



TV

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## HAITI: MANGROVE PROTECTION

### VIDEO

MAN SHOVELS MUCK IN WATER

MANGROVE REPLANTING

AUGUSTIN ON CAMERA

### AUDIO

#### NARRATION

In Haiti's north coast, the mangroves are making a slow comeback - thanks to the efforts of a local environmental group, Village Planète, and funding from USAID. In the last 50 years, the mangrove forests here were destroyed mostly for charcoal use. But they're critical to ensure sea life has a home says Odile Augustin, Director of Village Planète. (26")

AUGUSTIN: (Creole) **M**

*"It's a natural barrier that is really important for the reproduction of fish and other small sea creatures. Mangrove roots are nesting areas for marine life. A lot of small fish live and mature there. The big fish come and feed on the small fish, and also use the mangroves as a nesting ground."* (27")

#### NARRATION

PANORAMA OF MANGROVE  
FOREST

As mangroves disappear, fish, crabs, and birds living there also vanish. Critical to prevent slippage of soil and protect coral reefs, preserving these mangroves has caught the attention of local government in Bas-Limbe. Deputy Mayor, Alibert Joselin. (18")

JOSLIN ON CAMERA

JOSLIN: (Creole) **M**  
*"As the local authority here, we try to prevent people from cutting down the mangroves. We have a community decree that says those who cut mangroves without authorization will be arrested and punished. We need to protect them from illegal, unauthorized cutting."* (25")

MANGROVES NEXT TO VILLAGE

NARRATION

Mangroves act as a buffer against hurricanes and extreme weather. Without them, saltwater winds blast people's homes, destroying metal roofs, burning vegetation and wiping out crops.

FISHERMEN ON BOAT

Dwindling mangroves affect local fishermen too like Abraham Leonel. In his father's day, fishing was quite different. (23")

LEONEL, PRESIDENT OF LOCAL  
FISHING ASSOCIATION, ON  
CAMERA

LEONEL: (Creole) **M**  
*"I remember a long time ago fishing around here. We'd bring the basket back full of fish. The environmentalists told us it's because there were more mangroves back then. Now that the mangroves are*

*disappearing, we don't see baskets full of fish anymore." (17")*

FISHERMAN UNDER TREE

NARRATION

With their livelihood in jeopardy, fishermen are focusing on protecting the mangroves. Village Planète is organizing committees in 12 villages to train 600 people to better manage the environment. For Abraham Leonel, strong community management is the only way to safeguard his village. (19")

VILLAGE COMMITTEE MEETING

LEONEL ON CAMERA

LEONEL: (Creole) **M**

*"These days we have to work together to prevent people from cutting the mangroves. We are learning how to manage the environment together." (11")*

CRABS IN WATER

NARRATION

One of their biggest motivations is greater income. Crabs and shrimp will become more plentiful, stimulating the local economy. People will have more fish to eat, and more to sell in the market. (14")

WOMEN FISH FOR SHRIMP

MANGOVE SEEDLINGS

The good news is mangroves grow fast. In just 8 years, small seedlings can reach mature growth. They are easy to plant, and require little care. (14")

AUGUSTIN ON CAMERA

AUGUSTIN: (Creole) **M**

*"After three or four months, we take these seedlings and put them in these baskets,*

*which will biodegrade. Once they are in these baskets, we can be sure that the roots will be protected when we transplant them.” (21”)*

NEWLY PLANTED MANGROVES  
ALONG SHORE

#### NARRATION

Village Planète is working with local fishing associations to replant nearly 4km of coast with more than 10,000 mangroves. Restoring the mangroves on Haiti’s north coast will protect livelihoods and improve the quality of life here. (15”)

BOAT NEAR SHORE

UN LOGO

This report was prepared by Amelia Shaw and Blagoje Grujic for the United Nations.