

# HAITI: THE AID DILEMMA

## QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FILM:

1. What is the name of the wholesaler at the beginning of the video?
2. The video characterizes one product as the most important in Haiti. Which product?
3. To whom do micro-wholesalers sell their products?
4. Name two factors that are shrinking the profit margin of micro-wholesalers.
5. What percentage of rice is imported into Haiti from the U.S.?
6. What is the capital of Haiti (and its main port)?
7. Describe the lesson of Umm Qasr, the Iraqi port city taken over by the U.S. military in 2003.
8. Describe the use of vouchers in the rice system.
9. What is the problematic issue of vouchers?
10. The major wholesaler, Tony, feels confident that he can survive an economy where prices are falling rapidly. Micro-wholesalers are less likely to survive. Why is this bad for the Haitian economy in general?
11. What happened to the micro-wholesaler's business, described at the end of the video?

## FEATURED CONCEPTS:

1. What is a wholesaler? What is a retailer?
2. What is profit?
3. What is a voucher?
4. What is a bridge loan?

## CRITICAL THINKING:

1. The video features a man named Tony Bennett, a major wholesaler who is also a "light-skinned Haitian." The video's narrator mentions that almost all of Haiti's major wholesalers are "light-skinned." Why do you think this is so? Identify and describe reasons why this racial distinction might exist in Haiti.