



Fall 2019 Newsletter

Why the Lambi Fund of Haiti Works

The Lambi Fund of Haiti works because of its unique bottom-up collaborative approach that is different from the top-down approach of many charities. The Lambi Fund’s original, grassroots development model succeeds because it relies on Haitians themselves to determine the needs and the most effective solutions in each community. The Lambi Fund’s emphasis on democracy, a community’s actual needs, and peasant-led solutions ensures more successful outcomes.

As a result, we hear positive feedback from the people. Here is a quote from a member of an organization that developed a community solution to economic sustainability: *“This project has taught us how to protect our fields and the surrounding mountains so that we have more crops, cleaner water and less erosion in the future.”*

THE LAMBI

Supporting economic justice, democracy and sustainable development in Haiti



Celebrating 25 Years

This year is the 25th anniversary of Lambi Fund of Haiti joining forces with the Haitian people to support economic justice, democracy and sustainable development.

During this time, Lambi Fund has helped more than 180 organizations to undertake over 250 community-based projects, impacting 2 million+ people. Peasant organizations, community organizations, and women's groups partner with Lambi Fund to help develop the communities where they live and to help them improve their family’s economic status.

Thank you for your continuous support of the people of Haiti. Without you, these past 25 years would not be possible in reaching our mission of economic justice, democracy and sustainable development in Haiti.

In the Field

Current Situation in Haiti

By Ferry Pierre Charles and Josette Pèard

Today we are not going down to the office, because they announced the street would no longer be safe to travel. We are living in a very serious situation in the country. Schools have been closed for 6 weeks and most businesses are closed. One day open, one day closed.

Movement is not easy by ground. Barricades limit travel all the way to the countryside. Government offices are not open, and people cannot get the services they need. Really, observers are saying this is the first time Haiti has lived a similar situation since the departure of Jean Claude “Baby Doc” Duvalier in 1986.

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Mission Statement

The Lambi Fund's mission is to assist the popular, democratic movement in Haiti. The Lambi Fund provides financial resources, training and technical assistance to peasant-led community organizations that promote the social and economic empowerment of the Haitian people.

Our Principles

Lambi Fund supports peasant led-community organizations in Haiti that promote:

- Non-violence
- Gender equity
- Self-sustainability
- Non-partisanship
- Grassroots democracy

Vision

- Improved economic conditions
- Increased food availability
- Increase in potable water
- Improved environment
- Increased gender equity
- Improved democratic functioning



Ox plowing service

TIMELINE 1994-2019

Lambi Fund of Haiti: 25 years of Empowering Haitians

1994

Founded by a group of Haitians and North Americans

Hired Josette Pèard as the Haiti Director, our first employee. Hired agronomist Ferry Pierre Charles as Field Director. Both maintain their positions to this day.

1995-2004

Hired remaining field staff in Haiti. Partnered with a handful of organizations primarily on sustainable agriculture in the first year.

Conducted a 10-year evaluation that indicated successful projects.

Expanded the number of organization partners from 4 to 64. Saw a 50-75% increase in agricultural production.

Increased democratic functioning. Before Lambi started organizational development training, only 25% of community organizations held regular elections. After training, 75% of the organizations hold periodic elections.

Organizations began opening membership to more women, some having as much as a 90% increase in women members.

Conducted first disaster response campaign in the aftermath of deadly Hurricane Jeanne.



Tree Nursery



Pigs are a sign of prosperity

2005-2009

Instituted an environmental policy, requiring all partner projects to include a reforestation component to plant a minimum of 20,000 seedlings to help reverse deforestation trends in Haiti.

After gender equity training, the number of organizations led by women increased from 0 to 8. In some instances, an entire slate of women ran for and won key offices in their organizations.

Increased pig population with over 100 pigs for pig breeding projects. In rural Haiti, wealth is measured in pigs. For years, the number of pigs dwindled. Lambi Fund helped pig farmers become sustainable again.

2010-2012

Massive earthquake struck destroying large swaths of Haiti and killed over 300,000 people. But thanks to your generous donations, we were able to help the people rebuild.

We conducted a multi-year disaster response campaign over the next couple of years. Helped 44 organizations recover in a phased program that consisted of emergency aid, rebuilding, and investment in community-led sustainable development.

Increased number of projects focused on access to clean potable water and community latrines, especially at schools.

2012-2014

Conducted 20-year evaluation that showed over the past 20 years, Lambi Fund has partnered with more than 150 organizations, worked directly with more than 50,000 Haitians, and ultimately affected the lives of more than two million Haitians, more than 20% of the population.

2014-2019

Emergency response to Hurricane Matthew. Hurricanes become more intense as a result of climate change. Our emphasis on reforestation helps mitigate the destruction caused by hurricanes. Thanks to your support people are better able to recover quickly from the damage.

Here's to another 25 years!



Jeff Masters

Why I Give

Jeff Masters, a co-founder of the world-famous Weather Underground website (wunderground.com), is a renowned hurricane specialist and is the author of the widely read blog, *Category 6*. He recently announced his retirement from Weather Underground but will still be involved in hurricane analysis through his "[Eye of the Storm](#)" blog at Scientific American.

Not only is Dr. Masters a scientist but he is also a humanitarian. He sees the impact of more intense hurricanes on developing countries like Haiti and is concerned about the effects of climate change on people struggling to survive. Lambi Fund is committed to mitigating the destructive impact of hurricanes through reforestation and helping local communities rebuild after they are destroyed by a hurricane's damaging rampage.

A long-time supporter of Lambi Fund of Haiti, he recently posted on his blog, "I will continue to offer my financial support to the Lambi Fund of Haiti; you are doing wonderful work in the nation in Hurricane Alley that needs it the most."

Give Lambi Fund a Birthday Present!

In honor of Lambi Fund's Silver Anniversary, we suggest you make a donation of \$25, \$250, or \$2500. Your birthday gift will make a huge difference in the lives of many Haitians. Click [here](#) to donate online.

Or mail a check (made payable to the Lambi Fund of Haiti) to: Lambi Fund of Haiti, 1050 Connecticut Ave, #500, Washington DC 20036

For more information about the Lambi Fund or to make an online donation, go to www.lambifund.org. Or email us at info@lambifund.org

Give hope for the Future





Josette Pèard, Executive Director

Key Staff Changes at Lambi Fund

Here at the Lambi Fund, we are undergoing some big changes that we want to share. A couple of months ago our Executive Director, Marie Marthe St. Cyr, resigned from her position for personal reasons. You may have had the opportunity to spend time with Marie Marthe over the last seven years and probably know about her level of dedication in helping Haitian peasants determine their future. Hopefully, she will continue working for better conditions in Haiti.

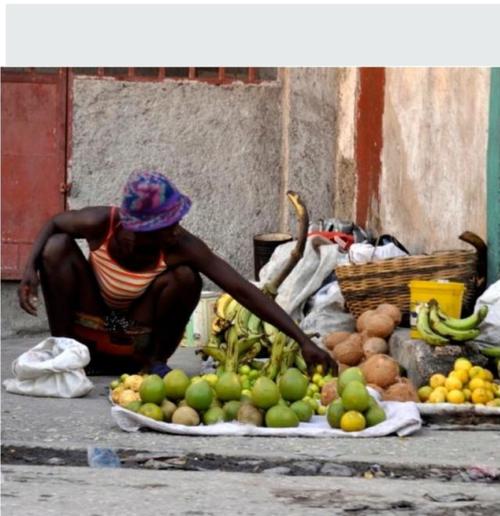
In the interim, our long-term Haiti Director, Josette Pèard will serve as the Executive Director. She will be working closely with Evelyne Izeogu, our CFO and Deputy Director here in the U.S., to take over Marie's responsibilities. We have also contracted with Karen Ashmore, our previous Executive Director, to help us out with fundraising in this time of transition for Lambi Fund. We will be working in this configuration through the next six months as we continue to re-organize.

At this juncture we will soon be expanding our Board, so if you or someone you know has a passion for bottom up development in Haiti and a desire to fundraise in the USA, let us know!



Goat breeding increases income





Women sell products at market



Road to democracy

Contact Us

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Current Situation in Haiti (Continued from page 1)

Despite this situation, we at Lambi Fund continue to work since we have our records at home.

Corruption and mismanagement in the state government have led to widespread protest in Port-au-Prince. Fuel shortages continue across the country, resulting in high fuel prices. This fuel increase, along with Haiti's weakened currency, has led to higher food prices and makes it difficult to transport goods across the country. Haitian currency has lost nearly half its value in the past year.

Meanwhile, people in the countryside are calm. The people are following the situation in Port-au-Prince while continuing their daily activities at home. They are raising crops, planting trees, milling grains, raising goats, and operating credit funds. The lack of access to fuel, food, and goods, and the continued devaluation of the currency, make all of these initiatives more difficult.

Peasant women have a great role to play in the fight for a better life. They are the pillars. They have the tact, the savoir faire to overcome. They become the go-getters. They seek and move goods where it is most needed to care for their communities. They travel to areas less affected by the drought and blockades to buy grains to keep the mills working. They bring food and other basic goods to keep the population alive, to feed the children, and the elderly.

The Lambi Fund helps organizations establish credit funds to help women get loans at low interest to increase their capacity to establish their businesses. Food insecurity exacerbated by the political unrest put the whole country in a state of insecurity.

Life for farmers in Haiti is difficult and complicated. The Lambi Fund has partnered with rural farmers and this collaboration has yielded positive success.

But we persevere. The people count on you to help them survive these difficult times. And we thank you for making our working partnership possible.

Sign up For Lambi Email News

Keep up with the latest news by signing up for our new email newsletter. Visit our website at www.lambifund.org and sign up online.