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4-2-2014

Mirebalais, Haiti Planning Initiative

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Recommended Citation

Urban Harbors Institute, University of Massachusetts Boston; Boston University; and University of the West Indies Centre, "Mirebalais, Haiti Planning Initiative" (2014). Office of Community Partnerships Posters. 207.

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Mirebalais, Haiti Planning Initiative

The Urban Harbors Institute, University of Massachusetts Boston is partnered with Boston University and the University of the West Indies in the Mirebalais Planning Initiative (MPI)

The Project

The Mirebalais Planning Initiative (MPI), a joint project of the Urban Harbors Institute, UMass Boston; Boston University; and the University of the West Indies funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

The MPI is a community-based participatory planning process designed to expand community leadership and decision-making capacity among community members in Mirebalais, Haiti.



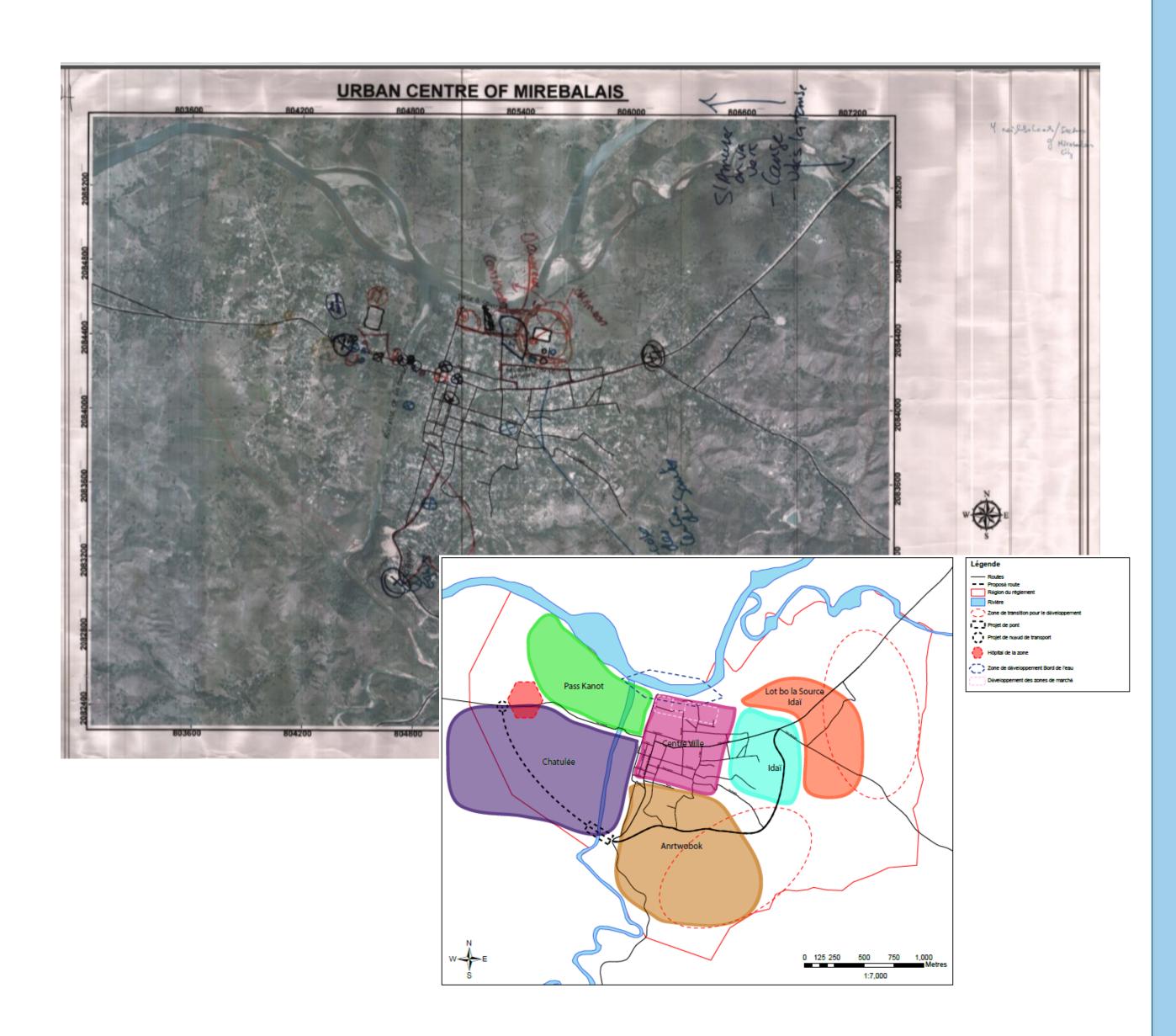
MPI Planning workshop: mapping community assets

Land Use Map

One product of the MPI will be a map to guide future land use decisions. The project is being done as a collaboration among community members with assistance from the Interministerial Committee for Regional Development and several NGOs.

Partnerships

Planning is inherently a collaborative process and Kellogg further encourages its grantees in Haiti to partner to increase our collective impact.

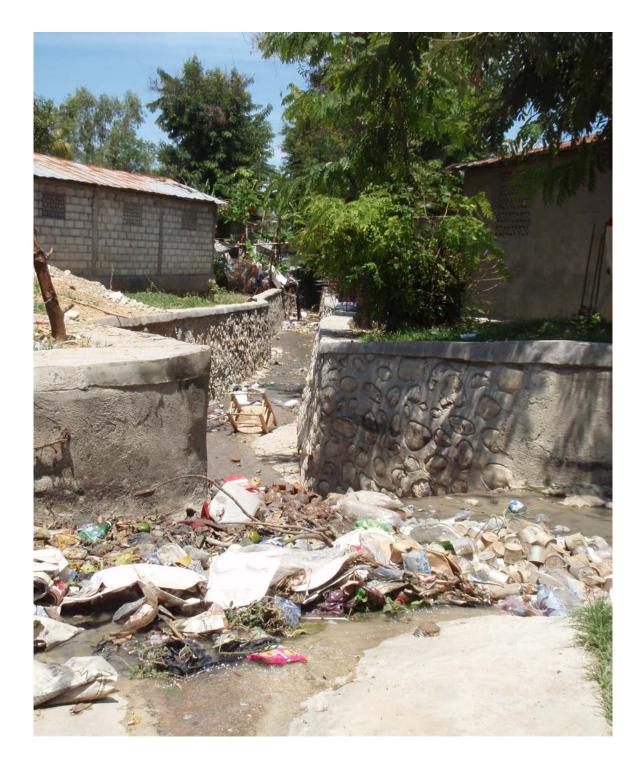


Through the MPI, the GIS Lab at UMass Boston's School for the Environment is assisting the Centre de Formation Fritz Lafontant (CFFL), a vocational school started by Zanmi Agrikol in Corporant, Haiti to introduce Geographic Information Systems training into the school's curriculum for its agricultural students.

Priorities

Solid waste management (SWM) is a key issue, and the MPI plans to coordinate with Executives Without Borders' Recycling Program, a market-based solution to addressing the solid waste problem, sustainable job creation, and improving the environment and public health.

The MPI has begun to explore with municipal officials and the business community the means to increase access to potable water.



Through the MPI a planner/project manager position is being created in the mayor's office to advance plan implementation.

Resources and Information

For more information, contact Jack Wiggin at jack.wiggin@umb.edu