

Development Gaps in Haiti: Roadblocks to Long Term Economic Development

- Haiti has a rare opportunity to start down the road of long term sustainable development. Attracting private investment to generate such development is a realistic goal in spite of Haiti's serious challenges.
- Investors and businesses encounter **development gaps** when seeking to invest in Haiti – to fill these gaps, governments, international institutions and NGOs, must lead while working, communicating and sometimes partnering with business.
- Overcoming **development gaps** and setting the stage for Haiti's sustainable development requires immediate action that goes beyond the needs of disaster relief.
- In the words of large and small investors and businesses, **development gaps** in Haiti include (but are certainly not limited to):
 - Poor investment facilitation – e.g. inability to carry out feasibility studies, identify industrial parks, competitively price land and buildings with services to support manufacturing and exports;
 - Weak port and road infrastructure;
 - Insufficient housing, medical services, utilities and cafeterias for workers and managers;
 - Inconsistent power supply and uncompetitive pricing structure;
 - Lack of abundant water, which is needed for industrial use;
 - Weak human capacity: E.g. Haiti needs training for trainers, including supervisors, managers, operators, as well as technicians, as well as increased capacity to scale up production, labor empowerment through joint committees;
 - No “one stop shop” for potential investors;
 - Beyond basic training for workers, Haiti needs increased opportunities for workers to receive adequate education and develop financial security.