

**2023 Congressional Report on Jamaica's**

*Enterprise for the Americas Initiative (EAI) & Tropical Forest Conservation Act (TFCA) Funds*



***Environmental Foundation  
of Jamaica***

*Preserving the Future... Today!*

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# Jamaica

## Background and History

The Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ) was created through two bilateral debt reduction agreements signed in August 1991 and January 1993 with the United States of America under the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative (EAI). The two agreements reduced Jamaica’s debt to USAID and PL480 by US\$311 million. The interest on these debts provided the EFJ with approximately US\$21.50 million over a nineteen (19) year period (which ended in 2012). Operations at the EFJ began in May 1993.

The Forest Conservation Fund (FCF) was established pursuant to the Tropical Forest Conservation Act (TFCA) of 1998 which was enacted to offer eligible developing countries relief on identified official debt owed to the United States of America, while at the same time generating funds to support local tropical forest conservation activities. The Forest Conservation, Debt Swap and Swap Fee Contractual Agreements were signed on September 21, 2004 by the Governments of Jamaica (GOJ) and the United States of America (USG), The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the Jamaica Protected Areas Trust (JPAT). This paved the way for the creation of the FCF. The GOJ will deposit US\$16 million into the FCF over a period of nineteen (19) years (ending in 2024). These monies are to be used solely for the purposes delineated in the Forest Conservation Agreement (FCA).

In 2012 a decision was taken to consolidate both entities, EFJ and JPAT/FCF, to create a “new” EFJ. The re-engineered EFJ emerged following the signing of new governing documents on June 29, 2015. The following mission and vision statements encapsulate the spirit of both documents and ultimately the mandate of the EFJ.

### ***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 and conservation, as well as child survival and development.**

The EFJ’s years of experience in doing grant making, its systems and procedures for the monitoring and evaluation of grants have attracted the interest of partner entities. Some of these partners have asked the EFJ to administer grant funding on their behalf. Since 2016 EFJ has signed three (3) Fund Administrator Agreements (FAA) with agencies of the Government of Jamaica; utilizing funding from international partners such as the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the European Union (EU). These FAAs have provided approximately US\$7.50 million in grant funding to the NGO sector.

## **2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS OF OPERATIONS (DEBT SWAP FUNDING)**

For the 2022/2023 financial year the EFJ shifted its focus away from grant making activities to the development of its organizational capacity. It should be noted that during the period 2016 – 2022 a total of J\$1.18 billion (US\$7.87 million) was awarded in grant funding and approximately J\$1.08 billion (US\$7.02 billion) was paid out in *actual* disbursements across **all** the Funds being managed. Therefore, the shift in the organization’s concentration was to ensure that the EFJ was re-positioned for its future - post debt swap funding – as it had made a significant amount of grant funding in the last six years to the NGO sector.

In fact, when the Strategic Plan (2022 – 2025) and Administrative Budget were being prepared strengthening organizational capacity was a central theme. As such, the EFJ’s 2022/2023 Annual Work Plan had the following areas:

- The implementation of the (new) Strategic Plan year 1 activities
- Prominence given to Fundraising and Public Relations
- The successful completion of the projects awarded from Call 2021
- The evaluation of Fund Administration Agreement (FAA) grants done over the last 6 years and the development of a metric to evaluate the potential for an organization to implement a successful project.

### **1. Strategic Plan 2022 – 2025**

The EFJ finalized a new Strategic Plan for the period 2022 – 2025. This plan is subject to semi annual reviews and amendments as deemed appropriate. As part of the process of preparing the new Strategic Plan a review of the previous plan was conducted.

#### The review

There were four (4) strategic goals in the 2019-2021 Strategic Action Plan (SAP). These were:

- A. Grant-making and Fund administration
- B. Influencing policy and capacity building for sustainability
- C. Fundraising, sustainability, and public awareness
- D. Continued streamlining of operational activities

Like all other organizations the EFJ had to adjust to the COVID-19 pandemic and the implementation of strategic actions were impacted. The pandemic not only constrained some of the activities of the EFJ but it also presented opportunities for the organization to improve and modernize the way things were done. Specifically, the EFJ looked at its processes, policies, and procedures.

It was agreed that the use of technology will be incorporated more into the work of the EFJ primarily as it relates to monitoring, evaluation and reporting by grant beneficiaries. Other opportunities emerged to:

- engage in more meaningful partnerships.
  - More and more international organizations are expressing interest in partnering with the EFJ to have funds administered to grass root entities. The EFJ grant

management, monitoring and evaluation as well as reporting experiences have been the major attraction.

- Local and regional partners are interested in some of the EFJ's best practices that account for its effectiveness in managing grant funding.
- Mentoring of regional organizations as they set up processes and systems in their respective territories.

Importantly, it was noted that from the SAP 2019 - 2021 there was no overt plan to ensure that the EFJ's dual mandate of environmental conservation and child survival & child development were being addressed.

### *The new Strategic Plan, 2022-2025*

The new plan maintained the existing Mission and Vision Statements (See page 3). The objectives of these Statements will be achieved through the three new focal areas. The following are the broad focal areas:

- I. **Secure new funding and maintain the sustainability of the EFJ** - including actively tapping into new sources of funds for environmental work in Jamaica and the wider Caribbean, repositioning the EFJ, and providing increased support to partner organizations.
- II. **Improve and modernize the EFJ's operational systems** - in light of the challenges faced during the pandemic, in anticipation of emergent technological changes, in preparation to conduct new kinds of activities and for the cooperative policies/practices required for some partnerships
- III. **Strengthen partnerships, create new partnerships, and enhance the quality of Membership.** The quality of Membership will be improved by encouraging successful partners to become Members and engaging capable Members as partners in EFJ's activities.

### **Focal Area A: Secure new funding and maintain the sustainability of the EFJ**

The first of the three focal areas will entail the strengthening of the ability of the EFJ to survive. In this regard, fund raising, staff development and technological updating are critical.

The existing fundraising strategy will be reviewed in light of the experience of implementing it. Fundraising is broadly conceived of as protecting current resources in the Endowment Trust Fund, optimizing returns on investments, applying for grants, seeking new sources of funds including possible debt swaps and the sale of Fund Administration services.

Sustainability not only requires funding but also retaining and developing staff, especially in the critical areas of grant-management. EFJ's staff retention strategy will include ensuring competitive remunerations and benefits, healthy physical and virtual work environments, and the cultivation of an ethic of transparency and teamwork.

The EFJ will stay abreast of the technological changes required for communication, organizational management and data management and analysis.

### **Focal Area B: Improve and modernize the EFJ's operational systems**

The pandemic forced the EFJ, like other organizations, to adopt new work modes and to re-think its administrative processes and its service delivery. While the pandemic was the immediate

trigger, the world in which the EFJ operates today is very different than when it started 30 years ago. Certainly, the international context, the array of national environmental and child development institutions and the relevant national policy frameworks have changed. The strategic plan will enhance EFJ's technological capabilities, foster its flexibility and continue the drive for efficiencies and effectiveness in its service delivery.

### **Focal Area C: Strengthen partnerships, create new partnerships, and enhance the quality of Membership**

EFJ implements its work programs through partnerships. As a Membership organization, some partners are potential Members and vice versa. The Strategic Plan will review current partnerships for consistency with its revised strategic objectives and in light of the experience of the effectiveness of previous cooperation.

Where appropriate, strong NGO partners will be encouraged to become Members as a principal strategy to enhance the percentage of active/high profile/large portfolio NGOs in EFJ's Membership.

The EFJ intends to be more active in mobilizing Members to partner with the organization to implement its programs such as Capacity building of grantees, Advocacy and other programs that will enhance the mandate of both entities. This will require the EFJ to review its Articles of Incorporation and its Membership requirements with a view to accommodate the evolving possibilities mentioned above.

## **2. Fundraising and Public Relations**

The EFJ's Board decided during the fiscal year to merge two of its Sub-Committees because of their symbiotic relationship. The Fundraising Committee was merged with the Public Relations Committee and dubbed the Fundraising & Public Relations Advisory Committee. This was done to give increased prominence to Fundraising, as well as to provide financial resources in the budget for a dedicated staff member and to foster increased public awareness and image building as the EFJ got more 'Donor ready'.

A Fundraising, Marketing & Public Relations Officer was engaged in January 2023 after conducting a recruitment exercise; the post was advertised nationally. Unfortunately, after ten weeks the staff member resigned to pursue their own business venture.

Notwithstanding, the Committee has sought to explore future debt swap arrangements and discussions are being held with the Government of Jamaica.

The Secretariat also submitted proposals to two international partners. The results of the submissions will be known in the new financial year.

## **3. Project Highlights – Forest Conservation Fund**

Below we highlight some of the projects, awarded from Call 2021, that concluded their project work in the 2022/2023 fiscal year. As was reported last year eight (8) projects received grant funding through the Forest Conservation Fund.

The following table lists the seven projects awarded grants to develop capacity and to ensure the longevity of the recipient entity.

<b>Grantee Responsible</b>	<b>Project Title (Amount Approved)</b>
Cockpit Local Forest Management Committee (CCLFMC)	Facilitating mobility in the Cockpit Country (J\$7,410,000.00)
Caribbean Coastal Area Management (C-CAM) Foundation	Capacity building of C-CAM to better equip the team (J\$ 2,720,831.00)
Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust (JCDT)	Institutional support for National Park Management (J\$14,000,000.00)
Windsor Research Centre (WRC)	Windsor Research Centre: Institutional strengthening through continued learning of the ABC's (Air, Butterflies, Chiroptera) of Cockpit Country (J\$8,000,000.00)
Negril area Environmental Protection Trust (NEPT)	Improving Protected Area Management and livelihood protection in the Negril Environmental Protection area through capacity building of NEPT (J\$8,000,000.00)
Sawyers Local Forest Management Committee (LFMC) Benevolent Society	Improving logistics in the Sawyers community to support sustained agricultural adaptation practices (J\$7,697,000.00)
Southern Trelawny Environmental Agency (STEA)	Institutional Strengthening / Capacity Building (J\$7,172,000.00)

One additional grant in the thematic area of Reforestation (totaling **JMD \$4,595,158.60**) was awarded to Cockpit Country Local Forest Management Committee.

We report on this project and one other in greater detail below:

**GRANTEE RESPONSIBLE:** Cockpit Country Local Forest Management Committee

**PROJECT TITLE:** Managing Natural Resources while Enabling Sustainable Livelihoods in Cockpit Country

**Thematic Area:** Reforestation

**Purpose of the project:** Cockpit Country - Northern is known for its rich biodiversity. Over the years environmental issues such as:

- deforestation and other problems with invasives and spread of non-native species (e.g. Ferns),
- conversion to agriculture, mining and yam stick cutting of forested areas;
- water shortage, land slippage and soil erosion;
- a lack of environmental education and planning, and
- in recent times a lack of employment for residents

have contributed to the destruction of the area's biodiversity. If mitigation measures are not put in place to address these problems, then the Cockpit Country's natural resources will be significantly depleted due to improper use. This will have a severe impact on the habitats of endemic species of flora and fauna that are dependent on the ecosystems for survival. This project aimed to counteract these issues.

<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE</b>	<b>IMPACT</b>
To restore four (4) hectares of forest cover in (select) areas with depleted forest reserves	4 hectares rehabilitated with 2,500 seedlings of Cedar, Blue Mahoe, Jamaican Mahogany, Bitter Damsel and Spanish Elm.	Seventy eight (78) persons were employed for the duration of the project- 51 males and 27 females
To facilitate alternative livelihoods through agroforestry and bee-keeping.	Ten bee colonies distributed among 6 farmers. The boxes have increased from 10 to 32 boxes with the production of 15 gallons of honey	Forty-one persons benefited from alternative livelihood 19 males and 22 females.
To establish rainwater harvesting facilities on existing communal spaces	Three 1,000 gallon water storage tanks were installed at the Community Centre, the LFMC's office and the Duanvale Primary school with a total of 156 ft. of gutters installed.	Over 300 community members including the school population of 125 students impacted positively from the installation of the tanks.
To facilitate alternative livelihood through craft production	Craft items such as baskets and bags were produced	Craft and basketry training were held with 18 persons of which 17 were females and 1 male.
To acquire 1 bag corn, 90 fruit plants and 50 timber seedlings to facilitate 10 small farmers within the community utilizing 1 hectare to upgrade their plots	Corn, fruit trees and timber seedlings (50 blue mahoe) distributed to small farmers.	Sixteen (16) farmers - 7 females and 9 males participated in the agroforestry activities.  Farmers were given a total of Ninety (90) fruit seedlings consisting of sweet sop, sour sop, June plum, Naseberry, pomegranate, Jackfruit, Suriname cherry, Indian plum, pink guava, tamarind and cashew
Replant 100 timber seedlings during the maintenance exercise – done within 2 hectares of Linton Park Forest Reserve - to replace loss due to unforeseen conditions.	100 blue mahoe timber seedlings planted and circle weeding activities done	A total of 6 persons (4 females and 2 males) were employed for this activity.





Rainwater harvesting at the Duanvale Community Centre



Rehabilitation work and planting of seedlings at the Linton Park Forest Reserve



Agroforestry plot



Bee keeping activities



Participants in Craft training in Basketry

**GRANTEE RESPONSIBLE:** Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust (JCDDT)

**PROJECT TITLE:** Institutional Support for National Park Management

**Thematic Area:** Institutional Strengthening/Capacity Building

**Purpose of the project:** The project is aimed at providing institutional support to JCDDT over 12 months in the areas of accounting, financial management, income generation and effective protected area management. Specifically, this project will support JCDDT's:

- implementation of over JA\$80 million in projects conserving the forests of the Blue and John Crow Mountains by investing in and strengthening the organization's capacity to ensure it can manage major internationally funded projects
- bringing new systems into place for improved efficiency and accountability;
- income generation activities;
- acquiring a motor vehicle to ensure successful forest restoration projects, community outreach and other management activities.

OBJECTIVES	ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE	IMPACT
To provide budgetary support for JCDDT's conservation project implementation - in particular funding Accounting Department personnel and satisfying the legal and regulatory	Accountant hired.  The unaudited Financial Statements for 2022 have been submitted to the Department of Cooperatives and Friendly Societies for review.	

requirements for the company/charity authority for at least one year.		
To provide support for JCDT's Business Development Officer for at least one year to help increase revenue through new markets and tools	<p>Business Development Officer/Sales Representative hired.</p> <p>Business Plan updated to include more sales and marketing activities.</p> <p>Business Development Training sessions were conducted in the communities of Hayfield in St. Thomas; Scott's Hall in St. Mary; Windsor/Moore Town; Cornwall Barracks; Ginger House; Comfort Castle and Millbank in the Rio Grande Valley.</p>	One hundred and fifty-nine (159) persons participated in the sessions on Environmental Management & Mitigation of Environmental Impacts; Business Development and Tourism Training.
To provide support for JCDT's Recreation and Tourism program through procurement of items for improvements and marketing to support business development	The Recreation area was improved with the addition of a commercial washing machine and a refrigerator. Improvement works were also done on the trail and picnic areas.	Annual visitors to Holywell include - 3,654 day visitors; 225 to Holywell cabins and 295 to Portland Gap cabins.
To provide support to JCDT for the purchase of a 4 Wheel Drive pick up to be used in forest restoration and other work in the highest reaches of the mountains	Toyota Hilux 4WD acquired, to improve the capacity of the team to do monitoring and enforcement activities.	Seven Thousand (7,000) seedlings planted - 2,896 West Indian Cedar; 401 Blue Mahoe; 100 Sweet wood; 1,647 Milkwood; 1,209 Spanish Elm; 747 Mountain Yacca planted.



Toyota Hilux to be used in the Blue & John Crow Mountains National Park

#### **4. Sustainability assessment – Fund Administration Agreements**

The conclusion of the EFJ's Fund Administration Agreements allowed us to conduct an assessment on the successes and failures of some of the projects. The aim was to generate an assessment tool that could predict the likelihood of a project proposal being successfully and sustainably implemented.

Following several discussions the Secretariat concluded that projects can be assessed for sustainability using six (6) broad categories. The categories and the weighted percentage that contribute to the likelihood of sustainability are as follows:

- ✓ Organizational arrangements – 19%
- ✓ Leadership – 26%
- ✓ Project Proposal – 27%
- ✓ Funding Source – 9%
- ✓ Community / Stakeholder Involvement – 14%
- ✓ Other factors – 5%

A brief overview of the factors contemplated under the respective sub-headings in listed below in the assessment sheet.

Organizational arrangements are assessed by looking at:

- The existence of a physical location
- Registration and regulatory compliance
- Years of operation
- Governance Structure
- Membership of the organization and inclusivity

- Meetings and reporting to Membership
- Evidence of Strategic Planning
- Operations policy documents
- Financial planning, reporting and other arrangements (banking and budgeting exercise)

Leadership assessment includes a review of the following factors:

- Leadership style and structure
- Succession planning
- Sub-Committees with roles and responsibilities
- Existence of partnerships and other stakeholder involvement

Project Proposal looks at the ability of the organization to respond to the Call for Proposal and the quality of the proposal submitted.

#### Funding Source

- Whether there are limits on funding (in particular upper limits)
- Are there other onerous stipulations by donors

#### Community / Stakeholder involvement

- Evidence of stakeholder consultations
- Evidence of stakeholder buy-in
- Whether the community is contributing to the project
- Other stakeholder contributions

#### Other Factors

- Compliance with required policies / risks or red flags raised with regard to sustainability
- Considerations given to economic and geo-political risks
- Unique local situations that may affect the organization and the project.
- Global risk factors e.g. pandemic, wars etc.

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

The EFJ's years of experience in doing grant making under the three (3) funding sources mentioned above has seen other entities utilizing our experience and grant management skills to assist them with implementing project activities. The EFJ is the administrator for three (3) different tranches of funding for entities associated with the Jamaican Government.

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

#### **Background**

The EFJ was selected to be Fund Administrator for the SCCAF in June 2016. The SCCAF has its genesis in the Adaptation Programme and Financing Mechanism (AP&FM) for the Pilot

Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) Jamaica (the Programme) which is being executed by the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) through the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC) which has been assigned 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) program.

The general objective of the AP&FM Project for PPCR Jamaica is to generate information on approaches to address climate challenges and help mainstream climate change in development planning and processes, and disseminate results across sectors.

The Programme is structured in three (3) components:

**Component I:** Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation Measures. The objective of this component is to assist the mainstreaming of climate change into development plans and planning processes and demonstrate adaptation measures in a vulnerable watershed.

**Component II:** Creation of Financial Mechanisms. The objective of this component is to create innovative climate financing mechanisms to help support implementation of climate resilience within Micro, Small and Medium Size Enterprises (MSMEs) and Community Based Organizations (CBOs).

**Component III:** Knowledge Management. The objective of this component is to develop a knowledge management program for the entire Jamaica PPCR.

It is **Component II** that is the primary focus of the EFJ’s involvement. Component II involves the setting up and operation of (i) a Line of Credit, and (ii) a Special Climate Change Adaptation Fund (SCCAF) where loans and/or small grants, respectively, will be made available to MSMEs, non-government organizations (NGOs) and CBOs, particularly in the agriculture and tourism sectors.

We are now in year seven (7) of this program. To date, four Calls for Proposals have been conducted, which resulted in 142 grants awarded J\$652.06 million and being actively managed by the EFJ. The first Call (Call 2016) saw 29 proposals receiving grant awards of J\$132.94 million, the second (Call 2017) had 56 grant awards valued at J\$249.20 million, the third (Call 2018) had 51 grant awards valued at J\$239.47 million and the fourth Call (Call 2021) had 7 projects with grant awards of J\$30.45 million. Each grant was subject to a J\$5 million cap.

### **SCCAF 2021 Call for Proposals**

There were five (5) active projects during review period.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Grant Amount - \$JMD</b>
<i>Sawyers LFMC</i>	4,996,678.00
<i>Little Bay All Age and Infant School</i>	5,000,000.00

<i>Rock Hall Primary School</i>	4,996,678.00
<i>Boundbrook Primary School</i>	4,997,769.53
<i>Windsor Forest Primary School:</i>	5,000,000.00

**GRANTEE RESPONSIBLE:** Rock Hall Primary School

**PROJECT TITLE:** Rock Hall Primary School Rainwater Harvesting System Project

**Thematic Area:** Water Management – Rainwater Harvesting

**Purpose of the project:** The aim of the project is to improve rain water collection and storage for the school's population of Eighty-nine (89) individuals (74 students, 7 academic staff members and 8 support staff members).

<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE</b>	<b>IMPACT TO DATE</b>
To complete excavation and construction of water tank and pump room	A 10,000 gallon water tank and pump house constructed	School population of 90 students 7 teachers and 10 support staff were impacted. Twenty (20) persons were employed during implementation activities. Four members of staff were trained to undertake chlorination activities.
To install guttering and plumbing to deliver water from gutters to water tank as well as plumbing to pumping system to deliver water from constructed water tank to elevated black tanks	Approximately 100 ft. of galvanized aluminium guttering was installed along with 500 ft. of pipeline. A one hp electrical pump was also installed	





Completed water harvesting tank with pump house (atop)

**GRANTEE RESPONSIBLE:** Windsor Forest Primary School

**PROJECT TITLE:** Windsor Forest Primary School Rainwater Harvesting System Project

**Thematic Area:** Water Management – Rainwater Harvesting

**Purpose of the project:** The aim of the project is to improve rain water collection and storage for the school's population of one hundred and eight (108) students, nine (9) academic staff members and three (3) support staff.

OBJECTIVES	ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE	IMPACT TO DATE
To construct a 10,000 gallon water tank and pump room	A 10,000 gallon water tank and pump house constructed	School population of 108 students 9 teachers and 3 support staff were impacted. Twenty (20) persons were employed during implementation activities. Four members of staff were trained to undertake chlorination activities.
To install guttering and plumbing to deliver water from gutters to water tank as well as plumbing to pumping system to deliver water from constructed water tank to elevated black tanks to gravity feed the school	Approximately 260 ft. of piping and a one hp electrical pump was installed.	



**Completed tank with conveyance pipes installed**

**GRANTEE RESPONSIBLE:** Boundbrook Primary School

**PROJECT TITLE:** Boundbrook Primary School Rainwater Harvesting System Project

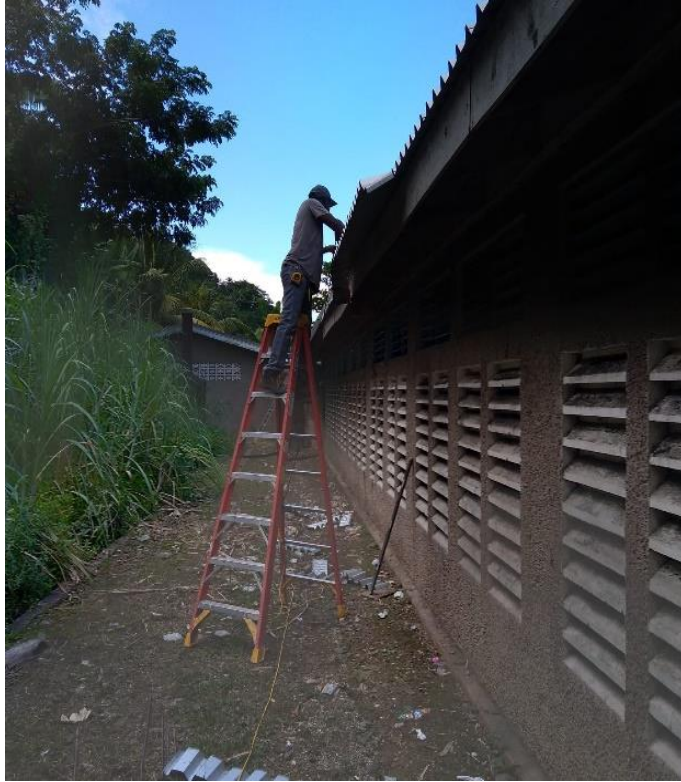
**Thematic Area:** Water Management – Rainwater Harvesting

**Purpose of the project:** The aim of the project is to increase the capacity to make climate change adaptations and improve rain water collection and storage for the school's population. This will include construction of a 10,000 gallon tank and pump room, installation of a pumping system, guttering and plumbing works.

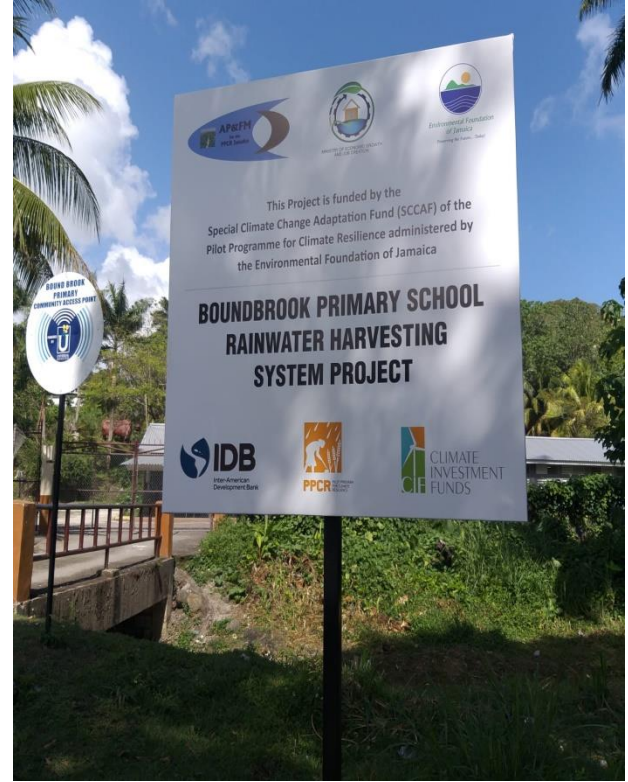
OBJECTIVES	ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE	IMPACT TO DATE
To complete excavation and construction of water tank and pump room	A 10,000 gallon water tank and pump house constructed	530 students, 23 teachers and 6 support staff were impacted.  Twenty (20) persons were employed during implementation activities. Four members of staff were trained to undertake chlorination activities.
To install guttering and plumbing to deliver water from gutters to water tank as well as plumbing to pumping system to deliver water from constructed water tank to elevated black tanks to gravity feed the school	Approximately 100 ft. of galvanized aluminium guttering was installed along with 500 ft. of pipeline. A one hp electrical pump was also installed	



Water Storage tank with conveyance pipes installed



Installation of guttering in progress



Erected project sign at entrance of the school

**GRANTEE RESPONSIBLE:** Leeds Community Development Committee

**PROJECT TITLE:** Leeds Community Development Committee Greenhouse Project

**Thematic Area:** Climate Smart Resilient Cropping Systems – Greenhouse Farming

**Purpose of the project:** The aim of the project is to construct two greenhouses to combat the effects of climate change by practicing protective agriculture in the community of Leeds while providing employment and training for 15 community members in greenhouse techniques.

OBJECTIVES	ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE	IMPACT TO DATE
To improve the economic livelihood of fifteen individuals through Greenhouse Farming	Two 3,000 ft. greenhouses constructed along with the installation of a 40,000 gallon earthen catchment pond.  The pump is to be installed after the pump house is completed.	Seven (7) persons were employed during the installation of the greenhouses and catchment pond.
To train 15 participants in greenhouse management techniques	The training activities have not yet commenced as this component is awaiting the completion of the pump house.	



Constructed greenhouses and fenced catchment pond

## Financial Report:

The summary table below reflects the merged data on all three USG funds.

### Summary Data (US\$)

Fund Data	Merged - EFJ Funds			
	Total			Total
	1993-2021	2022	2023	1993 - 2023
No. of proposals submitted	3,773	1	0	3,774
No. of proposals approved	1,327	7	0	1,334
Total approved funding for grants *	49,015,735	392,282	-	49,408,017
Total disbursed funding for grants *	44,412,228	358,348	-	44,770,576
Total of counterpart match (grantee cost-share)	41,120,444	-	-	41,120,444
Other leveraged matches (e.g. co-finance)**	3,818,888	-	-	3,818,888
Total matching funds as % of approved	1	-	-	1
Amount spent on administrative costs	17,363,696	378,304	374,684	18,116,684
Interest and capital gained on investments	57,828,623	(3,176)	(31,502)	57,793,945
<i>Fund balance year end - grants</i>	<i>1,605,288</i>	<i>1,342,910</i>	<i>1,247,542</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Fund balance year end - Endowment</i>	<i>7,456,533</i>	<i>7,559,890</i>	<i>7,921,967</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<b>Total Fund balance at the end of the year</b>	<b>9,061,821</b>	<b>8,902,800</b>	<b>9,169,509</b>	<i>n/a</i>

Exchange rate J\$153.3560 to US\$1.0 (2023); J\$152.5508 to US\$1.0 (2022)

Three points are worth noting for the financial year.

- The J\$ to the US\$ exchange rate has appreciated year on year
- Returns on investments and the value of fund balances were being impacted by the covid-19 pandemic and the general economic recession.
- US\$441,240.24 is the outstanding balance on the TFCA debt swap at financial year end.