

For a better knowledge of the Convention of Elimination of all forms of Discriminations against Women (CEDAW)

## Haiti Action Plan

Gender Mainstreaming Policies For Government Officer



JICA

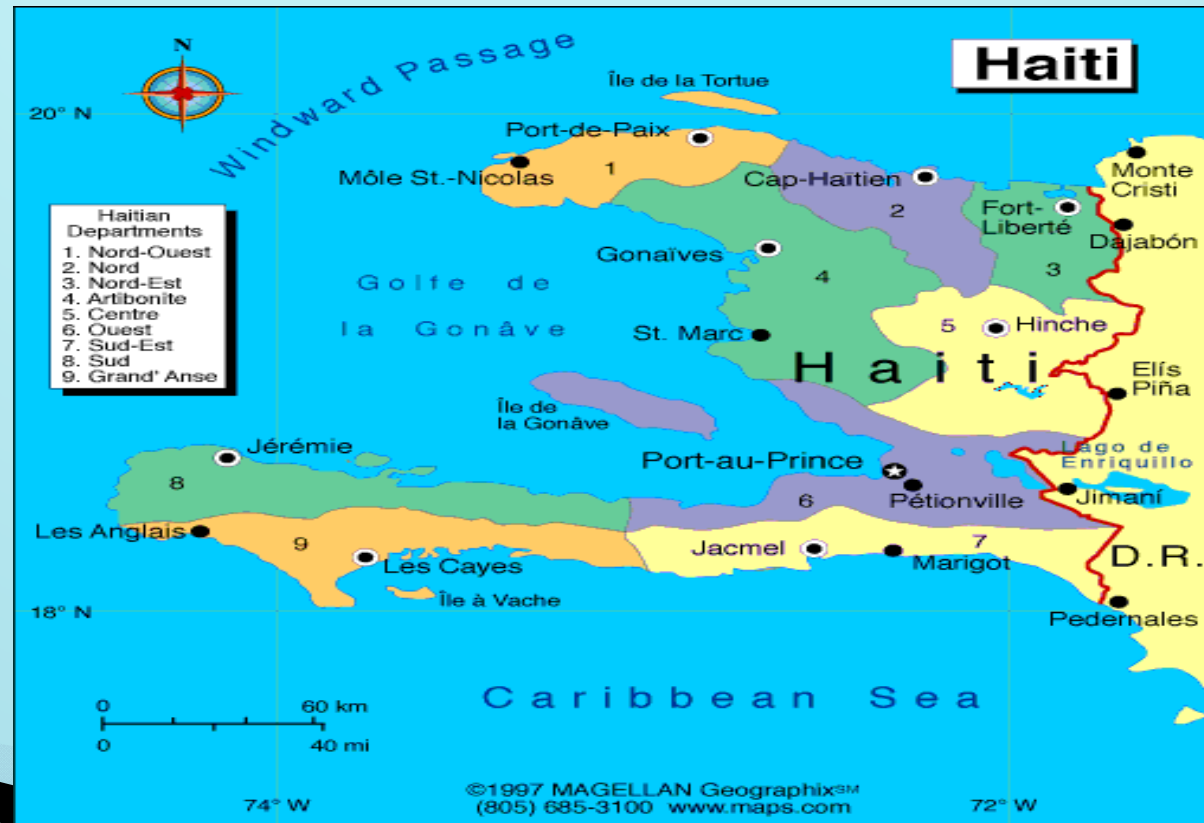
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MCFDF

# Summary

- Basic information on Haiti
- Women's role in society and family
- Action Plan
- Outcomes



# Basic information on Haiti

- ▶ Situated in the Caribbean zone in the East part of the Island shared with Dominican republic, 1 hour flight from U.S.A
- ▶ 10 departments (140 communes & 570 sections)  
Capital: Port-au-Prince (Metropolitan of 3 cities)
- ▶ Population: 9.6 M (07)      30% capital, 70% rural  
Constant migration rural to the cities  
Population growth rate : 2.3%
- ▶ Creole (everyone) & French (intellectual elite)  
Majority catholic, protestant and voodoo

# Haiti: a “fragile state”

- ▶ 30 military coups and 20 constitutions since independence (1804)
- ▶ Violent outbursts
- ▶ Society of exclusion  
color, education, language, nationality, money

Poorest country in the Western hemisphere

- ▶ Poor access to basic public services

# Women's role in society and family

52% are women and 50% are under 21 year old

42% heads of the household “Fanm poto mitan”

Strong patriarchal dominance

The perception of the woman in the family and in society is based on stereotypes (division of labor according to sex)

So women cumulate responsibilities (triple burden)

# Action Plan

CEDAW IN ACTION in Ministry of Women Affairs

Objectives: Increase knowledge of CEDAW  
Increase gender awareness



CEDAW ⇄ Activities not known by employees

CEDAW not known enough within government

CEDAW report to be discussed in January 2009

# Action Plan

Strategy proposed: Mention specific articles directly related to activities

Support: jingles, T-shirts, pamphlets, radio contest  
Adapted « Princess Sunflower » a book to easily understand CEDAW

Duration: One year period (Oct.2008- Sept.2009)

Budget: 1% of Ministry budget + UNIFEM financial input

# Preoccupation

- Integration of Conventions recommendations in the activities of the ministry Women Affairs
- Specifically CEDAW

Signed by Haiti in 1981

Mission in Haiti in April 2007

First Report submitted in May 2008 (27 years after signature!)

Report to be discussed in January 2009

# My Responsibility as Coordinator

- ▶ Verify that CEDAW recommendations are met in sectoral plans in French and in CREOLE
- ▶ Monitor and evaluate reference of CEDAW articles in ministry projects
- ▶ Ensure cohesion of organizations (national & international)
- ▶ Find financial support from UNIFEM and UNFPA for dissemination material (pamphlets, T-shirts)
- ▶ Use CEDAW for elaboration of norms & standards

# Violence

- ▶ *Article 3-* :Take action in all fields-civil, political, economic, social, and cultural-to guarantee women's human rights.
- ▶ Violent society (verbal,physical,psychological), Persistent, Impunity ; Tolerated by society, Kidnapping everyday

WHAT do we do?

- ▶ Campaign against violence  
November 25<sup>th</sup> til february  
CARNAVAL



# Gender mainstreaming

- ▶ *Article 5-* Take appropriate measures to modify cultural patterns of conduct as well as the need for family education to recognize the social function of motherhood and the common responsibility for raising children.

- ▶ 

	Central	Regional	Remarks
MoW	Employees		Not continuous
18 Ministries	Focal points	Gender table (network of Gvt,CS,NGO)	Little interest
remarks	bureaucratic	More efficient	

## Activity: Training

- Once a year introduction to gender issues, given on a monthly basis to all Central and regional employees of ministries

# Poverty Alleviation

## ▶ *Art.13&14 Economy and social life Specially Rural*

Focuses on the particular problems faced by rural women including the areas of women's participation in development planning, access to adequate health care, credit, education and living conditions.

- **Situation:** 50% women in rural areas, little access to \$
- ▶ **What we do ?**
  - Create conditions to come out of poverty cycle
  - Technical training



# Indicators

## Level of Knowledge of CEDAW

- Number of CEDAW material distributed(T-shirts, pamphlets )
- Number of communes reached (out of 140)
- Number of institutions reached ?
- How? (NGO, local Government, etc.)
- Mention of CEDAW in media (TV, Radio, paper)

Monitored by service of communication

## Difficulties

- ▶ Gender not priority of Government
- ▶ Unit is young within the ministry (9 months) with few human resources (2 pers.)

## Measures

- ▶ Seeks commitment at Cabinet level
  - Reinforce collaboration with ministries
  - Consultative body in ministry of Women Affairs
- ▶ Improve management of data
  - Learn from Best practices

# Points to think about

????

- ▶ Data analysis to promote policy
- ▶ Gender statistics basis for societal change
- ▶ Strong networking
- ▶ Innovation & creativity (strategies, activities)

▶ *For achieving ...*

## Expected outcomes !!!!

- ▶ More focused work
- ▶ Better network
- ▶ Common vision within Ministry
- ▶ Continuity in spite of leader change



Thank you  
for your attention