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CLIMATE CHANGE: TOWARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF A POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR JAMAICA

Kingston, Jamaica

July 26-27, 2012

November 2012

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ACRONYMS

CCAA	Climate Change Advisory Committee
EU	European Union
GOJ	Government of Jamaica
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
MWLECC	Ministry of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change
PIOJ	Planning Institute of Jamaica
TWGs	Thematic Working Groups
UNDP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
UWI	University of West Indies

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Government of Jamaica

The Honorable Robert Pickersgill, Minister of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change (MWLECC)

Dr. Conrad Douglas, Chairman, Climate Change Advisory Committee

Ms. Rachel Allen, Senior Special Advisor to Minister Pickersgill, MWLECC

Ms. Le-Anne Roper, Sustainable Development Planning Officer, Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ)

Ms. Nicole O'Reggio, Environmental Management Unit, MWLECC

Ms. Claire Bernard, Sustainable Development and Regional Planning Division Director, PIOJ

Mr. Hopeton Peterson, Sustainable Development and Regional Planning Division Manager, PIOJ

Mr. Richard Lumsden, Program Director for Vision 2030, PIOJ

Ms. Leonie Barnaby, Senior Director, Environmental Management Unit, MWLECC

Colonel Oral Khan, Chief Technical Director, MWLECC

U.S. Agency for International Development

Mr. Malden Miller, Rural Development Programme Management Specialist, Jamaica Mission

Ms. Suzanne Ebert, Environment Officer and Acting Office Director, Environment and Health, Jamaica Mission

Mr. John Furlow, Climate Change Specialist, Global Climate Change Office

Dr. Michael Hanowsky, AAAS Science and Technology Policy Advisor, Global Climate Change Office

Ms. Nora Ferm, Climate Change Specialist, Global Climate Change Office

The Steering Committee extends its appreciation to the workshop presenters whose contributions provided participants with an essential, overarching context of development and climate change in Jamaica. These presenters include Honorable Dr. Peter Phillips (Ministry of Finance and Planning), Ms. Denise Herbol (USAID/Jamaica Mission Director), Dr. Michael Taylor (University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona), Ms. Leonie Barnaby (MWLECC), Shakira Khan (UWI, Mona), and Mr. Richard Lumsden (PIOJ). The Steering Committee gives a special thanks to the workshop facilitator Dr. Kevon Rhiney (UWI, Mona). Thanks also goes to Professor Winston Davidson (University of Technology), singer of the National anthem, Archdeacon Patrick G. Cunningham who provided the opening prayer, and members of the Voices for Climate Change for providing topical entertainment and, more importantly, for raising awareness of climate change among Jamaica's population.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Government of Jamaica's Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change (MWLECC) convened a workshop *Climate Change: Toward the Development of a Policy Framework for Jamaica* in Kingston, Jamaica on July 26 and 27, 2012. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) supported organization of the workshop. The objective was to develop inputs for a policy framework that will enable Jamaica to achieve its Vision 2030 national development goals in the context of climate change, as requested by Prime Minister Portia Simpson-Miller and Minister Pickersgill at the launch of the Climate Change Advisory Committee on April 20, 2012.

The event was attended by more than 150 individuals, including representatives from ministries, agencies, and other entities within the Government of Jamaica; NGOs and civil society; academia; the private sector; and international development partners. Sessions built on the *Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan*, the *Second National Communication of Jamaica to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC), and the Jamaica Pilot Program for Climate Resilience.

WORKSHOP SPEAKERS

High-level speakers welcomed participants to the event and gave a call to action. These presenters included: Dr. Conrad Douglas, Chairman of the Climate Change Advisory Committee; Ms. Denise Herbol, Mission Director of USAID/Jamaica; The Honorable Robert Pickersgill, Minister of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change; and Dr. The Honorable Peter Phillips, Minister of Finance and Planning. They emphasized that climate change has the potential to significantly affect Jamaica's economy, and therefore the country must continue to proactively address climate-related threats by building on existing work, leveraging experiences in other countries, and harnessing momentum through events such as this workshop.

Subsequent speakers spurred dialogue by providing details about expected climate change impacts and ongoing planning efforts. Mr. Richard Lumsden, Program Director for Vision 2030 at the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ), described the Vision 2030 process and how the Plan approaches climate change. Dr. Michael Taylor, from the Climate Studies Group at the University of West Indies (UWI) Mona Campus, summarized current knowledge about climate trends in Jamaica. Ms. Leonie Barnaby of MWLECC described Jamaica's current efforts to address climate change.

WORKSHOP EXERCISES

Participants engaged in a series of small group exercises aimed at eliciting inputs to the climate change policy framework. On the first day, these exercises focused on identifying the key inputs and threats to Jamaica's primary economic sectors.

In identifying key inputs to economic sectors, participants found that many sectors relied on the same inputs and enabling conditions. Among the most common were water, energy, labor, and infrastructure.

They also identified the most important climate and non-climate threats to those inputs. Examples of these threats include higher temperatures, tropical storms, heat waves, land use change, pollution, and population growth.

Participants also discussed interdependencies between sectors – for example, how tourism depends on a healthy natural environment and the reliable provision of energy and water. The discussions also

highlighted some of the constraints that can prevent these key economic sectors from performing optimally. These constraints include the lack of a variety of factors such as human and social capital, incentives, and implementation and enforcement of existing policies and regulations.

On the second day, small group exercises focused on actions, policies, and resources needed to cope with the climate threats identified on the first day. Dialogue and discussion allowed participants to learn from one another about ongoing projects in Jamaica that are addressing climate change.

Participants identified gaps in existing efforts and listed some of the measures, resources, and policies needed to fill those gaps. For example, participants noted the need for increased training and capacity building, robust research and assessments, safeguarding of infrastructure, financing, information, and data management systems, among many others.

They also recognized how activities in one sector could benefit or hamper outcomes in another. For example, while a group focused on transport suggested moving roads inland to reduce storm damage, the tourism group pointed out that doing so could inhibit access to hotels and other tourist destinations.

Participants considered opportunities for climate change mitigation. For example, industries concerned about unreliable power supply could prioritize clean energy technologies to address those shortages, while at the same time reducing Jamaica's CO_2 emissions. Several participants noted the usefulness of working in cross-disciplinary teams during the table exercises, and suggested that they continue to work in this fashion going forward.

SYNTHESIS OF PARTICIPANT COMMENTS

Towards the end of the workshop, participants submitted recommendations on next steps for advancing Jamaica's climate change adaptation planning. Specifically, some participants felt that it was important to:

- Harness momentum from the workshop to produce a coordinated national policy framework, to establish the Government of Jamaica's Climate Change Department in MWLECC, and to develop a widely accepted and integrated climate change action plan.
- Develop an implementation strategy for the five-year action plan, which would identify priority measures, methods of coordination, roles and responsibilities, and would proactively addresses potential problems that could arise.
- Ensure that the new Climate Change Department receives ongoing support and cooperation from various ministries and other government entities, NGOs, civil society, the private sector, and international development partners, to help ensure the effective implementation of plans.
- Seek adequate funding, capacity building, an adequate enabling environment and enforcement mechanisms, accountability for climate change programs at all levels, and a strategic results framework and baseline to monitor and evaluate progress in building resilience.
- Compile a comprehensive list of past and ongoing climate change efforts and identify short-, medium-, and long-term actions to address climate vulnerability in highly vulnerable sectors; and identify actions that have the greatest benefit per cost.[1]
- Perform inter-sectoral impact modeling, policy reviews, and evaluations.

[1] During the workshop participants helped to develop a geo-referenced list of ongoing climate change efforts in Jamaica. The results from this exercise will help MWLECC and PIOJ to facilitate more coordinated program activities and donor support.

- Facilitate more coordinated program activities and donor engagement, using as an input the geo-referenced list of ongoing climate change efforts that was developed at the workshop.
- Conduct additional data surveys to understand climate trends.
- Produce reference materials, such as a procedures manual for cross-sector use.
- Increase harmonization of activities across sectors.
- Widely disseminate information for all stakeholders through public awareness campaigns.
- Ensure representation of diverse stakeholders – including members of the general public and local communities – on planning and steering committees.
- Consider convening a one-day workshop after the climate change policy framework has been drafted so that workshop participants and other stakeholders have the opportunity to provide input and suggest additional next steps.

NEXT STEPS

The results of the workshop will be used as key inputs to Jamaica's Climate Change Policy Framework and Action Plan. The Policy Framework and Action Plan are currently under development. They are being prepared under the Government of Jamaica/United Nations Environment Programme (UNDP)/European Union (EU) Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Project in collaboration with USAID. A round of regional consultations in Montego Bay, Mandeville, and Kingston in October 2012 is expected to further inform the development of these documents. Concurrently, USAID will help to coordinate donor input to the Policy Framework and Action Plan. These documents will be submitted to the Cabinet for approval in late 2012. The Cabinet-approved "green paper" will be submitted to Parliament for approval soon thereafter. Once the green paper is approved as an official "white paper," the Climate Change Policy Framework and Action Plan will begin to be implemented.

1. INTRODUCTION

The workshop *Climate Change: Toward the Development of a Policy Framework for Jamaica*, took place in Kingston, Jamaica on July 26 and 27, 2012. The Government of Jamaica's Ministry of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change (MWLECC) hosted the workshop in collaboration with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The event was attended by more than 150 individuals including representatives from ministries, agencies, and other entities within the Government of Jamaica; NGOs and civil society; academia; the private sector; and international development partners.

This report first lays out the workshop's objectives; it then explains its conception and provides an explanation of the methodology and structure. The report then summarizes remarks made during the opening ceremony and presentations, and describes the exercises and key themes that emerged. The last section summarizes participants' feedback on the workshop content and their ideas for follow-on work. The appendices provide relevant workshop materials, including the agenda, participant list, speakers' PowerPoint presentations, outputs of the small group exercises, and press coverage.

2. WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

The objective of the workshop was to develop inputs for a policy framework to enable Jamaica to achieve its Vision 2030 national development goals in the context of climate change. The workshop aimed to capitalize on local knowledge and foster discussion among participants with experience in a wide range of sectors. The goal of these discussions was to identify ways in which climate change and other threats could hinder Jamaica's long-term goals, and brainstorm measures and institutions that could be used to respond. In addition to supporting the development of a national policy framework, the workshop organizers also aimed to help coordinate donor-supported climate change activities in Jamaica.

3. BACKGROUND

Recognizing its vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, Jamaica has taken proactive measures to make climate change a national development priority. Jamaica's commitment to climate change is demonstrated by the preparation of Jamaica's Initial and Second National Communications to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), as well as initiative and dedication shown under the Jamaica Pilot Program for Climate Resilience. In April 2012, the Prime Minister established a Climate Change Advisory Committee, comprised of a multi-sectoral group of experts. The Committee was mandated to establish a Climate Change Department within MWLECC, prepare a Climate Change Policy, build public awareness about climate change, and seek additional bilateral and multi-lateral support for climate change projects. The Prime Minister and the Committee also recognized that responsibility for climate change had been scattered across several ministries, and that a variety of development partners were supporting projects across the country. Coordination among these different actors was weak. The Committee and MWLECC asked USAID to help come up with a process to consolidate management of the myriad climate activities that would be housed within the Ministry and codified in the new policy.

To advance its efforts, the Climate Change Advisory Committee decided to convene a workshop that would help guide the development of a policy framework. The policy framework will help Jamaica establish guidelines and a strategic direction for the Climate Change Department and support development of the Climate Change Policy. The Climate Change Department, which will be part of the Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change, will be responsible for coordinating all climate change activities in Jamaica.

Representatives of the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) and USAID formed a steering committee to oversee workshop planning. The workshop sessions were designed to build on ongoing environmental, planning, and development initiatives in Jamaica including the *Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan, the Second National Communication of Jamaica to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, and the Jamaica Pilot Program for Climate Resilience. This helped to ensure that the recommendations and successes of previous efforts were captured, while recognizing the need to mainstream climate change considerations into existing development plans to make them more resilient.

4. WORKSHOP OVERVIEW

Key takeaway messages from the workshop included the cross-cutting nature of climate change and the need to develop an integrated approach in order to effectively build resilience at all levels.

The methodology used for the workshop enabled participants to identify key ways in which climate change and other threats could affect Jamaica's long-term development goals, and to identify critical actions, policies, and institutional roles necessary to respond to these threats and achieve the country's vision. The methodology helped to generate support and buy-in for the development of a policy framework, raise awareness of the need to mainstream climate change into national development planning, and improve coordination by involving a wider group of stakeholders.

METHODOLOGY

To ensure that diverse perspectives and areas of expertise were represented at the workshop, invitees included representatives from various ministries, agencies, and other entities within the Government of Jamaica; NGOs and civil society; academia; the private sector; and international development partners. This institutional and sectoral diversity was critical to identifying cross-sectoral climate impacts, understanding how solutions in one sector can affect another, and facilitating cooperation between institutions that do not typically work together.

Jamaica uses the Vision 2030 framework as its main strategic development guide. Climate change has the potential to hinder the achievement of these goals. Economic sectors that represented critical elements of National Outcomes in Vision 2030 formed the foundation of the workshop's tabletop exercises. For example, one group looked at mining and quarrying, a sector associated with National Outcome #12 (Internationally Competitive Industry Structures).

The small group exercises were designed to be collaborative and dynamic, thereby spurring new insights and capitalizing on interlinking elements. Participants constructed a relational "map" at each table.

STRUCTURE

Each table received two economic sectors to consider, along with the associated Vision 2030 National Outcomes. Mr. Richard Lumsden from the Planning Institute of Jamaica's (PIOJ) provided an overview of Vision 2030 that contextualized the relationship between the sectors under consideration, and the

desired National Outcomes. Participants mapped the critical inputs and conditions upon which their assigned economic sectors depend. In the next exercise, they considered climate and non-climate threats to those key inputs.

On the second day, participants brainstormed actions, policies, and resources needed to address the threats identified for each sector, keeping in mind existing adaptation activities described by Ms. Leonie Barnaby of MWLECC. Finally, participants studied the ideas generated at the other tables, and identified potential areas of collaboration or overlap.

5. DESCRIPTION OF WORKSHOP SESSIONS

A. SPEAKERS

OPENING CEREMONY

The workshop opened with remarks from high-level individuals who reinforced the importance of bringing climate change to the forefront of development. The speakers provided participants with a warm welcome and a call to action.

Dr. Conrad Douglas, Chairman, CCAC

Dr. Conrad Douglas, Chairman of the Climate Change Advisory Committee (CCAA), stated that climate change is one of the most "epochal, multi-sectoral issue[s] of our time" and that Jamaican society is already beginning to experience its impacts. A musical performance by the Voices of Climate Change similarly emphasized the significance of climate change impacts in Jamaica, and the urgency of addressing them. Dr. The Honorable Peter Phillips, Minister of Finance and Planning, underpinned that the cross-cutting nature of climate change requires it to be "mainstreamed into the broader development planning process and tackled at both the macro and sectoral planning levels." Failure to do so may hinder Jamaica's ability to make the country a better place to live, work, raise families, and do business.

Dr. The Hon. Peter Phillips, M.P., Minister of Finance and Planning

The speakers noted the need for Jamaica to proactively address climate change because it is a highly vulnerable country with a geography exposed to frequent hazards, an economy primarily based on natural resources, and a high poverty rate. Dr. The Honorable Peter Philips informed participants that "the country has lost an annual average of 2 percent of GDP in damage and other losses associated with hurricanes, floods, and droughts [and] the cumulative cost of this damage and loss has been estimated at close to J$120 billion." He went on to say that, "the [potential] cost of inaction for Jamaica will range from 13.9 percent of GDP in 2025 to 56.9 percent by 2100." Archdeacon Patrick Cunningham's prayer highlighted the need for collaborative action in responding to the global challenge.

The speakers also provided background on the steps Jamaica has taken to combat climate change. Among others, these actions include strengthening information management systems to collect and disseminate information on climate risks, building the technical capacity of the Meteorological Service, and establishing a Strategic Programme for Climate Resilience, which has a budget of US$25 million over four years and will improve adaptive capacity of key sectors. Dr. The Honorable Peter Philips stressed that "the country has been proactive in developing programmes and seeking financing to assist in this critical development area," while The Honorable Robert Pickersgill of MWLECC reassured participants that the government is "moving full speed ahead" to get the Department of Climate Change up and running by the end of 2012.

Archdeacon Patrick G. Cunningham, St. Luke's Church and Member, CCAC

The Hon. Robert Pickersgill, M.P., Minister of MWLECC

Finally, each of the speakers expressed their optimism about the progress the workshop would enable. Denise A. Herbol, Mission Director of USAID/Jamaica, declared that the workshop would be "the start of a successful move by Jamaica to lead in developing and implementing innovative, comprehensive climate change programming." As a conclusion to his remarks, Dr. Conrad Douglas wished participants a successful workshop, calling it "a critical step in helping Jamaica move towards the development of a national climate change policy framework".

Ms. Denise Herbol, Mission Director, USAID/ Jamaica

OVERVIEW OF VISION 2030 – JAMAICA AND CLIMATE CHANGE, MR. RICHARD LUMSDEN, PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR VISION 2030, PLANNING INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA

Mr. Lumsden gave an overview of the *Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan* and discussed areas where the Plan addresses climate change. He also noted that one of the 10 Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) established to implement the Vision 2030 Plan is on Hazard Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change. This TWG's priority actions for the medium term include rehabilitating watersheds and mangrove ecosystems, improving public education on climate change adaptation, and completing the national climate change policy and action plan. Finally, Mr. Lumsden outlined the steps that the PIOJ is taking to implement the Vision 2030 Plan, including their intent to align it with the results of this climate change workshop.

Mr. Richard Lumsden, Program Director for Vision 2030, PIOJ

OVERVIEW OF THE WORKSHOP AND DESCRIPTION OF THE POLICY FRAMEWORK GOALS, DR. CONRAD DOUGLAS

Dr. Douglas provided an overview of the workshop and policy framework goals. He challenged participants to be open and interactive while exploring the interconnectedness of sectors, inputs, and threats, and identifying resources, policies, actions, and stakeholders needed to take action. He stressed that the workshop should help the framework increase integration among sector policies as a way to address the issue and leverage funding.

THE ROLE OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN JAMAICA, DR. MICHAEL TAYLOR, UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES, MONA CAMPUS

Dr. Taylor described climate trends in Jamaica and the Caribbean, stressing that general trends can be detected despite uncertainty about the exact timescale and degree of change. His presentation highlighted the following trends and projections for Jamaica.

Dr. Michael Taylor, University of the West Indies, Mona

- Jamaica's temperature will continue to increase by between 1 and 4 degrees C by the end of the century. The country will experience additional warm days and fewer cool days.
- Precipitation will become increasingly variable with changes in quantity, intensity, frequency, and type. While some regions in Jamaica will see an increase in precipitation, others will see a decrease. The whole Caribbean region will experience an overall drying trend.
- Tropical storms will become longer and more intense, although the frequency of occurrence will vary considerably from year to year.
- Sea levels will continue to rise. Although there is uncertainty regarding exact magnitudes, rising sea levels will cause additional erosion, inundation, and storm surge.

JAMAICA'S CURRENT EFFORTS TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE, LEONIE BARNABY, MINISTRY OF WATER, LAND, ENVIRONMENT, AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Ms. Barnaby summarized Jamaica's current climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts. Jamaica is active in the Clean Development Mechanism and REDD+, and is working to create a low carbon development map. In the adaptation arena, Jamaica has developed a *Draft Plan of Action for Integrated Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change*, incorporated adaptation into International Development Partner Country Strategy Programmes, reviewed policies and legislation to assess and address climate change gaps, and established criteria for climate in the budget prioritization framework. The Second National Communication on Climate Change to the UNFCCC includes vulnerability and adaptation assessments for six priority sectors, namely water resources, agriculture, human health, coastal zones and human settlements, and tourism. Ms. Barnaby also summarized ongoing adaptation projects in Jamaica and highlighted the Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Project (GOJ/EU/UNEP), the Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (Climate Investment Funds), and the Enhancing the Resilience of the Agriculture Sector and Coastal Areas to Protect Livelihoods and Improve Food Security Project (Adaptation Fund).

Leonie Barnaby, WLECC

B. WORKSHOP EXERCISES

EXERCISE 1: BUILD A "MAP" OF RELATIONSHIPS AMONG ECONOMIC SECTORS AND THE INPUTS AND CONDITIONS THEY DEPEND UPON

The objective of exercise 1 was to produce a "map" of relationships among economic sectors for use in later exercises and analyses. Each table was assigned two economic sectors, which were connected to a Vision 2030 Outcome. Participants answered the question "What *economic* and *environmental inputs* and

enabling conditions are required for success in this sector?" Economic and environmental inputs include land, labor, capital, infrastructure, water, etc. and enabling conditions are the regulations, laws, capacities, and policies that enable the responsible use of economic and environmental inputs. For each sector, participants wrote the inputs and conditions on post-it notes, linked those to the sectors, and then grouped those inputs and conditions that have similarities and/or interlinkages.

Figure 1: Example of Exercise 1 Outcome – Tourism

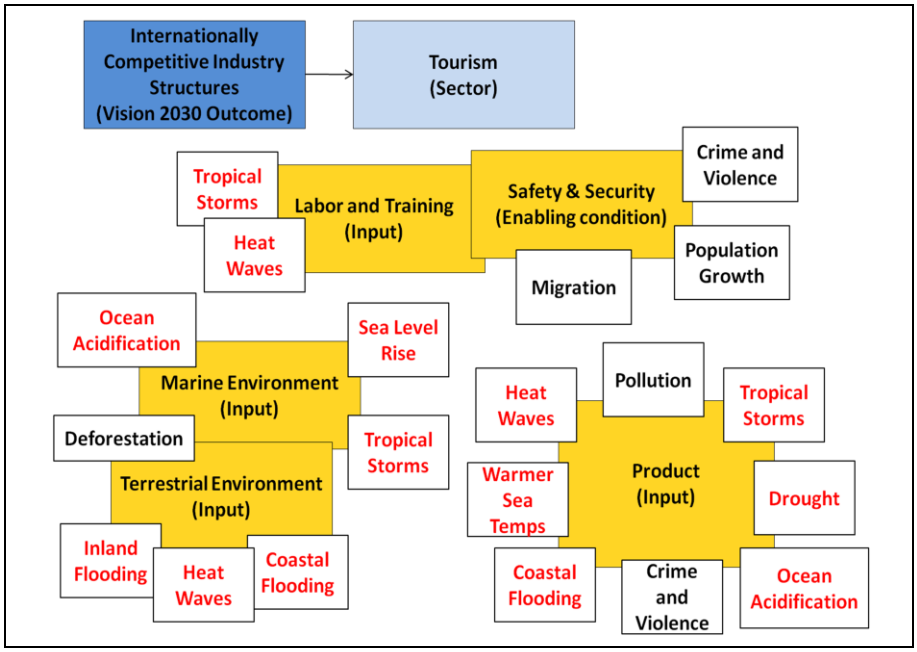
One of the key messages that came out of Exercise 1 was that many sectors relied on the same inputs and enabling conditions. The word map in Figure 2 shows the relative frequency with which inputs were mentioned in the different groups; water, energy, labor, and infrastructure were among the most common. In addition, participants found that some of the inputs were given the status of "sectors," highlighting their importance to development goals. For example, in addition to being its own important economic sector, water resources is a critical input for the energy sector, mining and quarrying, sport, agriculture, manufacturing, natural resource management, urban planning and regional development, housing, health services, and correctional services.

Figure 2: Inputs Word "Map"

EXERCISE 2: ADD THREATS AND CONSTRAINTS TO "MAP" OF KEY INPUTS AND CONDITIONS

The objective of this exercise was to identify threats and constraints that may affect the economic/environmental inputs and enabling conditions identified in Exercise 1. Examples of threats are warmer temperatures, droughts, floods, storms, and sea level rise (climate threats), and pollution, overharvesting of resources, high population growth, and rural-urban or off-island migration (non-climate threats). Constraints include high energy costs, unenforced regulations, and a shortage of skilled labor. Participants labeled each of the inputs and enabling conditions with the relevant threats and constraints.

Figure 3: Example of Exercise 2 Outcome – Tourism

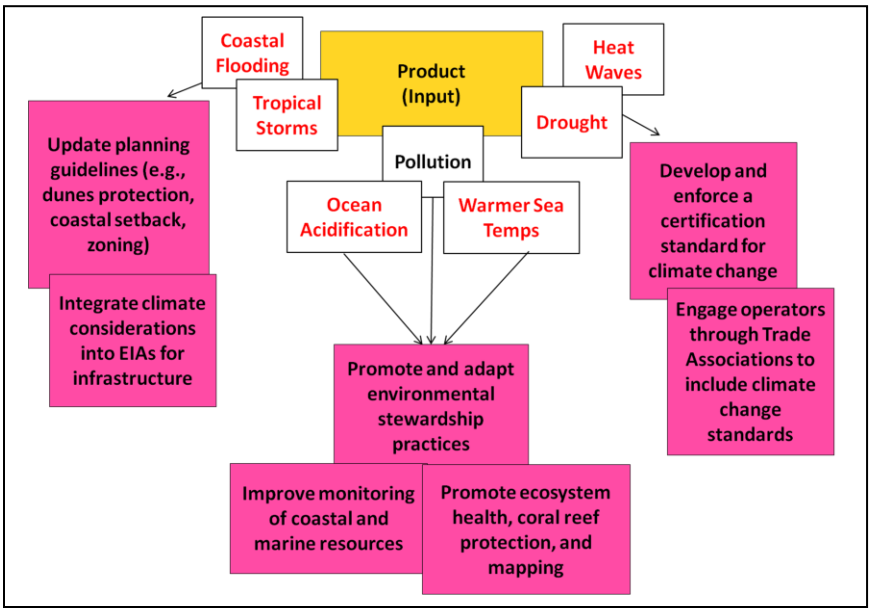


Participants found that certain threats and constraints were more common than others. In particular, potential threats that were consistently identified include tropical storms and hurricanes, increases in temperature, heat waves, changes in precipitation, flooding, and drought. Land use change, crime and violence, population growth, and pollution were other threats that were pervasive across sectors. Many of the groups noted that governance was a major constraint, pointing to a need for better implementation of existing policies and regulations. Also discussed were insufficient political will and social capital, leading some participants to conclude that it is necessary to create an environment that facilitates changes in behavior. Appendix C includes "maps" from each of the tables.

EXERCISE 3: SUGGEST ACTIONS, POLICIES, AND RESOURCES TO ADDRESS THREATS AND CONSTRAINTS

In Exercise 3, participants suggested actions, resources, and policies needed to address the threats and constraints that identified in the previous exercise. Actions are things that people or institutions can do, such as raising the airport road to reduce the risk of flooding. Resources include the materials (e.g., funding), technical information (e.g., weather and climate forecasts), or human resources and capacity that one needs to support action. Policies include laws, regulations, strategies, and plans.

Figure 4: Example of Exercise 3 Outcome – Tourism



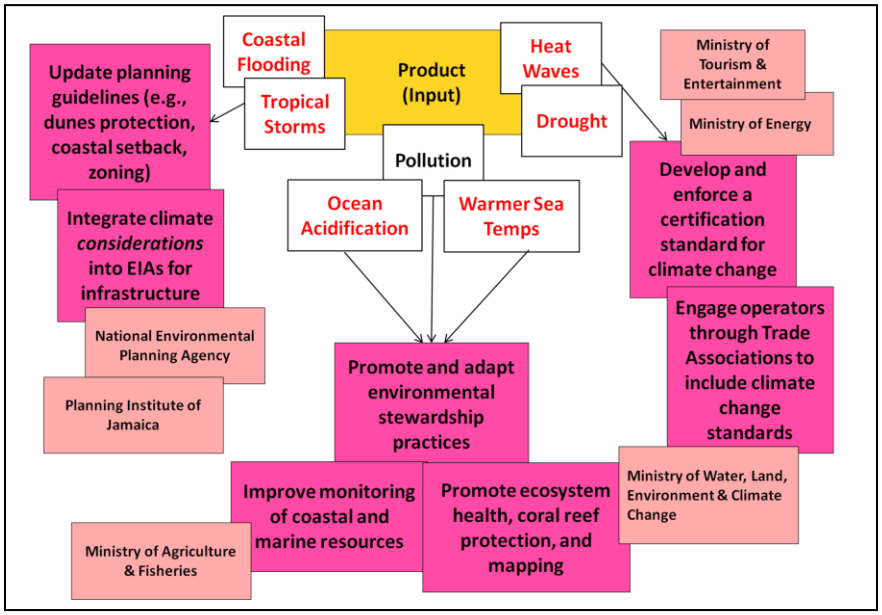
Actions discussed in multiple groups included increasing training and capacity building, raising public awareness and enhancing collaboration, conducting research and assessments, undergoing scenario planning, developing management plans, safeguarding infrastructure, and strengthening and enforcing legislation. While the most commonly identified resource was financing, others included information, data management systems, technologies, jobs, and modeling tools. Groups also highlighted the need for general policies (e.g., a climate policy or land policy), as well as more specific policies (e.g., a mining policy or a seed policy).

EXERCISE 4: INDICATE ONGOING ACTIVITIES AND/OR GAPS

Exercise 4 aimed to enhance cross-sectoral dialogue about priorities and opportunities. Participants looked at the products generated at the other tables, and took into account ongoing actions and policies in order to identify remaining gaps. They also recommended institutions that are contributing or could contribute to the implementation of these actions and policies.

During this exercise, participants examined other group's "maps" and discussed what they had found. If participants noticed proposed actions or policies that they knew were actually already underway, they posted a note to that group's "map" with the relevant details. Participants also took note of actions or policies that were similar to those that their own group had identified, and any actions or policies proposed for another sector that would support adaptation in the one they had considered.

Figure 5: Example of Exercise 4 Outcome – Tourism



The walk-about in this exercise led to some interesting cross-sectoral connections – both in terms of the substance of actions, and in terms of participation. For example, participants from the agriculture group found that the water sector group had also proposed actions related to water harvesting. The tourism group concluded that safe and affordable housing is necessary for employees of the tourism industry, and that effective action to make that housing safe and resilient would require cooperation from representatives from the housing, disaster risk management, land use, and crime prevention sectors.

EXERCISE 5: PRODUCE A LIST OF ACTIONS AND ACTORS

In the final exercise, participants used what they had learned from other tables in the previous exercise to refine the actions, policies, and associated actors on their own "map." Finally, each table developed a narrative to explain linkages across actions and policies and, where possible, provided more information on their timing and sequencing. This exercise brought the many dynamic components of the workshop into one succinct statement. In particular, it linked sectors to the Vision 2030 Plan, highlighted the most important inputs and enabling conditions, identified threats and constraints, and emphasized some of the most critical actions and policies needed to mitigate risk. Each table's narrative also showcased linkages to other sectors, explained the resources needed to implement actions and policies, and identified important stakeholders. Some groups also found opportunities to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions while pursuing adaptation actions. An example from one group is in Text Box 1.

Text Box 1: Example of Exercise 5 Outcome – Tourism

The tourism product is important to Jamaica's future economic, social, and environmental development and growth. Specifically, ensuring success for Jamaica's tourism sector is a key component for achieving internationally competitive industry structures. The tourism product is threatened by hurricanes, coastal flooding, warmer sea temperatures, heat waves, drought, and pollution and constrained by public awareness, lack of enforcement, financing, and the cost of energy. To address these threats and constraints, the Government of Jamaica could pursue the following actions: integrate climate change considerations into Environment Impact Assessments for tourism development; update and enforce development orders, zoning laws, and plans; promote the certification of standards (e.g., reducing energy and water consumption); focus on raising public awareness of climate change impacts; and address infrastructure vulnerabilities. We envision that these actions would benefit other sectors, such as agriculture, energy, health, water, security, housing, and labor. Implementation of these actions would require funding, human resources, training, research, access to information, and new technologies and involvement from the Ministry of Tourism and Entertainment, the Ministry of Energy, Jamaica Hotel and Tourist Association, local communities, donor partners, NGOs, and craft vendors, among others.

FINAL PLENARY SESSION

The final plenary discussion session focused on identifying important themes that emerged from the workshop and on providing suggestions for next steps in advancing the policy framework. Participants noted some of the areas of sectoral overlap that stood out to them. For example, the agriculture group recognized the important connection between agriculture and water, since changes in water availability were one of the major threats identified for the sector. The group described a number of the actions that they proposed including increased usage of rainwater harvesting and drip irrigation systems, increased access to crop insurance, implementation of flood and erosion control measures, water storage in reservoirs, and more sustainable wastewater management systems. The participants in the agriculture group also discussed the benefits of more actively engaging the telecommunication industry. For example, ICT could be used to communicate the results of laboratory testing related to agriculture or the benefits of hydroponic farming.

Dr. Kevon Rhiney, University of the West Indies, Mona

The final plenary session also included a discussion of suggested next steps in the development of a policy framework. It was noted that although the climate change action plan will be developed under MWLECC, it will be important for the plan to be integrated and incorporate inputs from diverse stakeholders. Interactions with other institutions should continue as the plan is being developed to ensure that it is inclusive and represents a range of stakeholder's inputs. Participants also suggested that the conceptual "maps" created throughout the workshop be compiled and analyzed. The results from the "maps" should help to guide future project development and influence sectoral elements of the policy framework. Finally, participants suggested that a one-day follow-on workshop be convened after the policy framework is developed, to provide an opportunity to comment on the framework and provide further recommendations.

CLOSING REMARKS

The Honorable Robert Pickersgill began his closing remarks by thanking all participants for attending and contributing to the workshop. He expressed gratitude for those who have supported adaptation efforts in Jamaica, including USAID, UNDP, the World Bank, and Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), as well as the Workshop Planning Committee. He told participants that with assistance from USAID, MWLECC will begin synthesizing and analyzing results from the workshop focusing on the

preparation of a national policy framework. Finally, he reminded participants that the closing of the workshop was just the "start of the hard work" and that the process will require the participants' "continued participation and input, when called upon."

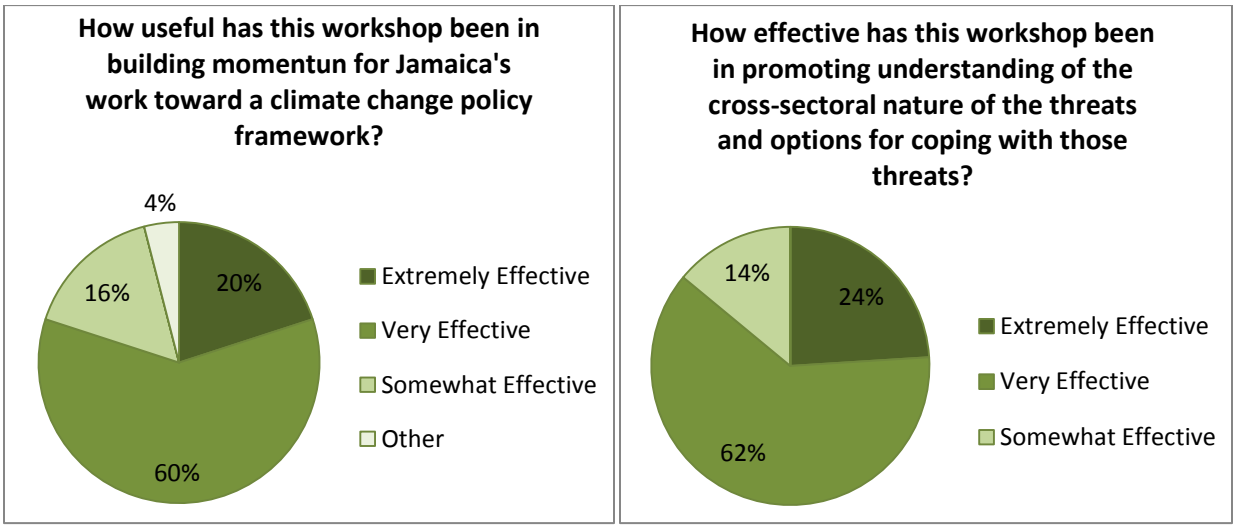
6. SYNTHESIS OF COMMENTS FROM EVALUATION FORMS

Participants filled out an evaluation form at the end of the workshop.

A. WORKSHOP EFFECTIVENESS

The results of the survey about the effectiveness of the workshop are portrayed in Figure 6. Eighty percent of the fifty participants who submitted evaluation forms said that the workshop was extremely effective or very effective at building momentum for developing a climate change policy framework. Eighty-six percent of the surveyed participants felt that the workshop was extremely effective or very effective at promoting understanding of cross-sectoral nature of threats and options.

Figure 6: Results of Workshop Effectiveness Evaluation Questions



B. PARTICIPANTS' RECOMMENDATIONS

The evaluation form also asked participants to identify the next steps they felt were most important in advancing Jamaica's (1) climate change planning in 2012 and (2) implementation of its plans.

Participants emphasized the importance of harnessing momentum from the workshop to produce a coordinated national policy framework, to establish the Government of Jamaica's Climate Change Department, and to develop a widely accepted and integrated climate change action plan. It was

suggested that the five-year action plan should include an implementation strategy that identifies priority measures, methods of coordination, roles and responsibilities, and that proactively addresses potential problems that could arise. Participants suggested that the new Climate Change Department will need ongoing support and cooperation from various ministries and other government entities, NGOs, civil society, the private sector, and international development partners, to help ensure the effective implementation of plans. Participants expected that implementation will also require adequate funding, capacity building, an adequate enabling environment and enforcement mechanisms, accountability for climate change programs at all levels, and a strategic results framework and baseline to monitor and evaluate progress in building resilience.

Workshop participants pointed to a need to compile a comprehensive list of past and ongoing climate change efforts and to identify short-, medium-, and long-term actions to address climate vulnerability in highly vulnerable sectors. Other suggested activities include carrying out additional data surveys to understand climate trends; performing inter-sectoral impact modeling, policy reviews, and evaluations; identifying actions that have the greatest benefit per cost; and producing reference materials such as a procedures manual for cross-sector use.

Participants stressed that all future activities should ensure representation of diverse stakeholders on planning and steering committees. These representatives should include the general public and local communities. Participants noted the need for increased harmonization of activities across sectors and suggested that there be widespread dissemination of information for all stakeholders through public awareness campaigns.

7. SUMMARY OF NEXT STEPS

The results of the workshop will be used as key inputs to Jamaica's Climate Change Policy Framework and Action Plan. The Policy Framework and Action Plan are currently under development. They are being prepared under the Government of Jamaica/United Nations Environment Programme/European Union Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Project in collaboration with USAID. A round of regional consultations in Montego Bay, Mandeville, and Kingston in October 2012 is expected to further inform the development of these documents. Concurrently, USAID will help to coordinate donor input to the Policy Framework and Action Plan. These documents will be submitted to the Cabinet for approval in late 2012. The Cabinet-approved "green paper" will be submitted to Parliament for approval soon thereafter. Once the green paper is approved as an official "white paper," the Climate Change Policy Framework and Action Plan will begin to be implemented.

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APPENDIX A: AGENDA

Climate Change Workshop

Wyndham Hotel - Kingston, Jamaica

July 26-27, 2012

Objective: Develop inputs to a policy framework to enable Jamaica to address climate change risks in key economic sectors.

Agenda

DAY 1	
9:00-10:00	*Registration and coffee*
10:00-11:00	▪ **Chairman's welcoming remarks** Dr. Conrad Douglas, Chairman, Climate Change Advisory Committee (CCAC) ▪ **National anthem** TBD ▪ **Prayer** Archdeacon Patrick G. Cunningham, St. Luke's Church and Member, CCAC ▪ **Opening remarks** Dr. Douglas ▪ **Greetings** Ms. Denise Herbol, Mission Director, USAID/ Jamaica ▪ **Remarks** Hon. Robert Pickersgill, M.P., Minister of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change ▪ **Cultural item** Voices of Climate Change ▪ **Main address** Dr. Hon. Peter Phillips, M.P., Minister of Finance and Planning ▪ **Chairman's closing remarks** Dr. Douglas
11:00-11:20	▪ **Overview of Vision 2030 – Jamaica and Climate Change** Mr. Richard Lumsden, Program Director for Vision 2030, Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ)
11:20-11:30	▪ **Overview of the workshop; description of policy framework goal** Dr. Douglas

11:30-12:30	▪ **Exercise 1: Each table will build a map of relationships among economic sectors and the inputs and conditions they depend upon**
12:30-13:30	*Lunch* *Student presentations*
13:30-13:40	▪ **Report out from morning; overview of afternoon activities** Facilitator
13:40-14:20	▪ **The role of climate change in Jamaica** Dr. Michael Taylor, Dr. Anthony Chen
14:20-15:35	▪ **Exercise 2: Each table will add threats and constraints to the maps of key inputs and conditions started in Exercise 1**
15:35-15:55	*Coffee break*
15:55-16:50	**Facilitated discussion of tables' findings, interlinkages, and dependencies among tables** Facilitator
16:50-17:15	▪ **Day 1 wrap-up and preview of Day 2; invitation to reception** Dr. Douglas
17:15-20:00	*Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at the Wyndham* *Introductions – TBD* *Student poster session in hallway*

DAY 2	
8:30-9:00	*Coffee*
9:00-9:15	▪ **Introduction to Day 2** Facilitator
9:15-9:45	▪ **Jamaica's current efforts to address climate change** Leonie Barnaby, Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change
9:45-11:00	▪ **Exercise 3: Each table will suggest actions, policies, and resources to address threats and constraints identified in exercise 2**
11:00-11:15	*Coffee break*
11:15-11:30	▪ **Report out of Exercise 3**
11:30-12:30	▪ **Exercise 4: Participants indicate ongoing activities and/or gaps**
12:30-13:30	*Lunch*
13:30-14:15	▪ **Exercise 5: Tables review Exercise 4 and produce lists of actions and actors** Facilitator, tables
14:15-14:30	*Coffee break*
14:30-14:45	▪ **Report out of Exercise 5** Facilitator
14:45-15:30	▪ **Integrating the pieces** Facilitator
15:30-16:30	▪ **Wrap-up and next steps** Ministerial representatives
16:30 – WORKSHOP ADJOURNS	

APPENDIX B: PARTICIPANTS

	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORGANIZATION
1	Aarons-Morgan	Renelle	Ministry of Finance, Planning, and the Public Sector
2	Allen	Rachel	Ministry of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change
3	Alleng	Gerard	Inter-American Development Bank (Washington)
4	Alleyne	Dillon	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
5	Alveranga	Rollin	Ministry of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change
6	Andrade	Danielle	Jamaica Environment Trust
7	Andrade	Nelson	United Nation Environment Programme
8	Anglin	Claudette	USAID Jamaica
9	Archer	Carol	University of Technology, Jamaica
10	Arscott	Noel	Minister, Ministry of Local Government and Community Development
11	Banister	Simone	Department for International Development (Caribbean)
12	Barnaby	Leonie	Office of the Prime Minister
13	Barrett-Edwards	Yvonne	Ministry of Science, Technology, Energy and Mining
14	Beck	Josef	Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
15	Bennett	Beryl	Jamaica Hotel and Tourist Association
16	Bermejo	Pedro Mas	Pan American Health Organization / World Health Organization
17	Bernard	Claire	Planning Institute of Jamaica
18	Blake	Vivian	National Environmental Planning Agency
19	Blue	Bernard	National Environmental Planning Agency
20	Brewster	Ancile	Inter-American Development Bank
21	Brodber	Lucille	Jamaica Emergency Employment Programme
22	Brohan	Soizic	Organization of American States, OAS Jamaica
23	Brown	Philbert	Ministry of Local and Government & Community Development
24	Brown	Arnaldo	Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

25	Brown	Ronald	Urban Development Corporation
26	Brown	Nadine	Planning Institute of Jamaica
27	Brown	Nicole	United Nations Development Programme
28	Buchanan	Sandra	Ministry of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change
29	Budham	Zuliekha	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
30	Carby	Barbara	Disaster Risk Reduction Centre
31	Charles	Patrice	Phoenix Counseling Centre
32	Chen	Anthony	University of the West Indies, Mona
33	Chin	Osbourne	Ministry of Tourism and Entertainment
34	Christie	Winsome	Ministry of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change
35	Chung	Phillip	Rural Agricultural Development Authority
36	Cohen	Jane	University of the West Indies
37	Coke	Okley	Planning Institute of Jamaica
38	Commock	Tracy	Institute of Jamaica
39	Cox	Sadie	National Renewable Energy Laboratory
40	Crossman-Johnson	Keron	South East Regional Health Authority, Ministry of Health and Environment
41	Cunningham	Patrick	Archdeacon
42	Davey	Seymour	Ministry of Finance, Planning and the Public Sector
43	Davidson	Winston	School of Public Health and Technology; University of Technology
44	Douglas	Conrad	Conrad Douglas and Associates Limited and its subsidiary Environmental Science & Technology Limited
45	Douglas	Kari	Kingston & St. Andrew Corporation (KSAC)
46	Dowie	Donovan	DH Fuel Systems Limited
47	Downswell	Marsha	Mines and Geology Division, Ministry of Science, Technology, Energy & Mining
48	Dryden	Kerrie-Ann	Ministry of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change
49	Dunkley	Shelly-Ann	ECCO Magazine
50	Dunn	Leith	Institute of Gender and Development Studies
51	Dwyer	Lorn	Jamaica National Heritage Trust

52	Ebert	Suzanne	USAID Jamaica
53	Edwards	Jennifer	National Solid Waste Management Agency
54	Elliot	Shaquille	Ministry of Science, Technology, Energy and Mining
55	Esikuri	Enos	World Bank
56	Ferm	Nora	USAID Washington/ Global Climate Change Office
57	Forsythe	Basil	Ministry of Transport Works and Housing
58	Francis	Leonard	National Environmental Planning Agency
59	Furlow	John	USAID Washington / Global Climate Change Office
60	Gayle	Karen McDonald	Environmental Foundation of Jamaica
61	Geoffrey	Marshall	Water Resources Authority
62	Geoghagen	Janet	Statistical Institute of Jamaica
63	Gooden	Mary-Ann	Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Project
63	Gordon	Albert	National Water Commission
64	Hanowsky	Michael	USAID Washington/ Global Climate Change Office
65	Harris	Rohan	Ministry of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change
66	Hayles	Ian	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
67	Hayman	Alicia	Independent consultant
68	Headley	Marilyn	Forestry Department
69	Jean	Ignatius	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
70	Jenkinson	Helen	European Union
71	Joyini	Mathu	South African Embassy
72	Kerr	Andrea	Kingston Restoration Company Ltd.
73	Kerr	Robert	Food and Agriculture Organization
74	Khan	Shakira	Marine Geology Unit, University of the West Indies, Mona
75	Khan	Oral	Ministry of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change
76	Kidd	Francine Warren	Jamaica Institute of Planners
77	Knight	Peter	National Environmental Planning Agency
78	Kolbusch	Paulette	National Environmental Planning Agency

79	Lawrence	Neil	Jamaica Emergency Employment Programme
80	Livermore	Keisha	International Organisation for Migration
81	Longmore	Rohan	World Bank
82	Lumsden	Richard	Planning Institute of Jamaica
83	Mahlung	Clifford	Meteorological Service of Jamaica
84	Maitland	Rose	Ministry of Transport and Works
85	Malone	Daniel	US Peace Corps
86	Mandal	Arpita	Department of Geography and Geology, UWI
87	Marks-Doman	Georgia	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
88	Martin	Raymond	University of Technology, Jamaica
89	Maryam	Amsale	Association of Development Agencies
90	Maxam	Ava	GeoInformatics, University of the West Indies, Mona
91	McCaulay	Diana	Jamaica Environment Trust
92	McCormick	Scott	USAID ARCC Project
93	McHardy	Pauline	Independent Consultant, Urban Planners
94	McIntyre	Karen	GeoInformatics, University of the West Indies, Mona
95	Miller	Janice	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
96	Miller	Malden	USAID Jamaica
97	Myers	Leary	National Works Agency
98	Neil	Joan	Organisation of American States
99	Newell	Dionne	Institute of Jamaica
100	Nugent	Reginald	Minister of Commerce
101	O'Reggio	Nicole	Ministry of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change
102	Oxford	Nichelle	National Environmental Planning Agency
103	Palmer	Chantal	Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change
104	Panton	Kimberlee Cooke	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
105	Parua	Robert	United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
106	Pendzich	Christine	USAID Washington / Bureau for Latin America & the Caribbean

107	Perrin-Greenwood	Rose	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
108	Peterson	Hopeton	Planning Institute of Jamaica
109	Phillips	Peter	Minister of Finance and Planning, Ministry of Finance and Planning
110	Pickersgill	Robert	Ministry of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change
111	Poyser	Raymond	Ministry of Transport, Works and Housing
112	Prendergast	Doreen	Ministry of Water and Housing
113	Rainford	Oral	Ministry of Science, Technology, Energy and Mining
114	Reid	Nickeisha	University of the West Indies
115	Rhiney	Kevon	Department of Geography and Geology, University of the West Indies
116	Rhiney	Cavell	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
117	Richards	Mark	National Works Agency
118	Roper	Le-Ann	Planning Institute of Jamaica
119	Rowan-Campbell	Dorienne	Independent Consultant and Proprietor of Rowan's Royale Coffee
120	Rowe	Sean	Urban Development Corporation
121	Sampson	Joan	Ministry of Local Government & Community Development
122	Seymour	Morin	Kingston Restoration Company Ltd.
123	Silva	Homero	University of Technology, Jamaica
124	Simpson	Sara	Urban Development Corporation
125	Simpson	Sheries	National Environmental Planning Agency
126	Simpson	Leslie	Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
126	Smart	Lisa Bryan	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
127	Smith	David	Smith Warner International Coastal Engineers
128	Spaulding	Simone	Planning Institute of Jamaica
129	Spence	Kerona	Jamaica National Heritage Trust
130	Spooner	Jeffery	Meteorological Service of Jamaica
131	Streete	L. Don	National Water Commission
132	Strong	Yvette	National Environmental Planning Agency
134	Swaby	Stacy	Panos Caribbean/National Environmental Education Committee

135	Taylor	Michael	University of the West Indies
136	Thompson	Evan	Meteorological Service of Jamaica
137	Thorney	George Michael	Association of Development Agencies
138	Thwaites	Timothy	National Environmental Planning Agency
139	Towers	Constance	Ministry of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change
140	Tuzo	Geronimo	Jamaica Institute of Engineers
141	Tyrell	Keisha	Ministry of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change
142	Vanhaeverbeke	Pierre-Luc	European Union
143	Vasquez	Doris	University of Technology, Jamaica
145	Walker	Ciaron	Jamaica Bauxite Institute
146	Walker	Simone Sewell	USAID Jamaica
147	Westphal	Michael	Abt Associates
148	Williams	Margaret Jones	United Nations Development Programme
149	Williams	Tina	Ministry of Tourism and Entertainment
150	Yamaguchi	H.E. Hiroshi	Embassy of Japan
151	Zacca	Chris	Planning Institute of Jamaica

APPENDIX C: SPEAKERS POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS

The workshop speakers PowerPoint presentations are listed below. They can be viewed by following the associated links.

Overview of Vision 2030 – Jamaica and Climate Change. Mr. Richard Lumsden, Program Director for Vision 2030, Planning Institute of Jamaica. Available at http://245elmp01.blackmesh.com/ccrd/Vision2030.ppt

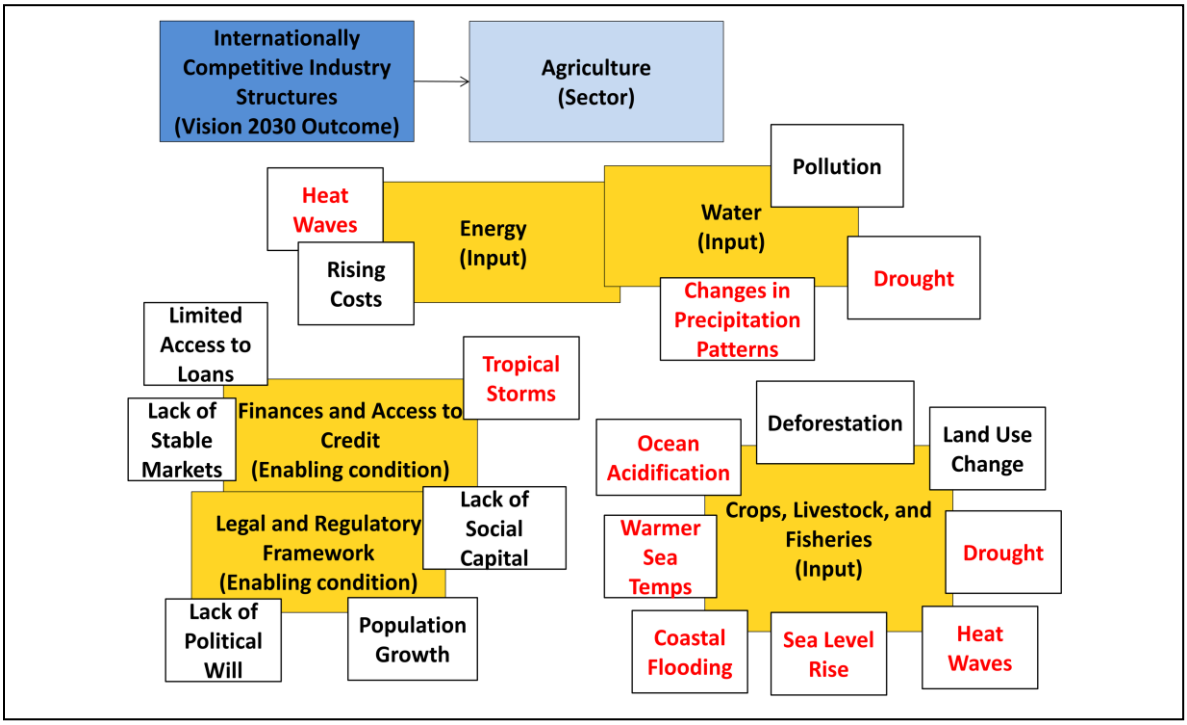
The Role of Climate Change in Jamaica. Dr. Michael Taylor, University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. Available at http://245elmp01.blackmesh.com/ccrd/ClimateChange.pdf

Jamaica's Current Efforts to Address Climate Change. Leonie Barnaby, Ministry of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change. Available at http://245elmp01.blackmesh.com/ccrd/Currentclimatechange.ppt

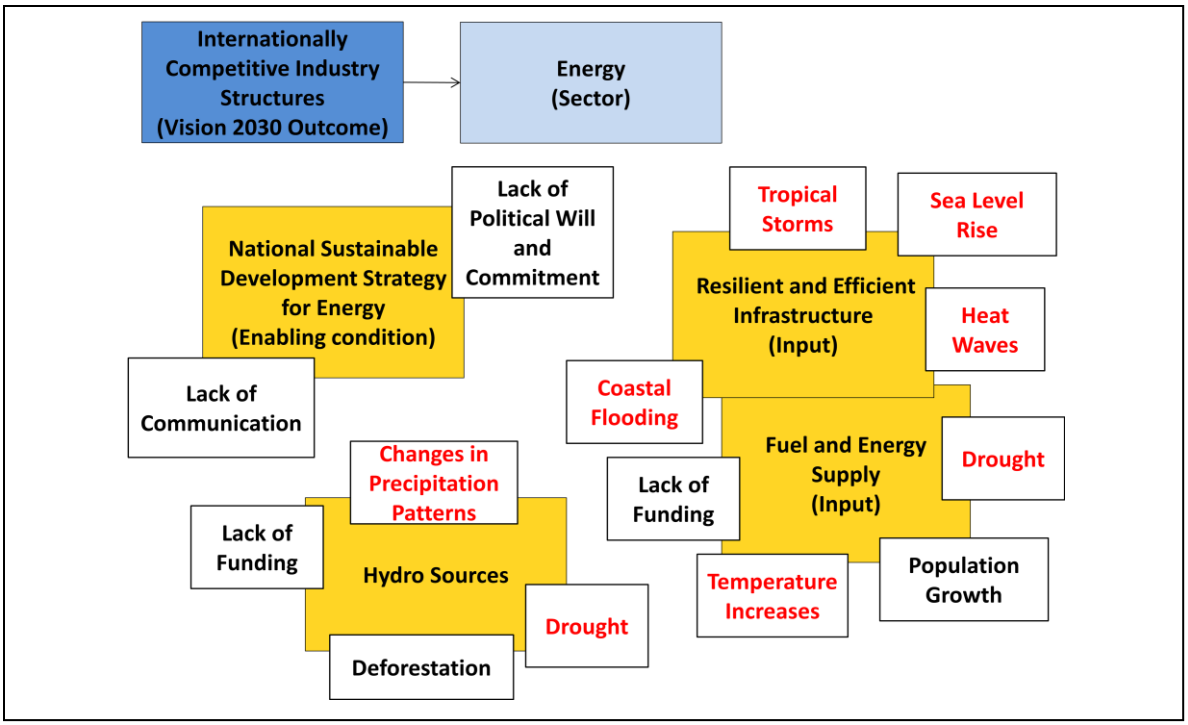
Impacts of Climate Change on our Coastline: We need to be Proactive not Reactive. Dr. Shakira Khan. Available at http://245elmp01.blackmesh.com/ccrd/CCmeeting.ppt

APPENDIX D: "MAPS" FROM THE TABLES LINKING OBJECTIVES, SECTORS, INPUTS AND ENABLING CONDITIONS, AND THREATS AND CONSTRAINTS

Example for Agriculture

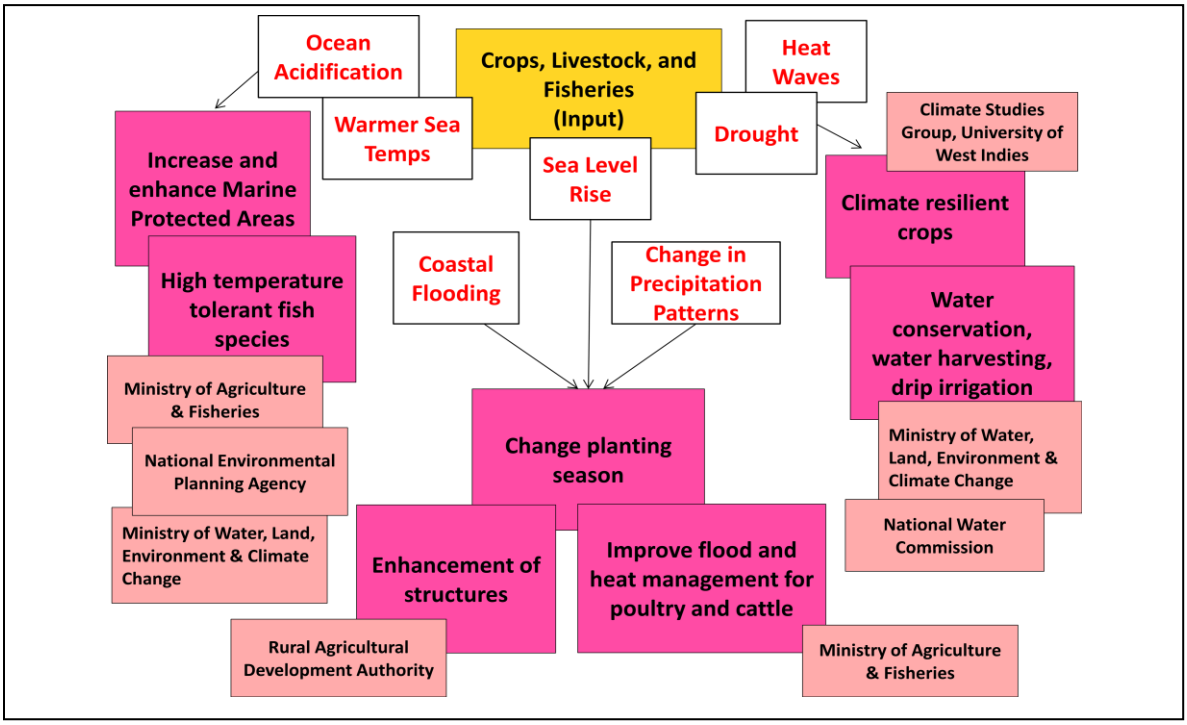


Example for Energy

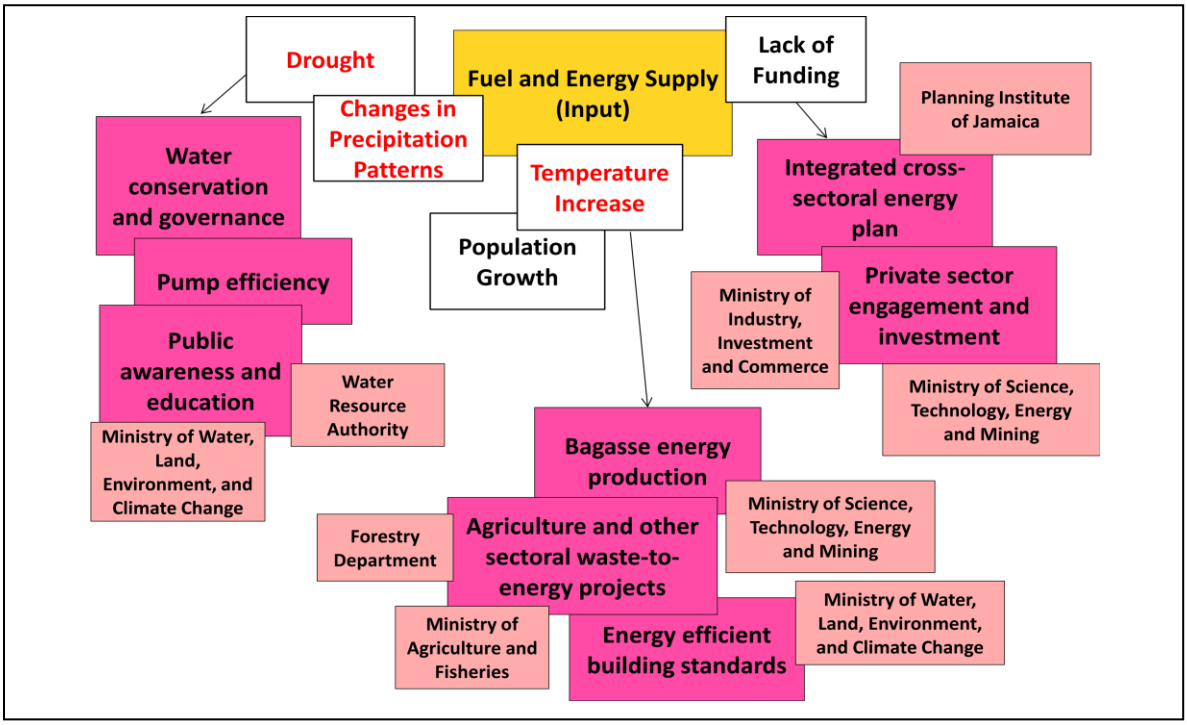


APPENDIX E: "MAPS" FROM THE TABLES INDICATING ACTIONS, POLICIES, AND RESOURCES TO ADDRESS THE THREATS AND CONSTRAINTS

Example for Agriculture



Example for Energy



APPENDIX F: CLIPS FROM PRESS

CLIMATE CHANGE DEVELOPMENT IN JAMAICA

SUNDAY, 29 JULY 2012 23:42
WRITTEN BY ECCO STAFF

Minister Pickersgill, Denise Herbol (USAID/Jamaica Mission Director) and Minister Phillips. Photographer: Ranath Fraser

The Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change in collaboration with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), recently hosted a two-day workshop at the Wyndham Hotel. The workshop focused on developing a national climate change policy and National Adaptation Plan. Invited guests included the Minister of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change, Robert Pickersgill, Minister of Finance, Planning and Public Service, Dr. Peter Phillips, representatives from the local government, NGOs, multilateral donors and the private sector.

Jamaica, along with other low-lying islands in the Caribbean and around the world, is susceptible to the effects of climate change. The Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change gathered various experts for the workshop to facilitate the process of outlining a policy framework and plan of action to reduce Jamaica's vulnerability to climate change.

The participants, using their expertise, were able to contribute significantly to the overall aim of the workshop. By mapping economic sectors, their direct and indirect inputs, the participants were better able to examine the threats and constraints which impact each sector. After identifying problems and possible connections within sectors the information gathered was then used to determine possible actions, policies and resources needed to address the impact of climate change.

A few key issues expressed by some participants were the lack of: implementation, enforcement, monitoring and adequate legislation regarding environmental matters. These concerns were also useful in proposing and developing more detailed actions plans.

Workshop Participants

By ensuring there are facilities in place and adequate resources available the recommendations presented during the workshop should lead to better environmental policies and impactful action plans to help Jamaica become more resilient as we deal with Climate Change. As the information regarding results from the workshop becomes available be sure to check back more for more details.

Article Available at:
http://www.eccomagazine.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=276:climate-change-development-in-jamaica&catid=69:environment&Itemid=209

CLIMATE CHANGE DEPARTMENT TAKING SHAPE

SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2012
WRITTEN BY ECCO STAFF

THE promised Climate Change Department to be established in the Ministry of Water, Land, Environment, and Climate Change is expected to have a staff of between 20 and 30 persons, who are to be recruited soon.

This was disclosed by Dr. Conrad Douglas, chairman of the Climate Change Advisory Board, which is a multi-sectoral group of experts set up by Government earlier this year.

Minister of Finance, Planning and the Public Service Dr. Peter Phillips (left) greets Mission Director of the United States Agency for International Development Denise Herbol at the opening of a two-day workshop on climate change at the Wyndham Hotel in Kingston on Thursday. Looking on are Minister of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change Robert Pickersgill (second left) and Dr. Conrad Douglas, chairman of the Climate Change Advisory Board. (Photo: Michael Gordon)

Among the initial tasks of the new department will be to do an inventory of climate change projects across all sectors in order to maximise resources and avoid duplication.

"Clearly you would want to have the head of the department who will be at the director general level, and certainly you are going to have several departments in place – one dealing with mitigation [and] one dealing with adaptation, as there are a number of adaptation projects already underway," Douglas Career & Education. "The fact is that we must all ensure we know who is doing what. So one of the first tasks is to do an inventory of all the projects that have been implemented in climate change in the public sector, the private sector and among the NGO communities."

Dr. Douglas made the comments shortly after the launch of a two-day National Climate Change Workshop at the Wyndham Hotel in Kingston.

The workshop, held in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), focused on the development of a comprehensive policy framework to assist Jamaica to adapt to the effects of climate change.

Other tasks of the Climate Change Department will include database management, project formulation, proposal writing, and monitoring the implementation of projects.

"There are a lot of resources available internationally to support a number of projects. There are 'green' economy projects, which are primary terrestrial, and 'blue' economy projects concerned mainly with the sea. There are coastal projects, for fisheries, projects to protect coral reefs and so on," Douglas elaborated.

He noted that protection of the environment was critical to preserve Jamaica's economy, which is largely dependent on tourism, to protect important infrastructure much of which is located in coastal areas as well as to achieve food security which can seriously be threatened by extreme weather events.

"It has implications for location of settlements and ground water resources," Douglas said.

The CCAB chairman also said the staff of the Climate Change Department should number 20 to 30 persons.

"We want a very lean and mean department; we are aiming for efficiency," said Douglas, adding that job descriptions were currently being developed.

Speaking at the workshop, Minister of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change Robert Pickersgill disclosed that a draft report had been developed on how to establish the Climate Change Department.

"Now you will be taking another critical step on this path by helping us to move towards the development of a national climate change policy framework," he told participants, which included representatives of Government, non-governmental organisations and the private sector.

Also addressing the workshop, Minister of Finance, Planning and the Public Sector Dr. Peter Phillips underscored the effects of climate change on the Jamaican economy.

He said data from the Planning Institute of Jamaica suggests that since 2001, Jamaica has lost an average of two per cent of Gross Domestic Product annually in damage associated with hurricanes, floods and droughts.

"The accumulative loss entailed from this damage is estimated at close to J$120 billion. This is money which would otherwise be spent on developmental tasks," he said.

Article Available at: http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/environment/Climate-Change-Dept-taking-shape_12051550#ixzz291NBYrnj

COMPREHENSIVE POLICY FRAMEWORK TO RESULT FROM CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOP

THURSDAY, 26 JULY 2012 15:34
WRITTEN BY ATHALIAH REYNOLDS-BAKER

Minister of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change, Hon. Robert Pickersgill, says the workshop being convened in Kingston from July 26 to 27, should result in the development of a comprehensive Climate Change policy framework and road map by year end.

The Minister said it should also identify existing gaps that need to be addressed immediately.

The workshop, which is being held in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), will focus on the development of an overarching policy framework geared at assisting Jamaica to adapt to the effects of climate change.

Mr. Pickersgill, who was making his contribution to the 2012/13 Sectoral Debate in the House of Representatives, informed that representatives from several international donor agencies, including the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), are attending the conference.

"It is hoped that we will attract additional financial and technical support from these donor agencies to fill the gaps identified at the workshop," the Minister said.

He emphasised that there is a need for more consistency among various sector policies to attack the impacts of the phenomena. The Minister reiterated his call for the country to protect and prepare itself against the increasing impacts of climate change, by building a climate resilient society. "We must defend the gains that we have made as well as protect our prospects for future development," he stated.

He informed that in this vein, the government in April established a Climate Change Advisory Board, comprising a multi-sectoral group of experts charged with a number of responsibilities, including: to establish a Climate Change Department; to prepare a climate change policy; to educate and build public awareness on climate change; and to seek additional bilateral and multi-lateral support for climate change projects.

Article Available at: http://www.jis.gov.jm/news/leads/31395

JAMAICA RECEIVES $850 MILLION GRANT FOR CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, 27 JULY 2012 15:17
WRITTEN BY ATHALIAH REYNOLDS-BAKER

Jamaica has received a grant of $850 million (US$10 million) from the Adaptation Fund Board for the establishment of a Climate Change Adaptation Programme.

The programme will seek to introduce measures to protect livelihoods and food security in communities that are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

This was disclosed by Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change Minister, Hon. Robert Pickersgill during his contribution to the 2012/13 Sectoral Debate in the House of Representatives on Tuesday (July 24), under the theme: 'Partnership for sustainable development'.

The project will also focus on improving land and water management for the agriculture sector; strengthen coastal protection; and build institutional and local capacities for climate change adaptation in the parishes of Westmoreland, Manchester, Clarendon, St. Mary, St. Ann, Trelawny, and St. Thomas.

The Adaptation Fund finances concrete adaptation projects and programmes in developing countries that are parties to the Kyoto Protocol and are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. Over the past two years, the fund has dedicated more than US$165 million to increase climate resilience in 25 countries around the world.

Minister Pickersgill told the House that one of the primary objectives of the government is to sensitise Jamaicans about the effects of climate change.

To this end, the Ministry has launched a public awareness campaign to enlighten Jamaicans about the many projects and initiatives of the government, in addition to their responsibilities in protecting the environment.

"To date, we have covered four parishes, and have engaged the entertainment fraternity, creating climate change songs as well as skits and plays which have been used to engage society," Mr. Pickersgill informed.

In addition, he said, the Ministry has hosted a number of climate change awareness workshops in Portland Bight and Long Bay, Negril.

The government has also actively participated in climate change conferences overseas, even as recently as RIO +20, as well as negotiations in Johannesburg and Copenhagen. The country will also be present at the next Conference of Parties in Qatar.

Minister Pickersgill said that these meetings have helped in "positioning Jamaica to benefit from recent developments as well as to access to funding and initiatives in international fora."

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