

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT TITLE	BETTER WORK HAITI
REGION/COUNTRY	THE AMERICAS/Haiti
PROJECT DURATION	January 1, 2009 – December 31, 2016
FUNDING LEVEL	USD 11,663,415
PROBLEM TO BE ADDRESSED	<p>Harsh working conditions in garment factories have been at the center of a large and growing debate about globalization and labor standards for years. Low wages, long hours, high temperatures, excessive noise, poor air quality, unsanitary conditions, and abuse (both verbal and physical) are often cited as evidence of non-compliant labor practices which characterize production in developing countries such as Haiti.</p> <p><u>National Context</u></p> <p>The Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement Act of 2008-2015 (HOPE II) gives preferential treatment for imports of apparel, textiles, and certain other goods from Haiti. The HOPE II legislation calls for the establishment of a program such as Better Work, a labor monitoring program that monitors compliance with national labor and international standards. By law all apparel factories in Haiti need to be registered in the program. The Better Work project publically reports labor conditions in the factories every six months.</p>
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<p>To support decent work in the apparel sector by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• monitoring compliance with national labor law and international labor standards;• strengthening government’s ability to conduct labor inspections; and• increasing the capacity of worker and employer representatives to engage in social dialogue.
PROJECT STRATEGY	<p>Better Work combines labor monitoring and training to apparel factories around the world. The strategy focuses on market incentives for both producers and buyers, as labor law compliance increases</p>

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT SUMMARY

competitiveness and international firms are driven by the need to protect their reputation and image. By monitoring garment factories' compliance with international labor standards, Better Work informs major brands and buyers of labor conditions in the sector. The program also educates workers and managers on labor rights and responsibilities, and provides a space for factory level social dialogue, through Performance Improvement Consultative Committees (PICCs), which include managers and workers.

To improve government capacity, the Better Work Haiti program dedicates a high percentage of its efforts and budget to building the inspection capacity of the Ministry of Labor (MAST), including support on inspection methodologies and internal systems.

PROJECT IMPACT/RESULTS

- ✓ Better Work is active in all 31 apparel factories in Haiti, benefiting approximately 37,000 workers.
- ✓ The project created a tripartite social dialogue roundtable comprised of representatives from government, employers and unions in the textile sector. At the factory level, 50% of the factories have a PICC.

GRANTEE

International Labor Organization (ILO)

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

International Finance Corporation (IFC)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office of Trade and Labor Affairs Division of Technical Assistance and Cooperation (202) 693-4900

Last update, December 2015