

# *Environmental Foundation of Jamaica*



## **2013 Congressional Report on Jamaica's Enterprise for the Americas Initiative (EAI) Fund**

*February 3, 2014*

## Jamaica

### **Background and History**

With the decision to merge two entities that had their genesis in the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative (EAI) and the Tropical Forest Conservation Act (TFCA), to create a “new” Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ) the following mission and vision statements encapsulate the spirit of both documents.

#### ***Mission:***

**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.**

The consolidation process for the FCF, JPAT and the EFJ continued throughout the review period and the EFJ/FCF team worked jointly to produce a 2013-2015 Strategic Plan for the new entity. Highlights from the EFJ 2013-2015 Strategic Plan are below:

### **1.1 Achieving the Vision**

In order to achieve the vision set out above, it is critical for the EFJ to centre its plans for the next three years on three broad areas.

#### **a. Fundraising**

- b. Building capacity**, empowering and supporting the activities **of its stakeholders** and
- c. Upgrading, improving** and streamlining its **operational activities**.

### **2. STRATEGIC GOALS**

Through effective fundraising and grant making, while forming sustainable and meaningful *partnerships* with stakeholders, the EFJ over the period 2013 – 2015 will pursue the following goals:

#### **Fundraising**

- Seek diversified funding while building upon the foundation of sound financial management and efficient operations
- Focus on the building of the Endowment to ensure perpetuity of the organization

#### **Building capacity of its stakeholders**

Improve and develop the capacity of grantees through

- The utilization of the Institutional Self Assessment tool
- Mentoring
- Targeted support
- Sensitize the region to relevant information and findings to ensure community and national growth in the target areas.

## **Improving Operational Activities**

Optimizing operational processes in the organization

- Investigate and ensure constant innovation into activities that keep the organization proactive and on the cutting edge in its policy and program implementation at Local and National levels; as well as Regionally and Internationally resulting in grantee and membership sustainability
- Research the most effective means of measuring, evaluating and reporting the impact of all activities.
- Focused grant making
- Effective and efficient communication and networking with partners

## **Major Achievements in 2013**

**This report covers EFJ's fiscal year, which is August 1, 2012 – July 31, 2013 and highlights some of the major projects funded under the different thematic areas.**

### **Thematic Area: Water Harvesting/Community Water Systems**

EFJ's focus on water harvesting and storage over the last financial year has resulted in improvements in small community water systems for both agricultural and domestic use.

In the community of Aboukir, St. Ann, the **Aboukir Dynamic 4H Youth Club** benefited from EFJ support for the establishment of a water harvesting system to support their greenhouse agriculture. They are presently working with the Rural Agricultural Development Association (RADA) for the marketing of the produce from the greenhouse. The Club has 30 participants actively involved in the project in addition to members of the Aboukir Primary School.



This project has been successfully completed with the construction of the pond, installation of the pond liner and fencing of the area. The pump house and store room is also in place.

**A total of 30 persons have been impacted directly (20 males and 10 females); while 169 children from the Aboukir Primary School and 1500 residents**

from the community have been indirectly impacted. The area was identified by the Planning Institute of Jamaica as particularly vulnerable with higher than average poverty levels and until now had to purchase trucked water in their remote location.





**Photo1:** Completed fenced water harvesting pond with pond liner. **Photo2:** Students of the Aboukir Primary School who are also members of the School's Garden Club. **Photo3:** Members of the Aboukir Dynamic 4H Youth Club with representatives from the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica and Inter American Foundation at the Club's mesh house. **Photo4:** Members of the Club in the Greenhouse.

The **Old England Jamaica Agricultural Society** is comprised of 700 farmers. The EFJ provided support to the group to establish rain water harvesting ponds to improve the reliability of their irrigation water supply. The ponds will ensure an all year supply of water for the farmers' crops. The project has **improved the yield and earnings of over 100 small farmers.**



**Photos: 1 & 2** - Completed fenced pond with liner at Old England.





**Photo3:** A member of the Old England Jamaica Agricultural Society preparing tomatoes from the greenhouse for marketing. **Photo4:** Tomatoes in the Greenhouse.

### **Thematic Area: Disaster Risk Reduction**

**Youth Opportunities Unlimited** under the project entitled **YOUth Taking Charge: Disaster Risk Reduction** has conducted 12 awareness sessions to 103 participants (45 males and 58 females) as well as training sessions in CPR and First Aid Training. Disaster Response Groups were formed and thirty (30) youths will be trained by the Jamaica Fire Brigade in disaster cluster rescue techniques. The groups has been engaged in tree planting activities in collaboration with the Forestry Department and will be collaborating with the University of the West Indies to undertake planting of 100 mangroves in coastal areas.

It is expected that over 250 seedlings and 100 mangroves will be planted. At the end of the project, in addition to improved hillside and seashore protection from the replanting, the participants will be better prepared for the next storm surge event, which is inevitable for the area.





**Photos 1 & 2:** Tree planting activities with boys and girls participating in the project.

**Photos 3 & 4** – Youths preparing the ground for planting of trees at the project site in St. Andrew.

### **Thematic Area: Collection Processing – Recycling**

The **Hear the Children's Cry Committee (HTCC)** was established in November 2002 as an umbrella group of organizations providing services for children and young people. HTCC is one of Jamaica's leading advocates for youth issues and in particular missing persons.

This project, under the HTCC's National Youth Help Recycling Project (NYHRP) is centered on the collection of paper and paper related products, by acquiring critical pieces of equipment that will allow them to add more value into the recycling operation and thereby receive greater resources which will significantly increase the sustainability and expansion of the project. This will be achieved by the acquisition of a paper baler (compactor) and plastic skips. The NYHRP would want to have a minimum of 66 tons (the equivalent of 3 – 40 containers) per month of paper to export.

To date, the NGO has been able to continue its work with Inner City Youth (up to 15 boys to date) who are employed to the project as collectors and Missing Children in Jamaica through successful investment and projects such as this. HTCC targeted 28 High schools with a total population of at least **36,400 students who have participated in the recycling project**. Each received a skip for paper collection and after the collapse of the plastic collection operator in the city, the NGO stepped in to also collect plastic bottles. In addition, **approximately 13,000 college-level students** at the University of Technology and the Shortwood Teachers College were given lessons in recycling as they also received skips.



**Photo1:** EFJ representatives, Chief Executive Officer, Mrs. Karen McDonald Gayle showcasing the recycle bin at the launch of the National Youth Help Recycling project at the University of Technology, Jamaica. **Photo2:** The truck affixed with EFJ's logo being operated by Hear The Children's Cry for collection of paper and plastic. **Photo3:** Youths involved in the project doing the weekly collection of paper for recycling.

### **Thematic Area: Public Education on Eco System Management**

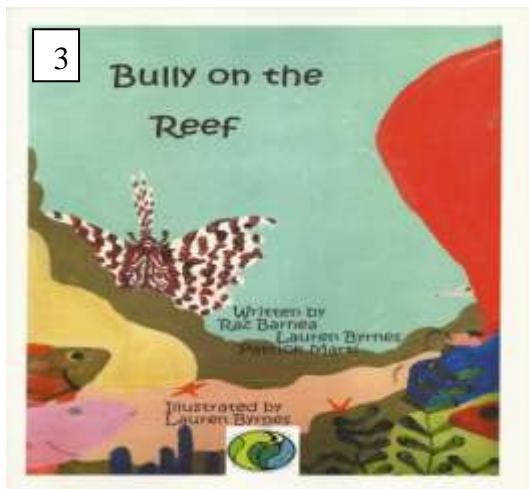
The mandate of the **Portland Environment Protection Association** is to promote the sustainable use of natural resources and the strategy they have employed continuously with a great deal of success is to increase environmental awareness to promote action to protect the environment.

The Lionfish is not native to the Caribbean region and is believed to have been introduced to the Caribbean as a result of damage to an aquarium in Florida in the early 1990's after Hurricane Andrew. Since then the population has grown alarmingly since it has few natural predators in our local waters and venomous spines, making fishermen reluctant to catch the fish. PEPA is currently partnering with the Discovery Bay Marine Lab to control and manage the spread of the Lionfish. The project aimed at supporting work in mapping the island-wide distribution of the species; determining prey preference; developing a passive trapping mechanism; and public education and training. Portland is one of six pilot sites.



## Project Achievements

- 8 LionFish workshops with 236 participants -143 males and 93 females - were held in fisher communities;
- 250 copies of the Lion Fish publication has been disseminated;
- A Lionfish derby to encourage Lionfish capture was held in July with 6 fishermen participating;
- A total of **7 lionfish survey dives were conducted and 49 lion fish were collected**. Gut samples of the fish were sent to the Discovery Bay Marine laboratory;
- An Essay competition was held with 27 students from 12 schools participating;
- A KAP survey report on the Lion fish Awareness and Promotion has been completed and will inform future community-based interventions on Lionfish.



**Photo 1:** The winner of the Lion fish derby showing off his catch of lion fish.

**Photo2:** The winner of the Lion fish derby being presented with his gift by a representative of the Portland Environment and Protection Association. **Photo3:** The publication entitled "*Bully on the Reef*" which was funded by the EFJ and produced by the Portland Environment and Protection Association. **Photo4:** The Chief Executive Officer of the Portland Environment and Protection Association, explaining the handling of the lion fish to a Government official.



**Clarendon Parish Development Committee:** “Construction of Water Harvesting Infrastructure and Improving the Community's Adaptive Capacity to Natural Hazards”

The farming community of Pleasant Valley and Mocho in Clarendon benefitted from the rehabilitation of the water catchment area and the installation of an earth pond for water harvesting. The project has directly impacted **15 persons** - 8 males and 7 females and has indirectly impacted the farming community of **1500 residents**. This project allowed for the irrigation of mined-out lands thereby enhancing the community's capacity to cope with the Natural Hazard of Drought and adapt to climate change. The project has been successfully completed and was officially handed over to the residents on November 6, 2013, with the Minister of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change being the Keynote Speaker.



**Photo1:** Clarendon PDC Benevolent Society Committee members. **Photo2:** Pleasant Valley Solar Panels for Catchment area. **Photo3:** Solar panels and earthen water harvesting pond at the Mocho Clarendon location. **Photo4:** Minister of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change Hon. Robert Pickersgill, at the handing over of the Project.

The **Security and Upliftment Association of Dawkins and surrounding Communities** embarked on a water harvesting pond for the irrigation of crops in the farming communities. The pond is completed with the installation of the pond liner. The pond has a capacity of 3.3 million gallons of water and will serve the 15 farmers (12 males and 3 females) in the area. It will also impact 2000 residents in the community of Dawkins in Mocho Clarendon. Through co-funding arrangement with UNDP/SGP the project will install solar panels and pumps to channel water to the farmers who were trying to rehabilitate bauxite-mined lands but were experiencing extreme drought conditions.



**Photo1 & 2:**Water harvesting pond at Dawkins community in Mocho, Clarendon.

Thanks to the EFJ, the **Sunbeam Children's Home** now has a biodigester that provides an alternative source of fuel as well as eliminates the smell of the pig waste. The project has to date completed the installation of the gas pipe line from the biodigester which has been connected to a two-burner stove in the kitchen. Five pigs have been acquired so far, and that number is expected to grow. Three of the wards (boys) have been trained in daily care of the pigs and it is expected that more boys will be exposed to the training. The project will impact **at least 40 persons including wards and staff of the home.**

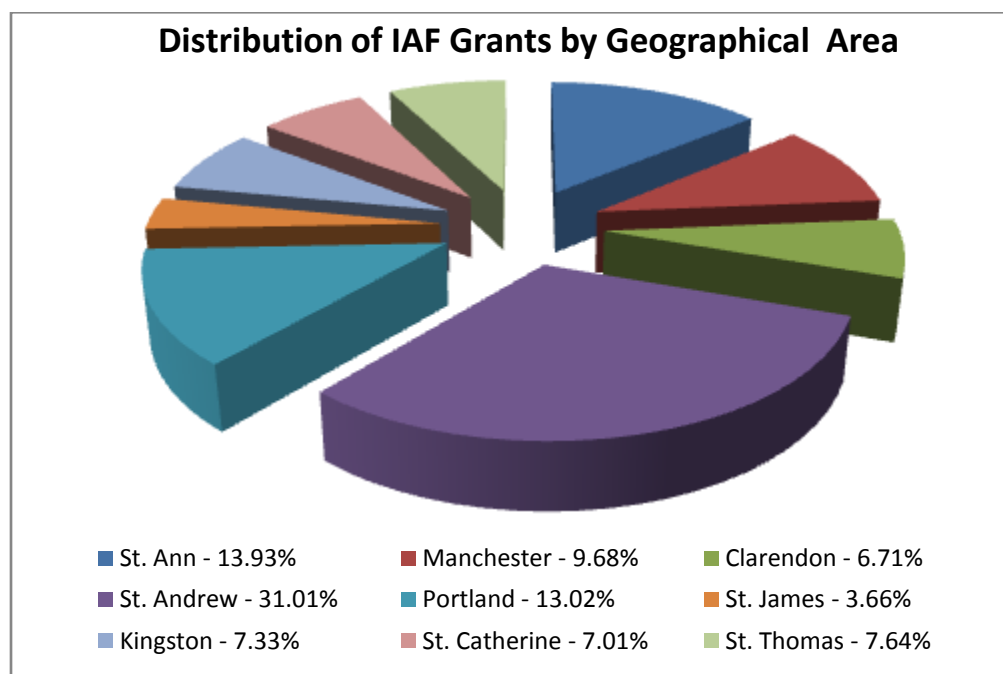


**Photo1:** Biodigester chamber at the Sunbeam Children's Home. **Photo2:** Demonstration of biogas system. **Photo3:** Biogas being used to generate bio fuel in the kitchen at the Children's Home.

## **Partnerships and Leveraged EAI Resources**

### **The Inter American Foundation (IAF)**

The EFJ and the IAF collaborated on co-funding grants under the " Leveraging Opportunities for Sustainable Livelihoods" project from 2012 to present. Over the period, 2 Calls for Proposals and 19 grants were awarded to groups in 9 of Jamaica's 14 parishes (see graph below).



### **Impact:**

Up to October 2013, the **EFJ-IAF partnership** had achieved some key results. See table below:

<u>Indicator</u>	<u>Measurement</u>	<u>Result</u>
<b>Persons who benefited <i>directly</i> from the project</b>	people	4,244
<b>Persons who benefited <i>indirectly</i> from the project</b>	people	16,936
<b>Persons trained</b>	people	256 men 316 women
<b>Applied knowledge from training</b>	people	162 men 140 women
<b>Public Events</b>	number	14
<b>Cash received from other funder</b>	US\$	298,910*
<b>Value of in-kind received for project (grantees or other)</b>	US\$	38,770*

\*rounded to nearest \$10

## Summary Data (US\$)<sup>1</sup>

<b><u>Fund Data</u></b>	<b><u>2011</u></b>	<b><u>2012</u></b>	<b><u>2013</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u> <u>1993-2013</u></b>
No. of proposals submitted	78	40	0	3,521
No. of proposals approved	24	15	0	1,253
Total approved funding for grants *	\$ 725,883.00	\$ 447,360.00	\$ 153,094.70	\$42,687,857.70
Total of counterpart match (grantee cost-share)	\$ 419,545.00	\$ 156,222.00	\$ -	\$38,953,505.00
Other leveraged matches (e.g. co-financing)	\$ 416,639.00	\$ 312,306.00	\$ -	n/a
Total matching funds as % of approved	115%	105%	0%	n/a
Amount spent on administrative costs	\$ 467,581.00	\$ 504,966.00	\$ 289,980.18	\$13,521,798.18
Interest and capital gained on investments	\$ 345,562.00	\$ 59,051.00	\$ 22,000.33	\$16,963,042.33
Fund balance at the end of the year	\$ 3,121,564.00	\$ 1,948,574.00	\$ 1,374,290.79	n/a

<b><u>Total Funding Amounts for the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica</u></b> <i>under the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative</i> <b><u>1993-2013</u></b>
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<b>No. of proposals submitted</b>	3,521
<b>No. of proposals approved</b>	1,253
<b>Total approved funding for grants</b>	US \$42,687,857.70
<b>Total of counterpart match (grantee cost-share)</b>	US \$38,953,505.00
<b>Amount spent on administrative costs</b>	US \$13,521,798.18
<b>Interest and capital gained on investments</b>	US \$16,963,042.33

<sup>1</sup> Average rates of exchange: J\$85.675 : US\$1.00 (2011) US\$1.00; J\$89.08 (2012) US\$1.00; J\$101.3621 (2013)