In Haiti, the Rapid Social Response Program has funded the pilot testing of innovative health and social services delivery, which—when scaled up with support from IDA—will constitute a key contributor to one of three main pillars in the government’s goal to reduce hunger by 50 percent over the next five years. The use of fast-tracked, simple, and flexible RSR procedures allowed for timely preparation of the operation. The RSR-funded activity encouraged collaboration with other donors and private sector service providers to co-design and co-implement the operation.

**Rationale**

The reconstruction of Haiti, after the 2010 earthquake, shows progress, but poor access to clean water and sanitation and a persistent food crisis keeps the country in a state of emergency. Fluctuating food prices, poor harvests, and weak government institutions continue to have devastating effects on the health, food, and nutrition security of the population, especially children under age five and their mothers. To lessen those impacts, the government of Haiti has adopted a national strategy to eradicate hunger and malnutrition. The strategy goes by the name Aba Grangou, which in Creole means “Down with hunger.”

**Response**

The pilot project funded by RSR has been chosen by the Government as a key contributor to one of the three main pillars in its strategy to reduce hunger by 50 percent over the next five years and to eradicate it by 2025.
"Before, community agents were too few to get good results. Now, with Kore Fanmi, the agents can work much more closely with the families, understand their situation, and gain their trust. We really think that this can make a difference, especially for the communities that are very hard to reach.”

Nurse Thulme, Community Health coordinator for Zanmi Lasante, Partners in Health, Centre Department, Haiti.

The Kore Fanmi pilot project started in 2011 in Le Plateau Central—one of the country’s poorest rural departments. The objective of the Kore Fanmi pilot is to test a new mechanism to improve family health and nutrition practices and to strengthen health delivery through coordinated community support and information management.

The pilot is introducing a management information system (MIS) to help municipalities target poor households and to keep close track on their basic needs, health, and the delivery of basic social services. The MIS will make data available, on demand, to local and central government agencies, donors, and aid organizations data.

Making systematically collected information on both the demand and supply of services and programs available to all service providers in the community will improve coordination among the many development organizations in Haiti and ensure more effective support to poor and vulnerable families.

To increase efficiency in the delivery of basic services, the RSR Kore Fanmi pilot project also introduced household development agents, or Agents Kore Fanmi. These community workers are employed by non-governmental organizations that work closely with the municipality. The agents are entrusted with providing support for a range of basic needs, such as nutrition and health advice, provision of basic commodities such as mosquito nets and micronutrients, which are supplied by UNICEF and the World Food Programme and other donors and through referrals to health clinics and other key social services and programs.

What’s next

Preparations are under way for a US $22 million expansion of the Kore Fanmi project, which the Government plans to cover all of Haiti. The project will be part of the IDA-supported project, “Haiti—Ensuring Health, Nutrition, and Social Services for the Vulnerable,” valued at US $50 million. The MIS that the pilot project is introducing, which will operate under the Ministry of Economy and Ministry of Planning, will be a key instrument for planning that project, and others; where it can improve the coordination and cost-efficiency of all services, including education, health, agriculture, and the nation’s civil registry, in close collaboration with the commission overseeing the Aba Grangou strategy against hunger. That strategy has set a goal of having 15,000 Agents Kore Fanmi operational throughout the country to wage the nation’s campaign against hunger and malnutrition.

Accomplishments to Date

- Recruited and trained community agents and municipal teams
- Completed inventory of available social and health services
- Socioeconomic survey of beneficiary families ongoing
- Management Information System in test phase