



Haiti

Accountability

2013/14

## Small-scale urban farming in Port-au-Prince

Carrefour Feuilles, located on the hill overlooking the metropolitan area, originally was a forested area protected by the state. Under heavy migratory pressure from rural areas to Port-au-Prince, it became arbitrarily occupied by people seeking a place to build homes. It is currently inhabited by more than 300,000 people, making it one of the most populated parts of the municipality of Port-au-Prince. Carrefour Feuilles was most severely affected following the 2010 earthquake, which claimed many lives and destroyed the revenue sources of most of its inhabitants.

The project was implemented by partner organisations COZPAM (Community's Association Platform of the Metropolitan Area of Port-au-Prince) and KNFP (Konsey Nasyonal Finansman Popilè) with support from Oxfam. Its general objective is to contribute to improving food security for vulnerable households in urban areas through the development of a small-scale urban farming system in three urban districts in Carrefour Feuilles. Households are encouraged to grow vegetables in the surrounding areas or on the roofs of their houses, in used tyres and other receptacles, improving access to food and to revenue-generating activities.

It is expected households would increase knowledge of how to effectively practise small-scale urban farming in environmentally friendly conditions, and community dynamics would be reinforced through management of subsistence such as nurseries and water-storage systems. A culture of exchange of goods and services among local people based on urban farming production was also another expected result of the project. Awareness-raising and advocacy among decision-makers was also carried out for the adoption of small-scale urban farming systems as a successful strategy for increasing access to food for people in urban areas.

*'We have been able to save money thanks to the vegetables produced in our garden, and the amount we saved has enabled us to buy things like soap, water, coal and even meat.'* Focus group with women from Campêche (Carrefour Feuilles).

## Evaluation Design

Accountability Reviews seek evidence for perceptions of, and make judgments about, the degree to which a project meets Oxfam's standards for accountability. This is with regards to both Oxfam's mutual accountability in our partnerships, and Oxfam and partners' shared accountability to those it works on behalf of. For details on evaluation design, see the 'How are effectiveness reviews carried out?' document, and the full report for how these designs were tailored by individual reviews.

Project date: April 2012 - March 2014

Evaluation: February 2014

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# Results

	Oxfam's accountability to partners					Oxfam and partners' accountability to communities				
	Score	1	2	3	4	Score	1	2	3	4
Transparency	Oxfam			3		Oxfam/Partner		2		
	Partner		2.5			Community		2.2		
	<b>Review team</b>				4	<b>Review team</b>		2		
Feedback	Oxfam		2			Oxfam/Partner			3	
	Partner			3		Community			3.5	
	<b>Review team</b>				3	<b>Review team</b>		2.7		
Participation	Oxfam			3		Oxfam/Partner		2		
	Partner			3		Community			3.5	
	<b>Review team</b>				3	<b>Review team</b>		2		
<b>Overall Accountability</b>	Oxfam		2.7			Oxfam/Partner		2.3		
	Partner			2.8		Community			3.1	
	<b>Review team</b>				3.3	<b>Review team</b>		2.6		

Transparency to partners: *'Information provided to the partners was available in the agreement between the two parties for conducting the work on the ground. There have been a number of exchanges between Oxfam and the partners throughout the project, and changes have been made based on the discussions. The partner could ask to have more information if it was necessary during the launch phase of the project, and even during the project's execution. The partner should have taken more of a lead on the matter of managing information with the community.'*

Feedback to communities: *'The improvement of this [feedback] mechanism within the project will have a positive effect on the other accountability indicators. The implementation of a concerted feedback mechanism would make it possible to reduce tensions that harm the project's development.'*

Participation to partners: *'The partners were consulted and dossiers were discussed jointly, but they did not always have all the strategic information that was available to Oxfam in order to make their final decisions. This missing information relates in particular to the levers available to Oxfam with which to provide additional programme resources to the project if need be. ...an improvement in transparency will also have a beneficial impact on the partner's involvement in decision-making concerning major changes to the project.'*

Participation to communities: *'The community feels very involved in [and satisfied with] project activities and participates in several meetings... An improvement in transparency, particularly with regard to financial data, would enable vulnerable groups to participate more in the management committees' decision-making.'*

## Key Commitments

In collaboration with partners, Oxfam in Haiti will develop Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning plans that include culturally-adapted mechanisms for managing partner and community feedback and complaints.

The Gender and Active Citizenship Manager will be proactive when community groups are established to enhance their internal structure and guarantee the participation of vulnerable groups.

Assess Oxfam and Partners Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning, and Social Accountability capacities - identify the learning needs AND a plan to address them.

Findings from this review coincide almost entirely with Oxfam's common approach to monitoring, evaluation and learning, and social accountability (CAMSA). The Oxfam in Haiti team will apply CAMSA to all future projects.

Photo credit: William Gustave