget (US\$)**

Activity/Component	IDB/W1D	Total Funding
<b>Component 1.</b> Strengthen Coordination among Donors and Technical Partners to Increase the Impact of Social Protection Programs	80,000	80,000
<b>Component 2.</b> Enhance Efficiency and Effectiveness of the Social Registry	100,000	100,000
<b>Component 3.</b> Identify Innovative Strategies for the Social Protection of the Future	100,000	100,000
<b>Other costs.</b> Resources for administration and contingency topics	70,000	70,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>350,000</b>	<b>350,000</b>

**V. Executing agency and execution structure**

- 5.1 The Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF), following dialogue with COF Haiti, has requested that the IDB, through its SPH division, executes the TC (Annex I). Having the IDB as executing agency will allow to leverage the IDB's network of expert individual consultants and firms and established relation with partners such NGOs; furthermore, the IDB team is best positioned to assist the government in the effective execution of its growing portfolio. This execution structure is based on (i) the request of the MEF; (ii) the extensive technical knowledge of SCL/SPH in the topics included in the TC, and (iii) the capacity of SCL/SPH to mobilize a broad network of partners and experts. The situation in Haiti has significantly deteriorated throughout 2024 and the IDB's contribution in the execution process will complement the efforts made by the MEF in the prioritization of social protection services for the most vulnerable segments of the population.
- 5.2 The focal point and responsible person at the IDB will be the Health and Social Protection Specialist at the IDB Country Office in Haiti. The IDB's contribution in the execution process of this TC will also ensure the production of evaluations and lessons learned that will inform future operations on social protection and health, so to address more effectively the needs of the most vulnerable segments of the population. The aforementioned information is in accordance with the provisions of paragraph c) of Annex II of document OP-619-4.
- 5.3 **Procurement.** All procurement to be executed under this TC have been included in the Procurement Plan (Annex IV) and will be hired in compliance with the applicable Bank policies and regulations as follows: (a) Hiring of individual consultants, as established in the regulation on Complementary Workforce (AM-650) and (b) Contracting of services provided by consulting firms in accordance with the Corporate procurement Policy (GN-2303-33) and its Guidelines.

- 5.4 **Intellectual property.** The Bank will own the intellectual property rights of all products financed by this technical cooperation. The Bank may grant licenses for the use and dissemination of such products.

**VI. Major issues**

- 6.1 No major risks to project execution have been identified as this TC is meant to accompany, build institutional capacity and generate lessons learned from the SPH portfolio. However, there is a generalized risk of delayed implementation of the proposed activities due to the increased fragility of Haiti. The Bank, through its Social Protection and Health Division, has extensive experience implementing technical assistance in Haiti with an adaptive management approach compatible with the evolution of fragile context, minimizing delays. It remains the risk related to the scarcity of specialized human resources in the country that is mitigated by the fact that the IDB, as executing agency, will allow to leverage a large network of expert individual consultants, firms and technical partners such NGOs

**VII. Exceptions to Bank policy**

- 7.1 No exceptions to Bank policy are requested.

**VIII. Environmental and Social Aspects**

- 8.1 This TC is not intended to finance pre-feasibility or feasibility studies of specific investment projects or environmental and social studies associated with them; therefore, this TC does not have applicable requirements of the Bank's Environmental and Social Policy Framework (ESPF).

**Required Annexes:**

[Request from the Client\\_26481.pdf](#)

[Results Matrix\\_78547.pdf](#)

[Terms of Reference\\_58195.pdf](#)

[Procurement Plan\\_90833.pdf](#)