Following the Dream: A Report on Preparing Haitian Teachers and Students for Education & Economic Sustainability



### The Voice of A People

• Why is it important to "hear" the voice of a people?



## Storytellers as Dream Keepers: Haitian Teachers

#### • Goals:

- To develop an understanding of how Haitian teachers, see their students in the present and what visions or dreams they might have for the future of these children.
- To develop and understanding of how/if Haitian teachers connected the challenges of economic sustainability to the work that they perform among school children and in their communities.

#### Data Collection

- Instruments:
- Exit Survey
  - Questions 6 & 9 specifically asked respondents what they liked and what they recommend for improvement in the workshops they participated in on June 11, 2016. From a total of 259 forms submitted, 130 were translated from Creole to English. Questions 6 & 9 were used to address goals 1 & 2.
- Stories from Memories of Teaching: Participants were asked to write a story from their experience(s) of teaching.

- Participant responses to what did you like best fell into 2 general categories. They are the following:
- **Knowledge of what**—specific information, explanation of theories and policies that are applied to education. For example:
- Liked learning about the different ways children can learn;
- Glad to know there are ways to change the model of education in Haiti;
- Love the subjects and presentations and the educational systems solution to good schools;
- Like the model that was set for education (at conference) showed how education could change;
- Like the leadership ideas for education;
- Liked learning about the ways other countries were interested (in Haitian education);
- Liked the subjects chosen for the conference.



- Knowledge of how to do something:
- Liked the way teachers gave information;
- Liked learning how to develop confidence in children;
- Liked learning better way(s) to learn with better results;
- Liked learning how to plan education and teach children;
- Liked illustrations on techniques; Like the teaching techniques presented.

- Needs Improvement:
- More interaction/participation'
- Choice of sessions attended;
- Accommodations for students to attend;
- More interpreters (especially for questions);
- A longer conference;
- Conference in rural areas;
- More time;
- More examples regarding rural schools;
- More material to take home; More practical applications and reflections.



- Wanted more information on:
- Practical education
- How to teach in rural schools
- Addressing problems in education/Discussion on the reality of education in Haiti
- Professional development educating teachers on how to be responsible for their jobs
- Social development
- Techniques of teaching/teaching interventions
- Practical applications
- Leadership
- The environment



## What Did They Tell Us? Stories

- Their stories told of:
- the determination of a people to improve themselves and the lives of their countrymen;
- the commitment of teachers to their craft and those they serve;
- the children who worked hard and succeeded in the face of challenges and setbacks.

#### What Did We Do?

- Feedback that informed the follow-up workshop.
  - Practical applications
  - Teaching in rural schools how and what to do
  - Teaching interventions
  - Techniques of teaching
- This led us to focus on group dynamics; primarily instructional strategies and leadership roles in groups.

### Being "Monday Morning Ready"

- Workshop was designed as a model for what the teachers can do in their classrooms.
- More than theory
- Provided teachers with practical, hands on experiences that they could implement immediately upon return to their classrooms.
- Workshop Video: <a href="https://youtu.be/Lz89FvOMJKs">https://youtu.be/Lz89FvOMJKs</a>



























### What Happens Next?

