



Fondasyon konesans ak libète
Fondation connaissance et liberté



annual report | 2016



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FOKAL board members



20
1994-2014

Fondasyon konesans ak libète
Fondation connaissance et liberté



Fondation connaissance et liberté National regional foundation

Created in 1995, the *Fondation Connaissance et Liberté / Fondasyon Konesans Ak Libète* (Foundation for Knowledge and Liberty), is a well recognized national foundation supported mainly by Open Society Foundations, OSF, a worldwide network of foundations and initiatives created by philanthropist George Soros for the promotion of the rule of law and democratic values. FOKAL also receives support from the European Union, the French cooperation and the American Red Cross. The Foundation offers to local communities throughout the country and to organizations of civil society a large spectrum of activities in the fields of education, arts and culture and development.

Since its creation, the foundation chose to support sectors in Haitian society that are likely to contribute to positive change for the country; by targeting issues involving children and youth, civil society associations and historically marginalized groups like women and rural workers. Our actions and support revolve around five main themes: access to information, youth and civic engagement, art and education, human rights, reconstruction and environment. This last point includes the project surrounding the creation of the Martissant Park, which has been made possible through cooperation between the Haitian government, the Open Society Foundations, the French Agency for Development and the European Union.

Our mission

FOKAL aims to promote the implementation of the structures necessary to the emergence of a just, democratic and sustainable society; to support individual and collective autonomy by encouraging critical thinking, creativity, responsibility and cooperation through education, training and communication and to reinforce organizational processes in order to increase the involvement of the Haitian people in their country's cultural, social and political life.

Friends of FOKAL, formerly a Tides Center Project, is the US fundraising arm of FOKAL. It provides the structure necessary to seek funding in the U.S. With its 501(c)(3) status, it can accept contributions that are fully tax deductible.



PROGRAM OBJECTIVES AND PROGRESS

1a ▶ Art and Culture for Social Change – FOKAL's resource center as a center for interaction and debate

Summary of progress to date:

In the heart of Port-au-Prince, FOKAL's resource center was inaugurated in 2003, on the eve of Haiti's bicentennial, in the midst of extreme political turmoil, as a statement of faith in the future. The center is a unique space for meeting, learning, reading, exhibit, debate and discovery.

This budgetary line covers the activities planned in a multifunctional auditorium and in other spaces in the center and outdoors which include:

- **Exhibits:** 7 exhibits including a photo exhibit retracing the 20th anniversary of the Monique Calixte library; an exhibit about Dictatorships in the Americas focusing on Argentina and Haiti and a photo exhibit about the frontier between Haiti and the Dominican Republic.
- **Conferences:** 48 conferences by FOKAL program directors or partners in civil society such as CLIO (association of NGOs operating in Haiti), visiting and local scholars. In June 2016, concurrent Caribbean Studies Association (CSA) 41st annual meeting and 46th annual meeting of Association of Caribbean University, Research and Institution Libraries (ACURIL) took place in Haiti and FOKAL played a leading role in the organization and

presidency. Over a thousand visitors from the Caribbean, United States, Latin America and even Europe attended these events. Satellite and preparation meetings took place at FOKAL, as well as cultural events.

- **Films:** 100 films were screened at FOKAL. Documentary films as well as fiction are a weekly fixed event at FOKAL. The Media program has included in its strategy the promotion of documentary film through screening, rights acquisition and debates. Filmmakers solicit FOKAL for premieres with debates. FOKAL also organizes screen writing and editing workshops, students' work is shown to the general public. Figures do not include films presented at festivals hosted by FOKAL.
- **Theater:** Eight plays were presented at FOKAL, in addition to the annual theater and storytelling festivals.
- **Music:** Four music concerts were showcased at FOKAL in addition to main Music festivals
- **Festivals:** Ten Festivals took place at FOKAL: including the Quatre Chemins film festival, Anba tonel storytelling Festival; Nègès Mawon Feminist Festival. FOKAL is host to several film festivals such as Sparring partners, Ibero film; Quebec and the Caribbean.

- **Workshops:** they vary from photo, graphic design, theater, English conversation, literary.

Challenges:

- The resource center is a unique inclusive space in Port-au-Prince and we often have to decline demands to use the space.
- Political and social instability have occurred regularly in the recent years. In October 2016, FOKAL agreed to partner with the *LGTBI Massimadi* Film Festival and received violent homophobic threats that forced the Foundation to close its offices and resource center for a few weeks. Since the reopening, activities have resumed peacefully.
- The cultural sector is quite dynamic in Haiti but financial opportunities are scarce. FOKAL is often seen as one of the rare contributors to the sector and demands often exceed the Foundation resources. All activities at the multifunctional auditorium are free and performers receive a fee or a grant in the case of filmmakers. *We have real questions about the sustainability of the sector, which remains a key partner in the struggle for change.*

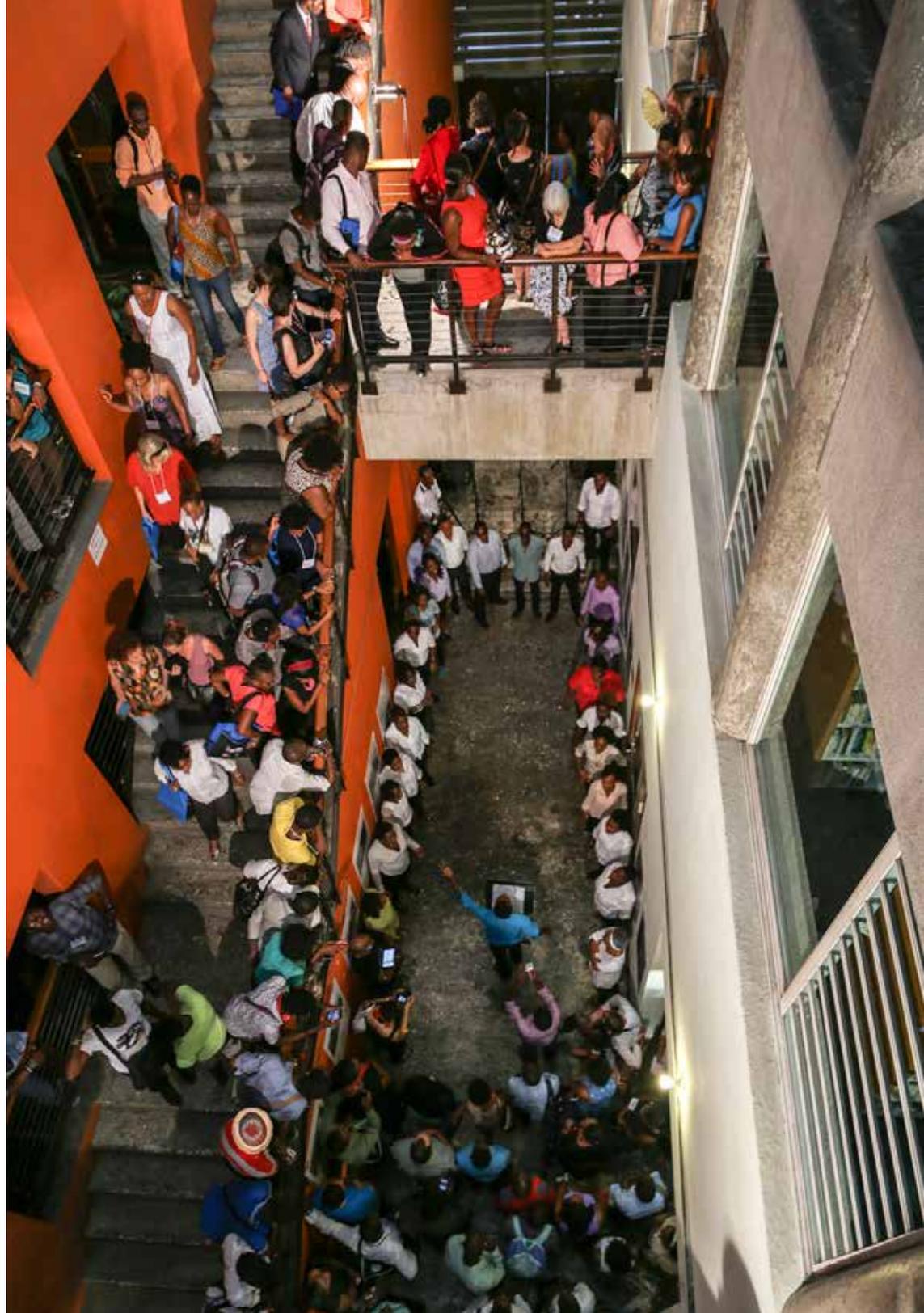
Next steps for this objective:

- FOKAL continues to offer quality cultural products to the general public
- The resource center is used for artistic residencies
- We seek partnerships to work on sustainability issues

100

FILMS WERE SCREENED AT THE
FOKAL RESOURCE CENTER

FOKAL resource center – atrium ▶





1b ▶ Art and Culture for Social Change

Summary of progress to date:

- The funding of new documentary films and publications in line with FOKAL's values
- Quality training of artists through partnerships. Institutional support is given to the Centre d'Art as well as 10 other important cultural institutions (Fondation Culture Creation, Musée d'Art, Festival International de Jazz).
- 15 selected grantees from call for proposals to achieve high quality cultural products received grants averaging 10 000\$USD. Smaller grants were given to over forty individuals or smaller grassroots associations.

Challenges:

- Despite the call for proposals, it is necessary to save an amount for small grants used for artists traveling abroad and smaller initiatives
- The call for proposals is now more widely known and submissions are increasing.
- Support to cultural institutions is increasingly scarce and more organizations in the sector turn to FOKAL for a grant.

Next steps for this objective:

- A slight increase in the budget for 2018 would be beneficial to respond to higher demand.
- Using the Creative Activism technique following a training offered by OSF Art Exchange in August 2016, reconsider the grant process as a learning tool and present it in several increments in order to have space for creativity and experimentation.
- Continue to seek funding and technical partnerships.

71

ARTS & CULTURE GRANTS
WERE GIVEN IN 2016

◀ Koral FOKAL choir

FOKAL resource center street entrance ▼



2 ▶ Early Childhood development

Summary of progress to date:

- Training for preschool and primary school teachers in 12 schools all over the country
- Advocacy for access to a better education for underprivileged children and their families

Challenges

- The institution has decided to drastically reduce its activities in the coming year due to lack of other sources of funding.
- The Ministry of Education has been reluctant to offer space for training or integration of the Early Childhood development expertise in the national curricula.

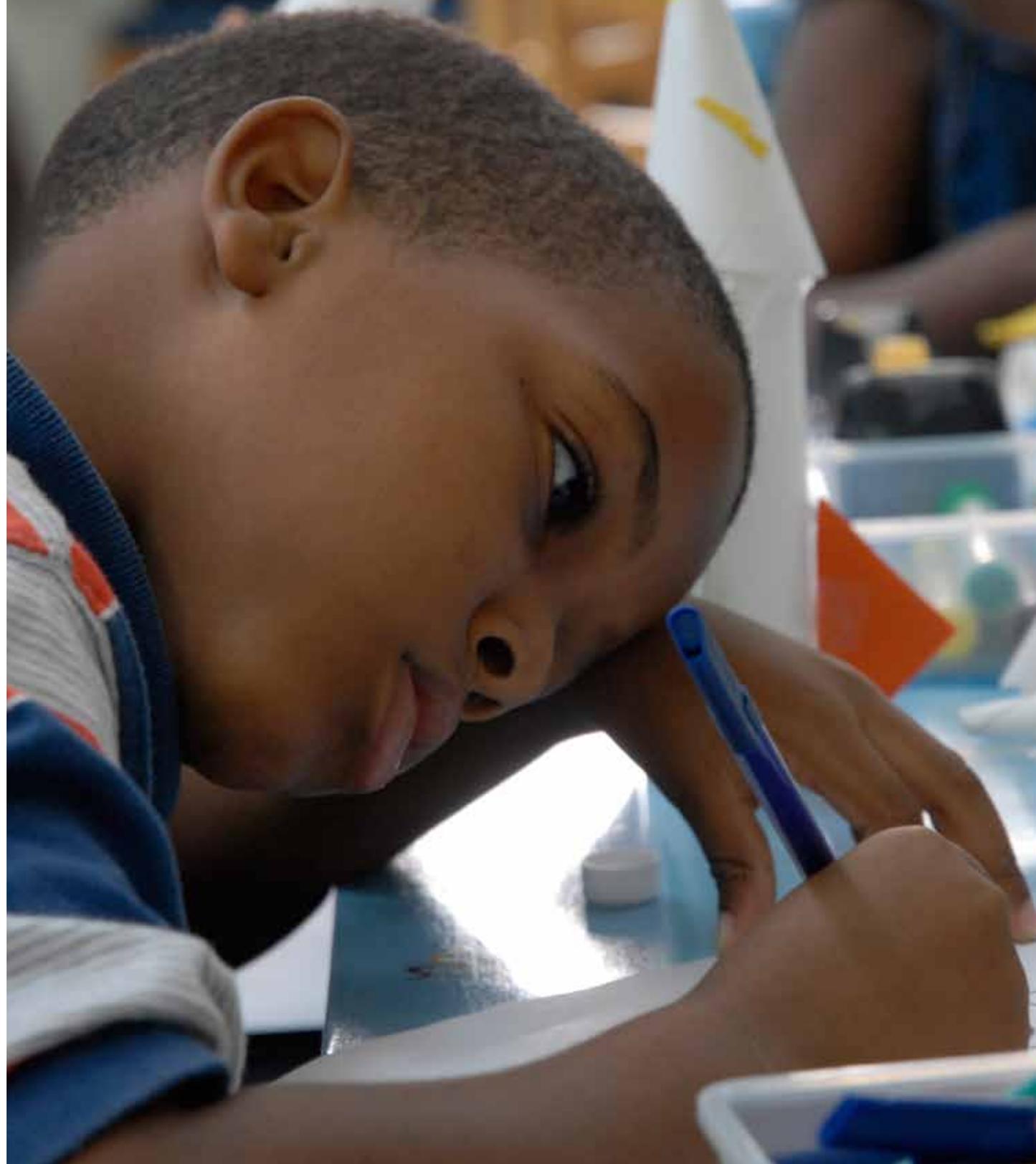
Next steps to this objective

- maintain a virtual existence (through a website and online publications)
- continue contractual trainings at lower costs

12

SCHOOLS ALL OVER THE
COUNTRY RECEIVE TRAINING

Preschool toddler ▶



3a ▶ **Economic Governance & Advancement** **– Civic Engagement and Inclusive Participation in Democratic Governance**

Summary of progress to date:

- FOKAL has selected some reliable initiatives in the field and supports them through grants. These initiatives concern mainly sustainable development (cattle for milk production and small dairy farms, cocoa production and small social enterprises etc.). 23 institutions received grants from FOKAL.

Challenges:

- Natural disasters are more violent and wreak havoc in a dependant and vulnerable economy. In October 2016, the Hurricane Matthew destroyed the vegetation, crops, housing, facilities and cattle of the Southern and Northern peninsula of Haiti. Authorized by the Board and in consultation with OSF, FOKAL pooled the remaining resources from other programs and rethought the strategy. The first step was to secure human lives by offering cash input for medical emergencies as well as urgent repairs for housing and common facilities (like dairy farms and covered cocoa nurseries). The second step was to invest into recapitalization of local grassroots organizations to recreate jobs and markets.

Next steps for this objective:

- Continue to work with accredited organizations in the field and supporting them through grants, cash flow, seed and bridge money.
- FOKAL submitted a substantial grant proposal to the reserve fund (approved).
- Assist grassroots organizations in their advocacy efforts to defend their rights.
- Connect grassroots organizations with scientific research on resistant crops in line with food security issues.

23

GRANTS WERE GIVEN TO RELIABLE INITIATIVES (PRIOR TO HURRICANE MATTHEW)

Vegetables from agricultural initiative ▶



Economic Governance & Advancement

3b ▶ – Urban Space Development for Civic Engagement – Preservation of Martissant Park

The Martissant Park is a unique urban forest of 17 hectares in Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital city, situated within an underprivileged neighborhood, Martissant. The wooded area constituting the Park of Martissant has been declared of national interest by the Haitian government who has delegated its management to FOKAL. The Martissant project is concentrated on a ZAC, a delineated area surrounding the Park, conceived for urban planning, whose surface is about 2 square kilometers and comprising about 40 000 inhabitants.

Summary of progress to date:

The park creation includes:

- Following a training session with the US National Park Service and consultation with OSF and other instances, the governance model is still under discussion.
- Operating the Katherine Dunham Cultural Center (within the park). In January 2016: the library, medicinal garden as well as community gardens became fully operational.
- Designing and building public infrastructures in the park: a large covered area in the memorial garden for community meetings was constructed; a nursery sells local plants, compost and seeds. Over 1000 school children participated in community gardens. Plans for the children playground and community buildings were designed and construction firms chosen.
- Improving the neighborhood quality of life in collaboration with public services: FOKAL is the interface between the communities of Martissant and the public services for electricity, education, water, health and waste management. 156 gifted children attending 10 different schools benefited from scholarships. 27 small grants were given to initiative to improve living conditions in the neighborhood: waste management, cultural activities, etc.
- The Health & Rights initiative supported by OSF's public health program works with local residents and a team of volunteers to educate the community about sanitation, hygiene and health issues. Community health teams also work with the Ministry of Public Health to help prevent vector-borne diseases such as malaria, zika, dengue and chikungunya. This includes fumigation to limit the proliferation of disease-carrying mosquitoes; support for blood donation day etc. 273 citizens have taken health care training in nutrition, first aid, HIV-Aids transmission, road security and capacity building. 234 participated in informative sessions about teenage pregnancy, HIV-Aids, Cervical Cancer.
- Operational budget of the park is largely funded by donors such as the European Union, the French Agency for Development and the Haitian Government. They concern mainly the implementation of the Martissant neighborhood development plan. FOKAL's intervention includes the construction of model gardens, rainwater harvesting tanks, preparation of gardens, the installation of impluviums, the construction of restraint thresholds and the management of a

breeding nursery for forest and fruit species. 241 attended conferences or workshop about specific health commemorations such as World water day, international day for dental health etc.

- The American Red Cross financed an 18 month project in the Martissant about Youth Citizenship. French architect & human rights artist Françoise Schein of the association Inscire hosted several workshops with young students from Martissant schools. The final objective of this work is to create a mural on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with these young children. Another initiative financed by this project is the film documentary workshop by Haitian filmmaker Richard Senecal: "Avoir 20 ans" à Martissant" (To be 20 in Martissant). Seven short documentary films (5 to 10 minutes) were created by groups of young men and women on the subject related to the workshop title.

Challenges:

- The funding timeline of the other donors does not always match FOKAL's which creates much red tape and delays in completing actions.
- Government officials often change and the new ones are generally not aware of the contractual responsibilities between the GOH and FOKAL with regards to the Park (budget delays etc.)
- The political and social instability sometimes limits access to the Park

Next steps for this objective:

- Finalize the governance model in order for FOKAL to have an exit strategy in the next ten years that does not jeopardize all the work and investments of past years.
- Finalize the works for the public park area and open to the public
- Restart the discussions about the Institute for Environmental Studies with foreign universities.
- Create the Institute for Environmental Studies in partnership with HESP and other donors and universities. This initiative which required much effort for conceptualization of the curricula and collaboration with many higher education entities has been put on hold due to the lack of response from the former Haitian Government.

12170

VISITS AT THE LIBRARY OF
THE KATHERINE DUNHAM
CULTURAL CENTER.

Library of the Katherine Dunham Cultural Center ▶





3c ▶ **Economic Governance & Advancement** **– Urban Space Development for** **Civic Engagement – Preserving and** **rehabilitating culturally significant neighborhoods**

OVER 1000

PERSONS VISITED THE WEEKLONG
HAITIAN ART EXHIBIT AT THE
MAISON DUFORT DURING THE
CARIBBEAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION
41ST ANNUAL MEETING.

This initiative for the preservation and rehabilitation of the Gingerbread district in Port-au-Prince, was jointly launched in March 2010 by FOKAL and the Institut de Sauvegarde du Patrimoine National, ISPAN (Public Institution for the preservation of cultural heritage under the Ministry of Culture).

Summary of progress to date:

These houses are the ultimate witness of the capital's 19th century architectural, social, political and economic history. This program aims at:

- Developing craftsmanship for restoration through the creation of a hands-on technical training for wood and brick and document the process. One house, the Maison Dufort, was completely rehabilitated and opened to the public in March 2016. Since then, it served for many cultural functions such as art exhibits and conferences. The whole restoration process has been documented and a manual has been published. A second house is currently being renovated using the same techniques and the same artisans.
- Networking, advocating and acting with public authorities, citizens and international institutions to enhance the district's identity: Several higher education institutions, such as Columbia University in New York have worked with FOKAL to bring students to map out the neighborhood

and offer suggestions for better advocacy. Articles in several online resources, including the Wall Street Journal Magazine, The Guardian as well as brochure and documents have been published in Haiti and abroad.

Challenges:

- While the project has received much local and international attention, it is difficult to have an official delimitation of the Gingerbread district of Port-au-Prince and clear Government support for the preservation effort.
- There are several private demands for homeowner's house restoration; the challenge will be for our trained craftsmen to deliver properly which was the purpose of the hands-on training school.

Next steps for this objective:

- A business plan for the Maison Dufort is being prepared to analyze the economic potential of such an initiative
- The program is expected to phase out by the end of 2018.

◀ *CSA keynote speaker Angela Davis at the Maison Dufort Haitian art exhibit*

4 ► Higher Education

FOKAL has always worked with the higher education sector, in Haiti and abroad, to contribute to create a critical mass of learned citizens capable of responding to Haiti's challenges: scientific, economic, environmental, cultural, social and political. However, this already ailing sector collapsed almost completely with the 2010 earthquake. Foreign universities asked FOKAL to serve as interface for their assistance to that sector. In agreement with OSF, FOKAL created a "University Partnership" program (UP) that aims at responding to a few challenges with limited means.

The portfolio review conducted in June 2016 concluded on these three global objectives: 1) Limit the brain drain by giving students the opportunity to return; 2) Strengthening open software to limit the number of graduates who need to travel abroad; 3) Propose a program for the Registrar (in order to strengthen the university administrations).

Summary of progress to date:

- ACTIVEH an association of alumni students supported by the Higher Education Leadership Program (HELP) a local institution that give local scholarship to gifted poor students receives FOKAL's support to create a unique volunteer initiatives.
- Through organizations such as the network of green schools in Gros Morne, teacher training sessions and the production of local materials are financed.
- FOKAL local scholarship program supported 75 gifted students who were pursuing their studies

in accredited local universities. Also 59 smaller grants were given as co-funding for overseas Masters' level studies awarded for academic excellence by other institutions to students or young professionals committed to return to Haiti.

- The grant process is since February completely online, via the FOKAL website. It has permitted an easier access, a simplified process and more guidance opportunities for potential grantees.

Challenges:

- The public higher education sector in Haiti is often paralyzed by lack of funding and sometimes violent protest by students.
- The reconstruction of this sector is still ongoing.
- Increasing numbers of young Haitian professional and freshly graduated students emigrate to North and South America, Europe and elsewhere, seeking job opportunities and better living conditions.

Next steps for this objective:

- FOKAL will continue to support gifted Haitian students to study in their country and is working also on an emphasis in entrepreneurial skills and opportunities.
- A database of beneficiaries should help identify professional itineraries and create partnership and volunteering possibilities.

75

GIFTED STUDENTS RECEIVED
SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDY
IN ACCREDITED HAITIAN
UNIVERSITIES.



Notre plus précieuse
RESSOURCE est
Le **TEMPS**
Ne le
GASPILLONS
PAS.



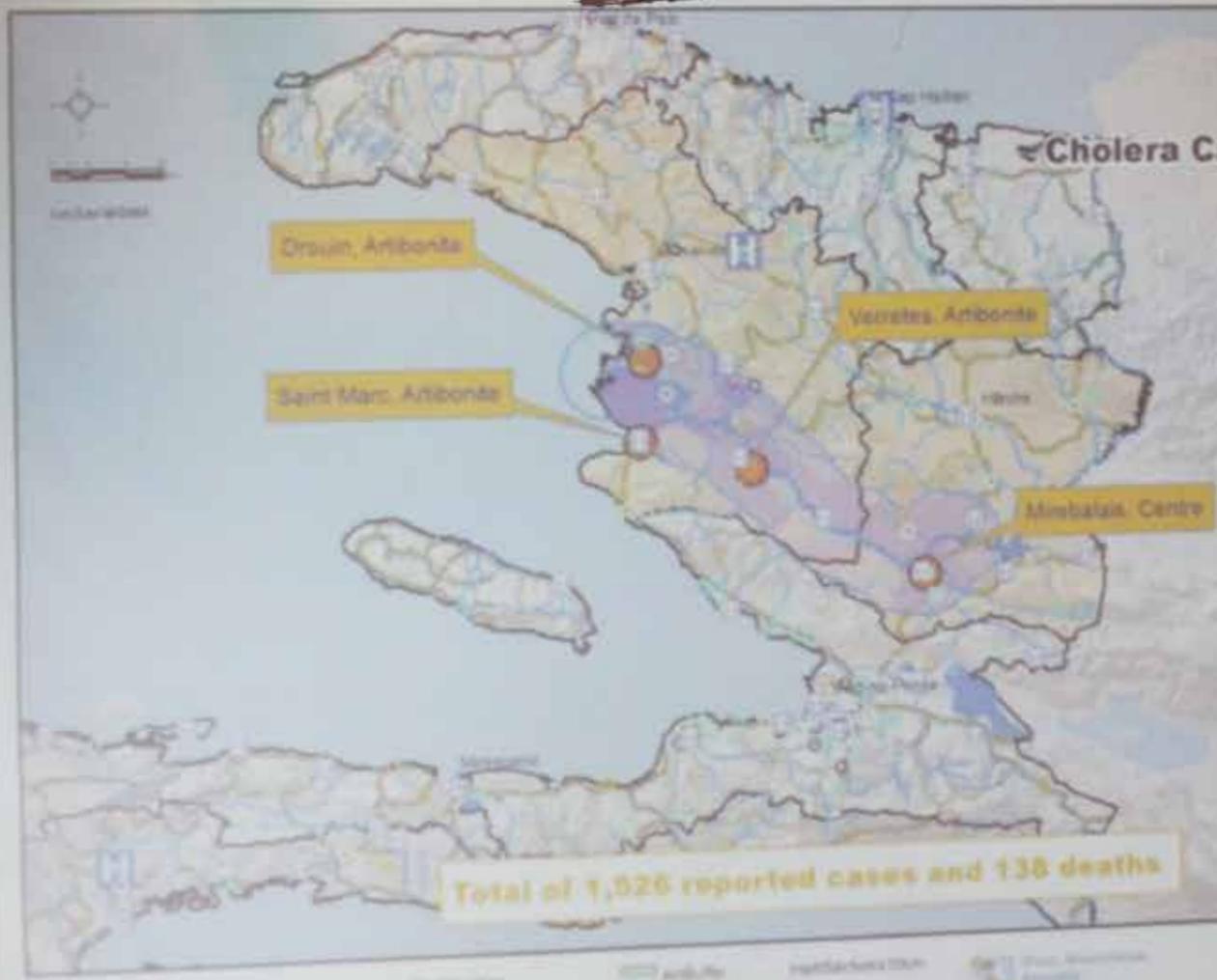
The most precious
RESSOURCE
we have is
TIME
Let's **NOT**
waste it.

ESPACE DES CARRIERES



Haiti
10/22/2010

Cholera Cases and Deaths



Total of 1,526 reported cases and 138 deaths

Map Symbols	Geographic Features	Administrative Levels	Population Data	Legend
• Capital	• Airport	• Arrondissement	• 4,500 - 10,000	• No deaths
• Prefecture	• Lake	• Commune	• 10,000 - 100,000	• Deaths
• Province	• Artibonite River	• National Capital	• 100,000 - 241,400	
• City	• Road	• Department Capital	• 241,400 - 280,000	
• Town		• Electoral/2010 Elects	• 280,000 - 340,000	
• Village			• 340,000 - 509,000	
			• 509,000	



5a ▶ Human Rights & Democratic Practice

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GRANTS IN HUMAN RIGHTS
& DEMOCRATIC PRACTICE

Civil society is an important component of democratic construction. One of the effects of the post-dictatorship era was the emergence of many organizations and associations that carried the expressions of freedom formerly suppressed: speech, circulation, association. These organizations played a key role during the democratic transition and were supported by the foundation in their struggle to defend civil and human rights and to gain ground toward the reform of the justice system.

Summary of progress to date:

- Supporting the local judiciary battle against impunity through technical assistance and funding
- Supporting university research in fields pertinent to democracy/ rule of law
- Funding for publishing, film, conferences, events, etc.
- Financing technical assistance, advocacy, networking and training, reinforcing civil society organizations to achieve their goals as key players of the democratic process
- FOKAL's resource center hosted debates, exhibits, conferences, fostering citizens' interest in Human Rights and democratic Practice issues.
- FOKAL also supported the publication of reports and research on Human rights; the organisation

of conferences and participation to international conferences and meetings.

Challenges

- Civil society is getting weaker due to many local and international trends
- Iconic human rights organizations are closing down due to lack of funds or scarce human resources.
- Trans generational transmission is lacking and younger generation are less involved or interested in collective human rights issues.

Next steps for this objective:

- A new collaboration (2017-2022) for civic education with the Canadian NGO Lawyers without borders Canada, will fund FOKAL and rely on our expertise in arts and culture for social change, collaboration with civil society and academics to promote Human Rights values with a focus on gender issues and youth.

5b ▶ Human Rights & Democratic Practice – Civic Engagement and Inclusive Participation in Democratic Governance

This program aims at training youth on questions related to democracy building, citizen engagement and cross-border issues.

The portfolio review, conducted in January 2016, revealed the necessity to create a database of former debaters to foster mentoring, seek other partnerships in order to renew the training materials, continue transversal programming within the foundation to diversify the program's reach and activities.

Summary of progress to date:

- 14 Youth debate clubs across Haiti have weekly meetings with attendance of 30-40 young adults.
- The youth summer camp reunites about 100 young people and their coaches in debate tournaments, local sightseeing and discussions on citizen engagement.
- Participation to international debate competitions.

Challenges

- This program has gained a high measure of success but needed to adapt. In 2016 it began offering bilingual tournaments in French and Creole and introduced mixed teams to create more collaboration between clubs.
- Tools such as the debate manual are obsolete and need to be updated.

Next steps for this objective:

- This program is opening to other types of international debate competitions
- There will be a tight collaboration with the Lawyers with borders Canada civic education initiative.

ABOUT 1000

COPIES OF THE YOUTH
CONSULTATION "400 VOICES"
WERE DISTRIBUTED IN 2016.

Youth summer camp in Cap-Haitien ▶





6 ▶ Information & digital rights

The promotion of books and reading has been one of FOKAL's first commitments as an open society foundation in the Haitian context where education is highly valued by poor rural and urban populations while access to books remains scarce.

The portfolio review conducted in 2015, highlighted the importance of diminishing the number of libraries supported by FOKAL, to continue advocacy at the state level for recognition of community libraries, to seek possibilities for networking, fundraising and continuing education.

Summary of progress to date:

- 20 community libraries, including the Monique Calixte Library in FOKAL's resource center, the library of Katherine Dunham Cultural Center and the Bookmobile Bibliotaptap receive financial and technical support. A thorough 2 year assessment of performance is underway.
- Attendance to regional conferences for networking and opportunities for continuing education: in 2015-2016, Program Director was elected President of the Association of Caribbean University, Research, and Institution Libraries (ACURIL). One major task was to organize the annual meeting which took place in Haiti for the 2nd time in 46 years. Funding was scheduled to support this initiative but funding via local and international sponsors such as the National Archives of Haiti, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation permitted to organize a great conference without relying on these funds. They were used to support libraries that were

destroyed by Hurricane Matthew in October 2016. Cash support to library staff helped with medical emergencies and to mend properties and houses.

- Development of the distance learning program and others: The distance learning platform LITAFCAR created for the promotion of Caribbean and African French speaking literature has been operational since 2015. The support has helped maintain the platform as well as the subscription to the online library Cyberlibris.

Challenges

- There is very little support to community libraries and to public reading in general. This is very problematic in a scale down process.

Next steps for this objective

- FOKAL will continue the discussion with a local university in order to offer the distance learning program within an academic institution.
- FOKAL will continue to look for other donors for community libraries especially through the 501-C-3 Friends of FOKAL that was created for such purposes.

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INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS FROM THE CARIBBEAN MET DURING THE 46TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN UNIVERSITY RESEARCH AND INFORMATION LIBRARIES.

7 ▶ Journalism

FOKAL's program aims at empowering young journalists through training, networking, conferences and debates.

The portfolio review, conducted in February 2016, highlighted the need for continuing training and support possibilities for photojournalists and film documentaries, for more international collaborations in investigative journalism, to support community radios as well an evaluation of the field

Summary of progress to date:

Its objectives are mainly met through:

- 21 Grants to community radios and other media were given via SAKS, an association for the promotion of community radios or directly to certain Medias.
- Scholarships: 4 gifted journalists received travel grants to attend courses in French or Belgium universities.
- 8 Workshops were offered in graphic design, photo and writing, professional skills, exhibit curators, and documentary film and photography. A Hackathon organized by the Netherlands based organization Hackastory teamed together computer professional, journalists and web designer on a 2 day intensive workshop to present digital prototypes on one of these three themes: youth participation, social journalism or fact checking.
- Mardi.doc: Every Tuesday since March, a documentary followed by a debate is presented.
- The media program also support a photographer collective: Kolektif 2 dimansyon, through

training, financial support, exhibits and the publication of a magazine Fotopakle. The first issue : "Frontière(s)" was presented via a large photo exhibit in France, during the International Festival "Les Francophonies en Limousin" and in Haiti.

Challenges

- Young journalists are underpaid and often have to manage several jobs to get by. They often do not have enough time to attend trainings.
- Photo journalists need to build a strong professional platform in order to become sustainable.

Next steps for this objective

- There will be more emphasis on screenings of documentary films for this community to discover different styles and develop a visual culture.
- Increased funding for production and diffusion in both documentary photography and film making.
- Increased funding for travel and participation in international events in order to link them with international professionals and markets.

22

DOCUMENTARY FILMS WERE
SCREENED AT THE FOKAL
RESOURCE CENTER.

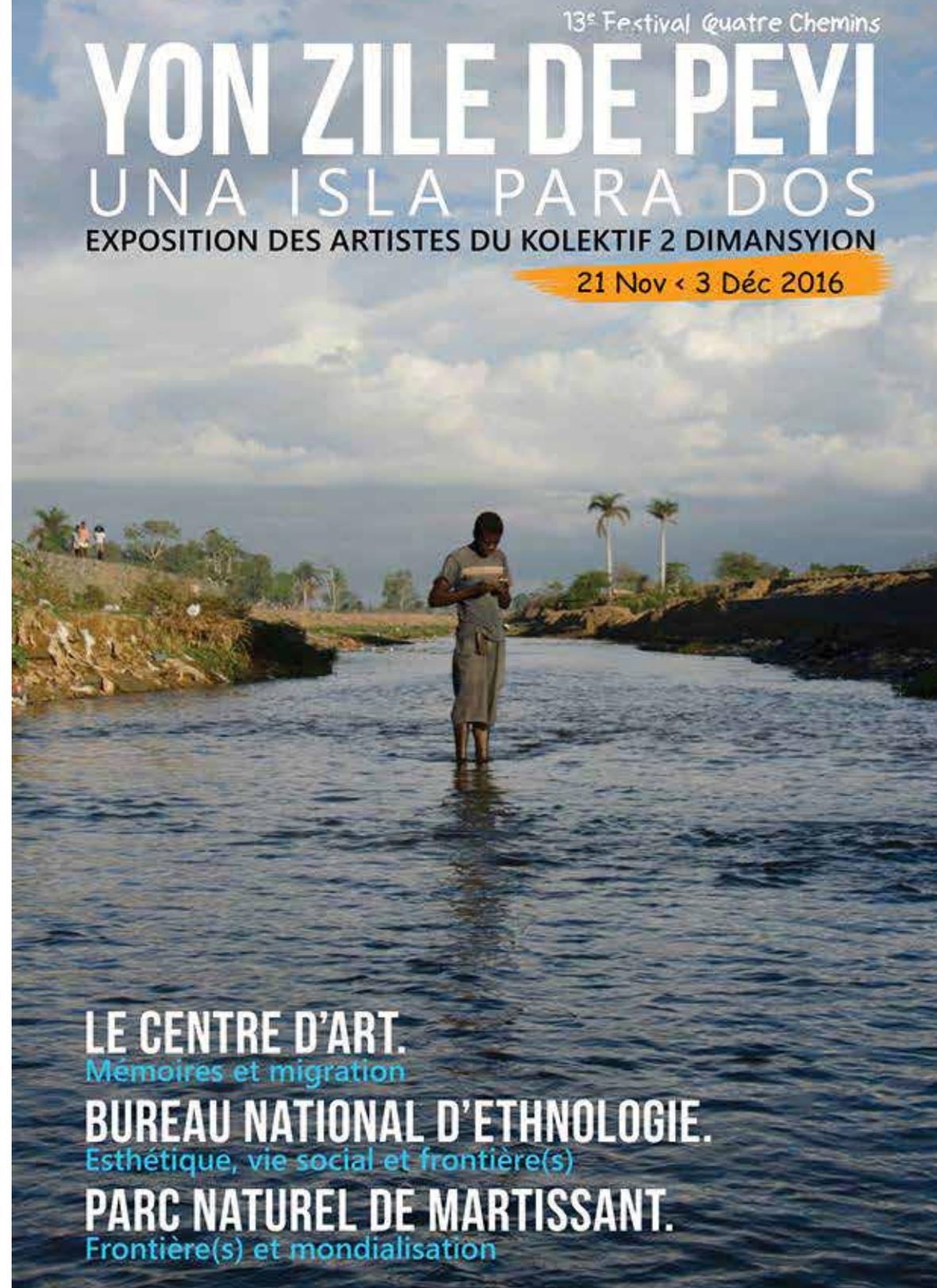
13^e Festival Quatre Chemins

YON ZILE DE PEYI

UNA ISLA PARA DOS

EXPOSITION DES ARTISTES DU KOLEKTIF 2 DIMANSYION

21 Nov < 3 Déc 2016



LE CENTRE D'ART.

Mémoires et migration

BUREAU NATIONAL D'ETHNOLOGIE.

Esthétique, vie social et frontière(s)

PARC NATUREL DE MARTISSANT.

Frontière(s) et mondialisation

Photo exhibit by K2D about the Haitian
Dominican Frontier, cover of the magazine ▶



◀ Destruction by Hurricane Matthew in the southern peninsula

8 ▶ Unallocated and Reserve funds

These funds were mainly used in the Post Hurricane Matthew crisis to alleviate the dire situation of FOKAL grantees: community radios, libraries, farmers, social enterprises, agricultural initiatives.

In October 2016, an enormous part of the Haitian territory was severely damaged by Hurricane Matthew with long term consequences on homes, agriculture, crops, crafts, health, environment, schools, businesses, etc. Cities were partially destroyed, rural populations isolated, the richest agricultural and surviving ecosystems (forests, rare and unique birds, reptiles, mangroves, fruit crop, etc.) were severely hurt. In November 2016, FOKAL applied for reserve funds and was granted the full amount of \$1,315,000 (one million three hundred and fifteen thousand dollars). However, only \$520,000 were disbursed in FY 2016.

Summary of progress to date:

- Our first phase in 2016 concerned immediate (rapid response) for 13 grassroots organizations and small enterprises to help their members (approximately 5000 families) get out of their state of utter destitution (build shelter and plant quick growing crops).
- 97% of the reserve funds for FY 2016 was spent as projected, and reports are in.

Challenges

- FOKAL's action cannot solve the problem but can intelligently point to an important field and give hope to social actors that tend to be forgotten.

Next steps for this objective

- Second phase: Starting in early 2017, provide assistance to recapitalize the grassroots organizations and small businesses to start regaining production capacity.
- Third parallel phase: Starting immediately, back advocacy efforts for water treatment (there is an alarming resurgence of the cholera epidemic); consolidate local voices for farmers' rights; and help local human rights organizations focus on rights linked to reconstruction.

AYITIKA S.A. a social enterprise destroyed by Hurricane Matthew



Ayitika staff in nursery before the Hurricane ▲

In Camp-Perrin, the social enterprise AYITIKA SA is working to identify and characterize native cocoa varieties with high productive and aromatic potential, and establish its own plots and provide technical support to small-scale producers in the region. Since 2015, with a grant from FOKAL, AYITIKA SA was in the process of accompanying 26 young people from Moreau (near Camp-Perrin) in the establishment of agroforestry systems based on cocoa on ten hectares of land. This group was composed of taxi-motorcycle drivers, agronomy students, social studies students, local craftsmen who were interested in staying in their community while learning new skills.

After Matthew hit in October 2016, Ayitika lost all its cocoa plantations as well as the intercrops (bananas and pineapples) which allows having cash income until the cocoa is productive. However, the nurseries were less damaged and it was possible to replant. Ayitika was one of the beneficiaries of the reserve funds.

During the first phase, 56 families received small grant to clean and rebuild their crops, repair their houses as well as purchase quick growing seeds such as yucca, corn and beans. This initiative allowed these farmers to stay in their communities and produce enough crops to feed themselves a few months later.

Even in the state of utter disaster, these groups were ready to start over and FOKAL responded to this urgent call from these essential actors to get back on their feet in order to counter the disempowering effect of humanitarian aid and political corruption. This action was also aimed at encouraging them to stay in their region.



FOKAL board members



Maxime D. Charles
President

Former CEO of the Bank of Nova Scotia in Haiti. His legal and finance career includes teaching international law from 1985 to 1991 at the Public University of Haiti, and fulfilling international assignments in Canada and the Caribbean for the bank of Nova Scotia from 1992 to 1996. Charles is active in a number of professional and civil society organizations, serving as a board member for the Arbitrage Tribunal of the Chamber of Commerce of Haiti and as president of the Anti-money Laundering Committee and of the Association of Professional Bankers. He has used his position on the money laundering committee and the banker's association to bring these groups together and pursue legal reform. Charles has LL.M. degrees from the Public University in Haiti and from the Faculty of Law at the University of Provence in France.



Danièle Magloire
Vice-President

Sociologist, management consultant, human rights activist and a founding member of the feminist organization Kay Fanm, which operates a shelter in Port-au-Prince for gender violence survivors and works to promote women's rights and economic development. She has worked to develop national policies and responses against gender violence and is coordinator for the Collective against Impunity, a leading group in the effort to bring former president Jean-Claude Duvalier and his associates to justice in Haiti. Magloire was a prominent member of the government's advisory council during the post-Aristide transitional government from 2004 to 2006. Following her service to the government, Magloire became the executive director of the Haitian office of the Canadian NGO Droits et Démocratie, where she directed human rights advocacy training until 2012 when the Harper government closed Rights and Democracy in Canada.



Norma Powell
Secretary

Former General Director of the Center for Facilitation of Investments (CFI), Haiti's national investment promotion agency. Founding member of the Haitian Liberal Party and of the Haitian Association for the Fight against Poverty. Powell's engagement with philanthropy includes working to establish the Association for the Management of Risks and Continuity of Activities, a private sector initiative that works with local authorities to help prevent and respond to disasters. She is also a board member of Haven, a housing and community development NGO based in Ireland that is working with Haitians to build or repair thousands of homes and restore public hygiene and sanitation in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake.



Jean- Joseph Exumé
Member

He is a very reputable lawyer specializing in civil and commercial law. He was Minister of Justice and Public Security twice, notably during the government of Michèle D. Pierre-Louis (2008-2009). He is a pro-bono advocate of the group of victims against Duvalier, the Collective against impunity. He was a member of the presidential commission set up in January 2012 for the Revision of the 180-year-old Haitian penal code and a draft revision of the Penal Code was submitted in March 2015



Vertus Saint Louis
Member

Researcher, teacher of Haiti History at the Ecole Normale Supérieure of the State University of Haiti. He wrote several books with an emphasis on the Haitian revolution (1804) and the relationship between France and its former colonies.



Credits

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FOKAL
143 Avenue Christophe
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www.fokal.org



Mask by artist Pascale Monnin at the Memorial garden of the Martissant Park ▲

143, Ave. Christophe,
Port-au-Prince, Haïti
www.fokal.org | (509) 28131694