

Fanm Fèmye: Agro-Haïti

Who Are We?

The purpose of this newsletter is to introduce you to Fanm Fèmye (Haitian Women in Farming) and inviting you to invest in our land, livestock or aqua farming programs in Haiti.

We are a specialty organization in community agricultural development that focuses on producing sustainable food security and food available for women, children, elderly, and people with disabilities.

We have been able to develop joint farming ventures with rural farmers' organizations in 63 communal sections and 15 communes in Haiti. Our investment paid off with maximum returns.

After going through these information sources, you will be able to know that we are diligently working on making food security and food availability to poor communities our mission priority and are serious for the rebuilding of Haiti through sustainable agricultural investment.



The Renaissance of Agriculture in Haiti

The role of agriculture in the Haitian economy has declined severely since the 1950s. Some of the major factors included the continuing fragmentation of landholdings, low levels of agricultural technology, migration out of rural areas, insecure land tenure, a lack of capital investment, high commodity taxes, the low productivity of undernourished animals, plant diseases, and inadequate infrastructure.

The main challenge to agriculture was not only based on economic, but ecological. Extreme deforestation, soil erosion, droughts, flooding, and the ravages of other natural disasters had all led to a critical environmental situation.

The Renaissance Starts Today!

Fanm Fèmye a program of Chosen Ministry Haiti and supported by the Haitian and Caribbean Foundation, Inc. and the European Pastoral Association, will create small incubator farms in 5 regions of Haiti to help revamp local economy, reload the community enthusiasm in agricultural and develop new venture programs to help women gain access to economic stability from land ownership.

We are also proud to inform you that we are now in position to expand our

agricultural renaissance to new communal sections. We have acquired 80 new acres of arable land adjacent to Port-au-Prince, the Capital, to be served as an agricultural incubator for food security to service a population of 15 additional rural communities.

Annually, we anticipate the production of food produces as rice, vegetables, peas, corn, yam; and livestock raised from goats, pigs, poultry, eggs, and also aqua harvests as tilapia, cat fish and shrimp to be profitable.



**Fanm Fèmye is a program of
Chosen Ministry Haiti.**

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Our Mission

Our mission is to advocate for stronger involvement of women in crop and tree farming, aqua/livestock farming, cooperative farming, and to encourage greater investments in agricultural development so that Haitian women can become land owners, entrepreneurs and food distributors. From March 31, 2011 to today, our small investment in agricultural development has made a big impact in women's lives, particularly through small-scale farming. We helped expand agriculture incentives in rural areas, reduced hunger and extreme poverty in poor communities as well as created jobs for unemployed women.

Our other mission in Haiti is to eliminate the obstacles that prevent Haitian women from being economically strong and to fully participate in society as equal partners. We will train and teach Haitian women who will also learn "peer-to-peer" and "train the trainer" methodologies on how to compete with local farmers, how to gain market share, and how to maintain their business standards.

Unlocking the Code of Poverty

Fanm Fèmeye of Chosen Ministry wants to unlock the code of extreme poverty in Haiti through massive investments in agricultural and aqua-farming programs for the next five years. The organization wants to ensure food security with the creation and development of small-scale rural and urban farms and the establishment of a "Haitian women farmers" movement capable of transforming the lives of 9,000 women annually.

The agriculture program is designed to help Haitian farm workers grow crops and by products for sale, to train women in advanced land farming techniques, and to produce substantial amounts of food for poor communities within the targeted populations.

Advanced Crop Farming

Advanced crop farming to be instituted by Fanm Fèmeye will replace the original system

"Cultivation of the above mentioned crops will be using advance machinery"

of crop production in Haiti with a more efficient and reliable production system. The crops expected to be harvested by the program will increase in ranges between twenty five percent (25%) and thirty three (33%) of each targeted location's total gross agricultural production.

The program will shift the cultivation of rice, banana, plantain, beans, tomato, corn, yam, vegetables using tradition-

al farming to new higher yields; but, sustainable and organic types of production. The shift will result

in more specialized production systems which require fewer inputs, raise more outputs through specialized practices and new tools and technology.

In these new agricultural methods, the cultivation of the above mentioned crops will be using advance machinery and best practices methodologies rather than the usual axes or machetes.

Micro Finances for Poor Women

Fanm Fèmeye will expand its on going Commodity Credit Entrepreneurial Program (CCEP) to include 9000 women annually. (CCEP) will provide each participant a package of commodity credit valued at an average of (US)\$250. The first community package is an asset credit given to each participant. It is an economic starting point after 45 hours of business literacy classes. Progress reports collected weekly, monthly and annually from that first-issued commodity credit will help the participants to stay in the program. Collected reports from participants help program's evaluators and administration to recommend additional / decrease in the amount of commodity credit provided, re-enrollment to business classes, or termination of participant's enrollment in the program.

