



Fondasyon konesans ak libète
Fondation connaissance et liberté



annual report | 2018



◀ Mask by artist Pascale Monnin at the Memorial garden of the Martissant Park

Medicinal garden of the Martissant Park ▶

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I. LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LORRAINE MANGONÈS

In early July 2018, following a Government decree that raised the price of fuel by 50%, Haiti erupted in a wave of protest and disruption that affected every aspect of social and economic activities for the rest of the year. In late August, a young anti-corruption movement emerged asserting a new civic voice. However, civil society struggled to unite under constructive demands while gang and repressive violence gained territories and the most vulnerable suffered. By the close of 2018, profound issues such as the need to rethink governance structures and rebuild cohesion in civil society seemed obscured by a superposition of conflicting power struggles in the political and business sectors.

Over the first quarter of 2018, our resource center had hosted as artist in residence a choreographer whose work was to explore and question the notion of democracy with a group of young performers (not all dancers), and the participation of a video artist and of a photographer, both of whom produced fascinating accounts of the process each in their own medium and through their singular artistic sensibility. The five weeks' in-house workshop and the difficult issues it had attempted to confront radiated throughout the building and echoed in our hearts. The concluding performances, photo exhibit and video projection in the presence of audiences felt like the prefiguration of a much needed bigger conversation on the way we wish to live as a collective, on how we could be sharing and caring for the common good.

As our country began to experience new forms of "unrest" we were still energized by the artistic process and our minds felt ready to pursue the critical questions we had only begun to explore as a group. Even as the capital city and others went into various forms of forced shutdowns, artists, writers, artisans managed to create pockets and corridors of vitality, critical thinking and hope for smaller audiences. Our foundation found ways to pursue all of its programs and activities. We were most challenged in Martissant where our community work is extensive and multilayered as that neighborhood became once again hostage to gang wars. Nonetheless, we worked alongside local schools and grassroots organizations and continued to demonstrate the transformative power of civic engagement.

With many others on the ground, within the OSF network and in our diasporas, we persist in imagining a better future and we accompany those who are building pathways towards it.

II. FONDATION CONNAISSANCE ET LIBERTÉ - NATIONAL REGIONAL FOUNDATION

Created in 1995, Fondation Connaissance et Liberté / Fondasyon Konesans Ak Libète (Foundation for Knowledge and Liberty), is a national foundation within the Open Society Foundations, OSF, a worldwide network of foundations and initiatives created by philanthropist George Soros for the promotion of the rule of law, human rights and democratic values. FOKAL also receives support from other funders, among which the European Union, the French cooperation and Lawyers-Without-Borders Canada. The Foundation offers to local communities throughout the country and to organizations of civil society a large spectrum of activities and support in the fields of education, civic engagement, arts and culture and development.

Since its creation, the foundation chose to support sectors in Haitian society that are likely to contribute to positive change for the country; by targeting issues involving children and youth, civil society associations and historically marginalized groups like women and peasants. Our actions and support revolve around five main themes: access to information, youth and civic engagement, art and education, human rights, reconstruction and environment. This last point includes the project on the creation, management and civic outreach of the Martissant Park, made possible with the support of the Haitian government, the Open Society Foundations, the French Agency for Development and the European Union.

Our mission

FOKAL aims to promote the implementation of structures necessary to the emergence of a just, democratic and inclusive society; to support individual and collective autonomy by encouraging critical thinking, creativity, responsibility and cooperation through education, training and communication and finally to reinforce organizational processes in order to increase the active implication of the Haitian people in their country's cultural, social and political life.

Ayiti Demen (Haiti Tomorrow)

FOKAL can receive donations in the United States through the public charity Ayiti Demen (formerly Friends of FOKAL) based in New York. Ayiti Demen has a 501c3 federal tax exemption status.

III ▶ PROGRAM OBJECTIVES AND PROGRESS

1. Democratic Practice.

A. Democratic Practice – General - Concept : resource center as a center for interaction and debate

Art & culture – Resource Center by Michèle Lemoine

The physical center itself, indoors and outdoors, with its library, atrium, multifunction auditorium and technical capacity for audiovisual production, incarnates and models the role arts and culture can play in social change.

Art interacts with human rights, knowledge, memory and citizenship.

The arts and culture program initiates, produces, finances, disseminates and hosts public events in the field of arts and knowledge. These events relate to civic themes in partnership with organizations, groups or individuals.

Overview of the 2018 programming

KORAL FOKAL, our staff choir, kicked off the year with a powerful concert of songs of freedom and struggle in commemoration of the January 12, 2010 earthquake.

Dance - Body in Democracy, a workshop and two public performances by Jean-Aurel Maurice, choreographer and artist in residence at FOKAL. For 5 weeks, 11 dancers and actors, under the direction of Jean-Aurel Maurice, reflected on democracy in Haiti through movement, dance and discussions. This workshop ended with a public presentation of

two dance solos by the choreographer and a public restitution of the workshop. This was accompanied by the production of a documentary film by videographer Maksiens Denis and an exhibit of Valérie Baeriswyl's photos of the workshop with short performance excerpts.

Theater, slam, poetry - 32 years after, a participatory theater process on the memory of the Duvalier dictatorship, in partnership with the Civic Education program. The participatory theater method consisted in stories centered on personal and collective experiences interspersed with moments of reflection and exchange with the public during the performance. These performances aim to counter revisionism and historical amnesia. The group toured several cities and engaged in rich discussions with the public.

Other performances: Epilogue of a trotter by Alain-Kamal Martial, directed by Louisna Laurent; Les Bonnes, by Jean Genet, and Erzuli Dahomey goddess of love by Jean-René Lemoine, directed by Eliezer Guérismé - BITH; Piano Bar, by Leonard Jean-Baptiste and Jean d'Amérique.

Music – concerts by Thurgot Théodat; Pinas Alcera; James Germain; Duckens Princivil; Amos Coulanges

Thematic exhibits - Memory lies - photos by Pierre Michel Jean from TransDo Art Research Laboratory around the "Perejil" massacre of Haitians in the Dominican Republic in 1937; Locked by BDHH, puppets installation and over 40 portraits of men and women victims of pre-trial detention.

Festivals - Feminist Festival Nègès Mawon; Reading marathon; Kont anba tonèl; European Union Film Festival; Francophone Film Festival; Livres en folie book fair; New Views Film Festival; En Lisant Theater Festival - BITH; Festival Quatre Chemins; Laboratorio's Meetings "Here and elsewhere" on international mobility, safeguarding of heritage and humanity at the heart of the artistic process; Festi Graffiti; GédéFest.

Conferences, meetings, talks - Haitian migration to Chile; ATD Fourth World international day; Reading and World Music; Disabilities and culture; conference by Senegalese philosopher Felwine Sarr, organized by Port-au-Prince Art Performance Lab. Conferences by human rights institutions - SOFA, Collective DSSR, Haitian Association of psychology (conferences on violence against women, reproductive health, mental health ...), BHDD (debate competition, exhibits), Pain without borders (palliative medicine and ethics).

Film Screenings-debates - Micheline Laudun Denis portrait and *Body in Democracy* by Maksaens Denis; *Douvanjou ka leve* by Gessica Généus; *Kaselezo* by Christina Julmé; debates for schoolchildren within the framework of the European film festival; *Haiti my love* by Getty Felin as part of festival *Nouvelles vues d'Haïti* ...

Challenges

Providing careful support and contributing to the dissemination of work and thought in an unstable political context and in an over-solicited space. In spite of the challenge, we continue to see multidisciplinary creativity at the service of civic themes, and qualitative as well as quantitative improvement.

Next steps

Continue substantive and long-term work on specific themes



Body and democracy by choreographer Jean Aurel Maurice ▶

© M. BAERISWYL



Tag mural by Azuei collective, Martissant ▲

1. Democratic Practice.

B. Democratic Practice – General - Field : Democratic practice

Art and Culture – Grants by Elizabeth Pierre-Louis

The arts and culture sector in Haiti is generally civically minded but is also a vector for conquering and defending liberties. It is the voice of inclusion and the place of transcendence, away from prejudice, division and mediocrity. FOKAL supports production, performance, training and exchanges and is accompanying the renaissance of the Centre d'Art, a 75 year old institution destroyed by the earthquake that today is one of the most vibrant places for creativity and artists' convening to support social change. The power and diversity of artistic expression in Haiti (and in the Haitian diaspora) is the most radical response to the country's constant portrayal as a humanitarian case.

Summary of achievements in 2018

- Funding of new documentary films and publications in line with FOKAL's values
- Quality training of artists through partnerships
- 7 institutions and 5 festivals receive institutional support from FOKAL to support their organizations in the work of framing and promoting Haitian art and culture at the service of the community.
- 30 beneficiaries selected in the context of calls for proposals for the production of high quality cultural products have received grants up to a maximum of USD 10,000. Smaller grants were awarded to over 30 individuals or grassroots associations.
- Identifying potential artists/collectives to work with the OSF Arts Exchange Program.

Challenges objective

Despite the call for proposals, we still find it necessary to reserve an amount for small grants used for artists traveling abroad and smaller initiatives.

- The call for proposals is now more widely known and submissions are increasing.
- Support for cultural institutions is becoming increasingly scarce and more and more organizations in the sector are turning to FOKAL for grants.

Next steps to achieve this objective

Continue to seek financial and technical partnerships for the field.

Debaters preparing, Les Cayes ▼



1. Democratic Practice.

C. Civic Engagement and inclusive Participation in Democratic Governance (Democratic practice) - Civic Engagement and inclusive Participation in Democratic Governance

Youth Initiative by Anis Jean-Gérard

Through several partnerships, third party funded initiatives and collaborations, this program works on civic engagement and advocacy for youth throughout the country. This is a relatively low cost and flexible program consisting mostly of training sessions, conferences, workshops and debate camps with very rewarding results as young men and women are trained to identify goals, develop problem solving strategies and learn advocacy techniques.

In December 2017, the annual coaches meeting produced new objectives and priorities for the program, mainly to provide new tools, methods and work plans and to make the program more visible to the public.

Summary of progress to date

- About 450 young people members in 14 debate clubs across Haiti involved in the program.
- More young girls involved in the program activities, at least 45% compared to 2017
- A new debate camp format on Human rights issues, with the collaboration with the Civic Program of the foundation: 9 trainings, brainstorming and discussion workshops with 12 human rights experts on various topics such as Human rights and migration, Sexual health and reproductive rights.
- Introduction of the World School Debating Championship debate format in our tournaments

- 7 itinerant trainings for 140 new debate judges in the country over a 4-month period
- Creation of the database on the different actors, facilitators and events of the program
- 10 inter-schools debate tournaments realized by the clubs (on 14 expected)
- 2 awareness days organized with 2 clubs on right to identity and right to leisure, in their community
- Creation of a new scoring grid for judges of the Karl Popper debate format.

Challenges

- Measure the change of behavior on human rights issues of youth involved in our debate program
- Realize the awareness days with debate clubs have been difficult, because of strong social problems in the communities of young people young people. 2 out of 3 could be realized

Next steps

- Evaluate indirect impacts and relationships developed by the actors of the program
- Increase to 50% the participation of girls in the activities of the program
- Organize 2 awareness days with debate clubs about citizen rights in 2019
- Start the process to organize an international debate tournament in Haiti

2. Childhood and Education.

A. Early Childhood – General - Field: Early Childhood and Education

Tipa Tipa by Elizabeth Pierre-Louis

The Tipa Tipa Foundation was planning in 2018 to continue to train pre-school and primary teachers in 12 schools across the country, to organize advocacy for access to better education for disadvantaged children and their families and to make training for staff of the Ministry of Education.

Summary of progress to date

- Tipa Tipa Foundation has worked with national and international partners on the well-being and positive parenting of children. Preliminary meetings to prepare advocacy for access to better education for disadvantaged children and their families have taken place. We can also mention as realization:
 - Tipa tipa conducted a study for the ministry on parent education in Haiti.
 - Links to the UNICEF Office for Parental Education.
 - Development of an online training platform

Challenges

Difficulty for institutions to engage effectively in advocacy, drastic reduction of funds as well as social and political instability

Next steps to this objective

Tipa tipa Foundation commits to continue working on advocacy for children with interested local institutions and other public and private partners.



Primary school students ▲

3. Economic Governance & Advancement.

A. Civic Engagement and Inclusive Participation in Democratic Governance (Economic Governance & Advancement) - Field: Civic Engagement and Inclusive Participation in Democratic Governance

Sustainable development – Grants by Michèle D. Pierre-Louis

This program attributes 6 to 8 grants per financial year. Through small economic investments, we aim to assist rural grassroots organizations who have demonstrated capacity to become micro entrepreneurs. This in turn aims at increasing their revenue, reinforcing their skills, for activities that have a triple scope: economic, social and environmental. The most promising SME's in the sector should grow and reach larger fair trade markets. We also aim to contribute to the creation of a federation of small farmers capable of working on national advocacy for food security and related political action. This process is underway and showing positive improvement.

In 2018, FOKAL has added training sessions to the smallholder farmers who benefit from this program. Sessions on crops, water, sanitation, climate change and its effect on agriculture and the food chain. Field visits were also undertaken to evaluate local situations and progress made.

Next steps

This trend will continue in the future with more emphasis on climate change, water and sanitation issues, and exchange between organizations that confront the same challenges. An insistence on food production and food security is also part of the training package, which remain challenges in a country that imports most of what we eat.

3. Economic Governance & Advancement.

B. Urban Space Development for Civic Engagement - Concept: Preservation of Martissant Park

Parc de Martissant by Michèle D. Pierre-Louis

In the middle of the most densely populated and underprivileged section of Port-au-Prince, FOKAL advocated successfully for --and concretely effected-- the transformation of a wooded space into a public park. From a no-man's-land, the 45-acre park is now a vibrant breathing space offering safety, leisure and learning to the local population. The park attracts visitors from the city, the country, the diaspora, the world. We continue to expand the scope of educational, civic and leisure activities within the park and we continue to negotiate with public authorities and international donors the implementation of planned improvements of infrastructures and services in the entire neighborhood.

In 2018, FOKAL invited several high level scholars to become member of a scientific board for the Martissant Park. The first meeting took place in November and except for a professor at MIT an EARTH University (Costa Rica) all other members attended the meeting that took place in the Park (Duke, Columbia, Dartmouth, Haiti, plus a few Haitian scholars-entrepreneurs). That same year, the Park was declared "Haitian Protected Area for Biodiversity" by the Minister of Environment. FOKAL's ambition is strengthen the scientific component of the Park while maintaining its programs and projects with the communities that surround the Park and beyond.

Challenges

The major challenge remains the insecurity that plagues this section of Port-au-Prince because of gang wars nourished by political illicit interests. Another main challenge is to obtain the Government of Haiti financial support to the Park (a public park), a constant struggle for us each year.

Next steps

Our Horizon is to gain enough ground with the process of empowerment of local citizens and raising awareness nationally and internationally for this initiative to gather enough momentum to impulse a larger transformative action in the country.



Workshop at the medicinal garden of the Martissant Park





3. Economic Governance & Advancement.

C. Urban Space Development for Civic Engagement - Concept: Preserving and rehabilitating culturally significant neighborhoods

Heritage – Gingerbread houses by Michèle D. Pierre-Louis

The Dufort House today is a fully equipped space with a business plan to serve as a center for the promotion of Haitian art and heritage with a pedagogical perspective. It is a place for training, fundraising and income generating activities, collaborations with museums, galleries, the Centre d'Art, and regional cultural institutions such as the Ludwig Foundation in Cuba, the National Gallery in Jamaica and other institutions in the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico. The Chenet House will be fully restored in 2018 and either sold or rented to reinvest capital into the Dufort House activities and if possible the restoration of new gingerbread houses.

In 2018, Maison Dufort hosted 16 art exhibits and 3 seminars on arts and culture. The exhibits showcased contemporary artists, men and women. This trend will continue in the coming years as FOKAL in partnership with other cultural institutions has created the "Thursdays of Contemporary Art". Every last Thursday of every month, an artist working in a wide range of mediums is invited to present his work and engage in a conversation with the public.

This will continue in 2019. In addition, there are already several exhibits planned including works by photojournalists and ironwork artists.

Maison Dufort has become a hub for arts and culture which was the intention at the conclusion of the restoration process.

The challenges in the world of creation remains the precarious living conditions of many artists, the political situation that creates at times high level of insecurity in the streets. However, in spite of those constraints, many planned events take place and attract an important crowd.

4. Theme: Higher Education.

A. Higher Education – General - Field: High Education

University Partnerships by Michèle D. Pierre-Louis

FOKAL has always worked with the higher education sector, in Haiti and abroad, to contribute to create a critical mass of learned citizens FOKAL has always worked with the higher education sector, in Haiti and abroad, to contribute to form a critical mass of citizens capable of responding to Haiti's challenges: scientific, economic, environmental, cultural, social and political. However, this already ailing sector collapsed almost completely with the 2010 earthquake. Foreign universities asked FOKAL to serve as interface for their assistance to that sector. In agreement with OSF, FOKAL created a "University Partnership" program (UP) under the direction of Michèle Pierre-Louis.

This program primarily supports the following domains of higher education:

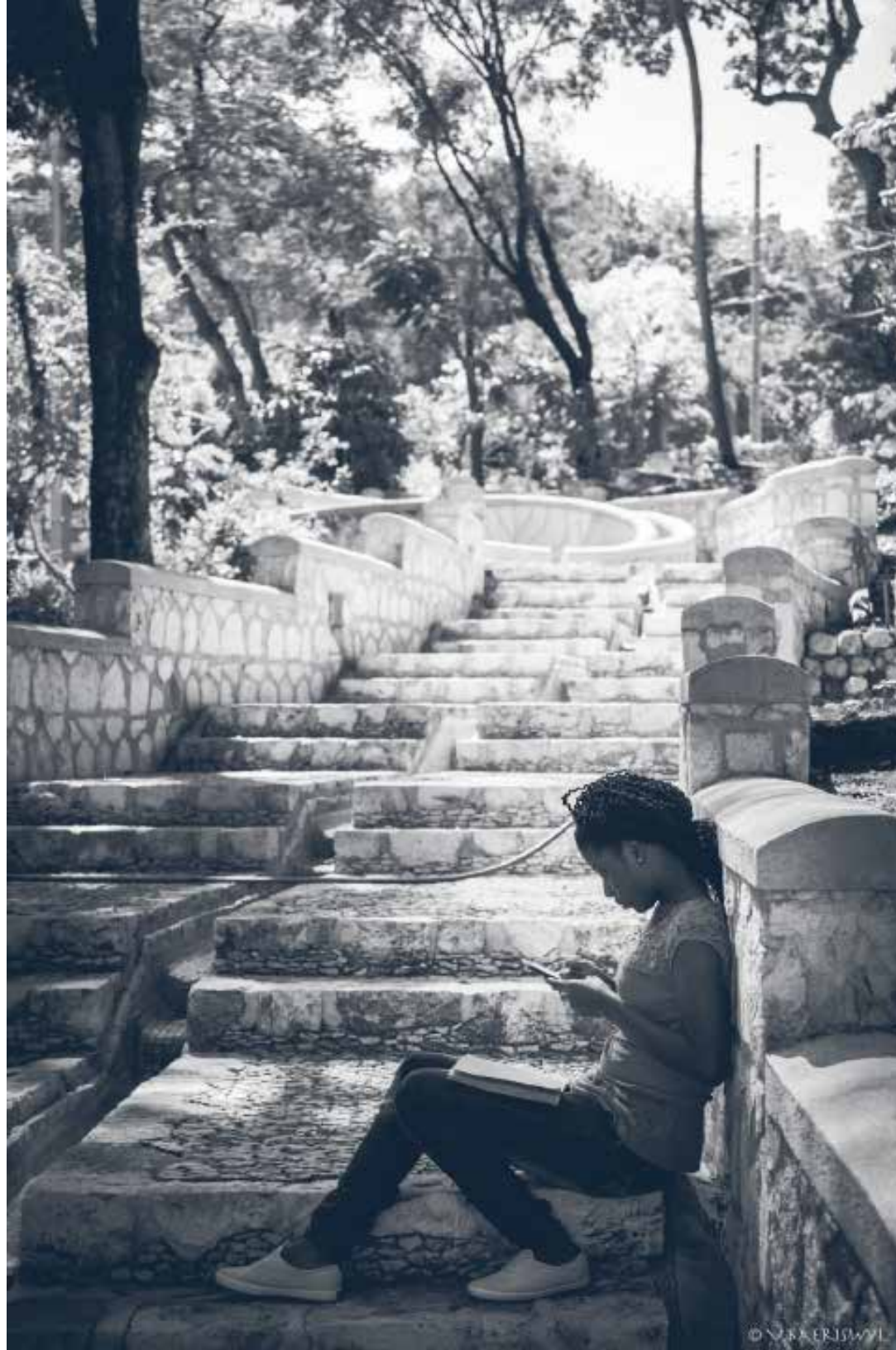
- Public health
 - Environmental sciences
 - Social sciences
 - Students volunteering and youth entrepreneurship
- Through:
- FTT's teacher training sessions and production of local material while assisting in searching for new donors and opportunities

- Maintaining high academic standards among scholarship beneficiaries through financial assistance, guidance, and internships.

In year 2018, FOKAL has supported the creation of Masters Degrees at the Ecole Normale Supérieure of the State University of Haiti. For the first time FOKAL has received funding from OSF-HESP (Higher Education Support Program) that was applied to the School of Agronomy, a Laboratory of Research in the Social Sciences School, and to other partners working in higher education.

Next steps

FOKAL hopes that HESP will continue to support its programs in an area of studies neglected by traditional donors but which is in dire need of support.





5. Human Rights movements & institutions.

A. Human Rights – General - Field: Human Rights movements & institutions

Human Rights and Civil Society by Elizabeth Pierre-Louis

We are committed to nurturing and reinforcing new tendencies in the Haitian human rights movement exemplified by the dynamic new Bureau des Droits Humains en Haiti, BDHH, and by the new leadership emerging in Haitian feminist organizations. While we continue our granting to a number of human rights institutions and initiatives, we will also continue to develop dialogue with chosen funders and with regional voices in order to build alliances on key issues. Civil society is an important element of democratic construction. One of the effects of the post-dictatorship era was the emergence of many organizations and associations that carried previously repressed expressions of freedom: speech, circulation, association.

Summary of progress to date:

- Fokal gave 30 grants in this area focused on:
- Support the local judicial struggle against impunity through technical assistance and funding
- Support academic research in areas related to democracy / the rule of law
- Funding for publishing, film, conferences, events, etc. on those issues
- Funding technical assistance, advocacy,

- networks and training, strengthening civil society organizations to achieve their goals as key actors in the democratic process.
- FOKAL also supported the publication of reports and research on human rights, the organization of conferences and participation to international conferences and meetings.

In Collaboration with OSF's Human Rights Initiative, FOKAL was able to give the Bureau des Droits Humains Haiti (Office of Human Rights Haiti) a more substantial financial support, for this dynamic young structure that is boldly challenging pretrial detention, detention conditions; litigating successfully in favor of sexual minorities and against sexual abuse; engaging law students in human rights debates.

Challenges

- Civil society weakens due to many internal and external trends
- Generation-to-generation transmission is lacking and younger generations are less involved or less interested in human rights issues.

Next steps

- Continue to search for rewarding partnerships and donors who share our values and approach.

6. Theme Information & Digital Rights.

A. Information – General - Field: Information & Digital Rights

Library by Erick Toussaint

We assert reading as a right in a country where it is still a privilege. Partnerships with international instances on concepts such as mobile libraries and online training platforms demonstrated FOKAL's leadership and capacity to attract new funders but such partnerships are not long term and leave us to face a continued lack of public commitment to this issue. While we support these efforts, we continue to reduce the number of institutional grants to community libraries (from 20 to 16) in favor of consolidating a few sustainable model libraries and the emergence of innovative projects in public reading.

Summary of progress to date:

- Common programming calendar for the library network: For the first time, in 2018, the library program provided a thematic program to all the libraries in the network as a guideline to improve discussions on some subjects covering a different topic every month such as literature, the importance of a library in a community, history, geography, culture and so on.
- Online catalog of the 2 main libraries: After the successful computerization of four libraries in the network, we moved forward to the Monique Calixte Library and the library of the Katherine

Dunham cultural center. It was the first step of two stages work: online catalog and merged catalogs. This work is important not only because of the need to serve more users online but also to build a database for other libraries.

- Security in the libraries: Aside from the common activity programming, a survey showed that most of the libraries did not have an emergency kit. It was important to raise awareness about the situation and provide an emergency kit to every library.
- Participation in international conferences: Fokal, as a member of international library organizations like ACURIL, ALA and IFLA, was represented in annual congresses: In the Dominican Republic in June 2018 where the coordinator of the library program was reelected to the executive council of ACURIL; In New Orleans, USA, where the delegation discovered new tools for book loans automation.
- The renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the American Embassy for the Harold Courlander American Corner at the Monique Calixte Library was also an achievement. The American corner was awarded a more substantial grant from the American Embassy in Haiti for more programming activities to promote peace and American culture in the world.

Challenges

The unstable political climate since July 2018 caused many activities to stall or to be postponed.

Next steps

We will continue with the thematic programming for the libraries with a focus on "Human rights explained to the children" throughout the year with a different theme each month, covering civic rights, women's rights, gender equality and equity, among others, in collaboration with the Civic Education / AJULIH program. We will also move forward with the merging of the catalogs of the Monique Calixte Library and the Katherine Dunham cultural center and the finalization of the online training platform for the staff of the libraries and partners.

Readers at the Katherine Dunham library ▶







◀ A unique bookmobile, the bibliotaptap

Game Club at the Monique Calixte Library ▶

7. Journalism.

A. Journalism – General - Field: Journalism

Media by Maude Malengrez

Our previously announced intention to work with the OSF Program on Independent Journalism was launched through a professional workshop for Caribbean journalists held in March 2018 in Port-au-Prince. Participants came from Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Cuba, Jamaica and Puerto Rico. In 2018 the Media program also partnered with the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) to organize a roundtable on self-regulation for journalists, media owners and experts. The roundtable in the capital was followed by similar activities in 4 other cities. This was crucial at a time where ethical practices are a serious issue on air as well as on the internet with the creation of dozens of new online media and the use of social networks. The Media program supported a hackathon organized by OIF and partnered with the French Institute through funding by Fonds D'Alembert to organize workshops on the issues and opportunities raised by online journalism and fact-checking practices. The Media program also organized a workshop on cartooning and collaborated with the civic engagement program to support storytelling projects for children on human rights.

The program has organized in-house coaching of Haitian online media, Ayibopost; supported the SAKS network of community radios in exploring this sector's viability as a tool for social change, alongside some community radios on human rights

reporting (Radyo Vwa Klodi Mizo in Les Cayes, Radio Guacanaguaric in Sainte Suzanne or Radio Boukman in Cité Soleil), and projects run by Refraka, a women's movement within the field. We also published an anthology of reports by investigative journalism consortium Ayiti Kale Je.

Through a call for proposals launched every year, the program has also been able to provide grants for a new citizen journalism platform (Enfositwayen) and training organized by an association of journalists focused on Climate Change (Accledd). It has also supported the Infotoupatou project run by Canal France International; the production of short films on human rights by a local production in Jacmel; audiovisual content produced by a feminist organization (Creged) and educative content on media literacy for young public; a film festival in Jacmel; the printing of a magazine dedicated to creole cultures and a conference on the relations between Haitian media and the diaspora in Laval (Quebec).

In the field of documentary photography, the program has published a book and produced an exhibit on the memory of the dictatorship (Kazal); supported the ongoing production of the second edition of the collective K2D magazine focused on environment; supported a workshop on booklet editing for photographers and the work of the 2 laureates of the Fund for emergent photography through mentoring and workshops.

In the field of documentary filmmaking, the program organized workshops and mentoring for young filmmakers, weekly screenings and monthly talks focused on a theme, as for instance mental health or Haiti – Dominican Republic relations, inviting directors and human rights activists.

Challenges

The political crisis that emerged mid-2018 has affected our activities in the field and particularly the follow-up of our grantees on the ground in the countryside. This crisis has also affected our partners and grantees themselves in their goals.

Next steps

Closing ongoing projects as Kazal or suport to the K2D magazine, working on a Caribbean initiative, relaunch efforts to support investigative journalism.



Conference about the Haitian Dominican relations ▲



◀ The border city of Anse à Pitres *

8. Reserves fund

Reserve Fund for Haitian migration issues by Executive director, Lorraine Mangonès

This Support to unanticipated opportunities and projects, in line with FOKAL's strategic priorities and activities was requested to respond to an opportunity to assist Haitian migrants eligible to regularize their status in the Dominican Republic and avoid deportation. Secondly, the reserve was to support a municipality and grassroots groups on the southern part of the border on the Haiti side that were showing civic minded initiatives.

1. Supporting Haitian Migrants Obtain Legal Status in the Dominican Republic.

Immediate support to civil society organizations to assist Haitian migrants in completing the registration.

FOKAL funded the American Jewish World Service (AJWS) in the DR to expand their partnership with a group of 6-7 civil society organizations helping migrants complete the registration process so that they would not face deportation and expulsion once the PNRE period expired in August 2018. These organizations reached out to migrants, helped prepare the individual claims, and brought them in groups on days previously agreed with the authorities to have their claims processed.

2. Action on the Border.

In the southern border town of Anse à Pitre, FOKAL supported small holder farmer's initiatives to enhance local agricultural production for local needs but also with the further aim to develop niche bio products such as high quality cocoa and coffee for fair trade markets.

The foundation also supported the municipality of Anse a Pitres as it showed initiative in providing services to his constituents and in building light infrastructures for local farmers markets.

9. Foundation Administration.

A. General Administration (Foundations)

Communications by Karl Foster Candio

Forty three weekly editions of our newsletter reporting on our activities in Port-au-Prince, but also in remote areas of the country, were sent in 2018 to more than 4,500 subscribers (partners, beneficiaries, journalists and friends of FOKAL). They redirected our subscribers to regular reports on our activities and those of our partners, on our freshly renewed website.

By the end of the year, we refreshed publications including our main brochure with updated information. The calendar of the year 2019 went out in December 2018, and summed up visually and through descriptions important achievements within the year. The calendar serves as one of our best and effective communication tools to present the best of our year and introduce our mission to many. The Communication department maintained our partnership with the State University of Haiti, particularly the Human Sciences faculty. We offered opportunity for two interns to complete their internship at FOKAL during the year, as part of their academic education.

In September 2018, following a recommendation of the staff, we had a 2 day workshop on FOKAL values and mission. The workshop took place in at BMC (Bibliothèque Monique Calixte) and was attended by the 50 staff members of the foundation, including the security personnel.

A life coach and psychotherapist, facilitated this workshop. It gave each employee of FOKAL the opportunity to participate in a clear identification of the values we share as a foundation, and to reflect on better ways to express these values throughout our activities. Following the workshop, a roadmap was established collectively. It figures individual and collective tasks to perform during a one-year period, and indicators to monitor the progress of the implementation of the plan during the year. Another workshop is scheduled to take place in 2019 to review the implementation of the institutional plan.

A few words from the Financial Director, Marie Edmonde Jeune

In 2018, despite Haiti's social and political turbulence, the administration relied on its staff to facilitate the execution and harmonization of the various programs of the Foundation. Thanks to our combined efforts and the austerity measures applied by the finance department, we managed our annual budget and kept operating expenses at the same level as 2017.

We are aware that the country's circumstances - as in many other countries of the Open Society Foundations network - make the tasks more difficult for employees. The dedication and tenacity of our staff and partners allows everyone to move forward.

This year again, the External Audit Firm gave a positive rating to the administrative and financial management of the foundation. The entire administrative team is to be congratulated!

To continue to strengthen the bonds and contribute to the fulfillment of the employees and friends of the Foundation, its choir: Koral FOKAL celebrated its second anniversary. With more than 30 singers, the choir has offered a dozen concerts in different places in Port au Prince and in the city of Les Cayes. We sing for joy and relief but also to affirm our mission, to raise awareness and educate the public by lifting up our values. We hope that our donors will continue to invest in actions that bring change to Haitian society.



10. Third Party: AJULIH

Civic Education - by Carine Schermann

In April 2017, Lawyers without borders Canada (Avocats Sans Frontières Canada) launched the project «Access to Justice and Fight Against Impunity in Haiti» (AJULIH in French), funded by the Government of Canada and on which FOKAL is a partner. The project focuses on three areas: improving access to justice; contribute to the fight against impunity and corruption; contribute to promoting citizen participation in democratic processes. FOKAL is particularly involved in this latter aspect, through its civic Education program.

Enabling citizens to understand and claim their rights: FOKAL proposes to produce a set of general documents on various human rights themes, to set up a platform for information and online exchanges on these themes, and to offer the public cultural activities to raise awareness specifically of youth to issues of citizenship and human rights through artistic practice.

Summary of progress to date:

Children and youth were targeted both in the conception of educational tools on human rights and in the information campaign led through creative or artistic activities. A children's book on the topic of rights of children, migration and freedom of speech was conceived in French and Creole, also addressing implicit issues such as equality of sexes. A partnership with Lakou Kajou was launched for the conception of two animated cartoons, on the topics of justice and environment.

A summer camp enabled young people from 14 debate clubs from around the country to gather and work on the topic of women's rights and migration, through workshops and trainings. Some debate clubs were selected through a contest, to organize a one day information campaign on a human rights violation observed within their community: the young people of Fonds-Parisien chose the right to identity and mobilized more than 175 people in January and then again in March. The young people of Les Cayes invited youth association of their town to work on children's rights and specifically the right to leisure.

Through a call for proposals, university scholarships were given to students working on human rights, across all fields of studies.

Between September and December, a campaign on duty of memory and the history of the Duvalier dictatorship took place inside and outside Port-au-Prince. Six young comedians were supported in the creation of a forum theatre show, called "32 years later". They met children and students, in schools, libraries, and cultural centers in Gonaïves, Jacmel, Jérémie and the capital to discuss the realities of this past. The exhibition "Dictatorship and resistance" that traced the highlights of the dictatorship, accompanied this awareness action and was presented in FOKAL.

Women's rights were addressed through different lectures and debates, such as "Women and justice

in Haiti", or "How to manage violence against women? A legal, medical and psychological perspective".

Challenges

The time dedicated to editing work and expert consultation on educational tools, for them to be the most adequate and efficient.

Spreading human rights trainings and actions in the province, with the logistics it implies.

Reaching to girls and women in our call for proposals and actions.

Empowering the youth so they believe they can be part of the positive changes for a more tolerant, equal and just society.

Next steps

More educational tools, trainings and actions will be part of this human rights education campaign.



One day information campaign on human rights - Fonds Parisien ▲

FOKAL BOARD MEMBERS



Maxime D. Charles
President

Former CEO of the Bank of Nova Scotia in Haiti. His legal and finance career includes teaching international law from 1985 to 1991 at the Public University of Haiti, and fulfilling international assignments in Canada and the Caribbean for the bank of Nova Scotia from 1992 to 1996. Charles is active in a number of professional and civil society organizations, serving as a board member for the Arbitrage Tribunal of the Chamber of Commerce of Haiti and as president of the Anti-money Laundering Committee and of the Association of Professional Bankers. He has used his position on the money laundering committee and the banker's association to bring these groups together and pursue legal reform. Charles has LL.M. degrees from the Public University in Haiti and from the Faculty of Law at the University of Provence in France.



Danièle Magloire
Vice-President

Sociologist, management consultant, human rights activist and a founding member of the feminist organization Kay Fanm, which operates a shelter in Port-au-Prince for gender violence survivors and works to promote women's rights and economic development. She has worked to develop national policies and responses against gender violence and is coordinator for the Collective against Impunity, a leading group in the effort to bring former president Jean-Claude Duvalier and his associates to justice in Haiti. Magloire was a prominent member of the government's advisory council during the post-Aristide transitional government from 2004 to 2006. Following her service to the government, Magloire became the executive director of the Haitian office of the Canadian NGO Droits et Démocratie, where she directed human rights advocacy training until 2012 when the Harper government closed Rights and Democracy in Canada.



Norma Powell
Secretary

Former General Director of the Center for Facilitation of Investments (CFI), Haiti's national investment promotion agency. Founding member of the Haitian Liberal Party and of the Haitian Association for the Fight against Poverty. Powell's engagement with philanthropy includes working to establish the Association for the Management of Risks and Continuity of Activities, a private sector initiative that works with local authorities to help prevent and respond to disasters. She is also a board member of Haven, a housing and community development NGO based in Ireland that is working with Haitians to build or repair thousands of homes and restore public hygiene and sanitation in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake.



Jean- Joseph Exumé
Member

He is a very reputable lawyer specializing in civil and commercial law. He was Minister of Justice and Public Security twice, notably during the government of Michèle D. Pierre-Louis (2008-2009). He is a pro-bono advocate of the group of victims against Duvalier, the Collective against impunity. He was a member of the presidential commission set up in January 2012 for the Revision of the 180-year-old Haitian penal code and a draft revision of the Penal Code was submitted in March 2015



Elisabeth Colimon Woolley
Member

She is a militant lawyer with Dantes P. Colimon and a member of the Port-au-Prince Bar since 1978. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Legal Studies from the Faculty of Law and Economics in 1980. She is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Law Society of Port- Administration of the Haiti Arch and the Haiti Fund for Women's Aid; Member of the Ethics Committee of the GHESKIO Centers and the Soroptimist International Club of Port-au-Prince. She is also interested in micro-credit, ethics and personal development (motivation and self-knowledge).



Maison Dufort ▲

Credits

**Grantee: Fondation Connaissance et Liberté
Annual Report**

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Drone view of the Martissant Park ▲

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