



FIGHTING Corruption and Political Violence.

BAI accompanies the victims of former dictator Jean-Claude “Baby Doc” Duvalier, in their fight for justice in Haitian courts, on the streets and in the media. In February, we won a historic victory when the appeals court reinstated the previously-dismissed political violence charges against Duvalier. The court agreed with us that the statute of limitations could not be applied since the case involved crimes against humanity. Duvalier did escape final justice with his October 2014 death, but the victims and their lawyers are committed to continuing the case against the torturers and killers of the Duvalier regime. We work to provide justice for the victims, but also to send a message to current and future political leaders in Haiti and beyond: Powerful murderers and pillagers of public resources are not immune from justice.



TRAINING the Next Generation of Human Rights Lawyers.

BAI is preparing the next generation of public interest lawyers through its intensive training program. Most Haitian law graduates will never become lawyers—the exceptions are often those with wealth or connections. BAI challenges that norm by providing intensive mentoring and apprenticeships for law graduates committed to becoming social justice lawyers. In 2014, BAI increased to eight trainees working side by side with BAI’s all-Haitian legal staff. BAI and IJDH are also part of a global network that connects trainees with allies fighting similar fights around the world.

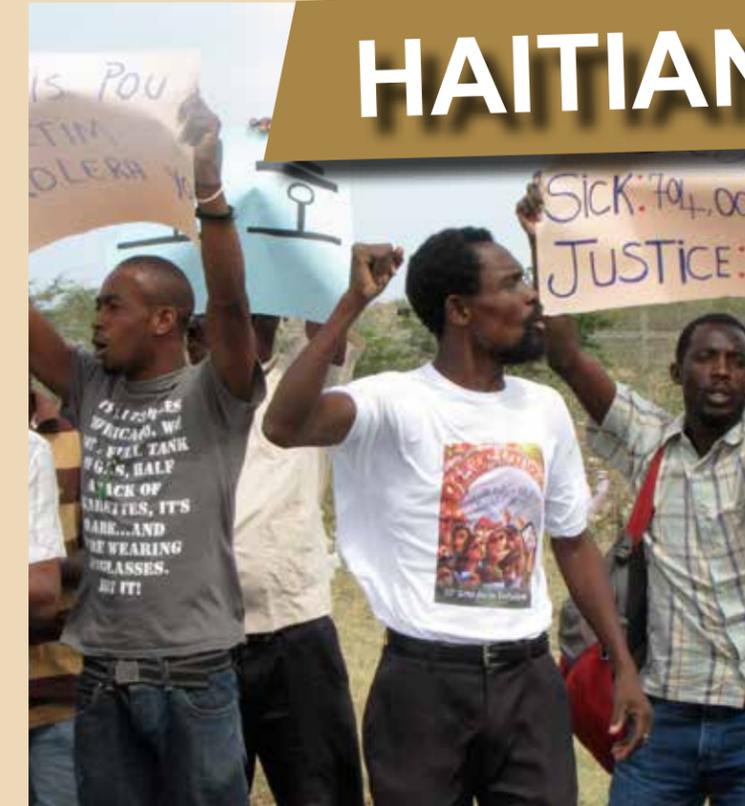


POWERING

HAITIAN SOLUTIONS

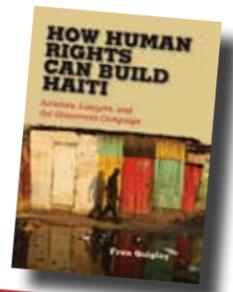
In 1804, Haitians took charge of their destiny by becoming the first Black republic. 210 years later, the Haitian people are still fighting national and international forces holding them back. The BAI-IJDH partnership uses and strengthens the tools of democracy to bridge between every-day Haitians and those who make decisions about Haiti’s human rights at home and abroad. BAI powers Haitian solutions to make change, bringing their voices and stories to Haitian media and the international community and demanding justice and respect for Haitians’ rights. IJDH shows the world that Haitians are creating change and mobilizes global allies to add their strength.

Your financial contributions, your solidarity, your activism and your commitment keep this fight strong. Together, we can power Haitian-led solutions for a better Haiti.





Read the new book *How Human Rights Can Build Haiti* to learn more about IJDH, BAI and the movement for justice in Haiti.



DEFENDING Human Rights Defenders and Activists.



BAI and IJDH have the backs of Haitians who are threatened, harassed or arrested because they are working for a better Haiti—speaking out, organizing, protesting or engaging the justice system to work for all Haitians. BAI gets Haitian activists and lawyers out of jail, defends them in court and gets the word out to Haitian media. IJDH brings the weight of international advocacy and media to bear by taking the cases to international courts as needed. Every activist or lawyer freed or defended is another voice back in the fight to advance Haiti, knowing that the risks they take are mitigated by BAI's and IJDH's readiness to step in. One of BAI's victories this year was getting six protesters out of jail in May.

The Bureau des Avocats Internationaux (BAI) and the Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti (IJDH) are a partnership of Haitian and U.S. human rights advocates guided by Haitian perspectives and priorities and working towards Haitian solutions. BAI and IJDH seamlessly combine advocacy in a poor, transitional country with that in stable, wealthy countries in order to effect change. BAI in Haiti is driven by grassroots groups, Haitian clients and partnering activists. IJDH in the U.S. follows BAI's lead and provides scores of organizations, activists, lawyers and political leaders abroad with meaningful and effective ways to contribute to human rights in Haiti.



EMPOWERING Haitian Women to Combat Violence and Discrimination.

The Rape Accountability and Prevention Project builds the knowledge, experience and skill of Haitian rape victims and their allies to fight for justice in and outside of court. Grassroots women's groups are key partners, supporting individual clients and accompanying them in court. The project increases the ability of police, lawyers, and judges to respond justly to rape, and generates important discussions on women's rights throughout society. Women empowered to combat violence can more actively engage in the economy, education, family and society, and can hold the justice system accountable to all Haitian women and girls. BAI is bringing cases to the trial court, appeals court and even Haiti's Supreme Court, winning almost all of them and transforming the way each court treats poor women.

FIGHTING for Clean Water and Justice for Cholera Victims.



Haitians have taken to the streets, the airwaves and the courtroom to fight for justice since the United Nations (UN) introduced cholera to Haiti through reckless disposal of untreated cholera-laden sewage into Haiti's largest river system in 2010. BAI and IJDH are supporting and amplifying these efforts by pursuing a lawsuit in U.S. Federal Court, and leading a vast international cholera justice network. The network is harnessing the power of cholera victims, concerned citizens, legislators, journalists, students, scientists, nonprofits, Haitian and U.S. government officials and current and former UN appointees to pressure the UN to install the comprehensive water and sanitation infrastructure necessary to control Haiti's cholera, compensate the victims, and apologize. In October, the court held a hearing in front of a packed audience, on whether the UN is absolutely immune from US courts. This year, even more UN insiders have supported justice for cholera victims, including UN Independent Expert on the Situation of Human Rights in Haiti and the Special Rapporteur on the Human Right to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation.



BUILDING SKILLS for Democratic Engagement.

ABAI initiative launched in June is helping several communities in rural Haiti engage their elected officials to respect their human rights to clean water and primary education. The civic engagement project features training in basic skills, combined with participation in existing national and international campaigns. Participants have already organized three demonstrations that received national press coverage. We are looking forward to announcing more results early in 2015.

