



Jamaica

The Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ) was created through two bilateral debt reduction agreements with the United States signed in August 1991 and January 1993. The two funds created reduced USAID and PL480 debt by \$311 million. The interest and leverage on the remaining \$95 million is projected to provide the Fund with a total of \$21.5 million over a 19 year period to 2012. Operations of the EFJ began in May 1993 and, as a sinking fund, were scheduled to end in 2012.

The Vision of the organization (*2009-2012 Strategic Plan*) is “to be the national leader in the Child Development and Environment sectors by the year 2012, with effective partnerships to ensure sustainable development in the programs, policies and practices of the public sector, private sector and civil society. The vision is the culmination of the role that EFJ has played through funding over 1150 projects over 16 years.

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.

Major Achievements in 2009

This report covers EFJ’s fiscal year, which is August 1, 2008 – July 31, 2009.

Collaborative Outreach

The EFJ, entered a 2009 partnership with Panos Caribbean, Jamaica’s National Environment Education Committee, Christian Aid Jamaica, the United Nations Development Program and the Meteorological Service of Jamaica, in support of a national public education campaign entitled 'Voices for Climate Change Project'. More than 50 Jamaican artists attended workshops and field trips to learn about climate change. Subsequently, the artists voluntarily offered work designed to educate the public, including a compilation CD album. The entire 18-month campaign used media promotions and the internet. The climate change message has reached an estimated 1.2 million (just under half the population).



Artistes involved in the EFJ-funded initiative promoting climate change through Reggae and other music.

EFJ offered its Public Lecture series as yet another public outreach campaign. The 2008-2009 thematic focus was entitled “From Violence to Peace: Directions for Our Youngest People.” Jamaica’s homicide rate is among the highest in the world on a per capita basis (UNODC-World Bank, 2007). The 2009 lecture focused national attention on children’s exposure to the various forms of violence (Domestic, School, Sexual Abuse, gang violence), as well as, its effects. Over 300 persons attended the public lecture, which was also aired on local television and radio, with copies sent to Public Libraries and key public officials.

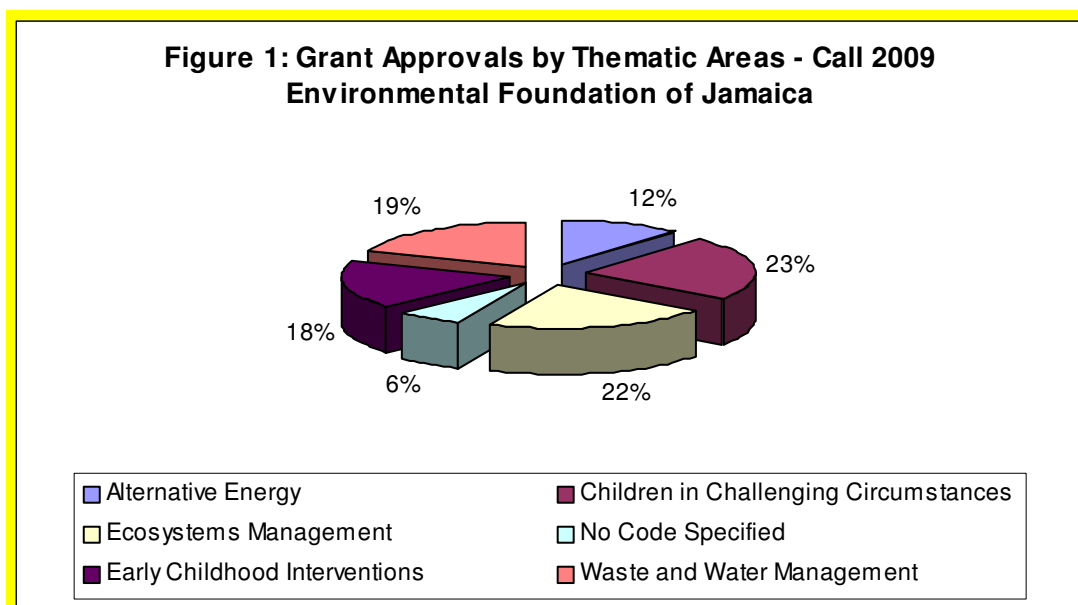
EFJ was also a major advocate and funder for the return of a national “Green Expo” in Jamaica after a four-year hiatus. The Expo is periodically organized by a local NGO to highlight environmental issues and best practices in Jamaica. Despite the global economic recession, there were 58 exhibitors and approximately 5,800 persons attended the Expo over its 3 days.



Model house and EFJ exhibit at Jamaica’s Green Expo 2009

Grant Making - 2009

During the 2008-2009 financial year, the EFJ Board approved a total of 72 grants for the financial year, and *disbursed* US\$2.23 million to new and existing grantees. Forty-three (43) of the 200 applicants from the 2009 Call for Proposals were awarded EFJ grants. Figure 1, below, provides the desegregation of the 2009 grants by thematic areas. A comprehensive application review process allowed extensive involvement by national and community stakeholders.



The “No Code Specified” category in Figure 1 (above) largely refers to the Hurricane Disaster Mitigation Project which promotes preparedness of EFJ grantees in an effort to reduce the over US\$1.1 million that EFJ has spent on post-hurricane recovery activities over the last 5 years.

Table 1: Comparative Grants Approved by Themes and Year 07/08 – 08/09

Themes	No. of grants approved	Value approved (US\$)	No. of grants approved	Value approved (US\$)
	2007/2008		2008/2009	
Environment	53	\$2,105,588	26	\$ 901,314
Child Survival and Development	88	\$1,836,933	17	\$ 636,404
Total	141	\$3,942,521	43	\$1,537,718

In 2009, the Discretionary Grants Committee also approved 29 “small grants” of \$2,250 or less (15 Child Sector and 14 Environment) totaling US\$58,460. These Discretionary Grants continued to make timely interventions to critical activities that were outside the regular Call Process. The Discretionary Grants funded events (e.g. workshops and publications) with 11 grants; support to individuals (e.g. scholarships or per diem to critical events) with 7 grants; and infrastructural support (e.g. equipment, materials, technology) with 11 grants.

Table 2: EFJ Comparative Grant Approval and Disbursement Rates

Year	Received	Approved	Amount Approved (US\$M)	Amount Disbursed (US\$M)
1993/1994	108	30	0.53	0.31
1994/1995	228	95	2.26	0.80
1995/1996	218	94	1.62	1.38
1996/1997	134	81	1.26	1.04
1997/1998	90	39	0.50	1.11
1998/1999	48	30	0.64	0.63
1999/2000	87	52	1.86	1.07
2000/2001	106	40	2.03	1.30
2001/2002	76	45	1.44	2.01
2002/2003	80	52	1.91	1.71
2003/2004	442	148	8.58	4.26
2004/2005	394	148	5.39	6.29
2005/2006	305	77	3.73	4.18
2006/2007	275	63	2.60	3.39
2007/2008	503	141	3.94	3.16
2008/2009	200	43	1.54	2.23
TOTAL	3294	1178	39.83	34.87

Project Impact and Highlights

The Foundation continues to wrestle with identifying and measuring its impact. In 2009, EFJ dedicated resources to furthering its monitoring and project impact evaluation capabilities. One challenge is the mere scope of grant activities, from protected areas conservation and management, to community literacy to hurricane reconstruction and much more.

One recognized area of impact for EFJ are its grants in support Jamaica's national progress towards Millennium Development Goal no.7 (community access to water). EFJ grants have supported rehabilitating of rural water systems in isolated communities through challenge grants that forge links with their local representatives and public sector agencies such as Health and Water Ministries. Communities collaborate with in-kind contributions (e.g. labor and maintenance arrangements). Two successful examples during the year were the communities of Williamsfield in St Catherine and Beeston Spring in Westmoreland. Over 2,000 rural residents now benefit from potable water from these rehabilitated systems.

The EFJ identified other areas of high potential conservation impact, such as Jamaica's chronic problem arising from the disposal of plastic containers that consistently present environmental contamination and safety hazards. The Protect the Environment Trust (PET) received support to purchase a truck and other equipment that have enabled expansion and increased efficiency in the collection and shredding of the plastics. Two community ventures have developed as a result of the market demand for recycled plastic. The shredded material is exported to markets overseas.

PL480 GRANTS – Environmental Conservation & Management [in Jamaican \$]**Theme: Alternative Energy Systems**

Organization	Project Title	Amount Approved
Foundation for International Self-Help (FISH)	Application of Renewable Energy for FISH Medical Center	\$5,000,000
Jeffrey Town Farmers Association Limited	Phase III - Jeffrey Town and Environs Agriculture and Capacity Enhancement	\$5,720,000
Western St. Thomas Educ. & Dev. Consortium	Photovoltaic System to produce electricity for Resource and Training Centre in Yallahs	\$4,995,000
Total		\$15,715,000 (~US\$ 177,350)

Theme: Ecosystems Management

Organization	Project Title	Amount Approved
Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation Ltd	Management Plan for Three Fish Sanctuaries in the PBPA	\$2,706,400
Jamaica Conservation Development Trust (JCDDT)	Blue Mountains Sustainable Tourism Institutional Support	\$2,750,000
JCDDT	Green Expo 2009	\$4,000,000
JCDDT	Public Awareness and Sensitization	\$3,500,000
Knockalva Agric. School	Knockalva Agricultural School Greenhouse	\$2,710,000
Local Initiative Facility For Urban Environment	Institutional Strengthening for LIFE to build capacity of Member Organizations	\$3,500,000
Manchester 4H Adv. Council	Recycling of Bio-digester Water Project	\$1,500,000
Mavis Bank Farmers'	Water to Farmers	\$450,000
Mile Gully Producers Marketing Organization	Mile Gully PMO Agricultural Sustainability Project: Green House	\$2,197,000
Negril Chamber of Commerce	Boosting Biodiversity in Negril's Coral Reef through Community – Recycling and Environmental Education	\$900,000
Oracabessa Foundation	A Future for Fishermen: Management Planning - Oracabessa Bay Fish Sanctuary	\$1,000,000
UWI, Biotechnology Centre	Enhancing productivity of medicinal plants during cultivation and processing	\$4,200,000
Total		\$29,413,400 (~US\$ 331,942)

Theme: Waste and Water Management

Organization	Project Title	Amount Approved
Fletcher's Grove/Mount Pelier Circuit of Baptist Churches	Expansion of Coastal Zone Solid Management Initiative in Sandy Bay Hanover Recycling	\$2,510,000
Negril Chamber of Commerce	Turning Trash into Cash	\$3,500,000
Portland Environment Protection Association	Non-Biodegradable Recycling for the Benefit of Portland's Nat. Environment	\$2,591,000
The Moneague College	The Moneague College Waste Management and Recycling Project	\$1,740,000
UWI, Department of Geography and Geology (Environ. Mgt. Unit)	Plastic Bottle Recycling Project at the learning institutions in the Mona and Papine areas	\$7,176,000
UWI, Department of Geography and Geology (Environ. Mgt. Unit)	Research & Development of Sustainability for Recycling in Jamaica	\$3,500,000
Total		\$21,017,000.00 (~US\$ 237,185)

Theme: Water Harvesting Systems

Organization	Project Title	Amount Approved
Glengoffe Community Development Committee	Jambos Pond Water Rehabilitation Project	\$1,760,000
Guy's Hill High School	Harnessing Natural Resources	\$1,950,000
Kilmarnock Community Development Committee	Rehabilitation of Kilmarnock Catchment Tank	\$280,000
New Works Community Development Committee	Rehabilitation of New Works Catchment Tank	\$1,230,000
Total		\$5,220,000 (~US\$ 58,910)

Theme: No Code Specified

Organization	Project Title	Amount Approved
Construction Resource & Development Centre	Hurricane Disaster Mitigation Project	\$8,500,000
Total		\$8,500,000 (~US\$ 95,926)

AID DEBT GRANTS – Child Survival & Development

Theme: Children in Challenging Circumstances

Organization	Project Title	Amount Approved
3DProjects/Community Based Rehabilitation Jamaica	Providing Access to Services for Children with Disabilities	\$1,303,200
Best Care Foundation	The Upgrading and Expanding The Intervention Program	\$1,620,512
Clarendon Peace and Justice Centre	In School Suspension Program	\$1,831,000
Hope Wellness Centre	Child Resiliency Program	\$4,960,000
Jamaican Association on Mental Retardation	Development Therapies for Children with Special Needs and Disabilities	\$6,071,000
Joy Town Community Development Foundation	Trench Town Youth Leaders Coalition for Success	\$5,216,100
Kiwanis Club of Providence	Hurlock Youth Empowerment and Life Changing Centre	\$1,900,000
Rise Life Management Services	Adolescent Computer-Based Literacy and Life Skills Education	\$3,264,000
Salvation Army School for the Blind	Technology in Teaching Mathematics for Blind Children	\$3,450,000
St. Clement's Development Centre	Secure HR/ Homework Centre by installing grills	\$382,817
Sunbeam Children's Home	Staff Enrichment to Care for Maladjusted Boys	\$1,769,500
Sure Foundation Educational Centre	Equipping Centre for Skills Training in Food Preparation For Adults with Special Needs	\$343,873.00
Total		\$32,112,002.00 (~US\$ 362,397)

Theme: Early Children Interventions (0-8 Yrs)

Organization	Project Title	Amount Approved
Council of Voluntary Social Services	Training for Early Childhood Institutions: Fire Safety, Disaster and Emergency Preparedness, Health and Sanitation	\$6,991,760
Dudley Grant Memorial Trust	Illustration and Printing of Children's CD Story Book Promoting Collection and	\$3,000,000

	Processing of Plastic Waste	
Family and Parenting Centre	Conducting Violence Prevention Training Workshops with Education Stakeholders	\$6,612,000
S-Corner Clinic	Enhance the Cognitive and Psychosocial Development of Children 0-6 yrs	\$5,670,000
UWI, Tropical Medicine Research Institute, Epidemiology Research Unit, Child Development Research Group	Planning for the Sustainability of An Intervention to Prevent Child Conduct Problems	\$2,006,000
Total		\$24,279,760.00 (~US\$ 274,007)

Summary			
Environmental Conservation & Management	(26)	\$	79,865,400.00 (~US\$ 901,314)
Child Survival & Development	(17)	\$	56,391,762.00 (~US\$ 636,404)
Total – 43 Projects	(43)	\$	136,257,162.00 (~US\$1,537,718)

Partnerships: Leveraging EAI resources

The Summary Table (below) reflects EFJ efforts to accurately identify their sources of counterpart contribution to their grant making. The 117% increase in counterpart contribution from 2008-2009 demonstrates a strategic focus to identify stronger grantees who have additional funding sources. EFJ also has more accurately recorded grantee in-kind contributions, normally in the form of labor and time.

EFJ has also partnered with traditional USAID development projects, the U.S. Forest Service and The Nature Conservancy in working with community groups in the Cockpit Country Protected Area. These partners have contributed a total of US\$300,000 in the area in the last 2-3 years. The focus has been on infrastructure and capacity development projects that created new livelihood opportunities.

Another regular EFJ partner is the Bernard van Leer Foundation. The EFJ served as Fund Managers for their Inner City Child Support Project which closed out in July 2009. Direct beneficiaries under the project were 4,800 children ages 0-6 years in the 12 inner city communities of Bennett Land, Greenwich Town, Whitfield Town, Rose Town, Allman Town, Kingston Gardens, Fletcher's Land, Swallowfield, Jones Town, Arnett Gardens, Tavern, and Cedar Valley.

Finally, the EFJ initiated six (6) project activities that were parallel funded grants to leverage funds from Jamaica's UNDP Global Environment Facility Small Grants Program (GEF-SGP). The EFJ contributed US\$98,000 to the activities being carried out by grantees between 2007 and 2009. A second Memorandum of Understanding with GEF-SGP will commit an additional US\$50,000 in 2010.

Table 3: Summary Data (US\$)¹

Fund Data	2007	2008	2009	Totals 1993-2009
of proposals submitted	275	503	200	4,338
No. of proposals approved	63	141	43	1,166
Total approved funding for grants	\$2,595,717	\$3,942,506	\$1,537,718	\$34,777,718
Total of counterpart match (cost-share)	<i>nr</i>	\$693,373	\$1,541,301	\$2,234,674
Other leveraged matches (e.g. co-financing)	<i>nr</i>	\$511,177	\$ 735,776	\$1,246,953
Total matching funds as % of approved	<i>nr</i>	31%	148%	10.0%
Amount spent on administrative costs ²	\$788,170	\$754,949	\$593,208	\$13,836,327
Administrative costs as % of approved grants	30.4%	19.1%	38.6%	39.8%
Interest and capital gained on investments	\$1,470,000	\$1,460,000	\$801,964	\$17,231,964
Fund balance at the end of the year	\$12,890,000	\$9,070,000	\$6,089,110 ³	n/a

¹ 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)

² Despite a reduction in spending on the administrative expenses, the administrative ratio exceeded the Governing Agreement ratio of 25%. This was as a result of our obligation to include a calculation of depreciation on an M.I.S. project that was capitalized. This issue was resolved within the period and no further complications are anticipated.

³ This July 2009 balance of \$6,089,110 is disaggregated between two accounts: PL-480 Environment account (\$3,613 K) and the USAID Child Survival and Development account (\$2,476K).

