The Artibonite Valley in Haiti is one of the few plane area and represents the major rice production zone in the country; rice is the basic food for Haitians, but local farmers have to compete with low-cost imported rice.

The Italian Ngo CISV is supporting local rice farmers' organization to better the irrigation system and the cultivation, increase production with a developing program that includes education, training and consultancies and reckon a warehouse to stock machinery, fertilizers and seeds.

Since ever rice straw is burnt on the fields, but it is possible to turn waste into a resource. The construction of the warehouse was the opportunity for a building site school to show local community the potentialities of straw bales and train professionals and workers.

The building is set in a rural area, between the Artibonite River and a channel; it is raised above ground to prevent damages from flooding; it has a wooden bearing structure, straw bale external walls, anticyclone roof, earth and lime plasters and bamboo windows.
Cooperate for fair and **sustainable development initiatives** in active collaboration with **disadvantaged people** or communities. This process shall follow principles of **human solidarity**, non-discrimination and will be aimed at **promoting their self-sufficiency**.

Facilitate the use of appropriate technologies, **materials and labour adequate to local values**, to the cultural specificity and responsive to the natural environment.

Share knowledge, promote discussion, reflection and awareness, and collaborate in the advancement of the ‘social production of habitat’.

**RE-START FROM STRAW**

ASF PIEMONTE

WWW.ASF-PIEMONTE.ORG