

## 2. SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

### DOLPHIN HEAD TRUST/NEGRIL ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION TRUST

#### Assessment of Economically Viable Alternative Livelihood in the Dolphin Head Area

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-----Residents of Dolphin Head have been forced to eke out an existence from the available and accessible forest resources. This has resulted in the fragmentation of the forest block. The area has a high rate of endemism, which has to be protected from further destruction. The Dolphin Head Trust received \$410,000.00 to do the necessary research to develop a sustainable income generation strategy that would balance the environmental importance of the area with the residents' need for a livelihood.

Project activities will include the identification of enterprises, which are compatible with sustainable natural resource management; and the selection of the most appropriate for the Dolphin Head region. It also included a programme to improve the project management capabilities of the implementing agency. Community stakeholders and partners participated in the planning of the conservation initiatives for the fourteen buffer communities in which they have been involved.

The communities were eager to participate in the proposed interventions as they were convinced of the long-term benefits both to the residents and the natural environment.

### INNERCITY FOR CHRIST MINISTRIES

#### Reengineering of Better Taste Foods

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-----The Innerscity for Christ Ministries received a grant of \$1.25 million to upgrade the current manufacturing and operational practices of its banana chips factory to facilitate increased production and train staff in quality control.

Employees of Better Taste Banana Chips and members of the Innerscity Ministries are the primary beneficiaries but the project will also include the immediate communities of Trench Town and Jones Town through the provision of employment opportunities as a result of the factory expansion.

### JAMAICA CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT TRUST [JCDDT]

#### Blue and John Crow Mountain National Park Support Project

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-----Management of the Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park has been severely affected by the drastic reduction in financial support both from government and the Jamaica National Parks Fund Trust. JCDDT received a grant of \$4,496,500.00 to support the development, planning and implementation of biodiversity conservation, community development and income generation programmes.

During the 12-month project period the JCDT will develop a strategy for park viability to include improvement of the infrastructure and amenities of the recreational areas; monitoring the status of the forest ecosystem of the BJCMNP; improvement of the forest resources of the park; and involvement and participation of the communities in the conservation efforts.

This project operates within the framework of the co-management agreement with the National Environment & Planning Agency and the Forestry Department.

NEGRIL AREA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TRUST [NEPT]  
Royal Palm Reserve Eco-tourism Attraction (Start-up)

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-----The Negril Area Environmental Protection Trust (NEPT) received \$2,800,000.00 to increase the funding base of its protected area management programmes through the establishment of an income-generating eco-tourism attraction at the Royal Palm Reserve.

Project activities include an interpretive programme to raise the level of awareness, knowledge and understanding about the Negril Great Morass; income generation for the citizens of neighbouring communities and a research centre to increase scientific knowledge of the Negril Great Morass and related ecosystem.

The local communities of Sheffield and Springfield are fully involved in the planning of the specific activities and operations of the Reserve as a tourist attraction and will have first option for jobs and training opportunities in tour guiding and craft-making.

Successful implementation of this project will satisfy the need for comprehensive planning and management as it includes education, enforcement and the provision of opportunities to local communities for more environmentally friendly economic activities. It should also provide a much needed attraction for hotels and tourists in the Negril Area.

NEGRIL CORAL REEF PRESERVATION SOCIETY [NCRPS]  
Consultation on the Financial Sustainability of the Negril Marine Park

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-----The Negril Coral Reef Preservation Society requires a good financial management plan in order to generate adequate funds for the operation of the marine park. A grant of \$375,000 was made to the NCRPS to cover the cost of consultations and workshops to develop a financing strategy and work-plan and identify appropriate management systems.

The consultation exercise will improve the management system of the NMP; review the experiences and strategies used by similar Caribbean

organizations like the Soufriere Marine Management Area, St. Lucia; and develop an operational budget for the NMP.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION

1st Caribbean Rural and Community-Based Tourism Training Workshop

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-----The Sustainable Communities Foundation received a grant of \$450,000.00 to assist thirty-five participants from a broad range of communities and five members of the SCF/CountryStyle secretariat to attend and participate in the 1st Caribbean Rural and Community-Based Tourism Workshop, held in Jamaica August 24-26, 2001.

The workshop included special interest marketing strategies for communities; discussions on community tourism, product development and standards; international linkages; and introduction of the concept of "Communities for Peace".

The sharing of real time experiences and ideas on community tourism exposed participants to a wider range of approaches.