



Country Sheet

Cuba





HI Team and intervention areas

HI Cuba, in the Latin America Regional Program, has 1 staff member.





General data of the country

a) General Data

DATA	Cuba	Haiti	Belgium
Population	11.2	11.6	11.7
IHDI	/	0.327	0.874
Gender-related Development Index	0.961	0.898	0.978
Maternal mortality	39	350	5
GINI Index	/	/	26
Population within UNHCR mandate	182	/	195.883
INFORM index	2.9	6.4	1.7
Fragile State Index	59.5	102.9	31.4
Population covered by at least one social protection benefit (%)	48.7	5.8	100
Net official development assistance received (millions)	151.9	946.6	0

b) Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	Non-ratified
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Ratified on 06/04/2016
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Ratified on 06/09/2007

c) Geopolitical analysis

The Republic of Cuba, the biggest country in the Caribbean, developed as a socialist country after the end of the revolution in 1959. After the fall of the Soviet Union in the early 90s, the country, whose economy was strongly tied to the USSR, entered a long period of



economic challenges (*periodo especial*), that ended also through a progressive diversification of the national economy.

However, while many countries (including the whole EU) have recently revised their position against Cuba and fostered economic, cultural and political exchanges, the embargo imposed on the country by the USA is still heavily affecting not only the growth capacity of the island, but also the life of all the Cubans.

Cuba is currently experiencing the most severe economic crisis since the "special period" following the collapse of the USSR in the early 1990s. The Cuban economy has been hit hard by the tightening of the US embargo and sanctions since 2018, as well as by the difficulties of its main ally in the region, Venezuela, while its growth had already slowed down since 2013. Despite a limited human toll, the COVID-19 crisis has only worsened an already precarious situation by depriving the country of one of its main resources, tourism. Cuban GDP fell by 11% in 2020, and then raised to 0.4% in 2021, and 1.8% in 2022.

This complex economic scenario has resulted, in recent years, in galloping inflation and limited access by the population to basic necessities such as food, health and hygiene products. The country's fuel supply has also been considerably affected, causing intermittent periods of energy and transportation crises. This situation has also led many Cubans to emigrate to the U.S. or European countries.



Summary of HI presence in the country

HI has been working in Cuba since 1998 to contribute to a fairer and more inclusive society for people with disabilities on the island. To this end, it accompanies and supports the four national associations of persons with disabilities, and other local actors, in initiatives of Community Based Rehabilitation, inclusive education or emergency response. Currently, it pays special attention to the sectors of economic inclusion, community resilience and disaster risk reduction.



Overview on ongoing projects

Sectors of services where HI conducts projects and focus on beneficiaries and operational partnerships

Project title & main sector(s) of intervention	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Partner(s)	Location	Project start and end date	Donors who finance the project
<p>Inclusive Pinar del Río - Economic inclusion and empowerment of people with disabilities and their families, with emphasis on women and youth, in inclusive municipalities</p> <p>Economic Inclusion, Inclusive Governance, Accessibility of the environment & Information and Communication Technologies, Social development and Social protection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Personalized Support • Self-employment kits • Awareness and Training • Counseling to Employers • Advocacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 449 persons with disabilities (223 women and 226 men) and their family members • 3 special schools • 2 technical schools • 8 community workshops • 2 counseling centers for women and their families • 60 activists • 80 enterprises and cooperatives 	<p>Civil Society Organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asociación de Cubanos con Limitades Físicas Motores • Asociación Nacional de Ciegos • Asociación Nacional de Sordos de Cuba • Federation of Cuban Women <p>Authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministerio Salud Pública • Ministerio de Educación • Ministerio del Trabajo y Seguridad Social • Ministerio Comercio Exterior e Inversión Extranjera 	<p>Pinar del Río province, municipalities of Pinar del Río and Consolación del Sur</p>	<p>2022.02 – 2024.03</p>	<p>Québec Sans Frontière</p>
<p>Cuenca Resiliente: a multi-hazard, inclusive Early Warning System in the basin of Cuyagateje river, favoring</p>	<p>Improve technical capacities, knowledge and articulated and inclusive practices of monitoring,</p>	<p>243 women and 240 men</p>	<p>CARE International Estado Mayor Nacional de la Defensa Civil Gobierno Provincial y Gobiernos Municipales</p>	<p>Province of Pinar del Río</p>	<p>2021.06 – 2025.05</p>	<p>ECHO (European Union Humanitarian Aid)</p>







<p>disaster preparedness in Cuba</p> <p>Disaster Risk Reduction & Climate Change Adaptation</p>	<p>appreciation, warning and preparedness for protection against hydro-meteorological events, drought episodes and forest fires of authorities, technical staff, economic actors, and women and men from the 14 communities involved.</p>		<p>Centro Provincial de Gestión para la Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres Centros Municipales de Gestión para la Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres. Delegación Provincial de Recursos Hidráulicos Centro Meteorológico Provincial Asociaciones cubanas de personas con discapacidad Delegación provincial y municipales de la Agricultura Cruz Roja Cubana</p>			
<p>To improve access of Persons with Disabilities, with emphasis on women and youth, to different forms of employment based on inclusive development strategies implemented by state services and civil society organizations</p> <p>Economic Inclusion, Accessibility of the environment & Information and Communication Technologies, Social development and Social protection, Inclusive Governance</p>	<p>Awareness and training, support for the development of economic initiatives, adaptation of jobs, improvement of tools and working conditions, policies strengthening</p>	<p>Persons with disabilities: 400 Activists: 200 Social workers: 114</p>	<p>Civil Society Organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asociación de Cubanos con Limitades Físicas Motores • Asociación Nacional de Ciegos • Asociación Nacional de Sordos de Cuba • Federation of Cuban Women <p>Authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministerio Salud Pública • Ministerio de Educación • Ministerio del Trabajo y Seguridad Social • Ministerio Comercio Exterior y Inversión Extranjera 	<p>Granma province, municipalities of Bayamo, Manzanillo and Bartolomé Maso</p>	<p>2022.11 – 2024.06</p>	<p>COSUDE (Confédération Suisse)</p>



<p>Inclusive recovery of living conditions and strengthening of the resilience of the families and municipalities affected by Hurricane Ian</p> <p>Water, Sanitation and hygiene, Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation, Non Food Items</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovery of basic needs for families affected by the Hurricane Ian • Recovery of schools for children with disability • Strengthening community and familiar agricultural structures 	<p>200 families, 3 schools, 10 community organics gardens and 60 families with organic gardens.</p>	<p>Civil Society Organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asociation of agricultural and forestal technicians • Asociación de Cubanos con Limitades Fisicas Motores • Asociacion Nacional de Ciegos • Asociacion Nacional de Sordos de Cuba • Federation of Cuban Women <p>Authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gobiernos de Pinar del Rio, Consolación del Sur and San Juan y Martinez • Ministerio de Agricultura • Ministerio de Educacion • Ministerio del Trabajo y Seguridad Social • Ministerio Comercio Exterior y Inversión Extranjera 	<p>Pinar del Rio Province, Municipalities of Pinar del Rio, Consolación del Sur and San Juan y Martinez,</p>	<p>2022.12 – 2024.12</p>	<p>UE-INTPA (European Commission)</p>
--	--	---	---	--	--------------------------	---------------------------------------



Donors

<p>Québec sans frontières</p>  <p>QSF QUÉBEC SANS FRONTIÈRES UN ALLER-RETOUR DIFFÉRENT</p>	<p>Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation</p>  <p>Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra</p>
<p>UE / ECHO</p>  <p>Funded by European Union Humanitarian Aid</p>	<p>UE / INTPA</p>  <p>Funded by the European Union</p>