



The reconstruction plan and the workshops projects for the Haitian civil society

As you already know, Haiti has suffered a terrible catastrophe and our organization *Tierra Incógnita*, a non profit-making organization, has immediately launched **Pou Ayiti (For Haiti)**: support and conscience awareness activities, **as well as the Haiti Reconstruction Plan**, and a project on workshops in situ.

After having spent some time in the field, we were in the position to draw **enduring projects that respond to the real needs** of the population. **Community projects, constructive, targeted, useful and instructive**, that will allow us to sow the seeds for a moral and material reconstruction in the long term, and to provide the Haitian population with the autonomy and dignity that she deserves.

Contrary to the information and images spread by the media, the Haitian people do not receive help; day after day, everyday life acquires a more precarious character. **There is no support for the population and the local organizations**. High standing restaurants are packed with aid workers or marines; whilst moral reconstruction is not taken into account, the material reconstruction is only the subject of concern of big investors; the Haitian *diaspora* is out there and extremely active; the Haitian people are morally strong and culturally supporting: **it only needs a little reinforcement and autonomy**.

Some figures

There were 10'000 NGOs in Haiti before 12 January 2010; today there are even more!

Almost 300'000 people have died, 1'700'000 people have no place to live in about 600 camps in Port-au-Prince, nearly 700'000 displaced people that are sent back to their place of origin. This is without counting the orphans, the amputees, the traumatized, and those dead post-trauma (several crisis and cardiac strokes).

THE PLAN

The **Haiti Reconstruction Plan** lays down the foundations of a reconstruction **for Haitians, by Haitians, with Haitians**. It is a **short, clear, neutral and accessible text**, and it is available in French, English, Creole and Spanish.

Such a Plan is the **product of very rich exchanges** between Swiss and Canadian Haitians, as well as Haitians from Haiti, a wide variety of educational backgrounds and horizons. It is also the result of contributions from the Latin American civil society (175 Latin American organizations have signed!). It has already started to be the subject of projects, workshops, newsgroups, debates and, very soon of working groups too, in Haiti and abroad.

We need to disseminate this plan: population, organizations, institutions, sponsors and investors must be aware of it... especially as the reconstruction of the country and the donations are taken hostage. Signatories can notify us by sending an email to: pouayiti@tierra-incognita.ch

THE WORKSHOPS

Within the framework of the *Pou Ayiti* projects and focusing on the points of the Plan, the cultural center *Tierra Incógnita* organizes a **program of workshops for children, teenagers, women, families, in the camps, civil society organizations in Port-au-Prince and Province, in Haiti, aimed at training and strengthening the civil society**. We are looking for funding for these workshops and will organize 3 to take place **during the summer** (one for children with *Mimi Barthélémy*, a wonderful Haitian storyteller; a rap workshop for teenagers with *Geos*, a Swiss-Haitian rapper and a group of of Haitian rap; and a last workshop on leadership and citizen's participation). This is all part of a wide program that includes introduction to ecology, agriculture, eco-tourism, practical workshop on



material reconstruction, human rights, citizenship, history of Haiti, school for the radio, speaking groups, work on mourning, among other things.

It is related with projects that **guarantee a real horizontal co-operation, and a round-trip between Switzerland and Haiti**, where each and every person will learn from the others. For this is how humanitarian aid should be understood and applied. Our association is **officially recognized as beneficial to the public at large** and it has been present in Geneva for the last 7 years; it is subsidized by the State and the city and it is in charge of several projects linked to culture, migration, sustainable development, among other subjects.

THE BUDGET

The whole *Pou Ayiti* project represents a budget of **CHF 800'000.- / USD 670'000 during 3 years**. It will be handled with transparency and in co-operation **with skilful and reliable Haitian organizations**, as well as with **support and collaboration from Swiss and Latin American artists and associations**. **The price of 10 days of workshops is CHF 7500.- (USD 6200)** all included (this can be organized as 3 workshops of 3 days, 4 workshops of 2 days or a workshop of 10 days).

We **will leave in mid June during 2 months** to carry out the first series of workshops. These workshops will be given by professionals in order to train and occupy children, teenagers, and their parents as well as women in an intelligent manner.

We would like to add that such a project of workshops will be developed in Haiti and by all assessments, **it will be the object of a catalog of trainings and hosting that we will propose in different countries**, depending on the needs.

We thank you in advance for your attention and for kindly supporting our initiative.

For your donation
Association Tierra Incógnita [CCP 17-399338-6](tel:004173993386), Motif: « Pou Ayiti »

IN SHORT

Strengthening civil society through the spreading of the Plan and the itinerant training workshop program; increasing the importance of moral reconstruction and the autonomy of the population.

Location: Camps of Port-au-Prince; Gressier, Léogâne. centers and organizations in Marigot, Funds *Jean-Noël (Jacmel)*, *Liancourt (Artibonite)*, *Le Cap*; centers of the *Fondation Espoir*.

Immediate reactions

13 January:

- Launching of the Haiti's Reconstruction Plan project, collective drafting of the document + translation to Creole. Drafting of an annex with recommendations based upon experiences post-disaster in Peru.
- Creation of *Pou Ayiti*: actions for Haiti from Switzerland: conscience awareness, information, cultural activities, funds collecting.

February-March:

Field visit evaluation, coaching and brainstorming with Haitian partner organizations*, spreading of the Plan in Haiti and **Creation of the itinerant training workshop program for camps and Provinces** (workshops from 1 to 3 days, with as a framework or content the principles of the Plan. **Areas:** rap for teenagers, oral tradition for children and their mothers, leadership and citizen's participation, strengthening women and increasing their autonomy, and introduction to ecology, agriculture, eco-tourism, material reconstruction



practical workshop, human rights, citizenship, school for the radio, speaking groups, work on mourning, history of Haiti, among other subjects. Main goal: **strengthening of civil society in the reconstruction process; training the population** victim of the earthquake.

It is related with projects that **guarantee a real horizontal co-operation, and a round-trip between Switzerland and Haiti, with support and collaboration from Swiss and Latin American artists and associations.**

In Switzerland: spreading of the Plan, public exposure and information on the situation *in situ*, meetings participation and/or organization with regards to reconstructions and humanitarian aid: with the MHAVE Minister Mr. Edwin Paraison (11 May), with the film director Arnold Antonin (25-27 May), with Lyonnell Trouillot (1st May), among others.

Middle term: (3 -12 months)

Execution of the very first workshops in Haiti (each workshop takes place in several places):

1. For **children** with the storyteller Mimi Barthélémy
2. Picture-taking for **teenagers**
3. Rap for teenagers with *Geos*, Swiss-Haitian rapper and the Haitian group *Mystic 703*
4. **Women** strengthening (participation, organization, autonomy tools)
5. **Leadership** and citizen's participation
6. **Schooling for the radio:** educational program for children broadcasted by a local radio station.

Production post-workshops: CD, photography exhibition, small reporting;
Put together activities in Switzerland and in the neighboring France that will have the very first workshops as a «result».
Evaluation and report of intermediate activities for fund searching.

Long Term: 12-36 months

- Permanent return of information to Switzerland and to the neighboring France
- Continuity of the activities and conscience awareness program on Haiti, at the *Tierra Incógnita* cultural center in Geneva.
- Development of the Training Workshops program in Port-au-Prince and in Province; development of practical programs (material reconstruction with materials from the area, eco-tourism, mourning ceremonies...)
- Participation in reconstruction projects led by *Fondation Espoir* (Foundation Espoir)

Partner Haitian organizations: *Fondation Espoir*, *Fédération Nationale des Jeunes pour le développement* (National Federation of Young People for Development), *Appel*, various local artists. **Other partners:** *RED latinoamericana y del Caribe por la Democracia* (Latin American and Caribbean NETWORK for Democracy), *EcoSur*.

Average expected budget:

670'000 USD + acquisition of premises for coordination and training of trainers programs (175'000 USD)

Workshops during 10 days: 6'200 USD

Should you need further information, the following documents are available upon request

- A short presentation of *Tierra Incógnita*
- *Pou Ayiti's* general leaflet
- The presentation of the workshops project 2010-2013
- The presentation of the camps
- Descriptive file on workshops