

THE HAITI PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT PROJECT (HPSP)

PROJECT DETAILS

Country/ies:	Haiti
Duration:	Jan 2007 – Jan 2011
Budget:	CAD \$4,900,000
Funder:	Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
Partner(s):	Parliament of Haiti
Status:	Closed

About the Parliamentary Centre

The Parliamentary Centre is a Canadian not-for-profit, non-partisan organization that supports parliaments around the world. Our assessment, strategic planning and training programs, combined with research products and networking channels, help legislatures measure their performance, build capacity, tackle key issues and promote mutual learning.

In short - we help legislatures better serve their people.

About the Project

The Haiti Parliamentary Support Project (HPSP) was launched in December 2006. The goal of the project was to contribute to the strengthening of political governance and the promotion of national dialogue. The immediate objective was to increase the effectiveness of the Haitian legislature in relation to four themes: Capacity development of parliamentarians by strengthening their legislative and oversight roles; improvement of parliamentary-executive relations; increased openness of Parliament vis-à-vis the citizens; and achieving more effective management and

functioning of the two Chambers (Chamber of Deputies and the Senate). Activities were suspended following the tragic earthquake in January 2010.

Accomplishments

The Parliamentary Centre provided ongoing technical support for parliamentarians during the review of several bills, for example the Electoral Bill, the Organization and Financing of Political Parties Bill, the Customs Code Bill, the Minimum Wage Bill, the 2009-2010 Budget Bill and the Bill on Responsible Paternity.

The project provided institutional support to establish nation-wide broadcasting of Chamber of Deputies' debates; offered training for parliamentarians in relation to the drafting of the 2009 Legislative Agenda; and supported the organization of the 2nd Youth Parliament in 2009 (in partnership with the Canadian Embassy, SUNY/ARD, NDI and MINUSTAH), among others.

The project also helped empower female electoral candidates through a six-cycle training program, with a view to increase female representation in decision-making positions and as elected representatives. This unique support system to the candidates was built up through the training of local coaches who in turn provided hands-on training and mentorship to the candidates in their communities on lobbying, leadership skills, communication in politics, campaign organization etc.