

PILOT BRIEF

Lakou Colora

Belladère, Centre Department, Haiti — site analysis, jobs plan, budget, and three-year milestones for the inaugural Lakou.

VERSION 1.0 · 2025

Why Colora

Colora has the rare combination of productive land, existing utilities, road access, and engaged local leadership — making it the lowest-friction site to demonstrate the full Lakou model.

Existing strengths

- Arable land suitable for agroforestry and row crops
- Functional electrical grid connection
- Potable water access points within reach
- Internet and mobile coverage
- Paved road access to Belladère and the wider Centre region
- Active community leadership and youth interest

Existing challenges

- Underutilized agricultural capacity and degraded soils
- Limited rural enterprise infrastructure
- Fragmented services and minimal vocational pathways
- Migration pressure on working-age youth

Pilot scope

Lakou Colora will recruit and train rotating cohorts of youth across seven institutes, run paid fieldwork in agriculture and eco-construction, and incubate 10–15 cooperatives and businesses by year three.

Metric	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Trainees enrolled	300	450	500
Paid fieldwork jobs	350	700	1,000
New businesses launched	5	12	20
Hectares restored	20	35	50
Households served (water/sanitation)	800	1,800	5,000+

Budget — pilot phase

Line item	USD
Training (recruitment, instructors, materials)	\$1,050,000
Infrastructure (water, energy, housing, sanitation)	\$1,400,000
Agriculture & reforestation operations	\$520,000
Enterprise seed capital (cooperatives & SMEs)	\$480,000
Operations, M&E, and reserves	\$350,000
Total — secured	\$3,800,000

Three-year milestones

Year 1 — Foundations

- Site preparation, water systems, and solar microgrid installation
- First cohort of 300 trainees recruited and enrolled
- 20 hectares of degraded land brought back into production
- Initial cooperatives formed in agriculture and eco-construction

Year 2 — Scale

- Second cohort and accelerated paid fieldwork (700 jobs)
- Health, sanitation, and nutrition programs operating at full capacity
- 12 new businesses launched with seed capital and mentorship
- Diaspora and donor partnerships activated for Phase One replication

Year 3 — Self-sufficiency

- 1,000 paid roles sustained through Lakou enterprise revenue
- 20+ active businesses generating local tax base and reinvestment
- Operating model documented and replicated in two adjacent sites
- Lakou Colora reaches financial self-sufficiency at the unit level

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