

SUCCESS STORY

ME&L: Learning to Practice

Konbit's goal is to increase the number of local development partners influencing and achieving significant and sustainable development results in Haiti, who are accountable to their constituents and who are able to effectively compete for and manage resources.



CEDEL Haiti team during MEL training.



CEDEL Director, Rock André, during group discussions with Konbit MEL Lead (standing).



Participants at MEL training.

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Local organizations are doing considerable development work in Haiti, but their efforts are often not recognized. This is frequently due to a lack of effective reporting on the impact and tracking of their activities. This, in turn, can negatively affect their ability to acquire funding from international donors.

Konbit has the mandate to strengthen Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) capacities of local organizations, to improve their activity performance and their reporting practices. To achieve this, the project created a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Training Curriculum, comprising a five-module course representing the distinct stages of the MEL cycle. The modules include 21 sessions, from the very basic concepts through to advanced learning and adaptation practices. This allows for a flexible approach in delivering course content, ensuring that it can be adapted to match the profile of the intended audience.

In March 2018, select awardee and management track service provider organizations were the first to pilot Konbit's newly developed MEL curriculum. During the five-day training, participants learned how to build a solid MEL Plan as well as how to manipulate learning tools to improve their management practices.

For the second round, Konbit divided the curriculum into three training sessions for a cohort of 21 local organizations. The first, *Module 1 – Introduction to MEL*, was held in September 2018. The second, *Modules 2-3 – MEL Conception and Planning*, was held in January 2019. The last two modules, Implementing & Reporting – Learning & Adapting will complete the training cycle. The feedback from participants has been resoundingly positive.

"This three-day training was a good investment of our time. CEDEL has been active in the country since 2012, but we never took the time to follow the targeted beneficiaries reached through our activities. This training not only made us aware of the need to monitor our actions and activities, it also gave us the tools to accomplish it. As an immediate result of the training, we decided to modify our attendance sheet to include additional information, allowing us to better understand the profile of participants in our events. We intend to continue to integrate MEL in all our future projects, even when it is not required by a donor."

— Rock André, CEO of CEDEL Haiti.

This training will continue with the same cohort through the remaining modules of the curriculum. The 21 local organizations that participated will be able to design a results framework, draft indicators, choose data collection methods, anticipate MEL needs and elaborate a MEL Plan.

The MEL curriculum is accessible by all, for free, on the <u>konbit.ht</u> platform.