

# Market-Based Tools in Haiti: USAID Food for Peace and Cash Transfers

## Project Overview:

Over the last 30 years, World Vision has implemented humanitarian and development programs on La Gonâve, an island off the coast of Haiti. Communities on this island have long struggled with poverty, poor infrastructure, and access to basic services such as clean water, electricity, and transportation. In 2016, when Hurricane Matthew made landfall, an estimated 40-50 percent of the island's infrastructure was damaged. People were displaced while fields were ruined and livestock drowned – critical resources for agricultural development and economic livelihoods.



Source: US Department of State

In response to the devastation, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) provided support through an existing Food for Peace development food security activity (DFSA) known as Kore Lavi, which in Creole means



A beneficiary's identification is verified before she receives her cash disbursement as part of the USAID supported Food for Peace Kore Lavi program ©World Vision 2017/Bradley Dawson

*Supporting Life*. World Vision is a consortium partner in implementing Kore Lavi, a four-year long program that aims to strengthen the Haitian national social safety net system and improve the food security and nutritional status of vulnerable populations by increasing access to locally produced foods.

Following Hurricane Matthew, World Vision provided emergency food baskets to 21 thousand beneficiaries. Once the immediate humanitarian needs were met, a Cash for Work program was launched along with a separate cash and voucher program for vulnerable beneficiaries. This post Hurricane Matthew Cash Transfer Program targeted 980 of the most vulnerable households in designated regions on La Gonâve. These households were identified by local authorities, done in conjunction with World Vision and community leaders.

*"Tell the American people what they did for me, and what they did for my family, and without programs like this I don't know how I would have rebuilt after the hurricane."*

*-Lizamene Mathurin from Balama, Haiti*

# Follow the journey of a cash transfer: Meet Lisamène

Lisamène Mathurin lives on La Gonâve with her husband and their eleven children. Her household was significantly impacted by Hurricane Matthew, and she and her family lost livestock and suffered damage to their farm. Shortly after the storm, her community was visited by local government officials who met with households to assess the damage from the hurricane.



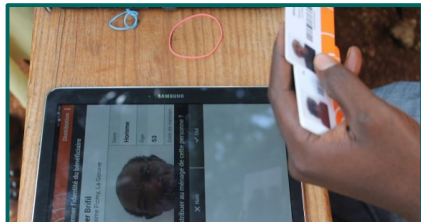
## Hope After a Natural Disaster

After the government officials' visit, Lisamène and her family received notification they were eligible to participate in a three-month cash transfer program supported by USAID and implemented by World Vision. Lisamène agreed to participate in the program.



## The First Step

Lisamène was given the address and location of the distribution site, about a 30-minute walk from her house. When she arrived on the day of the cash transfer, a World Vision employee instructed her and other beneficiaries to form two lines. The purpose of the first line was to verify eligibility and enrollment. The second line was for recipients to receive their disbursement.



## Verifying the Recipient

In the first line, Lisamène retrieved her state issued identification card as well as a second card issued by World Vision. When she reached the front, she gave both cards to a World Vision employee who confirmed her information via World Vision's beneficiary management system known as the Last Mobile Solution system. After verification, Lisamène was then directed to the second line to receive her cash transfer.



## The Transfer of Cash

Once Lisamène received her unconditional cash transfer in the amount of 3,000 gourdes (equivalent to approximately \$50.00 USD), she was instructed by World Vision staff to count the disbursement and confirm the amount was correct. Once she verified it, she signed the receipt form and prepared to leave.



## Plans for a Future

As Lisamène departed with her husband, she made plans to invest her disbursement in her children's education, by using some for school fees, as well as to provide a down payment on the family's first piece of land.

*After participation in Kore Lavi, **99.76 percent** of target households reported enhanced food security when compared to baseline scores collected before the beginning of the project.*