



ECT WASH — Lessons Learned

Lessons Learned Workshop

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| Country HAITI | Organisation ASB-Haiti | Duration 3 years |
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BACKGROUND

In Haiti, the project is implemented in Saint-Jean-du-Sud and Corail, two municipalities often facing environmental problems and humanitarian crises. ASB-Haiti leads the project, providing WASH solutions that are inclusive, adapted to the local areas while considering the climate and sustainability aspects.

To assess the effectiveness and challenges of the project implementation process, ASB organized one lesson learned workshop as part of its MEAL related activities. This workshop was implemented in two sessions including one in Saint Jean du Sud and one in

Corail in May and early June 2025. On May 27 the first session was organized in Saint-Jean-du-Sud, and on June 2 in Corail. Each session gathered 15 participants representing diverse groups of stakeholders, including representatives of 4 Local Civil Protection Committees, Mayors, local government structures (CASEC and ASEC), representatives from DINEPA (National Water Authority), project staff from ASB and ECT WASH.

Participants used an interactive and participatory approach to review the project activities, share successes, and discuss challenges encountered so far.

KEY LESSONS LEARNED

Challenges:

Internal challenges

- 1. Need for flexible procurement planning.** Procurement processes were challenged by fluctuating market prices and supplier availability. Building more flexible procurement plans with pre-identified alternative suppliers and framework agreements can reduce delays and better adapt to volatile contexts.
- 2. Importance of focused interventions and feasibility studies.** The experience showed that spreading limited resources across multiple municipalities can dilute impact and create gaps in coverage. Concentrating interventions within fewer target areas can produce more tangible results and strengthen project outcomes. Conducting thorough feasibility studies before implementation helps align planned activities with the actual needs, scale, and logistical realities of each community.
- 3. Importance of aligning budgets with technical requirements.** During the handwashing point

installation in Corail schools, tank capacities could not be fully adapted to each school's population due to budget limitations. This highlighted the need to ensure that budgets are realistically aligned with technical sizing requirements and consumption needs during project design.



Corail road area



External challenges

- 1. National insecurity and political instability.** Haiti's unstable security situation, frequent roadblocks, and unrest delayed material deliveries and disrupted construction work, particularly for water and sanitation facilities.
- 2. Poor accessibility to Corail.** The poor condition of the road to Corail complicates the transportation of materials, adding to delays and costs.
- 3. Inflation and Market Limitations.** The project was affected by high inflation and limited availability of construction materials, which increased costs and reduced options for sourcing supplies. These external factors required frequent budget adjustments and affected timelines.

Successes:

- 1. Collaborative approach with local authorities enhanced community acceptance.** A participatory approach helped preempt and resolve public objections regarding the placement of waste bins and ensured local ownership and institutional buy-in. *"I'm glad we choose together where to place the trash cans. That avoids a lot of arguments and everybody agrees"* - ASEC representative, Corail
- 2. Relevant and practical training content recognized by beneficiaries.** The training modules covering first aid, disaster risk reduction (DRR), hygiene, and sanitation were well received. Beneficiaries noted that the content was practical, understandable, and directly applicable to their daily lives.



Community first aid training for local civil protection structures in the municipality of Corail

- 3. High staff engagement contributed to effective implementation.** The commitment and dynamism of the initial and actual ASB project team in the field were frequently highlighted by both participants and partners.
- 4. Positive behavioral change observed among students.** Students showed notable improvements in hygiene, consistently using handwashing stations and community bins, demonstrating that training messages were effectively adopted.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the experiences, successes, and challenges documented during the 1st year of implementation, the following recommendations are proposed:

1. Implement regular follow-up and maintenance to ensure continued use and functionality of infrastructure, involving community members in upkeep and refresher sessions.
2. Engage local authorities early to foster ownership and smooth project implementation.
3. Given Haiti's challenges, especially in remote areas like Corail, humanitarian actors should secure local suppliers, keep buffer stocks, and include contingency planning in procurement.

Avoid implementing "one-size-fits-all" infrastructure models across different sites. Factors such as population size, environmental risks (flood-prone zones), and usage patterns should determine the design and location of installations.



ASB hands over motorbikes and other materials to local partners to strengthen community-based WASH monitoring and coordination in hard-to-reach areas.