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# **International cooperation in Haiti: Rethinking the assistance model?**

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## **Abstract**

This thesis aims to assess and analyze the effectiveness of foreign aid to Haiti, while once again the fragile Caribbean country, ranked among the poorest in the world, must recover from a disaster of an unprecedented magnitude. The international community has long been involved in the rehabilitation and development of Haiti, which became one of the main beneficiaries of official development assistance. However, despite this commitment, Haiti continues having difficulties to cope with economic, social and environmental challenges. International donors are now starting to be aware of the failures of the system of assistantship they have established. The first recognition has been the importance to strengthen the capacity of the Haitian state, too weak today to manage the aid and often bypassed for this reason. The second acknowledgment has been the necessity to rethink the governance on the side of the donors themselves. The international community, by failing to coordinate donors' priorities with those of the recipient country, can indeed be set responsible for its inability to deliver aid in a way that strengthened governance and allowed development. Today the reconstruction of Haiti on the aftermath of the earthquake is the opportunity to put into practice principles of aid effectiveness. It is a test to put in place an inclusive assistance model, based on a Human Rights approach.



## Acronyms

AAA - Accra Agenda for Action  
ACP - African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States  
AECI - Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation  
CARICOM - Caribbean Community and Common Market  
CASEC - Conseil d'Administration de la Section Communale  
CIDA - Canadian International Development Agency  
ECOSOC – United Nations Economic and Social Council  
FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations  
HAD - Haitian Development Authority  
HIPC - Highly Indebted Poor Country  
HLF - Aid Effectiveness High Level Forum  
HOPE - Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement  
HRC – Human Rights Council  
IADB - Inter-American Development Bank  
ICF - Interim Cooperative Framework  
ICG – International Crisis Group  
IHRC - Interim Haiti Reconstruction Commission  
ISA - Independent Service Authority  
IMF - International Monetary Fund  
IDA - International Development Association  
LDC - Least Developed Country  
MDBS - Multi-Donor Budget Support  
MDG - Millennium Development Goals  
MDRI - Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative  
MDTF - Multi-Donor Trust Fund  
MINUSTAH - United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti  
OAS - Organization of American States  
ODA - Official Development Aid  
OECD - Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development  
OHCHR - Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights  
PDNA - Post-Disaster Needs Assessment  
PNH – Haitian National Police  
UNASUR - Union of South American Nations  
UNDP - United Nations Development Programme  
USAID - United States Agency for International Development  
WGI - Worldwide Governance Indicators

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