The Reconstruction of Haiti:
Strengthening Argentina’s Capacity for Effective Cooperation (Phase II)

IDRC Grant 105342-004

Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO)
Argentina

Project Staff
Leader: Miguel Lengyel
Research and Management Assistant: Bernabé Malacalza
Teaching Initiative Assistant: Blanca Pesado
Administrative Assistant: Mercedes Esperón

Final Technical Report
May 2009 – April 2012

May 2012
**Table of contents**

SYNTHESIS ......................................................................................................... 2

PROJECT CONCERNS ..................................................................................... 4
  Knowledge-production findings ................................................................. 9

PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION ......................................... 11
  - The capacity building line of work ....................................................... 11
  - The consciousness generation line of action ........................................ 18

DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS/PRODUCTS................................................... 20

PROJECT ADMINISTRATION ........................................................................... 22
SYNTHESIS

This project (therein the Project) was designed with two principal objectives in mind:

- To contribute to strengthen Argentina’s research capacities for the design and implementation of effective cooperation initiatives with Haiti;
- To support capacity-building in Haiti for consolidating democratic institutions and crafting development policies.

In keeping with these goals, the Project was designed to pursue the following lines of action:

i. The production of focused, applicable knowledge on policy issues critical for Haiti democratic consolidation and socio-economic development, on which Argentina may count on a vast and proved expertise;

ii. The generation of theoretical/practical insights on how to further the emerging role of Latin American middle-income countries (LAMICs) in development cooperation at the regional and sub-regional levels;

iii. The development of a teaching initiative on international cooperation for development, with a focus on its South-South dimension; and

iv. The “sensibilization of Argentina’s key socio-political actors on the Haitian crisis and the diffusion of the project’s results with a view to validate the country’s and region’s efforts to rebuild the Haitian state and implement development-prone policies.

In the pursuit of these goals the project was designed to carry out the bulk of its activities, unlike during the first phase, on Haitian ground. In this sense, major concerns of the project were to work with strategic partners within Haiti’s policy-making circles and civil society while, at the same time, furthering the articulation of its work with Canadian counterparts as well as IDRC’s sponsored twin projects in other Latin American countries (LACs).

As described in the corresponding yearly technical reports, during the first year the project made important progress towards the achievement of these goals while during the second and third some adjustments in the work plan and the courses of action being pursued were made in order to keep with the objectives. The main reason for this were the changing Haitian socio-political conditions as a result first of January 2010 earthquake and second the political impasse due to the presidential elections of March 2011. Briefly stated, progress over the course of the whole project includes:

- The development of all activities committed in the Project Document to produce policy-oriented, locally-embedded knowledge on key issues of the Haitian political, economic and social development agenda. Concretely, these activities consisted of the gathering and conclusion of “small policy forums” (SPF) to explore how to strengthen women capacities to protect and expand their human rights broadly conceived, and how to upgrade (i.e., improve productivity, food security and quality) the family-based Haitian agricultural production. This included the preparation of policy-briefs that were handled to Haiti’s sectorial authorities; in addition, and perhaps more important, the outcome of the work on agricultural production laid the ground for the planning and organization of capacity-building actions in Haiti under the project’s aegis;

- The partial development (first and second stages) of a “diplomacy” program oriented to further Haitian public officials’ and non-public actors’ capabilities for policy-making and management concerning the international political and economic insertion of Haiti through the transfer of know-how/expertise and training. This result hast to do with the decision,
agreed upon with IDRC’s officials involved in the running of the project, to discontinue the activity in order to prioritize those deemed more relevant for Haiti’s post-earthquake situation;

- The production (well above commitments set in the Project Document) of nine (9) research papers addressing the nature, ongoing dynamics and prospects of South-South Cooperation (SSC) as well as its likely implications for the effectiveness of development cooperation;

- The production (well above commitments set in the Project Document) of eleven (11) research papers addressing Argentina’s as well as ABC countries cooperation efforts in Haiti, a couple of articles on the work of Argentina’s cooperation on the ground in the field of agriculture production and the implications and lessons from development cooperation in Haiti for South-South Cooperation (SSC);

- The development of a large part of the preparatory work for setting a graduate program in the field of international cooperation for development; this includes exploratory actions to jointly work to that end with the twin IDRC sponsored project in Chile as part of the work plan of an eventual third phase of both projects;

- Preparatory work for furthering capacity building on agricultural production and the reconstruction of Haiti’s university system as part of the much succulent efforts to strengthen that country’s state human resource and institutional endowments that are needed in the post earthquake, post presidential election scenario;

- The preparation of the first (preliminary) phase of a project for the creation of a Southern Cone Observatory on South-South Cooperation as well as the required networking for establishing its institutional basis. This observatory is expected to provide space for the development of the education program in the field of international cooperation for development being crafted as part of this project;

- The implementation and deepening of actions geared to ensure the dissemination of the project results/outputs among the relevant audience seeking in particular to reach international academic and policy circles and, more ambitiously, to consolidate FLACSO Argentina as a global point of reference on theoretical and applied knowledge production and capacity building in the field of international cooperation for development;

- Related to the former, the development and consolidation of a network of key Haitian partners, both public and social, in all the relevant institutional and policy domains for the effective implementation of the capacity building and institutional strengthening initiatives the project has implemented over the course of its life and expects to deepen and expand in an eventual third phase;

- The further development and consolidation of links with a Canadian institution (the North-South Institute) working on Haiti as well as with IDRC’s sponsored project in Chile for carrying out knowledge production activities, with the achievement of concrete knowledge products as the main result;

In this way, the project has met the plans proposed set originally in the Project Document in a proper and timely way, and has gone beyond expectations in some particular lines of work, while exploring and making progress in the preparation of new areas of work.

**PROJECT CONCERNS**

The project was set with several guiding ideas in mind. The first one was that the experience of participation of the so-called middle-income countries of Latin America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay in the Southern Cone –also known as the ABC+U-and Mexico in Central America, therein “LAMICs”) in Haiti was an expression of an emerging trend, namely, that the difficulties of different kinds various Latin American nations face to consolidate a democratic order could
be seen as a matter of regional politics which, furthermore, might merit initiatives transcending the traditional principle of non-intervention in light of local turbulences that severely challenge states authority to control manifestations of collective violence. Second, that LAMICs’ participation could be regarded a test case for future cooperation within the region in addressing pressing political and socio-economics woes as well as those countries’ perception about the meaning of repeating initiatives of this sort. Third, that for LAMICs the issue of the crisis of the state and democratic feebleness was a point of great relevance in their link with the global agenda and provided a window of opportunity for increasing their maneuvering room in the region and playing a new international role. Fourth, all the former conditions were favored by the decision of Preval’s government to shift gears regarding the approach to cooperation followed since 2004, by which support from multilateral and bilateral donors was organized through the Interim Cooperation Framework (ICF); in this sense, the elaboration of the Provision Strategy for Poverty Reduction (PSPR) was key to enhance the Haitian government’s ownership on cooperation initiatives by giving it more leverage in their preparation, expanding the complementation of North-South cooperation with South-South and North-South-South undertakings, and establishing the definition of longer term goals for cooperation (comprising a first stage 2007-2009 and a second 2010-2015). The shift also meant to put in place a more concrete and focused agenda: internal security -mainly about the reform of Haiti’s national police (HNP)-, stability and political cohesion -comprising the strengthening of state authority and the full working of the executive and legislative branches of government-, reform of the judicial and penitentiary systems with an emphasis on human rights protection, and sustainable conditions for economic development and the provision of public goods. In this light, the issue of LAMICs’ participation in Haiti’s reconstruction provided the ground for them to undertake initiatives of their own vintage and enhance mutual cooperation around the complex question of state-building, development and democratic consolidation.1

Actually, it is fair to say that the LAMICs’ cooperation experience in Haiti from 2006 up to the earthquake was able to carve its own profile, showing a qualitatively distinct vision on how to handle Haitian problems, grounded fundamentally on an emphasis on long-term commitment and greater “closeness” to the Haitian reality. In concrete terms, while such a cooperation increased only marginally the quantity of assistance reaching Haiti, it proved to add value to the provision and management of development aid because of its ability to better understand local conditions and needs, grasp internal processes, work on a peer-to-peer basis among states and flexibly transfer expertise with minimal or no conditionality. The case of the MINUSTAH illustrates well this point in terms of rebuilding social peace and channeling humanitarian aid more effectively.

Against this backdrop, the project perceived that the way the issue of Haiti emerged in Argentina’s public agenda did not duly make justice to its strategic relevance, reflecting the second-order priority of the question in policy-making circles and the scarce interest/knowledge of society at large. The reason was that the government decision of to cooperate through the envy of troops and the provision of technical assistance was basically grounded on short-term speculations (mainly the costs of not getting involved once Chile and Brazil had jumped in) rather than on a clear perception of what was at stake, i.e., a historical opportunity to build a new strategic architecture in the region based on closer, trusting relations (eventually a shared leadership) among the three Southern Cone countries. Furthermore, the decision to cooperate

A presidential decision in which deliberation was limited to a large extent to the closer circle of the President, whereas participation of, and debate by other key political actors, such as the Congress, was marginal. Decision-making on the issue was even closer for interested social actors, such as some NGOs working on human rights or human security. On top of all this, the decision about the actions to be undertaken was grounded on a very rudimentary and scattered knowledge both in the public sector and in relevant domains of society (the academy, social organizations concerned with the Haitian crisis, etc.) on several dimensions of Haiti's reality (culture, who is who in the local political game, etc.) crucial for an effective intervention. Summing up, the project considered that Argentina—like the other LAMICS—faced then a context granting a larger space for their active engagement in the search for solutions to situations of states on the verge of collapse and severe threats to democratic institutions in Latin America of which the case of Haiti was a critical instance to take advantage of that space and reap important gains (trust-building among and within countries, increasing leverage in strategic decision making in the region, revitalization of multilateralism in the hemisphere, improvement of the quality and scale of cooperation), provided that those countries' participation is effective enough.

With all the former in mind, this project proposed to work from the onset in two intertwined dimensions:

- In Argentina, the institutionalized production of knowledge about the Haitian situation, the dissemination of its results and the "sensibilization" of society on the issue;
- In Haiti, the generation/strengthening of local capacities to deal with its most critical political, economic and social problems.

This twofold concern was premised on the notions of "solidarity diplomacy" and "committed citizenship at the regional level".

In line with these concerns, the project supported in its first year research geared to reduce the knowledge deficit in Argentina to fully grasp the extremely severe political, economic and social crisis of Haiti as well as to identify policies and actions duly addressing this country's fundamental development priorities and needs. Specifically research efforts were place on existing major constraints and deficits, both in the Haitian political system (state apparatus, constitutional order and electoral rules, judicial system, historical legacy, etc.) and society (cultural traits, social structure, institutional legacies, etc.), for state-building and democratic consolidation with a view to identify the policy initiatives through which Argentina's participation could best contribute to address those problems; and on the characteristics, scope and evolution of ongoing Argentina's initiatives in support of Haiti's economic and social recovery as well as on new areas of cooperation in light of the conditions and structure of that country's economy and social fabric.

The devastating earthquake of January 2010 had significant implications for the development of the second part of the project. The catastrophe made even more urgent the need to further the process of (re)building the Haitian state, economic foundations and social fabric. Indeed, all the sudden, the improvement in security conditions achieved in the previous years seemed a drop in the ocean in the face of the tremendous magnitude of the reconstruction efforts ahead in a country which already had been facing for many years huge difficulties to put in place working

---

development efforts. While the situation asked for giant efforts (may be at an unexpected scale) from the international community on which the country continues to have a nearly total dependence, it also rapidly exposed deeper differences and cleavages among the main donors about how to best do it. The issue of aid effectiveness was at stake one more time and in a dramatic way. The situation was further complicated at the end of 2010 by the political tensions and stalemate stemming from the presidential elections to be held in March 2011.

To make things even more complex, signs already existed by late 2009 that LAMICs’ pattern of cooperation (in particular the ABC+U countries’) needed some fine-tuning in order to keep its standing as a differentiated, more propitious way to address Haiti’s extremely acute economic, social and political problems. Somehow ironically, the MINUSTAH epitomized such a need. Shortly put, notwithstanding its virtues, the MINUSTAH was showing constraints to expand –as expected and called for Preval’s government- its contribution to political, economic and social cooperation because several factors, namely, its restricted mandate, its lack of enough financial and human resources, its limited leverage to define goals and conditions of technical assistance and, overall, the Haitian government’s perception that it was not anymore the best vehicle for a development-centered cooperation effort. On top of this, LAMICs’ multidimensional intervention –targeting simultaneously internal security, human rights protection, political cohesion and stability, and sustainable economic development- was never able to overcome a quite severe coordination deficit; the ensuing result was the overlapping of initiatives and the urgent need of greater focalization of cooperation in areas of previous expertise as well as of the definition of fields or subjects for joint action through horizontal cooperation or cross cooperation with Northern countries. Furthermore, following the earthquake, some hesitancy arose in some of the partner countries –particularly Chile- on whether and in what way to keep abreast their cooperation commitment –within the setting of certain degree of paralysis or, at least, downscaling of ongoing actions.

In this context, Argentina –like the other LAMICs- faced by early 2010 the challenge to reinvigorate, fine-tune and align their cooperation actions in Haiti in order to raise their effectiveness and keep honing expertise that further nurture their contribution to Haiti’s political and socio-economic re-building. In this sense, while the gradual expansion of Argentina’s cooperation actions in Haiti since 2004 accounts for the progress and prospects for continuity in the donor-recipient relationship between the two countries, such an experience also yielded recently valuable insights for the design and implementation of its cooperation actions in the near future, namely, the relevance of keeping relying on context-sensitive diagnostic for understanding and pondering fundamental local factors (i.e., domestic policy priorities and implementation capacities) influencing the suitability and feasibility of actions; the convenience to reinforce –in face of limited financial contributions- a focused work agenda that is already having significant payoffs and greater legitimacy, as it matches Haitian needs with Argentine expertise/comparative advantages; the need to search for/generate more skilled public cadres in Haiti, with clear guidelines for interactions with their development counterparts; and the need to pooling expertise and skills from different sources (knowledge production institutions, sectorial public sector institutions, international organization and foundations, etc.) in order to meet the challenge of addressing some emerging opportunities for intervention that demand larger-scale efforts.

With the former in mind, the project attempted to stand up to these new challenges by fine-tuning it’s main working dimensions as follows:

- **In Haiti**, the production of policy-oriented, evidence-based knowledge on crucial issues for the country’s political and socio-economic development, and the generation/strengthening of local human resource and institutional capacities in fundamental development policy areas in which Argentina has proved expertise and which have been
already a central component of its ongoing cooperation actions in Haitian soil;

- In Argentina, the production of theoretical and applicable knowledge on the Haitian situation and on the emerging modalities of international cooperation and strengths and weaknesses of Argentina's and LAMIC's participation in them; the generation of an institutional, networked platform for the production of that knowledge and the development of upgraded skills in the field, and the dissemination of research results and the “sensibilization” of society on Haiti’s most critical problems.

In line with these somehow adjusted goals, the project supported in its second part knowledge production for improving policy options in development areas of Haiti whose key relevance has been further raised by the earthquake, capacity-building of Haiti’s mid-level public sector cadres to deal with key challenges stemming from the country’s international insertion, and the expansion of the stock of knowledge in Argentina on how to better play its cooperation role in Haiti as well as an emerging player in the present landscape of international cooperation more broadly. In concrete terms, this meant first to finish the initial phase of the knowledge-production and capacity building efforts on the conditions (resource, legal, managerial, etc.) for scaling up and upgrading existing agricultural production capacities in Haiti; second, to carry out the second exercise of training on the main traits and dynamics of today’s global context as well as on the major constraints and possibilities they pose for Haiti’s development; and third, to deepen research and discussion on the conceptual limitations regarding the nature, dynamics and modalities of SSC and their impact on its operational effectiveness.

In the last year, preliminary actions were also undertaken for strengthening knowledge-production on Haiti’s agriculture development with a focus on food security so that to ensure the proper transfer of knowledge and the generation of conditions for the long-term sustainability of the process of capacity-building in the field. In the same vein, exploratory actions were carried out to assemble a multi-stakeholder initiative geared to assist Haiti’s in the reconstruction of its university system. Finally, concrete steps were taken to organize a regional observatory on South-South cooperation which could serve as a platform for articulating still disperse research, teaching and technical assistance initiatives concerning development cooperation with Haiti and South-South cooperation more broadly.

All over the project, research conducted built on the findings of the project’s first phase as well as insights coming for exchange of ideas with involved IDRC officials at Montevideo –in particular when the need to fine-tune its content became apparent- and with the twin project’s in Chile and Uruguay. In this last sense, two different instances for exchanging findings and experiences were conducted with the Chilean and Uruguayan counterparts over the course of the project second and third year both on the reconstruction of Haiti as well as on the im;ications and lessons of development cooperation there for rethinking dominant approaches and practices on international cooperation at large. Concrete instances for the development of knowledge-building initiatives jointly with the Canadian North-South institute were also carried out with concrete outcomes.

Reinforcing the criteria followed in its first phase, the project’s research production kept involving the input and direct contribution of Argentine practitioners working on Haiti under the understanding that it is extremely difficult to generate new, meaningful knowledge on a country with the characteristics of Haiti without significant experience on the ground. The process of knowledge generation also sought to include systematically Haitian participation, both from its academic and policy community, in order to give due weight to the “local” perspective. Particular efforts to build small networks of key Haitian stakeholders were pursued quite successfully. The project kept also building bridges with Canadian research initiatives on Haiti in order to lay the ground for future collaborative work. At the same time, though the project was an integral part of a broader endeavor of strengthening the region’s contribution to the
reconstruction of Haiti through the consolidation of similar projects in the other LAMICs, it gave priority to the process of learning and consciousness-rising in Argentina without including, therefore, a network configuration with the other projects for knowledge production.

In addition to all the former, a series of activities geared to foster the dissemination of research products within relevant audiences (see Dissemination of Results/Outputs below) as well as to call the attention of public opinion about the scope and magnitude of Haitian problematic.

**KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION FINDINGS**

The project generated several relevant knowledge-production results over its three-year life cycle concerning key aspects of Haiti’s development problems and possibilities, the Argentine and ABC’s experience of cooperation in that country and, at a broader level, the challenges and prospects of the emerging patterns of South-South cooperation (SSC). The following are the most significant findings the project has delivered:

- As it might be expected, the key role of household agriculture in Haiti’s development prospects both because of its weight in the country’s economic profile/performance and its profound embeddedness in the country’s social fabric. In light of this, the need to make substantive progress to consolidate the role of household agriculture as a pillar of Haiti’s development because of cultural and social reasons; that is, it is key to develop a sustainable strategy of food security deeply rooted in Haiti’s cultural and legal traditions as well as based on collaborative forms of social management;

- Progress in this field is also crucial to obtain productivity gains that allow generating production surpluses to be traded, thus turning household agriculture into a source of income and not just of self-consumption. This is particularly relevant in the present Haitian context as the household agriculture pattern is being challenged by advocates (and emerging practices) of large-scale agricultural production precisely on grounds of the latter’s greater suitability to underpin market-oriented strategies; at the same time, various conditions of different kind (technological, legal, cultural, institutional, human resource endowment) need to be met for making this upgrading feasible and sustainable in the long run;

- The need to expand to all sectors of the Haitian state apparatus efforts to strengthen public officials’ understanding of the traits and working of the global economy, especially in view of the acute and persistent instability and uncertainty since the 2009 subprime financial crisis on and, more critically, of the increasing doubts about the health of its structural an institutional underpinnings —including of course the particular field on international cooperation. This is critical of course for the formulation of sound policies for Haiti’s insertion in the international economy premised on stronger links with Latin America (as it is called for in both academic and policy circles);

- Related to the former, the need to mobilize cooperation in the academic field —especially after the January 2010 earthquake— towards the reconstruction of Haiti’s superior education system (a strategic area from a long-term development view), with the involvement of Latin American universities as key driving agents of the process, working on a systematic basis with Haitian relevant partners;

- The need to deepen understanding of the multifaceted ways the problems of human-right promotion, protection and enforcement take place, especially concerning vulnerable social groups. In relation to this, the high value-added of building strategies for influencing the agenda in this subject and redressing the existing situation through the configuration of multi-stakeholder (national and international) networks firmly involving Haitian social actors working at the community level;
The weight of differences among ABC countries’ foreign policies and development strategies on the scarce (or null) coordination of their cooperation actions in Haiti, even when these overlap or might be easily articulated in technical and operational terms. It is still unclear in this sense—and therein an issue that calls for further examination—how UNASUR’s decision as a bloc to be more active regarding cooperation with Haiti might reduce the coordination deficit among ABC countries;

The still disperse and underdeveloped skills and expertise on international cooperation in general and with Haiti particularly in Argentina’s different fundamental institutional domains (public sector, civil society and academia), raising the strategic value of expanding local efforts to generate a critical mass of human resources and institutional capacities in the field. At the same time, the learning process Argentine agents involved in cooperation with Haiti have gone through concerning the way to approach it, improving implementation methodologies and practices and getting feedback to strengthen their forms of intervention (for instance, the value of “focalization” of initiatives and actions, the highly positive impact of generating local “multipliers” of proved development solutions, and the need to redesign the original programs nor just for their application in Haiti’s but also in Argentina and elsewhere);

There is still a long way to go in order to get a solid understanding of the distinguishing traits of South-South cooperation (and triangular forms of cooperation as well) vis-à-vis traditional forms of international aid, especially in view of the different ways (in scope, modality, focus, time span, etc.) in which SSC is being conducted in different developing regions (Latin America, Asia, Africa).

Haiti is a vivid case of the limits of traditional forms of North-South cooperation to effectively address fundamental development problems, particularly in contexts of extremely weak state capacities and scarce solid social counterparts.

In terms of the human resources, procedures and methodologies involved in the process of knowledge production, the project’s main contributions during the three years include:

i. Re-validation of the approach privileged since Project phase I granting high value to working across the usual divide between scholars and practitioners through the joint design, development and evaluation of initiatives;

ii. High value-added of the shift made in the project (vis-à-vis phase I) towards the development of activities in Haitian ground in terms of the quality and pertinence of the knowledge produced through a multi-stakeholder, locally-grounded approach favouring the joint work of scholars, practitioners and social actors in the conception and execution of initiatives as well as of enabling context-sensitive analysis and assessment of the factors affecting their design suitability and implementation effectiveness;

iii. High relevance of the emphasis on the production of applicable analytical outputs both with regards to policy content and institutional building and/or reengineering;

iv. Insights on new policy-oriented research priorities/needs for Argentina in order to define actions and policies geared to properly take advantage of the new windows for cooperation with Haiti, as well as much clearer understanding of the policy areas in which the country’s has comparative advantages for bilateral cooperation or should seek to articulate efforts with partners in the Southern Cone and in multilateral schemes of aid for development;

v. Relevance of the project’s flexibility for redefining research and capacity-building actions in light of the emergence of new priorities/needs/opportunities for Argentina’s (and LAMICs’) cooperation with Haiti, especially in the post earthquake context;

vi. High pay-offs for the implementation of the project’s initiatives from the development of informal networks with key strategic actors in different policy institutional domains (Haitian public sector, foreign diplomatic representations, international organizations) and fields of action (production, social services and organization, religion, etc.);

vii. The development of new talent for research and technical assistance concerning both
the specific issue of Argentina’s cooperation with Haiti and the broader thematic of international cooperation for development particularly from a SS perspective;
viii. The development of small but highly qualified networks of stakeholders from different domains (academia, government) in Haiti and Argentina with whom to work on the initiatives undertaken by the project to support Argentina’s cooperation in Haiti and on the agenda to get a better understanding of the actual configuration and the possibilities and limits to unfold of SSC.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

Activities during the three years were developed as set out in the Donation Agreement with some adjustments (further spelt out below) that were later made in the second and third year mainly as a result of the devastating earthquake of January 2010. The project thus focused on two main lines of actions: capacity building and consciousness-generation. Following is a detailed account of the main tasks carried out in each one of these lines of work and of the results obtained.

The capacity building line of work

Knowledge production and transfer in the areas of productive development, human rights and international relations was the crux of the project’s capacity building purpose. In the first two areas, the methodology selected was the constitution of a “small policy forum” (SPF) for each topic, which would deliver a report gathering the policy insights and recommendations generated through several rounds of deliberation.

In the area of productive development, the SPF focused its work on the identification of constraints (natural conditions, market organization, social habits, infrastructure, distribution circuits, institutional practices, etc.), opportunities and strategies for scaling up ongoing Argentina’s efforts to expand family agriculture on the basis in the Pro-Huerta Program into a larger-scale, more encompassing endeavor of agricultural production upgrading and food security. In doing so, the report had to consider the role that international cooperation at large and the regional dimension (the Caribbean Basin and particularly the Dominican Republic) might play regarding this development challenge. The SPF conducted a preparatory meeting in July 2009 and a first full meeting in November of the same year; the second full meeting took place in July 2010 and the final one in November that year. The SPF work was framed through agreement FLACSO-Haiti’s National Council on Food Security (CNSA), institution that hosted all the SPH events. The group gathered about 20 experts from different institutional domains, namely, the Haitian CNSA, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Planning, officials from Argentina’s Instituto Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria (INTA, which runs the Pro-Huerta Program), representatives from the Instituto Iberoamericano de Cooperación Agrícola (IICA) and the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) in Haiti, and members of farmer associations. It is important to note that the January 2010 earthquake did not halted plans in this area but, to the contrary, the work agenda was ratified as experts and the government singled out agricultural development/food security as one of the key areas into any scheme of Haiti’s recovery. The SPF’s final output was a report providing a diagnostic and policy guidelines on the issues at stake, including the role that international cooperation at large and key regional players (the Caribbean Basis and particularly the Dominican Republic) might play regarding this development challenge. The report was delivered to the Haitian authorities with stakes on the issue. In this way the project met its goal of generating an institutional space in Haitian soil, able to pool specialized expertise and disciplinary knowledge in order to come out with concrete, politically workable and appropriable policy proposals in a key Haitian development area.
In the area of human rights, the SPF developed its activities in the second half of 2009, gathering three times on October 28th, and November 5th and 9th in which specific topics were addressed, namely, the gender dimension in public policies, women political rights, and memory and human rights. The first of these meetings was co-organized with the Argentine Embassy in Haiti, received the support of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Planning of that country, and gathered about 25 young officials from all over the country involved mostly in rural development (synergies with the activity of the SPF on agricultural development was sought in this sense). The second had the auspice of the Ministry of the Female Condition and Woman Rights (MCFDF) of Haiti and the Representation of UNIFEM in that country, convened around 60 women from different institutional ambits (mostly woman movements and community organizations) and its deliberations focused on the design of strategies for the ratification of the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against woman (CEDAW) in Haiti.

The third meeting, organized with the support of the Pierre Charles Foundation (CRESFED) and the Argentine Secretariat of Human Rights of the Ministry of Justice, gathered close to 30 members of Haitian human right organizations and focused on the issue of creating institutional capacities, particularly in the public sector, to keep record of human right violation and abuse experiences as a platform for political action geared to strengthen democratic practices. This particular event had a broad coverage of the local media as well as the support of the Dominican Republic and Cuba's embassies. A report gathering the main policy recommendations of the meetings was handled to the Haitian public agencies with stakes on the issues.

In sum, both fora worked as quite successful emergent institutional spaces in Haitian soil, pooling highly specialized expertise and disciplinary knowledge in order to come out with concrete, politically workable, policy proposals to deal with critical issues for Haiti's economic and political development.

In the area of international relations the methodology adopted was different, along the more traditional lines of a training course aimed at institutional strengthening and capacity building for policy making. The program was developed during the second half of 2009 in order to be offered from December 2009 to December 2010 and drew on the support of the Haitian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cult as well as of the State University of that country. Its design combined training/transfer activities and comprised five modules addressing various specific topics of Haiti's international agenda. Each module was to be coordinated by an Argentine expert and would include a Haitian counterpart responsible for organizing activities in that country. About 60 people, mostly officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs but also from other state agencies with stakes on the issues, had already been selected by December 2009. The introductory module was conducted in that month but the development of the rest of the Program was suspended after the January earthquake in order to concentrate the project's efforts on high-priority areas for the country's reconstruction. This decision was discussed in a meeting convened by IDRC Regional Office for Latin America in February 2010 for assessing the situation of IDRC sponsored projects on Haiti. It was also agreed in that opportunity to reconsider the situation again by mid 2010 when the decision to carry out the second module of the training program in November that year was made. This module was conducted again with the support of the Haitian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cult as well as of the State University of that country. Assembling this module was decided in response to the demand of the new Haitian authorities that replace the officials, which died in the natural disaster. According to the original design, the module focused on Latin American international politics and regional cooperation and integration. About 30 people, mostly officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs but also from other state agencies with stakes on the issues (Secretariat of Trade, Ministry of Planning, etc.) took part of the course. In May 2011 conversations were initiated with the new authorities at the Ministry of Foreign Relations to agree on the implementation of the remaining module of the course during 2011/early 2012; however, because of the repeated delays to set up the new government, such an implementation never took off.
In addition to the above activities, the project produced knowledge through research on the current traits of international cooperation, in particular the meaning and prospects of relatively novel trends such as South-South and North-South-South cooperation, of which Haiti is a still an embryonic expression and vivid laboratory. The goal of this work was to extend the research work started in Project I on the implications of the Haitian case in terms of state (re)building for future South-South cooperation, particularly among Southern Cone or ABC countries within Latin America. Research sought, therefore, to provide inputs –from the perspective of recipient and new donor countries- for the debate underway on the redefinition of traditional patterns of international cooperation, its scope and meaning and the scenarios likely to unfold in this domain in the medium to long term. The production of two papers on these issues during the whole project was committed in the Donation Agreement as well as the dissemination of those research products in international conferences and by other means.

Research production and dissemination on the above issue went well beyond, however, original commitments. Indeed, nine papers were elaborated during the life of the project, tripling the total output originally expected, several of which were published in refereed journals and books. Unlike in the first stage of the project, when most of the research work was prepared by external consultants hired ad-hoc, the strategy in this phase was to produce mostly "in house" (i.e., by the project research staff) in order to strengthen and consolidate the critical mass of local research capacities the first stage had started to generate. This was particularly relevant in view that promising young scholars were part of the project human resource endowment. One of these papers –published in the last 2012 issue of the Journal of Peacekeeping and Development (JPS)- was a joint production with the Director of the Chilean project on cooperation with Haiti, a Brazilian researcher and a researcher from the Canadian North-South Institute. It reflected the fruits of networking and collaboration efforts undertaken since the beginning of the project.

The project was able to get some additional financial support (from Fundación Carolina from Spain and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Argentina) to develop a couple of these research papers. Furthermore, during the first year the project was also able to get support from the UNDP Argentina to expand research on international cooperation for development and to organize an international event on the subject that was originally planned for late 2009 but was postponed for mid 2010. Indeed, the organization of the international seminar "What We Talk About when We Talk of South-South and Triangular Cooperation? Insights from the Comparative Experience in Latin America, Asia and Africa", was held in Buenos Aires in August 30th and 31st 2010 with the support of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Argentina and the Chilean IDRC sponsored project on Haiti. The meeting convened about 25 experts from different countries (Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Colombia, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Spain, Japan, and South Africa) who exchanged ideas on the current situation and prospects of both SS and NSS cooperation in light of the experience underway in different regions of the developing world as well as on how these trends are expressing in Haiti. There was agreement among scholars and policy-makers attending the meeting about not just the high quality of discussions but also the extremely propitious setting the meeting provided for an open and deep exchange of ideas. The meeting laid the ground for exploring the organization of new instances of the debate that materialized in the following months.

In addition to the above meeting, the presentation of most of this work was made in different seminar and workshops concerning development cooperation: the XXI IPSA Congress (Santiago de Chile, in July 2009) --where the project co-organized a panel with its counterparts in Chile and Uruguay and the Canadian North-South Institute on the ABC countries cooperation in Haiti; the Second Latin-American Congress on Social Sciences FLACSO (Mexico DF, May 2010); the XXIX International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) “Crisis, Response, and Recovery” (Toronto, October 2010); the V Latin American Congress of Political Science
"Integration, Diversity and Democracy in Time of the Bicentennial" organized by the Project (Buenos Aires, Argentina July 2010); the ECPR – IPSA Joint Conference "Whatever happened to North-South?" (Sao Paulo, Brazil, February 2011); and the international seminar "Relações Sul-Sul: Coalizões Políticas e Cooperação para o Desenvolvimento" (Rio de Janeiro, June 13 2011), among the most important.

Finally, progress was also made in the component of human resource development in the field of international cooperation, namely, the design and implementation of a graduate program on international cooperation for development. During the first year, the project team carried out a review of the teaching offer in the field existing in the country and in Latin America in order to assess whether there is a need for such an endeavor and it would be feasible/sustainable, and, if so, its specific content, format and provision modality. As a result, a report was made by April 2009 indicating that there is an important gap between an increasing demand for a more specific and professional training resulting essentially from the larger role LAMICs are playing in the regional (and global) dynamics of international cooperation (under SS or triangular arrangements) and a still underdeveloped offer in the region. Moreover, there is also evidence that such a demand cannot be properly filled by most existing graduate programs in developed countries as they are usually framed within the traditional North-South canvass.

In response to these findings, the project’s prepared team very preliminary design of the program by the end of 2009 with the following criteria in mind: a. The adoption of a Latin American perspective, i.e., from the region needs and giving due consideration to actual resources and possibilities; b. Emphasis on the development dimension of cooperation as well as on the provision of skills geared to strengthen institutional capacity and coordination; c. The generation of a regional multi-stakeholder (policy-makers, scholars and social actors) platform for interaction around international cooperation issues; and d. The combination of conceptual/theoretical knowledge with a strong practical orientation through the provision of skills for interdisciplinary work, problem solving and task coordination.

This was not, however, the final result of the process. During the second year, further analysis was conducted to evaluate the program’s profile and scope in order to determine in particular its degree level (i.e., specialization, master) and, taking into account that an important part of the potential students would come from other Latin American countries, the virtual delivery of its courses. Additional “market evaluation” findings suggested to adjust the initial perceptions about the magnitude of demand by showing that, whereas the teaching offer in this subject was underdeveloped in Argentina and other Latin American countries, actual demand -while increasing- was not as large as to justify the development of a master-level training initiative from the scratch. Some further adjustments and refinement in the original design were thus made concerning the program profile, degree level and delivery modality: the program would eventually start as a high-quality graduate certificate to be mostly virtually delivered.

With this in mind, during the third year, the project team explored the possibility of developing this teaching initiative in collaboration with some of the other IDRC sponsored projects on Haiti. Progress was made in this regard with the Chilean project. Indeed, in conversations held with that project’s Director in November 2011, an initial agreement was struck to connect the initiative with the MD in Political Science and International Relations of the Catholic University of Chile, which includes a module on peace and international cooperation. This agreement built on the idea of bringing the two parties’ different but complementary assets (plus the contribution from the University of Waterloo with whom the Chilean project was already working in a similar direction) in order to design a graduate level (possibly a Specialization Degree in Cooperation for Development) offer mainly targeted to Latin American countries if a III Phase of both projects eventually were to take place.

In addition to all the former, during the third year the project made progress regarding future
activities to be developed in an eventual third phase. The guiding criteria to that end were focalization in a couple of initiatives of high priority for Haiti's development, deepening of the work the project had been doing in previous years and stronger collaboration with IDRC projects in Chile and Uruguay. In keeping with this purpose, the SPF on productive development ignited suggestions for additional capacity-building initiatives on agricultural production with a drive to strengthen the skills of the Haitian practitioners in that policy area. In line with this, the project started to work on the preliminary design of a training initiative that builds upon education assets of FLACSO Argentina, specifically the Master Degree in Human Development and the Master Degree In Agrarian Social Studies. The idea would be to provide a virtual or semi-virtual program first to the Haitian engineers and technicians working in the implementation of the INTA Pro Huerta in Port-au-Prince and, in a second phase, to other practitioners in the field. The initiative made substantial progress to convey support from the governments of Argentina (concretely, the Secretariat of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Relations), from the Technical Secretariat of UNASUR and would involve technical assistance from the INTA and would have the CNSA, the Haitian Ministry of Agriculture and the Observatory of Social Development (OMPES) as main partners in Haiti. Support for the initiative got a big push during the visit of the project's Director to Haiti last November, when concrete and highly productive talks were carried out to move forwards regarding its design, scope and potential financial support.

As a result, the project's team elaborated a very preliminary draft of the training program during the last months of the project's current cycle. This draft proposes a program with a semi-virtual format, combining electronic delivered courses with integration seminars in Haiti. It is thought train 80/100 people in a two-year period, targeting mainly the so-called “promoters” and assistants of Pro-Huerta Haiti but other people related to the issue or agricultural policies and practitioners as well (for instance officials from the Ministry of Agriculture or the National Commission of Food Security [CNSA]). The approach of the program is to provide trainees an integral and multidisciplinary perspective of agricultural development with a strong emphasis on its social implications and collective efficient management. FLACSO Argentina will provide most of the expertise required for delivering such a program through the involvement of four of its research and teaching programs, namely, Human Development, Agrarian Social Studies, Participative Planning and Associate Management, and Development, Innovation and Society. Participation of experts from other Argentine universities (Universidad Nacional de La Plata [UNLP] and Universidad Nacional de San Martín [UNSAM]), from INTA and from the Haitian academic community is also thought. The program also foresees to generate facilities that will be kept as physical assets for future virtual training or related activities, as five training centers will have to be assembled for delivering the program, one in each of the departments that allow access and the use of the virtual platform.

Similarly, during the third year progress was also made regarding the preparation of activities for in the reconstruction of the Haitian university education system. The initiative in this case was taken by the Project direction on the basis of the expertise previously gained on the working of the Haitian University System as well as of the experience of networking with Haiti's higher-education scholars and officials -various of which expressed a strong interest in it as part of the huge efforts of reconstruction ahead. The initiative has also gotten the support of Argentina's government and of the Haitian State University (HSU). Moreover, the government of Dominican Republic expressed a strong interest in it, as pointed out by the President Leonel Fernández himself during a meeting held in late April with the Project Director and scholars from other FLACSO branches. Succinctly, the core of the proposal would be that FLACSO Argentina coordinates a web of universities from the region, which would pool expertise and resources to assist education and university authorities in Haiti. During the trip of the project's Director to Haiti in last November the initiative was discussed with authorities of the HSU and of the Ministry of Education, being received with great enthusiasm. In case the initiative prospers, the project will seek the collaboration of the IDRC sponsored project in Chile to get the
involvement of the Catholic University of that country that hosts the Chilean project.

Finally, during the last year of the project a new line of action geared to the development of a regional, multi-stakeholder observatory on South-South cooperation to be hosted in Argentina was started to be prepared. The idea was born as a way to continue the knowledge production work on SSC underway within the framework of the project through the creation of an institutional platform to gather information, monitor and compare ongoing experiences across different regions. The Argentine government and the UNDP office in the country received very well the initiative and, in the process of exchanging ideas about its profile and scope, the UNDP Special Unit on SSC at New York became interested and manifested its willingness to commit financial support for its development. The Project team prepared a preliminary proposal that comprises three main lines of work, namely, theoretical and conceptual analysis, production of policy-oriented information and technical inputs on current practices (especially success cases), and human resource development. This last line of work would serve to anchor the work the Project has been doing for the development of a graduate program in international cooperation for development. At the moment of writing this report, this initiative has been approved by the UN system and is waiting by the “clearance” of the new authorities of the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Argentina, which took their position last February.

The chart that follows summarizes the progress reached in the project work plan at the end of the first, second and third year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRST YEAR</th>
<th>Stage of Development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Issues-area</strong></td>
<td><strong>Productive development</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPF preparatory meeting conducted;</td>
<td>SPF 1st and 2nd deliberation meetings conducted;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft of the policy report elaborated;</td>
<td>SPF third meeting scheduled for June 2010 and final meeting for November 2010;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final report expected to be concluded in April 2011.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Human rights</strong></td>
<td>SPF meeting on the gender dimension in public policy conducted;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPF meeting on woman political rights conducted;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPF on memory and human rights conducted;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final report concluded and expected to be delivered to Haitian authorities.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>International relations</strong></td>
<td>Introductory module of the training course conducted;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining modules suspended.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>International cooperation for development</strong></td>
<td>One discussion paper on debates on IAD concluded;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One discussion paper on the lessons from Haiti for South-South cooperation concluded;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One discussion paper on Argentina’s cooperation with Haiti in the field of intellectual property rights concluded;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One paper on the political dimension of cooperation with Haiti concluded;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One paper on the economic structural conditions in Haiti concluded;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One paper on the prospects for agricultural development.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Human resource development in international cooperation
- Production in Haiti concluded;
  - One discussion paper on the meaning of the OECD notion of IAD for understanding SSC concluded;
  - One discussion paper on international aid and the future of Haiti concluded.
- Assessment of the need and sustainability of the development of a graduate level study program on IC concluded;
- Preliminary design of the program prepared and introductory seminary delivered.

### SECOND YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issues-area</th>
<th>Stage of Development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Productive development</td>
<td>• SPF 3rd and 4th deliberation meetings conducted in July and November 2010;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International relations</td>
<td>• Second seminar of the Training Program conducted in November 2010;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International cooperation for development including the Haitian situation</td>
<td>• One paper on Latin America and the reconstruction of Haiti concluded;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• One paper on the debates about international aid for development concluded;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• One paper on the conceptual problems of SSC and insights from the current experience in the field concluded;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• One paper on the challenges for SSC in Latin American with a focus on the ABC countries’ experience in Haiti concluded;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• One paper on the challenges Haiti poses for SSC concluded.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### THIRD YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issues-area</th>
<th>Stage of Development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Productive development</td>
<td>• Preliminary design of a training program on agricultural development and food security prepared and discussed with Haitian counterparts;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebuilding Haiti’s state</td>
<td>• Preliminary design of a technical assistance initiative for strengthening Haiti’s University system in the field of social sciences prepared and discussed with Haitian counterparts;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International cooperation for development including the Haitian situation</td>
<td>• Preliminary design of a SSC Observatory in Argentina prepared and discussed with UNDP and Argentine authorities;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• One paper on the lessons of cooperation in Haiti for SSC concluded;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• One paper on the possibilities and limits of the ABC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
During its second phase, the Project deepened efforts previously started to strengthen links with a Canadian institution for collaboration on knowledge production and dissemination. A researcher from the North-South Institute was invited to participate in the panel convened and organized by the project on the experience in Haiti and its implications for South-South Cooperation at the XXI IPSA Congress held in Santiago de Chile in July 2009. In that opportunity the panel allowed a very thoughtful discussion about the issue at stake but also laid the ground for deepening cooperation with the Canadian counterpart. Indeed, it was agreed then on the joint organization of two panels in the International Congress of LASA, Toronto October 2010, on the peacekeeping and development dimensions of international cooperation in Haiti that did not materialized due to coordination problems with the Congress authorities. In addition to this project and the North-South institute the initiative was sought to include the IDRC sponsored project in Chile and Uruguay and scholars from Brazil and other Canadian academic institutions. The upshot of all this was the co-edited special issue on international cooperation in Haiti published by the JPS in which, in addition to the edition work, the project contributed with the ABC case.

Finally, the project kept its practice of fostering the participation and development of young scholars and researchers. Two young scholars, one from Spain and the other from Colombia have requested to get involved as interns to assist in research and dissemination tasks. They temporarily joint the young scholars permanently involved in the Project team (see Project Administration below). Additionally, the project also hosted a young Haitian scholar that came to Argentina for a semester to conduct research on international cooperation in Haiti, to whom the project tutored his MD thesis on the role of MINUSTAH.

**The Consciousness-generation line of work**

In keeping with the purpose already set in the first phase of the project to “sensibilize” the Argentina public opinion in general and key political and social actors in particular about Haiti’s severe economic, social and political strains and the need to get the country involved in the search for solutions (aspect in which Project Phase I made the weakest progress), the actions undertaken during the project include:

1. The organization of a work breakfast on the Haitian situation in August 2009 gathering policy and political actors from different institutional ambits (Ministry of Foreign Relations, INTA, political parties with strong interest in the country’s foreign policy, etc.). The impressions on Argentina’s cooperation efforts obtained by the project Director from his visit to Haiti in July that year as well as, more specifically, the opportunity for Argentina to play an increasingly important role regarding food security were the mains subjects of discussion;

2. The organization during the first two years of the project of one-to-one or small meetings between the Project Director and Coordinator with representatives of different social organizations mostly working on the human right and gender fields (Servicio de Paz y Justicia, SERPAJ, Centro de Derechos Humanos “Emilio Mignone” of the Universidad de Quilmes). The task had some concrete pay-offs as it was possible to draw on some of
these organizations highly qualifies human resources (vg. María Sondereguer, Director of the Emilio Mignone Center) for the activities on human rights and gender the project carried out in Haiti. During the second year, this practice was extended through the organization of three one-to-one or small meetings between the Project Team and representatives of social organizations and foundations working in the environmental and social technology fields (Fundación Argentina de Recursos Naturales, FARN; Universidad de Quilmes, Social Technology Program; and the Argentine Branch of Avina Foundation) in order to explore possibilities of gathering their participation and contribution in future steps of the project.

3. The submission of proposals to present the project’s research products in national and international academic events. This has been particularly the case of the papers on the ABC countries’ cooperation with Haiti and its implications for furthering the role of these countries in the reconfiguration of international cooperation for development. As mentioned before, these papers were presented at various international academic seminars and workshops as well as in events involving mostly policy-makers and practitioners such as the high-level meeting on SSC and Haiti organized by the Secretariat of Foreign Relations of the Mexican government and the Center for International Studies of El Colegio de México (Mexico DF, September 2009);

4. As part of the development of strategy for penetrating the media (see Dissemination of Results/Products below) an agreement was reached with the newspaper Página 12 to co-finance the trip of a journalist to Haiti to know first-hand and on the ground Argentina’s cooperation initiatives as well as to take record of the activities carried out by the project. The trip took place in November 2009, when the project was developing its capacity-building SPW on human rights and gender. Página 12 published a series of articles reflecting the experience of the trip as well as the situation of Haiti in the months of November and December that year. During 2010, the project produced a brief on the experience of Argentina to help Haiti cope with cholera through its programs of household agriculture that was published in the New Agriculturist from the UK Department for International Development (DFID) by the end of that year. Additionally, in the same spirit of penetrating the media, the Project agreed with the highly prized cable TV program Realidad Latinoamericana to make a presentation of its involvement in support of Argentina’s cooperation with Haiti and the main results obtained. Finally, at the moment of writing this report, the project Direction is holding conversation with the Latin American edition of Le Monde Diplomatique to produce a special dossier on SSC cooperation with a particular focus on the work of the project in support of Argentina’s participation in Haiti’s reconstruction efforts.

5. The circulation of the project’s research products in different institutional circles (academia, policy-making agencies, social organizations, etc.) with stakes on the issue of Haiti (see Project Output and Dissemination below).

6. The organization of a work breakfast in October 2010, as a follow-up of the August international seminar on SSC, with members of the Ministry of Foreign Relations (particularly the Secretariat of International Cooperation), the Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Social Development INTA to exchange ideas on the post-earthquake Haitian situation and potential new lines of collaboration. As a result, the possibility of organizing a visit of Haitian public sector cadres to know different experiences in Argentina that could be useful to tackle Haitian problems was being discussed at the moment of writing this report. This visit took place in October 2011, when public officials from the Ministries of Agriculture and Social Issues of Haiti came for a week to Argentina to see “in situ” different Argentine programs in the field of agricultural production (the Pro-Huerta in
7. Towards its end, the project started to work to capitalize previous efforts to disseminate the situation of Argentina's cooperation with Haiti as well as to "sensibilize" the Argentine public opinion in general and key political and social actors in particular about the humanitarian significance, political relevance and geopolitical implications of Argentina's commitment with the search for solutions to the Haitian problems as well as the strategic value of deeper cooperation among the LAMICs so that to increase its incidence in policy-making circles. More specifically, the idea would be to tap on the standing and recognition its has achieved during its second phase as a source of new ideas, policy-relevant knowledge products, effective stakeholder articulation and action implementation in the field, to increase its proactivity and leverage in the process agenda setting for Argentina's cooperation in Haiti. In this sense, two main institutional domains were single out as the most important targets: at the domestic level, the Secretariat of International Cooperation within the Ministry of Foreign Relations, with which a working relation has already been established on a peer-to-peer basis to the point that the project is the only no public-sector department that sits at the small table where cooperation strategies and actions with Haiti are discussed and defined; at the regional level, the Technical Secretariat of the UNASUR, with which the project Director has established a direct channel of communication and is acting in practice as a person of the direct consult of the Director of that Secretariat.

DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS/PRODUCTS

The project pursued various courses of action to further its visibility as the unique research initiative in Argentina geared to improve understanding of Haiti’s political, social and economic problems and the way international cooperation may contribute to deal with them, to ensure an effective diffusion of its products/results and to achieve a significant outreach. Stated synthetically, these include:

- The expansion of contacts made so far with Argentine public officials, scholars and civil society actors with stakes in cooperation with Haiti in order to get them acquainted with the project’s unfolding and results, and their involvement and feedback when requested. These contacts focused on high- and mid-level rank officials and, in addition to the existing links with the Ministries of Foreign Relations, they included the Ministries of Finance, of Justice, of Social Development and of Science, Technology and Production Innovation engaged in Argentina’s cooperation in Haiti, senior researchers and NGOs’ managers from the organizations mentioned above (see The Consciousness Generation Line of Work). This effort allowed the project to maintain a roster of about forty people from those domains interacting quite directly and on a regular basis with the project;

- The enlargement of the number of members of international organizations and cooperation agencies within the outreach of the project. To the ones already contacted in the previous phase (such as the Inter-American Development Bank, [IADB], the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, the Secretaría General Iberoamericana [SEGIB], the Organization of American States [OAS], the United Nations Development Program [UNDP], UNICEF) and cooperation agencies from developed countries (particularly Spain and Canada), during the first year there were added some other organizations from the UN system (UNIFEM and UNFPA), Southeast Asia (the Japanese International Cooperation Agency, [JICA]), Scandinavia (the Norway Institute for Peace) and Latin America (Corporación Andina de Fomento [CAF] and UNASUR.

- More concretely, in terms of dissemination of results, the actions were carried were:
- The distribution of electronic versions of the discussion papers among national and foreign scholars, policy-makers and civil society members directly involved in, or concerned with the issues the project addresses, to other socio-political and civil society actors with stakes in the issue, such as legislators, interest groups and private sector members, and to scholars and policy-makers not directly involved in the issue but working in related topics/areas of government. The geographical scope of distribution achieved in the first phase of the project (Latin America, North America and Europe) was extended to Southeast Asia in the first year and Africa, in the second. Here, relevant stakeholders were identified as a result of both the Project members’ involvement in international events and an additional effort to identify pertinent contacts was undertaken. In this way, it was possible to keep a fluid exchange of ideas and feedback on the project’s products as well as its activities and initiatives;

- A permanent hands-on effort to maintain the project’s website (redesigned in the first year and under analysis for a further redesign at the moment of writing this report) as a useful, dynamic and appealing vehicle of information, analysis and “sensibilization” on the Haitian reality. This essentially meant a daily task of updating all the website sessions with information and products of the project and essential information/data on the political, social, economic and cultural reality of Haiti. In this way, it is fair to say that the Project was able to maintain the differentiated profile and the standing of the website as:

  - The unique website from Argentina providing general and specific information on Haiti in an ordered, functional and interactive way and granting easy access to the general public and specialists and practitioners on the issue;

  - A vehicle for:
    - “Sensibilizing” the virtual community on life conditions and its main causes in Haiti and on the need to contribute to alleviate those conditions and eventually to foster the development of that country within the framework of South-South and triangular cooperation schemes;
    - Bolstering this project as an experience of South-South collaboration for knowledge production and consciousness-raising on the Haitian problematic;
    - Establishing a communication bridge with civil society organizations from Argentina and other developing countries interested in cooperating for Haiti’s development;
    - Contributing to the academic and policy debate on Haiti’s reconstruction and on the participation of Southern Cone countries in such an endeavor by providing inputs for analysis and decision-making and a space for the exchange of information and ideas;
    - Providing a daily follow up of the Haitian situation and disseminate updated information on Argentina’s participation through interactive tools, personalized interviews and any other relevant news about the country’s involvement in Haiti; and
    - Providing updated information about the different dimensions of cooperation (diplomatic, military, economic, social and cultural) for Haiti’s reconstruction.

- The visits of the project Director to Haiti in May and September 2009, July 2010, and July and November 2011 were other means to get the project known and disseminate its activities and outputs by interacting with key Haitian policy-makers, scholars, diplomatic representatives, cooperation projects’ chief staff and civil society’s activists. This had particular value in the post earthquake situation as large part of the contacts in Haiti had to be rebuilt because they were lost on the earthquake.
As committed in the Donation Agreement and planned by the end of the first year, the Project concluded the development of a composite index to keep track and assess its outreach and the way its products fit knowledge and/or policy needs (in addition to the practice already in course of keeping record of the number of hits in its website as well of the geographical and institutional sources from where these hits come). This index includes two parts: a record of requests for the project's products as well as their magnitude and sources, particularly from people that have not been targeted, discriminated by professional field and geographical origin; and an information matrix on stakeholders’ assessment of the project’s products and the use they make of them (information, consultation, reference, input for decision-making, and the like). At the moment of writing this report, the first set of data covering the information gathering in the last quarter of 2011 was being processed.

**PROJECT ADMINISTRATION**

During the first year, as the project increased its magnitude with regards to its first phase due to the increase of both research activities and the design and implementation of a graduate-level education program was included, some changes in the project staff's composition and work organization were made. A junior female with a MA in International Relations was incorporated to the team formed during the first phase integrated by Valentín Thury Cornejo as Project Coordinator, Bernabé Malacalza as research assistant and Mercedes Esperón as administrative assistant. As for the reorganization, a sort of (very flexible) division of labor was established by which the Project Director and Bernabé were more focused on the research line of work while Valentín and Blanca on the educational dimension. This allowed a quite effective working of the team in the management of the increasing workload.

During the second year of the project, the staff composition and work organization were kept, as they proved highly efficient to manage the project's workload. The staff was quite proactive to impulse the project’s development through the search for new options of networking, research funding and dissemination. Just like in the first year, the Project Director and the research and management assistant (Bernabé) were more focused on the research line of work while the Project’s Coordinator (Valentín) and the Teaching Initiative Assistant (Blanca) on the educational dimension.

Notwithstanding this well functioning some changes were introduced by the end of the second year, delineating a new project staff that was kept up to the end of the project’s life. The move was prompted by the decision to assign new responsibilities to the up-to-then Project Coordinator in FLACSO’s Development, Innovation and Society Program [PRODIS] that hosts the project. The project Director decided in parallel not to incorporate a new person to work as a coordinator but to increase the coordination responsibilities of both Bernabé and Blanca in recognition of the increasing research and management skills and expertise they have acquired during the first and second phases of the project. Should the project continue into a third phase, the need to incorporate some additional human resource to the project will be reevaluated in light of the magnitude of the new work agenda.

During these three years the Project staff’s workload has involved both strategic issues and diverse piecemeal tasks that can be roughly summarize as follows:
Providing overall strategic orientation, ensure progress according to pace and direction and foresee, as much as possible, new opportunities and requirements;
Periodic discussions on how to improve the management of the network;
Periodic discussions on knowledge-production priorities, drawing information from both primary and secondary data sources;
Periodic discussions on the development of teaching activities, including the search for the professors to be involved;
Coordinating the overall production and dissemination of outputs, exploring innovative forms of outreach, and overseeing the implementation of these tasks;
Mapping out alternative sources of funding to support or expand the project’s activities and preparing projects for submission for additional funding, including the contacts with researchers and pertinent officials;
Identifying and contacting the target recipients of the project’s products;
Revision of documents employed in the management of the project (e.g., contracts, terms of reference, etc.);

In keeping with the purpose of strengthening the profile of the project as a differentiated endeavor in Latin American for knowledge-production and information brokering on Haiti’s complex situation and Argentina’s effective cooperation as well as on the current dynamics and prospects for SSC, the project sought successfully to:

- Expand the number of links established during its first phase with specialized national/regional/hemispheric/international institutions with a view to jointly work on specific themes and/or develop institution-building activities. To the cases of the OAS within the region, of the North-South Institute in Canada, and of AECI and SEGIB in Spain, were the most significant during the first year, the UNDP and the National Agency for Scientific and Technological Innovation in Argentina, and CLACSO at the regional level during the second year, and UNDP New York, Oxfam Haiti and UNASUR during the project’s last year.

- Deepen collaboration with the other IDRC’s sponsored projects on Haiti, particularly the Chilean and Uruguayan ones, for the development of joint efforts on research, teaching and dissemination. During the period covered by this report, this has resulted in the organization of a panel in the XXI IPSA Congress at Santiago de Chile in July 2009 (see Project Management and Implementation above), the support of the Chilean project to the organization of August 2010 International Conference on SSC, the organization of a joint panel in the LASA Congress held at Toronto in October 2010, the co-writing of a paper on ABC countries cooperation with Haiti and the elaboration of a joint training initiative on international cooperation for development (see The Capacity Building Line of Action above). Conversations with the Directors of both the Chilean and Uruguay projects were held during the last months of 2011 and the first months the current year to jointly develop research, technical assistance and incidence-seeking actions in an eventual third phase of the projects.

- The search of additional sources of funding either to support the expansion of activities originally planned in the project document. This are the cases with the support committed by UNDP in Argentina for an amount of US$ 35,000 for the preparation of a scoping paper on South-South Cooperation in Latin American from a comparative perspective and the organization of an International Seminar on that issue over the course of 2010 as well as by Fundación Carolina for an amount of US$ 18,000 from September 2011 to April 2012 to do research field and write and extensive paper/report on success cases of SSC in Latin American as part of a broader comparative project including Africa and Asia.

As for the execution of the budget, it was met quite closely with regards to the original
previsions. Overall, the total budget originally agreed may be deemed adequate to carry out the
tasks and activities required to fully meeting the general and specific goals of the project,
although the adjustments and expansion of the project schedule and content, and in particular
the fact that the bulk of activities were carried out in Haiti, suggests that the budget somehow
ran a little short for carrying out the activities actually implemented.

Finally, as it happened since the initial phase of the Project, support from IDRC (particularly
from the Regional Office at Montevideo) was highly and constructive. It took place in several
ways, among them, the permanent availability and predisposition on the part of the Regional
Office Director, Federico Burone, and his Executive Assistant, Maria Scherschener, to exchange
ideas about different facets of the project, provide valuable recommendations and support for
its timely and sound implementation as well as circulating valuable information about Haiti-
related issues. This was particularly valuable during 2010, as considerable uncertainty over the
best course the Project should follow emerged more than once in the face of the dramatic
situation resulting from the huge earthquake of January that year.