CRS GLOBALLY

Water development, especially community water supply and sanitation services, has been an essential component of CRS programs for over 50 years. CRS currently has water activities in more than 40 countries, with estimated annual expenditures exceeding $40 million. The regions with the largest programs are East and West Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and South Asia. Between October 2010 and September 2011, more than 80 CRS projects included water sector elements.

CRS IN HAITI

In the heavily-sloped terrain of Haiti’s Port-au-Prince, the capital city of approximately 2,500,000 residents, many houses were destroyed and water access points were blocked after the January 2010 earthquake. With over 40 staff working on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) projects, CRS/Haiti has responded to both initial earthquake-related needs and continued to the secondary phase of the recovery from providing assistance in internally displaced persons (IDP) camps to supporting individuals’ resettlement in neighborhoods of origin.

CRS has actively sought the cooperation of local partners in all its activities. Local neighborhood committees have been used in beneficiary selection for shelters and latrines, and community input has driven livelihoods programming.

CRS WASH ACHIEVEMENTS IN HAITI - 2010/2011

INFRASTRUCTURE: constructed 506 latrines, 97 hand-washing stations, 394 bathing structures, and 6,257 meters of drainage canals near WASH facilities to drain spilled and/or splashed water away from water collection points

TRAINING: trained 148 hygiene volunteers in behavior change, 387 water monitors to chlorinate community water supplies, and 640 latrine monitors to disinfect latrines

SOLID WASTE: installed 305 solid waste collection bins; conducted 1,171 solid waste clean-up and removal campaigns; drained 1,005 meters of drainage canal, and cleaned the canals to improve flow during rain events

CHOLERA RESPONSE AND HYGIENE: distributed soap and aqua tabs monthly to 16,500 families; provided monthly hygiene promotion sessions and cholera prevention activities for 4,000 camp households

Donors: USAID/OFDA, CAFOD, Caritas Australia, CRS private funds
Life of Project: August 2010 - present
National Partners: DINEPA, SMCRS, IDEJEN, central committees of 12 communities within Petionville area, AJD, ADUPV, APDV60, AVISE, CJGMA, COGPN, KORE’N, OFA-MALA, OQPDO, OTASIFA

Photo: Children wash their hands at a hand-washing station near latrines in the Acra IDP camp in Port-au-Prince. Benjamin Depp for CRS