

# CROWDFUND

## IICA COVID-19 Response for the Caribbean



## Haiti

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### A. INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT

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#### PROJECT NAME

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Mitigating the impacts of COVID-19 in the supply of fresh food to rural and periurban households.

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#### DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM

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One of the impacts of the Covid-19 is the decrease in the importations of food that Haiti used to count on to address the food security in the country. In this situation where all the countries are keeping their food production for their residents, it is urgent that the Haitian agricultural sector envisions new perspectives. Moreover, in Haiti the pandemic has negatively impacted the availability of agricultural workers. In many agricultural production areas like in the Cul-de-Sac Plain (West department), in Montrouis the availability of labors has registered a sharp decrease as they fear to expose themselves to the virus. As a result, labor scarcity has threatened food production in the country.

In this context, the Ministry of Agriculture wants to address the problems from both a food emergency response and a structural perspective to increase permanently the available production. Corn is among the most consumed food all over the country. Most of the population eats the corn grilled, boiled or milled that replaces rice in the daily food. AK-100 is also a typical Haitian beverage made of corn that is largely consumed in the breakfast diet by all levels of the Haitian population. Many women particularly, only during the harvest of corn, put in place small enterprises (fast food) to boil or grill the corn, increasing their income and have also something to eat, at low cost. In this case, there is an urgent requirement to introduce a variety of sweet corn, which can have a longer shelf life post-harvest. IICA will provide support for the identification of a suitable variety in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA). These will large be deployed in areas where irrigation is already available.

Considering the current situation of food emergency caused by the new virus COVID-19 as well as the prospect of food insecurity at national level, it is urgent to favor the introduction of small tools to increase labor's productivity and promote, distribute early varieties of corn to producers in areas strongly affected by the ongoing food shortage. As Port-au-Prince is the biggest market in the country, the West department is selected. Collaboration will also take place with Fondation Haïtienne de Développement Agricole Durable (FONHDAD)/ Centres Ruraux de Développement Durable (CRDD), centers of development established in a former project of USAID, based in Montrouis and Bas Boen for facilitation and the adoption by the producers in the region.

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## DEFINITION OF THE SOLUTION

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For sustainable activity, to facilitate the cleaning of the plots, the producers will be encouraged to follow proper agronomic practices and the use of appropriate small agricultural implements and tools which have been introduced by IICA in Système de Financement et d'Assurances Agricoles en Haïti (SYFAAH) project financed by Canadian, Swiss and French cooperation in the South to help the weeding, and to compensate the lack of agricultural workers. Small mechanized cultivators for plowing will be encouraged based on cluster use and management to improve soil preparation and crop productivity, and to compensate for severe labour shortages due to restrictions of movement brought about by COVID-19. IICA will support farmer training in this regard. Sweet corn seeds and technical support will prioritize women headed households and low-income families to have access to low price food. This introduction will be possible through the facilities of the CRDD (Bas Boen and Montrouis), since FONHDAD that assumes the management of the CRDD of Bas Boen has signed an agreement with the MoA.

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## PROJECT OBJECTIVE

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**Strategic objective:** Increase the food security of low income households impacted by COVID-19 in rural communities in Haiti.

**Specific Objective of the proposal:** Improve food availability through the introduction of hardy sweet corn varieties and small tools for producers in selected rural communities in Haiti.

**Cross cutting issue: Innovation and technology:** Youth and gender.

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## MAIN BENEFICIARIES AND STAKEHOLDERS

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**Partners:** The Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (MARNDR), FONHDAD/CRDD de Montrouis and Bas Boen.

**Main beneficiaries:** direct beneficiaries 100 producers in Bas Boen and Montrouis; indirect beneficiaries 150, producers who will adopt the technologies.

**Number of women:** 10

**Number of men:** 70

**Number of young:** 20

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## PROJECT BUDGET

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25,000.00 (USD)

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## RESULTS AND IMPACTS

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**Results:**

- Producers increase their production with access to seeds as inputs and the use of a more efficient material for soil preparation and weeding of the plots;
- Reduction in food import bill for staple crops (sweet corn).

**Impacts of the project:**

This action will impact the Objective 8 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda: Decent work and economic growth.

- Low-income residents in west department have food to put on their table.
- More interest in production with the diminution of agricultural arduous work.

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## MANAGEMENT OF THE PROJECT

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IICA will lead the project and management the fund, and CRDD will establish the trials and the distribution to producers' groups, in collaboration with the MoA.

## B. ACTIVITIES, INDICATORS AND GOALS

Product / Service	Indicator	Goal
Acquisition, Distribution of sweet corn to 100 producers in irrigated areas of Bas Boen and Montrouis in the West	Tons of seeds distributed	2 tons
Acquisition of agricultural tools	Number of tools bought and used	12

## C. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY

Description of Inputs	Crowdfunding Contributions (USD)
Purchase of seeds, office materials, tools, inputs/establishment of trials	20,000.00
Publication of a guide on selected corn variety	1,000.00
Field trips (and expenditures linked) and field training for farming households	4,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25,000.00</b>

(Prices are US Currency at an exchange rate of 2.6882 XCD = 1.00US)