



# Government of Jamaica

Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture & Fisheries

MINISTRY PAPER

/2019



## Performance Report 2018 – 2019

***“Resilience Built, Future Secured”***

April 16, 2019

## Ministry Paper /2019

### Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture & Fisheries Performance Report 2018 – 2019

#### 1.0 Purpose

The matter for tabling is the Performance Report for the period April 2018 to March 2019 on the major programmes, initiatives, and projects undertaken by the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries for the development of the Agricultural, Manufacturing, and Service Sectors in Jamaica.

#### 2.0 Background

The Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries (MICAFA) has been charged with the responsibility of driving the production of primary agricultural produce, livestock and fisheries to widen the supply chains; and to integrate production up the value chain. This will facilitate public value and full commercialization of outputs of the agriculture, manufacturing, and services sectors. Of equal importance, the Ministry is one of the pillars that supports business development and trade facilitation which contributes to sustainable economic growth.

MICAFA has thirty-nine (39) divisions, forty (40) agencies and one (1) department that covers over (64) portfolio areas that impact key areas of development such as food safety; food and nutrition security; the business growth agenda; investment promotion; national quality infrastructure and trade facilitation. In 2017, Jamaica had a 2 percent growth in GDP and the country's unemployment rate was under 10 percent for the first time in 11-years. MICAFA was responsible for 33% of the country's GDP and 40.7% of the employed labour.

Since the merger of the portfolio components, MICAFA has been working to streamline, rationalize and build its institutional capacity to provide transformed, responsive and resilient sectors that will support the economic growth thrust of the government beyond the less than optimal rates of growth which has been a feature over many years.

#### 3.0 Overview of 2018 Performance of Key Sectors

In FY2018/19, the MICAFA and its portfolio Departments and Agencies implemented programmes, initiatives and projects that will facilitate “... **innovative, inclusive, sustainable and internationally competitive industries in agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing and service sectors**” (MICAFA's Vision 2018-2022). This is demonstrated in the calendar year 2018 performance of the agricultural, manufacturing and distributive trade sectors:

### 3.1 The Agricultural Sector

Real Value Added for the Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing industry grew by 4.2 per cent relative to 2017 and accounted for 7.2 per cent of Total Real Value Added. The improved performance was attributed mainly to more favourable weather conditions. The accumulated rainfall for 2018, although less than 2017, was considered more favourable as the above-normal rainfall across the island in 2017 led to widespread flooding which resulted in damage to crops and livestock, as well as a contraction in output. There was a reduction in output for all quarters of 2017 in contrast with 2018 which recorded growth in all quarters with the exception of the third quarter, which was flat.

Growth of the industry was also influenced by the continuation of programmes such as the Flood Recovery, Beet Army Worm and the Irish Potato programmes. These were aimed at reducing the effects of adverse weather conditions, pests and diseases. There was also the intensification of government programmes, which offered farmers support in the areas of extension service, irrigation and marketing, aimed at improving efficiency in the industry.

The Planning Institute of Jamaica's (PIOJ) Agriculture Production Index (API) showed that gross output increased for the sub-industries Other Agricultural Crops (7.2 per cent), Animal Farming (2.3 per cent) and Traditional Export Crops (0.8 per cent). Post-Harvest Activities declined by 27.9 per cent and Fishing by 23.6 per cent. Earnings from exports of traditional agricultural commodities (coffee, banana, citrus, cocoa and pimento) were valued at US\$18.6 million compared with US\$23.6 million in 2017. Declines in earnings were recorded for three of the five traditional crops. However, the largest decline was recorded for Coffee, which fell by 24.6 per cent to US\$14.6 million. Coffee accounted for 78.8 per cent of earning relative to 82.3 per cent of earnings in 2017.

#### Select Policy Initiatives

- Farm Road Rehabilitation Programme<sup>1</sup>
- National Irish Potato Programme and National Onion Development Plan<sup>2</sup>
- Frosty Pod Rot Management Project<sup>3</sup>
- New Industry Action Plans<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> For details see page 119

<sup>2</sup> For details see page 118

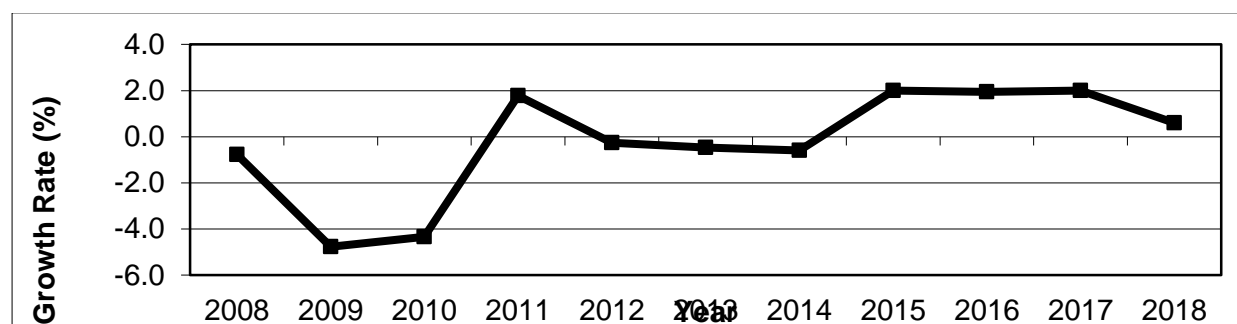
<sup>3</sup> For details see page 32

<sup>4</sup> For details see page 19 – 20; 52

### 3.2 The Manufacturing Sector

Real Value Added for the Manufacturing industry grew by 0.6 per cent representing the fourth consecutive year of growth and accounted for approximately 8.5 per cent of total Real Value Added in 2018. This outcome resulted from growth in the **Food, Beverages & Tobacco** and the **Other Manufacturing** sub-industries. Real Value Added for Food, Beverages & Tobacco and Other Manufacturing was estimated to have increased by 0.6 per cent each.

The increased output for *Food, Beverages & Tobacco* was driven by the expansion in output for Poultry Meat, Cornmeal, Dairy Products and Bakery Products. The performance of Other Manufacturing was bolstered by the improved performance of *Chemical and Chemical Products*. Further growth was stymied by reduced output for *Petroleum Products*.



CHANGE IN REAL VALUE ADDED FOR THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY, 2008-2018

### Financing

At the end of 2018, the stock of outstanding Loans & Advances at Commercial Banks to the Manufacturing industry was \$30 309.3 million relative to \$22 387.8 million at the end of December 2017 (Table 12.3). This was 35.4 per cent (real increase of 32.2 per cent) higher than the stock of loans at the end of 2017. The stock of Loans & Advances outstanding at Institutions Licensed under the Financial Institutions Act to the Manufacturing industry was \$320.0 million at the end of 2018 compared with \$363.6 million at the end of 2017

### Employment

The average annual employment for the Manufacturing industry increased to 79 600 persons, up from 79 425<sup>5</sup> in 2017. The Manufacturing industry's share of the total employed labour force remained relatively unchanged at 6.5 per cent. The average male employment increased by 1.6 per cent to 52 925 while female employment decreased by 2.5 per cent to 26 675. The average number of unemployed persons who last worked in the Manufacturing industry was 4 300 compared with 6 875 persons in 2017.

### Select Policy Initiatives

- Development of the Manufacturing Sector Strategy<sup>6</sup>
- Revision of National Quality Policy<sup>7</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Revised since 2018

<sup>6</sup> For details see page 19 - 20

### **3.3 The Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise Sector**

A review of General Consumption Tax (GCT) returns preliminary data showed that the number of Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) participating in economic activities, increased by one while total sales declined. The number of firms classified as Small and Micro that filed GCT returns was 10 513 firms (3 638 Small and 6 875 Micro) compared with 10 512 (3 557 Small and 6 955 Micro) in 2017. The marginal increase in the number of MSEs filing returns reflected an increase in the number of Small firms as the number of Micro firms decreased. Micro and Small Firms represented 80.0 per cent of all firms that filed returns. Sales for firms classified as Micro and Small that filed returns declined relative to 2017 and totalled \$63 784.6 million accounting for approximately 6.0 per cent of total sales. This reflected a decline in sales of Micro firms as the sales of Small firms increased.

#### **Financing**

The value of loans disbursed by Wholesale lenders decreased relative to 2017 with the primary agencies, the Development Bank of Jamaica (DBJ) and Micro Investment Development Agency (MIDA) declining by 4.0 per cent and 4.2 per cent, respectively. The total value of loans disbursed by MIDA to approved Micro Financing Institutions (MFI's) decreased by 4.1 per cent to approximately \$158.2 million. Of this sum, the MFI's disbursed a total of \$126.4 million to SME's, a decrease of 36.7 per cent. Disbursements by the Development Bank of Jamaica decreased by 4.0 per cent to \$ 2 265.4 million. Disbursements were allocated as follows:

- Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs) – \$1 699.2 million, up 7.0 per cent
- Approved Financial Institutions (AFIs) – \$566.2 million, down 24.4 per cent
- Direct – Nil
- National Peoples Co-operative Bank (NPCB) – Nil

#### **Employment**

Own Account Worker (sole trader) category was the second largest employment category, accounting for an average of 34.3 per cent of the employed labour force (a decrease of 0.6 per cent relative to 2017). There was a 0.4 per cent decrease to 416 975 in the average number of employed Own Account Workers (Figure 13A). The decrease in the average number of employed Own Account Workers reflected a decrease of 0.9 per cent in males employed from, 263 250 in 2017 to 260 750 in 2018. This outweighed a 0.4 per cent increase in females employed to 156 225 relative to 155 575 in 2017.

#### **Select Policy Initiatives**

- Development of the MSME Sector including the revision of Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (MSME) Policy (2018) <sup>8</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> For details see page 13

<sup>8</sup> For details see page 22 -24

### 3.4 The Wholesale and Retail Sector

The Wholesale & Retail Trade; Repair and Installation of Machinery industry (WRTRIM) recorded growth in Real Value Added of 0.9 per cent and accounted for 17.2 per cent of overall Gross Domestic Product (Figure 1). Growth in the industry was predicated on an overall increase in economic activity, influenced by:

- an improvement in the employed labour force by an average of 15 400 individuals
- an increase in the stock of Loans & Advances to both consumers and distributors from Commercial Banks and institutions licensed under the Financial Institutions Act (FIA)
- Respective increases of 13.0 per cent and 1.9 per cent in the annual average Consumer Confidence Index and Business Confidence Index.

Also contributing to growth in the industry was higher Real Value Added in the related Construction, Manufacturing and Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries industries. The improved out-turn for the industry was also buoyed by an increase in the volume (14.8 per cent) and real value (23.6 per cent) of Automated Banking Machine (ABM) and Point of Sale (POS) transactions combined. However, a constraining factor to the industry's performance was a 2.1 per cent real decrease in remittances.

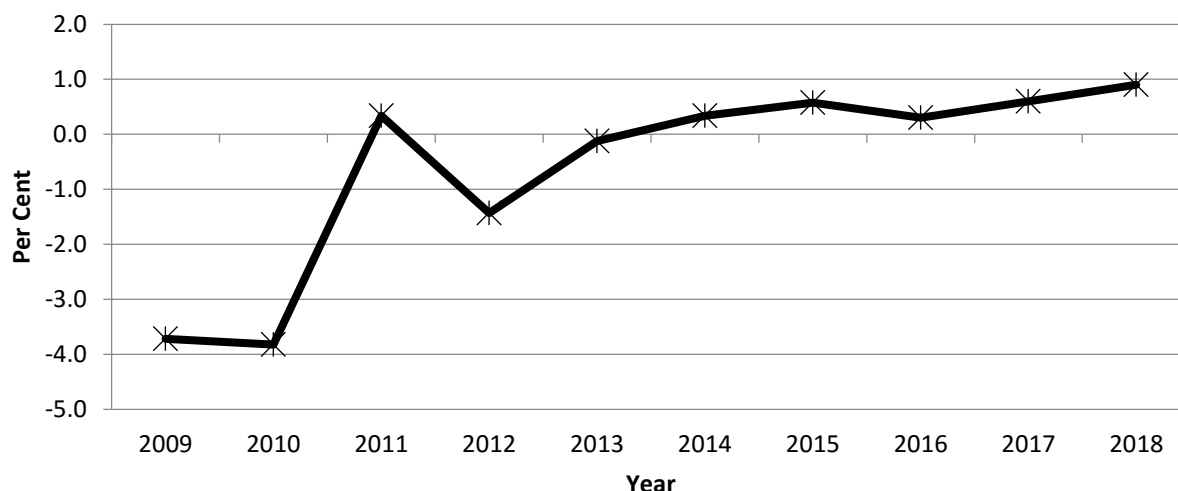


FIGURE 1: REAL VALUE ADDED GROWTH RATE OF THE WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE; REPAIR AND INSTALLATION OF MACHINERY INDUSTRY, 2009–2018

#### Employment

The Labour Force Survey undertaken by STATIN revealed that: An average of 238 550 persons were employed in the WRTRIM industry, the largest single employer grouping. There was an increase of 11 225 in the number of individuals employed

#### Select Policy Initiatives

- Operationalization of the National Compliance and Regulatory Agency (NCRA)<sup>9</sup>

<sup>9</sup> For details see page 107 - 108

## 4.0 Ministry's Priority Programmes, Initiatives and Projects

MICAF plays a pivotal role in facilitating inclusive Economic Growth and Job Creation as well as the implementation of key activities in the Economic Growth Agenda “5 in 4” Plan. As such, in FY2019/20 the Ministry continued to reposition the agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing and service sectors through the following programmes, initiatives and projects:

4.1 Policy and Legislative Development Agendas.....	8
4.2 Business and Trade Facilitation Programme.....	13
4.2.1 Commerce Division .....	13
4.2.2 Economic Planning Division .....	16
4.2.3 Industry Division .....	17
4.2.4 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Division .....	22
4.2.5 Trade Unit .....	25
4.2.5.1 National Trade Facilitation Programme.....	27
4.3 Agricultural Health and Food Safety Programmes .....	28
4.3.1 GLOBAL G.A.P Certification Programme .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
4.3.2 Food Storage and Prevention of Infestation Programme.....	28
4.3.3 Plant Quarantine and Produce Inspection (PQ/PI) Programme .....	30
4.3.4 Praedial Larceny Prevention Coordination Programme .....	33
4.3.5 Veterinary Services Programme .....	38
4.4 Fisheries Development Programme .....	41
4.5 Research and Development Initiatives .....	44
4.6 Modernization and Transformation of the Ministry and its Entities/Divisions Programme .....	49
4.6.1 ISO Quality Management System Programme .....	49
4.6.2 Cooperate Services Programme .....	51
4.7 GOJ/Adaptation Fund – Enhancing the Resilience of the Agricultural Sector and Coastal Areas to Improve Livelihoods and Increase Food Security .....	53
4.8 Agricultural Competitiveness Programme Bridging Project (ACBPB) .....	54
AGRO-INVESTMENT CORPORATION (AiC) .....	58
ANTI-DUMPING AND SUBSIDIES COMMISSION (ADSC).....	61
THE BANANA BOARD .....	64
BUREAU OF STANDARDS JAMAICA (BSJ) .....	65
CANNABIS LICENSING AUTHORITY (CLA) .....	68

COCONUT INDUSTRY BOARD.....	70
CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMISSION.....	72
DEPARTMENT OF COOPERATIVES AND FRIENDLY SOCIETIES (DCFS) .....	77
EXIM BANK.....	79
FAIR TRADING COMMISSION (FTC).....	81
HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES REGULATORY AUTHORITY (HSRA) .....	85
JAMAICA 4-H CLUBS.....	89
JAMAICA AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY (JACRA) .....	91
JAMAICA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY (JAS).....	93
JAMAICA BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (JBDC).....	96
JAMAICA DAIRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD (JDDDB) .....	100
JAMAICA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE (JIPO) .....	102
JAMAICA NATIONAL AGENCY FOR ACCREDITATION (JANAAC) .....	105
MICRO INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT AGENCY LIMITED (MIDA).....	107
NATIONAL COMPLIANCE REGULATORY AUTHORITY (NCRA).....	109
NATIONAL IRRIGATION COMMISSION (NIC).....	111
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT TRUSTEE (OGT) .....	114
OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR OF INSOLVENCY (OSI) .....	116
RURAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (RADA).....	119
TRADE BOARD LIMITED (TBL).....	123



## 4.1 Policy and Legislative Development Agendas

The Ministry seeks to formulate and review policies and legislations in accordance with the objectives and goals of Vision 2030. The policies and legislations support the Ministry's strategic priorities to facilitate an enabling planning, legislative and policy framework. This is to ensure food security, sustainable use of agricultural land and fisheries resources and facilitate an enabling local business environment. In addition, the legislative framework enhances the development of sound policy for key sub-sectors using a participatory approach.

### **Aim**

To provide an enabling planning, legislative and policy framework to ensure food security, sustainable use of agricultural lands and fisheries resources and to facilitate an enabling local business environment.

### **Planned Targets for 2018/19**

#### ***Policies***

The Planned targets for 2018/19 were to develop and submit to Cabinet for approval:

#### **I. National Consumer Affairs Policy and Implementation Plan**

The development a National Consumer Affairs Policy and Implementation Plan seeks to promote consumer welfare and the protection of their interests. The primary objectives of this policy are to:

- i. maximize consumer welfare through empowerment and protection delivered by a coordinated national consumer affairs strategy; and
- ii. strengthen consumer affairs at the member state level, in readiness for alignment to the Regional Consumer Strategy.

#### **II. National Organic Agriculture Policy and Implementation Plan**

The introduction of the Organic Agriculture Policy and Plan will seek to take advantage of the tremendous opportunities in the global organic movement. It is intended to provide the framework for guiding all organic agriculture-related development and implementation. The objectives of the policy are to provide a framework for:

- i. Increase production and trade of organic products primarily by development of new niche markets;
- ii. Create an enabling environment for the development of the organic sector;
- iii. Reduce environmental degradation and support enhancement of ecological services;
- iv. Promote consumption of locally produced organic food/products;
- v. Contribute to social equity, food security and improved health of the nation; and
- vi. Increase stakeholder awareness about the importance and benefits of organic production.

### **Key Achievements for 2018/19**

- The development of a National Organic Agriculture Policy and Implementation Plan approved by Cabinet.
- Approval by Cabinet of the MSME and Entrepreneurship Policy and Implementation Plan as White Paper. The Policy and Plan were also tabled in Parliament. Implementation of the Plan commenced.
- Approval by Cabinet for the revised National Quality Policy and Implementation Plan as Green Paper. The Policy and Plan were also tabled in Parliament.
- National Seed Policy and Action Plan tabled in Parliament as a Green Paper.
- Cabinet approved the development of a National Consumer Affairs Policy and Implementation Plan.
- Cabinet approved the development of a National Services Policy and Implementation Plan.
- The National Craft Policy was tabled in Parliament as a Green Paper.

### **Principal Focus for 2019/2020**

In 2019/20, the Ministry will seek to develop and submit to Cabinet for Approval:

1. National Quality Policy and Implementation Plan

The Ministry will seek the Cabinet's approval of the National Quality Policy, as a White Paper.

2. National Youth in Agriculture Policy and Implementation Plan

The Ministry will seek to re-submit to Cabinet for approval the Youth in Agriculture Policy.

3. National Organic Agriculture Policy and Implementation Plan

The Ministry will seek to complete and submit to Cabinet for approval the Organic Agriculture Policy.

4. National Consumer Affairs Policy and Implementation Plan

The Ministry will seek the Cabinet's approval of the Consumer Affairs Policy, as a Green Paper.

5. National Services Policy and Implementation Plan

The Ministry will seek to complete and submit to Cabinet for approval the Services Policy.

6. National Craft Policy and Implementation Plan

The Ministry will seek the Cabinet's approval of the National Craft Policy, as a White Paper.

7. National Seed Policy and Action Plan

The Ministry will seek the Cabinet's approval of the National Seed Policy, as a White Paper.

8. National Investment Policy

The Ministry will seek to complete and submit to Cabinet for approval as a Green Paper.

## ***Legislations***

### **Key Achievements for 2018/19**

#### **Legislations enacted**

**1. The Fisheries Act:**

This Act was passed on December 24, 2018 after the passing of several years. The Act repeals and replaces the existing Fishing Industry Act for the better management of the Fishing Industry. The Act will commence on a day to be appointed by the Minister.

**2. The Protection of Plant Genetics for Food and Agriculture (Amendment) Bill, 2018:**

This Bill was passed in the House of Representatives on February 26, 2019. The Bill seeks to integrate certain functions of the Management Authority established under the Protection of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Act, 2013 (“principal Act”) into the Ministry responsible for agriculture through its Research and Development Division. The Bill also seeks to remove the body corporate status from the Management Authority and to designate the Research and Development Division of the Ministry responsible for agriculture (or any other entity so designated by ministerial order), as the Management Authority. The Bill also seeks to establish a Plant Genetic Resource Advisory Task Force in order to carry out the advisory functions as set out in the principal Act.

**3. The Protection of Geographical Indications (Amendment) Act and Regulations, 2017:** The Bill was passed in both Houses of Parliament in March 2018 and came in operation on May 14, 2018. The Act and Regulations are being amended to accord the highest level of protection for geographical indications afforded by the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights.

### **Principal Focus – 2019/2020**

#### **Legislations to be passed during the legislative year:**

**1. Amendment of the Agro-Investment Corporation Act, 2010**

The amendment to the Act is to provide for the management of a pool of funds, inter alia, and any other provisions required in order to empower the Agro-Investment Corporation to perform the functions presently undertaken by the Agricultural Support Services and Productive Projects Fund Limited. The amendment to the Act seeks to also increase the complement of the Board to a minimum of six and a maximum of twelve members and to provide for the qualifications of members of the Board to include proficiency in matters relating to property management, procurement, accounting and auditing.

**2. The Protection of Plant Genetics for Food and Agriculture (Amendment) Bill, 2018:**

The next stage in the Legislative process in respect of the Bill is for same to be passed in the Senate and to come into effect.

**3. *The Plants and Plant Products (Inspection and Quarantine) Bill***

To make new provision for plant quarantine and produce inspection activities and to establish a department of Government to be known as the Plant Quarantine and Produce Inspection Branch for the management thereof; to prescribe measures to prohibit the entry and establishment of plant pests; to prescribe measures to ensure the importation and exportation of only the highest quality pest free plants, plant products and other regulated articles; to repeal the Plants (Quarantine) Act; and for connected purposes.

**4. *Amendment of the Animals (Diseases and Importation) Act***

The amendment to the Act is to facilitate importation, distribution, storage etc. of animals and animal products and by-products with regard to disease prevention and safety.

**5. *Amendment of the Veterinary Act***

The amendment to the Act is to correct the inherent deficiencies in the existing Act, ensuring that the Act's objectives are met and that it maintains relevance by responding to new developments in Veterinary Medicine.

**6. The Food Storage and Prevention of Infestation (Amendment) Act and Regulation**

The Bill was passed in the Lower House and same is to be advanced to the Senate. It is anticipated that the Bill will be passed as an Act of Parliament and gazetted by May 2019. The Act and regulations are amended to modernise and strengthen the enforcement powers of the Food Storage Division.

**7. The Patents and Designs Bill**

It is anticipated that the Bill will be passed as an Act of Parliament and gazetted by July 2019. When passed it will significantly fulfil Jamaica's obligations as a party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property and will reflect the requirements of the Agreement on the Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property and the Bilateral Agreement between Jamaica and the United States of America.

**8. Legislation for a modified insolvency framework applicable for financial institutions.**

This new piece of legislation deals with insolvency regime for financial institutions in Jamaica. This new act comprises of two arms, the administrative/ resolution regime and the insolvency regime.

9. **The Co-operatives Societies (Amendment) Act:** The Bill is currently being reviewed by key stakeholders and the Attorney General's Chambers (AGC) for finalization. The Bill seeks to place the activities of Credit Unions within the regulatory ambit of the Bank of Jamaica (BOJ); develop Youth Credit Unions, register deposit taking businesses, amalgamation, conversion and acquisitions among other things; restrict the deposit taking activities of the Co-operative Societies.
10. **The Trade Marks Act and Rules:** The Bill is now finalized and has been submitted to the Attorney General's Chamber for approval and for submission to the Legislative Committee. The Act and Rules are being amended to incorporate the Madrid Protocol into local law. This will allow for the international registration of trademarks and the strengthening of JIPO to process applications.
11. **Companies (Amendment) Act:** The Act is being amended to strengthen the efficient operation of companies in Jamaica by inter alia providing the following :
- Provisions for greater efficiency in the incorporation of companies
  - Revise provisions in relation to Mutual Fund Companies to confirm with international best practices
  - Include provision to address the transfer of shares , the treatment of redeemable shares and Provide greater protection for minority shareholders
  - Clarify provisions in relation to company meetings and proceedings
  - Provide greater transparency regarding directors and shareholders (in order to protect against money laundering and terrorism financing activities)
12. **The National Compliance and Regulatory Authority Act and related Legislations**
- To establish an independent regulatory body responsible for regulatory functions previously undertaken by the Bureau of Standards Jamaica (BSJ) in keeping with WTO guidelines. The Bill is being drafted by the Chief Parliamentary Counsel.

**Regulations to be passed during legislative year 2019/2020:**

- Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Regulations
- The Trade (Motor Vehicle Import) Regulations
- Copyright (Licensing Bodies) Regulations
- Trade Mark Rules
- Companies Record Management Rules

## **4.2 Business and Trade Facilitation Programme**

The internal divisions under the Ministry focused on enhancing the business and trade environment; protecting and improving consumer welfare and development of industry and business. The specific priorities undertaken in 2018/19 are detailed below:

### **4.2.1 Commerce Division**

#### **Aim**

The overall focus of the Division is the development of policies and programmes that facilitate commerce and govern how business and trade activities are conducted in Jamaica. The Division, therefore, is responsible for designing, recommending and implementing policies, strategies, programmes and regulations that will ensure a stable, competitive and transparent commercial environment aimed at increasing commercial activities, sustaining businesses and promoting export.

#### **Objective**

To manage the domestic business and commercial environment to ensure that it operates efficiently and balances the interests of all stakeholders to achieve the greatest public good

#### **Planned Targets for 2018/2019**

- Complete the National Quality Policy
- Develop a National Consumer Policy
- Implement Pre-Shipment Inspection Certification Programme
- Facilitate the importation of used tyres for the sugar and agricultural sectors
- Manage Commodities Monitoring Mechanisms
- Facilitate capacity building programmes for the commercial sector
- Represent the issues of the commercial sector in regional and international fora
- Monitor operational activities and policy issues of assigned portfolio agencies
- Facilitate and increase the use of trade mechanisms and treaty guidelines to support the commercial sector
- Development of a Technical Regulations Regime to coordinate the preparation, adoption, application and enforcement of technical regulations
- Ensure the Gazetting of Jamaican Standards

#### **Key Achievements for 2018/2019**

- National Quality Policy
  - Green Paper completed and tabled in Parliament
  - White Paper completed for submission to Cabinet
- Established Policy Steering Committee for the National Consumer Policy and draft policy framework prepared
- Completed organizational structure for the establishment of a technical regulations directorate within the Ministry

- Facilitated five (5) training and sensitization sessions for the development of technical regulations
- Facilitated the importation of used tyres specifically for the sugar and agricultural sector through the enactment and extension of the Trade (Prohibition of Importation) (Used Tyres) (No. 2) Order
- Maintained monitoring and licensing framework for cement and clinker and facilitated twelve (12) import licenses for importation of cement and clinker into Jamaica
- Provided business facilitation support to sixty (60) companies
- Processed sixty seven (67) requests for suspension of the Common External Tariff to allow for the temporary derogation from the applicable rates of duty on inputs for the manufacturing sector for goods valued at approximately USD\$592,643,407.16
- Processed twenty-nine (29) safeguard requests for the manufacturing sector to allow for the use of extra regional material in the manufacturing process and for the export of the finished products to CARICOM territories without being subject to import duties and other restrictions
- Provided one hundred and six (106) responses to CARICOM's enquiries regarding availability of local products
- Facilitated the approval of one hundred and twenty two (122) notices of exemption, ninety (90) licences and nine (9) extensions of exemption in keeping with the Ministry's statutory obligations under the Companies Act.
- Gazetted sixty five (65) Standards as Jamaican Standards
- Managed the issues of the CARICOM Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) falling under the ministry's portfolio in keeping with the treaties that govern intra-regional trade and with national, regional and international obligations
- Represented portfolio issues at the 46<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> Meetings of the CARICOM Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED)
- Provided technical input and support for the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the COTED Customs Committee; First Meeting of the Strategic Working Group on Alcoholic Beverage Products; and the Seventy-Seventh Special Meeting of the COTED
- Maintained CARICOM Monitoring Mechanisms for Rice, Red Kidney Beans, Cement and Sugar as required by the Caribbean Community Secretariat
- Participated in twenty-five (25) work permit meetings and reviewed one thousand two hundred and thirty nine (1,239) portfolio related applications for work permit
- Monitored the operational activities and policy issues of thirteen (13) portfolio agencies
- Completed for consideration a proposal for the exchange of GOJ owned property with lands owned by Guardian Life Limited

## **Principal Focus for 2019/2020**

### ***Annual Budget 2019/20 - \$25,651,000***

#### Policy Priorities

- Ensure that policies and legislations related to the commercial trade operations are developed, reviewed and amended to ensure a stable competitive and transparent commercial environment.
  - ✓ Completion of the National Consumer Policy (Green Paper)
  - ✓ Implementation the Revised National Quality Policy
  - ✓ Revision the Motor Vehicle Import Policy 2014
  - ✓ Enhance (effect changes to) the Motor Vehicle Pre Inspection Programme

#### National Quality Infrastructure

- Implement the Technical Regulations Regime to coordinate the preparation, adoption, application and enforcement of technical regulations
- Ensure the Declaration and Gazetting of Jamaican Standards

#### Commodities Monitoring

- Monitor specific commodities and levels of imports to ensure consistent and quality of supplies to meet the demands of the market; to ensure consistency with national developmental objectives; to make policy recommendations and ensure policy adjustments as necessary; and ensure that import licensing regimes are appropriate
- Redesign the distributive trade arrangement to provide greater support in addressing the needs, challenges and issues impacting the commercial sector
- Ensure that the Ministry's obligations under the Companies Act and Charities Act are met

#### Data Capacity Improvement

- Increase and strengthen the analysis and use of data

#### Public Education and Capacity Building

- Increase structured engagement of the commercial sector through public education and sensitization programmes targeted at strengthening capacities to grow businesses, facilitate trade and increase exports
- Facilitate programmes to increase the exploitation of the opportunities to supply local and regional demand
- Increase capacity building programme for private sector to increase exports and enhance the competencies of the commercial and agricultural sectors to increase trade under the various trade agreements

#### Use of Trade Instruments and Measures

- Continue to promote the increased use of the regional and international measures and treaty guidelines to support the commercial sector
  - ✓ Process suspensions of the Common External Tariff to allow for the temporary derogation from the applicable rates of duty on inputs for the manufacturing sector for goods.
  - ✓ Process safeguards applications to facilitate the manufacturing sector to allow for the use of extra regional material in the manufacturing process and for the export of the finished products to CARICOM territories without being subject to import duties and other restrictions.
  - ✓ Support the elimination of restrictions on exports of products of community origin

#### Regional and International Representation

- Ensure that Jamaica's interests are represented in the continued CARICOM review of the Common External Tariff and Rules of Origin under the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas
- Represent the issues of the commercial sector in regional and international for a

#### Portfolio Agencies Monitoring and Support

- Improve the support provided to the assigned portfolio agencies and increase the monitoring of policy and operational activities of the agencies
- Secure resolution for the compensation for consumers affected by the contaminated petrol
- Pursue approval from CARICOM for the adjustment in the tariff for cement and clinker imports to Jamaica
- Seek approval for the investment proposal for the construction of a cement grinding plant in Jamaica



- Complete the merger of Fair Trading Commission and the Consumer Affairs Commission in keeping with the accelerated programme for the rationalization of public bodies
- Implement mechanisms to address the alleged leakage of sugar
- Ensure the completion of the legal separation of the National Compliance and Regulatory Authority from the Bureau of Standards, Jamaica

#### **4.2.2 Economic Planning Division**

##### **Aims and Objectives**

To enhance the performance of the agricultural sector through the formulation of policies, economic plans, programmes and projects within the National Plan. The Division consists of three (3) Units as listed below:

- Macro-planning & Data Analysis;
- Micro-planning and
- Farm Management.

The primary activities include preparing Cabinet Submissions/notes, project proposals, policy/plan/programme/project appraisals, industry profiles, position papers, farm models and conducting cost of production surveys for crop and livestock enterprises.

##### **Planned Targets**

1. Development of a comprehensive climate change projects for the sector to be submitted to the Green Climate Fund;
2. Conduct Cost of Production Estimates for 20 domestic crops island-wide;
3. Review and analyze the Food Import Bill quarterly;
4. Review and analyse the FAO's World Food Prices;
5. Develop at least 5 project proposals for funding;
6. Appraise at least 10 project proposals;
7. Provide technical support to policies, programmes, plans, projects as requested;
8. Developed Cabinet Submissions as requested.

##### **Key Achievements**

- At least five project proposals were developed and submitted to the PIMSEC Secretariat
- Cost of Production Estimates were developed for nineteen (19) crops within the parishes of Westmoreland, St. Elizabeth, Manchester and Clarendon;
- Technical support provided to 10 projects projects/plans/policies.
- Provided coordination and divestment support for MICAF properties;
- Provided appraisal work for at least 16 policies/programmes and projects with various MDAs.

## Principal Focus for FY 2019/2020

### *Annual Budget 2019/20 - \$32,553,000*

1. Strengthen the National Food and Nutrition Security and Safety Systems through the development of projects, farm models, industry plans and Cost of Production analysis
2. Strengthen the strategic planning framework for the agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing and services sectors through the appraisal of policies, sector plans and projects as well as the preparation of Cabinet Submissions/Notes
3. Contribute to building an environmentally sustainable agriculture sector through the development of a climate change strategy and action plan
4. Create an enabling environment to support the growth of industries in agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing and services sectors through the development and expansion of databases
5. Continue to provide technical support in the development of a comprehensive climate change project for the sector to be submitted to the Green Climate Fund

## 4.2.3 Industry Division

### Aims and Objectives

- To support/facilitate the development of globally competitive industry structures.
- To support/facilitate export development, diversification and expansion.
- To support/facilitate initiatives geared towards business facilitation through streamlining business approval processes and rectifying bureaucratic inefficiencies.
- To identify business opportunities to help increase participation of the productive sector in the global value chain (GVC).

### Planned Targets for 2018/19

1. **Policy Framework Development-** Advancement of the National Bamboo Industry Development Plan; initiate comprehensive review of National Industrial Policy; advance development of National Services Policy; support further development of the Cannabis and Hemp Regime.
2. **Strengthen Value Added Services for the Productive Sector-** Streamline the technical review process for the granting of manufacturing status to companies under the Productive Input Relief Facility (PIR) as part of the Omnibus Fiscal Incentive Regime.
3. **Improve the policy advocacy role of the Division through partnership and strengthening of external linkages-** Collaborate with the Jamaica Manufacturers' Association (JMA) in completing the Manufacturing Growth Strategy; continue to play a coordinating role (support to the Secretariat) in the implementation of the National Export Strategy (NESII) as MICAF's focal point for the Agro-Processing Cluster; advancement of the Business Environment Reform Agenda, including participation in the Border Regulatory Agencies (BRA) Committee where a revision of the practices of these agencies and the laws

which govern them will be undertaken with a view to streamlining cumbersome bureaucratic procedures.

4. **Support/ facilitate the implementation of strategic programmes/ projects-** To play a lead coordinating role and provide strategic leadership in the implementation of a one-year pilot Alternative Development Project geared towards transitioning illicit ganja farmers into the regulated industry that was approved by Cabinet.

## **Key Achievements for FY 2017/18**

### National Craft Policy

The Craft Policy was approved by Cabinet at the end of the 2017 calendar year and subsequently tabled in Parliament as a Green Paper. Following that, the Industry Division sought to advance the policy development process by embarking on the next round of stakeholder consultations for transition to White Paper stage. The review process was completed and activities begun for submission to Cabinet for approval as a White Paper, which is scheduled to be done early within the first quarter of FY2019/2020.

### National Services Policy

The development of the National Services Policy (NSP) is being led by the Industry Division in collaboration with the Trade Unit. The policy is intended to strengthen the services sector in order to ensure its sustainability and continuous growth while positively impacting and complementing the manufacturing sector. A draft concept paper was done following first round of consultation with key stakeholders, and thereafter submitted to Cabinet for approval to proceed with the policy development process. It is expected that the necessary approval will be provided early within the first quarter of FY2019/2020.

### Cannabis Alternative Development (AD) Programme

By way of Cabinet Decision Number 1/17 dated January 9, 2017, Cabinet gave approval for the implementation of a Cannabis Alternative Development (AD) Program in Jamaica. Consequently, the Industry Division has been working closely with the Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA) in the development of the Alternative Development (AD) Project that is being implemented for one year in the first instance. Through the transition of traditional cannabis farmers from an illicit framework into the regulated industry, the programme seeks to provide an avenue for improving living standards in rural communities thereby contribute to poverty eradication, and provide a means of sustainable economic development. The two communities targeted for the projects are Orange Hill, Westmoreland and Accompong, St. Elizabeth. Following policy directives issued by the MICAFA portfolio Minister, project funds to the tune of \$15mill was identified. Thereafter, a project team was formed and an Oversight Committee established to begin project activities. The launch of the pilot project is scheduled early within the first quarter of the FY2019/2020.

### Development of the Manufacturing Sector

- *Facilitate administration of the Productive Input Relief (PIR) Facility (The Omnibus Fiscal Incentive Regime):*

The Industry Division played a key role in administering the PIR facility along with the Jamaica Customs Agency (JCA), which involves the technical review of applications for companies seeking to attain ‘manufacturing status’ under the Omnibus Incentive Regime. This involved making company referrals to the JCA and conducting joint site visits to the production location of companies. Upon approval, companies are able to access the relevant fiscal incentives primarily, duty relief on productive inputs.

For the fiscal year 2018/2019 the following were achieved:

- i) Total number of referrals to JCA- 101
  - ii) Total number of joint site visits conducted- 791
  - iii) Total number of companies benefited from the PIR facility – 63
- *Manufacturing National 5 Year Growth Strategy*  
The Industry Division collaborated with JAMPRO and the Jamaica Manufacturers’ and Exporters’ Association (JMEA) in developing a National 5 Year Growth Strategy. This five year strategy is being developed to focus attention on the business environment necessary to grow and expand Jamaica’s manufacturing industry and increase its contribution to GDP and the country’s economic development objectives. Specifically, the strategy puts forward a set of strategic initiatives (and seeks to prioritize key existing initiatives) geared towards growing the contribution of the manufacturing sector to 12% of GDP by December 2023. The Industry Division with technical support from JAMPRO completed review of the latest draft of the document with comments from key Ministries including MoFPS, MEGJC, and MEYL. Final internal review and approval from the Permanent Secretary is awaited for onward submission to Cabinet.

#### Implementation of the National Export Strategy (NES II)

Industry Division continued to perform duties as designated MICAF focal point for the Agro-Processing/ Agri-Business Priority Sector. This entailed providing technical support to the priority sectors and cross-cutting areas outlined by the Strategy through the coordination of stakeholder activities for various NES Committees, and providing technical input for the development of market driven interventions. The Strategy is intended to contribute towards the achievement of a goods export target of 2.5bn and a services export target of 3.2bn by 2019.

#### Development of the Bamboo Industry in Jamaica

- *National Bamboo Industry Development Plan (NBIP):*  
The Division collaborated with the Planning institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) for implementation of the Peckham Bamboo Pre-processing Project that involved conducting extensive community consultation in Peckham, Clarendon regarding the objectives of the Peckham Bamboo Pre-processing Project and the need for development of a Bamboo policy framework. As a result, the Industry Division began preparatory activities for development of NBIP including drafting an action plan for the framework development process. Approval

was sought and obtained by the Chief Technical Director of Industry and Commerce. Following that, development of the draft bamboo industry development plan got underway.

- *Caribbean International Bamboo Symposium:*

By way of Cabinet Decision # 28/18 dated August 7, 2018, approval was granted to host the first Caribbean International Bamboo Symposium held on November 27-28, 2018 at the Jamaica Conference Centre. the specific objectives of which was to provide a forum for expanded dialogue, highlighting best practices on green economic growth and increased regional and international trade and investment in Bamboo; and to agree on and develop a roadmap for a new regional program “Bamboo for the Caribbean” that enables CARICOM Member States to fully realize the potential of their bamboo resources. The Division played a key coordinating role in the successful hosting of the event.

## Principal Focus for FY 2019/20

*A total of \$31,612,000 is committed to the Industry Division's Budget.*

- Policy Framework Development- Based on high level decision, the Division will focus on Policy Framework Development:  
Industry Division will continue its focus on accelerating the development of several policy documents which include: a National Services Policy, National Bamboo Industry Development Plan, National Craft Policy and the National Industrial Policy.
- Strengthen value added services for the productive sector:  
Continue efforts to streamline the application process for the granting of manufacturing status to companies under the Productive Input Relief Facility (PIR) as part of the Omnibus Incentive Regime.
- Improve the policy advocacy role of the Division through strengthening external linkages:  
This will be done through continuous collaboration with sector interest groups, other Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) in order to better identify and address issues affecting the productive sector.
- Support/ facilitate the implementation of strategic programs/ projects:  
Continue to play a lead coordinating role in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of a one-year pilot Alternative Development Project geared towards transitioning illicit ganja farmers into the regulated industry that was approved by Cabinet.

#### **4.2.4 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Division**

##### **Aim and Objectives**

To facilitate the development of a policy environment towards achieving the GOJ vision of “inclusive growth” with a robust MSME sector, contributing measurably to economic growth and job creation.

##### **Planned Targets for Fiscal Year 2018/2019:**

- Establish two (2) additional Sub-working groups (Business Enabling and Capacity Building) of the MSME Thematic Working
- Facilitate the work of the technical consultant to assess the efficacy and feasibility of establishing a MSME Fund, utilizing unclaimed funds held within financial institutions and insurance companies;
- Complete MIDA restructuring with a focus on wholesale lending to productive MSMEs, and facilitate the relocation of MIDA to MICAF on 4 St. Lucia Avenue for greater efficiency and effectiveness;  
Facilitate the launch the 400 million Concessionary Pilot Loan Facility for productive MSMEs with JN Small Business Loans;
- Coordinate the implementation of IFC Final Consultancy Report containing recommendations for improving the Secured Transactions Regime and the National Personal Property Registry in Jamaica;
- Facilitate public education on the SIPPA;
- Facilitate the tabling of the Micro Credit Bill in May 2018, with the Bank of Jamaica being established as the Regulator for the Industry;
- Collaborate with the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service for the tabling of the Public Procurement Special and Differential Treatment (SDT) Regulations;
- Facilitate capacity building initiatives for MSMEs and procuring entities to ensure wide compliance with the SDT Regulations and the maximization of the intended benefits for the MSME sector;
- Continue work to establish a data collection mechanism for the MSME sector towards the provision of credible data on the MSME sector:
  - Facilitate the capture of : demographic (gender, age, formality status, geographical location, educational status, type of business); financing data (total financing, total credit, source of fund, type of products) among others
- Facilitate the implementation and expansion of the SBDC Network in Jamaica;
- Implement Phase III of the SBDC Project;
- Establish a Social Enterprise Code of Ethics for Jamaica, and promote the establishment of a legal structure for social enterprises within the Jamaican legislation;
- Increase outreach and information dissemination to the MSME sector;
- Launch of a MSME Resources Search Tool which contains a Catalogue of MSME Initiatives and opportunities for improving the growth and development of the MSME Sector in Jamaica.

### **Key Achievements – Fiscal Year 2018/2019:**

- Established the National Policy Implementation Committee to oversee the implementation of the MSME and Entrepreneurship Policy;
- Established the Business Development and Capacity Building Sub-working group;
- Advanced discussions towards establishing the Business Enabling Environment Sub-working group. Terms of referenced developed and circulated to prospective committee members and feedback received and incorporated;
- Facilitated the engagement of technical consultancy to assess the efficacy and feasibility of establishing a MSME Fund, utilizing unclaimed funds held within financial institutions and insurance companies with official start on February 25, 2019. Successfully coordinated and facilitated the team's first inward mission to Jamaica - **February 25 to March 1, 2019**. This included: 1) Inception Meeting with senior members of MICAF including the HM Shaw and HM Floyd Green, 2) a Vision Engineering Workshop, comprising members of the Consulting Team, Project Supervisory Committee and private and public sector stakeholders. Inception Report, representing Deliverable 1 was submitted.
- Prepared Cabinet Submission for the rationalization of MIDA, including recommendations for its functions to be folded into the operations of the EXIM Bank for presentation to Cabinet for review and approval;
- Facilitated the relocation of MIDA's operations into MICAF's 4 St. Lucia Office location;
- Developed Policy Document containing 55 Policy Measures for reducing MSME informality in Jamaica;
- Prepared Term Sheet for the MSME Capital and Business Loan Programme (MSME/CBL to be administered by the EXIM Bank);
- Prepared Memorandum of Agreement between GoJ (MICAF) and EXIM Bank to administer the MSME/CBL Programme to productive MSMEs, including a special line of credit to JN Small Business Loan (JNSBL) for productive micro businesses;
- Prepared Cabinet Note related to the implementation of the MSME/CBL Programme to be administered by the EXIM Bank;
- Facilitated the extension of the Business Advisory Service Agreement between MICAF and the IFC related to the project for Enhancing Secured Transaction Regime (STR) in Jamaica. The focus of the extension will be to ***“Conduct a Market Study to identify existing qualities and potential for increase of secondary markets for the manufacturing sectors”***;
- Facilitated the tabling of the Micro Credit Bill in February 2019;
- Collaborated with the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service in the tabling of the Public Procurement Special and Differential Treatment (SDT) Regulations in July 2018;
- Completed draft Concept Paper for a MSME National Enterprise Data Repository Project to access World Bank grant funding;
- Commenced the capturing of MSME financing data with focus on: number and volume of monthly disbursement and approval, employment created and maintained;



- Facilitated the implementation of Phase III of the SBDC Project and the establishment of three (3) new SBDCs in Jamaica (Northern Caribbean University, Mandeville; Caribbean Maritime Institute; RADA, Trelawny);
- Developed a draft Social Enterprise Code of Practice (ethics, values and behaviors), for National Consultation;
- Launched the MSME Resources Search Tool with approximately 70 MSME Initiatives for improving the growth and development of the sector.

### **Principal Focus for Fiscal Year 2019/2020:**

*The overall budget for FY 2019/20 is J\$38,612,057.20 for MSME Sub-programme.*

- Focus on the implementation of the MSME and Entrepreneurship Policy and Implementation Plan, specifically monitoring and implementation arrangements of the activities contained in Plan, with oversight provided by the National Policy Implementation Committee;
- Monitor the timely completion of Technical Report on Unclaimed Funds Project for Jamaica, and implement the recommendations;
- Facilitate the launch of the \$600 million MSME/CPL Programme to be implemented by the EXIM Bank;
- Work with the GoJ generally, and specifically with the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service related to the implementation of the policy measures for reducing MSME informality;
- Facilitate the execution of the Secondary Market Study and the delivery of technical training to key stakeholders in the financial, judicial and micro finance environment on the enhanced STR in Jamaica;
- Collaborate with the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service to develop a framework for the implementation of Special and Differential Treatment Regulations for MSMEs;
- Coordinate with stakeholders to complete the development of a Concept Paper for a comprehensive National MSME Data Repository to improve service delivery and decision-making pertaining to the sector;
- Continue and extend the data collection mechanism for the statistical data on the MSME sector showing performance of the sector, including business registration, tax contribution, capacity support, financing et al;
- Continue the facilitation of the implementation of the SBDC Project;
- Finalize the Code of Practice (ethics, values and behaviors) for Social Enterprises.

#### **4.2.5 Trade Unit**

The Trade Unit is the focal point of the Ministry's trade related activities/agenda, and conducts research as well as provides technical support and strategic advice in the areas of agricultural, industrial and commercial trade policy, and in determining appropriate trade policy positions and strategies. The Unit is also engaged in continuous monitoring, evaluation and reporting on major international developments and emerging issues in the area of trade, and consults on, coordinates inputs for, and informs national policy in respect of external trade negotiations.

The Unit also provides oversight and actively engages in the undertakings of the Trade Facilitation Task Force to implement reforms that will make for a more agile trading environment. These activities include the implementation of the Trade Information Portal and the Electronic Single Window for Trade, the re-engineering work being done within Border Regulatory Agencies (BRAs), and the revision of trade-related legislation. These efforts combined will reduce the total time and cost to doing business in Jamaica and raise the country's ranking on key global indices such as the World Bank's Doing Business Report.

#### **Aims & Objectives**

- To conduct research and provide technical support and advice in the area of international trade policy.
- To ensure trade policies are clearly articulated and implemented in the Ministry's plans, policies, programmes and strategies.
- To facilitate implementation of relevant Trade Facilitation (TF) measures, including the establishment of a national trade portal and single electronic window.

#### **Summary of Activities**

1. Conduct ongoing research and analysis to provide guidance to the Ministry and its Agencies on opportunities for the development and or expansion of domestic goods and services;
2. Act as the focal point within the Ministry for trade remedies and enforcement including dumping, subsidies, safeguards, rules of origin queries, non-tariff measures and tariff measures;
3. Process safeguard and suspension requests under trade agreements;
4. Act as a focal point in the Ministry for the continuous management of the COTED agenda across the Ministry and its agencies;
5. Act as the interface and focal point for the Ministry on the National Export Strategy II;
6. Ensure that the Ministry meets its regional and multilateral obligations under the various trade agreements and related instruments (filings with WTO, CARICOM etc);
7. Represent the Ministry in trade negotiations;
8. Act as a focal point for issues related to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade and the implementation of the National Foreign Trade Policy;
9. Ensures policy coordination across the Ministry in the use of trade as a tool for economic development;
10. Support the Government's growth strategy by leveraging and advancing the implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement;
11. Providing technical advice and recommendations on trade issues and their implications to Divisions and Agencies of the Ministry.

## Key Achievements for 2018/19

- Established the Trade Facilitation Task Force Secretariat within MICAF to lead on the implementation of Jamaica's obligations under the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement
- Developed Cabinet Submission (in collaboration with Commerce Division) and gained approval for the removal of specific permits and licenses currently being issued by the TBL, which are no longer relevant. . It should be noted that the products for which approval was given for the removal of TBL licences/permits, are those for which the issuing of the permit/licence from the TBL was deemed an additional unnecessary step given that the technical authority resides within another Ministry on whose recommendation the TBL issued the licence/permit;
- Developed and submitted to Cabinet, the concept paper for the development of the National Services Policy;
- Prepared over sixty (60) briefs relating to bilateral trade, the multilateral trading system of on trade-related issued to inform policy decisions, lead discussions and inform negotiations at the regional and international levels;
- Developed and presented proposal to Public Investment Management Committee (PIMSEC) to justify the need for USD116, 000 to conduct a feasibility study for the Trade Facilitation Programme. The project concept subsequently gain concept approval from the PIMSEC, resulting in the commissioning of a cost-benefit analysis study of the Trade Facilitation Programme; the consultancy is expected to get underway shortly;
- Provided substantial comments on the "The Report of the Commission to Review Jamaica's Relations Within The Caribbean Community and CARIFORUM Frameworks; these provided the background for discussions at the 39th CARICOM Heads of Government Meeting in July 2018;
- Conducted analysis for proposal to implement Cess on non-dairy milk products;
- Developed and submitted to Cabinet, Cabinet Note seeking approval for the review of fees, charges, penalties and disciplines;
- Developed Cabinet Submission which subsequently gained approval for Jamaica to host the WTO Regional Workshop on Fisheries Subsidies. The Regional Workshop will be hosted on April 9-11, 2019;
- Provided detailed policy guidance for the CARIFORUM-UK 'roll-over' trade agreement;
- Provided detailed guidance on the review of the CARICOM Skilled-workers regime, which is seeking to add the categories of Agricultural Workers to the list of CARICOM nationals that can move and work across the Community;

## Principal Focus for 2019/2020

*The overall budget for FY 2019/20 is \$17,688,000 for Trade Unit*

- Development of the National Services Policy
- Continue with the implementation of the Trade Facilitation Programme (Outputs 1- 6)
- Continue to monitor CARIFORUM-UK-EPA relations (in the context of BREXIT)
- Provide policy guidance as it relates to the implementation of the CARIFORUM-EU-EPA

- Movement of Skilled Agriculture Workers under the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME)
- Trade in Services (CARICOM, WTO)
- Negotiations on Fisheries Subsidies (WTO)
- Agriculture notifications under the WTO (subsidies)
- Re-activation of the Trade Enforcement Advisory Mechanism (TEAM)

#### **4.2.5.1 National Trade Facilitation Programme**

##### **Planned Targets for 2019/20**

- Launch of the Trade Information Portal – slated for May 16, 2019;
  - *The Trade Information Portal will make all regulatory trade related information and other trade information useful to Jamaican importers and exporters, investors and potential investors easily and readily available in a single integrated Portal. The benefit is transparency and predictability of trade procedures and, in doing so, increase the compliance level and reduce cost of doing business through trade.*
- Launch of the paperless inspection regime which will allow all online and immediate processing of inspection documents; thereby further reducing the time to trade;
- Finalize the draft protocols to allow for coordinated inspections at the border. The intention is that for products in which multiple parties have inspection/licensing interest at the border, there is an agreed established protocol for one Border Regulatory Agency (BRA) to lead and provide information, as necessary, to the other interested BRAs. In reducing the multiplicity of BRAs inspecting a single container, the time and cost of trade is reduced.
- Provide further input to finalize the Customs Act;
- Provide technical input to revise legislation to streamline the application of fees, charges and penalties that are applied goods and services trade at the border;
- Continue active engagement on the Steering Committee for the Electronic Single Window to ensure the on-boarding of at least four (4) BRAs in the financial year;
- Re-activation of the Trade Enforcement Advisory Mechanism (TEAM) to allow for coordinated discourse across the Ministry on trade-related issues;
- Continue to support the Industry Division in the development of the National Service Sector Policy by providing technical advice on best practices and policy imperatives;
- Increase awareness of the Trade Information Portal and other tools of trade through various engagement avenues, including out 'Trade in 3' newsletter.

### **4.3 Agricultural Health and Food Safety Programmes**

Food safety is an issue of growing importance due to several worldwide trends that contribute to increasing safety risks in food systems, such as the growing movement of people across borders; increased movement of agricultural and food products across borders; rapid urbanization; changes in food processing and handling practices; and the re-emergence/emergence of critical diseases, pathogens, toxins and other issues. Against this background, focus is being placed on the ability of all stakeholders in the food chain to be able to demonstrate adequate traceability of all food sources. Issues relating to food safety will therefore impact on agricultural production, agro-processing the food service industry, trade and commerce, public health and overall economic development.

#### **4.3.1 Food Storage and Prevention of Infestation Programme**

The Food Storage and Prevention of Infestation Division (FSPID) was established in 1958 “to make provision of food and for the prevention of loss of food by infestation and for purposes connected therewith” and operates under the Food Storage and Prevention of Infestation (FSPI) Act (1958) and Regulations (1973). The Division is an external Department of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries.

#### **Aims & Objectives**

The Division is mandated to ensure the wholesomeness of all food and feed entering commerce in Jamaica which is achieved through:

1. Regulatory inspection and disinfestation services conducted by the Inspectorate and Disinfestation Unit
2. Laboratory services conducted by the:
  - Entomology Laboratory
  - Rodent Biology and Control Laboratory
  - Microbiology Laboratory
  - Pesticide Residue and Mycotoxin Laboratory
  - Postharvest Technology Laboratory
  - Information dissemination provided by the Training and Information Unit.

#### **Planned Targets for 2018/19**

##### *Inspections*

- 15,640 inspections,
- 1,100 disinfestation operations
- 360 food samples to be submitted for laboratory analyses by the Inspectorate Unit.
- 532 statutory notices estimated to be served on persons and organization for non-compliance with the FSPI Act was.
- Two hundred and forty-three (243) export certificates were to be issued.

*Laboratory services*

- 980 analyses to determine the levels of biological, physical and chemical contaminants
- 76 farm/field visits.

*Postharvest Technology*

- Mainly adaptive research, transfer of information to farmers and green groceries and research aimed at extending the storage life of fresh fruits and vegetables.
- 2 training seminars
- 11 inspections
- 11 farm visits.

*Rodent Biology and Control*

- 25 Rodent Control Programmes
- Setting 2625 rodent bait and glue stations
- 39 inspections.

*Training and Information*

- Five (5) training programmes and participating in 12 exhibitions.
- Continue to supporting other FSPID units with regard to ISO/IEC 17020 and 17025 accreditation and ISO 9001 certification

## **Key Achievements for 2018/2019**

*Inspections*

- carried out 13,866 inspections
- 1,123 disinfestation operations and submitted 975 food samples for laboratory analyses.
- 532 statutory notices served on persons and organization for non-compliance with the FSPI Act was. This represents a 58% decrease over the previous period, indicating greater compliance.
- Two hundred and forty-three (243) export certificates were issued.
- The unit inspected over 700,000 MT of food/feed commodities.

*Laboratory services*

- Conducted 1,315 analyses to determine the levels of biological, physical and chemical contaminants.

*Postharvest Technology*

- 2 training seminars
- conducted 11 inspections and made 11 farm visits.

*Rodent Biology and Control*

- carried out 25 Rodent Control Programmes
- setting 2625 rodent bait and glue stations and
- Conducted 39 inspections

*Accreditation*

The FSPID continued working towards ISO/IEC accreditation for laboratories and inspections (ISO 17025 and 17020 respectively) as well as ISO 9001 certification. In December 2018, the Inspectorate and Disinfestation Unit was assessed by the Jamaica National Agency for Accreditation. Given our response to findings from the assessment it is expected that the FSPID will be accredited for its inspection activities in the first quarter of 2019/2020.

### *Training and Information*

- Conducted an external training programme for 26 public health inspectors and coordinated a laboratory tour.
- Internal training programmes were conducted for a new technical assistant, a new food storage inspector as well as two refresher programmes for current food storage inspectors.
- The FSPID also participated in 11 exhibitions including the Denbigh and Hague Agricultural Shows and school career expos.

### *Amendment of legislations*

The Food Storage and Prevention of Infestation (FSPI) Act (1958) and Regulations (1973) are being amended to be reflect current practices, and to enhance the powers of the FSPID to carry out its mandate to ensure food safety. For this period a bill was passed in the lower house of Parliament to amend the Act. The FSPID is awaiting a date for it to be tabled in the Senate.

## **Principal Focus for 2019/2020**

The principal focus for the FSPID in 2019/2020 is obtaining ISO 9001 certification and ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation. Through continued surveillance and inspection programmes at ports of entry and island wide, FSPID aims to prevent and control infestation and contamination of food/feed reaching the public and to enhance food security by preventing and/or reducing spoilage/waste.

## **4.3.2 Plant Quarantine and Produce Inspection (PQ/PI) Programme**

The legal framework that provides guidance for the operations of the Branch is the Plants (Quarantine) Act (1993) and its Regulations and the Agricultural Produce Act (1926).

### **Aims & Objectives**

Our primary mandate is to safeguard Jamaica agricultural sector and plants from the introduction of pests of economic significance and to ensure the highest quality, pest free food safety approved fresh produce and other plant material are exported.

## **Planned Targets for 2018/19**

### **Core Functions**

- 1,200 Issuance of phytosanitary import permits
- 800 Phytosanitary import inspections
- 70 Packing House Recertification
- 1,600 Fresh Produce Export Inspections
- 1,600 Phytosanitary Certificates Issued
- 100 Phytosanitary Treatment (fumigation)
- 800 Preclearance Certification
- 4 Pest Risk Assessment
- 8 Technical Market Access Proposal

### Key Achievements for 2018/19

- 3,691 Issuance of phytosanitary import permits
- 2,093 Phytosanitary import inspections
- 80 Packing House Recertification
- 5,142 Fresh Produce Export Inspections
- 2,707 Phytosanitary Certificates Issued
- 859 Phytosanitary Treatment (fumigation)
- 2,377 Preclearance Certification
- 3 Pest Risk Assessment

### Priority Projects

Major Activities	Planned Target for 2018/2019	Key Achievements 2018/2019
Frosty Pod Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 100% recruitment of FPR project team</li> <li>▪ 100% completion of cultural management in St. Mary</li> <li>▪ 50% completion of chemical control</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 100% recruitment of project team as of Jan. 8. 2019</li> <li>▪ 15% cultural management completed</li> <li>▪</li> </ul>
Canine Detection Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Amendment of PQ Legislation to include fines and powers needed by Canine Officers</li> <li>▪ Signage and Amnesty Bins</li> <li>▪ Study tour of Mexico canine Programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Draft instructions sent to CPC</li> <li>▪ Signage and Bins in procurement process</li> <li>▪ Study tour done in July 2018</li> <li>▪ Draft MOU between JCF and MICA</li> <li>▪</li> </ul>
E-Commerce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Stakeholders Engagement re ecommerce and plant trade</li> <li>▪ Advertisement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Stakeholders to be done on April 4, 2019</li> </ul>
National Export Certification Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Registration system for exporters</li> <li>▪ 100% Fresh Producers Compliant with Food safety Requirement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Concept note for database/software completed and procurement process engaged</li> <li>▪ 65% Compliant</li> </ul>
Plants Quarantine Act Legislative Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Review draft PQ Bill</li> <li>▪ Cabinet submission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Drafting instructions sent to CPC in September 2018</li> <li>▪ Consultation on draft Cabinet submission completed in February 2019</li> </ul>
PQ Restructuring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Review draft report and accept final report</li> <li>▪ Submit final report of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reports reviewed and accepted</li> <li>▪ PS Approval obtained</li> </ul>



Major Activities	Planned Target for 2018/2019	Key Achievements 2018/2019
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>recommendations for approval by PS</li> <li>Engage HR regarding submission to Ministry of Finance &amp; Public Service (MoFPS), CMDF</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HR process Engaged</li> </ul>
Mango Area-wide Management Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprehensive report prepared</li> <li>Submit to European Union (EU)</li> <li>Review Compliance agreement for exporters and farmers</li> <li>Exporters' meeting</li> <li>Commence exports to EU</li> <li>Continue monitoring survey</li> <li>Traceability records</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft report prepared for EU</li> <li>Compliance Agreement with Exporters and Farmers prepared</li> <li>Two Exporters Meeting held in July 2018</li> <li>Eighteen surveys conducted for monitoring</li> </ul>

### Principal Focus for 2019/2020

***Annual Budget 2019/20 - \$399,122,478.36 which includes \$100 million is for management of the Frosty Pod Rot Project and AIA of \$55,750,836.40.***

The Branch will continue to focus on providing services in accordance with our core operations. Our priority projects will include

- Continued management activities of the frosty pod rot disease with implementation to commence in Phase II (Clarendon and Western St. Catherine).
- implementation of the Plant Quarantine restructuring with targets to include implementing surveillance and seed and nursery certification units,
- implementation of canine project,
- operationalization of the mango export workplan to the United States of America
- Advancement of the Plant Health Bill to replace the Plants Quarantine Act

### **4.3.3 Agricultural Land Management Programme**

#### **Aims and Objectives**

To promote modern and sustainable agricultural land management practices order to drive food security and enhance rural development in accordance with government's policy.

#### **Planned Targets for 2018/19**

- Complete requirements for ISO 17025 Laboratory Accreditation in selected procedures
- Improve infrastructure of the Soil Health Plant Tissue and Water Laboratory
- Implement ISO17025 Quality Management Systems in the Soil Health Plant Tissue and Water Laboratory
- Implement Soil Health Assessment programme in selected Agro Parks and agro economic zones
- Increase the utilization of Information Communication Technology (ICT) and Geographical Information System in collection and analysis of agricultural data
- Expansion of public education programme
- Assessment of sites for land use change, subdivision and quarry operations
- Provide technical advice to farmers on fertility management and nutrient status to improve output of farmers

#### **Key Achievements for 2018/ 2019**

- Provided technical advice to National Environment and Planning Agency and Municipal Corporations as part of the Development Approval process
- Completed repairs to infrastructure in the Soil Health Plant Tissue and Water Laboratory
- Completion of Infrastructure improvements to the Soil Laboratory, Store Room and Sick Bay
- Reviewed standard operation procedures to ensures conformity to ISO requirements – (3 Laboratory procedures/methods and 6 business processes)
- Provided technical advice to farmers, extension officers and other stakeholders in the agricultural sector (including Agro Parks and Onion Development Programme)
- Participated in Regional Soil Partnership and Laboratory Network aimed at raising awareness of the importance of sustainable soil management
- Participated in regional Laboratory “ring test” aimed at harmonization of methodology and operation procedures
- Increase utilization of geographical information system in the collection and analysis of land use and related agricultural data
- Revenue earned for 2018- 19 **\$1,562,362.75**
- Participated in the Development Approval process by providing recommendations on proposal for change of use, subdivision of properties, issuance of licence to operate quarries and restoration of mined outlands
- Inspection and assessment of properties:
  - 268 Subdivision assessment received – 95% completed
  - 81 Inspection of quarries received – 86% completed

- 28 Change of Land Use requested – 100 % completed
- NORANDA Jamaica Bauxite Partners 18 ore bodies 34.8 ha restored to agriculture.
- ALPART (JAMALCO) 7 ore bodies 28.81 ha restores to crops and grass
- WINDALCO (Ewarton)/SCHWALLENBURG MINES 3 ore bodies 6.63ha restored to agricultural land use.
- Participated in public awareness of the role of the Division particularly as it relates to soil health.
  - Denbigh Agricultural and Industrial Show, Geography Awareness Week and GIS Day 2018
  - Facilitated educational institutions for tours of the Soil Laboratory
  - Work Soil Day – CASE, Clarendon
  - Presentation conducted on the “*Importance of Soil Analysis*”- Ebony Park Academy, Clarendon

### **Principal Areas of Focus for 2019/ 20**

#### ***Annual Budget 2019/20 - \$93,942,000.00***

- Complete requirements for ISO 17025 Accreditation for selected procedures in Soil Health Plant Tissue Laboratory
- Human resource development and training
- Review and update land use data base through utilization of geographical information system and field inspection
- Reduction in the number of approvals for land use change from agricultural to other uses
- Participate in the development approval process by providing recommendations to NEPA and Municipal Corporations
- Provide recommendations on change of use and requests for approval to operate quarries
- Increase revenue by increasing percentage of clients by 30%
- Participate in regional soil partnership and laboratory network
- Expand public education programme

#### **4.3.4 Praedial Larceny Prevention Coordination Programme**

The Praedial Larceny Prevention Coordination Unit was established on March 2, 2015. The Unit is a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries, the Jamaica Constabulary Force and the Ministry of National Security to strategically combat the theft of agricultural produce and livestock in Jamaica. The Unit comprises of an administrative arm spearheaded by the Praedial Larceny Prevention Coordinator, and an enforcement arm led by the National Praedial Larceny Prevention Officer.

##### **Aims and Objectives**

- To coordinate regular police operations to reduce the reported incidences of praedial larceny.
- To establish strategic partnerships for the development and implementation of a plan of action to curtail the theft of farm produce.
- To modernize the legislative framework for praedial larceny prevention and risk reduction.
- To increase the participation of farming and fishing communities in praedial larceny prevention and risk reduction.
- To sensitize and train members of the justice system in the investigation and prosecution of praedial larceny cases.

##### **Planned Targets for 2018/2019**

The targets set out for the financial year 2018/2019 were to:

##### ***Enforcement & Compliance***

- Conduct forty-eight (48) police operations across the island
- Conduct a total of two hundred (200) farm visits and 60 security assessments
- Establish at least ten (10) farm watch groups
- Establish at least two (2) Praedial Larceny Prevention Units in hotspot areas

##### ***Institutional Arrangement***

- Conduct at least six (6) police training sessions
- Conduct one (1) Praedial Larceny Specialized Training for Police and Clerk of the Courts
- Conduct one (1) Praedial Larceny Training for Student Constables at the National Police College of Jamaica
- Engage in Stakeholder Consultation to establish the Victim/Witness Care Unit
- Host a Praedial Larceny Prevention Strategy Workshop and develop an Implementation Plan

##### ***Public Education***

- Host at least four (4) Parish Seminars in hotspot areas
- Host Praedial Larceny Prevention Essay/Poster Competition for primary and secondary schools
- Develop and air two (2) radio PSAs and time signals
- Develop a TV PSA on the impact of farm theft

## Key Achievements 2018/2019

Of the targets planned for 2018/19, the following was achieved:

- 11 specialized operations were conducted across the island; as a result of which 3 arrests were made and 2 summonses were served for failing to produce an agricultural receipt. These operations were planned in Clarendon, St. Thomas and Kingston and St. Andrew
- 1,303 farm visits and 57 security assessments were conducted
- 19 farm watch groups were established; 1 in Clarendon, 5 in Trelawny, 12 in Manchester and 1 in St. Mary. These are expected to strengthen farm security in farming communities and facilitate the creation of a better relationship between the police and the residents.
- The Agricultural Produce Protection Division policy was drafted in collaboration with the Jamaica Constabulary Force to establish 19 Agricultural Produce Protection Units within each police division. This was crucial to the decentralization of the Unit. A subsequent Praedial Larceny Prevention Workshop Training was conducted with the police officers identified as members of the JCF's Agricultural Produce Protection Division; this division will oversee the units established in each parish to address the theft of agricultural produce. A total of 71 police officers were trained.
- A police training session was conducted in Area 4 (KSA) with 20 Probationers on how to effectively investigate praedial larceny cases and compile case files.
- Six (6) workshops were conducted to sensitize key stakeholders in the justice system.
- The Office of the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP) was engaged to develop a Plan of Action regarding the establishment of the Victim/Witness Care Unit.
- Four (4) parish seminars were hosted in the parishes of Hanover, Trelawny and Clarendon following increased incidences of praedial theft. An accumulative total of 200 farmers was in attendance. These seminars were planned in collaboration with the Jamaica Agricultural Society (JAS) and included stakeholder presentations from the JAS, RADA, JCF, Public Health Department, Veterinary Services Division, Clarendon Municipal Corporation.
- The Praedial Larceny Prevention Poster and Essay Competition focused on preventative measures that farmers could employ on farms to stem incidences of farm theft. Primary schools students were asked to design posters and high schoolers wrote essays.
- 2 radio PSAs and time signals were developed and placed on the airwaves during the festive season to sensitize the public on the risk associated with buying "cheaper/stolen" farm produce and the need to get registered and employ the use of the Agricultural Receipt Books.
- Over 100 praedial larceny focused patrols, and vehicular stops and search operations were conducted in farming communities across the island.
- There were 93 reported cases of incidence of praedial theft

## **Principal Focus for 2018/2019**

### ***Annual Budget 2019/20 - \$10.8M***

#### ***Legislative Amendments***

- Finalize the invoice/receipt for vendors under the Agricultural Produce Act for submission of proposed amendments to the Chief Parliamentary Council
- Draft Cabinet submission for proposed amendments to the Praedial Larceny Prevention Act

#### ***Enforcement & Compliance***

- To establish nineteen (19) Agricultural Produce Protection Units within each Police Division
- Conduct at least forty-eight (48) police operations
- Arrange at least two hundred (200) farm visits and sixty (60) security assessments

#### ***Institutional Arrangement***

- Conduct at least one (1) Batch training with the National Police College of Jamaica
- Conduct at least one (1) Training/ Sensitization Seminar: for Parish Court Judges, Clerks of Court, and Praedial Larceny Prevention Officers
- Conduct Research on the “socio-economic impact of praedial larceny on farm families” and utilise findings to further Draft Discussion Paper for Stakeholder Workshop
- Plan and host a Stakeholder Workshop to strengthen the National Praedial Larceny Programme
- Develop a National Plan of Action for Prevention and Risk Reduction in Praedial Larceny

#### ***Public Education***

- Plan and host quarterly parish seminars in parishes with high incidence reports
- Develop, launch and the hosting of an awards ceremony for the National Praedial Larceny Prevention Officer Competition
- The production of at least two (2) video clipping highlighting impacts of farm theft
- The production of a radio and a TV PSAs for on-air placement
- Host at least two (2) Town Hall Meetings
- Publish praedial larceny convictions data

#### 4.3.5 Veterinary Services Programme

The Veterinary Services Division of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce Agriculture and Fisheries is the Competent Authority with responsibility for the administration and implementation of the country's National Animal Health Programme. The primary laws which govern the administration of the Division are as follows:

- Animal (Diseases and Importation) Law {1943} and its Regulations
- Aquaculture Inland Marine Products and By-Products (Inspection, Licensing and Export) Act 1999 and Regulations and the Meat and Meat By-Product Act, 1999

#### Aims and Objectives

1. To prevent the entry and establishment of exotic animal/zoonotic diseases into Jamaica.
2. To safeguard the livestock industry and welfare through improved animal health and increased production and productivity.
3. To improve veterinary public health status.
4. To facilitate the trade of live animals and products of animal origin.
5. To enhance food safety of products of animal origin.

#### Planned Targets for 2018/19

- Registration of cattle farms and tagging of cattle. At least 2000 heads of cattle per quarter identified with NAITs ear tags and passports issued.
- Issue cattle passports. Monitor cattle movements.
- Conduct Risk Assessments and investigate reported disease occurrences.
- Artificial insemination stud animals kept healthy and tested for diseases. Semen collected and stored using liquid nitrogen.
- Active and Passive surveillance conducted for animal diseases.
- Permit applications accepted and reviewed. Import permit applications approved.
- Ships and aircrafts inspected. Cargo aboard vessels inspected. Disposal of international garbage supervised.

#### Key Achievements for 2018/19

- Physical infrastructure and equipment upgrade continued for the facilities and general offices operated by the Veterinary Services.
- Physical structure and equipment upgrade for the laboratories of the Veterinary Services Division continued.
- National Animal Quarantine Station at Plumb Point renovated and is fully operational.
- National Animal Identification and Traceability System (NAITS) implemented across the island. More than **7, 499 heads** of cattle were tagged in the financial year.
- Maintenance of at least **3, 000** straws of bull semen of the four national breeds for artificial insemination of cattle.

- Maintenance of **228** straws of local goat semen and **530** straws of imported goat semen for artificial insemination of goats.
- Staff training and development of operational manuals to meet international certification requirements by Veterinary Services continued.
- Laboratory Accreditation **ISO/IEC 17025** acquired for the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and the Residue and Biochemical Analytic Laboratory.
- Approximately **11, 652** samples were received and analysed at the Veterinary Laboratory.
- Increasing levels of export of animal products to several Regional and international markets, including the People's Republic of China. These include live and frozen lobster, frozen conch meat and other fishery products; meat patties; dairy products; animal feeds; poultry and poultry products.
- Regional market access acquired for poultry and pork by way of Risk Assessments.
- Facilitation of follow-up inspection visit by the General Administration of Quality Supervision Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China (AQSIQ) to seek market access for live Jamaican Spiny lobster and frozen lobster exports to the People's Republic of China.
- Continued registration of privately owned establishment with subsequent identification & registration of the cattle population kept thereon.
- Continued sensitization of various stakeholder groups, to bring awareness and achieve buy-in of the National Animal Identification and Traceability System (**NAITS**) towards the goal of compliance.
- Animal health surveillance for notifiable diseases continued across Jamaica.
- Continued Monitoring of fishery harvesting and processing for export.
- Continued facilitation of export of animal products, including animal feed, meat patties, dairy products, poultry, pork and beef products.
- Continuation of the design and implementation of Antimicrobial Resistance Plan and related activities, including the development of a National Action Plan.
- Maintenance of protocols at ports of entry to minimize risk of disease entry.

## Principal Focus for 2019/2020

### *Annual Budget 2019/20 - \$388,515,000*

- Continued registration of privately owned establishment with subsequent identification & registration of the cattle population kept thereon.
- At least 2000 heads of cattle per quarter identified with NAITS ear tags and passports issued.
- Continued sensitization of various stakeholder groups, to bring awareness and achieve buy-in of the NAITS towards the goal of compliance.
- Veterinary health surveillance for notifiable diseases conducted across Jamaica.
- Continued Monitoring of fishery harvesting and processing for export.
- Continued facilitation of export of animal products, including animal feed, meat patties,



dairy products, poultry, pork and beef products.

- Continuation of the design and implementation of Antimicrobial Resistance Plan and related activities.
- Maintenance of protocols at ports of entry to minimize risk of disease entry.

## 4.4 Fisheries Development Programme

The Fisheries Division was established in 1948 and administers the Fishing Industry Act (1975) and Fishing Industry Regulations (1976).

**Aim:** To facilitate the sustainable development and management of the capture and culture fisheries

### Objectives:

- 1. Increase aquaculture production**
  - a. Increase production in the tilapia producing subsector by 10%.
  - b. Facilitate diversification of the production of food fish species by conducting spawning and grow-out trials of *Pangasius* sp.
- 2. Enhance capture fisheries production**
  - a. Establish one (1) additional Special Fishery Conservation Area by March 2018.
  - b. Develop a system for the sustainable management of underutilized fisheries (e.g. sea cucumber and marine crabs)
- 3. Improve fisheries governance**
  - a. Facilitate the improvement in fisheries governance by continued review of the Draft Fisheries Bill, Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy and the establishment of the National Fisheries Authority
- 4. Improve Fisheries Management**
  - a. Develop management and monitoring systems for key fisheries, e.g., conch, lobster.

### Planned Targets 2018/2019:

- Increase national Tilapia production by 10%.
- Thirty three (33) fish farmers monitored routinely in fish farming production techniques.
- Design aquaculture database.
- Maintain and manage eighteen (18) SFCAs.
- Prepare research plan for sea cucumber assessment on the Pedro Bank.
- Complete Fisheries Bill.
- Establishment of the National Fisheries Authority.
- Monitor 100% of Industrial Spiny Lobster (*Panulirus argus*) landings, 48 data collection trips; analysis of 2018 Spiny Lobster fishing season.
- Monitor 100% of Industrial Queen conch (*Lobatus gigas*) landings, 20 data collection trips; assess impact of 2018 catch-per-unit-effort fishing activities on stock population and survey on the conch abundance.
- Implementation of Fisheries Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) Project-Promoting Community-based Climate Resilience in the Fisheries Sector Project.
- Implementation of the Fisheries Licensing and Registration System Project.

## Key Achievements

- 89 % increase in Tilapia production (1212.63 MT) in comparison with 2017.
- Thirty (30) farmers monitored routinely in fish farming production techniques.
- Continued maintenance and management of 18 SFCAs in collaboration with private sector and NGOs.
- Five companies granted exploratory sea cucumber licences to fish on the Pedro Bank.
- Fishing Industry Act 2018 passed into law and awaiting the Honorable Minister of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture & Fisheries to bring Act into operation.
- Transformation of the Fisheries Division to the National Fisheries Authority is underway, all 146 job descriptions revised to meet the required standards and resubmitted for approval and costing.
- Data and information collected from 100% of Industrial Spiny Lobster landings.
- Data and information collected from 100% of Industrial Queen Conch landings, catch-per-unit-effort analysis report and conch abundance survey report produced.
- Implementation of Fisheries Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) Project-Promoting Community-based Climate Resilience in the Fisheries Sector Project.
  - Annual Operational Budget/Plan prepared and approved by the World Bank.
  - Advertisements were placed for to contract Consultants to establish the Project Implementation Unit. Candidates were selected for Project Manager, Procurement Specialist and Administrative Assistant. To date the Project has acquired the Project Manager and Finance Officer. Contract negotiations are to be concluded with the Procurement Specialist and Administrative Assistant.
  - Terms of References for ten (10) Consultancies prepared and six have been submitted to the World Bank for their “no objection” and review. These six have been approved by the Bank. Four others remain in draft.
  - Requests for Expressions of Interest were advertised for two of the six consultancies. Advertisements were placed in the local newspapers for two Consultancies, these are related to the conduct of social surveys on knowledge, attitudes and perceptions to climate change in the fisheries sector and the impact of climate change on the roles of gender, youth and labor relations in the fisheries sector.
  - The first disbursement of project funds was made to the local account in January 2019.
- Implementation of the Fisheries Licensing and Registration System Project.
  - Project Manager hired.
  - Agreement reached for lease of former Cocoa Industry Board offices for use as Project Implementation Office.
  - Terms of reference for procurement of services of Budget Analyst have been prepared and submitted for procurement.
  - RFQs for goods and services for the Project Implementation Office have been submitted to IDB for procurement.

## **Principal Focus for 2018/2019**

***Annual Budget 2019/20 - \$267,568,000 with 104,138,000 for off-shore fishing and \$68,433,000 for in-land fisheries.***

- Implementation of Fisheries Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) Project-Promoting Community-based Climate Resilience in the Fisheries Sector Project.
- Implementation of the Fisheries Licensing and Registration System Project.
- Conch Assessment follow up Survey
- Improve the management of capture fisheries by increasing monitoring and surveillance of key fisheries, i.e., conch and lobster, monitoring of landings and preparation of reports on the performance of the fishing seasons, special fisheries conservation areas and implementation of management plans for under-utilized fisheries, e.g. sea cucumber
- Increase tilapia production by enhancing seed stock production.
- Continued monitoring of aquaculture production, through technology transfer and data collection
- Transition of the Fisheries Division to the National Fisheries Authority.

## 4.5 Research and Development Initiatives

**Aims & Objectives:** To maximize the number of improved and scientifically validated technologies to increase quantity, quality and value of small farmer production output

### Planned Targets for 2018/19

<p><b><u>Livestock Research and Improvement</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 livestock technologies developed and deployed</li> <li>Develop Total Mixed Ration diet for small ruminants as a forage conservation strategy</li> <li>500 farmers and trainers trained in improved and validated livestock technologies/250 farmers trained</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Crop &amp; Plant Protection Research</u></b> <b><i>Evaluation of 7 New Crop Production Technologies to increase productivity</i></b> Crop varieties with higher yields, extended shelf life, and tolerance to economically important pests and diseases; Technologies that improve quality and multiplication of clean planting material and technology that measures crop water use efficiency Production systems targeted for intervention: 1. Cassava, 2. Onion ,3. Irish potato, 4. ginger &amp; 5. strawberry</p> <p><b><u>Plant Genetic Resource For Food &amp; Agriculture &amp; Crop characterization</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade of Seed Facility to expand local seed storage capacity &amp; that for the Caribbean region</li> <li>In-vitro preservation of select crops using Tissue culture Technology</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Epidemiology &amp; Surveillance</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of pest management technologies to reduce impact of sweet potato weevil, Beet armyworm &amp; Cocoa frosty Pod in crop production systems</li> <li>Support on farm pest reduction through the provision of pest and disease diagnostic and advisory services</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Phytosanitary Services</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100% of imported planting material received screened for pathogens of economic importance</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Technology transfer &amp; training</u></b> Publications, training and seminars for stakeholders (farmers, EOs, etc.)</p> <p><b><u>R&amp;DD Modernization:</u></b> <b><i>Bodles Redevelopment Project: (Upgrade/restoration of Bodles infrastructure to support Research Development &amp; Innovation)</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overhaul of the security system</li> <li>Existing Dairy parlour rehabilitated</li> <li>Barn facilities constructed</li> <li>Existing piggery renovated &amp; New Piggery Unit designed (Phase 1)</li> <li>Animal performance testing facility constructed</li> <li>Upgrade of irrigation and solid waste disposal systems</li> <li>Aeroponics &amp; hydroponics systems constructed for sweet potato clean seed programme</li> <li>Biological control facility renovated</li> <li>Fertigation house and pesticide storage facilities constructed</li> <li>Renovation of the Post-Harvest Laboratory</li> <li>Hiring of specialized consultancies for DNA specialists</li> <li>Renovation of the Sanitary, Office spaces and two houses</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Apiculture</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100 new apiaries &amp; 1,000 new colonies established and</li> <li>• 1,000 farmers trained &amp; 100 new farmers trained;</li> <li>• Incidence of bee pest and disease &lt;5%</li> <li>• 9000 apiaries inspected free of disease</li> </ul>	<p><b>Executive Agency Transformation</b> Completion of R&amp;DD strategic review process &amp;, recommendation for EA Strategy &amp; Implementation Plan</p> <p><b>Accreditation</b> Advance international accreditation of plant health laboratories for ISO standard 17025 for at least two diagnostic tests; Process flow development and documentation towards ISO 9001: 2015 &amp; 2018 certification to improve internal management systems and service delivery to stakeholders.</p>
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## Key Achievements for 2018/19

### Livestock Research and Improvement

- Ongoing evaluation of feed formulations from local fodder sources using the total mixed ration (TMR) technology. Three technology training session done in conjunction with the JDDB

### Crop & Plant Protection Research

#### **Seven New Crop Production Technologies**

- **Onion:** Four top producing varieties identified based on averages for number of bulbs per plot, weight of bulbs per plot, minimum number of spoiled bulbs and split bulbs per plot: Saturn, Neptune, Mercedes and HA1020, in the order of one (1) to four (4),
- **Cassava:** 10 cassava varieties under field evaluation on five Red Stripe farms for performance under 1) unirrigated vs irrigated conditions; 2) Intercropping vs no intercropping; assessments based on yield and starch content; Varieties CM523-7, CM2776-5, CM6119-5, CM516, MCOL22, CM849, Bra383, Prison Farm/ Blue Bud, Rookwood and Mmax/ MPar183 or CM2772-3
- **Ginger:** At Montpelier Station evaluation of impact of protrait ginger multiplication technology on ginger yields and quality of planting material on going
- **N15 Isotope Technology:** Completed second phase of evaluations of this technology as a tool to determine crop fertilizer usage. Sweet potato evaluated at two locations, NIC's Research and Demonstration Centres at Hounslow and Braco locations in St. Elizabeth and Trelawny respectively in this completed second phase with NIC/IAEA.

### **Protection and utilization of Plant Genetic Resource for Food & Agriculture Programme**

- **Seed Facility: Completion of** upgrade and expansion of Seed Facility under MOU among the IDB/CARDI/MICAF seed storage project to support climate resilience.
- **Strawberry** plants propagated to increase planting material and make available to farmers. 372 plants are currently in the field and 178 plants in the nursery at Top Mountain
- **Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources:** The conservation of local and imported germplasm of Irish potato, Sweet potato, Ginger, Sweet yam and Cassava is on-going.

- **Clean Seed programme**

- **Sweet Potato:** Foundation material of 6306 sweet potato slips inclusive of 1,300 Yellow Belly and 170 Clarendon Sweet potato slips provided to private farms
- **Scotch bonnet pepper:** Produced and sold to farmers 25.92 kg with 4,081,160 SB seeds (5000 seeds per ounce) with the potential to establishment of 372.40/912.38 acres (one ounce/acre).
- **Citrus:** 9505 budeyes collected to date from seven citrus varieties from the budwood facility and sold to 9 certified nurseries through JCPA to produce seedlings which may establish 40.40 acres orchard which may produce oranges worth 39.60M/year after 6 yrs. Seven New citrus varieties were also introduced into the programme
- **Irish potato:** a total of 3,153 micro- and mini-tubers have been harvested for the variety Spunta of which 2,100 mini-tubers were provided to greenhouse growers through PROPEL Project
- **Ginger:** Ongoing initiation and sub-culturing of three varieties; Hardening Facility 95% completed under FAO Value Chain Project (TCP/JAM/3602/003) for supporting production of ginger tissue culture plants; The Certification programme for ginger was developed and transferred over two trainings to 41 stakeholders including farmers. The **Protray technology** which uses 1-2 ounces of ginger compared to 4-6 ounces traditionally to produce rhizomes reduces the volume of planting material by a quarter and the level of rhizome rot infected planting material.
- **Sweet Yams:** 189 Sweet yams plantlets (2 varieties) hardened and grown out; 209 roots for a total weight 10.25Kg harvested

### ***Epidemiology & Surveillance***

- Two Sweet Potato weevil management trials completed at Bodles in collaboration with IICA evaluating *Beauveria bassiana* (bio-control agent) vs insecticide treatments
- 11 Beet Armyworm Early warning and Pest Forecasts prepared and reported for the period in South Manchester and St. Elizabeth to stakeholders and via media to farmers. An effort led by R&DD in collaboration with RADA and Meteorological Office of Jamaica;
- Efficacy of Fipronil determined for scallion thrips and beet armyworm
- 450 pest and disease diagnostic services and advisories provided to farmers to support on farm pest reduction
- Economically important pests kept below economic damage threshold in onion fields
- **Cacao Frosty Pod** Management Programme: Orange River Station in St. Mary: Ongoing evaluation of trees of ICS 95 clone which has shown tolerance to Frosty Pod in other countries; these trees to be used as source of planting material for resuscitation of the Cacao orchards
- **Apiculture:** 171 new apiaries established, 732 farmers trained and 47 new farmers trained; Incidence of bee pest and disease <5%; 5297 apiaries inspected free of disease

### ***Phytosanitary Services***

- 200 imported planting material tested; 450 samples or 11,250 of Irish potato tested for *Ralstonia the causal agent of bacterial wilt* to support local Irish potato National Programme.

### ***Technology transfer & training:***

- **Publications:** Five research papers were presented and published in the Caribbean Academy Sciences (CAS 2018) 21st General Meeting and Conference at the Mona Visitors' Lodge, the University of the West Indies, Mona three as posters and two as papers.

- **Seminars:** Five monthly Research seminar series conducted at Bodles Research Station. A total of 15 presentations on research work being carried out in both Livestock and Crop and Plant Protection were presented to over 120 agricultural stakeholders
- **Trainings** conducted by research staff: Ten types of trainings conducted by the Plant Protection staff for 1973 stakeholders including mainly farmers and RADA officers

#### **R&DD Modernization:**

***Bodles Redevelopment Project: (Upgrade/restoration of Bodles infrastructure to support Research Development & Innovation)***  
***Awaiting information***

**Accreditation:** Completion of ISO 17025 Accreditation process of three Plant Protection Laboratory Methods (Procurement initiated). Application previously submitted for accreditation of Post Entry Quarantine and Plant Protection Labs: Quality Manual Standards (QMS) manual 95% completed under ISO17025; ISO 9001 : 2015 & 2018 certification to improve internal management systems and service delivery to stakeholders underway in all units approximately 40% completed.

#### **Principal Focus for 2019/2020**

***Upgrade and restoration of Bodles infrastructure***  
***Details in project annual summary report***

##### *Livestock Research and Improvement*

- Expand utilization of assisted breeding technologies such as artificial insemination and embryo transfer in small and large ruminants
- Climate resilient feed and feeding systems
- Impact of climate change on dairy production systems

##### *Clean seed programme*

- Implement production of micro-tubers for Irish potato seed production system; Increase seed production capacity by 12% and expand production of certified clean material of sweet potato and ginger

##### *National Irish potato, Onion, Scotch Bonnet pepper and Strawberry Programmes*

- Commercial evaluation of industry selected high yielding late blight tolerant Irish potato varieties suitable for table and processing
- Identification of suitable high yielding intermediate onion varieties for onion production system under onion development programme
- Assessment of Area-Wide Management programme for Onion Spring crop; aiming for <30% crop loss.
- Infrastructure & capacity building in place for production of clean seeds for National Hot pepper production programme
- Expansion of production of planting material at Top Mountain and other locations to meet 2018 Spring crop in collaboration with ACP & RADA

##### *Plant Protection and Apiculture/Epidemiology and surveillance*

- Ongoing implementation of Area-wide Pest Management and Risk Assessment Tool for beet armyworm monitoring with RADA;
- Encourage establishment of new apiaries & colonies, train new entrant farmers,
- Surveillance for AFB to maintain incidence of bee pests and disease <5%



- Research into management of Cocoa Frosty Pod Disease

*Modernization and Accreditation of Plant Health Laboratories*

- 3 Laboratories accredited under the International Standard 17025 by 2019/20 Completion of documentation towards ISO 9001 certification

## 4.6 Modernization and Transformation of the Ministry and its Entities/Divisions Programme

The Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries is always seeking to raise the bar on performance, especially on its ability to deliver first-class service to its clients. The Ministry therefore, is in a continuous cycle of development and enhancement of itself as a regulator and a service delivery entity. Following on other recent initiatives, the Ministry is focused on the restructuring of critical Divisions and facilitating the strengthening of the institutional capacity of the Ministry. Therefore, during FY 2018/19, the Ministry began implementation of the following programmes

- I. An ISO QMS Programme to implement the ISO 9001 Quality Management System (QMS) across the Ministry and its Departments and Agencies
- II. Implementation of the corporate services programme

### 4.6.1 ISO Quality Management System Programme

#### **Establishment of Division:**

As a developing country, the quality of public service compared to developed countries is way below acceptable standards. In recognition of this, the Government, with the support of multinational institutions has been implementing several public sector modernization and transformation type projects. It is now recognized that in order to ensure that transformation is sustainable, the ISO 9001 Quality Management System is the modern approach. Implementation of ISO 9001 and its independent certification and monitoring system provide a platform for the delivery of high quality public service and continual improvement. The Ministry obtained Cabinet Decision # 06/15 dated February 9, 2015 for Cabinet submission # 46/2014 entitled '**Implementation of ISO 9001 Quality Management System (QMS)**' in which Cabinet endorsed the intent of MICAF to implement the ISO 9001 QMS and agreed that the implementation of the System should proceed in the Ministry and its portfolio entities. Approval was granted by the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service for the establishment of the ISO Quality Systems Division, with effect from December 12, 2016, with five posts on the Establishment. An ISO Ambassador has been engaged to promote the implementation of ISO across MDAs.

#### **Aims and Objectives:**

The mandate of the ISO Quality Systems Division of MICAF is to promote, implement and provide technical assistance to Ministries, Departments and Agencies in the implementation of quality standards with emphasis on ISO 9001 Quality Management Systems to the point of ISO 9001 certification.

### **Planned Targets for 2018/19**

- To achieve ISO 9001:2015 QMS pre-certification status for 7 (seven) entities of MICAF: FSPID, DCFS, TBL, FTC, JIPO, CAC and COJ ; (ii) To initiate pre-certification tasks in progress for one entity : ADSC
- To complete 70% of ISO 9001:2015 QMS pre-certification tasks for 10 support and 5 technical (Units/Branches/Divisions) services of MICAF. To complete the remaining 30% of ISO 9001:2015 QMS pre-certification tasks for 7 support and 5 technical (Units/Branches/Divisions) services of MICAF
- To achieve ISO 9001:2015 QMS pre-certification tasks in progress for thirteen (13) external Ministries/ Departments/ Agencies

### **Key Achievements for 2018/19**

- Achieved over 80% completion of ISO 9001:2015 QMS pre-certification tasks for 5 (five) entities of MICAF: FSPID (89%), DCFS (89%), TBL (86%), COJ and CAC (82% each). Percentage completion in FTC = 75%, JIPO = 61% and JBDC = 51%. Initiated pre-certification tasks in ADSC = 23% and RADA = 9%.
- Achieved in MICAF:
  - Overall average of 29% completion of ISO 9001:2015 QMS pre-certification tasks for 14 support services (greatest: ISO QSD = 60%; least: Economic Planning & Policy = 15%);
  - Overall average of 31% completion of ISO 9001:2015 QMS pre-certification tasks for 10 technical services (greatest: Trade = 49%; least: Fisheries = 13%).
- In other Ministries, Departments and Agencies, achieved:
  - Overall average of 16% completion of ISO 9001:2015 QMS pre-certification tasks for 15 Ministries, Departments and Agencies listed below:

1. Jamaica Customs Agency	9. Tax Administration Jamaica
2. Export Import Bank	10. Excelsior Community College
3. Passport Immigration and Citizenship Agency	11. National Land Agency – Titles Office
4. Accountant General's Department	12. Jamaica Customs Agency
5. National Works Agency	13. Urban Development Commissio
6. Administrator General's Department	14. Jamaica Information Service
7. Auditor General's Department	15. National Environment and Planning Agency
8. Management Institute for National Development	

Funding of some aspects is expected to be provided by the Strategic Public Sector Transformation Project under component 5 (Standards Implementation).

- National Quality Policy reviewed by ISO QS Division staff with the policy Coordinator; submitted to Cabinet Office in December 2017 - approved as Green Paper; reviewed for comments by stakeholders and the general public; copying in progress for submission to Cabinet Office for consideration.

### **Principal Focus for 2019/20**

- To complete ISO 9001:2015 QMS pre-certification tasks for 6 (six) entities of MICAF: FSPID, DCFS, TBL, COJ, FTC and JIPO in order to seek Certification from the National Certification Body of Jamaica (NCBJ)
- To complete ISO 9001:2015 QMS pre-certification tasks for 14 support and 10 technical (Units/Branches/Divisions) services of MICAF, in order to seek Certification from the National Certification Body of Jamaica (NCBJ).
- Eight Ministries, Departments and Agencies ISO 9001:2015 QMS Certified
- To support and implement relevant/required aspects of: the National Quality Policy on behalf of MICAF; ISO 9001:2015 certification in MDAs

### **4.6.2 Cooperate Services Programme**

#### **Aims & Objectives**

The Corporate Services (CS) facilitates strengthening of the institutional capacity of the ministry through effective Systems for Human Resource Management, Customer Service, Facilities & Property Management, Procurement, Information Technology Communication, Records Management and delivery of the Modernization Programme.

The broad objectives include:

1. To develop, implement measures and/or strengthen the Knowledge and Institutional Memory of the Ministry
2. To develop and implement systems to ensure continuity of the operations of the Ministry
3. To develop, implement and advance measures towards improved service delivery to the customers of the Ministry
4. To modernize divisions of the Ministry to ensure adequate capacity to achieve ministerial objectives
5. To strengthen the information, communication and technology platforms of the Ministry.
6. To develop and implement measures to procure, create, safeguard and maintain the assets of the Ministry.

### **Planned Targets for 2018/19**

- Service Standards Handbook developed by March 2019
- Draft Customer Service Improvement Plan submitted by March 2019
- New Citizens' Charter developed by March 2019

- 100% Staff members trained in support of GOJ Transformation Programme by March 2019
- Draft Succession Policy & Plan submitted by March 2019
- Modernization Plans developed for the National Fisheries Authority, Plant Quarantine & Plant Inspection Branch
- R&D Division Modernization Inception Report submitted

### **Key Achievements for 2018/19**

- Service Standards Handbook submitted on January 3, 2019
- Draft Customer Service Improvement Plan submitted on September 28, 2019
- New Citizens' Charter submitted on February 28, 2019
- 60% Staff members trained in support of GOJ Transformation Programme by March 2019
- Draft Succession Policy & Plan submitted on March 20, 2019
- Updated Modernization Plans developed for the National Fisheries Authority submitted in April 2018
- Modernization Plans developed for the PQPI Branch submitted on September 17, 2018

### **Principal Focus for 2019/20**

- Customer Service Satisfaction Survey
- Staff Satisfaction Survey
- Succession Planning – Implementation
- Network connectivity for outstation divisions
- Implementation of RIM Policy
- Modernization Projects :
  - R&D – Implementation
  - PQPI –Implementation
  - Fisheries - Implementation
- Full Implementation of MyHR+ - Phase 1B

## **4.7 GOJ/Adaptation Fund – Enhancing the Resilience of the Agricultural Sector and Coastal Areas to Improve Livelihoods and Increase Food Security**

This project is a GOJ/Adaptation Fund initiative that will assist in building Jamaica's adaptive capacity in accordance with the objectives of Vision 2030 Jamaica National Development Plan and Jamaica's Second National Communication on Climate Change. The project will involve water harvesting and management; erosion and flood control and techniques that improve soil moisture retention. In addition, capacity-building interventions will be undertaken to complement the establishment of these infrastructure and will involve training of communities in disaster risk management, natural resource management techniques and climate change adaptation.

### **Aims and Objectives**

The major aim of the Project is to increase livelihoods security of the population in the targeted communities and to increase the overall climate resilience of the agricultural sector. The key objectives include:

1. To improve the irrigation water supply infrastructure in the identified communities, with construction/rehabilitation of small-scale irrigation systems.
2. To provide a more consistent supply of irrigation water that will allow for year round production of crops grown by the small farmers in all targeted communities.
3. To promote rainwater harvesting as a means of increasing crop production, both in terms of volume and variety of vegetables, condiments and root crops
4. To ultimately improve the quality of life (through increased earnings) for farm-families, as farmers will be engaged in year-round crop production instead of being limited to the rainy periods.
5. To mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts through the implementation of best practices and promotion of climate smart agriculture and proper water and land management.
6. Reduction in the cost of crop production

### **Planned Targets for 2018/19**

### **Key Achievements – 2018/2019**

### **Principal Focus – 2019/2020**

Project Close Out

#### **4.8 Agricultural Competitiveness Programme Bridging Project (ACPBP)**

The Agricultural Competitiveness Bridging Project is aimed at building on the achievements of the initial ACP while addressing new challenges and constraints of the sector. It will provide opportunity for safeguards and expansion of domestic and international markets for Jamaican produces. The project started effective October 2017 and was staffed effective May 1, 2018.

The Agricultural Competitiveness Bridging Project will assist in narrowing the gaps that presently exist with rising imports and local production. It is envisioned that a more productive agricultural sector that employ best practices will be created. The investment of US 5million over three (3) years will result in increased production, productivity and influence the socio-economic development of rural communities.

#### **Aim and Objectives**

To contribute to Jamaica's economic growth and stability, increasing agricultural production, incremental value added food exports, to reduce imports and consequently to improve the trade balance

The ACP (*Bridging*) **project development objectives** will be to.

1. Promote agro-industrial development by increasing output of diversified agriculture and value-added production that meets international standards;
2. Promote rural development through the provision and expansion of adequate agricultural infrastructure and services
3. Strengthen the capacity of the Ministry/Department/Agencies to facilitate the on-going development of the agriculture sector;
4. Promote good agricultural practices that support sustainable development and impact environmental, climate, and topographical management aimed at enhancing adaptive capacity towards sustainable use of natural resources;
5. Strengthen agricultural marketing framework (structures, services, policies, linkages, value chain, standards, regional and international trade);
6. Facilitate the allocation of financial resources and ensure the application of accounting best practices and conformity with developing standards.
7. Develop the Mango Industry through the System Approach

#### **Planned Targets for 2018/19**

1. The Development of the Spring Gardens Agro Park
2. Enhance the capacity of MICAFA's Departments and Agencies
3. Agri-business Value Chain Development and Financial Modeling
4. Development of the Mango Industry
5. Staffing the Programme Implementing Unit (PIU) and Key Experts for the Project's implementation

## Key Achievements – 2018/2019

1. The Development of the Spring Gardens Agro Park
  - Cadastral and GIS surveying 100% completed
  - Construction of a pump house 100% completed
  - Supply and installation of pipes and fittings 75% completed
  - Installation of pump and manifolds 95% completed
2. Enhance the capacity of MICAF's Departments and Agencies
  - 15 Officers trained and 7 achieved certification in Project Management and Microsoft Projects
  - 5 Directors certified as PROCI Change Management Professionals
3. Agri-business Value Chain Development and Financial Modelling
  - a. Strawberry Industry Development
    - Missions fielded to USA with representatives from MICAF, ACPBP, RADA & R&D to identify key partnerships with US based Universities to identify and develop varieties specific to the growing conditions in Jamaica
    - Design for the Greenhouse at Top Mountain Research Station 100% completed and approved by beneficiaries and key stakeholders
    - Design and Estimates for the construction of office space at TMRS 100% completed.
  - b. Mango Industry Development
    - Internal stakeholder consultation regarding the establishment of a modular Hot Water treatment Plant at the Norman Manley International Airport (NMIA) completed.
    - Terms of Reference (ToR) prepared and advertised locally and internationally to facilitate the engagement of a USDA approved consultant
    - Discussions regarding knowledge exchange with the Dominican Republic in progress
    - Suppliers approved to provide the requisite materials and inputs to R&D so as to establish mango plantlets for the building out of the Mango Industry
    - Materials and inputs were procured and delivered to R&D for propagation
4. Staffing the Programme Implementing Unit (PIU) and Key Experts for the Project's implementation
  - Staffing and equipping of the PIU 90% completed
  - Contracting of key experts 20% completed (awaiting the Finance Ministry's approval to contract)



## Principal Focus for 2019/20

*The budget allocated for ACPBP is \$385,500,000.00*

1. Agro-Park Development -Spring Garden Agro Park- Infrastructure works
2. Renovation and Expansion of Top Mountain Research Station
3. Consultancy to provide the design and supervision to facilitate the Construction of Hot Water Treatment Plant at Norman Manley International Airport
4. Value Chain Mapping
5. Minimizing the Pest Population of the West Indian Fruit-Fly
6. Workshops/ Conferences/ Missions/ Knowledge Exchange and Certification for the Ministry's Departments and Agencies
7. Staffing the Programme Implementing Unit (PIU)

## 5.0 Departments, Agencies and Board Summary Reports:

AGRO-INVESTMENT CORPORATION (AiIC).....	58
ANTI-DUMPING AND SUBSIDIES COMMISSION (ADSC) .....	61
THE BANANA BOARD.....	64
BUREAU OF STANDARDS JAMAICA (BSJ).....	65
CANNABIS LICENSING AUTHORITY (CLA) .....	68
COCONUT INDUSTRY BOARD.....	70
CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMISSION.....	72
DEPARTMENT OF COOPERATIVES AND FRIENDLY SOCIETIES (DCFS).....	77
EXIM BANK.....	79
FAIR TRADING COMMISSION (FTC) .....	81
HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES REGULATORY AUTHORITY (HSRA).....	85
JAMAICA 4-H CLUBS.....	89
JAMAICA AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY (JACRA).....	91
JAMAICA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY (JAS).....	93
JAMAICA BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (JBDC) .....	96
JAMAICA DAIRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD (JDDB).....	100
JAMAICA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE (JIPO) .....	102
JAMAICA NATIONAL AGENCY FOR ACCREDITATION (JANAAC).....	105
MICRO INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT AGENCY LIMITED (MIDA).....	107
NATIONAL COMPLIANCE REGULATORY AUTHORITY (NCRA).....	109
NATIONAL IRRIGATION COMMISSION (NIC).....	111
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT TRUSTEE (OGT).....	114
OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR OF INSOLVENCY (OSI).....	116
RURAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (RADA).....	119
TRADE BOARD LIMITED (TBL).....	123

## **AGRO-INVESTMENT CORPORATION (AiIC)**

### **Establishment of the Agency**

Agro Investment Corporation (AIC) is an Agricultural Investment Facilitation entity, operation under the Ministry of Industry Commerce Agriculture and Fisheries. The mandate of the Corporation is to facilitate, invest and promote agricultural development through the provision of state owned lands. Our mandate is extended further though the provision of structural and an all-inclusive development of said lands, enabling and contributing to a productive Agriculture sector.

This is enabled by our engagement of collaborative efforts with other agencies and Ministries of Government, to identify and assist investors in developing and translating their Agricultural initiatives/projects.

The Corporation was established is governed by the Agriculture Investment Act with the requisite Government guidelines and policies applicable or pertinent to the Corporation's function.

### **Aim and Objective**

The aims and objective of AIC are to increase the competitiveness of the agricultural sector in Jamaica by increasing the capacity of small and medium-sized farmers to access national and international markets, to increase the performance of the country's food quality and safety management system and to foster the development of agricultural and agro-processing value chains.

### **Planned Targets for 2018/19**

#### ***Property Fixed Assets***

1. The operationalization of the chill rooms and the leasing of same, generating annual rental income \$1,500,000.00.
2. Leasing of 27,686 sq. ft. of warehouse (levels 1, 2&3) and the leasing of one thousand six hundred (1,600.00) hectares of land, with an annual income of \$3,386,000 and \$14,000,000 respectively.

#### ***Agro parks***

3. To complete 30% infrastructural upgrades over the Four (4) Agro Parks by
  - a. clearing 68 hectares of land
  - b. 15km road upgrade
  - c. the procurement of sixty (60) eye /hand wash units,
  - d. the construction of two producer groups office
  - e. the installation of ten (10) Global Gap compliant bathrooms.
4. To increase the value of agricultural output from the Agro Parks.
5. Provide fully operational and maintained tractors to provide land clearing, ploughing and other services to aid in the efficient running of the farms.

6. To reduce post-harvest loss and to promote best practice evidenced by increased production and productivity.
7. The Scoping and Assessment of agricultural economic zones (AEZs)
8. The establishment of MOU with CASE and NCU with a research initiative as well as a MOU with POPA (Potato and Onion Producer association) under the Irish Potato and Onions national Program.
9. Conducting of field experiments
10. The evaluation, establishment and support of value chains
11. Assisting in providing structured marketing to facilitate increases in production
12. Increase of the number of Investors in the Agro Parks.
13. To target youth and women for increased engagement in agriculture.

## Key Achievements for 2018/19

### Property and fixed assets

- For the period there were notable achievements based on projections for the leasing of one chill room and two additional rooms leased for the storage of dry goods. The remaining rooms are however in a deplorable state of repairs, necessitating the need to lease on a “as is” basis. This resulted in a 50% variance in light of projections for the period and a rental income of \$750,000.00.
- Other notable achievements were derived from the leasing of packing bays of 78% with a 22% variance, leased office space accounting for 89% of projection as well as 88% of lands lease achieving \$12,300,000.00 in rental revenue. With respect to the leasing of warehouse space, there was realization of 100% leasing of the total warehouse space which is on target for the projected \$6,900,000.00 rent per annum.

### Agro parks

- Agro Parks were to have to completed approximately 62.52% of infrastructural work done. However, this was halted by insufficient funding. Other notable achievements include:
  - ✓ The clearing of **38.35 ha** with a **17.50km** upgrade in road work and establishment of drains.
  - ✓ There were **eight (8) stationary and three (3) mobile** bathrooms.
- A total of 90% of the arable are currently being utilized on the in the Agro parks . To date fruits and vegetables have been harvested totaling 2,162,218.21 kg. with a **\$214,065,839.79** of the **\$285,011,342.55** projected market value for said fruits and vegetable.
- **Four (4) tractors** are fully operational and **two hundred and thirty six (236) farmers/** investors have been trained and are employing best practice evidence by increase production of crops.
- **Four (4) Memorandum of Understandings (MOU)** have been signed to establishing service level agreements

## Principal Focus for 2019/2020

1. Projected plans for the Property and Fixed Asset department are grounded in the rental and leasing of fixed assets to generate income. In light of the need for the warehouse space and the renovation of the space that would realize both income from rental and assist in the increase in the handling of non-traditional produce, there is the proposal for the renovation of the \$12,500 sq. ft. warehouse.
  - The remaining five chill rooms are also to be renovated and leased for storage of dry goods for a projected annual rental income of Three Million Six Hundred Thousand (\$3,600,000.00)
  - The leasing of the eighteen (18) packing bays that will result in increased job creation, full leasing of the 27,686 sq. ft. of warehouse space, 13,546.84 sq. ft. office space and the 1600 ha of land to provide annual rental.
2. In the Agro Parks plans:
  - Capacity building programme
  - Climate Smart Agriculture practices on the Agro Parks
  - Assisting in the execution of the Essex Valley Development Project
  - Farm roads and drainage within the Agro Parks - upgrading and maintenance
  - Global G.A.P. (recertification of those parks already certified and certification of new Agro Parks)
  - Assisting in the development and execution of the Holland Estate Development Project
  - Machinery and implement procurement and maintenance
  - Marketing - Targeting international and local markets
  - New technology incorporation
  - Offices at Agro Parks- refurbished and supplied with potable water
  - The expansion of the available land and expanded irrigation coverage at the Plantain Gardens River Agro Park,
  - Post-harvest Storage facility
  - Increased support and collaboration with other Agencies of the Ministry as well as the private sector for research and development projects.
  - Increasing security in the Agro Parks.
  - Assisting in the development and execution of the Southern Plains Agricultural Development Project (Expansion of Amity Hall and Bridge Pen)
  - Improving the infrastructure at the Spring Plain/ Ebony Park Agro Parks.
  - Continued implementation of the Youth in Agriculture programme

## ANTI-DUMPING AND SUBSIDIES COMMISSION (ADSC)

### Establishment of the Agency

The Commission was established under the 1999 Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Act (CDDSA). Implementation of the Safeguard Act (SA) 2001 was added to the mandate of the Commission.

### Aim and Objective

The core mandate of the Commission is to defend productive and manufacturing activity in Jamaica under the Trade Remedy Rules framework to which Jamaica is signatory as a member of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) – antidumping, subsidies and countervailing duties and safeguard measures. The Commission provides expert advice and analysis to facilitate legislation, policy, negotiations, training and consultation, as well as investigation to defend producers in Jamaica.

### Planned Targets for 2018/19

- a) Educate stakeholders, including consumers, regarding the legal framework of international trade defense laws (Trade Remedies) - the Acts and Agreements.
- b) Build business capacity for producers in Jamaica to take trade remedy defensive action through consultations, customized training, seminars, workshops and instructional material. Conduct import data research, analysis and advise seven (7) industries for the year under Vision 2030 National Development Plan Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework 2015-2018.
- c) Conduct investigation(s), if any are filed with or initiated by the Commission, in accordance with the requirements of the Acts and Agreements.
- d) Develop the expertise of Commissioners and Staff by training and exposure.
- e) Compliant and efficient administration of the Agency so that GOJ requirements are met; including audits, performance, financial and other regulatory reports submitted timely.

### Key Achievements for 2018/19

- i. Industry Consultation and Facilitation/Help Desk Activity. The Staff continued to identify industries for intervention by analysis of import data. Assistance given to targeted industries was increased on how to build more robust business strategy using trade remedies, how to collect and process data and how to prepare trade remedy complaints for submission.
- ii. Draft Complaint Received. As a result of the focussed intervention of the Staff, a Draft Complaint was received for review by the Staff from one manufacturer in 2018. The Staff reviewed the submission, met with industry representatives and offered feedback, followed by ongoing interaction to enable the industry to complete the submission of a Complaint that can be adjudicated. This action is pending.

- iii. Industry Training and Public Education. The Commission hosted three (3) training seminars in the year, two in May 2018. In February 2019, a Technical Mission from the World Trade Organisation, Rules Division travelled to Jamaica to train the Staff and Commissioners. A one-day seminar formed a part of the week of training and was taught by the WTO team. Representatives from two CARICOM neighbours, Barbados and Guyana, other Jamaican public officials and industry representatives attended the workshop. The Staff also conducted smaller, tailored training interventions for two companies. A combined number of sixty-nine (69) individuals in five industries were trained. Fifteen (15) attorneys from two (2) law firms (legal and consulting services) were included in the number of persons trained to increase the capacity for petitions by domestic industries. Other education and training matters undertaken included:
- Assisted Jamaica Customs Agency article in Customs' Trade Beat Newsletter, April 2018.
  - Presented on "Actioning Trade Policy - The Key Link in the Growth Agenda" Department of Government, University of the West Indies Conference, "Governance for Tomorrow: Innovation, Politics, Policy and Sustainable Development," July 2018.
  - Responses to Government of Guyana in respect of retrieving data; Jamaica High Commission to Canada in respect of Safeguard investigation into imports of Steel; might be available and offered technical training assistance in relation to trade remedy investigations.
- iv. Legislation. The Commission provided expert analysis and comments to facilitate and support the completion of the pending amendment to the Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Act.
- v. Research and Analysis. The Staff reviewed, analyzed issues and provided comments to the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries. In response to a request of the Minister, the Staff is preparing a report on the Commission's success in assisting industries.
- vi. Human Resource and Compliance goals were met. Two key posts were filled, the Forensic Financial Analyst/Financial Controller in October 2018 and Administrative Assistant in January 2019. Reports were timely filed. Financial/Annual Reports were advanced. ISO was advanced.
- vii. ADSC as Resource. In keeping with the Commission's posture of being a resource for other organs of Government, some of the activities of the Staff during the period were:
- a. Comments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade on matters of tariffs, trade flows, and trade remedy matters; CARIFORUM-EU (Review) and UK-EPA (Brexit)
  - b. Trade Facilitation Technical Working Group for Legislative Review; National Consumer Affairs Policy Steering Committee.
- viii. Staff and Commissioner Training. The Staff was active in WTO online training and received a WTO Training Mission in February 2019. The Senior Economist attended the WTO Advanced Trade Policy Course in Geneva, Switzerland. One (1) new Commissioner was oriented. The Executive Director completed work on a seventh WTO Dispute Settlement Panel in March 2019.

## Principal Focus for 2019/2020

### 1. Annual Budget 2019/2020

Object	Item	Estimates 2019/2020
21	Compensation of Employees	\$42,316,000
22	Travel Expenses and Subsistence	\$10,982,000
23	Rental of Property and Machinery	\$11,478,000
24	Utilities and Communication Services	\$1,000,000
25	Use of Goods and Services	\$4,547,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$70,323,000</b>

- Educate stakeholders regarding international Trade Remedies.
- Conduct investigation(s) filed in accordance with the legislation and Agreements.
- Advance the Help Desk concept to help more industries to prepare complaints to be filed.
- Advice on policy and review, facilitate legislative amendments under the Draft Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Bill.
- Increase public awareness of Trade Remedies, primarily by use of social media.



## THE BANANA BOARD

### Establishment of Agency

The Banana Board is a statutory body established October 1, 1953 under the *Banana Board Act*, which is aligned with the *Banana Insurance Act* of 1946. The Board's affairs are governed by a Board of Directors, which comprises eight (8) members, who are appointed by the Minister of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries (MICAF).

### Aims and Objectives

- **Overall Objective:** To reduce poverty and improve revenues in the banana dependent communities.
- **The Specific Objective or Purpose:** To increase production and productivity in farms and agribusiness enterprises.

### Planned Targets for 2018/19

- Increased banana production to 30% above 2011 levels
- Increased yield productivity to 7.5% above 2011 levels.

### Key Achievements for 2018/19

### Principal Focus for 2019/2020

- **Annual Budget 2019/20**

## BUREAU OF STANDARDS JAMAICA (BSJ)

### Establishment of the Agency

Statutory body was established by the Standards Act of 1969

### Aims and Objectives

The BSJ undertakes trade facilitation, business development and consumer protection activities in connection with standardization, metrology and conformity assessment. The main activities of the BSJ are facilitating the development of standards; conducting laboratory tests; calibrating instruments; certifying products and management systems; delivering training courses and educating stakeholders on standardization, metrology, and conformity assessment issues.

### Planned Targets for 2018/19

Performance Indicator	Target	Achievement
# of companies assisted in implementing standards and meeting overseas market access requirements	12	15
# of standards for which implementation is facilitated	4	4
# of persons supported in developing income generating and sustainable livelihood initiatives (Bamboo Products Industry)	48	32
# of training solutions provided to external stakeholders	44	47
# of external stakeholders trained	840	533
# of promotional/education activities	30	47
# of certificates issued (product certification)	3	5
# of tests and calibrations for which international recognition/accreditation is sought	10	6
# of upgraded/new tests	7	8
% completed on time in full (COTIF) for laboratory testing and calibration services	≥80%	82%

### Key Achievements for 2018/19

- Published 133 standards; another 23 standards completed (awaiting Minister's approval).
- Launch/promotion of: 8 ASTM standards for structural steel products and steel wire enforcement and an ISO environmental management system standard.
- Received the Best Support Award from the Jamaica Manufacturers and Exporters Association in October.
- Provision of discounts valued at J\$2.67M on selected technical services to 62 MSMEs under collaborative agreements with the Jamaica Agro-Processors Association and the Jamaica Business Development Corporation.
- Implementation of a Client Servicing Programme – technical assistance provided to MSMEs to use standards to improve business efficiency as well as product and service quality.

- Successfully implement the National Quality Awards Programme for 2018 – 8 companies recognized for business excellence through the use of standards.
- 10 food processing companies were provided with technical advice in preparing for US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) inspection visits. No regulatory action was recommended by the FDA after the inspections.
- Commenced a project to provide cannabis industry stakeholders (public and private) with standards solutions.
- Assisted the Castor Association to develop a project to create a standard for Jamaican Black Castor Oil.
- MOU signed between BSJ and UTech, Jamaica in October for the incorporation of metrology and the rudiments of standards and quality in the engineering and science curricula.
  - A module titled: Rural Production and Standardization, which was developed by the BSJ, is included in UTech, Jamaica's new Master of Science in Integrated Rural Development (which was launched in February 2019). This module will be delivered in the second semester of 2019.
- 45 accredited tests are offered by the organization's Chemistry (19), Microbiology (21), Metallurgy (2), and Packaging (1) Laboratories.
  - 4 of the tests conducted by the Chemistry and Microbiology Laboratories were accredited by JANAAC during the period.
- 47 training courses delivered to 533 external persons in various areas including: food safety, quality management, environmental management; occupational health and safety, business continuity, competence of testing and calibration laboratories, risk management, quality assurance, and measurement uncertainty.
- The National Certification Body of Jamaica (NCBJ) certified 2 companies to ISO 9001:2015. Total number of certified companies – 13.
- Expansion of the scope of NCBJ's services to offer organic certification.
- Collaborated with the NCRA to develop the framework for the mandatory Energy Efficiency Testing and Labelling Programme for appliances (refrigerators, freezers, wine chillers and room air condition units).
  - Executed 7 sessions to educate stakeholders (importers, retailers and distributors) on the elements of the energy efficiency labels.
  - Commenced provision of testing and labelling services from the expanded Energy Efficiency Testing Laboratory
- Established a new Packaging Laboratory - 5 new packaging testing services (paper, cardboard and plastic).
- Successfully executed a Caribbean International Bamboo Symposium in November - 250 participants from local and overseas. Included a field trip to three bamboo processing facilities in St. Catherine and St. Elizabeth.
- 47 promotional/educational sessions conducted - local regulatory requirements for processed foods; good manufacturing practices; standards development process; labelling and packaging services; US and Canada new food safety requirements; organic certification services; quality and safety in construction; code of practice for technical regulations; and block chain and distributed ledger technology.
- Attained re-certification of the BSJ's quality management system to ISO 9001:2015.

## Principal Focus for 2019/2020

- **Annual Budget 2019/20** - *The total expense budgeted for the financial year 2019/20 is \$978,298,388 against an expected inflow of \$997,512,516, thus resulting in a surplus of \$19,214,127. This will be used to support our capital program going forward.*
  - Facilitate development/adoption of 65 standards.
  - Continue to support the strengthening of the tourism health and wellness industry (spa) and the castor oil industry through the provision of standards solutions.
  - Continue to assist food companies that export to understand and comply with market access requirements of major trading partners (USA and Canada).
  - Implement a project to establish a Time and Frequency Laboratory.
  - Develop capacity to test LPG composite cylinders (Metallurgy Laboratory).
  - Strengthen gas testing capabilities (Chemistry Laboratory).
  - Transition 7 metrology and testing laboratories to the 2017 version of ISO/IEC 17025 and implement the standard in another 5 laboratories.
    - Seek accreditation for 5 petrol tests (Chemistry Laboratory) and 14 building/construction materials tests (Cement, Aggregates, Blocks, Concrete).
  - In collaboration with the International Code Council, coordinate the National Training Consortium to support implementation of the National Building Code – will provide training to building practitioners and professionals at the Ministry of Local Government and other relevant Ministries and agencies.
  - NCBJ – Seek to offer certification services to ISO 22000 (food safety management) and build capacity to be recognized by the US FDA to offer Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Accredited Third-Party Certification.
  - Continue the process of modernizing the existing governing legislations (Standards Act, Processed Food Act, Weights and Measures Act).
  - Continue to implement a project to obtain accreditation to offer ISO/IEC 17024 certification to persons and offer certificate training programmes.
  - Implement a project, in collaboration with the Bamboo in Construction Working Group, the National Housing Trust, and the UTech, Jamaica, to conduct research and development on the use of bamboo in place of traditional block and steel for the construction of bamboo houses. NHT has committed \$54M for this project.

## **CANNABIS LICENSING AUTHORITY (CLA)**

### **Establishment of the Agency**

The Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA) was established in 2015 under the Dangerous Drug (Amendment) Act 2015 (DDA).

### **Aims and Objectives of the CLA**

The Authority's aims and objectives are outlined in its Corporate Imperative (CI) which are highlighted in the organization's Strategic Plan and are listed as follows:

- To build partnerships with key stakeholders to create an enabling environment for the cannabis industry;
- To efficiently administer the Cannabis Industry Regulations;
- To effectively communicate key messages regarding the Industry;
- To create an efficient and effective organization and workforce.

### **Planned Targets for 2018/19**

1. Timely processing of 100% of applications received.
2. Timely Issuing of Conditional Approvals and Licenses.
3. 100% of pre-licensing site inspections scheduled and conducted upon request.
4. 100 % of post-licensing activities are scheduled upon request and monitored.
5. Enforcement and Monitoring Division is represented at briefings 100% of the time.
6. 100% Referrals made upon occurrence and committee decisions executed and Suspension operations conducted in conjunction with the JCF.
7. Completion of MOU with JCF by 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY2018-2019.
8. 75% Increase Capacity in Human Resource for the Authority.
9. Timely coordination and participation in public awareness events and meetings regarding development in the cannabis industry.
10. Obtain AD Project Funding and initiate implementation of Cannabis Alternative Development (AD) Projects in selected communities.

### **Key Achievements for 2018/19**

1. FY2018-2019: One hundred and ninety-five (195) Applications received;
2. In FY2018-2019: Twenty-two (22) Licenses issued; and Ninety-seven (97) Conditional Approvals granted.
3. 70 Pre-licensing Site Inspections were conducted during the FY2018–2019 (100% of Target met).
4. 203 post-licensing activities were monitored during the FY2018-2019 (100% of Target met).
5. 43 briefings conducted with Conditionally Approved applicants for the FY2018-2019.
6. CLA signed JCF MOU in March 2019.

7. Current staff complement thirty-three (33) (61% increase in staff complement)
8. Revised and approve Organizational Structure to sixty-one (61) staff members.
9. Participated in 10 Public Awareness events for the FY, and 5 Media Engagements.
10. Authority's Social Media impressions fluctuated from month to month with an average of approximately 6,478 total impressions per month.
11. Approval of AD Project funding obtained in 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of Financial Year; Visits and evaluation of the Cannabis Alternative Development (AD) Project sites in Accompong, St. Elizabeth and Orange Hill, Westmoreland, conducted in 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

### **Principal Focus for 2019/2020**

- ***Annual Budget 2019/20 - Approval was given for a budget allocation of J\$271.46M, which includes \$45.0M for Appropriations-In-Aid.***
  - Implementation of Track and Trace system.
  - The Enforcement and Monitoring Division will continue to focus on increasing staff complement, capacity building and resources and, increasing compliance.
  - Empowerment of Enforcement Officers through Firearm Licensing and Special District Constable Appointments.
  - Full implementation and monitoring of Cannabis Alternative Development (AD) Project/Programme based on Policy Directive via Cabinet Decision.

## COCONUT INDUSTRY BOARD

### Establishment of Agency

The Coconut Industry Board was established under the Coconut Industry Control Act, Cap. 62, enacted in 1945 and consist of nine members, four of whom, including the Chairman, are appointed by the Minister with the responsibility of Agriculture and Fisheries. The remaining five are elected by registered coconut growers and must themselves be registered coconut growers or the attorneys for such registered coconut growers or the managing directors or managers of companies which are registered coconut growers.

The Board promotes the interests and efficiency of the coconut industry, encourages the production of coconuts and regulates the purchase, sale and exportation of coconuts, as well as the importation of coconut products and substitutes.

### Planned Targets for 2018/19

- Export 45,000 seed coconuts.
- Purchase land to establish nursery.
- Expand shade house and elevate coconut seed beds at Spring Garden nursery
- Distribute 100, 000 seedlings.
- Marketing coconuts for farmers by purchasing 1,000,000 nuts for sale in the Coconut Shop.
- Assist farmers to remove lethal yellowing diseased trees.
- Continue research in areas of Pathology, Botany, Agronomy and Tissue Culture.
- Renovation of coconut processing plant.
- Marling and levelling farm road in St. Elizabeth.

### Key Achievements for 2018/19

- The Board distributed 69,095 coconut seedlings, of which 59,856 seedlings at a cost of \$9.8M were given free to farmers under the Board's planting programmes along with free fertilizer and weed grant valued at \$3.04M. Coconut seedlings totalling 3,862 were also distributed to farmers free of cost.
- Marketing farmers' coconuts by purchasing 926,033 coconuts at a cost of \$50,962,685 during 2018, for sale in the Coconut Shop at 18 Waterloo Road, Kingston 10.
- Raised coconut seed beds at Spring Garden nursery and increased shade cloth in nursery.
- 60,000 seed coconuts with F.O.B. value of US\$183,000 were exported to Florida in the United States of America.
- Assisted farmers by removing 7,783 lethal yellowing diseased trees.
- Control of Ambrosia Beetle in the parishes of St. Mary, Portland, St. Thomas, Clarendon, St. Elizabeth and Hanover.

- Production of 1,376 seedlings of the Special Malayan Dwarf Yellows of which 96% distributed to farmers. Continued monitoring of these plants which have not succumbed to the LY disease.
- Continued hybridization activities at Barton Isles Seed Gardens in St. Elizabeth for the production of Maypan and Brapan varieties.
- Commencement of replication of various varieties (including rare varieties) at the Field gene bank in Plantain Garden, St. Thomas.
- Participation in the "Caribbean Coconut Development Project" spearheaded by ITC/CARDI and the TROPICSAFE - 2020 HORIZON FUNDED PROJECT for research on insect-borne prokaryotic -associated diseases in tropical and sub-tropical perennial crops.
- Conduct of experiments on pre-nurseries, vermicomposting, effectiveness of fertilizer, effects of mother palms on germination.
- Conduct work in coconut tissue culture to establish protocols for multiplication.
- Visits to 2,768 coconut farmers by the Board's Advisory Officers, to provide technical assistance and support and to disseminate relevant information.
- Marling and levelling farm roads in St. Elizabeth.
- Renovation of part of the processing plant.

#### **Principal Focus for 2019/2020**

- ***Annual Budget 2019/20 - \$439M***
  - To acquire land to expand nursery, seed garden and to establish commercial activities.
  - Increase seedling distribution to farmers.
  - Improve germination of seed nuts in nurseries.
  - Increase micro-propagation in coconut tissue culture with the University of the West Indies.
  - Continue research in areas of Pathology, Agronomy and Botany.
  - Continue to collaborate with CARDI/ITC and Tropicsafe with the goal to increase productivity in the Caribbean and discover insect vectors associated with coconut.



## CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMISSION

### Establishment of Agency

The Agency was formerly known as the Prices, Commission which was established in 1971 based on amendments to the Trade Act of 1970.

The Consumer Protection Act (2005), as amended in 2012, established the CAC as a statutory body empowered to promote and protect consumer interests in relation to the supply of goods and the provision of services in order to ensure protection of life, health and safety of consumers and others.

### Aims and Objectives

The overall objective of the Commission is to promote and protect the interests and welfare of consumers in Jamaica.

### Planned Targets for 2018/2019

- Secure J\$16m secured for operational activities
- 87% annual resolution rate of complaints handled
- 1,790 complaints handled
- 100% requests for advice recorded and addressed
- Community Outreach to 140,700 people
- 382 presentations to public
- 900 traditional media exposures (including interviews)
- 31 price surveys
- 5 additional surveys /research studies
- 31 publications of survey prices
- 6 meetings with the distributive trade

### Key Achievements for 2018/2019

- J\$21.96m secured (37% above target)
- 1,577 complaints handled including 423 'bad gas' complaints
- 1,200 complaints settled (75% annual resolution rate)
- 835 advice/information provided
- 114,160 people impacted through community outreach
- Number of activities (presentations, exhibits, etc.): 495
- Media Exposures (including interviews): 1,206
- Price Surveys: 30
- Additional Surveys /Research Studies: 7
- Publication of Survey Prices: 28
- Meeting of the Distributive Trade: 4

## Other Achievements

- Cabinet approval, by way of Decision No. 18/18 dated 21st May 2018, for the development of the National Consumer Affairs Policy and Implementation Plan. The Steering Committee has been established and has had 2 meetings to date.
- The CAC achieved a brand recognition score<sup>10</sup> of 72% among consumer audiences polled.
- Participated in extensive consultations with the Bank of Jamaica, Financial Services Commission, the Office of Technical Assistance, US Treasury and other stakeholders towards the development of a suitable consumer protection framework for deposit taking institutions.
- Commenced development of the CAC Mobile App.
- Upgraded the CAC website's Price Enquiry tool (gives consumers online access to price data)
- Continued representation on the Consumer Protection and Financial Literacy Working Group

## Principal Focus for FY2019/2020

*FY 2019-2020 budgeted allocation of **\$131.672M** including AIA of **\$2M** was granted by the Ministry of Finance and Public Service.*

- **Governance**
  - ISO 9001 certification by June 2019
  - Implement procedures related to merger with FTC
- **The Business Environment**
  - Secure consultant; continue stakeholder consultations towards the development of the National Consumer Policy and Implementation Plan;
  - Implement interventions based on researched results from consumer and provider perspective on ethical relations in the marketplace.
  - Implement programme to enhance complaints handling procedures among businesses
- **Collaboration and Partnerships**
  - Conclude discussions to formalize collaboration with JCAA, PSOJ, JMA and Chamber of Commerce to include sensitization session for business community.
- **Education**
  - Implement targeted education campaigns (Financial Literacy, Consumer Behaviour, etc.)
  - Increase CPA sensitization sessions with business and legislative stakeholders (Police, Judges, Attorneys, etc.)

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<sup>10</sup> Brand recognition survey is a trend analysis of expo /trade show audiences sampled at on various points within the year.

- **Enforcement /Compliance & Advocacy**
  - Continue advocating settlement for consumers who lodged 'Bad Gas' complaints;
  - Implement compliance and enforcement policy (in relation to CPA).
- **Technology**
  - Jointly acquire with FTC through World Bank funding, a Case Management Software (CMS) (used to capture consumer complaints).
  - Launch CAC mobile App
  - Launch price analysis tool on CAC Website
  - Implement Interactive Voice Application for complaints and price enquiry
  - Upgrade Network Infrastructure<sup>11</sup>
  - Implement new Voice over IP Telephone system<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> No allocation made in 2019/20 budget

<sup>12</sup> Ibid

## COMPANIES OF JAMAICA (COJ)

### Establishment of Agency

The Companies Office of Jamaica (COJ) was established as a separate Department of the Government of Jamaica in 1975 in accordance with the Companies Act. In 1999 it was granted Executive Agency status in accordance with the Executive Agencies Act.

### Aims and Objectives

The aims/goals of the COJ are to:

- Facilitate the ease of doing business in Jamaica
- Contribute to the strengthening of Jamaica's economic infrastructure

The strategic objectives of the COJ are as follows:

- Maximize customer satisfaction
- Promote effective governance
- Operational optimization and service efficiency
- Increase compliance rates
- Maintain financial efficiency/stability
- Develop employee capacity

### Planned Targets for FY2018/2019

Measure	Target
Increased Customer Satisfaction	85%
Improved Service Quality	Customer wait time = 35 minutes
Guaranteed Service Time	85%
No. companies filing Annual Returns	12,300
Increase # of public outreach events	38
Maintain generated revenues	90% of budget
Revenues to cover expenditure	80%
Maintain working capital	≥1 (95%)
ISO 9001:2015 certification	By 31/12/2018
Website enhancements through eBRF	Electronic company registration
Electronic IFSC company registration	Procurement of software by 31/3/2019
Employee Satisfaction	70%
Employees engaged in at least 3 hours of COJ sponsored training	85%

### Key achievements for the FY<sup>13</sup>2018/2019

- Electronic registration of Business Names (individual and corporate sole proprietors and partnerships) publicly available
- Electronic company registration module deployed in January 2019 and 2 companies registered. Module had to be taken down to fix bugs.
- Terms of Reference drafted for Consultant to undertake Business Process Re-Engineering Exercise at COJ. Requests for Statements of Capability advertised and five (5) statements received from both local and overseas Consultants. Assistance received from the Strategic Public Sector Transformation Project of the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service to underwrite the cost of the exercise.
- Customer Satisfaction=90%
- # of companies filing Annual Returns=13,061
- Generated Revenues=\$441M
- Expenditure Cover=99.2%
- Working capital=1.49
- Employee Satisfaction=77%
- % of employees engaged in at least 3 hours of COJ sponsored training=86%

### Principal focus for 2019/2020

- *Annual Budget 2019/2020= \$483,604,000*
  - Conduct of a Business Process Re-Engineering Exercise to update the COJ's organizational structure and modernize its processes and procedures
  - Completion of the Electronic Business Registration (eBRF) Project in order to offer online registration of new companies and Business Names
  - Amendments to the Companies and Registration of Business Names Act
  - Relocation of some support COJ Units to another building (in close proximity) in order to expand the Customer Service area.
  - Relocation of the Montego Bay satellite office to a space that can accommodate more customers and provide better parking.

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<sup>13</sup> All financial information provided is at February 28, 2019 since the Financials for March, 2018 are not yet available.

## DEPARTMENT OF COOPERATIVES AND FRIENDLY SOCIETIES (DCFS)

### Aims and Objectives

Under the Charity Act 2013, the Department is designated 'Charities Authority' with responsibility for the registration, regulation, administration and governance of Charitable Organizations desirous of benefiting from tax relief within Jamaica.

The Department's mandate under the jurisdiction of all these Acts and associated regulations is focused primarily at ensuring the safety of the Societies' assets, the protection of members' savings and investments and the protection of other stakeholders' interests.

### Planned Targets and Key Achievements for 2018/19

ACTIVITIES	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENTS
<b>1. # of application (Groups) processed within agreed timeline</b>	30	Twenty-seven (27) application were processed for registration under the relevant Acts and Regulations
<b>2. (a) % of application (Charities) processed within agreed timeline</b>	90%	A total of two hundred and forty-four (244) applications received and two hundred and thirty (230) processed within the agreed time frame.
<b>2. (b) % of renewal processed within establish timeline.</b>	Upon Application	90% of renewal applications received processed within agreed time frame
<b>3. # of groups attaining legal status within agreed timeline.</b>	20	Twenty-one entities registered to date
<b>4. # of Societies receiving technical assistance</b>	561	1487
<b>5. # of inspections carried out</b>	116	88 for 47 Entities
<b>6. # of Societies monitored /assessed</b>	724	410 for 329 Entities
<b>7.# of pre-audits carried out</b>	66	60 Entities
<b>8.# of audits carried out</b>	120 Societies for 150 Audit Years	92 Societies for 136 Audit Years
<b>9. # of investigations completed</b>	As assigned by RCS	11

### **Principal Focus for 2019/2020**

- 130 Societies audits with accumulated 175 Audit Years
- 571 Societies assessed
- 55 groups processed within the agreed timeline and 40 attain legal status
- 122 Inspections executed
- 600 individual participate in Workshops and Conferences
- Review and update of the relevant Acts and Regulations
  - Amendment to the Co-operative Societies Acts and associated Regulations,
  - Propose amendments to the Charities Act sent to Chief Parliamentary Counsel
  - Review Friendly Societies Act
  - Completion of Guidance Notes for Charitable organizations
  - Prepare DCFS response to CFATF 40 recommendations
- 100% of societies receive technical assistance as per set development programmes

## EXIM BANK

### Establishment of Agency

The EXIM Bank was established in May 1986 in response to Government's stated objective to enhance growth and development through an export led economy. The Bank is mandated under its Memorandum of Association to inter alia, provide financing and financial assistance for the export and import of goods, commodities and services between Jamaica and any foreign country and to encourage and develop trade between Jamaica and other countries.

### Aims and Objectives

The Bank through its strategic mandate aims to:

- Facilitate improved national export performance by facilitating improved export performance for new and existing clients.
- Effect trade financing solutions tailored to customers' needs.
- Expand the role as a capacity builder for the SME sector customers.
- Promote and facilitate the growth and transformation of the productive sector
- Assist business ventures in becoming viable and competitive in international markets
- Add value to national policy framework
- Grow Loan Utilization to \$9.3 Billion
- To enhance internal and external brand awareness and engagement.
- Maintain sound governance, accountability, risk management & compliance framework

### Planned Targets for 2018/19

<b><u>Corporate KPI'S</u></b>	<b><u>Targets</u></b>
○ Increase in Total Exports from Customers	5%
○ Loan Utilization (Disbursements)	J\$9.30 Billion
○ Profit Before Tax	J\$40.85 Million
○ Customer Satisfaction Score	95%
○ Bad Debt provision as a % of total loan portfolio	3%
○ % adherence to regulatory and statutory requirements	100%
○ Staff satisfaction score	70%



## Key Achievements for 2018/19

1. Greater due diligence and effective credit management with Bad Debt provision below target.
2. Injection of approximately \$750 Million to support on lending to SMEs.
3. Maintained high quality service and fulfilment of customer needs at each level of interaction thus achieving a Client Satisfaction rating of 95%.
4. Commencement of ISO 9001 Quality Management Standard Certification.
5. Staff satisfaction rating of 89.21%

## Principal Focus for 2019/2020

	2019/2020	2018/2019
Budgeted Expenditure	<b>J\$824.67 Million</b>	<b>J\$750.56 Million</b>

The EXIM Bank is committed to fulfilling its mandate in keeping with changing market realities. The Bank plays a fundamental role in national development as the country's premier trade financing institution and has been very impactful in addressing market gaps and broadening access to finance for the critical SME market. For the upcoming year, the Bank will:

- ✚ Facilitate improved national export performance by facilitating improved export performance for new and existing clients
- ✚ Enhance the marketing and brand building programme
- ✚ Empower and facilitate the SME sector through new and revised programmes
- ✚ Design innovative and effective financing solutions
- ✚ Maintain sound governance and accountability in a risk management and compliance framework
- ✚ Improve service delivery and efficient processes through expanded use of technology
- ✚ Ensure growth and diversification of the customer base, particularly SMEs
- ✚ Provide loans at even lower rates of interest
- ✚ Address challenges faced by the SME sector with respect to financial inclusion
- ✚ Identify innovative ways to boost sales and revenue streams
- ✚ Improve service delivery through the expanded use of technology
- ✚ Add value to national policy framework
- ✚ Seek increased capital injection through funding opportunities
- ✚ Reduce operating expenditure through outsourcing strategies and/or shared services
- ✚ Increase collaboration with entities supporting SMEs

## FAIR TRADING COMMISSION (FTC)

### Establishment of Agency

The Fair Trading Commission was established in 1993 under the Fair Competition Act.

### Aims and Objectives

As the administrative body of the Fair Competition Act (FCA), the aim of the Fair Trading Commission is to maintain and encourage competition in the provision of goods and services in Jamaica with a view to promote economic efficiency, which will lead to competitive prices and a wider range of products for consumers. The ultimate objective of the FTC is to foster economic growth through the promotion of competition.

### Planned Targets for 2018/19

Performance Indicators	Target 18/19	Actual Result 18/19
Case resolution rate	75%	85%
Number of allegations of anti-competitive conduct in the economy	218	114
Number of information dissemination activities executed	14	16
Number of market studies & competition advocacy activities undertaken	32	21
Number of legislation or policy related activities undertaken/reviewed for effect on competition	8	12

### Key Achievements for 2018/19

Legislation or policy related review covered six (6) sectors, namely: (a) Telecomms; (b) Banking; (c) Finance; (d) Health insurance; (e) Tourism (Destination Management Cos.); (f) Airport Services. These included:

1. Conduct of market participants' use of their health insurance electronic swipe card.
2. Work of the Financial Inclusion Steering Committee which includes the Consumer Protection & Financial Literacy Working Group.
3. Transportation arrangements in the Tourism sector, specifically between hotels and Destination Management Companies. Concluded that neither Competition policy nor trade measures could be used to address the core issues.
4. Availability of spectrum: implications for competition in the telecoms market.

*Airport Services Market:* With regard the divestment of the airport services of the Norman Manley International Airport (NMIA), FTC conducted an assessment of having a single entity operate both the NMIA and the Sangster International Airport. Made recommendations to the Development Bank of Jamaica and the Airports Authority of Jamaica on the behavioural remedies that should be included in the Concession Agreement if both airports are to be operated by the same entity.

*Competition in the Banking Sector:* Consultants hired to conduct a market study completed 2 of the 5 deliverables: Inception Report and Draft Interim Report. Both were approved. It included several recommendations for strengthening competition in the space within which Commercial Banks, Credit Unions, Building Societies and Micro-Finance Institutions operate.

*Informal Economy:* Presented a summary of Jamaica's informal economy, specifically, the impact of the informal sector on trade and competition as well as methods used by the FTC in conducting investigations in which providers of goods and services operate primarily in the informal economy.

*Privy Council Judgment:* received costs totaling \$27 million in the *FTC v Digicel* matter.

### ***Institutional Strengthening***

*Merger Review Regime:* Completed the consultations and drafting of provisions for Jamaica's Merger review regime, that is to be included in the FCA. 5 of the 8 deliverables were completed by the Consultants, and all were approved. Submitted the draft Cabinet Submission to the Attorney General's Chambers and the Ministry of Finance & Planning, for approval.

*Strengthening Competition Advocacy:* Completed Consultancy that (a) assessed the effectiveness of FTC's advocacy interventions & analysed advocacy activities; (b) formulated measures to increase the effectiveness of competition advocacy in Jamaica; and (c) made recommendations that will build capacity within the FTC to support the implementation of the aforementioned measures.

*FTC's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:* recognized through several activities including JIS Think Tank, publication of special edition of FTC's annual magazine, conducting lectures at University of the West Indies and University of Technology.

### ***Regional Work***

*CSME Unit's Subcommittee of the Reconvened Task Force on Competition:* FTC chairs the Subcommittee whose objective is to examine the jurisdictional, legal and financial implications of having national competition authorities established in all Member States together with the required support systems. Includes the FTC's ongoing work with OECS member states towards having a single authority to handle competition and consumer protection matters.

*CARIFORUM-EU EPA:* Participated in ongoing discussions on the rollover of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA into a CARIFORUM-UK trade agreement, post Brexit.

*CARICOM Competition Commission (CCC):* Review of the 2018/2019 Work Plan and Budget - submitted suggestions to the CCC, for increasing its technical capacity and effectiveness. These included addressing human resource deficiencies, information technology requirements; legal & policy framework; and training needs.

*CARICOM Model Consumer Protection Bill, 2016:* Submissions on the Draft Model Consumer Protection Regulations were made on (a) the state of Jamaica's Consumer Protection Act with respect to the CARICOM Model Consumer Protection Bill; (b) the draft Regulations for the Model Consumer Protection Bill; suggestions for additional Regulations that ought to be drafted.

### **Principal Focus for 2019/2020**

- ***Annual Budget 2019/20 - \$104.6M***

#### *Sector assessments:*

- *Banking & Finance:* (a) Continuing work with the Bank of Jamaica on the examination of legislation and policies that govern financial inclusion. (b) Completing the market study on assessing the level of competition in the banking sector.
- *Public Sector Pharmacy Partnership Programme:* Assessment of the effect on the market of the Ministry of Health's Programme to partner with some private pharmacies to distribute at significantly discounted prices, medication contained on the government's Vital, Essential and Necessary (VEN) list of drugs.
- *Port Services:* Identify measures to improve the competitiveness of the sector which is a crucial platform for international trade. Preliminary findings indicated that competition along the logistics chain on which Jamaica exist is high; but at the local level, competition appears to be limited.
- *Digital economy:* Its emergence is threatening to disrupt the design and impact of various commercial conduct in Jamaica. The internet and related digital technologies are rapidly becoming an integral part of commerce and it is likely to significantly change the way merchants traditionally interact with consumers as well as the way in which merchants compete with each other. The FTC will be completing research to inform itself of the salient modifications that may be required, to handle economic assessments of conduct within the digital economy.

#### *Institutional Strengthening*

- *Merger Review Regime:* Facilitating consultation workshops with various key stakeholders as well as technical training on implementation and operational aspects of the Merger Review process. Completing and implementing the required administrative

procedures/processes for the regime; and improving the Staff's technical capacity to handle merger applications and operational aspects.

- *ISO Certification:* Completing the ISO certification process.
- *FTC/CAC Merger:* Completing the administrative and operational aspects for the new entity that is to enforce competition and consumer protection law. Identify the most effective means through which the Fair Competition Act and the Consumer Protection Act can be enforced by the new entity.

## HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES REGULATORY AUTHORITY (HSRA)

### Establishment of the Agency

The Hazardous Substances Regulatory Authority (HSRA) was established by the Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Act 2015 to regulate and monitor all activities, practices and facilities involved in nuclear technology and ionizing radiation sources for the protection of public health and safety. It began operation on 4 September 2017.

### Aims and Objectives

The HSRA facilitates the protection of people, property and the environment from the harmful effects of ionizing radiation through implementation of programs, projects and activities to ensure the safety and security of those substances in line with international regulations, standards and best practice.

### Planned Targets for 2018/19

- 200 radiation sources registered in HSRA database
- 120 ionizing radiation facilities inspected /verified
- 100 Authorizations issued
- Five (5) Incidents investigated
- Staff trained in Inspection and Authorization Procedures and other Regulatory Functions
- 15 training/workshops attended by HSRA staff

### Key Achievements for 2018/19

- 185 radiation sources entered in HSRA registry database
- 25 ionizing radiation facilities verified
- One (1) Authorization application processed
- 6 radiation incidents investigated
- 6 Staff trained in Inspection and Authorization Procedures (medical and industrial)
- 8 Staff trained in Regulatory Functions (orphan source\* search, transport of radioactive sources, emergency preparedness and emergency response, risk management assessment, root cause analysis, *inter alia*)
- 16 training/workshops attended by HSRA staff
- Recovery of two (2) orphan radioactive sources

(\* Orphan sources – Radioactive sources out of regulatory control)

## Principal Focus for 2019/2020

- **Annual Budget 2019/20 - \$35,629,000**
- Promulgation of Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Regulation (Safety)

*Consequent on the promulgation of the Regulations, the HSRA will focus on accomplishing the following during 2019/20 FY:*

- Issuance of thirty-six (36) Authorizations
- Verification activities in one hundred (100) Facilities
- Inspection of thirty-six (36) Facilities
- Audit of eighteen (18) operating facilities
- Development of a robust Management System
- Undertaking research on Medical Radiation Exposure in Jamaica
- Establishment of an Outreach Programme to build awareness on the functions of the Authority in the Jamaican Ionizing Radiation Landscape

*The HSRA intends to work collaboratively with local, regional and international partners in order to accomplish the following:*

- Drafting of Nuclear Security regulations (IAEA, MNS, CARICOM, US DOE...)
- Establishment of an Intermediary Storage Facility for Disused radioactive sources (IAEA, ODPEM, ICENS, MNS, MOH, BSJ, JCA)
- Building Capacity in Training Institutions (UWI, CMU, UTECH)
- Strengthening Capabilities in Technical Service Organizations - calibration, radiation survey, dosimetry (ICENS, BSJ)

## Jamaica Promotions Corporation (JAMPRO)

### Establishment of Agency

Formed through the merger of Jamaica Industrial Development Corporation (JIDC), Jamaica National Export Council (JNEC) and Jamaica National Investment Promotions (JNIP) in 1988 and constituted by the JAMPRO Act of 1990.

### Aims and Objectives

**(i)** Actively promote & enable exports and investments; **(ii)** Build global business relationships through effective management; **(iii)** Foster an enabling business environment; and **(iv)** Nurture an engaged, high performance collaborative team

### Planned targets and key achievements for 2018/19

The impact of the organisation on national development is measured by Capital Expenditure (CAPEX), jobs created and export sales.

INDICATORS	TARGETS 2018/2019	Unaudited YTD Achievement <sup>14</sup>	% Achieved Against Target	Est. TARGETS 2019/2020
Value of Local and Foreign Direct Investments (LDI & FDI) by clients	US\$625.5mn	US\$545.5mn	87%	US\$719.3mn
Value of Export Shipments by clients	US\$534.6mn	US\$804.9mn	151%	US\$614.8mn
Number of jobs created by clients	14,156	14,401	102%	14,864

<sup>14</sup> Please note that figures are preliminary pending completion of the internal audit. Audited figures will be available in June 2019.



## Principal Focus for 2019/2020

### ▪ *Budget for 2019/20:*

<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>FY 2018/2019 (J\$ M)</b>	<b>YTD Expenditure (J\$ M)</b>	<b>Variance (J\$ M)</b>	<b>FY 2019/2020 (J\$ M)</b>
GoJ Recurrent Grant	852.9	754.80	98.10	858.5
Appropriation In Aid	31.7	34.5	(2.80)	31.7
<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>	<b>884.6</b>	<b>789.30</b>	<b>95.30</b>	<b>890.20</b>

- Investment and Export Missions & Trade Shows
- Export Max III
- PROPELLA Programme
- International investment sector conference for tourism held in Jamaica (CHICOS - Caribbean Hotel Investment Conference & Operations Summit)
- Research (conducted on blue economy and climate-smart agriculture, among others)
- National Investment Policy
- National Business Portal
- Doing Business Reform Agenda
- Development of sector-specific roadmaps
- National Coordinator for Outsourcing
- Sector Specific Marketing Campaigns
- Global Services Sector Project

## **JAMAICA 4-H CLUBS**

### **Establishment of Agency**

The Jamaica 4-H Clubs was established in 1940. In accordance with the 4-H Act in 1966, it is a youth training organization committed to developing outstanding leaders with marketable skills. The organization's core function is to provide training to persons between the ages of five (5) and twenty-five (25) in the areas of agriculture, home economics, social skills, entrepreneurship, environmental awareness and healthy lifestyle.

### **Aims and Objectives**

- To maximize the percentage of youth contribution to agriculture and enterprise development
- To manage the National School Garden Programme island wide.
- To spearhead the National Youth in Agriculture Programme with the view of increasing the level of agricultural education and involvement of Jamaica's youth in farming.
- To register and maintain 4-H Clubs Island wide.
- Centre Development to underpin training and model projects geared towards youth entrepreneurship

### **Planned Targets for 2018/2019**

- To register 110,000 members
- To provide 200,000 stimulatory training opportunities
- To provide 1,400 mastery level training opportunities
- To award 150 scholarships
- To establish 550 school gardens
- To establish 140 new livestock farmers
- To train 150 youth in Entrepreneurship and Agricultural Enterprises
- To increase awareness of 25,000 persons in healthy lifestyle

### **Key Achievements for 2018/2019**

- Registered 102,221 members to date
- Provided 219,568 training opportunities
  - 807 training exposures for volunteers
- Awarded 306 scholarships
- Established 567 school gardens
- Established 95 new livestock farmers
- Provided empowerment training for 558 youth
- 26,203 persons exposed to healthy lifestyle

**Principal Focus for 2019/20**

- ***Approved budget for 2019/2020 is \$273.413M***
  - Training youth in Agriculture;
  - increased agricultural production through the establishment of new ventures through the 4-H Entrepreneurship Programmes

## **JAMAICA AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY (JACRA)**

### **Establishment of Agency**

Effective January 1, 2018, the Jamaica Agricultural Commodities Regulatory Authority (JACRA) commenced operation. Under the JACRA Act 2017 the Coffee Industry Board, Coconut Industry Board, regulatory functions of the Coconut Industry Board and specific aspects of the Export Division, MICAFA, have been subsumed under JACRA.

### **Aims and Objectives - Strategic Goals for 2017 - 2021**

- The development and diversification of a global marketing plan for Jamaican coffee, cocoa, coconut and spices.
- To ensure that the CIB/JACRA operates in an environmentally friendly manner consistent with Health, Safety, Environmental Standards and Regulations.
- To facilitate the sustainability and viability of the coffee industry/JACRA.
- The facilitation and improvement of production and quality features of all the commodities under JACRA
- To grow the local market and increase the number of international markets to which coffee, cocoa, coconut and spices are sold.
- Ensure that JACRA commodities processed for the local and international markets are in compliance with food safety laws and regulations and adhere to environmental standards and regulations.
- To promote the equitable treatment of all stakeholders.
- To encourage and facilitate the use of value added products (VAP) for all commodities under JACRA.
- To ensure that all Commodity Dealers are licensed and operate within the terms and conditions of their licences.
- To ensure that quality tests are in compliance with the applicable standards.

### **Planned Targets for 2018/19**

- Four (4) trade mark and foreign importer licences to be issued based on referral.
- Approx. (8) inspections of works facilities to be conducted for new licensees. The provision of training in the use of chemicals, soil and leaf sampling techniques.
- Maintenance of database with 8,000 JBM and JHM farmers.
- Conduct fifty (50) coffee farmers meeting and four (4) educational tours per region.
- Conduct four (4) coffee dealers meeting and fifty six (56) Surveys re: pest and disease infections.
- The provision of training of eighteen (18) CIB staff.
- To arrange/host four (4) coffee trade shows and encourage VACP.
- Number of brand infringements should not exceed 20% of total Licensees.
- Eighty percent (80%) of the coffee dealers should achieve the coffee quality testing pass rate. Approximately One Hundred and Sixty (160) inspections and Twenty (20) training

sessions to be conducted with coffee processors by members of the CIB quality assurance team.

### **Key Achievements for 2018/19**

- Initiated at least two (2) strategic meeting between the CIB/JCEA/ coffee dealers and stakeholders to discuss market opportunities and issues affecting the Industry for the duration of 2016/2017
- The Promotion of an Integrated Pests Management System and the continued collaboration with the Coffee Leaf Rust and Coffee Berry Borer Task Force comprising members of the JCEA by meetings and fieldwork on a quarterly basis, consistent with the crop cycle and profile in both BM and JHM ones at least 2 meetings for the duration of 2016/2017.
- 3599 farmers in St. Andrew, St. Thomas and Portland regions have been registered and can be accessed online. Verification of GSP Coordinators for these farms is still in progress. Activities ongoing to integrate the Farm Registration and Activity Tracking Systems (FRATS) into the RADA/ABIS System by December 2017 to include the training of CIB staff in the full utilization of both systems.
- Sensitized the farmers via coffee dealer, posters and by arranging group and project meetings and tours on a quarterly basis
- Liaison with coffee dealers, co-operatives, associations and stakeholders to determined event days and training needs, to establish partnerships and provide physical or financial support on a monthly basis.
- Participation in two (2) agricultural shows: RADA Open Day and Denbigh Agricultural Show for the duration of 2016/2017.
- Greater policing and issuance of warning letters. Also greater collaborative efforts with all stakeholders including licensed traders, ambassadors and the police to identify infringements locally and overseas, at least 2 taskforce engagements locally for the duration of 2016/2017 in the Major Tourist Resort Areas (MTRAs)
- Approx. 40 inspections and five (5) training sessions with coffee processors by members of the CIB Quality Assurance Team.
- Twenty-one (21) employees have been trained. This represents fifty-one percent (51%) of the staff complement.

### **Principal Focus for 2019/20**

- Continue to carry out activities to achieve strategic outcomes.
- Integration of all commodity Boards in the newly established JACRA
- To provide appropriate framework for the issuing of licenses for respective commodities
- To strengthen framework for the management of Frosty Pod Rot and Coffee Leaf Rust diseases.

## **JAMAICA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY (JAS)**

### **Establishment of Agency**

The JAS was incorporated under the Jamaica Agricultural Society Act 1941. The organisation serves as an umbrella organization consisting of various affiliated commodity Boards and associations to include Jamaica Citrus Growers Association, Pimento Growers Association, Cocoa Industry Board, All Island Cane Farmers Association, Coconut Industry Board, All Island Banana Growers Association, Coffee Industry Board, Jamaica Livestock Association, Ministry of Agriculture Export Division, Sugar Industry Authority, Jamaica Goat and Sheep Farmers Association and the Jamaica Fishermen Cooperative Society.

The Jamaica Agricultural Society also has established parish offices islandwide. Each parish has within its structural framework an Association of Branch Society (ABS) that consists of branches within the farming communities. Each ABS is governed by the President and the Executive Body elected by the farmers for representation in the decision making process of the Society.

### **Aims and Objectives**

To ensure the protection and promotion of farmers' interests through a vigorous, independent and financially viable organization providing services to farmers and assisting them to gain access to resources provided by government and other agencies; and to enhance GLOBAL policy initiatives in order to achieve social and economic development of the rural sector.

### **Planned Targets (in line with the Government of Jamaica & the Ministry's Policies)**

#### **To advocate for the protection and promotion of the farmers' interest by:**

- a) The provision of extension services to foster social and economic development of farmers and rural communities.
- b) Participating in capacity building, information and technology transfer, geared towards improving the ability of farmers to manage their farms as a business
- c) To influence policy decisions that affects the farming community
- d) To develop and maintain viable organized community based organizations
- e) To seek assistance on behalf of farmers in gaining access to resources

#### **To foster domestic agricultural production for Jamaican farmers by:**

- a) Supporting research and development in new methodologies and farming techniques in agricultural production and output.
- b) Encouraging "best practices" in agricultural development.
- c) Fostering efficiency and effectiveness in agricultural production, output and distribution.
- d) Disseminating information and technology transfer to the farming community

**To promote the development and advancement in the agriculture sector by:**

- a) Supporting ventures in agri-business as a means of increasing value added within the agricultural sector.
- b) Providing marketing assistance to the farming community
- c) Creating a national space to facilitate farmers engagement and participation in the country's development

**Key Achievements- 2018-19**

- The continuation of the **“Eat Jamaican”** campaign that aims at promoting the nutritional and socio-economic benefit of eating locally produced foods and ultimately reducing the imports of food, in line with the Government of Jamaica's Growth Agenda and Food Security and Nutrition Policy
- Promotion of agriculture through Parish Shows and the Denbigh Agricultural, Industrial and Food Show.
- Stakeholder participation on the **Tourism Linkage Network** established in keeping with the goals of the Tourism Master Plan and the Vision 2030 National Development Plan targeted at strengthening of sustainable linkages between Tourism and other productive sector of the economy to which it is closely linked.
- Engaged in multiple project implementations through forged alliances with organizations such as Organization of American States (OAS), The Council of Voluntary Social Services (CVSS)
- Partnering with the Ministry, the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF), the Judiciary and the farmers in the promotion and sale of Agricultural Produce Receipt Books to enable traceability in the sale of agricultural produce under the National Praedial Larceny Prevention Programme.
- Continuations of a **National Blood drive** for farmers and **the COK Co-operative Credit Union designed micro-pension plan** exclusively for farmers. The retirement scheme allows large and small-scale farmers, between the ages of 18 to 70 to deposit up to 20% of their earnings tax-free
- Continuation of the Entrepreneurial Group Support Project which seeks to foster viable and sustainable agro ventures within communities with the ultimate goal of economic independence

### **Principal Focus – 2019-20**

- The promotion of advancement and achievement within the Agricultural sector
- Facilitating farmer engagements, consultation and participation on national issues within the agricultural sector
- Promotion of agriculture through Parish Shows, Expos and the Denbigh Agricultural, Industrial and Food Show.
- Island wide roll out of a Farmers Pension Scheme
- Promotion and sale of agricultural produce receipt books to enable traceability in the sale of agricultural produce under the National Praedial Larceny Prevention Programme.
- The marketing of products on behalf of farmers
- The organization and execution of farmers' meetings in all parishes
- To increase paid-up membership by 20%
- To initiate the process that will transition to Non-Government Organizational (NGO) status as per Cabinet Decision No. 20/18 dated June 4, 2018



## JAMAICA BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (JBDC)

### Establishment of Agency

JBDC was established in 2001 as a limited liability company.

### Aims and Objectives

To pursue developmental policies that foster sustainable modernization and growth in the productive sector, effective modernization of the business environment, cost-effective delivery of technical and marketing services through highly committed, competent and motivated employees.

The objectives are:

- i. To facilitate the development of a dynamic MSME sector
- ii. To ensure growth through assistance in the modernizing of companies and developing innovative products and sectors
- iii. To develop solution oriented services for the productive sector by providing workshops, business start-up kits and modernization kits
- iv. To increase the awareness and desire of the public for authentic Jamaican products
- v. To improve the overall efficiency of the JBDC through the development of human resources

### Planned Targets for 2018/19

- **Consultations**
  - Implement business development programmes serving at least 3000 clients annually
- **Training**
  - 60 training workshops completed
  - 1500 clients trained in all aspects of business development
- **Market Access**
  - 5% increase in entrepreneur's earning enabled through TJ
  - Increase in the number of trade events thereby expanding market access for MSMEs
- **Research & Development**
  - Plan and execute at least 3 industry specific studies and expand client-base relative the number of enterprises utilizing R&D in their operations
  - Plan and execute impact assessment exercise to evaluate the extent to which businesses have grown resulting from JBDC's interventions
- **Product Development and Enhancement**
  - 159 products developed or enhanced in the Gift & Craft, Fashion and Agro-Processing industries.
  - 20,000 units of goods produced resulting from the usage of the JBDC Incubator resulting in sales of goods for MSMEs of \$4.5 Million.

- 24 manufacturing facilities audited and recommendations made for improved productivity. A total of 24 facilities recording improvements in productivity.
- **Access to Financing**
  - 300 MSMEs participated in financial literacy interventions (handholding, coaching, technical assistance, consultations, training)
  - Approximately \$50 Million in funding accessed by MSMEs who are a part of the Financial Hand-holding Programme (grants and loans)
  - \$50 Million in grant funding accessed through the Tapping into Donor Funds Proposal Writing Workshop since inception.
  - \$50M in private equity financing
- **Developmental Programmes / Events**
  - Host at least 3 developmental programmes

### **Key Achievements for 2018/19**

- **Consultations**
  - 5445 consultations conducted with 5270 clients and customers served via consultations, expositions and special events.
  - A total of 23,736 consultation hours were invested in capacity building with MSMEs (consultations covered: business development, technical support, capacity building, proposal writing, coaching and mentoring, financial support services and product development).
- **Training**
  - 111 training workshops completed
  - 1881 MSMEs trained (Training areas: Proposal Writing, Technical Services, Personal Initiative, Financial Management Made Simple, Resource Mobilization and Financing)
- **Market Access**
  - 21,497 consumers purchased products from Things Jamaican (TJ)
  - \$32.8 M in entrepreneur's earning enabled through TJ
  - 14 trade events facilitated where multiple producers gained market access and exposure reaching approx. 3,716 patrons resulting in sales of approximately \$933,000
  - Market exposure also enabled through the True Stories publication that is resident in 5,000 hotel rooms gaining access at minimum to 1.8M tourists
  - per annum
- **Research & Development**
  - Employee Engagement & Leadership Challenge Survey 2018 - Over 700 employees from Private and Public Sector entities completed the survey
  - Research Consultancies - Five service contracts acquired during the FY covering employee and customer engagement surveys

- JBDC Impact Assessment Exercise - Research brief developed and approved for implementation. Implementation of the impact assessment scheduled for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the 2019-2020 FY.
- **Product Development and Enhancement**
  - 492 products developed or enhanced in the Gift & Craft, Fashion and Agro-Processing industries.
  - 17,000 units of goods produced resulting from the usage of the JBDC Incubator. This resulted in sales of goods for MSMEs of over \$17 Million.
  - 22 manufacturing facilities audited and recommendations made for improved productivity. A total of 4 facilities recorded improvements in productivity.
- **Access to Financing**
  - 415 MSMEs participated in financial literacy interventions (handholding, coaching, technical assistance, consultations, training)
  - Approximately \$16.5 Million in funding accessed by MSMEs who are a part of the Financial Hand-holding Programme (grants and loans)
  - \$197M in grant funding accessed through the Tapping into Donor Funds Proposal Writing Workshop since inception.
  - Over \$70M in private equity financing under negotiation for MSMEs from Phase 1 of the Accelerator Programme
- **Developmental Programmes / Events**
  - **Accelerator Programme – Phase 2:** A total of 20 high-growth potential MSMEs were inducted in the programme and brought through an intense 6-month camp where their business models were created, tested and pivoted. Resulting from this programme, over \$25 million increase in revenue and the creation of new jobs for businesses that completed the programme over the 6-month period.
  - **Employee Engagement Conference** – hosted for the first time in 2017, the event attracts over 500 corporate leaders annually. The conference creates a space in which business leaders and international and local experts are connected and converse on matters relating to human capital development, improving productivity and creating a business environment in which employees thrive thus resulting in optimal business performance. The conference was hosted for the second time in October 2018 under the theme: Disturb, Reconnect, Engage. The event was headlined by Alvin Day (Leadership Empowerment Coach) and Jason Lauritsen (Workplace Culture Expert). The conference attracted participants from Trinidad, Antigua & Barbuda and the USA
  - **Small Business Exposition and Conference** –Hosted in May 2018 under the theme: The Business Anatomy: Exploring the Hidden Parts, the event attracted over 500 MSMEs and it was headlined by Damian Crawford.
  - **The JBDC's Global Entrepreneurship Week 2018** celebration was held under the theme: Minimizing Barriers + Maximizing Inclusion and it featured the following 4 distinct events that facilitated the provision of business development advice to

MSMEs, networking and market access opportunities and essentially created a space where MSMEs were empowered through thought leadership sessions.

### **Principal Focus for 2019/2020**

#### ▪ ***Annual Budget 2019/20 – \$407.2M***

- Design and execute a programme targeting the creative industries that is hinged on research, developmental assistance and business development.
- Roll-out of the SBDC Network in Jamaica
- Execution of business and technical training focusing on Business Model Design, Marketing, Strategic Planning and Product Development
- Strengthen the capacity of employers in the area of employee engagement for the purpose of improving workplace productivity
- Continue to promote and foster the integration of R&D in business processes through coaching and mentorship
- Execution of the JBDC Accelerator Programme
- Execution of business and technical training focusing on Business Model Design, Marketing, Strategic Planning and Product Development
- Implementation of a producer's accelerator Programme through Things Jamaica to stimulate market access (local and international)
- Execute specialized events focused on increasing MSMEs access to information, best practices and networks relative to business development and strategic alignment
- Expansion of the JBDC Advisory panel meetings for MSMEs
- Execution of the She-Trades and Export Max 3 partnership.

## JAMAICA DAIRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD (JDDB)

### Establishment of Agency

The Jamaica Dairy Development Board was established under Act No. 4 of 2009, with offices situated at the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries at Hope Gardens, Kingston 6 in the parish of Saint Andrew.

### Aims and Objectives

The Jamaica Dairy Development Board was established primarily for the purpose of promoting and fostering the development of the dairy sector with particular emphasis on promoting local milk production, processing, marketing and other trade in dairy products. The revitalization of the dairy sector forms a major element of the Government's National Food and Nutrition Security Policy. In this regard, the Jamaica Dairy Development Board is assigned the Mission of ensuring the achievement of the measurable targets through policy formulation, capacity building and the creation of a regulatory framework to drive the attainment of international competitiveness.

### Planned Targets for 2018/19

- 6,200 milking animals producing 6.0l/cow/day
- Acquisition of 1000 kg of improved variety grass seeds for planting island-wide.
- Increased mechanization of fodder conservation practices through acquisition of silo-packers
- Redistribution of heifers for dairy farming purposes. Formalize repayment facility for loan heifers.
- Manage JDDB loan programme bad debt portfolio by borrower to the programme
- Rehabilitation of Dairy facilities at Knockalva; Pasture Rehabilitation at Ebony Park HEART, CASE and Sydney Pagon STEM Academy.
- Evaluate the status of milk powder allocation regime.

### Key Achievements for 2018/19

- **5,500 animals** in milk **6.61 litres/cow/day** from production of **12,004,740.96 litres**.
- **Three hundred and ninety kilograms (390 kg)** of grass seeds made available to 16 farms in Jamaica for pasture rehabilitation. This represents approximately **59.7 hectares** of pastures planted.
- Acquisition of IDEAGRO Silo-packer machine. The total number of Silage bags packed and distributed to date is 612 representing 32.2 tonnes of local fodder material silage produced to date. An additional two (2) pieces of silo packing machines including a silo press machine were acquired sponsored by Ja REEACH Project. 15 Tonnes of sugar cane based silage packed with the silo-press and donated to the Bodles Research Station.
- Procurement of 46 dairy heifers and redistribution of these animals to farmers on a loan basis. Establishment of loan repayment facility with the NPC Bank.

- Fifty Four (54) Loans approved valued at \$82,896,638. Several meetings with DBJ/PNCB and dairy board to resolve problems in programme.
- Revitalization work completed at CASE: pasture resuscitation; and ordering/installation of milk processing equipment. Revitalization works initiated at Knockalva. Pasture and herd development and rehabilitation has commenced at Sydney Pagon and Ebony Park HEART Academies
- Milk powder allocation matrix revamped to include empirically determined allocation quantities.

### **Principal Focus for 2019/2020**

- National herd average of 7.5 – 8.0 l/cow/day
- Distribution and establishment of 600kg of seeds for fresh feeding and conservation
- Harvesting and packing of 1,000MT of fodder
- Procurement of 300 heifers for distribution to increase national herd
- Complete project at Knocklava; continue implementation at ebony Park HEART, Sydney Pagon and Pasture Rehabilitation at CASE.
- Plan and execute 10 major training events in areas critical to dairy development including stakeholder consultations.

## **JAMAICA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE (JIPO)**

### **Establishment of the Agency**

The Jamaica Intellectual Property Office (JIPO) was established on February 1, 2002 as a statutory authority under provisions of the Jamaica Intellectual Property Office Act.

### **Aims and Objectives**

- To establish and administer a modern and effective intellectual property rights system that will act as a catalyst for international competitiveness, facilitating economic growth and national development.
- To create a robust ecosystem for intellectual property in Jamaica to attract investments in high-grossing industries that will facilitate the growth of local industries, thereby enabling all Jamaicans to benefit from the three critical areas that are necessary for a strong IP environment: Protection, Sharing/income generation and Enforcement.

### **Planned Targets for 2018/19**

- Provide geographical indications training for the Ministry with focus on agriculture
- Partial automation of JIPO processes for public ease of access, registration and payment
- provide IP information to at least 1000 persons monthly (12,000 for the year)
- Make presentations on JIPO services and related information to stakeholders
- Provide training to stakeholders
- Participate in IP forums
- Reduce processing time for applications for registration of intellectual property rights
- Seek to determine ways to increase earnings
- Increase clientele
- Advocate for the inclusion of IP in policies, strategies, programmes
- Facilitate and support the development and regulation of private sector components of the IPR system
- Implement the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), the International Registration of Patents once Patents and Designs Bill enacted
- Implement the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs once Patents and Designs Bill enacted
- Finalize Copyright legislation incorporating the CMO's under the copyright Act
- Fully digitise at least 200 design files and 100 copyright files and upload to the electronic database
- Review and finalise Plant Variety Protection Bill
- Review and provide recommendations on Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions Protection for preparation of an Act
- Implement the Madrid Protocol, the International Registration of Trade Marks (subject to passage of the Trade Marks(Amendment)Bill

### **Key Achievements for 2018/19**

- Reclassification of posts at JIPO completed
- Initiated MRHR+ project at JIPO and 90% completed.
- ISO 9001:2015 status increased from 29% to 61%
- Commenced work on implementing the Performance Management and Appraisal System (PMAS)
- Change management meetings held to communicate to the staff the changes to come, (PMAS, ISO, MYHR+) their role in the change process and how these changes will impact and benefit them.
- Applied for, was selected and got approval for JIPO-IDB Project titled 'Strengthening the Intellectual Property Ecosystem to Increase Innovation, Competitiveness and Growth of MSMEs', valued at US\$330,400.00
- Continued discussions with the CARIFORUM States and the EU on Geographical Indications provisions in the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement
- Continued negotiations on the drafting of an agreement with the UK following BREXIT
- IP Presentation at the Caribbean Court of Justice Academy Conference held in Kingston Jamaica
- Made IP presentations to various stakeholders including: entrants to the National Commission on Science and Technology innovation competition; pharmacy owners; and students from several primary, secondary and tertiary institutions, young entrepreneurs, industry professionals and government departments including the University of the West Indies, University of Technology Jamaica, Northern Caribbean University, HEART TVET Institute, Heart College of Construction Services, Heart Garmex, Mona School of Business, Old Harbour VTC, and Mico University College.
- Participation in Legal Aid Council Justice Fair in Westmorland, Kingston & St. Andrew, JBDC Christmas in July Corporate Gifting Event, SRC Science & Technology Expo, Startupper Symposium- Total Jamaica, St. Andrew 4-H Club's Parish Achievement Day
- Presentation to European Union's Member States Trade and Economic Counselors at EU Delegation to Jamaica IP Presentation at the WIPO /JIPO Regional IP Training Course
- IP Presentation at the CEDA/JIPO/JAMPRO- Protection of Intellectual Property for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises Workshop
- IP Presentations at the WIPO/JBDC/JIPO IP seminar for MSMEs
- Over 12,700 persons received IP information
- Over 2300 registration of IP rights were completed
- Facilitator at meetings of the World Intellectual Property Organisation
- Worked with the Chinese Intellectual Property Office on IP sharing
- Participated in training in China
- Participation WIPO-KIPO Training Course on Designs Participated in EUIPO - CARIFORUM IP Workshop held in Alicante, Spain



- Participation in CARIFORUM-EU Meetings on the Protection of Geographical Indications
- Participated in WIPO-WTO Advanced Training Course on IP for Senior Officials
- Participated in a JIS Think Tank
- CVM TV interview during prime time news
- Smile Jamaica appearances
- RJR morning and evening programmes
- Intellectual Property Week April 22 – 27, 2018
- Preparation of JIPO course module for JAMPRO's "Step By Step Guide to Exporting " Online Workshop
- Voluntary Registration of Copyright continues to grow
- Continued lobbying at the WIPO regarding "Country Name" protection

### **Principal Focus for 2019/2020**

- Continued engagement with the University of the West Indies and the University of Technology in collaboration with the World Intellectual Property Organisation on the full implementation of the Technology and Innovation Support Centres (TISC) at both institutions (enable wide dissemination of IP information to members of the public and the respective institutions to encourage innovation)
- Partial automation of JIPO processes for public ease of access, registration and payment
- Assessment of registration processing times with a view to increasing efficiency in the administration of the laws
- Scheduling hearings & rendering decisions for Trade Mark Opposition & Invalidity matters and continued participation in court proceedings
- ICT infrastructure upgrades to support efficient operation of the office and procuring necessary office equipment to support staff needs.
- Implementation of provisions of Patent and Designs laws once passed and the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
- Implementation of the Trade Marks Act and Rules as amended and the Madrid Protocol
- Training in geographical indications for members of the Ministry particularly those in Agriculture and also the general public.

## **JAMAICA NATIONAL AGENCY FOR ACCREDITATION (JANAAC)**

### **Aim and Objectives**

JANAAC's mandate extends to the provision of accreditation services to Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) namely: public and private sector laboratories, Inspection bodies, and Certification bodies; technical training for assessors and laboratory personnel; as well as provision of appropriate technical information on accreditation to its stakeholders. The Agency has three mission critical objectives, namely:

- Assist in trade facilitation by ensuring that its accredited CABs are recognized GLOBALLY by trading partners. This is enabled through JANAAC's Signatory status to the Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRA's) with the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), and the Multilateral Agreement (MLA) with Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC).
- Enhance competitiveness by encouraging Jamaican entities to produce goods of consistently high quality that are compliant with international standards; international trade agreements, such as the World Trade Organisation's Technical Barrier to Trade Agreement (WTO/TBT); as well as international best practice and local regulations.
- Support consumer wellbeing through improved stakeholder confidence in the quality and integrity of goods and services supplied.

### **Planned Targets for 2018/19**

The major targets for FY 2018/19 are listed below.

1. Extend the Scope of Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Inspection Body Accreditation
2. Improve project efficiencies
3. Increase revenue from accreditation
4. Increase client pool
5. Improve Regional and International brand recall

### **Key Achievements for 2018/19**

1. JANAAC awarded 11 new accreditation certificates and seven new scope extensions. Additionally, 20 accreditation assessments were conducted. The Agency acquired six new clients.
2. Eight training courses are benefitting 85 paid participants and over a hundred nonbillable training hours.
3. JANAAC transitioned to the new version of the ISO/IEC 17011:2017 standard
4. JANAAC continues to hold the distinction of being the only internationally recognized accreditation body in the English-speaking Caribbean with clients in Guyana, Barbados, Bahamas, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Belize.
5. In line with its strategic objective of Building Regional and International Accreditation Stakeholder Relations, the Agency's CEO, in her role as Chair of IAAC's Management Committee and Executive member of the ILAC continues to forge important

partnerships among regional and international accreditation stakeholders to enable the Agency to benefit from continued business development and capacity building supports.

6. JANAAC was successfully peer evaluated in December 2018 and is awaiting the finalisation of the process in 2019, which will see it extending its scope of international recognition to include inspection body accreditation.
7. JANAAC celebrated ten years in 2018 and hosted some activities to commemorate this pivotal milestone. JANAAC hosted a successful year of activities celebrating its tenth anniversary. These included:
  - Anniversary Church Service at the Swallowfield Chapel in April 2018
  - JANAAC exhibited at the JMA/JEA Exposition in April 2018 & Build Expo in June 2018
  - Week of activities to mark World Accreditation Day (WAD)
  - JIS Think Tank, WAD Church Service, Assessor Conclave & Technical Seminar, and the WAD 2018 Supplement, which was published in the June 8, 2018, edition of the Jamaica Gleaner. JANAAC's World Accreditation Day CEO Breakfast & Forum was held at the Knutsford Court Hotel in New Kingston on June 9, 2018.
  - JANAAC hosted the IAAC General Assembly in August 2018
  - JANAAC published its tenth-anniversary commemorative magazine & hosted its tenth anniversary and awards banquet at the Pegasus Hotel in November 2018

### **Principal Focus for 2019/2020**

**Annual Budget 2019/20** - The projected revenues, expenses and profits for the strategic planning period 2018/19 to 2022/23 are projected revenues of 142.58 million, expenditure of 123.9 million with an expected surplus of 18.67 million.

The National Outcomes and MICAF's key strategic priorities align with JANAAC's mission-critical strategic objectives for the 2019/20 – 2022/23 period, a central focus of which is to support the effective development of the Jamaican economy. JANAAC has devised new as well as refined its strategies to achieve sustained revenue growth from new services such as calibration laboratory and certification body accreditation and continue to upsell existing accreditation and training services. JANAAC must remain focused on achieving:

- Encourage the development of new inspection bodies in Jamaica;
- Growth in revenues from new and existing accreditation services;
- JANAAC's active pursuit of the enactment of policies, legislation and regulations consistent with international best practice for the conformity assessment and accreditation industry, particularly those that impact human health and safety.

## MICRO INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT AGENCY LIMITED (MIDA)

### Establishment of Agency

The Micro Enterprise Development Agency (MEDA) was incorporated under the laws of Jamaica on July 4, 1991 as a limited liability company (limited by shares). It subsequently changed its name to Micro Investment Development Agency (MIDA) on November 18, 1991. MIDA had an initial share capital of 1000 @ \$1 each.

### Aims and Objectives

The overall objective of MIDA is to promote, encourage and facilitate the development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in Jamaica as a principal means of achieving improvement in the economic well-being of individuals who desire to get into self-sustaining economic activity.

### Planned Targets for 2018/19

Disbursement:	\$120 million
Collection:	125
Enterprise Funded:	1,200
Jobs Sustained/Created:	975

### Key Achievements for 2018/19

Categories	Quarter1 Apr-Jun	Quarter 2 July-Sept	Quarter 3 Oct-Dec	Quarter 4 Jan-Mar 2019	Total 2018/2019	Total 2017/2018
<b>Total Disbursed by MIDA</b>	\$50.46M	\$15M	\$70M	\$50M		<b>132.75</b>
<b>Total repaid</b>	\$40.43M	\$41.89M	\$49.58M	\$42.9M		<b>174.03</b>
<b>Total Disbursed by MFOs</b>	\$43.76M	\$5.7M	\$50.81M	\$15.63M		<b>185.40</b>
<b>Job Sustained/Created:</b>	459	17	326	180		<b>1,707</b>
<b>Enterprise Funded:</b>	394	9	238	117		<b>1,481</b>

### **Principal Focus for 2019/2020**

MIDA will focus on the following:

1. MIDA will continue to provide funding to its existing retailers including the JN Small Business Loan Ltd.
2. Collect on chronic past-due receivables originated by the defunct network of Community development Funds.

## **NATIONAL COMPLIANCE REGULATORY AUTHORITY (NCRA)**

### **Establishment of Agency**

The National Compliance and Regulatory Authority (NCRA) was established on January 4, 2016. The NCRA was formerly the Regulatory Division of the Bureau of Standards Jamaica. Activities of the NCRA are governed by the Standards Act; Processed Food Act and the Weights and Measures Act.

### **Aims and Objectives**

The overall mission of the NCRA is to protect the Health, Safety and Fairness in Trade for the Jamaican consumers and to ensure that Jamaican products are highly competitive in the international market.

### **Strategic Goals**

- To promote the compliance level of regulated products with the applicable regulations and standards
- To ensure equity in trade through undertaking legal metrology activities
- To assess the compliance of processed food establishments with the applicable regulations
- To protect consumers, punish violators and deter violations of legislation and non-compliance with standards
- To ensure existence of an effective legal measurement system for trade

### **Planned Targets for 2018/19**

1. Number of Inspections:  $\geq 13,800$
2. Number of samples to be collected:  $\geq 1,800$
3. Number of weighing and measuring devices verified  $\geq 7,500$
4. Number of enforcement actions taken against non-compliant products and entities 100%
5. Number of stakeholder sensitisation sessions: 6
6. Adherence to turnaround times as per Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs): 90%
7. Commence implementation of ISO/IEC17020 "General Criteria for the Operation of Various Types of Bodies Performing Inspection"
8. Establish Risk Management Unit

### **Key Achievements for 2018/19**

1. Draft for legislation to create the NCRA was submitted to MICAF
2. Island-wide sensitization sessions conducted to create awareness of labelling regulations to various groups of stakeholders
3. FDA Inspections conducted at ten (10) food processing establishments during the year. No violations were cited.

4. Partnership established with NEPA for enforcement action for non-compliant entities with the ban on plastic bags
5. Inspectors trained in gauging and sampling of petroleum products
6. Fifteen (15) products were deleted from the Processed Food Grade & Standards Regulations 1964 and these products will now be monitored against the compulsory standards for respective products
7. Twenty five thousand and three hundred and five (25,305) inspections were conducted. 10 % by the Food Inspectorate; 35% by Legal Metrology, and 55% by the Standards Compliance team.
8. Seven hundred and eighty four products (784) were withdrawn from retail outlets during domestic market surveillance
9. Eighteen hundred and eighty one (1,881) samples collected. 64% of sampling attributed to the Food Inspectorate, 15% to the Legal Metrology team and 21% to Standards Compliance Inspectorate
10. Seven thousand five hundred and thirty one (7,531) weighing and measuring devices verified

### **Principal Focus for 2019/2020**

- **Annual Budget 2019/20** - The expense budgeted for the fiscal year 2019/20 is \$273,299,974 and the projected income is \$287,904,067 which is expected to generate a surplus of \$14,604,093.
  - Collaborate with MICAF on NCRA legislation
  - Conduct NCRA Gap Audit towards satisfying requirements for accreditation to ISO/IEC17020
  - Implement new Organisation Structure with revised Job Descriptions for all positions
  - Collaborate with Change Management consultant to improve organizational effectiveness and staff morale
  - Review establishment of Petroleum Inspectorate
  - Conduct Training of officers according to Training Plan
  - Integrate risk management into operations
  - Strengthen stakeholder partnerships to enhance compliance. Stakeholder engagement sessions are planned with JBDC, SRC, MSET, JCC, NHT, JCA, JMEA
  - Launch programmes for Construction products
  - Implement Single Window, ASYCUDA and other BRA systems
-

## **NATIONAL IRRIGATION COMMISSION (NIC)**

### **Establishment of Agency**

The National Irrigation Commission Limited was established under the Companies Act of Jamaica in 1986 and incorporated in May 1987, operating as the Authority under the Irrigation Act of 1949.

### **Aims & Objectives**

- To manage, operate and maintain and expand existing and future irrigation schemes and systems established by the Government of Jamaica.
- To contribute to the agricultural sector by supporting and facilitating agricultural production and food security, employment creation in rural areas and meaningful incomes for the farming communities.

### **Planned Targets for 2018/19**

- Installation of Variable Speed Drive at pumping facilities Manchester & Clarendon.
- Installation of Solar PV system retrofits for the Operations Centre office, St. Catherine.
- Installation of Electrical Generator at the Mid Clarendon office, Clarendon.
- Procurement & Installation of Replacement Pump for Upper Rhymesbury, Clarendon.
- Restoration of declining canal infrastructure at St. Dorothy, St. Catherine.
- Procurement and installation of pumping equipment in lane well at New Forest, Manchester.
- Energy costs avoided from the Jamaica Public Service Company.
- Water Sales of J\$530.40 million.
- 3,635 active customers as at March 31, 2019.
- Active service area of 10,623 hectares with irrigation.

### **Expansion of the Pedro Plains Irrigation System Utilizing Water from the Black River:**

- Projected expenditure of J\$45.74 million by French firm Société du Canal de Provence (SCP).
- Diagnostic Report on the study area to include customer, land and water resources assessment.

### **Southern Plains Agricultural Development Project (SPAD)**

- Grant Agreement between Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and Government of Jamaica (Ministry of Finance and the Public Service) to be reviewed and approved. The project will be completed during the 2023/24 Financial Year.



### **Key Achievements for 2018/19**

- Installed Solar PV system retrofit of the Operation Centre.
- Installed Electrical Generator at the Mid Clarendon office, Clarendon.
- Installed Replacement Pump for Upper Rhymesbury, Clarendon.
- Completed Rio Cobre Lower main canal improvement.
- Avoided \$38.8M in Energy Costs from Jamaica Public Service Company.
- Water Sales of \$571 million was \$40.6 million greater than planned; also reflects an increase \$112.99 million (27%) over previous year.
- 2,850 active customers as at March 31, 2019 due to the fallout in the sugar cane lands.
- Total active service area with irrigation was 8,392 hectares as at March 31, 2019 as a result of the fallout in the sugar cane lands.

### **Expansion of the Pedro Plains Irrigation System Utilizing Water from the Black River:**

- Thirty Five per cent (35%) of the work has been completed under the project with J\$46.85 million expended by French firm Société du Canal de Provence (SCP).
- Diagnostic Report on the study area to include customer, land and water resources assessment delivered within agreed timeline.
- Design Options for Feasibility consideration – work underway.

### **Southern Plains Agricultural Development (SPAD)**

- Grant Agreement between Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and Government of Jamaica (GOJ) has been submitted by CDB to the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service (MOFPS).
- As part of planning and engagement activities:
  - Commence engagement of the Engineering Firm to complete the Final Engineering Designs;
  - Commence recruitment of the Project Manager and Procurement Specialist.

### **Annual Budget 2019/20**

Recurrent Budget	- J\$1,862.47 million
Capital A Budget	- J\$248 million
Capital B Budget	- J\$223.64 million

### **Principal Focus for 2019/20**

- Procure Amphibious Excavator to reduce maintenance cost and increase operational efficiency.
- Installation of Solar Photovoltaic (PV) System to minimize energy usage per unit cost of water produced.
- Installation of Automatic gates at the Rio Cobre Dam to control/regulate flows from the Rio Cobre river.
- Restoration of declining infrastructure at the Lower Old Harbour Main Canal.
- Restoration of declining infrastructure at Bushy Park canal.
- Procurement of premium efficient electric motors to replace inefficient motors to reduce downtime and reduce energy usage.
- Installation of Variable Frequency Drive at pumping facilities to improve operational efficiency.
- Restoration of declining infrastructure at the Mid-Clarendon Canal.
- Energy costs avoided from Jamaica Public Service Company.
- Water sales of \$553.70 million.
- 3,635 active customers as at March 31, 2020.
- Total active service area of 10,923 hectares with irrigation as at March 31, 2020.

#### **Expansion of the Pedro Plains Irrigation System Utilizing Water from the Black River**

- Delivery of Feasibility Report on the design alternatives agreed;
- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as required by National Environment Planning Agency (NEPA);
- Preliminary Engineering Designs;
- Development of Terms of References for future work in the expansion of Pedro Plains.

#### **Southern Plains Agricultural Development (SPAD)**

- Engagement of the Firm to complete the Final Engineering Designs as well as Social Impact and Climate Vulnerability Assessments;
- Finalize recruitment of Project Manager and Procurement Specialist;
- Completion of the required wells and water sources designs for the project;
- Commencement of the well drilling programme.

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT TRUSTEE (OGT)

### Establishment of Agency

The Office of the Government Trustee (OGT) was established by the Insolvency Act 2014 ('the Act') which came into effect on January 1, 2015. The Act repeals the Bankruptcy Act (BA) pursuant to which individual bankruptcy was previously administered and makes substantive amendments to those sections of the Companies Act which provide for the winding up of insolvent companies. The Act, which has as its objective the rehabilitation of insolvents makes provision for both corporate and personal insolvency. The Act also introduces a proposal mechanism by which debtors can seek assistance to resolve financial difficulties prior to bankruptcy.

### Aims and Objectives

To contribute to the strengthening of investor confidence in Jamaica by providing a comprehensive and efficient insolvency service. The objectives are to ensure:

- Efficient administration of estates
- Proper management of and accounting and reporting for estate and departmental funds
- Maximum income generation and debt satisfaction
- Reliable Insolvency Status Verification
- Increased public knowledge of insolvency and insolvency administration
- Improved staff competence and well maintained infrastructure
- Development of internal policies and improvement of procedures

Planned Targets for 2018/2019	Key Achievements for 2018/2019
<b><u>Insolvency Administration</u></b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 20 new matters commenced</li> <li>2. 95% of visits required conducted</li> <li>3. Search letters issued in 95% of matters</li> <li>4. Disposable assets are identified and recovered within 3 months</li> <li>5. Seized assets are sold within 12 months</li> <li>6. 85% of active bankrupts attending Public Examinations and Examination under oath</li> <li>7. 70% of active bankrupts complying with Payment Order</li> <li>8. 5 Trustee reports prepared and submitted</li> <li>9. 4 applications for discharge filed</li> </ol>	<b><u>Insolvency Administration</u></b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 25 new matters commenced</li> <li>2. 100% of visits required conducted</li> <li>3. Search letters issued in 100% of matters</li> <li>4. Disposable assets are identified and recovered within 3 months</li> <li>5. Sale of seized assets in progress</li> <li>6. 66% and 94% of active bankrupts attending Public Examinations and Examination under oath</li> <li>7. 61% and 94% of active bankrupts complying with Payment Order and Surplus Income</li> <li>8. 29 Trustee reports prepared and submitted</li> </ol>

Planned Targets for 2018/2019	Key Achievements for 2018/2019
10. 12 dormant files reviewed 11. 12 matters closed	9. 1 application for discharge and 13 automatic discharges filed 10. 2 dormant files reviewed 11. 8 matters closed
<b><u>Estates Accounting &amp; Finance</u></b>	<b><u>Estates Accounting &amp; Finance</u></b>
1. Records seized and reviewed within 2 weeks of appointment/1 <sup>st</sup> contact 2. Report on Debtor's financial position prepared within 1 week of reviewing records 3. Statements of account provided within 3 days of request 4. Bank balances reviewed monthly and funds identified for investment 5. At least 80% of available funds invested 6. Average of 5% interest earned on investment 7. \$630,000.00 earned from legal services 8. \$1.581M earned as commission 9. Declaration published within 1 week of decision to pay dividend 10. 11 dividends totaling \$26.35M paid 11. 123 creditors benefitting	1. No records available for seizure 2. Report on Debtor's financial position prepared within 1 week of reviewing records 3. Statements of account provided upon request 4. Bank balances reviewed monthly and funds identified for investment 5. At least 94% of available funds invested 6. Average of 2.22% interest earned on investment 7. \$5,821,666.67 earned from legal services as all sales are pending. 8. \$1,031,061.52 earned as commission 9. Declaration published within 2 weeks of decision to pay dividend 10. 28 dividends totaling \$12,247,935.63 paid 11. 92 creditors benefitting

### Principal Focus for FY2019/20

- Expeditiously assist debtors in applying for assistance under the Insolvency Act
- Efficiently administer debtors' affairs for the benefit of their creditors
- Effectively restore debtors to position of financial stability/viability
- Significantly increase public awareness of the Office of the Government Trustee and confidence in the insolvency regime
- Financial counselling for insolvents/bankrupts to assist in their rehabilitation

## OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR OF INSOLVENCY (OSI)

### Establishment of Agency

The Office of the Supervisor of Insolvency was established pursuant to the Insolvency Act, 2014 that came into force on January 2, 2015. The office was operationalized on an interim basis with an Interim Supervisor of Insolvency appointed. In August 2016 a permanent supervisor was appointed and the process of fully operationalizing the office was strengthened.

### Aims and Objectives

To regulate the insolvency regime of Jamaica, ensuring that it is in keeping with international best practices thereby bolstering the economy and strengthening investors' confidence in the commercial sector of Jamaica.

### Planned Targets for 2018/19

1. Regulate Insolvency Practitioners
  - Issue ≥10 trustee licences and renew two (2); appoint counsellors; issue directives to/convene meetings with trustees
2. Supervise Insolvency Administration
  - Assess 50 applications; appoint the Government Trustee within two (2) weeks of assessment; provide 419 paid insolvency searches and earn revenue of \$1,257,000.00
3. Serve as a repository of insolvency records
  - Input data; review and approve database monthly
4. Build capacity within the Office
  - Train six (6) members of staff; recruit five (5) members of staff
5. Promote new insolvency regime
  - Conduct/attend sensitization sessions; sensitize ≥200 stakeholders
6. Facilitate amendments to legislation
  - Review legislation; note anomalies or errors and make recommendations

### Key Achievements for 2018/19

#### i. Licensing of Insolvency Practitioners

The insolvency course was finally established in June 2018 and eight (8) applicants took the course. Following six (6) trustees' licences issued earning \$180,000.00; two (2) outstanding. Two (2) trustee licences renewed.

#### ii. Regulation of Insolvency Practitioners

Two (2) counsellors appointed; twenty-One (21) Meetings of Creditors attended to provide guidance and ensure adherence to the Act; two (2) Directives issued to Private Trustees; three (3) advisories sent to the Government Trustee; and one (1) complaint against trustee received and hearing to be held.

#### iii. Supervision of Insolvency Administration

173 persons enquire about the insolvency regime. 49 preliminary assessments of potential insolvency clients conducted and 22 applications referred to trustees. 9 Court hearings attended. 3 meetings held with first time bankrupts re automatic discharge. Trustee Reports received from all Private Trustees in July 2018 and January 2019 providing update on administration of estates. The Government Trustee was to provide a report on 'old' matters, i.e. matters under the now repealed Bankruptcy Act, on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2019. The OSI awaits the report.

**iv. Serve as Repository for Insolvency Records**

**Insolvency Status Reports:** 3,155 searches conducted: 2,347 unpaid; 808 paid searches earning \$2,424,000.00.

**v. Management of the Various Regimes**

**a. Proposals – Reorganizations:** 4 Notices of Intention to File Proposal filed. 3 proposals filed; 1 as a result of annulled bankruptcy (9 applications for time to file proposals received and time granted). Creditors accepted 2 informal proposals. Receiver appointed in 2 matters.

**b. Bankruptcies:** 1 Receiving Order granted. 27 Certificates of assignments issued 1 as a result of default under proposal proceedings (24 applications for time to convene First Meeting of Creditors received and time granted). Government Trustee appointed in 23.

**vi. Capacity Building**

2 members of staff appointed and 1 promoted. No external training was attended as the OSI did not receive the necessary budget.

**vii. Promotion of the new insolvency regime**

4 sensitization sessions held/conducted. 200 persons sensitized.

**Principal Focus for 2019/2020**

- **Annual Budget 2019/20 -** \$47,794,677.00 budgeted to execute Division's Programmes

- **Regulation of Insolvency Practitioners**

The OSI will continue to: regulate trustees by encouraging an independent and competitive insolvency practitioner profession; ensure only competent and qualified persons are issued licenses, and monitor current practitioners to ensure good repute is maintained; issue directives and advisories for guidance and exercise appropriate sanctions including altering, suspending or cancelling licences as necessary.

- **Supervision of Insolvency Administration**

The principal focus of the OSI under this area is to assess potential insolvency clients and refer matters to the appropriate trustee, as well as issue certificates when required

to do so. The OSI will continue the overall supervision of insolvency estates conducted to ensure 100% of estates are administered in accordance with the Insolvency Act. Reports from trustees to be obtained on a biannual basis.

- **Public Education/Sensitization Sessions**

The OSI will continue to participate in attending and/or conducting sensitization sessions to ensure all relevant stakeholders are informed of the new insolvency regime.

- **Facilitate Amendments to Legislation**

As the first amendment to the IA is due in 2020, the OSI will continue to: review the legislation; facilitate feedback from insolvency practitioners regarding its operation; prepare draft schedule of recommended amendments. The OSI will also take the necessary steps to build the capacity of the technical officers involved in the amendment of the legislation by facilitating overseas travel to workshops and seminars.

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## RURAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (RADA)

### Establishment of Agency

The Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) is a statutory body under the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries. RADA was established under the Rural Agricultural Development Authority Act of 1990, replacing the Land Authorities Act and began its operation on August 1, 1990. It is Jamaica's chief Agricultural Extension and Rural Development Agency. RADA is committed to promoting the development of agriculture in Jamaica, as the main engine of economic growth in rural communities, through an efficient, modern and sustainable extension service which will enhance the national economy and improve the quality of life of rural farm families.

### Aims and Objectives

- To enhance the development of farming through an effective, efficient and sustainable Extension Service.
- To supplement information to rural development agencies, thereby assisting to advance improvements in rural infrastructure.
- To provide the supplemental social services required for the improvement of the quality of life of farm families.
- To provide technical advice to farmers. To provide a reliable agricultural marketing information service.
- To assist in the implementation of specified rural development projects.

### Main Activities-Planned Targets/Achievements 2018/2019

#### ▪ Farmer Training

##### **Planned Targets**

Agriculture in Jamaica is concentrated in the rural communities of the country. It is therefore the main source of income for persons living in these areas. As such, RADA has a responsibility of building the capacity of our stakeholders through practical yet effective means of training. In this regard, it is important for us to introduce technologies that will provide access to information on the production of crops and livestock, best practices and marketing information among others, to farmers who are traditionally out of reach, due to barriers in connectivity, literacy or gender. For the period under review a total of **2,353** farmers training sessions were targeted to benefit **39, 000** farmers.

##### **Achievements**

The Authority recognizes the key role it needs to play in repositioning the agricultural sector towards meaningfully contributing to growth and development. To this end,



farmers were engaged in several interactive sessions to include key areas such as Farming As a Business, Climate Smart Agriculture and Pest Management. To date, a total of **3,204** training sessions has been achieved benefitting **32,342** farmers islandwide.

▪ **National Irish Potato Programme**

**Planned Targets**

As a national strategy geared towards food security and a sustainable agricultural sector, the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture & Fisheries through its extension arm, the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) continues to play an important role in supporting farmers' islandwide through the National Irish Potato Programme. The Irish Potato Programme is geared toward achieving 100% of the national demand (15 Million kilograms) for table potatoes. Total proposed budget for the programme was **\$388,698,910**. For the period under review, a total of **1,200** hectares was targeted to meet this demand to include **3,000** farmers. The programme sought to assist farmers within the Irish potato belts of Christiana (Manchester) and Guys Hills (St. Catherine, St. Ann, St. Mary) and other areas (St. Elizabeth, Westmoreland, Clarendon, St. Andrew, St. Thomas) with planting material and crop care support in the form of chemicals for 40% of the requirement per hectare likewise invaluable technical assistance from RADA's Extension Staff.

**Achievements**

Total allocation to date for the Programme amounts to **\$90, 000,000.00**. During the 2018-2019 planting seasons, fall to spring some **666.22 hectares** (55.5% of total acreage targeted) of Irish potato has been established to date by **3,386 farmers** representing 113% of targeted number (3000) of farmers. A series of farmer engagement workshops are being conducted across the island. A total of 32 workshops were funded by Newport FERSAN and H&L Agro. The approach taken for the period allowed for Technical Presentations to be made, fostering greater knowledge transfer to farmers. The workshops covered a wide range of areas related to Irish potato production to include land preparation, best practices, nutrition and nutrient management, pest and disease management, and marketing.

▪ **Onion Development Programme**

**Planned Targets**

During the 2018/2019 onion season, a total of 270 hectares was originally targeted. However, due to unprecedented rainfall several farmers were not able to prepare lands for planting and as such this figure was further revised to reflect a target of **151.1 hectares** and **240 farmers**. The support to be provided under the programme were as follows:

- Provision of seeds for up to 2 acres field
- Technical support from RADA, R&D and ALMD

- Access to equipment: rotovator/bed shaper, seed planters

### **Achievements**

A total of \$30M was approved by MICAF to assist with activities such as the procurement of seeds and chemicals likewise research and development, technical training, soil/plant and water nutrient analysis equipment and farm equipment. To date a total of **126.9 hectares** was planted to include **323 farmers**. It is important to note that RADA continued to provide technical support to the farmers under the programme in the areas of good agricultural practices, pest management and market linkages.

## **■ Farm Road Rehabilitation Programme**

### **Planned Targets**

The programme was designed to assist in the rehabilitation of Farm Roads across Jamaica towards the growth and improvement of the agricultural sector, in specially targeted high production areas. A total of **95 roads** were targeted for rehabilitation under the programme with a total of **J\$800 M** being budgeted for its implementation. The programme was expected to benefit an estimated 20,000 farmers directly islandwide, in addition to the incalculable increase in agricultural production both for local consumption and export.

### **Achievements**

A total of **J \$800M** was approved for the implementation of this programme. To date, **95 roads** have been completed totalling **141.9 km** with a total expenditure of J\$741.2M.

## **Principal Focus for FY2019/2020**

### **1. Enhancing agricultural service delivery through a responsive and modern Agricultural Extension Service**

#### **Sub-Themes**

- 1.1 Climate Smart Agriculture
- 1.2 Agricultural Value Chain and Agro-processing Development
- 1.3 Food Safety/Plant Health
- 1.4 Farmer Field School
- 1.5 Effective Public Relations and Communications Plan
- 1.6 Employee Development and Competence
- 1.7 Corporate Governance and Accountability
- 1.8 Gender Mainstreaming in Agriculture
- 1.9 Promotion of Social Entrepreneurship
- 1.10 Agricultural Disaster Risk Management
- 1.11 Facilitation of Market Linkages

### **2. Improvement in Production and Productivity of Crops and Livestock**

#### **Sub-Themes:**

- 1.12 Transfer of Good Agricultural Practices
- 1.13 Strengthening the use of ICT
- 1.14 Facilitation and Enhancement of Infrastructural development
- 1.15 Institutional Strengthening
- 1.16 Mainstreaming of new services.
- 1.17 Efficient operation of RADA Services/Commercial Entities

### **3. Targeting of new entrants to the Agricultural Sector**

Sub-Themes:

- 1.18 Creating an enabling environment
- 1.19 Gender sensitive and youth-focused programmes
- 1.20 Development and promotion of investment profiles for Crops and Livestock

### **4. Strengthening of strategic alliances with local and international stakeholders**

Sub-Themes:

- a. Capacity Building
- b. Donor Support Mechanisms
- c. Project Formulation and Support
- d. Knowledge and technology transfer
- e. Research and Development
- f. Data and information sharing.

## **TRADE BOARD LIMITED (TBL)**

### **Establishment of Agency**

The Trade Board Limited is a regulatory agency which was established on December 13, 1982. The Company operates under the auspices of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries (MICAFA) and the legal authority of Section 12 of the Trade Act (1955).

### **Aims and Objectives**

- To effect amendments to the Trade Act (Law 4) 1955 to reflect and define the evolving role and functions of the Trade Board Limited
- To provide secretariat services to the Trade Facilitation Task Force (TF)<sup>2</sup> of Jamaica
- To review and make recommendations to effect amendments to the Electronic Transaction Act 2007 towards the creation of a secure system for communication and conducting business over the Internet through full implementation of the Government of Jamaica Public Key Infrastructure (PKI)
- To participate in the integration process of the Trade Board Information System (TBIS) with other Government systems to manage trade-related transactions for border regulatory agencies (Jamaica's Single Trade Electronic Window-STEW/ASYCUDA-Automated System for Customs Data and Port Community System - PCS)
- To further assist in developing the country's trade policy framework to ensure closer monitoring of the Rules of Origin governing the nine (9) trade agreements which the agency oversees. This include the verification/re-verification of products and production processes to ensure conformity to criteria governing the abovementioned arrangements
- To increase facilitation of trade and commerce by building public awareness of the benefits available under the various trade agreements
- To develop effective procedures to regulate and monitor the importation of motor vehicles and motorized equipment and the certification/re-certification of motor vehicle dealers and auto brokers based on the amended Motor Vehicle Imports Policy 2014 (Ministry Paper 36/14)
- To create a secure system for communication and conducting business over the Internet through full implementation of the Government of Jamaica Public Key Infrastructure
- To monitor regimes for specified commodities (Refined Sugar, Milk Powder) as per Cabinet mandate
- To develop a business plan to support the financial and operational needs of the agency.

### **Planned Targets for 2018/19**

- Cabinet Submission/Regulations to be developed pursuant to implementation of Used Motor Vehicle Preshipment Inspection (PSI) and other provisions of the 2014 Motor Vehicle Import Policy (MVIP) - Ministry Paper 36/14.

- The business process reengineering and requirement gathering for the development of the Jamaica Electronic Single Window (JESW).
- At least seventy five percent (75%) of technical preparation/information to facilitate establishment of Jamaica Trade Information Portal (JTIP) completed.
- Eighty percent (80%) of scrap metal registration and motor vehicle certification/re-certification services integrated with TBIS
- Review of organizational structure in the context of, inter alia, the broadening of the mandate of TBL via: the introduction of PSI; impending TBL custodianship of JTIP and; integral role of TBL in the rollout of the JESW Project.
- Training and development of staff members.
- Development and implementation of internal policies and procedures for ISO:9001 2015 Quality Management Systems (QMS); training seminars/workshops and audits conducted.
- Financial targets achieved within budget (revenue and expenditure)
- Review of Trade Act (Law 4) 1955 commenced.

### Key Achievements for 2018/19

- Financial performance within budget.
- An increasingly Positive Net Contribution to the GoJ coffers (Tax Administration Jamaica and Accountant General's Department). Revenue collected for Financial Year 2018/2019 totalled **\$456.3M** (preliminary).
- Full implementation of Used Motor Vehicle Preshipment Inspection (PSI) Certification for vehicles originating in Japan, USA, Singapore, UK, UAE; PSI commenced on February 1, 2018. Total number of inspections for FY 2018/2019 – **38,149** (preliminary).
- Information from Preshipment Inspection (PSI) certificates utilized in the processing of import licences for used motor vehicles originating in Japan, USA, UK, Singapore, UAE.
- In-house training conducted regarding the procedures relating to PSI
- Active and ongoing participation in the development of JESW
- Deepening of the integration of the Trade Board Information System (TBIS) and ASYCUDA (automatic validation of key licence fields in ASYCUDA)
- Was the leader among Border Regulatory Agencies (BRAs) in the push for Trade Facilitation, in terms of formally identifying a list of commodities to be removed from its import/export licensing requirements. Supporting Cabinet submission developed by portfolio Ministry MICAF.
- Active and ongoing participation in the dissemination of trade-related information to the public through collaboration via workshops/seminars.
- Ninety eight percent (98%) of total import/export licences issued in conformity with internal procedures.
- Eighty percent (80%) of motor vehicle and scrap metal dealers certified/recertified within twenty (20) days
- Three (3) training seminars conducted and two (2) mock audits undertaken relating to ISO:9001 2015 QMS certification
- Ninety percent (90%) of technical work/information completed for the Jamaica Trade Information Portal (JTIP)
- Training/capacity building of staff to facilitate TBL assuming full responsibility for JTIP in early 2019/2020

- **New organization/operating structure for the Trade Board Limited approved by Ministry of Finance and the Public Service.**

### **Principal Focus for 2019/2020**

- ***Annual Budget 2019/20*** - 2019/2020 Approved Estimates of Expenditure - \$123.6M net of Appropriations-in-Aid of \$54.0M
- 2019/2020 Revenue Estimates - \$448.5M
  - Full implementation of Jamaica Trade Information Portal (JTIP) entailing, inter alia, establishment/maintenance of a timely, comprehensive, *sustainable* database of trade/trade-related information in support of Trade Facilitation Initiative, with emphasis on growing exports.
  - Recruitment/deployment of appropriate staff, especially in the context of the abovementioned Organization Restructuring (approved with effect from April 1, 2019).
  - Greater emphasis on staff training.
  - Greater emphasis on succession planning.
  - Greater emphasis on public awareness of TBL programmes and initiatives e.g. PSI, JTIP.
  - Completion of Legislative review and amendments to the Trade Act (Law 4).
  - Implementation of a Quality Management System (ISO:9001 2015) to enhance internal policy and operating procedures pursuant to Continuous Improvement
  - Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of Used Motor Vehicle Preshipment Inspection (PSI) activity including, inter alia, assessing potential expansion of Preshipment Inspection (PSI) to additional jurisdictions/inspection service provider(s).
  - Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the 2014 Motor Vehicle Import Policy (MVIP).
  - Introduction of a research project/programme to establish a comprehensive database for domestic motor vehicle information.
  - Ongoing monitoring and review of commodity regimes, especially Refined Sugar and Milk Powder
  - Collaboration with Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other MDAs in the refinements of specific aspects of current trade agreements – in particular CARICOM/Dominican Republic, CARICOM/Costa Rica and CARICOM/Cuba.
  - Collaboration with other MDAs and private sector trade associations/umbrella groups to promote use of underutilized trade agreements, especially those with Spanish-speaking trading partners.

## 6.0 Conclusion

Throughout the medium-term, the Government of Jamaica through MICAFA, *inter alia*, will play a leading role in tackling several key interlinked constraints that continue to inhibit private sector-led investments in the agricultural and business sectors. This is aimed at enhancing the overall resilience of Jamaica's business environment and strengthening the country's international competitiveness framework. This should result in increased production and the expansion of the capacity of all these sectors to drive inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

In FY2019/20, the MICAFA will continue, amend and/or expand our programmes, initiatives and projects to increase our successes through the following priorities: rationalizing of previously owned sugar cane lands into increased and diversified local agricultural production for import substitution as well as export; establishment of specialized agricultural zones to support economic activities; positioning of the local fisheries sector to benefit from the Blue economy; development of new local industries such as medical cannabis and bamboo; the development of the MSME sector; implementation of the trade facilitation programme; the strengthening of the national quality infrastructure; and establishment of policies, legislation and institutions which will ensure increased competitiveness within various industries within the agricultural through to the services sectors. These will be pursued through two main approaches – ***Promotion of Industrial Development and Production*** and the ***Development and Maintenance of an Enabling and Facilitating Environment*** for the development of local industries, businesses and the wider economy.

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**The Honourable Audley Shaw CD, MP**  
**Minister of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries**  
**April 16, 2019**