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SUCCESS STORY

Konbit: Making Haitian Organizations Stronger

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.



CEGEC staff at Sub Award training in June 2018



In Haiti, small and local businesses account for 80 percent of employment and are vital to the national economy. For many, the lack of knowledge and investment has an impact on performance and profits and constrain the growth.

François Chavenet is the owner and Associate Director of the Cabinet d'Études de Gestion d'Économie et de Comptabilité (CEGEC). Established in 1992, this accounting company employs 30 people. He understood the need for him and his business to build his capacities to deliver sustainable results. Since 2015 he has participated in a series of trainings and capacity building grants offered by Konbit.

The Konbit project - which is Creole for teamwork is a five year program of USAID's Local Solutions initiative. Konbit builds the capacity of local service providers to increase institutional capacity, as well as encourage collaboration and sharing of best practices, innovation, and results.

"Konbit gave us the means to take CaseWare training and purchase the software. We were also able to upgrade to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)." As a result of the support received his clients are particularly satisfied, and his business has now the required qualifications to work with international institutions.

This capacity building will "allow CEGEC to broaden its clientele and scope of work in the long-term." said François Chavenet.

CEGEC results have improved since they started collaborating with Konbit three years ago. "Today we are stronger, and we provide a range of quality services." said Samuèle Christophe, Administrator, CEGEC.

With Konbit support, CEGEC and seven other local



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businesses continue to grow strong and can focus on enhancing their capacities to improve performance while increasing profits, meet international standards and stay on top of technology.

To date, Konbit has facilitated capacity building trainings for over 67 local businesses and granted funding for eight within that same area of activities. In addition, the virtual platform: Konbit.ht was launched in June 2017 and now boasts over 600 local organizations.