



USAID/JAMAICA— WEEKLY REPORT

October 15, 2012 Highlights:



Supervisory Program Officer of USAID/Jamaica, Jeannette Vail addressing school leaders of the Agency's role at the recently held Sensitization Seminar for School Leaders.



The graduates of the Marketing and Agriculture for Jamaican Improved Competitiveness (MAJIC) are seen here being recognized for their outstanding work that was done throughout the program.

- ◆ **Sensitization Seminar for School Leaders** - On Tuesday, October 9, the USAID/Jamaica Basic Education (JBED) Project hosted a sensitization seminar for Principals, Board Chairmen, Regional Education Officers and other stakeholders. The session informed school leaders about the USAID/JBED Project and its focus on improving reading in the early grades along with helping participants to understand the expectations of the project and their role in achieving the targets set. JBED will be focused on improving literacy in grades 1-3 in 172 schools, with the goal of reaching 35,000 students.
- ◆ **MAJIC Graduation**— The USAID/Jamaica funded Marketing and Agriculture for Jamaican Improved Competitiveness (MAJIC) project hosted a graduation ceremony in Clarendon on October 10, 2012 for four of ACDI/VOCA MAJIC Farmer Field Schools in Clarendon. This graduation ceremony is the culmination of approximately 20 weeks of training delivered to 32 scotch bonnet pepper farmers in St. Catherine, Clarendon, St. Elizabeth and Trelawny.
- ◆ **USAID/Jamaica meets with Lions Club**- On October 11, members of the USAID/Jamaica Mission met with local and regional Lions Club leadership to review the MOU signed between USAID and Lions Club International earlier this year. Parties on both sides are excited to begin collaborating and working together on a number of fronts including: early age reading, Lions Quest (life skills program), and disaster risk reduction activities in vulnerable communities. Lions Club Jamaica has 24 chapters across the island. A follow-up meeting with the Mission Director will be held in early November after technical teams identify ways to begin actualizing the opportunities for complimentary programming.
- ◆ **Launch of JACE 2012 –2013 Programs**- The 2012-2013 Junior Achievement Company of Entrepreneurs (JACE) Program was launched on October 7 running through October 12 with a series of activities funded by USAID and private sector partners. One such activity was held on October 10 a number of Junior Achievement (JA) alumni visiting numerous classrooms and volunteering to teach 10 JA programs. For this school year, JACE is targeting students from 50 high schools across the country. Forty-two of these schools are sponsored by the private sector and students will benefit from mentoring that is provided by staff members of the sponsoring organizations. JACE has evolved into a six-month program designed to transform and stimulate interest in entrepreneurship and business. High school students and young people work as a team to build and then operate a company. This entrepreneurial experience provides an engaging, challenging and hands-on economic education.



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Upcoming Events:

- ◆ **LIFE Graduation**– The USAID/Jamaica funded Local Initiative Facility for the Environment (LIFE) project will host a graduation ceremony on October 16, 2012 for 18 beekeepers within the parish of St. Mary. At the event participants will receive certificates of participation and equipment necessary to manage an apiary including a bee veil, smoker, hive tool and bee brush.
- ◆ **NIA Community Outreach**– The National Integrity Action Ltd. (NIA), USAID/Jamaica's project to promote transparency and reduce corruption in the public and private sectors will collaborate with several civic bodies and host its second Community Outreach activity on Wednesday, October 17, 2012 at the Golf View Hotel, Mandeville, commencing at 4:30 pm. The theme for the event is Combatting Corruption, Building Integrity, Engaging Communities.

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