

Cap Haitien, Haiti – ESPWA

Location: Cap Haitien, Haiti

Venue: CEDEL Haiti

Intro to the City, Distinctive Aspects and Demographics

Cap-Haitien, known as Haiti's second-largest city, is located on the northern coast. It holds cultural and historical significance, often referred to as the "Paris of the Caribbean." Notable landmarks include the Citadelle Laferrière and Sans-Souci Palace, which are UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The city has a population of approximately 300,000, blending urban vibrancy with surrounding rural areas. Cap-Haitien is also a growing tourism hub, attracting visitors eager to explore its colonial architecture and scenic beaches.

Overview of the Local Economy

- *Regional Assets:* Cap Haitien is a key trade hub in northern Haiti, with its port providing a vital link to international commerce. The region is known for agriculture, particularly in the production of sugar, rice, and coffee, which contribute to the local economy.
- *The Entrepreneurial Ecosystem:* Cap Haitien is home to a number of small businesses, particularly in agriculture and tourism. However, entrepreneurs often face difficulties accessing financial resources and markets, making it challenging to scale their operations.

The Poverty and Disadvantage Challenge in the City - Cap-Haitien faces substantial poverty, with many residents living in inadequate housing and lacking access to quality healthcare and education. Youth unemployment is notably high, and there are limited resources for aspiring entrepreneurs. The city's infrastructure struggles to support its growing population, exacerbating socioeconomic inequalities.

CEDEL's new Entrepreneurship Program in Cap-Haitien:

Name of the Program: ESPWA (In English Hope)

Target Demographics: The ESPWA program serves young entrepreneurs in Cap Haitien, typically between 18 and 35, who are committed to creating and growing their businesses.

Program Management: CEDEL Haiti manages the ESPWA program in Cap Haitien.

Annual Cycle: The ESPWA program runs annually, from January to December



Unique Aspects of the Approach: ESPWA combines business incubation, market research, and networking to support entrepreneurs. ESPWA will build on the 80 tools developed for UPBI to assist entrepreneurs in Cap Haitien

Program Goals: CEDEL Haiti aims to expand the reach of ESPWA in Cap Haitien by helping young entrepreneurs navigate the challenges of starting and growing businesses.

Additional Resources

<https://creole101.com/blog/cap-haitien-haitis-second-city/>

https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00TH8C.pdf

<https://haitiwonderland.com/haiti/en/city/discover-cap-haitien-the-2nd-city-of-haiti/99>

https://ht.usembassy.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/100/Haiti_Country-Commercial-Guide.pdf

