



Two years after the quake, many Haitian schools are serving their children with food grown locally. Knowing they have a buyer, farmers are motivated to produce more food. Knowing they'll get good food, kids are keen to go to school - where they get the nutrition they need, plus an education. It's the virtuous circle at the heart of the strategy by the government and WFP to make Haitians more food secure.

PORT-AU-PRINCE-- Rice dust is filling up the air and leaving bags and workers at the warehouse of the Moreau Paye Planter's Association covered with a thin coat of white powder. This is the Artibonite Valley, Haiti's biggest rice production area.

Sitting under tarpaulins that only let in a few rays of sunlight, about twenty men and women filter, separate and pack the September rice harvest in big bags marked with the World Food Programme's logo. "We have 1,150 members farming on approximately 500 hectares of land," explains Louis Fresnel, the president of the association. "Working together helps us get stronger and develops our sense of solidarity."



This year, we have won bids to sell most of our production to the World Food Programme and to the French Government, that then donates the rice to WFP. We are also negotiating with a local buyer to see whether he would like to purchase from us next year," he adds. In 2011, WFP purchased over 3,000 mt of rice produced by Haitian farmers and used in the school meals program.



[World Food Programme \(WFP\)](#)

