



IN THE FIELD

USIP works to promote reconciliation and reconstruction in Haiti through on-the-ground training in at-risk communities and nationwide legal reform.

- USIP conducts training in conflict resolution with community leaders in Haiti in partnership with the National Democratic Institute.
- USIP has teamed up with Digital Democracy to train women activists in Haiti to monitor and report violence in their communities.
- USIP is supporting Haiti's effort to reform its legal codes utilizing USIP's Model Codes for Post-Conflict Justice.
- USIP supported Ushahidi, Inc's efforts to provide crisis mapping during post-conflict relief and reconstruction.

USIP provides the analysis, training and tools that prevent and end conflicts, promotes stability and professionalizes the field of peacebuilding.

For media inquiries, contact the office of Public Affairs and Communications, 202.429.4725

Current Situation

The color and pageantry of Haiti's pre-Lenten carnival celebration provided the backdrop for a political confrontation between Haiti's president and parliament and a visit by a UN Security Council delegation. President Michel Martelly's already troubled relations with opposition parliamentarians reached a crisis point over parliament's demand that Martelly and Prime Minister Garry Conille prove that they did not hold dual citizenship, which would make them ineligible to hold public office in Haiti. Martelly's refusal to comply with parliament's demands led to an internal dispute between the president and prime minister over who controls government ministers and sets government policy. International officials and foreign diplomats worked frantically to prevent the removal of Conille, which would leave the country without a functioning government but facing scheduled Senate and local elections this spring. Rising political tensions were seen as possibly responsible for a February 17 attack on President Martelly who was struck by a rock while marching in a carnival parade.

Fears of political turmoil were also responsible for a visit to Haiti by a Security Council delegation led by U.S. Ambassador Susan Rice that looked at local conditions and the future of MINUSTAH. The delegation met with Haitian officials and visited a tent city, the police academy and an industrial park. President Martelly used the visit to reiterate his hope to reestablish the Haitian army as a replacement for the UN peacekeeping force. Haitians have taken an increasingly negative view of MINUSTAH, which is blamed for sexual assaults and introducing cholera to the island. At the conclusion of the visit, Ambassador Rice stated that Haiti's limited resources were best used to improve the Haitian National Police and not to restart the army. She also called upon Haiti's leaders to subordinate their separate interests and work together for the common good.

—Robert Perito
Director, Haiti Program

EVENTS AND MULTIMEDIA

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
 THE ELLIOTT SCHOOL
 OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Building a Better Haiti through Education • February 27, 2012

This coming Monday, the Latin America and Hemispheric Studies Program at George Washington University will host its 2012 annual symposium. The symposium will be open to the public and examine the various facets for building a better Haiti through education.

- 8:30 a.m.–Welcome from Robert Maguire, Director, Latin American and Hemispheric Studies Program
- 8:45 a.m.–Michele Pierre-Louis, former Prime Minister of Haiti and President, FOKAL Foundation
- 9:45 a.m.–Panel 1: Addressing Needs
- 11:15 a.m.–Panel 2: Innovative Approaches
- 1:00 p.m.–Cheryl Mills, Counselor and Chief of Staff to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton

Please note: This event will be held on the GWU campus at 1957 E. St, NW, Ste. 602.

Justice for Haiti • February 15, 2012

“Justice is not just a legal issue, it is part of the conditions needed to promote peace and development in Haiti,” asserted Ugo Solinas, Senior Political Affairs Officer in the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations, during USIP’s public event on the topic last week. He was joined on the panel by Joel Danies from the U.S. Department of State’s Office of the Haiti Special Coordinator, Mark Schneider from International Crisis Group, and Vivienne O’Connor from USIP’s Rule of Law Center.

In Washington • February 17, 2012

USIP’s Robert Perito and Robert Maguire gave a briefing on Capitol Hill organized by Senator Bill Nelson’s staff on February 17, 2012.



Justice for Haiti event, 2/15/12.
 From left to right: Robert Maguire, Joel Danies,
 and Ugo Solinas.



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