

UP-SCALING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE THROUGH ECOSYSTEM-BASED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION



Fig.1:Map of the Project Sites

Project overview

Project location: Haiti

Ecosystems under restoration/protection in the South district of Haiti:

- Chardonnières, Les Anglais, and Tiburon

Key risks being addressed: Flooding, landslides and food insecurity

Project period: May 2019 – June 2022

Project objectives:

- **Overall objective:** Strengthening community resilience to disasters and climate change, through the adoption of demonstrated best practices by farmers and landowners in 3 municipalities: Chardonnières, Les Anglais and Tiburon in the South district of Haiti.
- **Specific objective:** Strengthened integrated risk management and inclusive risk governance by supporting development and scaling up of Eco-DRR actions and citizen-based monitoring of disaster and climate resilient policies and practices and mainstreaming youth engagement and gender considerations.

Project budget: 889,108 USD

- Over 10 years the present value of net benefits is 5.5 million USD, including reduced property damage, income losses, carbon capture & sequestration (UMass-Amherst, 2022)

Project Results



Capacity Building

- 20 Community-based Organisations (CBO) established and actively engaged in ecosystem restoration.
- 7 community women's group trained and engaged in vegetable gardening for livelihood strengthening.
- 6 Red Cross committees involved in Eco-DRR actions and disaster preparedness.
- 3 Civil Protection Local Committees have been trained in emergency management.
- 3 local builders groups trained on building ECO-DRR infrastructures and maintenance.



Advocacy with Government

- Local authorities of 6 different sections actively participated in programme activities through training and implementation of community Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments.
- Creation and management of community seedling nurseries for supporting ecosystem restoration.
- 1 Red Cross Youth Committee presented and advocated its Eco-DRR action plan to the Mayor Office of Tiburon.



Field implementation for resilience-building

- 9,211 beneficiaries reached of which 37 percent are women.
- 10 community-based seedlings nurseries established and managed by communities. Each have a capacity of 3,000 to 10,000 seedlings.
- 29 hectares (ha) of degraded mountain land restored with native tree species through the reinforcement of agroforestry systems and woodlots.
- Creation of natural zones for additional protection by landowners and communities.
- 59 earthen walls constructed and 27 retaining walls built to reduce erosion, mitigate flood and landslide hazards. These were combined with vegetation such as: pineapple and bamboo to strengthen the structures and provide livelihoods benefits.

Each Eco-DRR project has developed a replicable model for upscaling community resilience through three core components of Eco-DRR:

- Disaster Risk Reduction
- Ecosystem Restoration/Protection
- Climate Smart Livelihood

In Haiti, there is a greater emphasis on ecosystem restoration and climate smart livelihoods by combining slopes restoration and watersheds protection with staple crops cultivation to address chronic food insecurity.

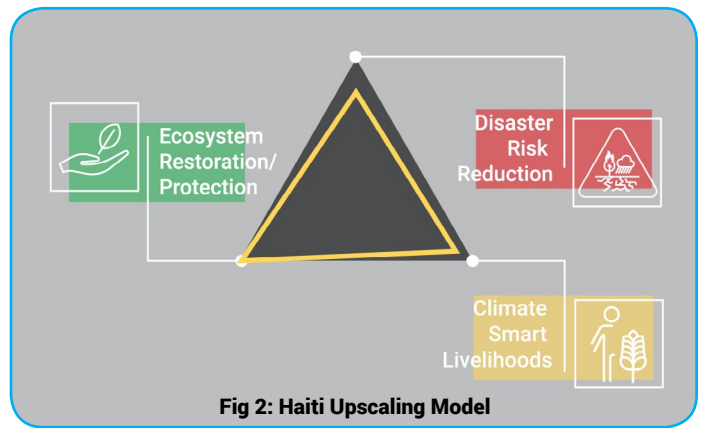


Fig 2: Haiti Upscaling Model

Eco-DRR upscaling model: Addressing flood, landslide and food insecurity risks through risk mapping, slope and watershed restoration and livelihoods diversification by upscaling Eco-DRR into humanitarian programmes of Red Cross Societies in Haiti.



Ecosystem Restoration/Protection:

- Implemented digital risk assessment and mapping initiative with local authorities and civil society organisations to prioritize watersheds for restoration measures.
- Engaged and mobilized local community members for restoring and protecting degraded slopes and watersheds with native tree and fruit species.



Climate Smart Livelihoods

- Engaged CBOs to strengthen the link between poverty alleviation and environmental conservation by restoring land with valuable trees and food crops for livelihoods support.
- Catalyzed leadership and interest in re-greening landscapes for lasting change, rather than paying farmers to restore their own lands.



Disaster Risk reduction

- Involved Red Cross volunteers and local authorities such as Civil Protection in trainings, implementation and the dissemination of community contingency plans at the local and regional level.
- Constructed hybrid earthen and retaining walls in combination with vegetation to prevent soil erosion and mitigate flood and landslide risks, while promoting livelihoods.

Key partners: The Netherlands Red Cross, Haitian Red Cross, the local and regional government authorities



Fig 3: Agricultural technician on the training of seeds collection

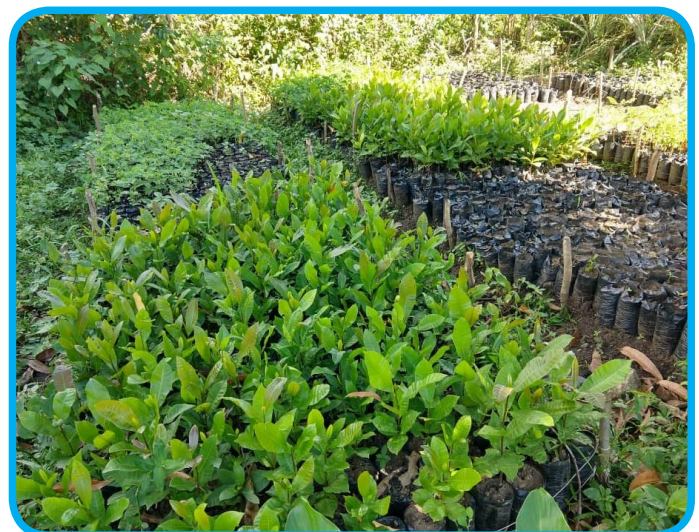


Fig 4: Cassia seedlings growing in the community nursery

