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# Current State of the Higher Education System in Haiti

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# Summary

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  - Panorama of Haiti HES before 1990
  - Situation of the system from 1990's
- II Current state after the earthquake
- III Vision for rebuilding
- IV General conclusion

# I. The antecedents: Haiti HES before 1990

- Some historical elements about the HHES - Before the 90's :
  - One single University, the state University of Haiti (SUH)
  - Some vocational schools
- The SUH build in a non-orthodox way → at the beginning no idea of creating a university. Simple agglomeration of schools independant one from another
  - Academie Royale (Royaume de Christophe : Health, Pharmacy, Arts) : 1815;
  - Law school : 1860
  - School of Medicine: 1861
  - School of Applied Sciences : 1902
  - National School of Agriculture ; 1924
  - School of Dentistry : 1926
  - Ecole Normale Superieur: 1947
  - Faculte d'Ethnologie: 1961
  - Institut National d'Administration, de Gestion et des Hautes Etudes Internationales (INAGHEI): 1961
  - Faculte de Sciences Humaines : 1973
  - Faculte de Linguistique Appliquee:1978
  - Institut d'Etudes et de Recherche Africaine d'Haiti (IERAH): 1980. It has been renamed Superior Research and Study Institute on Social Sciences (ISERSS) after 2007

# I. The antecedents: Haiti HES before 1990

- First law to integrate the system was published in 1947;
- Faculties and departements have a long history of autonomy which makes it difficult to have a good governance of the whole system;
- The 1960 law under the Duvalier regime was set mainly to control the functioning of the system instead of integrating it;
- The 1987 Constitution gives to the SUH a role in the regulation of the system in terms of assessing any project to develop private universities

# I. The antecedents: Haiti HES before 1990

- Very few innovation within the system
  - Rate of enrolment in the primary and secondary levels increases financed mainly by migrants transfers and the families efforts
  - Demand for higher education augments rapidly
  - No much Investment in the SUH since the 80's
  - Number of students enrolled in the SUH represents in 2008 five times its 1978 level
  - Despite that only 1 over 4 graduated from secondary school gain access to SUH in 2009.

# I. The antecedents: Haiti HES since 1990

- Situation of the system since 1990
  - No state policy for the system
  - 1990 marks the beginning of a large movement from the private sector in Haiti trying to respond but in an informal way to the excess demand for HE. In the meantime, no institutional framework has been put in place to regulate their activities
  - At the end of the 90's some families start sending their children to Dominican Republic as they couldn't find a good place home to study or they didn't pass the entry exam at the SUH. A study by the Notre Dame University set their number to 6,000. This number is confirmed by the DR Ministry of HE. Few still go to the North (USA, France, Canada). This is the main challenge for the elite formation of the country nowadays

# Panorama of Haiti HES

- **A. Institutions of Higher Education**
  - 200 Institutions of Higher Education (IHE) (data from census established by the MOE).
  - Only 47 have been authorized by the Ministry of Education (MOE)
  - Most of these institutions do not have the minimal conditions (Infrastructures, Human qualifications) to operate at the tertiary level. Even though they attract lot of graduates from the secondary schools (around 30.000 every year since the late 90's)
  - A group of 8 HE institutions are trying to organize themselves through the CORPUCA (Conference of rectors and presidents of universities in the Caribbean) to set some norms and standards. The CORPUCA is a regional component of the AUF (Agence universitaire de la Francophonie).



# Panorama of Haiti HES

## Members of the CORPUCA

- ❑ State University of Haiti (Public)
- ❑ Université Notre Dame d'Haïti (Private)
- ❑ Université Caraïbe (Private)
- ❑ Université Quisqueya (Private)
- ❑ Institut universitaire Quisqueya Amérique (INUQUA, Private)
- ❑ Ecole supérieure d'Infotronique d'Haïti ( ESIH, Private)
- ❑ Ecole nationale supérieure de Technologie (ENST; public)
- ❑ Centre de Techniques de Planification et d'Economie Appliquée (CTPEA, public)

# The public system

- **State University of Haiti , SUH** (a group of 11 separate schools (Facultés) in Port-au-Prince plus a network of affiliated Law Schools located in the provinces)
- **CTPEA**, under the umbrella of the Ministry of Planning; two BS programs: Statistics, Applied Economics.
- **ENST**, under the umbrella of the MOE; 1 program: BS in Management
- **Ecole Nationale des Arts (ENARTS)**: under the umbrella of the Ministry of Culture; Programs of BS in Arts;
- **Ecole Nationale de Géologie Appliquée (ENGA)**; under the umbrella of the MOE; Programs of Technicians in Geology
- 4 Nursing schools (1 in Port-au-Prince)

# Panorama of Haiti HES

## ■ B. Governance

- Higher education has not been a priority for governments since 1986
- Theoretically, governance assured by the Ministry of Education (MOE), with a specialized service; only 3 people;
- No legal provisions for accreditation, evaluation, and certification of programs and teachers;
- Public funding insufficient for public entities. No funding for private ones

## II Current state after the earthquake

- ( Insert table here)

## II Current state after the earthquake

- Some universities have resumed academic activities. Most of them not yet;
- For the SUH, campuses before the earthquake were spread around the capital city. On the report of damages on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February, the State University Council took a resolution for its relocation and the regrouping of faculties by disciplinary fields;
- The campus will be rebuilt on the area of Damiens where the Faculty of Agriculture is now located on more than 60 ha. This field is the SUH property since 1999 by a presidential decree
- In the meantime activities will resume in the early May under tents and other provisional shelters.

# III Vision for rebuilding/ SUH

## In the short term

- From February till now : groups of students coordinated by professors have been engaged in a vast movement of social services for the 600 emergencies camps such as :
  - Legal and juridical assistances ;
  - Psychosocial assistance;
  - Post – trauma management;
  - Sanitary assistance in the camps;
  - Sports activities and civic awareness;
  - Help to displaced population
  - Etc.

# III Vision for rebuilding/ SUH

## In the short term

- Academic activities are due to resume in the early May in the places where the faculties are located now. This accomodation cannot last for long time period as the space is limited on surface there;
- Virtual campuses are being set with the help of partner universities;
- A forum about the « state refoundation » as one the first activities to be organized in the middle of next month;
- Training for academic and non academic staffs as the functions and responsibilities are changing
- Erect provisional campus at Damiens using prefab houses to be ready for the next September

# III Vision for rebuilding/ SUH

## Medium long run

- SUH has launched a big Reform program that will deal with all matters (Governance, Management, Academic, financing, etc) since last year. A commission has been appointed to monitor the whole process. Its members comprise Government, civil society, and university representatives. They are recruiting now technical assistance either from other universities or moral entities to draw the new model. The call is about to be launched
  
- Main objectives of the reform:
  - transform the university to produce new type of professional elites able to promote the sustainable development of Haiti.
  - Decentralize the infrastructures of the University to accompany the balanced development of the regions
  
- Erect the new campus



# Concluding remarks

- Situation in Haiti for many reasons (historical, geographical, political, economic) conditions the wellbeing of the Caribbean. A stronger Haiti is a critical condition for the development of Caricom. To have a say in the global world Caricom needs to become a stronger organization;
- Progress in Haiti situation depends on the improvement of its relationship with the Caricom members states. (President Preval calls for the refoundation of the nation-state). This can be done only if Haiti is well integrated in the region. The best way to start is through a well integrated higher education system.

# Concluding remarks

Thank you for your attention!!!!!!!