

External Assistance Management Module in Haiti

Context: The Government of the Republic of Haiti is fully engaged in the field of aid effectiveness and the application of the Paris, Accra and Busan principles. In November 2012, the framework for the coordination of external assistance in support of Haiti's development was launched (Cadre de Coordination de l'Aide Externe au Développement, CAED). The CAED's role is to monitor, coordinate and rationalize aid flows for both reconstruction and longer-term development. It is managed by the Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation (MPCE) with the participation of the international community as well as the sectoral and thematic coordination tables to ensure that aid supports Haiti's development plans and policies.

To increase the transparency of foreign aid and strengthen the Government's ability to manage and be accountable for these external resources within the systems of planning, programming, budget-conditioning and monitoring, in 2009 the MPCE started implementing the "External Assistance Management Module" (Module de gestion de l'aide externe, MGAE).

Objective: The MGAE is an online interactive database on financial flows, in-kind contributions and information on programmes/projects financed by the international community in Haiti. The objective of the MGAE is to improve the planning, management, monitoring and evaluation of external aid, and its integration into the Haitian budgetary process.

Approach: The MGAE tracks alignment, aid performance and external public and private investment in relation to the Strategic Development Plan for Haiti (Plan stratégique de développement d'Haiti, PSDH). The Ministry of



Planning and External Cooperation, in collaboration with the Ministry of Economy and Finance and the Prime Minister's Office, is working to integrate the MGAE within this planning system, with both short and long-term objectives in mind. There now exist plans for provincial and national programs, medium-term sectoral expenditure frameworks, three-year programs and annual budgets, as well as associated monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

All departments involved in the management of aid and investment, as well as all donors and their implementing agencies and NGOs must commit to using the MGAE as the only tool of transparency and information sharing on external assistance in Haiti. Also, all stakeholders are encouraged to use this tool within their multiparty consultation mechanisms and national management of both external and domestic resources and to contribute to the updating and validation on a quarterly basis.

Results achieved so far: The implementation of the freshly started MGAE was interrupted by the earthquake of January 12, 2010. The establishment of the *Interim Haiti Recovery Commission* (IHRC) then slowed the recovery of MGAE given the incompatibility of the new emergency system put in place. An analysis of the difficulties in establishing a single tool for monitoring external assistance was undertaken in late 2010 and helped the MPCE, supported by the Prime Minister's Office, to revive the MGAE in 2011. Thus, since the first quarter of 2012, the collection of national data is again fully achieved.

Since fall 2012, harmonization of MGAE data with those of the Office of the Special Envoy of the United Nations for Haiti has received special attention, and the focal points of donors located in Haiti are becoming the sole interlocutors with the MGAE and the Government.

Progress since the installation of 2.0 version with geolocation and new website (May 2012):

- July-August 2012: Validation of existing data with each donor.
- September 2012-January 2013: Harmonization of the MGAE's data with those of the Office of the Special Envoy for Haiti and update of the MGAE's database.
- February-April 2013: Data collection (until 31 December 2012) and transfer of aid disbursement projections to the Public Investment Direction for their integration into the 2013-2014 national budget.
- March 2013: System upgrade to 2.3 version.
- May 2013: Launch of the Aid Transparency Code.

Next steps include:

- Collection, analysis and integration of data from main development partners (as of first semester 2013) in compliance with the Aid Transparency Code;
- Installation of a new internet portal;
- Sharing at the sector, thematic and territorial level and training;
- Systemic interfacing of the MGAE with the Project and Programme Information Management system (SYSGEP) and the Database of major projects (BDGC);
- Training of government focal points and technical and financial partners;
- Set-up of a sustainability strategy for the External Cooperation Direction (DCE) of the Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation.

As of June 2013, more than 250 donors, NGOs, development partners and non-state actors are recorded in the MGAE and work as part of the good governance strategy implemented by the Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation. The platform allows everyone to see data on funding, in-kind contributions and information on projects/programs funded by the international community.

Success factors/value addition to the implementation of Busan:

- The development and the implementation of the database (MGAE) with UNDP's technical expertise was done in complete immersion within the responsible Ministry (MPCE) and with full support of the Prime Minister's Office.
- The approach was fully in line with the New Deal of Busan HLF as it promoted transparency and inclusiveness via a national unique and interactive aid information management system coupled with a multi-partner code of conduct inspired from the IATI.
- The MGAE was built in as a key component of the new external aid coordination framework (CAED) launched by the Government in November 2012 in order to support effective and country-owned aid management in Haiti.
- The CAED held its first international level meeting on May 10, 2013, which provided all partners the tools to be well aligned with national priorities and promoted aid transparency through the adoption of the Aid Transparency Code.



Further Information:

Donors/Partners:

- Spain-UNDP fund
- UNDP
- MPCE (Spain)
- Canada
- European Union

MGAE website: <https://haiti.ampsite.net/>

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