

# The Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund

## Haiti




June 2025






### PBF Investments in



 **TOTAL APPROVED** \$50 M

 **CURRENTLY ACTIVE:** \$33,6 M

### Focusing on

-  Justice and rule of law
-  Disarmament & reduction of community violence (with a focus gang violence)
-  Prevention of electoral violence

### Partners



### PEACEBUILDING CONTEXT

The Republic of Haiti's recent history has been marred by recurrent episodes of political turmoil, insecurity and related protection, humanitarian and socio-economic crises, as well as natural disasters. The country continues to face political turbulence and severe security challenges associated with armed gang violence, a lack of effective law enforcement, development deficits including economic hardship, corruption, strong inequality, and impunity.

Almost four years after the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse in July 2021, the political transition remains incomplete, with not a single elected official since January 2023. Challenges remain concerning the conditions necessary to hold free and fair elections. A Transitional Presidential Council, representing nine major Haitian sectors, currently heads the Executive and has appointed a Prime Minister and government. A constitutional referendum, initially announced for 11 May 2025, has yet to take place and is to be followed by general elections.

Haiti is facing extreme violence and human rights abuses committed by armed gangs and self-defense groups, which are expanding and controlling large swathes of territory, and carrying out coordinated attacks against the population, the national police, public service officials and infrastructure. The threat of gang violence - including sexual violence, extortion, killings and kidnappings - now affects all communes in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area, restricting residents' freedom of movement and hindering access to essential goods and services. The capital is encircled by gangs and effectively cut off by road from the northern, southern and eastern parts of the country. The violence is now spreading beyond Port-au-Prince to Artibonite and other departments.

PBF support aims to address urgent peacebuilding needs resulting from increased insecurity and widespread violence, to help Haiti complete its political transition and return to a path of institutional stability and sustainable development. Until the end of 2026, PBF will focus on strengthening political dialogue, inclusive governance, community security and social cohesion in alignment with the UN system's support to national peacebuilding priorities.

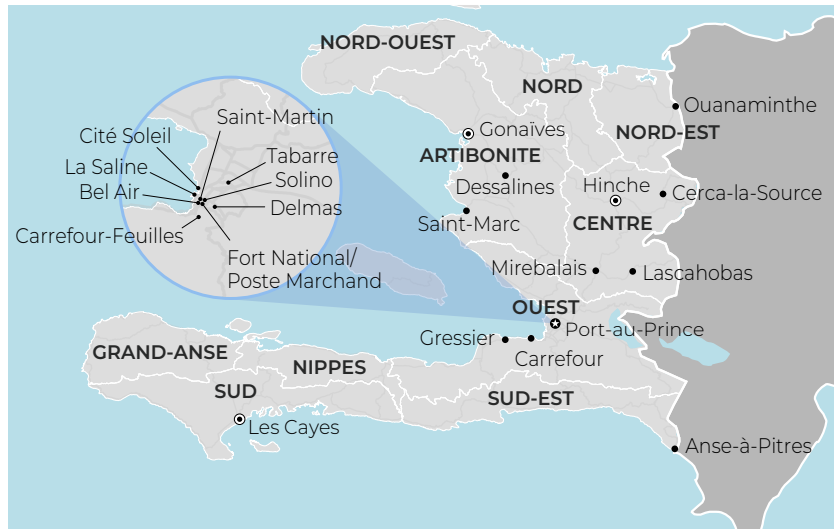
### PEACEBUILDING FUND IN ACTION

The PBF has been active in Haiti since 2008 and has invested nearly \$50M over two periods. From 2008 to 2018, with three projects under the Immediate Response window, and since 2019, as an eligible country to the PBF PRF facility (2019-2026).

PRF eligibility followed a request from the Haitian authorities for support to the following priorities: Justice and rule of law, disarmament & reduction of community violence (with a focus gang violence), and electoral security. Since April 2023, PBF's active portfolio (14 projects) contributes to the implementation of new United Nations Cooperation Framework in Haiti, and in particular its effects 1: Governance and Rule of Law, 2: Justice and Human Rights, 3: Inclusive Economic Model. 4: Basic social services, 5: Environment,

multidimensional risk management and territorial governance. In support of Haiti's ongoing political transition and the UN Support Plan, PBF continues to focus on long-term stability through strategic interventions. These include strengthening early-warning mechanisms to prevent community-level violence, enhancing civic engagement, especially in the context of constitutional reform and the electoral process, and supporting peaceful democratic transitions. Haiti will receive funding through assessed contributions in 2025, following the resolution of the General Assembly (78/257).

A major milestone in PBF's support of the political transition was the establishment of the inter-institutional and multi-stakeholder "DDR-CVR-Taskforce" under the leadership of the Prime Minister. This taskforce, supported by UNDP, UNOPS, UNFPA, IOM, UNICEF, and BINUH, was created to design a long-term national strategy on DDR-CVR, covering the period from 2021 to 2030. This PBF-supported initiative also led to the launch of ten Departmental Forums aimed at co-designing and implementing a comprehensive national DDR-CVR programme. In close collaboration with the National Commission on DDR, the Haitian National Police (HNP) was equipped with advanced weaponry and ammunition stock management software. A new draft law on firearms and ammunition was also developed to regulate civilian access and strengthen sanctions for violations. Additionally, 100 police officers were trained in weapons control and registration to curb the circulation of illegal arms.



In the area of justice and legal access, PBF, in partnership with UNDP, UNICEF, and UN Women, supported the establishment of the National Council on Legal Assistance (CNAL) and operationalized 9 legal assistance bureaus (BALs) in Petit-Gonâve, Miragoâne, Gonaïves, and Port-au-Prince. These offices provided critical legal and judicial support to vulnerable populations, including 254 women in prolonged pre-trial detention who also received psychosocial assistance. Furthermore, efforts to combat corruption, recognized as a key driver of instability, led to the creation of a multi-actor platform under the leadership of the State anti-corruption unit (ULCC), the National Office for the Protection of Citizens (OPC), and the Ministry of Justice. This platform brought together lawyers, legal practitioners, and human rights NGOs to monitor corruption, while a network of community accountability forums and 18 school-based Peace Clubs was established across Haiti's ten departments to promote civic integrity and engagement.

Mental health and psychosocial support were also prioritized. With PBF support, Concern Worldwide mobilized a network of 149 "godmothers" to assist victims of GBV, referring 2,147 cases, ranging from children to the elderly, to appropriate support services. The "Allo Toya" mobile application, developed under the leadership of the Ministry of Health and supported by UN Women and WHO, provided psychological first aid to 2,322 individuals, who were then referred to medical, psychosocial, or legal services as needed.

Youth engagement was advanced through the launch of 18 Youth Forums on the SDGs and UNSCR 2250, supported by UNDP, OHCHR, and UNESCO under the guidance of the Ministries of Youth and Culture. These forums, active in all ten departments, fostered youth participation in peacebuilding and governance. In support of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security, UN Women, in collaboration with the Ministry of Women's Affairs, facilitated the creation of a national platform of women's NGOs. This alliance, known as the "Alliance des plateformes et réseaux d'ONGs de femmes," mobilized 791 women leaders representing approximately 249,000 members to enhance women's political participation and leadership in decision-making processes. These platforms have been instrumental in supporting peaceful electoral processes.

To further strengthen electoral integrity, UNDP, Progettomondo, and UN Women supported the Provisional Electoral Council (CEP) in establishing an Electoral Violence Prevention Unit and a strategy to address SGBV during elections. This included the development of a youth-led early-warning platform (USHUADI) and a joint work plan with the NHP to prevent electoral violence.

Cross-border peacebuilding efforts between Haiti and the Dominican Republic were also reinforced. With support from UNDP and IOM, technical assistance and capacity-building were provided to the national secretariats of the Mixed Bilateral Commission (MBC) to facilitate regular consultations. Initiatives to promote inclusive governance of shared natural resources included training 100 young women and men from local organizations in reforestation and ecosystem protection. Additionally, 130 youth from cross-border areas received support to develop income-generating activities in sectors such as trade, cooking, and tourism, contributing to local economic resilience and peace infrastructure.

The PBF has played a critical role in bridging the efforts of the UN Country Team and BINUH through the Community of Practice on Prevention and Peacebuilding. This platform regularly convenes diverse stakeholders—including government representatives, civil society, academia, donors, and UN entities—to co-design strategies that advance the SDGs and sustain peace in Haiti.