



ENVIRONMENTAL FOUNDATION OF JAMAICA

Preserving the future ... today!



ANNUAL REPORT 2015 - 2016

ENVIRONMENTAL FOUNDATION OF JAMAICA

2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT



Mission Statement

To be a major funder of environmental protection and child survival initiatives in the interest of sustainable development.

Vision

To be the regional leader in funding and influencing policy for environmental management & conservation, as well as child survival and development.

Core Values

- Good governance that dictates transparency of process and accountability.
- Supporting partnerships and development initiatives consistent with our mission.
- Respecting the value of initiatives coming from the public and private sectors and channeling this interest into partnerships with community groups and other organizations of civil society.
- Developing and maintaining relationships that are consistently ethical while being effective and efficient in doing the organization's business with members, clients and staff.
- Non-discrimination in relation to gender, race, creed and age.

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EFJ BOARD MEMBERS



Prof. Dale Webber
Chairman/Term Member



Mrs. Eleanor Jones
Vice Chair/Term Member



Mr. Ian Watson
Treasurer/Term Member



Ms. Marilyn Headley
Government of Jamaica
Permanent Member



Ms. Denise Herbol
Government of United States of America
Permanent Member



Mrs. Jennifer Scott
Board Secretary



Dr. Alwin Hales
Government of Jamaica
Institutional Representative



Mrs. Donna Blake
The Nature Conservancy
Permanent Member



Mrs. Winsome Wilkins
Child Representative
Term Member



Dr. Michael Witter
Term Member



Dr. David Smith
Term Member

EFJ MEMBERS OF STAFF



Mr. Barrington Lewis
Financial Controller &
Acting Co- Chief Executive Officer



Mrs. Allison Rangolan McFarlane
Programme Manager &
Acting Co- Chief Executive Officer



Ms. Charmaine Webber
Programme Officer



Mr. Mark Constable
Programme Officer



Ms. Sydonnie Rothery
Administrative Assistant



Ms. Audrey Kirkland
Receptionist / Clerical Assistant



Ms. Paulette Westcarr
Office Attendant

ORGANISATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

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Scotia Bank Centre
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Kingston

Commercial Bankers

National Commercial Bank Jamaica Limited
Private Banking Branch
124 – 126 Constant Spring Road
Kingston 10

Investment Managers

BPM Financials Limited
NCB Capital Markets Limited

Endowment Fund Trustees

Prof. Susan Walker- Chair
Mrs. Jeanne Robinson, O.D.
Mr. Earl Jarrett, C.D.
Prof. Elsa Leo-Rhynie, C.D.
Chairman, EFJ Board (Prof. Dale Webber)
Secretary, EFJ Board (Mr. Richard Troupe)

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Another financial year has passed and all told twenty three years have elapsed since the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica started operations. Twenty three years, enough time to hone our skills and become the standard bearers in Jamaica in the areas of grant making, monitoring and evaluation of projects, and, fund administration and management. One should never lose sight of these areas in which we have distinguished ourselves as it will form the important base upon which our new thrust as an organisation will be built.

I had hoped to include in this Chairman's report a note indicating that the merger was complete, however, I will say we are closer to the finish line, we will not despair. A lot of hard work has been done and we will persevere. I can report that the substantive documents for the merger have been signed. These documents include:

- The Amended Enterprise of the Americas Foundation Agreement,
- The Approval for Assignment Agreement
- The Amended Forest Conservation Agreement
- The Amended Articles of Incorporation and
- The Consent to Assignment agreement (by all grant beneficiaries of JPAT/FCF)

The finalisation is dependent on a few other documents and ensuring that all the "i"s are dotted and the "t"s crossed.

While for the fiscal year it again seemed like the organisation was in transition, the hard working team, led by the co-acting Chief Executive Officers, Mrs. Allison Rangolan McFarlane and Mr. Barrington Lewis, and the dedicated cadre of staff ensured the organisation functioned as a fully merged entity. I wish to publicly thank the staff for their continued loyalty to the EFJ and ensuring it functions seamlessly.

The EFJ was successful in completing the discussions on an agreement to be the Fund Administrator for the Special Climate Change Adaptation Fund (SCCAF). This agreement, signed in July 2016, will see the EFJ managing the grant making process and doing limited monitoring on grants valued at US\$4.7 million over a three and a half year period. A maximum of J\$5 million can be awarded on each grant and these grants must fit within the broad criterion of "Climate Change Adaptation".

The EFJ also awarded a "Phase Two" component of grants to the UWI Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory and Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust. These awards are in keeping with the initial grant awards and will see greater impact from the work of each entity. More information is provided on these two projects later in this document.

What will happen in the new fiscal year?

Well, we are happy to report that in addition to opening a Call for Proposals for the SCCAF the EFJ will also issue a new Call for Proposals for the Forest Conservation Fund (FCF). It means that

the EFJ is picking up right where it left off – prior to the merger - and getting back into full grant making mode. The NGO community has been anxiously awaiting our return.

We are cognisant of the changing landscape in which we operate and so we will be responsive and proactive in our approach. A new Strategic Plan is being crafted, new staff will be hired, there will be a focus on stakeholders' needs and capacity building, sustainable and strategic grant making will be undertaken, and finally, and importantly, a focus on public relations and fundraising. It promises to be an exciting new chapter for the merged EFJ and we look forward to you being with us as it unfolds.



Prof. Dale Webber
CHAIRMAN

SECRETARIAT REPORT

EFJ as Fund Administrator for the Special Climate Change Adaptation Fund (SCCAF)

The Adaptation Programme and Financing Mechanism (AP&FM) for the Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) Jamaica (the Programme) is being executed by the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) through the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC) which has been assigned with thematic responsibility for climate change. The MEGJC is implementing the Programme through its Project Executing Unit (PEU) – a division in the Ministry. The Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) is responsible for the overall coordination, in accordance with its role as focal point for the Climate Investment Funds (CIF) programme. The Programme is being implemented with funding provided by the Special Climate Change Adaptation Fund (SCCAF) and has three components.

The EFJ was engaged by the GOJ as Fund Administrator (FA) via an Agreement signed on July 28, 2016 to perform the services required to implement Component II which relates to the creation and establishment of innovative climate financing mechanisms to help support implementation of climate resilience. The SCCAF will, among other things, provide US\$4.7 million - over four (4) years - in grant funding to finance community based and sector driven climate change adaptation initiatives to be implemented island-wide by non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community based organisations (CBOs), et cetera. This financing is subject to allocations by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). The following is a link to an article which was published following the FA Agreement signing ceremony: <http://jis.gov.jm/us-7-2-million-boost-climate-change-resilience/>.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

During the fiscal year The Forest Conservation Fund had thirty six (36) open project files. Of this 36, four (4) of the projects are still being actively implemented by the grantees. Thirty two (32) of the 36 projects are complete and the files will be closed in short order.

We highlight a few of the projects being implemented below:

Implementing Organization: Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory, UWI (DBML)

Project Title: Northern Limestone Forest Conservation Project

Priority Area/Site: Pristine Coastal Limestone Forest Adjacent to North Coast Highway
Tourism Corridor

Objectives:

(a) Construction of a: (1) Coastal Forest Interpretive/Visitor Facility with gazebos, canteen and eco-friendly restroom facilities; (2) Small boat dock area to facilitate loading of glass bottom boat for visitor tours; and (3) 2 metre wide, raised and 300 metre long boardwalk through the forest trail with labeled plants including common and scientific names and uses.

(b) To put in place suitably caged faunal displays (for recovering/displaced species) in terrestrial vivaria and marine aquaria to showcase the biodiversity of Jamaican coastal forests and marine ecosystems.

(c) Finally, to have trained and qualified staff possessing skills and a knowledge base of coastal forest and marine ecosystems.

Achievements:

Prior to the 2016 reporting period the DBML made significant headway in the execution of the "original" scope of the project. Architectural drawings for the interpretive visitor facility and the boardwalk were done and reviewed internally. The drawings were submitted to the relevant agencies for the necessary approvals and permits. A sewage system which was partially funded under the FCF project was installed for use as an environmentally friendly waste treatment facility and two staff members received training in geographic information systems (GIS). After achieving those milestones a decision was made in 2016 to change the scope of the project due to constraints in the budget that was previously approved. The costs for specific line items such as those associated with the architectural drawings were underestimated. To remedy the situation the project was separated into two phases: one phase for the work necessary for the terrestrial aspects and the other phase for work associated with the marine environment. Since 2016 the project has been solely focused on erecting the boardwalk, supporting structures and the associated display fittings (lights and signage). Construction of the boardwalk commenced in 2016.



Picture 1 – Artist's impression of the FCF funded Northern Limestone Forest Interpretive Centre

Picture 2 – Commencement of boardwalk construction

Picture 3 – Covering of the boardwalk track

Picture 4 – Entrance of the FCF project boardwalk

Implementing Organization: Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory, UWI (DBML)

Project Title: Phase 2: Critical Coastal Area Restoration Project

Priority Area/Site: Long Bay/Lilliput, Bogue Lagoons, (Galleon Beach) mangroves, Airport Runway Lagoon roadway, Falmouth-West

Objectives:

(a) Design, execute and manage restoration plans in five (5) project sites which involve the continuation of mangrove nurseries in Port Royal and Discovery Bay at the Marine Laboratories with a maximum of 15,000 plants.

- (b) Train stakeholders within project locations in the value of wetlands, restoration processes and monitoring processes for the entire duration of the project.
- (c) Increase in mangrove and coastal forest area in Jamaica.
- (d) Document and disseminate best practices in restoration techniques suitable for use in Jamaica and improve coastal restoration monitoring protocols.

Achievements:

To date the project has completed repairs to the mangrove nursery at the Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory and the nursery is at 100% capacity. Restoration activities are progressing satisfactorily. At the Bogue site in Montego Bay, approximately 825 m² have been completed in partnership with the Sandals Foundation and estimates are being sought to have the remaining section completed. Additional seedlings were planted at the Falmouth site through assistance from outreach project volunteers and approximately 20 m of the land has been levelled. For the airport runway location, an estimate was received however additional quotations are still being sought, while an application for a beach license is being prepared. At the Lilliput location, additional estimates are being sought and at Malcolm's Bay follow-up site visits have been conducted. A solid waste assessment was added to the research component for all the project sites, which will entail quantifying solid waste impacts on the sites to determine the effects of the debris on seedling survival. The baseline surveys to determine the work necessary at the sites have now been completed.



Picture 5 – Eroded road and solid waste at airport runway lagoon

Picture 6 – Workers at the Malcolm's Bay site in St. Elizabeth

Implementing Organization: Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust (JCDT)

Project Title: Capacity Building for Forest Conservation and Sustainable Livelihoods Phase 2

Priority Area/Site: Southern Parts of the Blue and John Crow Mountains including the Yallahs Watershed

Objectives:

(a) To increase the level of awareness and knowledge regarding forest conservation and sustainable livelihoods in 20 communities within the Buffer Zone of the Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park (BJCMNP).

(b) To strengthen JCDT's ability to sustain its management of the BJCMNP by generating income and increasing the number of community members supporting forest conservation.

Achievements:

In an effort to increase the level of awareness and knowledge regarding forest conservation and sustainable livelihoods in communities within the buffer zone, JCDT has hosted 7 out of 10 meetings with the communities which had an overall attendance of 165 persons. All schools targeted (50) have been visited and World Heritage Site presentation made to 1,706 students, while seven (7) community meetings were also held on the World Heritage Site theme.

In the area of First Aid/CPR training, all 6 JCDT Park Rangers were re-certified and 4 community members certified. Rangers also received training in: (i) Freshwater macro-invertebrate identification (ii) Coastal & Marine Biodiversity & Protected Area Issues at the UWI Biodiversity Centre, Port Royal and (iii) Fire Warden Training & Certification Tour Guiding.

The strengthening of JCDT to sustain its management of the BJCMNP by generating income continued with the preparation of a Marketing Plan and the hosting of the annual "Misty Bliss" event held at Holywell Park in the Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park. The event received publicity via radio advertisements and promotion. Approximately 1,500 persons attended the event.



Picture 7 – JCDT Rangers at CPR/First Aid Training workshop

Picture 8 – JCDT Rangers at UWI Marine Biodiversity Centre

Picture 9 – World Heritage Site presentation in school

Picture 10– Performance by Cultural group at Misty Bliss

Picture 11 – Community meeting

Picture 12 – World Heritage Site presentation at community meeting

Implementing Organization: Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust (JCDT)

Project Title: Reforestation and Sustainable Agriculture for Soil Stabilization in the Blue Mountains

Priority Area/Site: Southern Parts of the Blue and John Crow Mountains including Yallahs Watershed

Objectives:

- (a) Reforestation of 17 hectares and removal of 10 hectares of invasive species.
- (b) Maintain 10 hectares of previously reforested land and 17 hectares of newly reforested lands.
- (c) Improve and increase soil conservation practices on farms in the target communities of Cascade, Woodford, Cedar Valley and Westphalia by repairing greenhouses, providing native, hardwood and fruit trees for agroforestry on farm lands and conduct training sessions on agroforestry and sustainable farming techniques. Also, to use pineapple plants to contour farmlands and locations specifically prone to soil erosion and land slippage.

Achievements:

During the 2015 reporting period JCDT had replanted 17 hectares in the Cinchona/Bellevue area of the Blue Mountains with five (5) tree species since the project commenced in 2011. However during the 2016 period a bush fire in the Cinchona area destroyed 13 hectares of the 17 that were planted. Approval was granted for JCDT to replant the area in 2016; however a government-led project which scoped for work in the area identified the same area for a replanting exercise and JCDT was unable to proceed with their planned replanting exercise. JCDT has since submitted a request to channel the funds in other areas of their management plan for the Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park and Heritage Site. An additional hectare of invasive species was removed in 2016 resulting in a total of 5.6 hectares being

removed since inception. No further work was done on the greenhouse repairs in 2016; while one of the three (3) targeted greenhouses was completed, the community members were uncooperative in the other two instances. Two additional training sessions were held in 2016 where over 20 farmers participated. A total of 700 trees were distributed to farmers at those training sessions. A total of 77 farmers have been trained so far and 1,178 seedlings distributed.



Picture 13 – Farmers participating in training session in the field

Picture 14 – Farmers at workshop training session

HUMAN RESOURCE AND COMPLIANCE REPORT

Compliance

The EFJ made its statutory payments and filings for fiscal year 2015/2016 in full and on time. The established procurement procedures were also being followed, though very few purchases were made.

Staffing

The staff complement did not change in the financial year, and remains at seven (7) – six(6) permanent and one(1) part time. As is noted in this report the EFJ signed a Fund Administrator Agreement (FAA) with the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation to manage the grant making activities of the Special Climate Change Fund (signed in July 2016). Based on this agreement, the EFJ will very early in the new financial year:

- increase the staffing by adding the position of Accounting Clerk. The post was advertised in June 2016.
- select a Chief Executive Officer - this will be done by September 2016.

Any other staff posts that may be needed will be done based on the new Strategic Plan.

EFJ BOARD OF TRUSTEE SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT

The EFJ Endowment Trust had realised gains of \$4.04 million on its investments for the 2015/2016 fiscal year. This was marginally lower than the prior year's \$4.08 million.

The investments were held in the following asset categories:

Fixed Rate GOJ Bonds	-	\$21,865,000.00
Repurchase Agreements	-	\$40,114,000.00
Unit Trusts	-	\$ 5,500,000.00
US Dollar PP Note	-	\$14,976,000.00
Long term Receivable (EFJ)	-	<u>\$20,532,000.00</u>
Total Assets	-	<u>\$102,987,000.00</u>

The new EFJ Board is expected to have discussions with the Trustees in the new financial year on a way forward for the Trust. Among the areas to be examined is fundraising and investing the additional amounts that were set aside by JPAT for the FCF Endowment.

EFJ FINANCE REPORT

Revenues:

Investment Income

The extraordinary returns from the stock market during the 2015/2016 financial year led to approximately \$11.23 million (excluding foreign exchange gains) being earned on the investments (\$3.27 million was the prior year comparative figure). The investments continue to be managed by BPM Financials. No withdrawals were made for the financial year as no grants were disbursed.

Other inflows

In July 2015 The EFJ signed a lease agreement to rent sections of the ground floor of the office building. A second lease agreement was signed in November 2015 with another entity. The inflows from rental income for the financial year were J\$2.91 million.

Expenditures:

Administrative Expenses

The guiding principle for Administrative expenditures is contained in the Assignment, Assumption and Amendment Agreement signed on June 29, 2015. Section 4.1(d) states that the total Administrative Expenses should not exceed US\$450,000.00 without the unanimous approval of the Permanent Directors.

Administrative Expenses totaled \$33.82 million for the fiscal year a \$1.57 million (approximately 5%) increase over the prior year's expenditure. At an average exchange rate of J\$121.32 to US\$1, the administrative expenses were approximately US\$278,775.14 (US\$281,529.33 in 2014/2015).

Staff costs, utilities and security services accounted for 75 percent (81% in 2014/2015) of the total expenses. There was a \$1.5 m expenditure on legal fees relating to the merger with JPAT/FCF included in the overall expenditures. If this was removed there would have been virtually no increase in the Administrative Expenses over the prior.

Grant Disbursements

The EFJ made no grant disbursements, however \$370,000.00 was returned as unspent PL480 grant funds by St. Patrick's Foundation.

EFJ MEMBERS

1. Association of Community Based Organizations(formerly Association of Clubs)
2. Association of Development Agencies (ADA)
3. BirdLife Jamaica
4. Buff Bay Local Forest Management Committee (BBLFMC)
5. Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation (C-CAM)
6. Community Based Rehabilitation Jamaica (formerly 3D Projects)
7. Dolphin Head Local Forest Management Committee (DHLFMC)
8. Hope for Children Development Company
9. Jamaican Association on Intellectual Disabilities (JAID)
10. Jamaica Association for the Deaf
11. Jamaica Baptist Women's Federation
12. Jamaica Cancer Society
13. Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust (JCDT)
14. Jamaica Environment Trust (JET)
15. Jamaica Family Planning Association
16. Jamaica of Institute of Environmental Professionals (JIEP)
17. Jamaica Organic Agriculture Movement (JOAM)
18. Jamaica Save the Children
19. Jamaica Society for the Blind
20. Local Initiative Facility for the Environment (LIFE)
21. Northern Rio Minho Local Forest Management Committee (NRMLFMC)
22. Portland Environment Protection Association (PEPA)
23. Professional Development Institute (Girl's Town)
24. S-Corner Clinic
25. The Council of Voluntary Social Services (CVSS)
26. Women's Resource and Outreach Centre Limited (WROC)

REMEMBERING MRS. JEANNE ROBINSON



The Chairman, Board of Directors and Staff of the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ) wish to express our deep sadness at the passing of our former Director and Chair, Mrs. Jeanne Robinson, O.D. She transitioned on January 9, 2017.

Mrs. Robinson served over two periods as Child Survival and Child Development Director: from 1992 – 1997 and from 1999 – 2005. She was Board Chair from 2003 – 2005. An EFJ stalwart, Mrs. Robinson also chaired its Endowment Trust Fund (2004 – 2012) and served as a Trustee from 2004 – 2016.

To say that Mrs. Robinson was a “foundation” member of the EFJ would be an understatement. She was there during the formative years, lent her unwavering support to the organization through the growth and maturity stages. During her tenure with the EFJ 854 projects received J\$1.14 billion in project funding (as Chair her direct leadership saw \$861 million awarded to 296 of these projects).

She was deeply passionate about issues affecting children, the disabled community and always endeavoured to impact the lives of the less fortunate. In addition to her functions at EFJ, Mrs. Robinson’s philanthropy led her to work with several charitable foundations and non-governmental organisations over a period of more than forty years. She served for a number of years at the ICWI Group Foundation, and in various capacities at the Council of Voluntary Social Services (CVSS) and the Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust (JCDDT), among others.

Mrs. Robinson was married to Professor Edward Robinson, Professor Emeritus of Geology in the Department of Geography and Geology at the University of the West Indies, and the mother of two daughters.

“How very softly you tiptoed into our world, almost silently, only a moment you stayed. But what an imprint your footsteps have left upon our hearts.” — Dorothy Ferguson