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HAITI



COUNTRY PROFILE



UNITED NATIONS

INTRODUCTION - 2002 COUNTRY PROFILES SERIES

Agenda 21, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, underscored the important role that States play in the implementation of the Agenda at the national level. It recommended that States consider preparing national reports and communicating the information therein to the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) including, activities they undertake to implement Agenda 21, the obstacles and challenges they confront, and other environment and development issues they find relevant.

As a result, in 1993 governments began preparing national reports for submission to the CSD. After two years of following this practice, the CSD decided that a summarized version of national reports submitted thus far would be useful. Subsequently, the CSD Secretariat published the first Country Profiles series in 1997 on the occasion of the five-year review of the Earth Summit (Rio + 5). The series summarized, on a country-by-country basis, all the national reports submitted between 1994 and 1996. Each Profile covered the status of all Agenda 21 chapters.

The purpose of Country Profiles is to:

- Help countries monitor their own progress;
- Share experiences and information with others; and,
- Serve as institutional memory to track and record national actions undertaken to implement Agenda 21.

A second series of Country Profiles is being published on the occasion of the World Summit on Sustainable Development being held in Johannesburg from August 26 to September 4, 2002. Each profile covers all 40 chapters of Agenda 21, as well as those issues that have been separately addressed by the CSD since 1997, including trade, energy, transport, sustainable tourism and industry.

The 2002 Country Profiles series provides the most comprehensive overview to date of the status of implementation of Agenda 21 at the national level. Each Country Profile is based on information updated from that contained in the national reports submitted annually by governments.

Preparing national reports is often a challenging exercise. It can also be a productive and rewarding one in terms of taking stock of what has been achieved and by increasing communication, coordination and cooperation among a range of national agencies, institutions and groups. Hopefully, the information contained in this series of Country Profiles will serve as a useful tool for learning from the experience and knowledge gained by each country in its pursuit of sustainable development.

NOTE TO READERS

The 2002 Country Profiles Series provides information on the implementation of Agenda 21 on a country-by-country and chapter-by-chapter basis (with the exception of chapters 1 and 23, which are preambles). Since Rio 1992, the Commission on Sustainable Development has specifically addressed other topics not included as separate chapters in Agenda 21. These issues of trade, industry, energy, transport and sustainable tourism are, therefore, treated as distinct sections in the Country Profiles. In instances where several Agenda 21 chapters are closely related, for example, chapters 20 to 22 which cover environmentally sound management of hazardous, solid and radioactive wastes, and chapters 24 to 32 which refer to strengthening of major groups, the information appears under a single heading in the Country Profile Series. Lastly, chapters 16 and 34, which deal with environmentally sound management of biotechnology, and transfer of environmentally sound technology, cooperation, capacity-building respectively, are presented together under one heading in those Country Profiles where information is relatively scarce.

At the release of this Country Profile, Haiti had not yet submitted the updated version of its CP electronically, and therefore the information herein contained is in draft form.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 2: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO ACCELERATE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND RELATED DOMESTIC POLICIES.....	1
CHAPTER 2: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO ACCELERATE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND RELATED DOMESTIC POLICIES - TRADE.....	2
CHAPTER 3: COMBATING POVERTY.....	3
CHAPTER 4: CHANGING COMSUMPTION PATTERNS.....	4
CHAPTER 4: CHANGING CONSUMPTION PATTERNS - ENERGY.....	5
CHAPTER 4: CHANGING CONSUMPTION PATTERNS - TRANSPORT.....	6
CHAPTER 5: DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS AND SUSTAINABILITY.....	7
CHAPTER 6: PROTECTING AND PROMOTING HUMAN HEALTH.....	8
CHAPTER 7: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT.....	9
CHAPTER 8: INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN DECISION-MAKING.....	10
CHAPTER 9: PROTECTION OF THE ATMOSPHERE.....	11
CHAPTER 10: INTEGRATED APPROACH TO THE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF LAND RESOURCES.....	12
CHAPTER 11: COMBATING DEFORESTATION.....	13
CHAPTER 12: MANAGING FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS: COMBATING DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT.....	14
CHAPTER 13: MANAGING FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS: SUSTAINABLE MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT.....	15
CHAPTER 14: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT.....	16
CHAPTER 15: CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY.....	17
CHAPTER 16 AND 34: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY AND TRANSFER OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND TECHNOLOGY, COOPERATION AND CAPACITY-BUILDING.....	18
CHAPTER 17: PROTECTION OF THE OCEANS, ALL KINDS OF SEAS, INCLUDING ENCLOSED AND SEMI-ENCLOSED SEAS, AND COASTAL AREAS AND THE PROTECTION, RATIONAL USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR LIVING RESOURCES.....	19
CHAPTER 18: PROTECTION OF THE QUALITY AND SUPPLY OF FRESHWATER RESOURCES: APPLICATION OF INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO THE DEVELOPMENT, MANAGEMENT AND USE OF WATER RESOURCES.....	20
CHAPTER 19: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF TOXIC CHEMICALS, INCLUDING PREVENTION OF ILLEGAL INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN TOXIC AND DANGEROUS PRODUCTS.....	34
CHAPTER 20 TO 22: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF HAZARDOUS, SOLID AND RADIOACTIVE WASTES.....	22
CHAPTER 24 TO 32: STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF MAJOR GROUPS.....	23

CHAPTER 33: FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MECHANISMS.....	25
CHAPTER 35: SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.....	26
CHAPTER 36: PROMOTING EDUCATION, PUBLIC AWARENESS AND TRAINING.....	27
CHAPTER 37: NATIONAL MECHANISMS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.....	28
CHAPTER 38: INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.....	29
CHAPTER 39: INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS AND MECHANISMS.....	30
CHAPTER 40: INFORMATION FOR DECISION-MAKING.....	31
CHAPTER: INDUSTRY.....	32
CHAPTER: SUSTAINABLE TOURISM.....	33

LIST OF COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

ACS	Association of Caribbean States
AMCEN	Africa Ministerial Conference on the Environment
AMU	Arab Maghreb Union
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CARICOM	The Caribbean Community and Common Market
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
CILSS	Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CSD	Commission on Sustainable Development of the United Nations
DESA	Department for Economic and Social Affairs
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECCAS	Economic Community for Central African States
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FIDA	Foundation for International Development Assistance
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GAW	Global Atmosphere Watch (WMO)
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEMS	Global Environmental Monitoring System (UNEP)
GESAMP	Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GLOBE	Global Legislators Organisation for a Balanced Environment
GOS	Global Observing System (WMO/WWW)
GRID	Global Resource Information Database
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICSC	International Civil Service Commission
ICSU	International Council of Scientific Unions
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ICTSD	International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development
IEEA	Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFCS	Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety
IGADD	Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development

ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPCS	International Programme on Chemical Safety
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IRPTC	International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals
ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
LA21	Local Agenda 21
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
MARPOL	International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
NEAP	National Environmental Action Plan
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NSDS	National Sustainable Development Strategies
OAS	Organization of American States
OAU	Organization for African Unity
ODA	Official Development Assistance/Overseas Development Assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
SACEP	South Asian Cooperative Environment Programme
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SARD	Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRO	Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women

UNU	United Nations University
WFC	World Food Council
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development
WTO	World Trade Organization
WWF	World Wildlife Fund
WWW	World Weather Watch (WMO)

CHAPTER 2: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO ACCELERATE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND RELATED DOMESTIC POLICIES

Decision-Making: The Haitian Governments, since the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, have been working toward fulfilling the principles of the Rio Conference. International cooperation has been vital in realizing these important steps: The creation of the Ministry of Environment in 1995; The preparation of a National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) which will be ready by the end of 1997; The drafting, the final revision and the vote of the Ministry's Organic Law, which is set as a priority for 1997; The vote and ratification, after proper lobbying, of conventions on Biodiversity, Climate Change, Hazardous Wastes, and Marine Pollution; The drafting of Environmental Impact Studies criteria for construction of infrastructure projects; and The implementation of education related to environment (ERE).

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 2: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO ACCELERATE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND RELATED DOMESTIC POLICIES - TRADE

Decision-Making: The NEAP will outline the government's policy on trade and environment. NGOs, ecological groups and local communities (so-called "Territorial municipalities") are the major groups called upon to participate in the NEAP process. As part of the definition of specific projects to be funded the means of financing will be identified. The GOH and the Ministry of Environment have been looking for human and technological resources.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 3: COMBATING POVERTY

Decision-Making: The main institution created especially to implement this national strategy has been the Central Managing Unit (UCG in French). Besides the Ministry of Social Affairs which takes care of labor problems in Haiti, the communities take care of so-called Communal asylums where old people find their retirement home. NGOs are the most important groups in this field, but their contributions should be coordinated by the Government of Haiti (GOH).

Programmes and Projects: Since the restoration of democracy in Haiti, creation of jobs has been a key element, and a number of labor-intensive projects have been realized since October 1994. Labor-intensive projects have been designed to build up human resources and low-cost technology resources in Haiti. Through an NGO like PADF, such labor-intensive projects have included street cleaning, tree planting and erosion control projects.

Status: Poverty reduction is a very high national priority for Haiti as it has been estimated that as much as 75% of the population is living in absolute poverty. In 1990, the Department of Labor put the unemployment level at 80%. The actual range (50% to 80%) accounts for the disguised unemployment which is so prevalent in the informal sector (street vendors, etc). The supply of potable water is expanding, especially at Cite Soleil, the largest city slum in Haiti. Construction of latrines has been realized by other NGOs.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: PURE I, a World Bank job creation project has injected more than 40 million US dollars into the economy through various construction projects. PURE II, starting in 1997, has a US\$50 million budget for the coming years. Bilateral (Caribbean, Latin-American and European agencies), and multilateral (World Bank and IDB) organizations are the main source of cooperation in this fight against poverty.

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CHAPTER 4: CHANGING CONSUMPTION PATTERNS

No information available.

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CHAPTER 4: CHANGING CONSUMPTION PATTERNS - ENERGY

No information available.

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CHAPTER 4: CHANGING CONSUMPTION PATTERNS - TRANSPORT

No information available.

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CHAPTER 5: DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS AND SUSTAINABILITY

Decision-Making: The Ministry of Public Health and Population (MPHP) is in charge of population matters and family planning. The Division of Planning within the MPHP articulates the demographic priorities of the government.

Programmes and Projects: The female population is the target of many programmes in health. The local population, which has been made a key part of the environmental planning process, is the target of demographic measures to lower the fertility rate and reduce the growth of the Haitian population.

Status: The Government considers that the population growth and fertility levels are too high. The Government's intervention in these areas is directed at lowering both the rate of growth and fertility levels. Port-au-Prince, as the fastest growing town in the country, faces the toughest ecological and population problems. The population density for Port-au-Prince is more than three times the national average, with two million people crowded in the metropolitan area. The largest towns are subjects of studies on solid waste, dumping sites and for cemetery relocations and population explosion.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: The Institute of Statistics and Informatics takes care of the Census data and the population statistics. Since Haiti's population has reached seven million, not including the two million Haitians living overseas, proper demographic information shall be gathered. The most dynamic regions in terms of population should be the object of official census.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: The WHO and PAHO furnish the finances that supplement the Government of Haiti's development budget and have been cooperating with Haiti in this domain for the past 50 years. Some NGOs also intervene in population issues.

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CHAPTER 6: PROTECTING AND PROMOTING HUMAN HEALTH

Decision-Making: The Ministry of Public Health (MPH) makes the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) a partner in asking its advice on the environmental safety of certain new products. Promotion of intersectoral cooperation for preventive health, improvement of health care services, creation of local health centers in every commune, management of health care, and the public environment through the territorial municipalities are key objectives. While, in rural areas the population depends on both governmental health care and on the NGOs with their community health involvement, in the cities people have access to State services and private services. In Port-au-Prince, some NGOs maintain hospitals for children.

Programmes and Projects: The implementation of the "Health for all by the year 2000" Strategy since 1980 and the National Public Health Plan of 1996 are new elements for working toward Human Development in Haiti.

Status: Haiti, as a poor country is characterized by the lowest satisfaction of basic needs. Very weak provision of human health is a key measure of the country's poverty.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: The MOE, as well as its partners, the MPH and the Ministry of Commerce, have no real human and financial resources for capacity-building. Public awareness of the AIDS problem has been realized through TV sports and radio messages.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: The best available technology comes from the Ministry of Agriculture's laboratories, but it can only perform routine tests. Most of the tests are sent to Miami laboratories.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: In the public health field, NGOs from all over the world are very important. Although no actual figures on health expenditure by the NGOs exist, it is believed that they account for most of the investment in the health sector. The Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) accounts for most of the international cooperation in the health sector. The World Health Organisation (WHO) and PAHO work together in Haiti, within the same office, but they have specific fields of intervention.

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CHAPTER 7: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT

Decision-Making: The Ministry of Social Affairs (MSA) is the official entity in charge of the important social problem of housing. It is supported by other ministries, like the Ministry of Environment given the implications of slum development, and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for expansion. Within the MSA, a division exists -- the EPPLS or Social Housing Promotion and Planning Institute- which is the key institution dedicated to housing problems and particularly to slum regeneration. The NEAP under development in the Ministry will devote some adequate recommendations on this social matter with so many environmental implications.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: The very low percentage of public funds allocated to housing in Haiti is a sign of the small importance given to this sector. Consequently a lot of funding is requested from international organizations for this field.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: Appropriate housing technologies shall be developed so as to allow the use of adequate roofing materials, sound proofing, water-heating and low-cost housing.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: Finances for an organizational division like EPPLS are obtained through UNDP, HABITAT and other bilateral funding.

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CHAPTER 8: INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN DECISION-MAKING

Decision-Making: The Ministry of the Environment is the main structure for making decisions on this topic. The new local communities sanctioned by recent legislation will play a key role. The integration of environment concerns in Haiti's development planning is a key element in the National Environment Action Plan (NEAP) being prepared in the Ministry of the Environment. Since the appropriate theme is still in its primary stage, only the general outlines are adapted to the specific Haitian socio-cultural situation: Establish national strategies whereby social, economic and environmental consideration are given due importance in Haiti; Improve the Global Imaging Systems (GIS) in Haiti; Develop socio-economic indicators for measuring social, economic and environmental changes; Strengthen broad educational and professional curricula for a national environment-related-education (ERE) curriculum and extend these basic principles to the public-at-large; Establish a legal and institutional framework which incorporates international conventions into the national juridical spectrum.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No special finance is foreseen in the current budget. However, the municipalities and the collectives will make do. In the meantime, most of the financial facilities of the MOE come from international funding.

Cooperation: The GOH cooperates with the Dominican Republic and with all the Caribbean countries. Regional cooperation includes Venezuela and Peru. The cooperation includes exchange of information, technical assistance and provision of equipment. Aside from this, Haiti receives cooperation from OLADE and from the European Economic Commission.

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CHAPTER 9: PROTECTION OF THE ATMOSPHERE

Decision-Making: The MOE is in charge of atmospheric protection., however, this problem is mainly due to pollution from vehicles, it is likely that some enforcement will be needed from the National Police Force through the Ministry of Justice.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: Although the biggest atmospheric offense is air pollution by non-stationary sources, the Ministry of Environment (MOE) shall act within its limited resources. It will implement the NEAP with protection of the atmosphere as its main theme, and it will fight for the integration of Haiti into the international framework for climate change. It will lobby for the signing and ratification of the appropriate convention and its application.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: The Government of Haiti has neither the means to establish early or current detection systems, nor the capacity for developing research or observations and assessment on atmospheric pollution. The MOE policy for building appropriate capacity is threefold: Strengthening the institution through hiring of competent technicians and consultants; Taking advantage of all specialization opportunities overseas; Adapting some less sophisticated but safe technology to the country's limited resources. The ecological groups like FAN, FREN and COHPEDA, etc are getting involved in public sensitization regarding atmospheric pollution.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: The Montreal Protocol and its Amendments, as well as, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change have not been signed. The Ministry of the Environment (MOE) has realized the depth of international cooperation on matters related to the protection of the atmosphere. The MOE keeps lobbying within the Parliament so that Haiti will ratify the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution. In order to receive the Best Available Technology that would fit the financial resources (recurring costs) of a least developing country (LDC), Haiti has to rely on international cooperation. Very small amounts of funding are available from national sources. Mostly NGOs and UNEP (through the GEF fund) are available. Haiti has financial problems to cope with the dues for International Organizations.

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CHAPTER 10: INTEGRATED APPROACH TO THE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF LAND RESOURCES

Decision-Making: The Organic Law of the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) is being reviewed to integrate the latest official guidelines on the ministry's role. The intersectoral relations of the Environment Ministry with other Haitian institutions are being investigated. The Organic Law will then be submitted to the Parliament for its vote. The local collectives will be the major groups participating in the planning and management of local resources. The National Institute for Agrarian Reform (INARA) will be consulted. The National Environment Action Plan (NEAP) process under way in the Environment Ministry defines the Haitian policies to insure the best land resource allocation for its sustainable management. At different local and regional levels, public participation through the use of the MARP process is guaranteed. Meanwhile the NEAP process in its final phase will integrate various objectives directly or indirectly related to the management and protection of natural resources in Haiti. Since land tenure is the most important element in the sustainable development of land resources, agraria n reform will play a key role in Haiti.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available .

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: Local resources will be added to the funds provided by the Government.

Cooperation: International cooperation in the area of land planning and management shall be investigated.

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CHAPTER 11: COMBATING DEFORESTATION

Decision-Making: The Ministry of Agriculture has been the key structure to make decisions on any forest protection related matters. Since Rio, guidelines related to forest management have been switched over to the environment sector. In Haiti, for the first time, this situation happened in the 1996 management of the forest ecosystem. At that time, the private sector, local communities ("collectivites locales"), non-governmental organizations, and local youth and women were the most active groups in environmental issues. Peoples' participation is very relevant, due to the implementation of the law on local collectives dealing with decentralization. Together with the Ministry of Agriculture, the MOE will set proper guidelines for forest protection.

Programmes and Projects: One way to deal with desertification in Haiti is to protect the country's limited forestry reserves, and one such project financed by the World Bank is the Technical Support for Park and Forest Protection (ATPPF in French). The focus of the sector includes both wood production and new projects like ATPPF which call for the technical support of parks and forests in Haiti.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: Information: Actions to increase forest productivity could be undertaken. Information exchange is a key factor in this fight; new processes should be investigated. Land use surveys to identify land tenure and Agrarian Reform are two other elements or facets. Land classification to be used in sensitizing the population should also be updated. In addition, the ecological classification by Holdridge could be updated.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: Governmental funding of the forestry sector and international aid from the World Bank and USAID have become the best sources of financing.

Cooperation: The Government of Haiti supports the effective implementation of the non-legally binding authoritative statement of principles for a global consensus of the management, and sustainable development of all types of forest adopted by UNCED. Through the MOE, Haiti has been proving its willingness to promote the implementation of the commitments made at the Rio Conference.

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CHAPTER 12: MANAGING FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS: COMBATING DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT

Decision-Making: MOE is the new partner of the Ministry of Agriculture which has been since its founding sixty years ago, in charge of regenerating Haitian agriculture. In dividing the responsibilities, the MOE will take on the duties of setting up norms for combating desertification as outlined under chapter 12 of Agenda 21. NGOs are the most important groups dealing with desertification problems in Haiti. The MOE is in a strong position for capacity building because of the international support created by the Agenda 21 framework. After surviving the Parliament's ordeal, the MOE has been working toward this partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture as well as its own Agenda 21 guidelines.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: Haiti, as the poorest country in the hemisphere, has known some ecological disaster. Being a mountainous country, Haiti is a typical case of a fragile ecosystem, subject to both desertification and drought. Only 2% of wooded areas are left from land that was completely wooded 500 years ago.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: Funding in this area can only come from either national NGOs or international organizations.

Cooperation: The International Convention to Combat Desertification in Countries Experiencing Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa was ratified in 1996. The Ministry of the Environment (MOE) has not filed a report as yet, but, since the Convention was ratified in 1996, such a report is forthcoming. The MOE has been preparing a request for proper assistance in this regard. Combating desertification is one of the areas where most cooperation exists, either regionally or internationally. More precisely, the signing and ratification of the International Convention to Combat Desertification will open the way to many institutional advantages as well as funding.

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CHAPTER 13: MANAGING FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS: SUSTAINABLE MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT

Decision-Making: The Ministry of the Environment (MOE) and the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) remain the proper decision making structure, until the Organic Law of the MOE is passed. The MOE and MOA are developing new relations through technical commissions and also through official agreements between the two ministers. The NGOs, private and religious institutions and the local collectives remain the key partners in this area.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: Fragile ecosystems seem to be the rule in a country as mountainous as Haiti. Mountain agriculture becomes vital so that future generations can inherit a rehabilitated ecosystem.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: Funding from regional international organizations has been requested for managing fragile ecosystems like Haiti's. International funding compensates for the low level of governmental funding. NGOs also contribute significantly.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 14: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Decision-Making: The Ministry of Agriculture is the ministry primarily responsible for agriculture and rural development in Haiti. The national legislation covering agriculture and rural development includes laws that are under revision. The Ministry of Environment is working on norms for agricultural waste recycling and on sustainable mountain agriculture. The NGOs--private, youth and women's organizations--are very engaged in this field and literally flood the Ministry of the Environment with project proposals. Haitian officials including the Prime Minister and the President have consistently promoted sustainable agriculture and rural development. The National Environment Action Plan (NEAP) process has also included this issue as one requiring a thematic consultant. The appropriate report has not yet been drafted, but the MOE has placed high expectations on the recommendations on the matter.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: Most financing comes from the Caribbean and international organizations. All funding sources, either from Latin America, North America or Europe as well as multilateral funding (World Bank, IDB, FAO, etc) have been considered.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 15: CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Decision-Making: The Ministry of the Environment (MOE) has made biological diversity an important theme within the National Environment Action Plan (NEAP), first by ratifying the Convention on Biological Diversity and second with the designation of a special biological diversity theme. A third step is the Organic Law which proposes a Division of Biological Diversity. The MOE will have the final responsibility to implement the NEAP, which is the result of the national process. The ecological groups and the NGOs make their own environmental orientation. They will need proper guidance by the MOE, after publication of the NEAP.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: The island of Haiti possesses one of the highest biodiversity indices in the tropics and thus is known to have a great variety of genes, species and ecosystem, both flora and fauna: the Pic Macaya, for example, has been designated as a Reserve of the Biosphere. The MOE has encouraged the creation of a botanical garden there; the pine tree called *Pinus haitianus* is found mostly in the Dominican Republic; the Haitian crocodiles are found now only in four tiny places at la Gonave, in the south at the Dominican border; a rare variety of palm tree, Carossier or Petit Coco--*Attalea crassispatha*, is found in the south peninsula.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: The capacity-building and technology issues will be a function of the requirements of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: Financing will be obtained from the convention sources. The NEAP will also identify other sources of funding for key projects.

Cooperation: The Convention on Biological Diversity has been ratified.

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CHAPTERS 16 AND 34: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY AND TRANSFER OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND TECHNOLOGY, COOPERATION AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

Decision-Making:

Technologies: The NEAP will clarify links between national, regional and international information networks/systems and identify the means of implementation. With the final revision of the Organic Law of the MOE, the ministry would have to define its relation with other ministries, for example, the Ministry of Social Affairs.

Biotechnologies: Although biotechnology is not a priority item in the country as yet and although its management is not included in the NEAP's themes, the MOE will realize on an as-needed basis a study of the potential or feasibility of the use of biotechnology, within the safety norms already existing elsewhere.

Programmes and Projects:

No information available.

Status:

No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising:

No information available.

Information:

Technologies: The MOE is in touch with international entities for development of a GIS although it remains open to any other environmental management system.

Biotechnologies: No information available.

Research and Technologies:

Technologies: The transfer of ESTs will be considered at a national workshop to be held with more than forty construction companies.

Biotechnologies: Risk assessment and future research shall be considered by the Ministry. No university is as yet involved in such research.

Financing:

Technologies: No information available.

Biotechnologies: It is more than likely that some private funding will be available to the public and private universities for small biotechnology research.

Cooperation:

No information available.

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CHAPTER 17: PROTECTION OF THE OCEANS, ALL KINDS OF SEAS, INCLUDING ENCLOSED AND SEMI-ENCLOSED SEAS, AND COASTAL AREAS AND THE PROTECTION, RATIONAL USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR LIVING RESOURCES

No information available.

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CHAPTER 18: PROTECTION OF THE QUALITY AND SUPPLY OF FRESHWATER RESOURCES: APPLICATION OF INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO THE DEVELOPMENT, MANAGEMENT AND USE OF WATER RESOURCES

Decision-Making: The Ministry of the Environment (MOE), created in 1995, does not as yet have the authority for national water management. The MOE's proposed Organic Law contains provision for a National Service for Water Resources originating from the Agriculture Ministry. The MOE will deal mostly with the drafting and implementation of water production and management norms. With the implementation of Territorial Municipalities law, it is foreseen that duties related to this sector will be taken over by the local communities called CASECS. Most NGOs are involved in supplying water to the rural population while taking care of environmental or sanitation problems. The National Environment Action Plan (NEAP) process will suggest the implementation of an appropriate integrated solution to the development, management and use of water resources. The MOE will implement proposals for education in the sustainable use of water resources as part of the Environmentally Related Education Programme (ERE).

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: Only 20% of the Haitian population was served by public waterworks in 1995. The percentages are higher in the cities -- about 30%. In Port-au-Prince, with a population of almost 2 million, 25% of the population uses public fountains or wells only. The overall use of latrines and septic tanks sets up some underground water pollution problems since no sanitary sewers exist in Haiti.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: Meanwhile, existing water agencies dealing with water supply in Port-au-Prince (CAMEP), all other towns (SNEP) and rural areas (POCHEP) use their own monitoring and statistical systems.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: Financial costs are supported by the local NGOs and by international organizations dealing with the water sector.

Cooperation: The MOE has been using all available sources of cooperation from the Caribbean, including from the Dominican Republic.

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CHAPTER 19: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF TOXIC CHEMICALS, INCLUDING PREVENTION OF ILLEGAL INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN TOXIC AND DANGEROUS PRODUCTS

Decision-Making: The Ministry of the Environment (MOE) has been, since its creation in 1995, the key agency dealing with hazardous waste problems in Haiti. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Public Health have been transmitting to the MOE for official advice all communication involving new chemicals that would be imported into Haiti. A special Service for Control of Pollution and Waste Management has been established under the Division of Quality of Life and Pollution Management.

Programmes and Projects: In the area of hazardous wastes, some NGOs have been very active in addition to the ecological groups. Some popular organizations are involved in the overall management of plastic containers. The burning of plastic, for example, has been targeted with street posters by an organization named COHPEDA.

Status: The historical experience of 1987 with the toxic chemical wastes dumped in Gonaives harbor made the Haitian public very wary of illegal dumping of wastes. One recent case, that of a boat carrying thousands of used tires, was watched carefully by the MOE which called upon the national police and the UN military force to stop the unloading. The MOE has tried from the beginning to manage toxic chemicals in the country and to set up criteria for the import of dangerous products. It has participated in the follow-up of the site cleanup at the Gonaives harbor where industrial wastes from Pennsylvania were dumped in 1988.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: Some institutional strengthening is foreseen for such a technical service. Technological issues involve the use of "best available technology" to handle air, water and land pollution.

Financing: Financing by the government is very limited; the most important source of financing remains international funding.

Cooperation: Haiti has ratified the Basel Convention and will take advantage of the international provisions of this convention. Regional and international funding has been researched for the MOE, in order to deal with the institutional gap in human resources.

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CHAPTERS 20 TO 22: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF HAZARDOUS, SOLID AND RADIOACTIVE WASTES

Decision-Making:

Hazardous wastes: No information available.

Solid wastes: Since 1997, the local governments and the mayoral institutions are the bodies primarily responsible for waste management. The Ministry of Environment (MOE) will only prepare guidelines for collection, disposal and treatment. The MOE is preparing, as priority, the following guidelines: Directive on emissions from incineration of municipal waste; Directive on the use of sewage sludge in agriculture; Directive on landfill requirements; Directive on arrangements concerning packaging and packing waste; Directive on compost preparation.

Radioactive wastes: No information available.

Programmes and Projects:

No information available.

Status:

Hazardous wastes: No information available.

Solid wastes: The Haitian Ministry of the Environment has estimated that approximately 1,600 tons of waste are produced daily in Port-au-Prince. The average recovery rate of material or energy is about 12%. The main disposal method for municipal waste is landfills. In 1995 there were a total of 10 active landfills for municipal solid waste in the country. Municipal solid waste from urban areas is collected by compacting trucks covering specific dumping collection. The system serves most of the population, including the slums. According to the MOE the implementation of waste legislation will ensure that most of the requirements set in Chapter 21 can be fulfilled in Haiti by the year 2004.

Radioactive wastes: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising:

No information available.

Information:

No information available.

Research and Technologies:

No information available.

Financing:

No information available.

Cooperation:

No information available.

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CHAPTERS 24 TO 32: STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF MAJOR GROUPS

Women: Decision-making: A Ministry of Women's Affairs and Women's Rights was established on 10 November, 1995. A 5-year plan called Offensive 2001 has been drawn up. The percentage of women in government rose from 20% in 1992 to 33% in 1996; at the local government level it went from 25% to 37% in the same period, while in parliament the percentage stayed at 3%. Policies, guidelines, strategies and plans for achievement of equality in all aspects of society are being drawn up. Mechanisms are being developed to assess implementation and impact of development and environment policies and programmes on women. Status: Should it survive, the Ministry would still face strong societal misunderstanding, which is deeply rooted in Haitian culture and requires intersectoral dialogue for its elimination. Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: Curricula and educational material promoting dissemination of gender-relevant knowledge are being revised. Financing: The Ministry has faced financial constraints due to a lean budget allocation and problems with the Parliament calling for its elimination. Cooperation: The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women was ratified on October 8, 1982. An additional convention, that of Belem Dopara in Brazil, dealing with violence against women has been ratified on April 3, 1996.

Children and youth: Decision-making: Their role in the national process is ad hoc. Children and Youth have become so important in the Haitian sustainable development process that a full Secretary of State has been devoted to them. Called the Youth and Sports Secretary of State, it has catalyzed many programmes dedicated to this sector of society. Besides receiving its full share of the education sector within the Ministry of Education, Haitian youth is the object of the important forums mentioned below, in sport, tourism, in education in health protection and in child abuse protection. Programmes and Projects: Youth fora promoting dialogue between the youth and government include: National Forum with private and public institutions (December 1996), Departmental Forum for Synthesizing basic youth priorities, Communal Forum to identify the three most important national and local problems, Youth workshop for World Youth Day. Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: The goal of ensuring that by year 2000 more than 50% of youth -- gender balanced -- have access to appropriate secondary education or vocational training will be reached by the year 2004.

Indigenous people: No information available.

Non-governmental organizations: Decision-making: Mechanisms allowing NGOs to play their partnership role responsibly and effectively are planned. At present, NGO inputs are ad hoc. The goal of establishing a mutually productive dialogue at the national level between NGOs and governments is set for 1998.

Local authorities: Decision-making: The Ministry of the Environment maintains special relations with: Ecological groups with more than 10 years in existence like FAN (Friends of Nature Federation), and FREN (Federation for the Restoration of Nature); New ecological associations which are growing out of the popular movement of the 1990s. At a 1996 ecological forum more than 50 ecological associations were present.

Workers and trade unions : Decision-making: The relevant ILO Conventions will be ratified by the year 2000, and workers already take some part in National Agenda 21 discussions and implementation. With the preparation of the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) some workers took part in the MARP process.

Business and industry: Status: Two big enterprises and thirty-eight small- and medium-sized enterprises have adopted sustainable development policies. Forty construction enterprises have been participating in a mobile seminar on the Impact of Construction on the Environment. These enterprises, small and medium by Haitian standards, have been exposed to sustainable development policies, and they have seemed willing to adopt such principles on an as-needed basis and in relation to the suggested norms from the Ministry of Environment.

Scientific and technological community: Status: There is some effort in the direction of improving exchange of knowledge and concerns between the science and technology community and the general public. The Ministry of the Environment has been studying guidelines for Environmental Impact Evaluations (EIE). With regard to new

products being imported into Haiti, the MOE has considered the technological research done, published and adopted by developed countries.

Farmers: Decision-making: Mountain agriculture already receives adequate publicity and governmental support. The Government of Haiti has developed an appropriate agrarian reform in order to encourage land maintenance and to fight erosion. This reform will concern lands belonging to the State that have been the object of constant disputes throughout the years. The Territorial Municipalities Act will more than likely promote decentralization and the importance of local farmers, with their practices, their land problems and their mountainous agriculture.

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CHAPTER 33: FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MECHANISMS

Decision-Making: The creation of the Ministry of Environment, in 1994, was a change in the Government. The budget of the MOE was meager but it was nevertheless targeted for elimination by certain members of the Parliament. The MOE's Organic Law will be presented to the Parliament in 1997. The GOH supports either bilaterally or multilaterally various basic needs programmes implemented jointly with the local population in fields involving ecologically sustainable production methods, water supply and sanitation, education, agriculture and forestry. With financial help from the international community, the GOH has implemented basic needs programmes with local population support. The NGO's have been mostly involved in fields dealing with ecologically sustainable production methods like potable water supply and sanitation, education, agriculture and forestry.

Programmes and Projects: The Environmental Country Monitoring Unit (ECMU) is one project where the UNDP has helped and can continue to help Haiti through: the financing of micro-projects identified by the communities themselves and recommended by the MOE; the human resources made available to the MOE on a case-by-case basis; and the support furnished to the MOE, after specific request by the MOE for preparation of studies and reports.

Status: In 1984, a study prepared at the faculty of Economic Sciences in Port-au-Prince revealed that the percentage of the "so-called" operating budget dealing-even remotely-with environmental protection was estimated at 2.5% of the 1982-1983 budget. The same ratio in the development budget dedicated to environmental problems was estimated at 7.5%. It can be surmised that there is a higher percentage of funds allocated to environmental issues but distributed through various ministries.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Cooperation: The GEF is available to the MOE for project support. This will be specified in detail in the NEAP, under the project identification phase. The preparation of GIS maps or the feasibility of environmental maps are a few examples. UNEP has been a helpful entity for the MOE and has become very adapted to the Haitian environmental sector. See also under "**Decision-Making**" and "**Programmes and Projects**".

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CHAPTER 35: SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Decision-Making: The issue of human resources development is being prepared by a consultant to the National Environment Action Plan process.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: Although some faculties, like Quisqueya and INAGHEI, give courses on the Environment, no four-year colleges offer a specific curriculum in Environment and Development.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: By the same token, no research scientists and engineers work full-time in this field. The US Census of 1990 however revealed the presence of such Haitian scientists, engineers and technicians engaged in research and experimental sciences in the US.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: It is believed that a UNDP or TOKTEN project aimed at the repatriation of Haitian expatriates will entice a few of these scientists to come help their country of origin.

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CHAPTER 36: PROMOTING EDUCATION, PUBLIC AWARENESS AND TRAINING

Decision-Making: The Ministry of Environment (MOE) is charged with developing a programme of Education Related to Environment (ERE) for the public at large and for school-age children in particular.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: No information available.

Information: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER 37: NATIONAL MECHANISMS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

This issue has been covered either under Chapter 2 or under the heading **Cooperation** in the various chapters of this Profile.

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CHAPTER 38: INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

This issue deals mainly with activities undertaken by the UN System.

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CHAPTER 39: INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS AND MECHANISMS

No information available.

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CHAPTER 40: INFORMATION FOR DECISION-MAKING

Decision-Making: As defined by the head of the Government himself, the Ministry's mandate essentially consists in: defining, promoting, implementing and following-up of norms aimed at environmental protection and rehabilitation, in collaboration with competent authorities; elaborating national policy to protect the environment (drafting of the NEAP); management of protected areas in collaboration with the appropriate "territorial municipalities" or the local entities; developing a programme of Education Related to Environment (ERE) for the public at large and for school-age children in particular; preparing an organic law to be discussed with the other ministries.

Programmes and Projects: No information available.

Status: Most phones are in towns. In the rural areas the Government of Haiti is trying to install public services for interurban and international calls.

Capacity-Building, Education, Training and Awareness-Raising: No information available.

Research and Technologies: No information available.

Financing: No information available.

Cooperation: No information available.

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CHAPTER: INDUSTRY

No information available.

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CHAPTER: SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

No information available.

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