PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

“What is your Project?

“School, Seed of Community Development” is a project executed by ASF Spain and MOSCTHA (Socio-Cultural Movement for Haitian Workers). At this moment the School has six teachers and one hundred primary students of different ages, but it was designed to receive three hundred students and adult alphabetization courses as well.

Recif is a little isolated village at the sea front in South-East Haiti, without any public building. Therefore the School is designed too, with the objective of being a place of social meetings, for the whole population of Recif. Spaces could be used during the weekend for cultural events, sport competitions or associational workshops, generating social cohesion and community development.

Until the construction was finished, children were studying under a timber structure and the last months inside UNICEF’s tents, without thermal isolation or rain protection, neither divisions according the academic levels.

After the construction, the village has an appropriated and secure educational center, with four primary classes, two kindergarten classes, a cantine with kitchen, latrines, a multifunctional space and a playground-sports area.

Direct Beneficiaries: 876
(Women 509)  
Students: 367  
(300 girls)

School, Seed of Community Development
Improving Educational Conditions and Public Development Infrastructures, Recif

Designers: Alejandro del Castillo, Miren Escartín
Structure: Carlos Jimenez
Collaborators: Maria Rodriguez, Ana Belén Cendero, Pablo Abreu, Maria Jose Duran, Ilia Martinez

PHOTOGRAPHS
1. Class elevation
2. Class section
3. Class plan
4, 5, 6, 7. Photographs
I. 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

Recif is a little village member of the Anse-à-Pitres Town at South-East of Haiti. The village has 300 hundred families, like 1200 persons who work mainly like fishermen, selling their catches at the markets of Jacmel o Pedernales in Dominican Republic. The village is very isolated if reached by car through a dangerous track. The area is very dry, with less than a month of rain during the year; add the lack of potable water sources around there, which makes very difficult the possibility of any plantation.

As a result the Community is in a disadvantaged situation, and the youth have to emigrate to search jobs at the big cities like Port-Prince or Jacmel or Santo Domingo in Dominican Republic. This to be considered, a main issue to develop during the School’s Construction was to work with the whole local community: youth, parents, elderly people and women of all ages.

For that, ASF created a process to employ the community with a roster of twenty days. Also practical and theoretical classes of construction were given in kreyol. In fact, the whole community was very involucrated in the construction and a group of youngs has finished the School like boss-ferrayor (rebar workers) and boss-maçon (builder).
2. FACILITATE THE USE OF APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGIES, MATERIALS AND LABOUR ADEQUATE TO LOCAL VALUES, TO THE CULTURAL SPECIFICITY AND RESPONSIVE TO THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT:

One of the main decisions taken was to use local materials found in Recif, mainly stone. All the area is full of limestone of white color and good resistant capacity. The decision was accepted by the Community after explaining all the advantages of using this material, against the construction with cement blocks (usually used in the new constructions). The Community was asked to collect the stones in piles at the fields nearby, and moved to the site to be used by the builders at interior and exterior walls, lattice windows and the fence.

The second decision was to choose pine wood structure for the roof; reasons for this, the presence of salty elements and may be a corrosion process in the future (the school is situated close to the sea, less of 1 km) and secondly, the iron structure would be fabricated by external workers (dominicaines), not the local community, and in the future, in case of need, reparations will not to be done due to lack of technical knowledges and financial resources. The haitian traditional construction system is done by wood structure elements in walls and roofs.

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PHOTOGRAPHS
1 & 2 Wood structure
3. Lattice window
4. Wood window
5. Wall construction
6. Fence
7. Roof axonometric
3. DEFEND, PROMOTE AND ENABLE ACCESS TO ADEQUATE AND DIGNIFIED HABITAT FOR ALL AS A ‘FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT’

ASF believes that as “Fundamental Human Right” and to develop the Community, a public Educational Center is basic, with adequate and dignified infrastructures.

Until the construction, the village had not any educational center neither other type of public building. Due to this, academic level was very poor and a big group of children were resident students in other towns like Jaimel or Anse-
à-Fitres, visiting their families only once or twice at year during holidays.

With the new School and with new teachers from the Ministry of National Education it will be possible to study all the Primary and alphabetization courses for adults in good conditions. and Recif improving the educational situation. The multifunctional area is used by all Community and strengthens rural social development.

School, Seed of Community Improvement, Educational Conditions and Public Development, Infrastructures, Recif

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PHOTOGRAPHS
1. Interior view
2. Cantine view
3. General view
4. Primary students
5. General sections
6. Previously Tent School