

Environmental Foundation of Jamaica



2010 Congressional Report on Jamaica's Enterprise for the Americas Initiative (EAI) Fund

February 1, 2011

Jamaica

Background and History

The principal objectives of the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ) are (i) to promote and implement activities designed to conserve and manage the natural resources and environment of Jamaica; and (ii) to encourage the improvement of child survival and child development in Jamaica. The EFJ achieves its objectives through grants to eligible non-government institutions.

The core business of the EFJ is to use the mechanism of grant-making in creative ways, both responsive and proactive, to assist civil society to find solutions to problems, and exploit opportunities in the environment and child development. These funds are expected to provide sustainable responses that together contribute to sustainable national development.

Each year the Board of Directors approves a budget providing resources to the Secretariat for work in the following areas:

- *Grantmaking*: Response to requests/proposals from the community in areas of the mandate.
- *Programmes*: Initiating action to address issues of national importance in the areas of the mandate. EFJ collaborates with several stakeholders to plan and implement these programmes.
- *Members*: The EFJ provides support to members in areas of their own development as institutions and in those areas in which their work reflects the mandate of the EFJ.
- *Fundraising*: The EFJ recognizes the need to raise funds in order to continue to support the environment and child sectors in Jamaica beyond the life of the current agreement.

Mission Statement

The EFJ serves the public good by promoting and implementing activities designed to conserve and manage the natural resources and environment of Jamaica in the interest of sustainable development and to improve child survival and child development.

For Review Period - EFJ Fiscal Year 2009-10

The Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ) is in the **final two years** of its initial Enterprise for the Americas Initiative (EAI) agreements that reduced USAID and PL480 debt in Jamaica by US\$21.489million (a total of US\$21.255 million has been received up to the end of fiscal year 2009-10). Operations of the EFJ began in May 1993 and, under the original agreements for a sinking fund, were scheduled to **end in 2012**. Jamaican stakeholders are now lobbying to identify new sources of funds for the EFJ as it is considered one of the most responsive and effective local sources of funding.

The EFJ has a strong record of efficient funds management, meeting its administrative ratio of 25% of grant disbursements as well as generating US\$17.94 million in interest on the funds received to extend the life of the organization. In its 18 years of operation, the Foundation has managed over 1200 grant projects across the length and breadth of Jamaica valued at over US\$36.94 million. At least 75% of these grants (~900) have been successfully closed and a recent review of just 50 of those projects (completed between 2007 and 2009), demonstrates the significant impact of the Foundation across Jamaica.

Project Impacts

For those **50 grants**, the following outstanding results paint a picture of the larger impact of the EFJ:

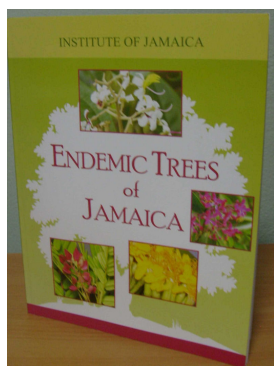
- over 14,000 children directly benefited,
- over 2,228 parents were trained in a wide range of topics¹,
- over 385 children mediators and 331 peer educators were trained, particularly in at-risk communities
- 12 national policies were positively developed
- over 28 hectares of land managed sustainably

Major Achievements in 2010

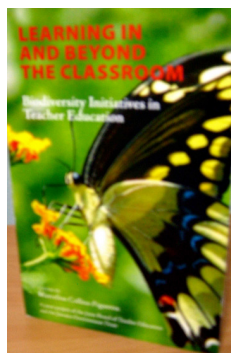
This report covers EFJ's fiscal year, which is August 1, 2009 – July 31, 2010.

A Legacy in Literature

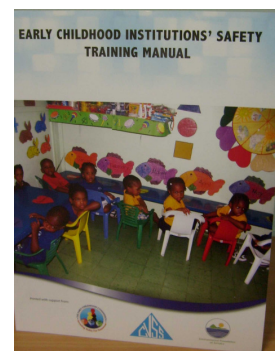
As the EFJ considered both its reach and its impact over time, we are proud of our association with critical publications that have produced baseline information, spurred national debate and action and recorded critical successes and failures for learning. This year, the EFJ highlights the following publications that were funded that are a part of our work towards developing our identity and our nation:



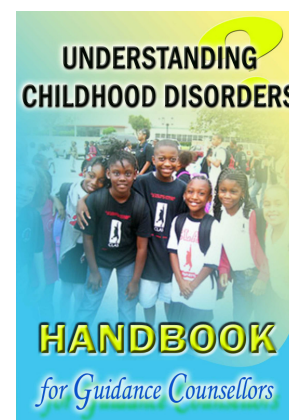
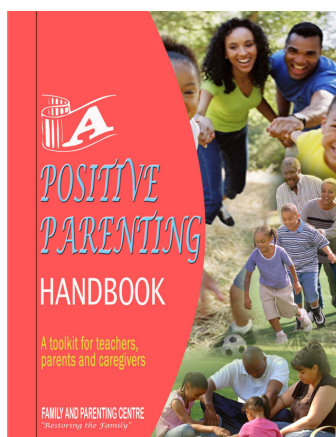
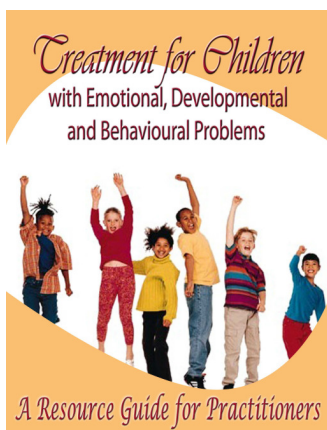
"Endemic Trees of Jamaica" – catalogues and gives scientific data on all 316 national endemics



"Learning in and beyond the classroom" – this publication is for use in teacher training in Jamaica



"Early Childhood Institutions' Safety Training Manual" – distributed to 2500 basic schools locally



Over 3,310 of these handbooks were developed and published by the EFJ through the Family and Parenting Centre, and NGO based in Western Jamaica

¹ Includes childcare and protection, income generation, child development, early stimulation and materials development, hospitality skills, conflict resolution, violence prevention, counseling, sensitization on abuse.

Jamaica Association for the Deaf

The EFJ has also been working closely with the Jamaica Association for the Deaf (JAD) to increase awareness on the potential causes of deafness as well as information on the Jamaican Sign Language and abilities of deaf persons. For example 2010 saw a change in legislation which now permits the hearing-impaired to apply for a driver's licence, once they present an audiologist's certificate confirming their level of hearing.



Impact on Jamaican Fisheries

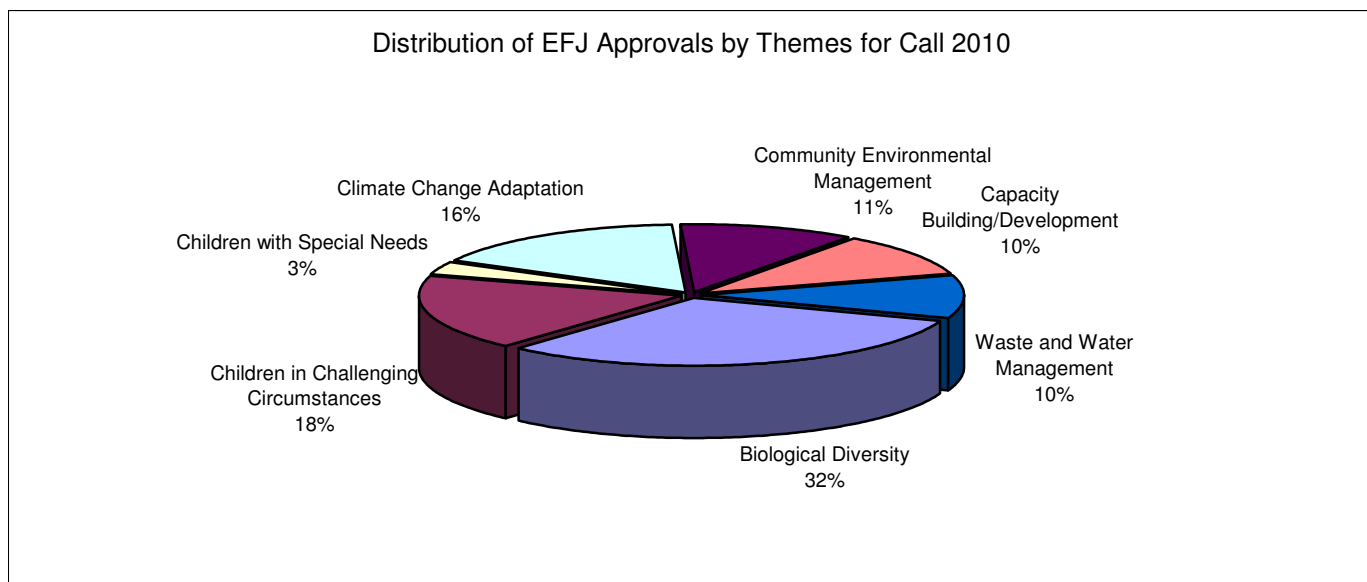
Following the Government's designation of nine (9) new Fish Sanctuaries, the EFJ continued its support of Jamaica's national progress towards protected areas management. The Foundation awarded grants to two (2) NGOs to support the completion of Management Plans for four (4) of the new sanctuaries. Important features of these plans include engaging in collaborative discussions with the fishermen and other regular users of the fish sanctuaries, conducting baseline assessments as well as developing strategies for public education and monitoring and enforcement. They have also established best practices and basic guidelines for the management planning process that will serve as a model for other sanctuary managers.

Support for Inner-city Children

The EFJ provided critical support to RISE Life Management Services, who have been working in Kingston since 1980 and have expanded its mandate to include educational interventions for at-risk youths and training programs. EFJ support reached over 100 adolescents in 6 communities in the inner city. This was done through literacy and Life Skills Education programs utilizing information and communications technology such as an internet based program to prepare children for the national High School entrance exams (called GSAT – Grade Six Achievement Test). RISE has also embarked on an environmental project with another NGO to implement an environmental education program for 120 youths in the RISE Kidz Club in three inner-city communities.

Grant-Making Activities

At the beginning of the new financial year, on August 1, 2010, the EFJ had 257 active grants, including 70 new grants approved from the prior Call for Proposals. The Board awarded 36 grants totaling just over US\$1.4million from the 123 proposals eligible for review.



The **Discretionary Grants** Committee also approved 34 grants totaling ~US\$68,000. The Foundation continues to utilize these grants to accommodate critical out-of-call and low-budget requests that fit within the EFJ's thematic areas of focus for the relevant financial year. The Discretionary Grants can be categorized in the following broad areas:

Events (workshops, meeting coordination) or publications	-	24 grants
Individual support (scholarships, attendance at critical events)	-	6 grants
Infrastructure Support (equipment, materials, technology)	-	4 grants

Partnerships and Leverage EAI Resources

In 2009-2010, the EFJ increased its ratio of leveraged funds to even higher levels of 163% over the previous record of 148%. In other words, for every dollar of EFJ grant funds awarded, the EFJ could identify \$1.63 of counterpart support either from other donors or from the applicants themselves.

UNDP GEF Small Grants Program (SGP)

The Foundation continued its commitment to this Program under the United Nations Development Program's Global Environment Facility's. In 2009-2010, the EFJ committed and provided US\$50,000 in grant funds to SGP grantees whose objectives and applications also met the EFJ themes and standards. The Foundation co-funded 5 mutually beneficial grant awards with the SGP, which complemented the activities funded directly by the SGP and assisted the applicants in meeting their counterpart funding requirements.

In addition to the co-funding arrangements, the EFJ became the National Host Institution (NHI) for the SGP in Jamaica. The Foundation signed a contract for the service in April 2010 and it was renewed after six (6) months through to December 31, 2010.

University of the West Indies (UWI)/EFJ Biodiversity Centre

The University of the West Indies (UWI) and the EFJ have collaborated to establish a Biodiversity



Centre at the Port Royal Marine Laboratory. In addition to being a resource for UWI researchers and students, the Centre is an eco-tourism destination for international visitors and more so local schools, NGO and private groups. It is well within reach of the capital city, and offers a range of attractions from a boat ride on Kingston Harbour, to an indoor/"dry" tour of the flora and fauna in the waters of Jamaica. The Centre houses an indoor display with interactive zones and, aquarium exhibits are complemented by an outdoor facility with typical dry-limestone cactus and sand dune coastal habitats

transitioning into a mangrove tree/forest habitat with flow-through seawater connected by a boardwalk. There is also a hatchery donated by the European Union, which is facilitating the preservation of endemic and naturally occurring Jamaican species like local seahorses now on display at the Centre. Species like seahorses are often collected for private aquaria and are in danger of being lost to overfishing, but the hatchery facilities are to be upgraded to culture Jamaican marine species for coastal rehabilitation.



List of Grants Awarded through the EFJ's Call for Proposals in 2010

AID DEBT GRANTS – Child Survival & Development

Theme: Children in Challenging Circumstances

Organization	Project Title	Amount Approved²
Agency for Inner-city Renewal (AIR)	Counseling Intervention: Crime Induced Trauma In Children	J\$5,000,000.00
Alpha Boys' School	Reading for Life Literacy Project for Institutionalized Youth	J\$1,000,000.00
Children First Agency	Children, Parents and Communities Against Violence	J\$3,001,000.00
Council of Voluntary Social Services	Enhancement of the Child Sector Capacity Building for the National Volunteer Centre	J\$3,000,000.00
Family and Parenting Centre	An Alternative Education and Behavioural Intervention Plan for Emotionally Disturbed Children	J\$5,760,000.00
Rise Life Management Services	Adolescent Computer Based Literacy & Violence Prevention Education Programme	J\$4,263,000.00
U.W.I., Sir Arthur Lewis Institute For Social And Economic Studies	Caribbean Child Research Conference - Promoting Child Rights through Research	J\$1,500,000.00

Theme: Children with Special Needs

Organization	Project Title	Amount Approved
Genesis Academy	Facilitating Integration of Children and Young Adults with Development Challenges into the Wider Community by Targeting Communication, Nutrition and Psycho-social Development	J\$1,940,000.00
Jamaica Association For the Deaf	Parents as Partners: Building Parenting Skills of Parents and Establishing a Parent Support System for Parents of Deaf Children	J\$2,200,000.00

<u>Total AID (9 items)</u>	<u>J\$27,664,000.00</u>
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PL480 GRANTS – Environmental Conservation and Management

Theme: Biological Diversity

Organization	Project Title	Amount Approved
Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation Ltd.	Implementing Fish Sanctuaries in Portland Bight through Public Education	J\$5,739,350.00
Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation Ltd.	Generating Non-Government Support for Protected Areas	J\$1,487,000.00
Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust	Green Expo 2011	J\$5,000,000.00

² Rate of Exchange: US\$1 = J\$ 85.67

Jamaica Environment Trust	Changing Public Perceptions Towards Sea Turtles and Implementing Sea Turtle Monitoring in 3 target areas	J\$4,069,900.00
Jamaica Environment Trust	Building Appreciation for Nature in Children at Risk	J\$4,051,000.00
Jamaica Environment Trust	School's Environment Programme	J\$6,670,000.00
Jamaica Institute of Environmental Professionals	5th Biennial Conference on the Environment under the theme "Balancing National Development and Environmental Protection"	J\$3,700,000.00
Negril Area Environmental Protection Trust	The Management Program of the Negril Great Morass	J\$1,290,000.00
University of Technology, Faculty of Science and Sport	Analyses and Preservation of Endemic Jamaican Plants in the Cockpit Country Region	J\$5,537,800.00
UWI, Department of Life Sciences	Mitigating Crocodile-human Interactions: Is Relocation a Viable Management Strategy	J\$3,349,300.00

Theme: Capacity Building/Development

Organization	Project Title	Amount Approved
United Way Of Jamaica	Technical Assistance Support Fund for Project Development and Implementation	J\$5,000,000.00
CARIMAC	Communication Strategy Design & Implementation for the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica	J\$8,461,750.00

Theme: Climate Change Adaptation/Renewable Energy

Organization	Project Title	Amount Approved
Association of Development Agencies	Conducting Energy Audits and Energy Conservation Workshops for NGOs	J\$4,915,000.00
Foundation For Environmental & Economic Development Ltd.	Establishment of a Crop Drying System Utilizing Solar Heating and Waste Oil for Energy	J\$4,500,000.00
Mona GeoInformatics Institute/Advanced Media	"When The Sea Rises" – A Documentary on Sea Level Rise in the Caribbean	J\$3,385,000.00
Oxford Women in Progress Benevolent Society	A Sustainable Development for the Establishment of Pandanus Plots, Rainwater Harvesting and Solar Electricity	J\$3,998,727.00
Rowlandsfield Community Dev Benevolent Society	Rowlandsfield Renewable Energy (Solar) Project	J\$2,615,000.00
St. Andrew High School	Science Block - Photovoltaic Energy Project	J\$2,200,000.00

Theme: Community Environmental Management

Organization	Project Title	Amount Approved³
Local Initiative Facility for Urban Environment	Support for LIFE Sustainable Plan	J\$2,755,100.00
New Horizon Christian Outreach Ministries	Sustainable Environmental Enterprise for Skills Training Community Income Generation	J\$7,610,624.00

St. Thomas Environmental Protection Association	STEPA Land Management, Environment Education and Resource Centre	J\$3,775,194.00
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Theme: Waste and Water Management

Organization	Project Title	Amount Approved
Bellevue Farmers PMO	Bellevue Water System Extension	J\$1,095,700.00
Christiana Potato Growers Co-op Association	Community Environment Management with a focus on: Recycling; Community Based Environmental Enterprise	J\$4,790,000.00
Douglas Castle Production and Marketing Org.	Entombment of Springs in Douglas Castle District	J\$696,202.00
Protect the Environment Trust	Educating and Empowering Schools, Businesses and CBOs on the Proper Disposal And Recycling of Plastic Bottles and Containers	J\$3,024,130.00
St. Mary Charities	Carron Hall Solar Water Pump Project	J\$1,461,400.00
Top Road Water Users	Top Road Community Residential Water Project	J\$2,417,800.00
<u>Total PL480 (27 items)</u>		<u>J\$103,595,177.00</u>
<u>Grand Total (36 items)</u>		<u>J\$131,259,177.00</u>

Summary Data (US\$)⁴

Fund Data	2008	2009	2010	Total 1993-2010
No. of proposals submitted	503	200	149	4,487
No. of proposals approved	141	43	36	1,202
Total approved funding for grants *	\$3,942,506	\$1,537,718	\$2,165,135	\$36,942,853
Total of counterpart match (grantee cost-share)	\$693,373	\$1,541,301	\$1,355,870	n/a
Other leveraged matches (e.g. co-financing)	\$511,177	\$735,776	\$1,121,380	n/a
Total matching funds as % of approved	31%	148%		n/a
Amount spent on administrative costs	\$ 754,949	\$ 593,208	\$540,726	\$14,377,053
Interest and capital gained on investments	\$1,460,000	\$ 801,964	\$705,476	\$17,937,440
Fund balance at the end of the year	\$ 9,070,000	\$ 6,089,110	\$4,811,929	n/a

* Includes combined figures for disbursements and grant approvals amount

⁴ All figures in the above table are stated in U.S. Dollars (US\$), converted from the Jamaican equivalent using the following average rates of exchange: J\$62.06: US\$1.00 (2005); J\$65.73: US\$1.00 (2006); J\$68.64: US\$1.00 (2007); J\$71.66: US\$1.00 (2008); J\$88.61: US\$1.00 (2009); J\$85.67 : US\$1.00