



United Nations
Small Island
Developing States
Partnerships Awards

CDRI

Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure

IRAF
Infrastructure Resilience Accelerator Fund

IRIS
INFRASTRUCTURE FOR RESILIENT ISLAND STATES

Strengthening Haiti's Health Facilities for Disaster Resilience



Location:

Haiti



Period:

2025-2027

About IRIS

Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) is a flagship initiative of the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) which aims to equip Small Island Developing States (SIDS) with knowledge, tools, and partnerships to build climate and disaster resilient infrastructure.

SIDS face severe climate risks in addition to challenges posed by geographic remoteness, poor connectivity, and limited economies of scale. Strengthening infrastructure resilience is key to sustainable development and safeguarding livelihoods.

Through IRIS, CDRI advocates for resilient infrastructure, deploys experts, shares best practices, and funds technical support to enhance infrastructure resilience in SIDS.

Context and Background

- Haiti's health system is highly exposed to hazards like tropical cyclones, earthquakes, and floods—ranking highest in expected average annual losses among lower-middle income countries in the Americas, per CDRI's Global Infrastructure Risk Model and Resilience Index (GIRI).
- The public health network includes 980+ facilities, but most lack vulnerability assessments. Past disasters, such as the 2010 earthquake and Hurricane Matthew in 2016, caused widespread damage, severely disrupting care.
- Disruptions have disproportionately impacted women, children, and people with disabilities. The 2010 earthquake led to thousands of amputations and a sharp drop in child survival rates.
- Limited crisis training and preparedness leave providers overwhelmed in emergencies. Strengthening emergency management and infrastructure resilience can improve patient outcomes (i.e. fewer deaths and amputations), as seen in other countries.



● Haiti

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The 2010 earthquake of 7.3 magnitude destroyed about 105,000 homes and damaged over 208,000. More than 1,300 educational institutions and more than 50 hospitals and health centres collapsed or damaged (Government of Haiti's Action plan for national recovery and development of Haiti 2010).

Objective and Outputs

- This project aims to strengthen Haiti's health infrastructure to ensure continuous medical care during and after emergencies and hazard events.
- Key activities include assessing health facilities, developing action plans, and improving backup systems for resilience.
- It aligns Haiti's health policies with global standards and enhances staff capacity to maintain operations in emergencies.

Impact

- The project will directly benefit 450,000 people by improving disaster resilience in six health facilities, ensuring continuous access to critical services, especially for vulnerable groups.
- Training for healthcare workers will enhance emergency response, while cross-sector collaboration with Ministry of Public Health and Population of Haiti, General Directorate of Civil Protection of Haiti, and Pan American Health Organisation will strengthen Haiti's health infrastructure.
- The project will indirectly benefit 720,000 people by fostering a more resilient health system. The project is expected to leverage significant infrastructure investments in the health sector, improve long-term health outcomes, and contribute to long-term improvements in health indicators across the beneficiary population.



Nodal Government Agency

Ministry of Health and Population, Haiti



Implementing Partner

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