

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Jamaica
<b>Program Title:</b>	Enhancing Business Development in Jamaica
<b>Pillar:</b>	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	532-006
<b>Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:</b>	\$2,440,000 DA; \$150,000 DCA
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$0
<b>Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:</b>	\$0
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	FY 1999
<b>Year of Final Obligation:</b>	FY 2004

**Summary:** USAID's strategy to improve the business environment in Jamaica aims at reducing constraints to doing business and improving the skills of Jamaican businesses to help them to better compete in the global economy. Program initiatives include technical assistance, training, and equipment for the public and private sectors to increase efficiency; improving business skills of technologically-oriented companies in areas that will enable productivity improvements; and increasing the ability of small, medium, and micro enterprises to access a wider range of financial products and services.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

#### FY 2004 Program:

Key business constraints reduced and competition fostered (\$1,560,000 DA). USAID will provide technical assistance to help the private sector identify and address key legislation, regulations, and processes that are constraints to efficiently conducting business in Jamaica. Efforts will focus on such areas as streamlining mechanisms for tax payments and obtaining licenses, tax compliance certificates, and export permits. USAID-funded technical assistance will enhance Jamaica's trade capacity by improving the enforcement capabilities of the Fair Trading Commission and the Anti-Dumping and Subsidies Commission. USAID is supporting e-commerce and e-government initiatives to render a number of public sector institutions more efficient and responsive to their customer's needs. Principal implementing contractors, grantees, and agencies include Carana Corporation, the Jamaica Chamber of Commerce, Private Sector Organizations of Jamaica, and the Ministry of Commerce, Science and Technology.

Improvement of company skills (\$450,000 DA). USAID will support the development of competitive clusters in target sectors, including agribusiness, entertainment, and tourism. The goal is to help Jamaican businesses actively compete in global markets in a free trade environment. USAID-funded activities will include both direct training and technical assistance programs for those enterprises participating in the program as well as institutional strengthening activities for providers of business development services, training institutions, and private-sector umbrella organizations. Principal contractors, grantees and partners include Carana Corporation, Jamaica Exporters' Association, Management Institute for national Development (MIND), JAMPRO, Jamaica Manufacturers' Association, and the Institute of Management Sciences/Institute of Management & Production.

Private financing to the micro and small business sectors (\$430,000 DA). USAID's small business enterprise program will continue to expand and provide much needed lending capital to small- and micro-entrepreneurs while simultaneously giving them the skills they need to manage their cash flow appropriately. Through the high-profile migrants' remittance program, begun in October 2003, USAID will engage the Jamaican diaspora to address key social sector challenges by creating a fund that can be used for public sector education programs. This fund will be financed by reducing the transaction costs associated with transferring funds from overseas to Jamaica. Principal contractors and grantees will include the Jamaica National Building Society and Jamaica National Small Business Loans Ltd.

**FY 2005 Program:**

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

**Performance and Results:** This program has exceeded expectations for its overall targets. Activities aimed at improving the business skills and productivity tools of companies are progressing well, with 440 small, medium, and micro enterprises having received training in areas such as financial management, general accounting, marketing, strategic business planning, managing payroll systems, and effective leadership. The Cluster Competitiveness Project is now working in two of the three cluster industries that have been identified for assistance -- agribusiness and tourism. To date, approximately 120 firms are involved in these clusters and the numbers continue to grow. Through this program, Jamaican businesses will acquire the skills required to effectively enter and compete in the global economy. The micro-enterprise program, which began in two parishes, has now been expanded to all 14 parishes. New loans provided in the first nine months of CY 2003 totaled 3,463 for a total value of \$1.1 million, bringing the total number of loans since the commencement of the program to 26,069, valued at \$13.0 million. Of the 6,000 businesses expected to be registered during CY 2003, 4818 were registered by the end of September, and the program is on target to achieve its goal.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Jamaica

532-006 Enhancing Business Development in Jamaica	DA	DCA
<b>Through September 30, 2002</b>		
Obligations	9,293	0
Expenditures	5,290	0
Unliquidated	4,003	0
<b>Fiscal Year 2003</b>		
Obligations	2,837	53
Expenditures	3,645	0
<b>Through September 30, 2003</b>		
Obligations	12,130	53
Expenditures	8,935	0
Unliquidated	3,195	53
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>		
Obligations	0	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA</b>		
Obligations	2,590	0
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004</b>		
Obligations	2,590	0
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>		
Obligations	0	0
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	14,720	53