



ACTION PLAN TO RESPOND TO THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON AGRICULTURE AND THE PEASANT ECONOMY IN THE NORTHERN DEPARTMENT, LIMBE 8TH SECTION, MASSABIELLE



GLOBAL ADVOCACY TEAM



INTERNATIONAL
ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT

This community-led development plan is part of a groundbreaking series created by Center de Formation pour l'Entraide et le Développement Communautaire and people of Limbe 8th section, Massabielle in partnership with the Global Advocacy Team initiative, convened by the International Accountability Project.

This initiative unites inspiring community organizers from around the world to conduct community-led research, engaging 945 people across 7 countries. Through co-designed and shared learning, this three-year journey has resulted in a series of transformative community-led development plans focused on locally rooted, globally connected solutions.

Explore other community-led development plans to see the full range of powerful, community-driven solutions.

Learn more here: <https://accountabilityproject.org/work/global-advocacy-team/communities-leading-the-way-inspiring-community-led-development-plans/>

Author:

Community members of Limbe 8th section, Massabielle and Center de Formation pour l'Entraide et le Développement Communautaire

Editor:

Shauna Curphey

Illustrator:

Tias Ester Widhari

Layout Artist:

Carlo Manalansan

Photo Contributor:

Center de Formation pour l'Entraide et le Développement Communautaire

Table of Contents

Rationale: The Need To Address Climate Change Impacts in Haiti	1
The Vision: An Action Plan To Enhance Community Resilience	4
The Plan: Support for Grassroots Community Organizations to Combat the Impact of Global Warming on Agriculture and the Peasant Economy in Massabielle, Haiti	5
Principles for Implementing this Plan	6
Composition of Players Involved in Steering and Implementing the Action Plan	7
Risks and Obstacles in the Action Plan	7
Action Plan Duration	8
Plan Objectives and Implementation	8
General Objectives	9
Specific Objectives	9
Expected Outcomes	10
What Is Required for the Realization of The Plan	10

Rationale: The Need To Address Climate Change Impacts in Haiti

We've understood that life isn't a gift, that nature has given us grace and that we have an obligation to preserve it. So every human being, whatever their gender, race, ethnicity, nationality or government, must find a way to protect our ecosystem. Its importance demands that we protect our environment with great conviction and respect.

Consequently, we, the grassroots community organizations, together with the Centre de Formation pour l'Entraide et le Développement Communautaire (CFEDEC), must contribute to a regional, national and even international struggle, through the various resources available, to prevent environmental degradation and protect the lives and property of vulnerable people.



Haiti is particularly hard hit by the effects of climate change. The Haitian environment is subject to a series of anthropogenic pressures. The most important of these include the deforestation of natural forests and the uncontrolled and unplanned urbanization of ecologically sensitive areas in large cities, particularly Port-au-Prince, leading to irrational use of space, poor exploitation of sand quarries and inefficient waste management. Continued population growth also remains a major problem.



Currently, Haiti's national agricultural, environmental and rural development policies do not take into account the impacts of climate change. Yet climate change is affecting all of the country's departments, particularly the North Department. This upheaval is likely to lead to serious financial, social and ecological imbalances in certain areas.

In the commune of Limbé, more precisely in the 8th Section, Massabielle, climate change has led to an increase in the frequency and intensity of floods, tropical storms and hurricanes. These climate change-related events have resulted in enormous damage and loss.



In Massabielle, numerous losses of material and human resources have been reported, with harmful consequences for people's lives and their economy. Sewage and waste of all kinds, carried by rainwater, pollute coastlines and have an inescapable effect on marine ecosystems. In addition, periods of severe drought caused by climate change, combined with the effects of torrential rains, winds and pressure on natural resources, are leading to profound changes in soil structure. The soil is increasingly eroding, tending towards desertification. Drought also reduces the flow of water in rivers and springs. This affects the availability of drinking water and water for irrigation. It is also responsible for a drop in groundwater levels and marine intrusion.

Deforestation is another serious problem for the environment, with wood consumption as one of the main causes, leading to the desertification of arable land. Certain plant and animal species are displaced, reduced or even disappear.

This has serious economic impacts. Peasants devote themselves to felling trees to produce planks, lime and charcoal in order to obtain a certain income, without thinking about the detrimental effects of their activity. Economically, the level of income is considerably reduced by the farmers' lack of production, as their crops do not produce in abundance, and they work only for self-consumption. Around 65% of the Haitian population, and more precisely the population of Massabielle, depend on agriculture. But the agricultural sector, because of the difficulties they face, is unable to satisfy the needs of both the farmers and the rest of the population.

On the political front, Haiti's socio-political unrest and insecurity since 2012 have exacerbated the environmental problems facing the country. Government institutions are focused on and in Port-au-Prince, not remote or rural areas. At the same time, public transportation is paralyzed, making it difficult or impossible for communities to engage with the government on these issues.

Finally, the impacts of global warming are not gender-neutral, and many of the consequences of climate-induced impacts are even more severe for women and other socioeconomically marginalized groups, given their specific livelihood conditions. Compared to men, women lack control over and access to productive resources, which negatively impacts their health and food security.

The Vision: An Action Plan To Enhance Community Resilience

As the current and future impacts of climate change become increasingly apparent, policymakers, communities, households and individuals around the world are taking steps to prepare for and actively respond to these challenges. As consciences become more alert to the kinds of difficulties climate change is causing, more and more policymakers are seeking to understand contextual climate information and how to adapt the best approaches to combating climate impacts before setting further development targets.

Agriculture is one of the sectors most vulnerable to the pernicious effects of climate change, while also being one of the biggest emitters of greenhouse gases (GHGs). Enhancing the resilience of agriculture and the livelihoods that depend on it to climate change is imperative to ensure the achievement of other development outcomes linked to poverty alleviation and improved food and nutrition security, as well as to limit the risks of conflict and displacement.

In light of these challenges, we have identified the following areas as priorities for action to enable local communities to develop the capacity to adapt to climate change:

- 1 Information, education and awareness of climate change and the need for adaptation
- 2 Watershed management and soil conservation
- 3 Protection and conservation of water
- 4 Preserving and strengthening food security
- 5 Providing sustainable economic activities for vulnerable communities
- 6 Strengthening and implementing environmental laws

The Plan: Support for Grassroots Community Organizations to Combat the Impact of Global Warming on Agriculture and the Peasant Economy in Massabielle, Haiti

This action plan aims to:

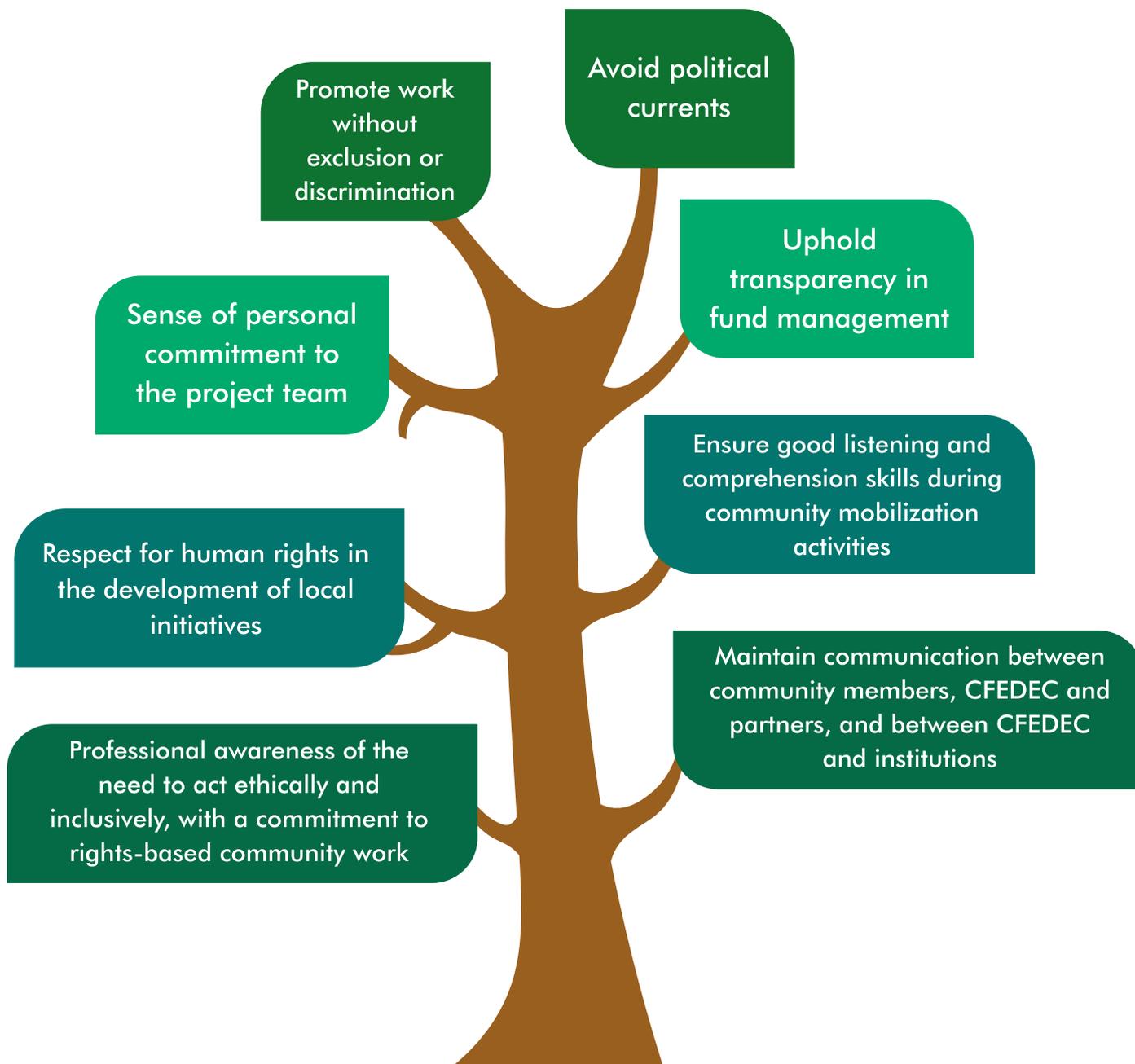
- Strengthen technical and institutional capacities for productive and climate-resilient land management in Haiti at the national and local levels.
- Set up agroforestry systems and rehabilitate water catchments in Massabielle, by reforesting degraded landscapes at intervention sites.
- Establish a governance framework for integrated water resource management, to support climate-resilient land management systems and facilitate the long-term sustainable use and management of water resources.

Strategies for Implementing the Action Plan

To combat the effect of global warming on agriculture, we will first strengthen grassroots community organizations, and then involve various sectors in the field. We plan to employ several strategies, with the goal of integrating local communities' members in the implementation, to ensure that the activities are adapted and appropriate to their needs. Toward that end, we have identified the following strategies as necessary components of the plan:

- Identification of key players at local, regional and international level;
- Involvement of young intellectuals, children, adults, and religious leaders;
- Strategic meetings with all stakeholders;
- Incorporation of learnings from exchanges;
- Awareness raising, training and mobilization on the full range of global warming issues;
- Contributing to the sustainability of local organizations by building on the positive impacts of actions carried out each year.

Principles for Implementing this Plan



Composition of Players Involved in Steering and Implementing the Action Plan

At the local level, the CFEDEC will work with the Organisation Communautaire de Base (OCB), the Training Center for Mutual Aid and Community Development and other community-based organizations. The CFEDEC will work with regional and national organizations, including Tete Kole ti peyizan Ayisyen (TK) / NORD and Center for Reflection and Action for a Better Environment (CRAEM) to build networks, advocacy and relationships with the Ministries of the Environment and Agriculture to advance the wellbeing of communities as outlined in this plan. We will also seek support from international organizations, including the Juif Mondial Americain (Global Justice Association), and others.



Local community members will be involved in implementing the activities, as they are the direct beneficiaries of the plan. The organizations and government institutions are all indirect beneficiaries, to the extent that they participate in implementing and supporting the activities.

Risks and Obstacles in the Action Plan

The risks and obstacles identified in the execution of this plan are linked to the capacity of local organizations and availability of public transportation. For the time being, work can go ahead if there are no new disasters in the region, if local organizations and the authorities in place participate in and support the project's activities, if a minimum of political stability remains, and if security conditions are conducive to use of public transportation.

Action Plan Duration

This plan covers five years, from January 2025 to December 2030. The proposed timeline is as follows:

Year 1 Conduct local outreach and education activities to build motivation for adaptation to climate change.

Year 2 Conduct local dialogues and hold forums to build up advocacy to decision-making bodies to support the climate change adaptation activities.

Year 3 Implement a local plant nursery initiative and conduct training on soil conservation and construction of model gardens, in addition to other climate adaptation activities identified through the outreach in Year 1.

Year 4-5 Monitor and evaluate activities and report on outcomes.

Plan Objectives and Implementation

The plan will involve the following activities:

- Inclusion of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Environment in the project's technical implementation committee;
- Six months of community awareness-raising on the effects of global warming;
- Organization of 25 multilevel training sessions for members of the target population (soil protection, planting techniques, shift leaders, financial management, etc.);
- Implementation of local initiatives (community garden, seed storage bank) to promote adaptation to the impacts of climate change on agricultural and livestock production;
- Purchase and distribution of seed receipts (yams, cassava, corn beans);
- Creation of 4 nursery sites at a rate of 100,000 plants per year with different varieties of trees to restore degraded watersheds.

General Objectives

The plan will promote realization of the following goals:

- Raise awareness, through training and mobilizing people living in the region about the direct impact of global warming on the community's agriculture and the means available to circumvent this phenomenon.
- Incorporate a gender perspective on the impacts of climate change by encouraging participants to reflect on the damage caused, who is most affected by climate change, and at what level they are affected;
- Help farmers adopt appropriate soil conservation measures;
- Contribute, through reforestation, to a significant increase in the flow of the region's main springs; and
- Consolidate garden spaces, beds and plants to help withstand climate change.

Specific Objectives

The goals will be carried out through the implementation of the following specific objectives:

-  Analyze the risks of species extinction and other negative effects linked to climate change in communities;
-  Encourage participants (beneficiaries) to pass on the knowledge they have acquired on all the topics covered in the training sessions to people in the community;
-  Capacity-building for grassroots community organizations (CBOs);
-  Restore degraded land and bare watershed areas;
-  Train farmers in sustainable land use, agroforestry systems, plant protection and gully management.

Expected Outcomes

- Approximately 80% of the organizations involved have the capacity to train others on climate change and adaptation measures;
- All participating organizations have access to a document for carrying out their adaptation activities at three levels: local, regional and national;
- Involvement of local authorities, ministry representatives, opinion leaders such as the press at various levels, academics, etc;
- All planned activities are carried out and benefit local community members.

What Is Required for the Realization of This Plan

- ✓ A field team: Staff and volunteers
- ✓ People dedicated to the success of this community action plan
- ✓ Creation of work teams to encourage other players in this field
- ✓ Means of communication: megaphone, telephone, Internet
- ✓ Outreach materials, office supplies and equipment, including a camera, screen and a laptop
- ✓ Contributions from financial partners such as Justice Global Advocacy, AJWS, and others
- ✓ Good annual planning and follow-up of this action plan for the next five years

Co-Designed Solutions for and by the Community Members of
Limbe 8th section, Massabielle, Haiti

GLOBAL **ADVOCACY TEAM**



INTERNATIONAL
ACCOUNTABILITYPROJECT