

Strengthening Health Financing Capacity in Haiti

USAID Health Finance and Governance Project

BACKGROUND

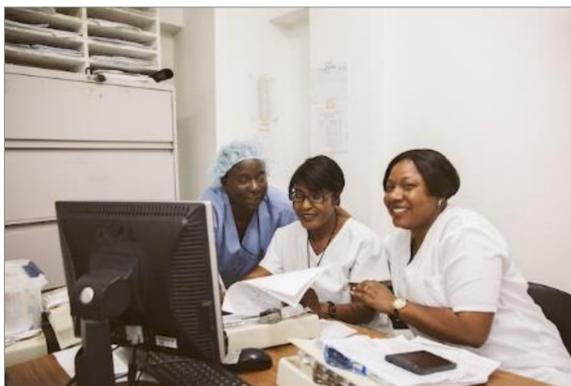
Haiti's 2010 earthquake and subsequent cholera epidemic strained the fragile health system and underscored the need to improve health financing and financial management.

Haiti's heavy reliance on external financing for health is a major challenge. Of the total health expenditure:

- less than 5 percent comes from the government
- almost 84 percent comes from household out-of-pocket spending and donor contributions

HFG has supported more efficient use of health funds by strengthening Haiti's domestic capacity for:

- financial management
- resource planning and tracking
- budgeting



COSTING AND BUSINESS PLANNING FOR HOSPITALS

HFG supported costing and business planning for hospitals reaching poor and vulnerable populations.

- This helped the hospitals understand their expenditures and financial drivers, identify efficiencies, and develop business plans for sustainable operations

HFG strengthened the Ministry of Health's (MSPP's) financial management capacity by:

- designing a costing course and training ministry staff
- facilitating a costing exercise by ministry staff at Justinien Regional Public Hospital

RESULT: Better use of existing resources by hospitals

BEST PRACTICES FOR NATIONAL HEALTH ACCOUNTS

HFG built MSPP capacity to use the internationally accepted National Health Accounts (NHA) process to track the flow of health funds.

Our work included:

- helping the ministry disseminate results of a 2010/11 NHA
- training ministry staff in use of the updated (2011) NHA methodology
- updating Haiti's NHA data to fit the new methodology
- building the capacity of ministry staff to conduct data visualization and mapping

RESULT: Institutionalization of NHA best practices and improved ability to conduct NHAs in the future

PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

HFG improved MSPP's hospital financial management capacity. Our work included:

- enabling a shift from paper-based to electronic financial reporting
- procuring electronic cash registers to help hospitals to track fees collected at the point of service
- training Justinien University Hospital staff on use of the electronic cash registers

RESULT: Strengthened health financing capacity

"The new [electronic cashier] system is helping the hospital correct billings and counter corruption and the unauthorized use of hospital revenue, hence increasing available hospital resources. One month after the installation of the electronic cashier, the hospital has seen an increase in revenue of 90%. ... The hospital is using these additional resources to prevent stock outs by buying more consumables and other strategic inputs."



Dr. Jean Geto Dubé,
Executive Director,
Justinien University
Hospital