



USAID/JAMAICA— WEEKLY REPORT

September 17, 2012 Highlights:



Representatives from USAID/Jamaica, OFDA and the St. Patrick's Rangers of Jamaica observe one of the many gullies in the community of Seivwright, Kingston that has been affected by pollution and garbage build up on a recent site visit.

- ◆ **The St. Patrick's Rangers Site Visit** - The St. Patrick's Rangers, with support from Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and the USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), are proving that young people can play a key role in reducing disaster risk. The St. Patrick's Rangers is a quasi-military youth group founded by the St. Patrick's Foundation in 2009 to implement the USAID/Catholic Relief Services project titled "Youth Emergency Action Committees (YEAC): Empowering Youth in the Caribbean for Community Disaster Risk Reduction. The Rangers, a voluntary youth club of about 120 members, formed four YEACs and CRS and its local partner the St. Patrick's Foundation, in close coordination with local government agencies, trained these groups in a variety of areas. YEACs learned about disaster risk reduction, including hurricane and earthquake awareness and preparedness. Participants received training in first aid, shelter management, teamwork and community development. A team from USAID/Jamaica and OFDA went on a series of site visits on Monday September 10, 2012 to view the work being implemented by the St. Patrick's Rangers.
- ◆ **Partnership Framework Policy Monitoring Workshop**- USAID/Jamaica participated in the regional Partnership Framework Policy Monitoring Workshop for HIV/AIDS response from September 11 –14, 2012. The workshop was held in Miami Florida discussed a number of objectives concerning the Importance of Policy to the HIV Response and Using Legal Mechanisms to Address the HIV Epidemic. In addition, the workshop examined the Perspectives on the Policy Process: Government Panel in the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Jamaica.
- ◆ **New Ministerial Outreach on Climate Change Issues** – Technical staff from USAID/Jamaica met with counterparts from the Ministry of Science, Technology, Energy and Mining (MSTEM) on Thursday, Sept 13, 2012, to highlight the upcoming EC-LEDS scoping visit tentatively planned for the week of October 15th. In addition, Mission staff discussed the Analysis and Investment of Low-Emission Growth (AILEG) program, a mechanism managed by the E3 Bureau. In Jamaica, AILEG support would help jump start EC-LEDS process; concrete activities are currently being explored, which would end no later than August 2013.
- ◆ **Update on Correctional Services and Child Justice**– The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) convened a meeting of IDPs and a number of Government of Jamaica Ministries and departments on September 6, 2012 to update agency heads regarding the latest developments in the correctional services and child justice areas, and to outline the nature and level of support needed to address the related issues. Commissioner of Corrections, Lt. Col. Sean Prendergast gave a detailed description of the existing correctional facilities, including juvenile detention facilities, and outlined the challenges that prevent the Department of Correctional Services from effectively dealing with the issue of juvenile detention and rehabilitation. The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Youth and Culture (MoYC), Robert Martin, in collaboration with the Director of Crime Prevention and Community Safety– Ministry of National Security (MNS), Courtney Brown, is expected to outline the issues at the next inter-ministerial meeting with the Prime Minister.



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September 17, 2012 Upcoming Events:

- ◆ **Jamaica National Fund Managers partners with Junior Achievement**– The Jamaica National Fund Managers (JNFM) has recently partnered with USAID/Jamaica’s Development Grants Program recipient, Junior Achievement (JA) and will adopt 10 high schools across seven (7) parishes, in the Junior Achievement Company of Entrepreneurs (JACE) Program. These schools will be selected in collaboration with JNFM and the Ministry of Education based on need, availability and accessibility.
- ◆ **Essay Competition for International Peace Day**– The National Integrity Act Ltd. (NIAL) will be engaging a number of high school students from across the island to recognize International Peace Day on September 21, 2012. NIAL will partner with the Ministry of Education (MOE) to launch an essay competition for 12th and 13th graders (upper and lower sixth formers). The essay competition will have an anti-corruption theme, and its launch will involve the screening of a film, followed by an interactive discussion with the students led by Professor Munroe. The intention is to award regional prizes (in each of the MOE's six regions), as well as a National winner.
- ◆ **From Farm to Table** - On September 29, 2012, the USAID Development Grants Program funded INMED in association with Pantrepant Farms in Trelawny will host a farm to table event. The event will play host to a number of dignitaries from the public and private sector who will be served with fish and vegetables that have been grown from the project farms and schools. Proceeds from the event will benefit project farmers and schools in the Trelawny and Westmoreland area.

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