

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Jamaica
Program Title:	Sustainable Improvement of Natural Resources
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	532-002
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$3,166,000 DA; \$100,000 DCA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$0
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 1999
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2004

Summary: USAID's strategy is to improve the quality of key natural resources in selected areas that are environmentally and economically significant including watersheds and coastal zones; support sustainable tourism through increased land under sustainable management; and improve the compliance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards in targeted coastal water sites. This is being achieved by increasing the adoption of environmentally sound practices; facilitating the adoption of policies for improved environmental management; and improving the management of wastewater treatment plants.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Increased adoption of environmentally friendly practices (\$1,712,000 DA). USAID will continue to train local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to more widely adopt sustainable environmental practices, such as improved sanitation and solid waste practices in rural areas, sustainable income-generating agricultural and livestock ventures, water quality monitoring, water harvesting techniques, and tree planting. Environmental audits and Green Globe environmental certification of small hotels and manufacturers in Port Antonio help make it a more competitive tourist destination. USAID will continue to support the pioneering work in local governance, again with a focus on Port Antonio, and will strengthen civil society groups and local agencies, such as the Destination Management Group, Watershed Management Committee, and the Parish Development Committee, to better plan and implement environmental protection policies and strategies. USAID will fund activities to strengthen the Jamaica Protected Areas Network by helping them develop and implement sustainability initiatives as well as educational and promotional materials, such as calendars and tourist guides. In addition, USAID will provide technical expertise to Jamaican organizations in the areas of forest resource development, eco/community tourism product development, and protected areas management. Principal contractors, grantees, and agencies include: Associates in Rural Development (ARD), PA Consulting Group (PACG), National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA), Jamaica Hotel and Tourist Association, Jamaica Manufacturer's Association, the USDA/Forest Service, and the Rural Agricultural Development Agency.

Increased adoption of policies for improved environmental management (\$1,000,000 DA). USAID will provide technical assistance to help finalize a new watershed policy for Jamaica and update the country's Watersheds Protection Act and Regulations. This will enhance the Government of Jamaica's capacity to better manage its precious environmental resources, which are key to maintaining the tourism industry, the main engine of economic growth on the island. Technical assistance efforts will also focus on implementation of the National Water Quality Monitoring Program as well as the introduction of the Blue Flag Beach Safety and Environmental Certification Scheme, which will make Jamaica a more attractive destination for international tourists seeking guarantees of safe and unpolluted tropical beaches. USAID will provide technical assistance to upgrade water testing laboratories and provide training for lab technicians and public awareness campaigns on the benefits of the Blue Flag program. Principal contractors, grantees, and agencies include ARD, PACG, NEPA, Social Development Commission, and the National Council on Ocean and Coastal Zone Management.

Improved management of wastewater treatment plants in targeted sites (\$254,000 DA). USAID will provide technical assistance to strengthen the institutional capacity of wastewater operators in Jamaica, from both the public and private sectors, to the Jamaica Wastewater Operators Association and the Wastewater Advisory Monitoring Committees. USAID will also explore developing a Development Credit Authority loan guarantee program for the water and sanitation sectors, in order to leverage private-sector capital to support water and sanitation projects in rural communities. Principal contractors, grantees, and agencies include ARD, National Water Commission, and possibly a private bank.

Audit, Evaluation & Project Design (\$200,000 DA). With a new strategic plan to begin in FY 2005, USAID will build on the achievements that have been made to date in addressing critical environmental issues through an integrated Ridge-to-Reef approach. Although the basic premise of an integrated natural resource management approach on which the current strategy has been built remains valid, USAID will seek to develop a new framework that incorporates a more comprehensive approach that includes socio-economic concerns. USAID will investigate the issues and areas of potential intervention including rural development, land use planning, and small-scale sanitation in preparation for new project activities/interventions in the new strategy. USAID will use the Biodiversity and Tropical Forestry Assessment completed in FY 2003 to analyze and design the most effective intervention for USAID in protected area and biodiversity management.

Principal contractors, grantees, and agencies will be identified by various USAID mechanisms, such as Indefinite Quantity Contracts (IQCs).

FY 2005 Program:

No new funds will be obligated into this SO in 2005. During this fiscal year, this SO will focus on ensuring the sustainability of program impacts and facilitating a smooth transition into the Mission's new strategy program.

Performance and Results: USAID has again successfully achieved its targets during the review year. The Ridge-to-Reef Watershed Program focused on watershed management and its critical linkage to coastal water quality. The Environmental Audits for Sustainable Tourism project continued to promote the adoption of environmental management systems in the tourism and manufacturing sectors, and the Coastal Water Quality Improvement Project worked on enhancing community involvement in water quality monitoring, while encouraging improved environmental management of waste water systems. In addition, a Development Credit Authority agreement was signed with a local bank, providing a credit guarantee that will make \$5 million accessible to the hotel and manufacturing sectors for environmental retrofitting. For the review period, the goal for the percent of land in targeted areas in the Great River and Rio Grande watersheds using appropriate practices for environmental management was 10 percentage points above the target level of 25%. In addition, the percentage of faecal coliform samples from target areas that are in compliance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards increased from 78% to 84%, representing an increase above the targeted level of 80%. With 43 targeted organizations successfully implementing environmental standards the target of 38 for this indicator was exceeded by 13%.

USAID has been assisting the Jamaican Government in the development of six policies under the present strategy: (i) the National Water Policy; (ii) the Sewage Connection Policy; (iii) the National Policy on Ocean and Coastal Zone Management; (iv) the National Watershed Policy; (v) the National Environmental Management Systems Policy; and (vi) Sewage Effluent Regulations.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Jamaica

532-002 Sustainable Improvement of Natural Resources	DA	DCA
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	12,168	0
Expenditures	10,086	0
Unliquidated	2,082	0
Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	3,353	53
Expenditures	2,188	0
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	15,521	53
Expenditures	12,274	0
Unliquidated	3,247	53
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	3,266	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	3,266	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	0	0
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	18,787	53