



**JAMAICA'S**  
**SECOND NATIONAL REPORT TO**  
**THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION TO COMBAT**  
**DESERTIFICATION. (UNCCD)**

Ministry of Water & Housing

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DRAFT

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**REPORT ON JAMAICA'S CURRENT STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF  
THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON COMBATING  
DESSERTIFICATION (UNCCD).**

**1.0 BACKGROUND**

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) is one of three major environmental Conventions emerging out of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) "Rio Summit" in June 1992.

The Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) and the Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) being the other two.

The Convention speaks to combating desertification and mitigating the effects of drought in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification. However, it incorporates wider issues of land degradation, socio-economic development, research and development.

Jamaica became a Party to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in November 1997, and has participated in most of the regional meetings and Meetings of the Conferences of the Parties and in May 2001, hosted the UNCCD Workshop on integrating priority areas of land degradation in the ACP/EU Cotonou Agreement.

Since becoming a Party, a number of activities aimed at realization of UNCCD objectives have been carried out. First was the hosting of a National Awareness Seminar in March 2000. The main objective of which was to create national awareness of land degradation and drought issues in Jamaica. Alongside this seminar, a Youth Forum was held, involving secondary school students, the aim of this was to determine the feelings of the youth on the significance of this Convention and their role in its implementation.

In addition, a working Committee on Drought and Land Degradation was formed and in March 2000, Jamaica submitted its first draft of a National Report to the UNCCD,

Since the submission of the First Draft National Report, Jamaica has continued to participate in the UNCCD process. At the international Level, Jamaica has provided strong leadership for the recognition, by international community of the process of drought and land degradation in Island States, particularly in the Caribbean. Intense rainfall, heavy soil erosion as well as historic mono-cultural agricultural practices on limited available arable land affect the Caribbean in relation to land degradation.

Jamaica led the way in the facilitation of a Consultation between the Caribbean Members of the African/Caribbean/Pacific nations on the ACP/EU Cotonou Agreement, by way of hosting the Consultation in Kingston Jamaica in May 2001. From this Consultation, attempts are continuing to have land degradation and drought issues considered as a focal

area in the National Indicative Programme of the Agreement, and subsequent agreements of such nature.

At the regional level, and at the level of the Conference of the Parties, Caribbean Parties, led by Jamaica have achieved the recognition of GRULAC, but a broadening of the representation of Caribbean Parties on the Regional Executive to UNCCD from GRULAC.

In the process of reviewing the efficiency and effectiveness of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST), Jamaica has been elected to Chair the Committee on Science and Technology for the biennium 2002/2003. As Chair of the CST, Jamaica is therefore a Vice –President of the Bureau of the Conference of the parties as well as a member of the Board of Millennium Ecosystems Assessment until 2003.

## **2.0 GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

The general objective of this report is in part to fulfil Jamaica's commitment to the UNCCD, and specifically obligations as set out in Decision 11/COP1 and subsequent Decisions of the Conferences of the Parties as well as Regional Meetings of GRULAC. It will provide a synthesis of the current national status as regards the implementation of this Convention as well as to identify approaches for enhancing the implementation of this Convention and ultimately the development of a National Action Programme.

### **2.1 Specific Objectives**

The structure of the report will take into consideration the reviewed methodological guide developed by the Secretariat of the UNCCD, as well as the reality of Jamaica's environment with respect to land degradation and drought. Along with these outline, the report will also do the following:

1. Determine the level of expectation for inclusion of land degradation activities in programmes related to the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) and the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) through the National Poverty Eradication Programme (NPEP)
2. Evaluate the status on the integration of priority areas of land degradation in the ACP/EU Cotonou Agreement
3. Identify willingness of the stakeholders towards the development of synergies between the Conventions on desertification, biodiversity and climate change.

## **3.0 APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY**

The approach to this report was basic information gathered through interviews with the specific stakeholders. These stakeholders were identified from the previously established

working committee. A questionnaire was not designed as it was felt that questions were very much specific to the institutions. Instead the interview process took on a very relaxed tone, with the hope of stimulating honest opinion about the Convention and how the stakeholders interpreted their roles.

The interview process was also supplemented with extensive literature research on policy documents, action plans and national strategy documents, review of previous reports on drought and land degradation as well as previous reports on the Convention itself.

### 3.1 Limitations

The ability to speak with all the stakeholders proved to be the greatest limiting factor in the acquisition of the information. Many representatives were unavailable by virtue of previous commitments, some of which were overseas. In such cases other potential interviewees were identified but in most instances they were not intimately involved with the Convention to offer information.

In some instances data was not received from particular members of the working committee such as Ministry of Mining and Energy and the Forestry Department

### 4.0 JAMAICA'S NEW ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY

The merger of the Natural Resources and Conservation Authority, Town Planning and Land Development and Utilization Commission to form National Environmental and Planning Agency had its official launch in April 2002. The new organization will continue to operate under the original Acts until a national environment and planning act is promulgated

**Table 1 Existing legislation that governs NEPA**

Natural Resources Conservation Authority Act
Wildlife Protection Act
Beach Control Act
Watersheds Protection Act
Town And Country Planning Act
Land Development And Utilization Act

The current structure of NEPA is to facilitate development and improve the efficiency of the planning approval process by centralizing the review process.

**Table 2 NEPA'S STRUCTURE**

Regulatory and legal services	Applications secretariat branch
	Legal services
	Board secretariat branch
Policies, programmes and project coordination division	Strategic planning and policies branch
	Projects branch
Corporate services division	Human resources and development branch
	Finance and accounts
	Operations management branch
	Public education and community outreach branch
Information technology	Data and applications management branch
	Network operations branch
Compliance and regional services division	Enforcement
Planning and development division	Development control branch
	Local area planning branch
	Land use branch
	National spatial planning and research branch
Environmental management division	Pollution prevention and control branch
	Environmental standards and regulations branch
	Environmental monitoring and assessment branch
Conservation and protection division	Protected areas policy and management branch
	Sustainable watersheds branch
	Coastal zone branch

**SPECIAL CORE FUNCTIONS INCLUDE ;**

- Monitoring the natural resource assets and the state of the Jamaican environment
- Processing and approval of applications for- environmental permits and licenses, planning and development, change of agricultural land use, beach use
- Construction and operation of prescribed industrial facilities such as sanitary land fills, petroleum storage facilities, power generation
- Sewage discharge/ industrial

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- Preparing town and parish development orders, national environmental planning and developmental strategies and action plans
- Enforcing planning approvals in the areas covered by developmental orders

Current initiatives being led by NEPA include the following;

- Policy to review existing legislation and how to table a new law that will merge the Existing laws governing the previously independent bodies
- Incorporation of the Jamaica National Environmental Action Plan (JANEAP) into the Corporate Plans of Ministries and Agencies, ensuring their mandates are listed as line items with an associated budgetary allocation
- Developing a policy document on parks and protected areas as well as watershed policy
- Development of an ocean policy- this will incorporate requirements of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- Submission of the green paper towards a National Strategy and Action plan on biological diversity in Jamaica
- Interagency cooperation on the development of water quality standards for sewage and trade effluents. Draft standards for recreational water standards exist
- Development of blue flag programmes for coastal water quality and tourism industry
- Institutional strengthening and capacity building for NGO's and CBO's

For NEPA the challenge lies in project implementation and it recognizes its inadequate human resource component to drive this. Hence it is embarking on several collaborative efforts to access technical and financial support and reduce duplicity of effort. The aim of the institution is to execute the majority of its programmes through NGO's and CBO's.

### **5.0 CREATION OF NATIONAL AWARENESS AND AN INFORMATION NETWORK.**

The need for raising awareness on desertification issues in Jamaica at all levels cannot be denied. The concept is usually approached from a nonchalant perspective, and therefore present significant challenge to the focal point to get the attention of the media as well as other technocrats.

Recent flooding events in October to November of 2001, has triggered some discussion on the issues of land degradation and poor farming practices, however, the linkages



between how the land is worked, and the possibilities of sustained loss of soil, leading to other environmental compromised conditions, are not yet fully aired.

The issue of awareness and public education, must form the cornerstone of any Action Plan for Jamaica, to be developed under this Convention

### **5.1 National Awareness and the National Environmental Education Committee (NEEC) of NEPA**

The Awareness workshop on the UNCCD held in March 30<sup>1</sup>, 2000, appeared to have been a successful one. The wide cross-section of participants including ministers and technocrats certainly indicated support and solidarity in implementing the mandates of the Convention.

Further to this, there was the inclusion of a youth forum, which allowed the youth an opportunity to express their views on desertification and to make recommendations to other participants. The workshop showed the need to bring all the stakeholders to the table and to stimulate dialogue.

The National Environmental Education Committee (NEEC) was later brought on board to aid in the implementation of the requirements of the Convention as it related to public awareness and education. The NEEC was formed in 1993 to support the activities of the then formed Natural Resources Conservation Authority (NRCA). The overall function of the committee is to give focus and momentum to environmental education initiatives in Jamaica. The Secretariat of the NEEC is housed at the now National Environment Planning Agency previously National Resources Conservation Authority and is manned by three fully paid personnel.

The CIDA/GOJ project, Environmental Action (ENACT), which supports projects that enhance institutional strengthening uses this secretariat as a vehicle to implement its own environmental education projects, while allowing NEEC to fulfill its own mandates.

As it relates to the UNCCD the NEEC does not seek to give special attention to the issues relating to the Convention but sees the specific issues of land degradation and drought being incorporated into the overall environmental message.

Hence the NEEC can ensure that their position in environmental education will provide the necessary linkages not only to the existing framework of their initiatives but also other nationally based environmental education efforts.

Incorporation in the primary school curriculum, schools for the environment programme (SEP) a Jamaica Environment Trust (JET) programme, non-government organizations, and community-based organizations represent some of the clear frameworks where the UNCCD message can be incorporated.

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There also exist environmental events such as Green Expo, scheduled for June 2002, which 2 years ago saw 17, 000 persons in attendance. This also presents good opportunities for information on the Convention to be disseminated, with little effort, to a wide cross section of the public.

The NEEC also links to the public relations section of NEPA thereby allowing for information to be circulated via newsletters, workshops, mass media and environmental fairs.

Given the fact that the ENACT programme comes to an end in 2004, on conclusion of which, NEEC activities revert to NEPA's portfolio Budget, then the UNCCD, could use the opportunity to provide support for the continued work of the NEEC focussing on Awareness of Land Degradation and Drought.

### **5.2 Information Network**

The Working Committee of the UNCCD constantly seeks to identify existing programmes which share similar goals and vision. The committee thus, seeks to incorporate the agenda of the UNCCD into these programmes rather than implementing new ones.

One such organization with broad national reach, is the Social Development Commission (SDC). The Research and Database Department of the SDC is primarily responsible for the community database development component of the SDC's Integrated Community Development Programme. This component of the programme is designed to produce the data and information needed for community, local and national planning. The UNCCD could use this vehicle to develop community awareness and action programmes on land degradation and drought. Examination of the main objectives of the Research and Database development of the SDC reveal the following:

#### a) Objectives

The main objectives of the Research and Database Department are:

1. To establish operational databases with spatial, social, governance, economic and environmental data for community, parish, regional and national planning.
2. To have all parishes, regions, SDC locations accessing the database.
3. To make the database available to the community and all stakeholders.

#### b) Elements Of Research

WHAT? - The collection, analysis and management of all data related to sustainable planning and development.

WHY? - For informed and accurate decision making regarding development alternatives and choices.

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WHO? - For all actors in the development process especially facilitators and decision makers.

WHERE? - The Jamaican Communities Database – for storing, accessing, manipulating data for planning, and participatory monitoring and evaluation of the development process.

HOW? - The utilization of a variety of qualitative and quantitative research methodologies largely facilitated by the CDOs.

### c) Research Methodologies

Utilization of a variety of techniques – for impact assessments and issues relating to Community integration and participation. Examples of the techniques include community walks, community meetings, formal and informal community discussions. A variety of tools are used in the process. Organized Community Meetings and Focus Group Discussions.

Observation Techniques - using designed Observation Sheet.

Secondary Data Collection - using existing data in agencies, ministries, community institutions etc.

Primary Data Collection - Sample surveys or population studies on a variety of social and Economic issues.

Social Audits - with pre-designed instruments and/or participatory techniques including Capacity building tools

Data elements that inform the sustainable Development process

- ◆ SPATIAL DATA - District, community, cluster, parish, region, constituency, P.C. Divisions, Area Development Clusters/Zones.
- ◆ ACTORS - Ministries, Agencies, Donors (both local and international), community leaders and facilitators, business and service providers.
- ◆ SOCIAL DATA - Health, education, sanitation, housing, infrastructure, population distribution etc.
- ◆ ECONOMIC DATA - Labour force participation, existing skills, occupations, income generation and economic activities etc.
- ◆ ENVIRONMENTAL DATA - Natural resources distribution, impact assessments, waste management, pollution, land use etc.

### d) The Jamaican Communities Database

The Jamaican Community Database reflects the activities and character of communities across Jamaica. It was developed out of the wide-scale recognition that the data available for national planning was not sufficiently disaggregated at the parish and community level. It was created and designed by the Commission to provide a central reference point for the storage, retrieval and manipulation of data for information to guide the Integrated Community Development Programme.

## **6.0 DEVELOPMENT OF BENCH MARKS AND INDICATORS**

The concept of land degradation and drought presents different meanings to different persons. From discussions with various technical persons, it was agreed that the parameters used as indicators of land degradation and drought ought to be considered in the context of the sector. Such consideration would allow for measurable indicators both of the extent of degradation and drought as well as providing proper evaluation of remediation measures.

The Working Committee on Land Degradation and Drought will welcome the framework presented by the Committee on Science and Technology of the UNCCD to examine existing international standards that may act a guide to local indicators, as well as the development of local indicators that would incorporate the various local factors influencing these indicators. Clearly, the development of such a system will act as a good management and immediate tool, and must be given priority action in the development of a National Action Plan.

### **6.1 Investigating and Ranking of Land Degradation/Soil Losses in Jamaica**

The major agency of Government, tasked with the responsibility of prioritizing the lands of Jamaica, based on their levels of degradation is the Rural Physical Planning Department, a department of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Rural Physical Planning Department (RPPD) however, has been constantly affected by loss of staff, and has never been able to operate at optimum staff levels.

The Rural Physical Planning Department (RRPPD) is responsible for making agricultural and rural development plans at the national, regional and farm levels in accordance with the government's policy on land use development.

Some specific responsibilities point to

- Planning and execution of regional and national soils and land use surveys
- Advises on land use proposal, recommendations for agricultural and non agricultural sub-units
- Advises on soil fertility management
- Collects and analyzes data for land evaluation
- Gives advice and recommendations for land use and cropping practices.

i) Current Structure of the RPPD

The Rural Physical Planning Department has the following basic structure.

- Two regional rural physical planning units
- Central soil survey/land classification unit including a soil and plant material laboratory-provides comprehensive information on soil resources and their potential for crop production through the use of soil data and land use surveys
- Computer department-which includes such systems as
  - Earth Resource Data Analysis System (ERDAS)
  - JAMPLES- Jamaica Physical Land Evaluation System which is locally developed software at RPPD-looks at soil characteristic, soil use and crop requirements
  - Jamaica Geographic Information Systems (JAMGIS)
  - CRIES- -Comprehensive Resource Inventory And Evaluation System – looks at soils data, land use and classification

The RPPD primarily sees itself in the role of technical advisor to Government and the private sector, whose decisions are supported by extensive research and development.

The RPPD works extensively with implementing agencies such as Rural Agricultural Development Agency (RADA)

ii) RPPD's initiatives

The RPPD has extensive data on soil and land use which has led to land use and land zone mapping along with crop zones all of which feed into agri-planning. The unit is equipped to address issues of soil erosion losses – as it has basic soils data as it relates to soil characteristics. These characteristics are analyzed in the context of other variables such as existing land use patterns, slope, rainfall etc.

One major activity of the RPPD that is valuable to the UNCCD, is its current research into how various vegetative cover types influence the degree of soil erosion and improve soil conservation capabilities. Such an activity may require additional support and collaboration from the CCD. The RPPD, should also be given a greater role in the work of the Working Committee on Land Degradation and Drought.

Other initiatives of the RPPD include the Hillside Agricultural Project ( HAP) although it is not a recent initiative it clearly points to the ability of RPPD to examine, measure and mitigate against the risk of soil erosion.

The focus is clearly hillside and steep slope areas with an objective to improve hillside agricultural production with appropriate technology. The Rural Agriculture Development Agency (RADA) is a significant partner in this project.

A Subproject under this scheme looks at soil types, soil conservation measures, and fertilizer regimes etc.

Other activities linked to land degradation and drought include monitoring of abandoned mining sites to ensure that mining standards for land reclamation and rehabilitation are adhered to. RPPD performs soil analysis to determine soil fertility and productivity and also acts in a facilitatory role by holding stakeholder meetings to ensure all interests are met.

## **6.2 RPPD's Limitations and Capacity Building**

RPPD has recognized several areas that are limiting its full capabilities;

- The department has developed a significant number of software that it uses in carrying out its mandate, however, insufficient number of equipment and outdated equipment has hampered operations.
- Inventory of laboratory supplies is often inadequate to perform routine soil testing and analysis
- Issues of lack of continuity with externally funded projects. Many times a project ends with the exiting of funds, as government is not able to sustain them thereafter.
- Loss of trained staff as working conditions become less favourable with constraints of equipment etc

## **7.0 SOCIAL ISSUES AND LAND DEGRADATION IN JAMAICA**

### **7.1 Background**

The committee does not have much representation in the area of social issues and how social issues are inextricably linked to environmental issues. Unplanned development otherwise known as “squatting”, is one such area that although is not a major feature in the social structure of the country still presents real challenges to sustainable development. Some common causes of unplanned development are identified below;

- Attraction of persons from depressed localities to areas of relatively high economic activity with the hope of yielding higher incomes and living standards

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- Absence of affordable housing or lands either for housing or agriculture in or near targeted areas
- The existence of a clearly defined policy on squatting and the absence of any action against it

These activities have led to several social and environmental effects such as

- Absences of adequate or proper disposal facilities that result in serious health-related problems and the pollution of underground water, rivers gullies, and beaches. Resulting in loss of potable water resources,
- Squatting on marginal lands such as wetlands, steep slopes and gully banks resulting in destruction of valuable ecosystems through deforestation; ultimately leading to destruction of wildlife and natural disasters
- Squatter settlements adjacent to industrial estates are susceptible to air pollution, soil water contamination caused by toxic chemicals and thereby at risk of acquiring communicable diseases
- High degree of exposure to health problems as well as improper basic amenities such as potable water and electricity then directly relate to lower attendance at school, reduced literacy rates and ultimately higher levels of unemployment.
- In general squatting represents unplanned developments that impact other development sectors such as industry and commerce but also speaks to public safety as these communities are at greater risk in the event of natural disasters.
- Speaks to issues of economy, land affordability and availability and land tenure

Examination of a fairly large town in Jamaica displays the following distribution of housing settlement.

**Figure 1** Percentage distribution of walls constructed of wood and block and steel by quintile

LEVELS	WOOD		BLOCK & STEEL	
	%	RANK	%	RANK
Poorest	47.8	1	27.3	5
2	37.8	2	40.4	4
3	30	3	48.7	3
4	27	4	52.1	2
5	15.8	5	63.3	1

In fact many years ago up to 70% of Montego Bay's housing could be considered as squatter settlements, where squatter settlement represents wooden structures

## **7.2 Ridge to Reef Watershed Project (R2RW)**

The first of the major initiatives to address the social issues linked to land degradation is the Ridge to Reef Watershed project.

The project is a five-year, US\$ 6million initiative between the Government of Jamaica's National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) addressing the degradation of watersheds in Jamaica by improving and sustaining the management of natural resources in targeted watershed areas that are both environmentally and economically significant.

R2RW contains three interrelated project components (Contract Results) to achieve its overall aims:

- Working with local-level organizations to promote sustainable environmental management practices for resource users;
- Identifying and supporting solutions that encourage better enforcement of existing environmental regulations and policy; and
- Enhancing the capacity of Jamaican government agencies and private sector and civil society organizations to implement effective watershed management programs in Jamaica.

**Contract Result 1:** Working with local organizations to identify and promote sustainable environmental management practices

R2RW strongly endorses an approach of working with existing organizations in watersheds as partners in solving community-level problems. Attention is directed at strengthening a host of partners through technical assistance, targeted funding, and training to leave in place sustainable and powerful leadership organizations capable of engaging their communities in participatory ways to prioritize activities, implement these activities, and leverage additional human and financial resources as necessary.

Expected initiatives target:

- Reduction of soil erosion and non-point source pollution;
- Improvement in land management practices;
- Provision of clear and consistent environmental awareness; and
- Creation of a vibrant and viable market network with the potential to increase alternative income-generating activities, entrepreneurial spirit and cooperation in the watersheds.



**Contract Result 2:** Identify existing incentives and constraints affecting the enforcement of selected existing environmental regulations

R2RW activities aim to improve effectiveness of policy implementation and increase certainty of enforcement when infractions occur. Implementation and enforcement of existing legislation will be approached by increasing popular and official awareness and understanding of the importance of enforcing environmental rules for watersheds. Exploring options and viability for involving local government, civil society, and GOJ officials (including NEPA/NRCA rangers and wardens), in community-based enforcement is yet another proposed avenue.

**Contract Results 3:** Enhance the capacity of stakeholder organizations to implement effective watershed management programs.

The R2RW team works with Jamaican government agencies, international donors, and private and civil society organizations to improve communication and achieve common goals for managing watershed resources. It is expected that the ability of all partners to implement watershed programs will be enhanced through better cooperation, capacity strengthening, and coordination of activities.

This will include support for the establishment of national coordination mechanisms including the National Watershed Management Council and local Watershed Management Councils.

The programme clearly shares common goals with the outputs of the UNCCD, and dialogue should be encouraged between the relevant stakeholders and the working committee of the UNCCD to facilitate technology transfer

### **7.3 Land Administration And Management Programme(LAMP)**

The most recent initiative coming out of Jamaica's land policy is the Land administration and management programme-LAMP. The programme aims to resolve problems in the critical area of tenure regularization, land information management, public land management and land use planning and development.

- Land information management- to enable effective and efficient management and dissemination of land information and will
  - involve a digital cadastre of St. Catherine
  - Policies and standards for geographic information and an internet based national land information system at the Land Information systems division of the survey and mapping division
  - Updated aerial photography and digital base mapping for Kingston and St. Andrew and Port Maria
  - Implement a national geodetic network compatible with Global positioning systems
- Public land management- will assist in the design of a framework for divestment and management of public lands, giving consideration to environmental, social and financial information. A manual outlining this framework is to be developed.

One significant project related to this component of the LAMP project is the designation of the Hope Estates in 2002, totally some 163 hectares, to the Hope Estates Foundation. The foundation is a not for profit organization designated management control over the property which includes stakeholders such as the National Zoo, Royal Botanical Gardens, Jamaica Horticultural Society and Coconut Park, a child amusement park.

The integrated management of the estates will address issues of squatter settlement relocation, land tenure regularization, watershed management, conservation of biodiversity, public education and passive recreation.

- Land use planning and development component - in keeping with the land policy this will develop and document procedures, processes and mechanism to enable development and implementation of sustainable integrated plans
- Land registration-this deals with programmed and systematic land tenure regularization. This will contribute to the legal security of property through the modernization, the title registration and cadastral system. It is believed that less than 20% of landholders have a certificate of title, which is the best proof of legal land ownership in the country.

The first phase of LAMP will be concentrated in selected areas of the parish of St. Catherine and is expected to end in late 2003.

#### **7.4 Other initiatives to address unplanned development and security of tenure**

- Ministry of Water and Housing programme of squatter resettlement with providence societies – Operation Pride
- National Housing Trust providing affordable housing with interest rates as low as 2% for some sectors
- Emancipation Lands Programme-whereby 100 hectares in each parish are being identified for integrated development
- Development of a National Settlement Policy as well as a policy of squatter settlement some principles have been drafted-
  - A proper database on distribution of squatter communities an associated critical problems- e.g. health ,crime etc
  - Inter ministry collaboration
  - Capacity building which points to the need for expertise from social workers and
  - Squatter removal policy

- Serving notice on squatters or posted on properties from which occupants are to be removed
- demolition of illegal buildings and structures
- Policing of area after demolition to prevent re-squatting and rioting
- Document demolitions on videotape
- Seek funding
- Local planning authorities could be used as watchdogs

### **7.5 National Poverty Eradication Programme (NPEP)**

The programme came about in 1995 from agreements out of the World Summit for Social Development but implementation started in the 1996 financial year and includes some 68 existing and 1 new project in ten ministries and other supporting agencies. Programmes were identified for their potential to combat the cause and effects of poverty. The initiative to deal with poverty eradication aims to tackle four (4) priority issues

- Geographic targeting/ integrated community development- seeks to identify deprived communities and emphasize on eliminating physical, social and economic poverty
- Unemployed youth, and families with children in low income groups
- Safety nets/income transfers – shift the focus from welfare to development-making the transition from cushioning the negative impacts of economic environment to promoting self-reliance.
- Building the ‘enabling environment’- empowerment of persons in communities – through skills acquisition, organization of community based organizations

The NPEP clearly endorses the postulate that poverty and environmental degradation are inextricably linked and hence has given due recognition by include a section in the policy document on major sub-programmes –the 3 main issues relate to

- Hillside agriculture, soil water conservation, watershed management
- Review of policy and legislation for guiding developments in mining, industry and eco-tourism.

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- Overseeing community based organizations to ensure they are following the precepts of sustainability

The role of the section in charge of the NPEP – is NOT to develop and implement programmes but the major function is to coordinate, monitoring and evaluate projects geared towards eradicating poverty.

The Working Committee of UNCCD is not at the stage where it has developed a national action programme that would speak to specific sub-programmes aimed at such particular mandates. Programmes aimed at Poverty Alleviation could therefore become a significant path of the National Action Programme.

The committee would therefore have to liaise strongly with the NPEP in developing and evaluating programmes that can be supported by the policy. Appendix 1 sets out Projects of the NPEP.

### **7.6 Incorporation Of Land Degradation Issues Into The ACP/EU Cotonou Agreement**

The Government of Jamaica hosted a consultation in May 2001 on the integration of land degradation issues into the Country Support Strategies and National Indicative Programmes of the Cotonou framework. Recommendations at a national level emanating from the consultation included the following;

- Urge the UNCCD secretariat to adopt necessary measures to enable the countries of the Caribbean subregion to elaborate their national indicative programmes (NIP) by 2005, bearing in mind this process must include all relevant stakeholders
- UNCCD Focal points in those countries that do not have NAP are encouraged to consult with their National Authorizing Officer (NAO) to ensure inclusion of the elements of their future NAP into the Country Support Services (CSS) and subsequently their National Indicative Programmes. The Focal points, as a matter of urgency, should initiate dialogue to discuss the critical need to incorporate land degradation combating programmes in the CSS and NIP
- The UNCCD Focal point, in collaboration with national co-coordinating bodies should coordinate with counterparts in other two related Conventions on Climate change and Biodiversity to promote synergies

Research into the possibility of incorporating land degradation issues into the CSS appeared somewhat slim. Jamaica had identified their focal sectors as macroeconomic support, private sector support and transport and the CSS had been completed since 1999

The only real likelihood of representing issues related to land degradation and drought lies in the non –focal sector as it related to institutional strengthening of non-governmental organizations and capacity building of community based organizations.

The Focal point would continue to examine the possibilities of incorporating issues of the Convention in this area, working with the National Authorising Officers to the ACP/EU.

## **8.0 DEVELOPMENT OF EARLY WARNING SYSTEM**

The key players for the development and management of such a system are

- **Meteorological services,**
- **Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM)**
- **Water Resources Authority (WRA)**

### **8.1 Meteorological Services**

i) Equipment and procedure

The services most extensive data collection lies in their extensive rainfall stations, where at least 300 are strategically positioned around the country. The rainfall gauges are placed roughly one unit per 25 km<sup>2</sup> but this spatial distribution is subject to other variables such as elevation where more are required in mountainous areas. Ideally the amount of 450 and above is what is required to effectively monitor rainfall. This allows the Meteorological services, established norms for parameters such as rainfall, humidity, evaporation and temperature.

The service also possesses 22 climatological stations which demonstrate a greater capability in monitoring climatic conditions – the stations monitor parameters such as

- Evaporation
- Sunshine
- Wind
- Temperature
- Humidity
- Pressure
- Dew point

These stations are very expensive but provide the basis for allowing for a wider range of parameters to be measured. However, this is not the most reliable piece of equipment for use in an early warning system because they do not provide information in real time.

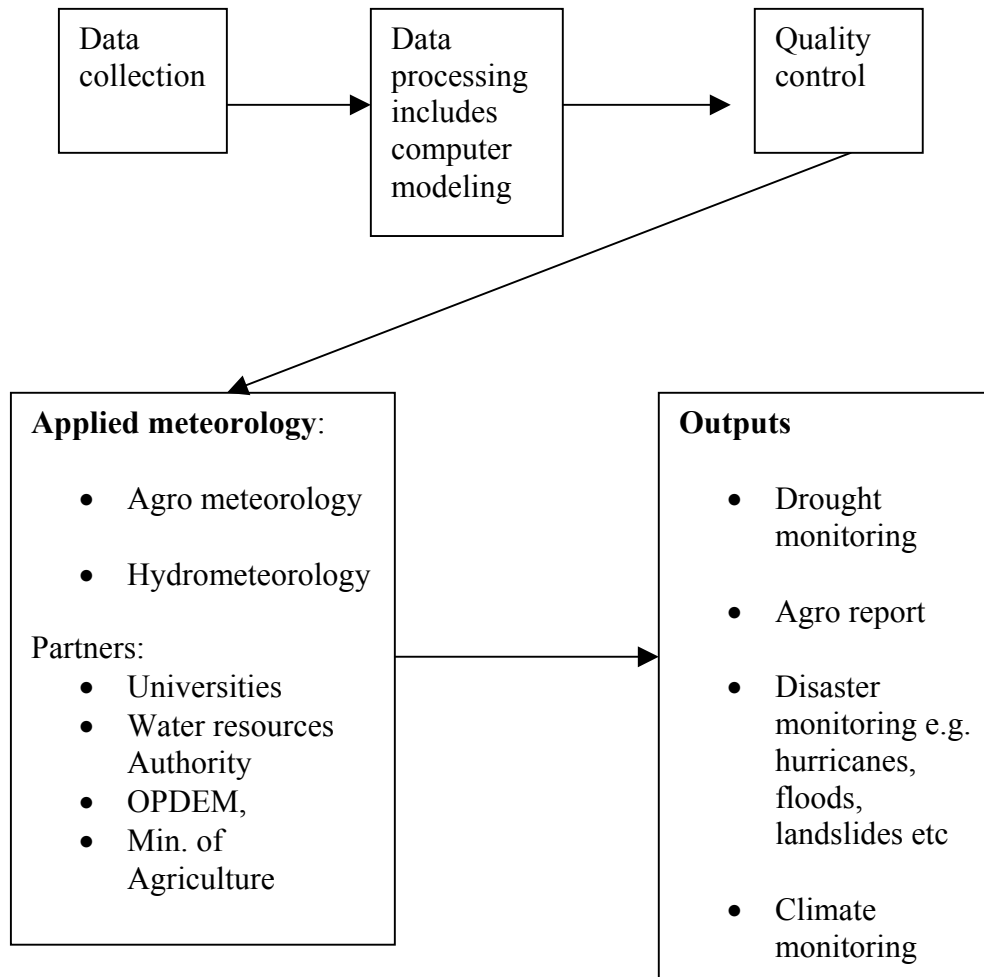
The ideal equipment would be an Automatic Weather Station that is able to transmit data at programmed time intervals and in real time. The AWS also eliminates the degree of errors often encountered in manual transmission of data as well as eliminating the need to travel to stations to down-load saved data. However, the necessary framework must be in

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place to support the information transfer and this can include wireless data, VHF and/or satellites.

The data represents the most critical component in a monitoring system and the ability to accurately collect, transfer and analyze the data has to be clearly supported.

**Figure 2 –Meteorological Services -sequence of events involved**



Other components of an early warning system will include access to national, sub-regional and regional sources for data such include Europe Center for Medium Range Forecasting and the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology. Other efforts to develop such an early warning system include current discussion with the University of the West Indies to develop a climate modeling software that give insights into local climate patterns.

This collaboration will work extensively in using regional data using climate change downscaling and projection- where a module of world climate is modified to a particular region by using identified variables. These variables although not available at this time can be ascertained dynamically or statistically.

ii) Limitations and recommendations

- The purchase of the required equipment represents a significant outlay that is not readily identifiable. However, there are several industries operating in the country that have been able to acquire some of the specified equipment, notably the bauxite companies and the sugar industries. Informal arrangements have been established with both of these sectors and the collaboration has seen training and capacity building coming from the meteorological services, with the aim of facilitating technological and information transfer. However, the consistency of this transfer has not been the best. The establishment of formal agreements and memoranda of understanding would certainly help in maintaining more longstanding relationships between the industries.
- Although the Meteorological Service has at its disposal some good monitoring systems the ability to operate and maintain equipment through the required technical personnel continues to present itself. Problems such as
  - Existing equipment not operating due to lack of maintenance
  - Not enough personnel exist to analyze data and there is some backlog of information
  - Training opportunities to foster capacity building is not spread evenly across the institution
- Organizational structure doesn't give acknowledgement to key personnel such as electronics specialist
- Issues of leadership and strategic planning has resulted in purchase of equipment that now is unused or underutilized.
- Low worker morale as the section is constantly changed to different ministry portfolios
- Lack of available funds to keep the sector in pace with current technology trends

## 8.2 Water Resources Authority

i) Perceived role

This Department clearly identifies the need for the UNCCD and it is one that clearly fits within the ambit of its portfolio. WRA sees its contribution to UNCCD through water assessment both of groundwater surface water resources, sediment monitoring and the allocation of water resources.

Ultimately, WRA sees itself in a monitoring and research capacity using this information to strategically advise industry and development as to the sustainable use of water resources. Hence the WRA has well-established working relationships with other ministries, authorities and working groups, notably National Irrigation Commission,



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Ministry of Housing, National Environmental and Planning Agency, Meteorological Services, Town Planning Department and Ministry of Agriculture.

The WRA is also a part of another drought committee, which include the Meteorological services, the Office of Disaster preparedness and emergency management (ODPEM), and University of the West Indies (UWI).

### ii) Current Status

WRA uses a thirty (30) year average for groundwater levels, and results are compared to monthly and yearly averages to determine maximum and minimum values. In effect looking at standard deviation from that 30 yr mean.

For surface water, a threshold value is used calculating a seven-day minimum flow based on a ten-day return period.

The assessment of Jamaica's water resources indicates the projected demands will be met in the foreseeable future. Current usage stands at 25 % of available yield with a further 15 % increase in demand over the period 2000-2015. Rainfall is the only source of water in the country giving rise to three basic resource types-

- Direct rainwater
- Surface water
- Groundwater

Reliable surface yield is 665MCM/yr, of which only 76MCM/yr or 11% is effectively utilized. There is an estimated 589MCM/yr or 89% Reliable yield available for exploitation. The long term mean for annual ground water yield of 3840 MCM/yr representing 41% of total water resources. Present use of groundwater is estimated at 840 MCM/yr or 25% of total groundwater safe yield.

### iii) Contribution to Early Warning System

The WRA does have equipment in place to effectively monitor water resources as well as the quality of these resources. However, there is the need to extend their capabilities to monitor sediment loading. It is felt that this is another important component that affects water resources. It influences watershed stream flow for example inducing higher peak flows for shorter durations. This information can be critical in predicting changes in hydrological flows but the programme cannot be implemented due to inadequate personnel

### **8.3 Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management**

ODPEM assist generally with public education and disaster planning and there emphasis is on both known and unknown disasters.

The institution is also a critical member of the drought committee and has developed a drought management plan, which outlines the approaches to;

- preparing for drought
- responding to actual droughts and
- mitigations against drought

They have also amassed and documented data on drought conditions in Jamaica for the last 10 years, information which currently aids the drought committee in giving a perspective of historical droughts in the country.

### **9.0 SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE CONVENTIONS**

It is recognized, that all countries can derive benefits that the synergies between all three major "Rio Conventions" can provide. The case is more relevant to small countries who have limited resources, both in people and natural resources.

Additionally, the general reduction in Foreign Direct Assistance to Countries such as those in the Caribbean, means that more and more, small economies will have to begin to examine ways and means to better manage available resources and maximize returns from any areas of cooperation and assistance that may be possible.

The Synergies that may be derived from concerted action among the three Rio Conventions can be useful for many countries, however as will be seen from a case study, there are significant hurdles to be overcome in the process.

#### **9.1 Convention on biological biodiversity (CBD)- Case study**

One of the objectives of this report was to examine the possible linkages that existed between the Conventions, looking more at the opinions, views and ideologies of the participants of the working committee. Preliminary discussions made it quite clear that the participating members did not have a strong commitment to the UNCCD but had focused on their personal mandates as it related to their respective institutions.

Secondly, the working committee of the UNCCD had very few meetings, that would seek to establish any real camaraderie and collaborative effort, which would yield the kind of results they were hoping to achieve from a well-established committee.

With this in mind, realizing that the working committee had fallen behind in the schedule of deliverables as it related to the Convention – it was thought that efforts would be better

served if the committee took on a critical look at other Conventions that are further ahead in meeting some of their mandates

The idea was to learn from others that had gone ahead in order to avoid the same obstacles and difficulties encountered. Here are the results of the pitfalls faced during the implementation of the UNCBD.

- The CBD had a large enough working committee and that although at times the size provided challenges when it came on to decision –making it was generally felt that it was a necessary evil. The large group ensured that all the stakeholders were included and that an accurate representation of the country’s issues as it related to biodiversity was given.
- The approach was to be an integrated one but really tended to be individually driven by personal commitment and desire. There were no real agreements and/or structures put in place to facilitate interpersonal and inter agency dialogue and cooperation.
- The wide cross section of policy makers and technocrats was quickly able to identify first steps such as prioritizing actions as well filling gaps in information that required gathering of empirical data.
- Inconsistent attendance by members led to delayed decision-making and the unnecessary repetition of ideas or previous decisions as new institution representatives became involved.
- It became clear that to minimize on resource allocation – projects had to be selected not just based on importance but more on the potential for creating greater change by having multiple effects but requiring few inputs
- It was also noted that although solutions were readily identified the actions were tending to address the symptoms and not the root causes
- It was noted that some legislation gave enormous power to particular sectors often overriding the mandates of others. The daunting task of changing legislation gave rise to the practical solution of having agreements that would speak to negotiating conflicts and differences
- The requirements of the Convention itself at times conflicted with the objective of the local counterparts – and at times the quest to meet the requirements of these Conventions compromised the objective of the local participants

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- Insufficient human resources to handle the implementation of the Convention. The same cadre of people were involved in several other initiatives related to the Conventions and individual availability was compromised
- Regional funding though available was not as readily accessible. The requirements of the funding agencies were not user friendly

### **10.0 GENERAL COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Awareness Workshops on the Convention have to be repeated. Many of the Members of the Working Committee are not totally cognizant of the Convention and its mandates nor of their direct role in helping to implement this Convention
- The name of the Convention and its focus issues are not a direct fit into Jamaica's environmental scene and hence one does not readily identify with it. The issues relevant to our local situation has to be brought across more clearly to engender real support from relevant authorities and agencies.
- The Focal Point needs to identify the projects that will support the mandates or objectives of the UNCCD and enter in dialogue with the relevant authorities to determine how the agenda of the UNCCD can be incorporated. On the same level scrutiny must be given to existing legislative and policy framework to see how this can be revised.
- Focal point needs to draw on a wider group of technocrats to aid in the implementation of the UNCCD. Authorities linked to social strategies and initiatives were not really represented on the working committee and should therefore be invited to participate.
- UNCCD implementation faces serious human resource constraints and must try to offset by increased collaborative effort.
- The Focal point needs to expand the public participation process and seek opportunities to raise the visibility of the Convention. This may be accomplished during the process of development of the National Action Programme as was done by similar Conventions such as the CBD.
- The draft discussion document prepared with technical support from the CCD, must be distributed immediately, and the process of awareness raising begin, to include the media and other public stakeholders.

## 11.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

The National Focal Point along with the Government and People of Jamaica wishes to thank the Secretariat of the UNCCD for its unflinching support to enable the process of implementation of this Convention so far.

Recognizing that the process has a far way to go, the Government of Jamaica feels assured that with the continued support of the UNCCD, full implementation will be achieved.

The National Focal Point wants to take this opportunity to acknowledge the support of the members of the Working Committee on Land Degradation and Drought over this period of development and looks forward to greater levels of activity as the process of preparation of the National Action Plan is developed.


## APPENDICES

### Appendix I – List of NPEP Projects

NPEP Projects/Programmes Descriptions


<b>Implementing Agency</b>	<b>Project/Programme</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Description/Objective</b>
Ministry of Agriculture	Beekeeping Development Programme	Islandwide	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To increase the per unit output of honey throughout the country by the introduction of modern beekeeping techniques.</li> <li>2. To strengthen the extension and support service to the beekeeping industry island wide.</li> </ol>
Ministry of Agriculture	Morant /Yallahs	St. Andrew and St. Thomas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To raise crop and livestock production and farm income through dialogue with the farming communities</li> </ol>

			2. To prevent further deforestation and land degradation through the introduction of more sustainable farming practices.
Ministry of Education and Culture.	Early Childhood / Basic School Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic Schools in 14 parishes</li> <li>• Day Care institutions in 12 parishes</li> </ul>	To ensure that children birth 6 years old receive suitable care and are provided with the opportunity to access developmentally appropriate reading programmes with the emphasis being on early stimulation as well as promoting the affective, psychomotor and the cognitive domains
Ministry of Education and Culture	New Horizons for Primary Schools Project	Selected schools across the 14 parishes	To strengthen the ability of schools and parents to improve student performance in reading and mathematics.
Ministry of Education and Culture	School Feeding Programme	Recognized basic, primary, all- age and secondary schools islandwide	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide needy children un recognized schools with at least one hot lunch or nutri- bun snack per day.</li> <li>2. To encourage greater and more regular school attendance</li> <li>3. To ensure that students maintain</li> </ol>

			a minimum nutritional level by providing a nutritional subsidy or snack
Ministry of Education and Culture	<p>Social and Economic Support Programme</p> <p>Programme sub-components include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Income generating project</li> <li>• Financial Assistance to Students</li> <li>• School Bus Transportation Programme)</li> </ul>	Islandwide	<p>The programme is aimed at alleviating the economic and social hardships being experienced by students attending secondary and tertiary educational institutions, as well as assisting in the establishment of income generating projects in schools.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"> <a href="#">Top</a></p>
Ministry of Education and Culture	Special Education	Islandwide	To provide quality education for children with exceptionalities in the least restrictive environment possible.
Ministry of Education and Culture	Commonwealth Debt Initiative Projects	Islandwide	To redirect funds which, would normally have gone towards the repayment of the Government's debt to Britain, towards the improvement of facilities in primary and secondary schools.
Ministry of Health	Environment Health	Islandwide	This programme seeks to promote health and prevent disease occurrence by monitoring environmental factors in order to ensure a safe

			and balanced environment. The areas given special attention are sanitation, food safety, water monitoring, and disease surveillance and vector control.
Ministry of Health	Drug Outlets / Drug Serve	Islandwide	To provide medication and other pharmaceuticals to the population at affordable costs.
Ministry of Health	Jamaica Drug for the Elderly Programme (JADEP)	Islandwide	To make essential drug accessible to the elderly population.
Ministry of Health	Drug Abuse Prevention	Islandwide	To strengthen the links between all the relevant systems so as to reduce the demand for and use of recreational drugs while attempting to treat and rehabilitate current users.
Ministry of Health	Family Services/ Child Support	Islandwide	To ensure the proper care and protection of children through: Children's Home, Places of Safety, foster care, adoption, pre-school/child development and day care centers.
Ministry of Health	Family Life/ Family Planning	Islandwide	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To increase contraceptive prevalence rate from 66% to 68% by the year 2000</li> <li>2. To reduce fertility rates to the replacement level (i.e. 2 children per woman).</li> </ol>




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Ministry of Health	Rural Health Project (Community Health in the Rio Grande)	Focused on Portland, St Mary and St. Thomas	To provide institutional strengthening in Portland, St Mary and St Thomas as well as staff training, environment and special interventions in vulnerable communities.
Ministry of Health	Support to Local Health Systems (Italian Project)	Islandwide	To strengthen local health structures in select areas and develop human resources to better enable them to provide optimum health care.
Ministry of Health	HIV/ STD Control	Islandwide	To reduce the transmission of HIV/STD in communities through a comprehensive integrated disease prevention strategy aimed at behaviour change through individual and community participation.
Ministry of Health	Primary Health Care Development and Child Abuse Intervention	Islandwide	To provide basic health care including counseling services and other resources aimed at preventing and dealing with child abuse.
Ministry of Health	Family Health Services	Islandwide	To provide family health services to the population islandwide
Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Technology	MIDA	Islandwide	To provide the micro enterprise sector with credit facilities, through retail lending institutions, to assist in establishing and financing entrepreneurial ventures.

Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Technology	<b>GOJ/GON Project</b> Project sub - components include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Micro Fin</li><li>• Micro enterprise</li></ul> Business Development Services Project	Islandwide	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To generate employment and income opportunities to the small and micro-business through sector credit, and provide technical assistance to credit institutions.</li> <li>2. To marketing services to micro-enterprises.</li> </ol>
Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Technology	GOJ/EU Project	Islandwide	To provide support for the small and microenterprises in the areas of credit, training, and marketing, so as to foster growth in the sector and increase income and employment in the nation.
Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Technology	Self Start Fund	Islandwide	To promote entrepreneurship and create employment through small-scale enterprises.
Ministry of Labour and Social Security	Old Age assistance	Islandwide	To provide assistance to elderly persons with disabilities
Ministry of Labour and Social Security	National Vocational Rehabilitation Services for Persons with Disabilities	Islandwide	To promote and undertake programmes, which enable disabled persons to participate equally at all levels of the society.
Ministry of Labour and Social Security	Assistance to Ex-Servicemen	Islandwide	To judiciously deal with needs of ex-servicemen /women and their immediate dependents.
Ministry of Labour and	Grants to Private	Islandwide	To provide a monthly

Social Security	Social Service Organization		grant to select private sector welfare organizations to assist them in their operations. Among the beneficiary organizations are: The Society for the Blind, Jamaica Red Cross, National Children's Home, Athlene Wing, Salvation Army, Citizens Advice Bureau, Combined Disabilities Association and The Jamaica Consumers League.
Ministry of Labour and Social Security	The Rehabilitation and Compassionate Grant Programme	Islandwide	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To assist persons who suffer misfortunate arising from disasters.</li> <li>2. To assist destitute in income generating projects.</li> </ol>
Ministry of Labour and Social Security	Food Stamp Programme	Islandwide	To assist persons who are considered to be nutritionally at risk. Under this, programme, launched in 1984, beneficiaries are issued stamps, which can later be exchanged for certain food items at groceries, supermarkets and other food stores.
Ministry of Labour and Social Security	Golden Age Clubs and Feeding Programmes	Islandwide	To provide cooked meals for approximately 556 persons in the urban area and food packages for approximately 200 persons in the rural areas of the nation.

Ministry of Labour and Social Security	Skills 2000	Currently operates in 142 communities in the parishes of St. Elizabeth, Hanover, Trelawny, St. Catherine, Clarendon, St. Thomas, St Mary, Kingston, and St Andrew.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To equip specially targeted groups with a marketable skill, thereby, increasing their income earning capacity.</li> <li>2. To provide community development through community mobilization and project development.</li> <li>3. To give post-training support to participants by way of referral system to access credit, further training, marketing opportunities, or by providing assistance in security jobs.</li> </ol>
Ministry of Labour and Social Security	Women's Center	Islandwide	The Women's Center of Jamaica Foundation has the responsibility for promoting a new approach to the problems associated with teenage pregnancy, especially in the areas of interrupted education. The Centre provides education, training and developmental counseling.

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Ministry of Labour and Social Security	The Bureau Of Women's Affairs	Islandwide	The Women's Bureau is the state agency charged with overseeing initiatives aimed at assisting women in the society. The agency acts as not only an advocate for women but as a facilitator of projects aimed at empowering women including accessing funding for micro-enterprise activities designed to provide women with economic self-sufficiency.
Ministry of Labour and Social Security	Local Employment Service Unit	Manchester, St. Ann, Kingston, and St. Andrew	The unit provides employment facilities through job soliciting, receipt of job notifications, registration of job applicants and the classification of these applicants.
Ministry of Labour and Social Security	Partnership of Advancement Through Health and Education	Islandwide	Programme of Advancement through Health and Education (PATH), which is intended to improve the targeting mechanisms, used to identify the poorest segments of the population, to increase the effectiveness of welfare and related programmes, and to streamline the delivery of services.
Ministry of Local Government Youth and Community Development	Poor Relief Services	Islandwide	To provide poor relief benefits to all persons who are physically or mentally

			disabled and unable to work and earn a living. Persons receiving these benefits are usually classified as either indoor poor (i.e. persons living in government infirmaries) or outdoors poor (i.e. persons living outside of infirmaries).
Ministry of Local Government Youth and Community Development	Social Development Commission	Islandwide	The government agency charged with mobilizing communities and facilitating projects aimed at providing economic opportunities, training and communities across the island.
Ministry of Local Government Youth and Community Development	Youth Development Services	Islandwide	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To develop a sense of responsibility and strong work ethic among our youth</li> <li>2. To promote mutual respect and develop a sense of national pride and citizenship among the youth of the nation.</li> </ol>
Ministry of Mining and Energy	Rural Electrification Programme	Rural Jamaica	To increase the access to the public electricity supply of persons living in rural Jamaica.
Office of the Prime Minister	Social and Economic Support Programme	Islandwide	Seeks to militate against the negative effects of structural adjustments strategy on the most vulnerable in the society through financial assistance, educational and

			training assistance, and infrastructure improvement and developmental that seek to assist this category of persons.
Office of the Prime Minister	The Possibility Programme	Kingston, St. Andrew	The Possibility Programme is aimed at getting these children and youths off the streets and providing them with a programme of rehabilitation and skills training. The programme has been coordinating efforts, aimed at curtailing the social challenge of street children, in particular those who wipe windscreens at major intersections in the Corporate Area.
Office of the Prime Minister	The Special Indigent Housing Project	Islandwide	The project involves the construction, repair or rebuilding of the domicile or sanitary conveniences for indigent persons or institutions which house the indigent.
Ministry of Water and Housing	Land Titling	Islandwide	To deliver overdue land titles to homeowners.
Ministry of Water and Housing	Operation PRIDE	Islandwide	To facilitate the construction of housing solutions on government owned lands.
Ministry of Water and Housing	Local Improvement Community Amenities (LICA) Act	Islandwide	To regularize settlements on properties acquired by government for this purpose and to provide infrastructural support to these settlements where possible.
Ministry of Water and	Urban Renewal and	Primarily in	To improve the

Housing.	Improvement Programme.	the Kingston Metropolitan Area.	infrastructural support in the inner city communities (including the removal of zinc fences and the launching of clean up campaigns) in an effort to improve and increase housing in these areas.
Ministry of Water and Housing	GOJ/Food for the Poor Housing Project	Islandwide	To construct 2,000 housing units for indigent families across the island on lands provided by the government.
Ministry of Water and Housing	Lucea - Negril Water Supply	Westmoreland and Hanover	To construct a pipeline along with water treatment plant to better service select communities in the parishes of Westmoreland and Hanover .
Ministry of Water and Housing	Rapid Response Programme	Islandwide	To provide communities across the island with portable water in order to meet short to medium term need through the trucking of water and the erection of tanks.
Ministry of Water and Housing	MWH/NWC/CECL Collaborative Programme	Islandwide	To carry out water extensions to over 300 communities using pipelines from China and the United States
Ministry of Water and Housing .	Rural Area Sewage System Improvement Projects	Rural Jamaica	To regularize the maintenance of 15 sewage systems currently being used
Ministry of Water and Housing	Watershed Reforestation	Islandwide	To carry rehabilitation of watersheds on the select tracks owned by the National Water Commission (NWC) .In addition a complete



			environment audit of 3,000 acres of NWC owned watershed would be carried out.
Ministry of Water and Housing	Catchment Tank Rehabilitation Programme	Rural Jamaica	To rehabilitate and/or update over 290-rain water catchment tanks in rural Jamaica.
Ministry of Finance	Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF)	Islandwide	A demand driven fund that provides funds at the community level for infrastructural repairs or creation.
Ministry of Land and Environment	Emancipation Lands/Sugar Industry Housing Limited	Sugar producing areas in Jamaica	To provide housing solution for select categories of sugar workers across the island.
Ministry of Land and Environment	Titling	Islandwide	To provide titles for agricultural lands throughout the island.
Ministry of Land and Environment	Environmental Foundation of Jamaica	Islandwide	To provide grant funds to NGOs to support environmental protection initiatives and projects related to children.
Ministry of Land and Environment	NRCA	Islandwide	To manage and protect Jamaica's natural resource stock