Haiti Marketplace
Marketplace Profile: Haitian Women in Business

Building Markets’ (BM’s) Haiti Marketplace project was launched in Port-au-Prince in August 2009. Its objective is to help create jobs and inspire long-term economic growth and stability in Haiti by facilitating increased access to locally available goods and services.

Building Markets’ Gender Strategy

With 60% of women active in the economy, Haiti has one of the highest labour force participation rates in the Caribbean. At the same time, the UNDP’s gender-related Development Index places Haiti at the bottom of the American countries. All of BM’s activities contain a gender focus that promotes female entrepreneurship wherever possible. Through our business verification activities, BM collects information about female participation in the domestic private sector. BM strives to strengthen the capacity and opportunity of female entrepreneurs through special training programmes and other gender specific activities and initiatives.

Did you know?

- Over 900 (or 24%) of all businesses listed on the Haiti Business Portal are either female-owned or managed.
- 29% of all employees, employed by registered suppliers on the Haiti Business Portal are women.
- Building Markets holds specialized training sessions exclusively for Haitian female entrepreneurs registered with the Haiti Marketplace project.
- The goal of these training sessions is to give female entrepreneurs a better understanding of the procurement process and develop good business practices which enable them to successfully bid on and win contracts.
- Furthermore, these training sessions give women the opportunity to connect and share experiences with each other and/or potentially collaborate on projects.

Contact Building Markets in Haiti:

For more information on how you can access BM’s services or about BM’s work in Haiti visit us on the web at haiti.buildingmarkets.org OR call us at (509) 29-41-10-01


An employee of AGA Corp, a Port-au-Prince garment making family business run by Clifford Apaid, a third generation owner.