

The Structures

The main objective of the Camp-Perrin School Workshops is the creation of non-agricultural jobs through small rural agricultural tools and machinery manufacturing enterprises. The raising of the technological level of the Haitian peasant's environment is implicitly derived from this objective.

Three beneficiary groups can be identified. First, the rural youth who have completed their primary education and who receive training for artisan-entrepreneurs at Camp-Perrin workshops, as well as facilities for the creation of a small independent enterprise. Second, artisans from the Cayes region and, to a lesser extent, from other parts of the country who benefit from the supply of raw materials and equipment offered by the School Workshops and the presence of their technicians. Finally, the peasants, associations and communities who, throughout the country, are users of the tools and machines made in Camp-Perrin.

The development actions undertaken are:

- Multipurpose and practical training of rural youth in iron trades mainly
- Assistance in the setting up of trained apprentices and the creation of self-contained, small-craft enterprises
- Monitoring and management support for self-employed artisans
- Supply of raw materials and equipment through a purchasing center
- A credit service
- A marketing Service
- Developing new manufacturing
- Technical and agronomic advice

The non-profit association "The Workshop-Schools of Camp-Perrin" was legally recognized in 1977. It brings together all the independent craftsmen trained and set up since 1968, as well as the Haitian and foreign executives. It now has about 20 members and is chaired by Bélonny Blanc, artisan making ploughs and carts.

The structure of the association has been developed with time, needs and means, and there is a distinction to date:

- Independent workshops and the Workshop-School of Agricultural Mechanics
- The central purchasing unit, the credit department and the marketing department
- An administration that also supports the development and implementation of new projects, and the search for the means necessary for the expansion of activities

The Camp-Perrin Workshops are a considerable technological center, made available to the artisans of the country and to all those who work in the development of the rural world: competent available personnel; quality equipment supply service

The questions are very varied: protection of an electric motor; motorization of a small unit of manufacture of peanut butter; profitability of a mill; implantation of a manioc processor; loan of select cattle for improvement of the breed.

Not all local skills are available for the rural world and it is still necessary to have staff assistance. The productions carried out in the framework of the Workshop-School of Agricultural Mechanics ensure a certain financial autonomy to the association which calls upon various donors for its peripheral activities (increase of the capital of the purchasing center, creation of new workshops, etc.).

All over the world it is estimated that the creation of a job costs this much in one area of the economy, and that much in another one. It is the same in the third World. The school workshops need investment subsidies to create employment-generating businesses.

The AECP actively collaborate with the non-profit association CODEART <http://www.codeart.org/fr> in Belgium, which is responsible for some engineering studies and also for the preparation and shipment of containers of raw materials and used machinery, indispensable to the operation of the workshops.