



# Government of Jamaica

## Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture & Fisheries

MINISTRY PAPER

/2020



Performance Report 2019 – 2020

*“Sustainable Growth Advanced”*

June 2020

## Ministry Paper /2020

### Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture & Fisheries Performance Report 2019 – 2020

#### 1.0 Purpose

The matter for tabling is the Performance Report for the period April 2019 to March 2020 on the priority initiatives undertaken by the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries for the development of the Agriculture, Manufacturing, and Services Sectors in Jamaica.

#### 2.0 Background

The Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries (MICAFA) is responsible for driving the production of primary agricultural produce, livestock and fisheries to widen the supply chains, and to integrate production along the value chain. This will facilitate increased public value and full commercialization of outputs of the agriculture, manufacturing, and service sectors. Of equal importance, the Ministry is one of the pillars that supports Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) development and trade facilitation which contributes to sustainable economic growth.

It is essential to establish and implement a range of policies/legislation, programmes, and projects, as well as acquire the requisite human and budgetary resources to facilitate and advance the realization of the output targets of all related sectors.

The World Bank's Doing Business Report 2020 ranked Jamaica 71 of 190 countries, which was three places lower than 2016. Despite this fall, Jamaica remained as the best ranked country in Latin America and the Caribbean, for Starting a Business (6<sup>th</sup> in the world). In addition, Jamaica has shown improvement in three other sub-categories; they are Getting Electricity, Resolving Insolvency (35<sup>th</sup> in World and 1<sup>st</sup> in Region) and Trading across Borders.

#### 3.0 Overview of 2019 Performance of Key Sectors

In FY2019/20, the MICAFA and its portfolio entities implemented initiatives that facilitated “... **innovative, inclusive, sustainable and internationally competitive industries in agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing and service sectors**” (MICAFA's Vision 2019/20 – 2023/24). This is demonstrated in the calendar year 2019 performance of the agricultural, manufacturing and distributive trade sectors:

***In calendar year 2019, the preliminary estimate for growth in the agriculture, manufacturing, wholesale and retail sectors is 0.5%, 1.8% and 0.9% respectively.***

### 3.1 The Agricultural Sector

Real Value Added for the Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing Industry grew by 0.5 per cent relative to 2018. This industry accounted for 7.1 per cent of Total Real Value Added. Growth in the industry was attributed mainly to improved performances for Other Agricultural Crops, Animal Farming and Fishing which outweighed the decline recorded for Traditional Export Crops. Growth was, however, stymied by adverse weather conditions during the second and third quarters of the year. Based on information from the Climate Branch of the Meteorological Service of Jamaica, the island recorded accumulated rainfall of 1,387 mm which was 78.2 per cent of the 30-year (1971–2000) accumulated mean. This compares with 2018 when the accumulated rainfall was 1,583 mm and 89.0 per cent of the 30-year accumulated mean.

The Government of Jamaica continued with its Production and Productivity Programme, aimed at increasing the production of strategically selected crops and livestock for local consumption and export. The 2019–2020 phase of the Programme utilizing a budget of \$280.0 million to benefit approximately 4,000 farmers targeting the expansion of nine crops.<sup>1</sup> To improve efficiency in the industry, farmers were offered support in the areas of extension service, irrigation and marketing.

The Planning Institute of Jamaica's (PIOJ) Agriculture Production Index (API) indicated that gross output increased for the sub-industries Other Agricultural Crops (1.8 per cent), Animal Farming (0.2 per cent), Fishing (10.0 per cent), and Post-Harvest Activities (36.1 per cent). Traditional Export Crops declined by 6.7 per cent.

Traditional agricultural commodities<sup>2</sup> export earnings were valued at US\$16.1 million compared with US\$18.7 million in 2018. Declines in earnings were recorded for three of the five traditional crops (Banana, Citrus, and Coffee). The largest decline was recorded for Coffee, which decreased by 19.1 per cent to US\$11.9 million, due mainly to a fall in the price on the world market.

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<sup>1</sup> Priority crops are Yam (yellow and Sweet), Dasheen, Pineapple, Cassava, Ginger, Strawberry, Hot Pepper, Onion and Irish Potato.

<sup>2</sup> These are Coffee, Banana, Citrus, Cocoa and Pimento.

## **Employment**

The average employment<sup>3</sup> for the Agriculture, Hunting, Forestry & Fishing industry for 2019 was 189,450 persons compared with 197,200 in the previous year. The industry's share of total employed labour force was 15.2 per cent compared with 16.2 per cent in 2018. The decline in employed labour force may, in part, be attributed to the contraction of the labour force in the sugar industry as a result of the closure of some factories and reduced field operations. There was a decline in the average number of males and females employed in the industry. Male employment declined from 148,700 to 143,375, while the average number of females moved from 48,500 to 46,075. The share of employment within the industry for males and females was 75.7 per cent and 24.3 per cent, respectively. This compares with 75.4 per cent and 24.6 per cent, respectively, in 2018.

## **Select Policy Initiatives**

- Farm Road Rehabilitation Programme<sup>4</sup>
- Production Incentive Programme<sup>5</sup>

## **3.2 The Manufacturing Sector**

The Manufacturing industry registered an increase in Real Value Added of 1.8 per cent for 2019, which marked the 5th consecutive year of growth. The industry contributed 0.2 percentage point to the overall growth out-turn and accounted for 8.6 per cent of Total Real Value Added. This outcome resulted from growth in both the ***Other Manufacturing*** and the ***Food, Beverages & Tobacco*** sub-industries. Real Value Added for *Other Manufacturing* and *Food, Beverages & Tobacco* was estimated to have increased by 2.8 per cent and 1.1 per cent, respectively.

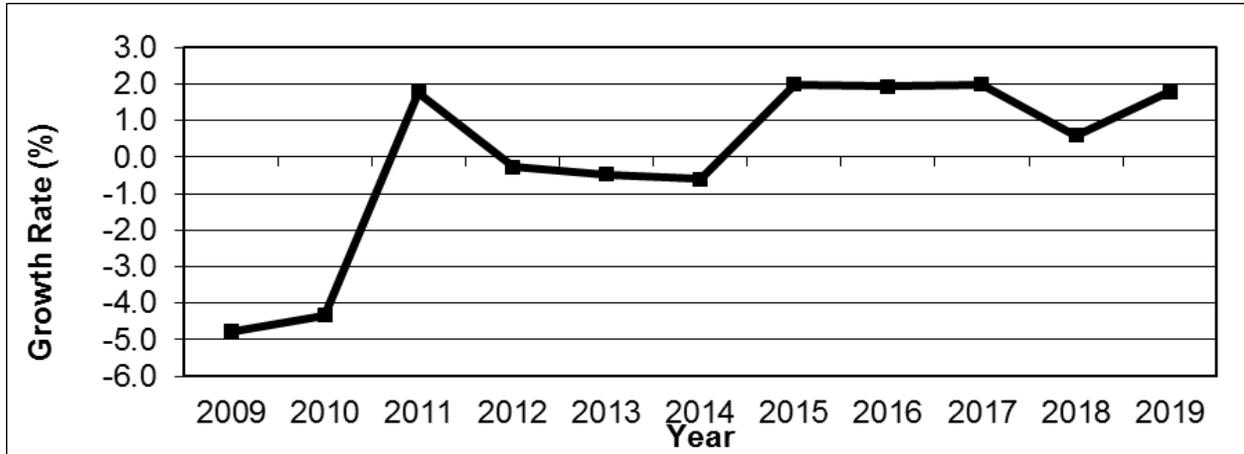
The improved performance of *Other Manufacturing* was supported by increase output from the *Petroleum Products* and *Paper & Paper Products, Printing & Publishing* categories. The increased output of petroleum products resulted from the refinery being in operation for more days in 2019 than in 2018. The greater output from the *Paper & Paper Products, Printing & Publishing* category is evidenced by the 6.5 per cent increase in real sales for 2019. The increased output from *Food, Beverages & Tobacco* resulted from greater production of Condensed Milk; Poultry; Edible Fats; Dairy Products; and Bakery Products. This was facilitated by increase demand.

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<sup>3</sup> This is a simple average of the results of the four Labour Force Surveys undertaken by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica during the year.

<sup>4</sup> For details see page 145

<sup>5</sup> For details see page 140



**FIGURE 1: CHANGE IN REAL VALUE ADDED FOR THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY, 2009-2019**

## Financing

The stock of outstanding Loans & Advances at Commercial Banks to the Manufacturing industry at the end of 2019 was \$32 709.2 million relative to \$30 309.3 million at the end of December 2018. This was a 7.9 per cent increase (real increase of 4.3 per cent) over the stock of loans at the end of 2018. The stock of Loans & Advances outstanding at Institutions Licensed under the Financial Institutions Act to the Manufacturing industry was \$196.0 million at the end of 2019 compared with \$320.0 million at the end of 2018.

## Employment

The average annual employment for the Manufacturing industry declined to 79 000 persons, down from 79 525<sup>6</sup> in 2018. The Manufacturing industry's share of the total employed labour force was 6.3 per cent. The average male employment increased by 0.5 per cent to 53 400 while female employment decreased by 3.0 per cent to 25 600.

## Select Policy Initiatives

- Development of the Manufacturing Sector Strategy<sup>7</sup>
- Revision and Implementation of National Quality Policy<sup>8</sup>
- Implementation of the National Trade Facilitation Programme<sup>9</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Revised since 2019

<sup>7</sup> For details see page 53

<sup>8</sup> For details see page 26

<sup>9</sup> For details see page 17

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

Preliminary General Consumption Tax (GCT) data showed a decrease in the number of Small and Micro firms that filed returns for 2019. The number of firms in this category declined by 437 firms to 10,076 firms. Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) represented 78.14 per cent of the enterprises that filed returns. MSEs sales declined by 10.2 per cent to \$57,842.1 million. Lower sales for both Micro and Small firms down, 36.0 per cent and 3.8 per cent, respectively led to this out-turn. Sales of Micro and Small enterprises accounted for 5.3 per cent of total sales.

A review of the performance across industries showed that although it had comparatively lower sales, the Wholesale & Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles continued to account for the largest share of sales and number of SMEs, with \$30,904.5 million and 4, 536, respectively. This was, as in 2018, followed by Real Estate, Renting & Business Activities with \$12,553.43 million in sales and 2,710 firms, which was also lower than the corresponding year.

#### **Financing**

The value of loans disbursed for on-lending by the Development Bank of Jamaica (DBJ) increased (up 21.9 per cent) while the value decreased for Micro Investment Development Agency (MIDA) down 68.4 per cent. The decrease in value of loans disbursed by MIDA to approved Micro Financing Institutions resulted from the cessation of disbursement at the end of March 2019 in anticipation of its operations being shifted to the EXIM bank. Disbursements by the Development Bank of Jamaica increased to 2,761.7 million. The disbursements by channels were as follows:

- Micro Finance Institutions (MFI) – \$2,126.3 million, up 25.1 per cent
- Approved Financial Institutions (AFI) – \$635.4 million, down 12.2 per cent
- Direct – Nil
- National Peoples Co-operative Bank (NPCB) – Nil

Of the categories represented, Agriculture & Agro-Processing; Services & Transport; Manufacturing; Tourism; Mining; Distribution/Trade and Other, registered an increase in disbursement.

#### **Employment**

Own Account Worker (sole trader) category was the second largest employment category, accounting for an average of 33.2 per cent of the employed labour force (a decrease of 1.2 per cent relative to 2018). There was a 1.1 per cent decrease to 413,425 in the average number of employed Own Account Workers). The decrease in the average number of employed Own Account Workers reflected a decrease of 2.3 per cent in male own account workers from 261, 225 in 2018 to 255, 175 in 2019. This outweighed a 0.9 per cent increase in female own account workers to 158,250 relative to 156,700 in 2018.

### **Select Policy Initiatives**

- Implementation of the Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (MSME) Policy 2019<sup>10</sup>
- Development of the MSME Sector<sup>11</sup>

### **3.4 The Wholesale and Retail Sector**

Real Value Added for the Wholesale & Retail Trade; Repair and Installation of Machinery (WRTRIM) industry grew by 0.9 per cent and accounted for 17.2 per cent of total Real Value Added in 2019 (Figure 1). An overall improvement in economic activity contributed to the industry's growth out-turn and was supported by:

- an increase in the employed labour force by an average of 29 800 individuals
- higher stock of Loans & Advances to consumers and distributors from Commercial Banks and institutions licensed under the Financial Institutions Act (FIA)
- higher Real Value Added in some of the related Goods Producing industries
- an 8.6 per cent increase in the annual average of the Consumer Confidence Index
- an increase of 1.8 per cent in the annual average of the Business Confidence Index.

The industry's performance also benefited from a 2.6 per cent real increase in remittances, as well as higher volume (4.2 per cent) and real value (15.1 per cent) of Automated Banking Machine (ABM) and Point of Sale (POS) transactions combined.

Analysis of preliminary General Consumption Tax (GCT) data indicated that there was a 0.1 per cent real increase<sup>12</sup> in total sales, resulting from increased sales for six of the eight goods categories compared with 2018. Combined, these categories accounted for 66.4 per cent of total sales. Of the six increasing categories, growth was led by Motor Vehicles, Auto Repairs & Accessories (7.6 per cent); Pharmaceuticals, Medical Goods & Cosmetics (5.8 per cent); and Wholesale & Repair of Household Goods & Office Equipment (4.8 per cent).

### **Employment**

There was an increase of 1 850 persons to 244 375 in the average number of persons employed within the WRTRIM industry. The industry remained the largest single employer, with a share of 19.6 per cent of the total employed labour force. Disaggregated by sex, the total number of females employed accounted for 52.5 per cent, a 0.3 percentage point reduction relative to 2018.

### **Select Policy Initiatives**

- Revision and Implementation of the National Quality Policy (NQP)<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> For details see page 23

<sup>11</sup> For details see page 112

<sup>12</sup> Unless otherwise stated all changes are in real terms, discounted by the average Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the respective periods.

<sup>13</sup> For details see page 69

#### 4.0 MICAF's Summary Financial Report

In 2019/20, MICAF requested a budget of **Sixteen Billion, Seven Hundred and Ten Million, and Seven Hundred and Sixty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$16,710,767,000.00)** to fully implement the Ministry's mandate. The approved budget for 2019/20 for both Capital and Recurrent heads of expenditure for MICAF was **Thirteen Billion, Five Hundred and Eighty Four Million, Two Hundred and Thirty Four Thousand Dollars (J\$13,584,234,000)**, a difference of approximately **\$3.13B (18.7%)**. It was a 7% increase from the revised estimates for 2018/19.

Similarly, the supplementary budget request was **\$1.29B** and only **\$321M** was approved.

The Appropriations-In-Aid budget was **One billion Two Hundred and Twenty Five Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty Nine Thousand dollars (\$1,225,369,000)**.

As at March 2020, **97.2%** of the approved budget for the Recurrent and Capital heads was utilized.

TOTAL FUNDING REQUIREMENT	Approved Funding (\$'000)	% Budget Utilisation
Total Recurrent (Net AIA)	10,277,954.00	98%
Appropriations in Aid	1,348,094.00	89%
Total Capital	2,279,340.00	97%
<b>Total Funding Requirement</b>	<b>13,905,388.00</b>	<b>97%</b>

Despite not receiving the budget requested, the Ministry was able to continue its mandate of driving GROWTH in the agriculture, manufacturing and service sectors.

## 5.0 Policy and Legislative Development Framework

The Ministry seeks to formulate and review policies and legislations in accordance with the objectives and goals of Vision 2030. These policies and legislation 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 lands 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.

### Aims and Objectives

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.

### Policy Development Planned Targets for 2019/2020

The Planned targets for 2019/20 were 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 Craft Policy and Implementation Plan  
The Ministry will seek the Cabinet's approval of the National Craft Policy, as a White Paper.
4. National Seed Policy and Action Plan  
The Ministry will seek the Cabinet's approval of the National Seed Policy, as a White Paper.

### Policy Development Key Achievements – 2019/2020

- **National Quality Policy** – Cabinet approved the adoption of National Quality Policy and Implementation Plan as a White Paper in April 2019 and it was tabled in Parliament on May 21, 2019 as a White Paper. The Policy implementation has commenced and being led by the Ministry's Commerce Division.
- **National Craft Policy** - Cabinet approved the Policy as a White Paper. The policy was tabled in Parliament in November 2019.

- **National Seed Policy and Action Plan** – cabinet approved in April 2019 the adoption of the Policy and Action Plan for tabling as White paper. The Policy and Plan was tabled in Parliament in July 2019.

### **Policy Development Principal Focus for FY2020/21**

- I. National Organic Agriculture Policy and Implementation Plan  
The Ministry will seek to complete and submit to Cabinet for approval the Organic Agriculture Policy.
- II. National Consumer Affairs Policy and Implementation Plan  
The Ministry will seek the Cabinet's approval of the Consumer Affairs Policy, as a Green Paper.
- III. National Services Policy and Implementation Plan  
The Ministry will seek to complete and submit to Cabinet for approval the Services Policy.
- IV. National Investment Policy  
The Ministry will seek to complete and submit to Cabinet for approval as a Green Paper.

### **Legislation Development Planned Targets for 2019/2020**

- I. **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**  
This amendment to the Act will effectively remove the body corporate status of the former Management Authority which was established by the principal Act. The amendment will 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.

**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 Fisheries Act:**

The Fisheries Act will repeal the Fishing Industry Act, in order to allow for the better management of the Fishing Industry, the latter of which had become out-dated and woefully inadequate.

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

The Act and regulations will be amended to modernise and strengthen the enforcement powers of the Food Storage Division.

**8. The Patents and Designs Bill**

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.

**9. 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.

**10. The Co-operatives Societies (Amendment) Act**

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.

### **11. The Trade Marks Act and Rules**

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.

### **12. 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)

### **13. 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.

## **II. 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
- The Fishing Industry (Spiny Lobster) (Amendment) Regulations
- The Fishing Industry (Declaration of Close Season) (Conch Genus Strombus) Order
- The Fisheries (Declaration of Close Season) (Conch Genus Strombus) Orders

## **Legislation Development Key Achievements – 2019/2020**

### **i. Legislation Enacted**

- **The Protection of Plant Genetics for Food and Agriculture (Amendment) Bill 2019**

The Protection of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Amendment) Act, 2019 was passed into law on June 11, 2019, this date being the date the Governor General Sir Patrick Allen gave his assent thereto.

- **Fisheries Act 2019**

The Appointed Day Notice has been gazetted and the new Fisheries Act came into effect on June 1, 2019.

- **Food Storage and Prevention of Infestation (Amendment) Bill**

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 2020.

- **The Patents and Designs Bill**

The Bill was passed as an Act of Parliament and gazetted on January 23, 2020.

- **The Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Act**

The Bill is currently being reviewed by key stakeholders and the Attorney General's Chambers (AGC) for finalization.

- **Trade Marks Act**

The Bill is now finalized and has been submitted to the Attorney General's Chamber for approval and for submission to the Legislative Committee.

**ii. Regulations enacted**

- Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Regulations 2019
- The Fishing Industry (Spiny Lobster) (Amendment) Regulations, 2020
- The Fishing Industry (Declaration of Close Season) (Conch Genus Strombus) Order 2019
- The Fisheries (Declaration of Close Season) (Conch Genus Strombus) Orders 2020

**iii. Cabinet Decision advanced to the Chief Parliamentary Counsel (Being drafted)**

- The National Compliance and Regulatory Authority Act and related Legislations
- Legislation for a modified insolvency framework applicable for financial institutions

## **Legislation Development Principal Focus for 2020/21**

- “Anti-Price Gouging” Bill (COVID -19)
- Trade Marks Act and Rules
- Jamaica Promotions (Amendment) Bill
- Cooperative Society (Amendment) Bill
- Companies (Amendment) Bill
- Charities Regulations
- Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Act Bill
- Agro-Investment Corporation (Amendment) Bill
- Repeal of the Tobacco Industry Regulation Act
- Repeal of the Plants and Plant Products (Inspection and Quarantine) Bill and replace with the Plant Health Act
- Repeal of the Animals (Diseases and Importation) Act and replace with the Animal Health Act
- Amendment of the Agricultural Produce Act

## 5.0 MICAFA's FY2019/20 Performance

The Ministry and its portfolio Agencies implemented their initiatives within the framework of GOJ's strategic priorities, the National Vision 2030 MTF 2018 – 2021, the Economic Growth Agenda "5 in 4" Plan, and the current state of the agriculture, manufacturing and services activities.

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## 5.1 WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

### 1. **Agro-Parks Development and Agro-Economic Zone Development**

The intention of this initiative is to facilitate the expansion of the productive capacity of the agricultural sector. This will be done by building out the infrastructure to support investments in the production of selected crops. Crop production will be targeting import substitution, provision of raw material for agro-processing and non-traditional exports.

With these parks implemented, the overall impact is expected to be as follows:

- Over 5,000 people will benefit directly and indirectly spanning investor/farmers and employees.
- 20,000 acres of land brought into production over the next 5 years.
- Import substitution over 56,500 tons of produce normally imported, to be produced locally.
- Estimated J\$1.5B in private sector investment
- Estimated foreign exchange earnings/savings of up to J\$6.5B/ US\$ 56M

This initiative is being implemented by the Agro-Invest Corporation (AIC), a portfolio agency, with support from the ACP Bridging Project, Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA), Research and Development Division and the Economic Policy and Planning Directorate of the Ministry.

#### **Alignment to Vision 2030 MTF 2018-2021**

- Develop Agro-parks and other key production areas.

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

- On-going operationalization of the seven (7) Agro-Parks<sup>14</sup>
- Commence the establishment of a new Agro-Park – Spring Garden Agro-Park in Portland
- Global Gap Certification of Agro-Parks
- Commence development of an Agro-Economic Zone

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<sup>14</sup> Established Agro-Parks – (1) Yallahs Agro-Park, St. Thomas; (2) Spring Plain, Clarendon; (3 ) New Forest/ Duff House, St. Elizabeth; (4) Hounslow, St. Elizabeth, (5) Amity Hall, St. Catherine (6) Plantain Garden River, St. Thomas and (7) Ebony Park, Clarendon

### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- **24.38%** of infrastructure completed for full operationalization of Agro-Parks:
  - **14,156m** of road and drains
  - **4** tractors fully operational and maintained
- **50%** of Spring Garden Park established<sup>15</sup>
- **71.6%** utilization of irrigated land
- **206** entrepreneurs operating within Agro-parks
- **634** persons employed in the Agro-Parks
- **61** youths and women investing in agro-parks
- **2,639,672.30Kg** harvested from the Agro-Parks for import substitution and exports
- **56** investors audited internally in preparation of Global G.A.P audit (by external body).
- **2** Agro-Economic Zones scoped and assessed
  - Holland Estate, St Elizabeth
  - Parnassus, St Catherine (to form part of the Amity Hall Agro-Park)

### **Principal Focus for FY2020/21**

<b>Strategic Priority 1:</b>	Optimize the production and productivity of key local produce and products towards targeted markets
<b>Programme:</b>	Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security
<b>Sub-programme:</b>	Agro-Industry Development; Irrigation services
<b>Priority initiative:</b>	Agro-Parks Development

**Key Activities:**

- Continued Operationalization of Agro-Parks
- Establishment of Spring Garden Agro-Park
- Global Certification of Agro-Parks
- Establishment of an Agro-Economic Zone

<sup>15</sup> For more details see performance of ACP Bridging Project page 34

## **2. Business & Trade Facilitation Support Programme**

This initiative seeks to provide oversight over the implementation of the 2016 cabinet approved Trade Facilitation (TF) Action Plan, which is a response to Jamaica's being a signatory to the 2017 WTO Agreement. TF Action Plan outlines 113 individual activities, which are intended to actualize the required reforms that are necessary to improve the business and trading environment and achieve greater competitiveness by Jamaican firms. These 113 activities are grouped into 6 Outputs, and along with oversight functions, the Ministry has been assigned responsibility for the implementation of Outputs 4 and 5, which aim to improve transparency and predictability in the trading environment as well as the enhancement of the country's trade support services.

The Ministry is cognizant that the agricultural sector has responsibility to preserve the livelihood of our farmers and to ensure the nation's food security. To this end the Ministry, notwithstanding its commitment to trade facilitation will ensure that the appropriate trade policy prescriptions are in place so that the country's most sensitive agricultural products are not subjected to unfair trading practices, such as dumped agricultural products. The Ministry will continue to actively participate in trade negotiations with a view to securing market access for Jamaica's agricultural and local products.

### **Alignment to Vision 2030 MTF 2018 – 2021**

- Continue phased implementation of the EPA provisions including phased reduction of tariffs
- Pursue a multi-agency approach to trade enforcement issues
- Establish and operationalize and Electronic Single Window (ESW)
- Implement the National Trade Facilitation Programme
- Develop and implement the Tools for Trade capacity building programme
- Develop MSME operational and trade capacities

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

- Single Electronic Window (JSWIFT)<sup>16</sup> piloted
- Signed MoU for the Jamaica Trade Information Portal
- Organizational re-design of Border Regulatory Services<sup>17</sup>
- 12 policies drafted or amended to improve the ease of doing business
- 20 Workshops/Meetings/Documents providing firms with import and export opportunities
- 1 Border Regulatory Agency(BRA) integrated into the electronic single window(ESW)

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<sup>16</sup> The JSWIFT Platform will allow for traders to submit applications and payments for licences certificates and other regulatory requirements.

<sup>17</sup> This project is to streamline the activities of the Border Regulatory Agencies (FSPID, VSD, NCRA, PQ/PI TBL and MOH)

### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- Implementation of the JSWIFT pilot in Trade Board Ltd:
  - Completed training of officers on software.
  - JSWIFT will go-live with Trade Board Limited on May 23, 2020
- MoU has been reviewed and agreed by most stakeholders. Awaiting signatures by all stakeholders by June 2020
- Public awareness activities are ongoing for the portal.
- Assessment of the BRAs and report for recommended changes to entities submitted for review.
- Development of inspection protocols for BRAs
- Inspection matrix has been signed off on by agencies. Implementation will commence in FY2020/21
- Policy briefs were drafted
- Five (5) briefs on Jamaica's national position at the 48<sup>th</sup> Council on Trade and Economic Development, two (2) for the Meeting of the Ministers on the Commonwealth Connectivity Agenda in London and one (1) on value chains for MFAFT
- 35 Workshops/Meetings/ Documents providing firms with import and export opportunities
- 1 BRA has been integrated - Trade Board Limited integrated in October 7th 2019.

### **Principal Focus for FY2020/21**

**Strategic Priority 5:** Improve the ease of doing business to facilitate trade and investment in Jamaica

**Programme:** Trade Promotion and development

**Sub-Programme:** Trade Advocacy and Facilitation

**Priority Initiative** National Trade Facilitation

#### **Key Activities:**

##### **1. Trade Facilitation**

- Continued delivery of training and capacity building in areas of on-going WTO negotiations multilateral and regional trade rule and mechanisms and exports and investment opportunities.
- Act as the focal point for the Trade Facilitation Reform Agenda, which includes providing notifications to the WTO of implemented measures.
- 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.
- Represent the Ministry in Trade Negotiations.
- Provide support to the Trade Facilitation Task Force including, but not limited to, The Paperless Regime, research and project management of the Jamaica Trade Information Portal (JTIP), Jamaica Single Window for Trade (JSWIFT), and Public Sector Reform for Policies and GOJ Labs.
- Develop a closer relationship with Jamaica Customs Agency in order to acquire monthly data regarding import and export of goods to.

##### **2. Development of Service Sector Policy**

- Consultations held
- Draft and submit policy to Cabinet for approval

**3. Market/Product Diversification**

- Conduct research and analysis to provide guidance to the Ministry and its Agencies and Departments on opportunities for development and export of domestic goods.
- Liaise with international partners to identify and secure development support related to Jamaica's trade related capacities, as well as the advancement of its productive sectors.
- Conduct research liaising with the Commerce Team to inform trade capacity and market access in the CARICOM Markets regarding item on for which COTED had granted suspensions.
- Conduct investigations, research and implementation strategies working with the Veterinary Services Division (VSD) of the Ministry regarding the export of meat products (Poultry and Pork) to Trinidad and Tobago.

**4. Development of a Local Strategy to derive funding benefits through EU Horizon 2020 for Development**

- Liaise with MFAFT to determine Jamaica's focal point for the EU Horizon 2020.
- Identify areas for potential research to benefit from the EU Horizon 2020.
- Liaise with the Ministry's other Departments, Agencies.

### 3. **Competitive Products Development Programme<sup>18</sup>**

This initiative is under the Ministry's Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security Programme. It targets specific products over the medium term that has competitive and/or comparative advantage to use as alternative or direct substitute to imported products. This will enable the Country to reduce loss of foreign exchange and build industries with an already built in market. Though-out this medium term to the next, the Ministry ultimate goal is to ensure the sustainable development of select agro-industries – 40% self-sufficiency in onion by 2022; 100% self-sufficiency in Irish potato by 2021 and determine the viability and action plan for strawberry self -sufficiency.

#### **Alignment to Vision 2030 MTF 2018 – 2021**

- Development and implement a ten-year agricultural sector plan
- Advance implementation of the Food and nutrition Security Action Plan

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

- 20% self-sufficiency in onions by targeting:
  - 300 ha planted & reaped
  - Yield: 10,680t
- 100% self-sufficiency in Irish potato by targeting:
  - 1200 ha planted & reaped
  - Yield: 14,600T
- 5,000 farmers benefitting from Production Incentive Programme (PIP)
- Targeted research on strawberry production and promotion of local production

#### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- Onion Self-sufficiency
  - 139.93ha planted by 411 farmers
  - 14.3ha reaped
  - Yield<sub>13</sub>: 236.86t
  - 60 farmers benefitted from 2 sensitization sessions held
- Irish Potato self-sufficiency
  - 911.63 ha planted by 4,462 farmers
  - 456.41 ha reaped to date
  - Yield: 6,981.58t
  - Seed purchased and distributed – 22,582 x 22.7kg
  - 30 farmers benefiting from one sensitization session

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<sup>18</sup> See further details on page 118

- Production Incentive Programme
  - 1,278 farmers benefitted from the programme to include crops: sweet yam, yellow yam, hot pepper, dasheen and pineapples, ginger, strawberry, and cassava
- Strawberry Production
  - 6 varieties of strawberry tested
  - 182 strawberry plants in field
  - 96 plants in nursery
  - 200 plants were sold and 100 distributed by RADA

**Principal Focus for FY2020/21**

**Strategic Priority 1 & 2 :** Optimize the production and productivity of key local produce and products towards targeted markets

Increase access of select local industries to emerging and existing markets

<b>Programme:</b>	Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security
<b>Sub-programme:</b>	Agro-Industry Development; Agricultural Extension Service
<b>Priority initiative:</b>	Production Incentive Programme; National Irish Potato Programme and National Onion Development Programme

**Key Activities:**

- 20% self-sufficiency in onions
- 100% self-sufficiency in Irish potato
- 5,000 farmers benefitting from Production Incentive Programme (PIP)
- On-going targeted research on strawberry production and promotion of local production

#### **4. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) & Entrepreneurship**

The intention of this initiative is to facilitate the expansion, productivity and sophistication of the MSMEs in Jamaica by building out supporting mechanisms directed at improving the performance of the sector and fostering inclusive growth. The initiative spans a series of activities aimed at improving financing opportunities and options for MSMEs; increasing access to markets and value chains and providing adequate business development support through, inter alia, a network of Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) Island wide. The main goal of this initiative is to improve the business environment for local MSMEs

The initiative is a response to the Ministry's MSME Sub-Programme which focuses on the implementation of the 2018 MSME policy and implementation plan. The main implementers include the MSME Division and the Jamaica Business Development Corporation (JBDC) with support from a myriad of MICAF's portfolio entities such as JAMPRO, EXIM Bank and MIDA. It should be noted that farmers are viewed as owners of agricultural enterprises, so a key implementer of the MSME programme for agricultural producers is the Rural Agricultural Development Authority.

##### **Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2018 – 2021**

- Manage and implement the reviewed MSME & Entrepreneurship Policy
- Establish a regulatory framework for greater participation of MSMEs in Government's procurement process
- Establish a database with relevant statistical data on MSMEs
- Restructure the Micro Investment Development Agency (MIDA) as a wholesaler of loans to support the micro productive sector
- Expand factoring / reverse factoring and lease financing for MSMEs
- Conduct Technical consultancy on the efficacy of the unclaimed funds proposal as a means of identifying new resources for MSME financing
- Complete a technical review of the secured transaction regime and the use of non-traditional collateral to expand credit facilities MSMEs
- Utilize a coordination mechanism to monitor implementation of priority policies and programmes aimed at improving access to MSME development and access to capital
- Promulgate the Micro Credit Act
- Enhance access to credit by providing technical assistance to clients and intermediaries as well as training of MSMEs and umbrella associations
- Design and support projects that will strengthen linkages between the MSMEs, Manufacturing, Agriculture, SEZs and Tourism
- Develop MSME operational and trade capacities
- Foster the development of a Social Enterprise Business model
- Foster the development of entrepreneurship through public sensitization and marketing campaign in schools and the wider society
- Develop a design-led industrial strategic policy framework

**Planned Targets for 2019/20**

- 5% of MSME Policy activities implemented per year
- 19 Small Business Development Centre (SBDC) established with 400 Clients
- Programme developed geared at strengthening youth and women involvement in MSME Sector:
  - 5 high schools and tertiary institutions with entrepreneurship programmes
  - Women Entrepreneurship Support Project
- 972 jobs created and sustained
- 1,200 entrepreneurs to benefit from funds disbursed
- 39,000 framers trained/benefited from agricultural extension services
- 2,353 farmers training sessions held
- 50 beneficiaries accessing incubator space
- 100 new products developed
- 300 clients participate in the JBDC monitoring and handholding programme
- 80 Beneficiaries Advisory Services clients formalized and tax compliant
- 1,500 MSME trained
- Technical Consultancy report on dormant funds
- Established MSME Secured Transaction Regime
- Public Procurement (Offsets) Regulations passed in Parliament

**Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- Operationalization of all Sub-Working groups of the National Policy Implementation Committee (NPIC)
- Total of 12 SBDCs serving 702 Clients
  - 6 centres were added to the network - JBDC in St Thomas; Northern Caribbean University; UTECH; Edna College of Visual and Performing Arts; College of Agriculture, Science and Education; and Caribbean Maritime University
  - Negotiations are at an advanced stage for the participation of Mona School of Business and Management as a partner in the network.
- Women Entrepreneurship Support Project launched with 4 beneficiaries of \$250,000 each. Funds disbursed to the 4 beneficiaries from the Coordinating Monitoring Unit (CMU)
  - Finalized details of capacity training programme to be delivered by the JBDC
  - 2 high schools with embedded entrepreneurship programmes
- Women Entrepreneurship Support Project
- 353 jobs created and sustained
- 222 entrepreneurs benefited from funds disbursed
- 36,932 framers trained/benefited from agricultural extension services
- 3,231 farmers training session held
- 83 beneficiaries accessing the fashion & food and gift & craft incubator space
- 227 new products representing the Gifts & Craft fashion and Agro-processing industries were developed or enhanced

- 391 MSME are enrolled in the programme receiving going handholding assistance in various areas of business development.
  - 21 MSME referred for funding
  - Total of 902 MSMEs received counselling support
- 231 Business Advisory Services' client referred to business development entities (COJ, BSJ, SRC, JIPO) for formalization)
- 2,677 MSME accessed training
- Feasibility study for the use of unclaimed funds to finance MSME growth and development completed.
- Training delivered to industry stakeholders on strategies for leveraging moveable assets to finance MSME growth and development
- Cooperation Agreement for the provision of advisory services from the World bank (IFC) finalised to create a secondary market mechanism for the disposal of repossessed assets
- Facilitated the IFC review of the SIPPA Act
- The Public Procurement (Domestic Margin of Preference) Order, 2019.
- b) Finalized amendments to the Public Procurement Act, 2018
- c) Policy developed for special and differential treatment of MSMEs;
- Revision of Public Procurement Act 2019
  - Promoted the Inclusion of two (2) Ministerial Orders for set asides and margin of preference were approved
  - Draft operational instructions developed for special and differential treatment measures

### **Principal Focus for FY2020/21**

**Strategic Priority 3:** Strengthen MSMEs' contribution to Jamaica's economy

**Programme:** Industrial Development and Regulations

**Sub-programme:** MSME Development

**Priority initiative:** MSME and Entrepreneurship

#### **Key Activities:**

- Ongoing monitoring of the implementation of the MSME Policy
  - Enhance the data collection and performance mechanism on the MSME sector in Jamaica
- Increase formality of the MSME sector
- Increase access to funding
  - Facilitate the operationalization of the Public Procurement Commission to implement the public procurement Ministerial Orders for MSME growth and development
  - Facilitate the launch of the Concessionary Loan Programme for MSME growth and development
- Ongoing Business Development Support (BDS)
  - Facilitate of the implementation of the full roll-out of the SBDC network in Jamaica
- Promote and ensure inclusion
- Finalize the Legal Framework for the development of Social Enterprises in Jamaica

- Deepen collaboration with other MDAs generally, and specifically with the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service and the Ministry of Labour and Social Security related to the implementation of the policy measures for reducing MSME informality
- Make the enhanced Secured Transactions Regime work for improving access to MSME financing
- Improve overall guidance to the monitoring and evaluation mechanism related to the MSME and Entrepreneurship Policy and Implementation Plan.

**5. Strengthening the National Quality Institutions and Systems**

This initiative seeks to create a strategic framework for the National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) through the strengthening of its institutions and regulatory framework. It seeks to facilitate the implementation of initiatives geared towards meeting international standards and quality via standards development, accreditation, and certification; and is implemented chiefly through three (3) public bodies under the ambit of the Ministry namely, the Bureau of Standards Jamaica (BSJ), the Jamaica Agency for National Accreditation (JANAAC), and the National Certification Body of Jamaica (NCBJ). The National Quality Infrastructure is supported by the regulatory bodies under the Ministry such as the National Compliance Regulatory Authority (NCRA).

**Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2018 – 2021**

- Develop and implement the revised National Quality Policy (NQP) as a means of strengthening the national Quality Infrastructure
- Advance accreditation of laboratories and assist exporters in meeting requirements of the USFSMA, HACCP and ISO Standards

**Planned Targets and Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- National Quality Infrastructure programme
  - White paper approved and tabled in parliament on April 23, 2019.
- Advancing Standards, Accreditation and Certification Programme (BSJ, NCBJ and JANAAC)
  - 65 standards completed
  - 629 beneficiaries trained on standards and quality mgmt.-related topics
  - 11 certificates awarded
- Strengthening of Quality compliance programme (NCRA, BSJ)
  - 16,072 compliance activities completed including verifying weighing and measuring devices, 10 % of inspection activities carried out by food inspectorate, 56% by the legal metrology and 34% standard compliance teams.

**Principal Focus for 2019/20**

<b>Strategic Priority 6:</b>	Strengthen the National Quality Infrastructure
<b>Programme:</b>	Executive Direction and Administration/Trade Promotion and Development
<b>Sub-programme:</b>	Policy Planning and Development/ Trade Facilitation
<b>Priority initiative:</b>	Strengthen the National Quality Infrastructure

**Key Activities:**

Please see 2019/20 Performance of the Bureau of Standards Jamaica (BSJ), the Jamaica Agency for National Accreditation (JANAAC) and National Compliance Regulatory Authority (NCRA) of page 83, 121 and 121 respectively

## 5.2 MINISTRY SPECIFIC INITIATIVES

### 6. Praedial Larceny Prevention Coordination

On March 2, 2015, the Praedial Larceny Prevention Coordination (PLPC) Unit was established on March 2, 2015, by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (now Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries), in collaboration with the Ministry of National Security. The National Praedial Larceny Prevention Programme was developed as a priority initiative to aid MICAFA in its bid to ensure that our farmers reap what they sow and create an enabling environment for continued investment in agriculture. The initiative is geared towards the protection of farmers of Jamaica through partnership with stakeholders, sharing information, effective enforcement and coordinating activities using innovation and technological advancements.

The overall goal of the Unit is to create and/or operationalize policy, legislative and institutional frameworks for the reduction of incidences of praedial larceny and other farm theft island-wide. To achieve this, the Unit will seek:

- To strengthen the legislative framework for treating with praedial larceny related cases with the Courts
- To maintain a public education campaign that focuses on the socio-economic implications of praedial theft and the promotion of a zero-tolerance approach to theft.
- To establish and maintain strategic partnerships for the development and implementation of praedial larceny prevention activities/programmes/policies.
- To facilitate the continuous training and development of the police and judiciary.
- To increase the participation of farming and fisher communities in praedial larceny prevention and risk reduction through effective community policing.

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

- 48 police operations conducted
- 200 farm visits conducted
- 20 farm watch groups established
- 19 agricultural produce protection units established
- 1 specialized training conducted
- 4 parish seminars held
- 3 public awareness activities

#### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

Of the targets planned for 2019/2020, the following was achieved:

- **One Hundred and Seventy (170)** JCF officers were trained to form part of the divisional enforcement teams across police divisions in St. Elizabeth, St. Catherine North, Clarendon and Trelawny (the parishes with the highest reported incidences of praedial larceny).

- A similar sensitization was also held for the JCF High Command (in charge of Operations across all 19 police divisions)
- A total of **six (6) police** sensitization workshops were carried out to educate officers on how to effectively investigate praedial larceny cases and prepare case files.
- **Over 200** Praedial Larceny Enforcement Manuals have been distributed to all sensitized/trained officers.
- **Five (5) parish seminars** were hosted in the parishes of St. Mary, St. Thomas, St. Elizabeth, St. Catherine and Trelawny.
- **22 public sensitizations sessions**
- PR campaign included three (3) radio interviews, PSAs and features in the Jamaica Gleaner and on the JIS website.
- A draft proposal for the Resurgence of Agricultural Wardens' Programme completed
- The review of the Agricultural Produce Act (APA) was completed, and the proposed amendments and supporting documents are being incorporated for Cabinet Submission.
- The enforcement arm of the Unit was decentralized – and instructions given for units to be established in all 19 geographic police division.

**Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2019 – 2021 Progress**

<b>Sector Strategy:</b> Promote National Food and Nutrition Security and Food Safety	
<b>Priority Action</b>	<b>FY2019/20 Performance</b>
PP1- Optimize the production and Productivity of key local produce and products towards targeted markets	- Decentralization of the enforcement arm of the Praedial Larceny Prevention Unit - 95 reported cases of praedial theft, and 43 arrests made.
Agricultural Health and Food Safety Infrastructure/Praedial Larceny Prevention Coordination Programme	- 27 farm visits and 9 security assessments conducted. - 41 praedial larceny summonses served.
Continue the implementation of the Praedial Larceny Prevention Programme including illegal unreported and unregulated fishing	- 1, 952 praedial larceny-focused patrols and 5,116 farm visits conducted. - 92 farm watch groups established

**Principal Focus for FY2020/21**

The focus is to develop effective frameworks for reducing praedial larceny, which will be strengthened by networking and partnerships with key stakeholders and encouraging greater use of technology to assist with the securing of farms

**Strategic Priority 1:** Optimize the production and productivity of key local produce and products towards targeted markets

**Programme:** Executive Direction and Administration

**Sub-Programme:** Policy, Planning and Development

**Priority Initiative:** National Praedial Larceny Prevention Programme

**Budget 2020/2021:** \$ 11,152,000.00

**Key Activities:**

- Legislative Amendments
  - Revision and submission of proposed amendments to the Praedial Larceny Prevention Act (need for a restitution clause)
  - Conduct Stakeholder consultation/review sessions
  
- Institutional Arrangement
  - To conduct at least 8 capacity building sessions with members of the judiciary/JCF to strengthen the National Praedial Larceny Programme
  - To establish a Praedial Larceny Database
  - Work with RADA to give divisional offices access to the Agricultural Business Information System (ABIS)
  
- Public Education
  - The hosting of the biennial Praedial Larceny Prevention Essay/Poster Competition for primary and secondary schools
  - The continued sensitization of stakeholders (parish seminars/sensitization sessions in hotspot areas, interviews, etc.)
  - The production of video clipping highlighting impacts of farm theft
  - Publish praedial larceny convictions data
  
- Enforcement & Compliance
  - The continued investigation of reported praedial larceny cases
  - To increase police operations, farm visits and security assessments
  - To establish at least ten (10) farm watch groups

## 7. Public Gardens

**Mission:** To maximize the conservation of biodiversity in the public gardens and scenic avenues for research, education and recreation.

### **Planned Targets for FY2019/2020**

- Target: 590 plant species conserved and maintained
- Target: 15,000 persons using public gardens for recreation and/or research
- Target: 1,000 of plant sales, 4 rentals agreements and 2 plant maintenance services acquired to generate income for AIA.
- Target: 5% increase in research facilitated in the Public Gardens
- At least 2 Garden shows held annually

### **Key Achievements for FY2019/2020**

- Target: 590 plant species conserved and maintained
  - All 590 plants species was conserved maintained.
  - Gardens and Scenic Avenues were well maintained for the period under review. New plants were consistently introduced in the Scenic Avenues of Holland Bamboo and Fern Gully. The Nursery has been propagating new plants from plant collection drives to be replanted in the Botanical Gardens for the Financial Year 2020/21
- Target: 15,000 persons using public gardens for recreation and/or research
  - 60,000 persons utilized the gardens for recreation and or research. The Gardens was utilized by various clients, both locally and international. As well as schools, businesses and individuals.
- Target: 1,000 of plant sales, 4 rentals agreements and 2 plant maintenance services acquired to generate income for AIA.
  - A total AIA of 2, 159,000.00 was acquired through 6000 plant sales, 2 yearly pant rental agreements, 20 rental agreements in the Gardens and 1 plant maintenance service.
- Target: 5% increase in research facilitated in the Public Gardens
  - Two researches facilitated in the Public Gardens by a UWI intern & CASE intern. Research was conducted on Plant Species in Castleton Botanical Gardens and Nursery plants at the Head Office.
- Target: At least 2 Garden shows held annually
  - Castleton Botanical Gardens Exposition was held in May 2019 with the Honourable Minister Audley Shaw, Minister of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries as Guest Speaker.
  - The Botanical/Horticultural seminar was held on the January 2020 with Mrs. Sanniel Wilson-Graham, Chief Plant Quarantine Officer as the Guest Speaker.

### **Principal Focus for FY2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority 4:** Build climate-resilient agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing and services sectors

**Programme:** Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security

**Sub-Programme:** Management of Zoos and Gardens

**Priority Initiative:** Facilitate the completion the five years rehabilitation project at Castleton Botanical Gardens through the PIOJ.

#### **Key Activities:**

- **Increase in access to local and endemic plants**
  - A 10 % increase in the plant species in the three (3) Botanical Gardens and two (2) Scenic Avenues.
  - The four (4) Botanical Gardens and two (2) Scenic Avenues maintained and operational within agreed standards.
- **Increase Staff capacity**
  - Train at least 20 members of staff in plant conservation.
  - Train at least 12 members of staff in customer service/tour guides and enroll at least 12 members of staff in a literacy programme.
- **Develop rehabilitation projects in collaboration stakeholders.**
  - Liaise with Tourism Product Development Company (TPDCo)/ Tourism Enhancement fund (TEF) to fund the development of one (1) Project in the Gardens.
- **Facilitate research activities in the Public Gardens**
  - Facilitate two (2) research activities.
- **Conduct educational seminars shows and exhibitions.**
  - Conduct one (1) shows/ exhibitions in the Gardens and One (1) Horticultural /Botany Seminar.
- **Increase in Climate Resilient approaches in Public Gardens**
  - Establish one (1) rainwater harvesting system and one (1) solar pump or gravity fed system in the Gardens.
- **Increase income generated to achieve a 3 million dollar AIA**
  - Achieve plant sales of at least 3500, 10 rentals agreements and 4 maintenance services.
  - Acquire three (3) horticultural and landscaping projects
- **Increase in the awareness of the Public Gardens and its role in preserving bio-diversity**
  - Conduct twelve (12) School groups and / tours
  - Attract at least 15500 visitors from both local and international visitors.

## 8. Transformation and Modernization

### Corporate Services

#### **Mission:**

An efficient, modern, productive and customer-centric Corporate Services Division that is empowered to facilitate the achievement of the strategic priorities of the Ministry and its entities.

#### **Planned Targets for 2019/2020**

- 70% Staff members trained in support of GOJ Transformation Programme
- 12 New staff recruited and stationed
- 14 Succession Planning initiatives implemented

#### ***Modernization initiatives for 2019/20:***

- Final Modernization Plan for R&D
  - Report on recommended Institutional Arrangement for R&D
  - Change Management Workshop conducted
- 7 Planning Session for CAC/FTC Merger conducted
- 3 Planning Sessions for the Banana Board/JACRA Merger
- 2 Planning Sessions for the AIC Merger conducted
- Finalization of the Modernization Plan for the PQPI Branch
- Implementation of the Transition Plan for the National Fisheries Authority
- Frosty Pod Rot Project - 100% Completion on specific components
- Bodles Redevelopment Project

#### **Key achievements for 2019/2020**

- 80% or 882 staff members trained for the year to date.
- 43% Planned Training executed
- 6 Staff members (2 declined later )
- 16 Succession Planning initiatives executed:
  - Invitation Letters for the SPC submitted on March 26, 2020
  - Revised TOR for the Succession Planning Committee submitted on March 23, 2020
  - Final Draft version submitted on March 23, 2020
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Draft Succession Planning Policy submitted on August 5, 201
  - Twelve (12) Webinar Sensitization Sessions<sup>19</sup> for the wider staff conducted.

#### ***Modernization initiatives implemented:***

- Final Modernization Plan for R&D submitted on May 28, 2019
  - Accountability Framework from the Cabinet Office utilized to recommend the appropriate institutional arrangement

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<sup>19</sup> These sessions were held on Sept. 24-26/Oct. 17, 22, 24/Nov. 15, 19 and 26/Dec. 3, 5 & 9

- Change Management Meeting convened with the Senior & Middle Managers on March 6, 2020
- Change Management Consultant engaged on March 3, 2020
- CAC/FTC merger
  - 15 Sessions of the CAC/FTC Planned Merger conducted
  - 3 Change Management Workshops
- Banana Board/JACRA merger
  - 3 Planning Sessions conducted
  - 1 Sensitization Session conducted November 18
- AIC merger
  - 6 Planning Sessions for the AIC
- PQPI Amended Final Modernization Plan was submitted on November 19, 2019
- National Fisheries Authority received:
  - New Classification Schedule approved by the MOF&PS on January 9, 2020
  - Pay Plan approved by the MOF&PS on January 9, 2020
- Frosty Pod Rot Project 100% Infrastructural Project targets completed
- 72% Completion of overall components under Bodles Redevelopment Plan
  - Construction of the Barn Facility
  - Design & Costing for Proposed Bodles Redevelopment Project Phase 1
  - Renovation to Customer Service Area & Crop Research Facility, Bodles Redevelopment Project
  - Security Lighting and Electrical Upgrade Phase 1
  - Renovation of Bio-Control Lab under the Bodles Redevelopment Project
  - Construction of Pesticide House

**Principal Focus for FY2020/21**

**Strategic Priority 8:** Strengthen the capacity of Ministry and entities to efficiently and effectively implement policies, programmes and projects

**Programme:** Executive Direction & Administration

**Sub-Programme:** Central Direction

**Priority Initiative (/s)**

- \* Succession Planning Programme
- \* Organizational Review of the Ministry's divisions (select)
- \* Service Delivery – Customer Service Improvement Plan
- \* Network Infrastructure

**Key Activities:**

- Global Shared Portal
- External Customer Assessment
- New structure for the CAC/FTC merger
- Finalization of the AIC Transformation

## **International Organization for Standardization Quality Systems Division (ISO QSD)**

**Mission:** To create an enabling environment which grows and sustains industries in the service sectors, strengthens national quality infrastructure and ensures food and nutrition and food safety.

### **Planned Targets for 2019/2020**

- Pre-Certification Tasks in progress for four additional external entities of MICAF; Application made for ISO Certification to NCBJ for the four entities and ADSC. Conduct internal audits in preparation for NCBJ's Annual Surveillance Audits for DCFS, FSPID, TBL, FTC, JIPO, CAC and COJ
- 100% Pre-Certification Tasks completed for MICAF's internal Units/ Divisions /Branches within ISO 9001:2015 Scope; Application made to NCBJ for ISO Certification of MICAF
- 100% Pre-Certification tasks completed for 16 external Ministries/ Departments/ Agencies of Government; Application made to NCBJ for MDAs' ISO Certification

### **Key Achievements – 2019/2020**

- Pre-Certification Tasks in progress for three additional external entities of MICAF – RADA, CLA and HSRA. Conduct internal audits in preparation for NCBJ's Stage 1 Audit for FSPID and COJ.
- 50% Pre-Certification Tasks completed for MICAF's internal Units /Divisions/Branches within ISO 9001:2015 Scope. Scope targeted to include critical processes (e.g. Policy: Development, Implementation & Monitoring; Strategic Business Planning & Operational Planning; Project Coordination & Management; Agricultural Land Use & Assessment Planning; Quarantine & Port Surveillance; Imported Food and Safety Inspections; Animal Disease Surveillance and Monitoring; Veterinary Public Health and Food Safety)
- On target for 11 (with  $\geq 80\%$ ) of the 16 external Ministries/ Departments/ Agencies of Government, with a Pre-Certification status ranging from 65% to 98% (Overall average of 85%).

**Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority 8:** Strengthen the capacity of Ministry and entities to efficiently and effectively implement policies, programmes and projects

**Programme:** Executive Direction and Administration

**Sub-Programme:** Policy, Planning and Development

**Priority Initiative:** Transformation and Modernization of the Ministry

**Key Activities:**

- DCFS, FSPID, JIPO, ADSC, COJ and additional external entities of MICAF, inclusive of CLA and HSRA to meet the requirements of the ISO 9001:2015 QMS Standard, in order to become eligible for Certification from the National Certification Body of Jamaica (NCBJ)
- MICAF's internal Units/ Divisions/Branches to meet the requirements of the ISO 9001:2015 QMS Standard, in order to become eligible for Certification from the National Certification Body of Jamaica (NCBJ)
- Nine (9) External Ministries/ Departments/ Agencies of Government to meet the requirements of the ISO 9001:2015 QMS Standard, in order to become eligible for Certification from the National Certification Body of Jamaica (NCBJ)

## **9. Agricultural Competiveness Programme Bridging Project (ACPBP)**

The ACPBP is designed and implemented to facilitate the placement of Jamaica in a competitive position that will provide solutions to the structural challenges that are confronted by the local agriculture sector, whilst at the same time providing an opportunity and laying a solid foundation to fully exploit the market potential which exist for Jamaican fresh produce, locally and internationally. The aim is to;

- Increase in productivity in agro-enterprises in the Spring Garden Agro-Park
- Greater market access for growers in and around the project area.
- Improving access, management and efficient use of arable land while achieving environmental sustainability.
- To minimize the importation of fresh strawberries on the island
- To minimize the pest population of the West Indian Fruit Fly

### **Planned Target for 2019/20**

- 30% of infrastructure established/rehabilitated at Top Mountain to facilitate strawberry production (greenhouse and offices)
- Increased exportation of mangoes to select markets namely USA and EU
- 50% of Hot water treatment plant established and operational
- Promote strawberry plantlets available for production
- 80% establishment of the Spring Garden
  - infrastructure works
  - Kg of produce planted/harvested
  - 15 km of Farm roads/access ways to be established
  - River training

### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

#### **Component 1: Development of the Spring Garden Agro-Park**

- Cadastral and GIS surveying of the project area completed
- Implementation of Irrigation system completed
  - Supply and Installation of Pipes and fittings
- Construction of Pump House completed
- Supply and Installation of Pumps and Manifolds completed
- The supply of transformer and JPS electrification of the project area completed
- Working Drawings for the packaging facility completed and approved by the Portland Parish Council
  - Previous tender were aborted as they were non-responsive. Tender re-advertise and is schedule for opening on March 13,2020
- 19% Increase in Plantain and Banana production in the project area
- Two 40ft container of plantain and bananas exported to the Caribbean.
- Design and Completion of comparable estimates for Road and Drainage networking completed

- Roads & Drains:- Tender evaluation completed and submission to PCC is underway

### **Component 2: Capacity Building of MICAF**

- The Employee Engagement Seminar Completed: Enabling Leaders for Optimal Performance - which was coordinated together with the Jamaica Business Development Corporation (JBDC) took place on May 21, 2019. The conference was directed at Heads of Departments, Agencies, Programmes, Projects, Divisions and Commodity Boards. Seventy One (71) persons registered and attend. Keynote speakers were Jason Lauristen and Alvin Day.
- Proposal Writing Workshop was coordinated by the ACPBP and conducted by Jamaica Business Development Corporation (JBDC) of which eleven (11) participants from the Accounts Department, Economic Planning and Policy Division, MSME Division and ACPBP. The course took was offered between July 23-25, 2019.
- The Employee Engagement Conference took place October 16-17, 2019, 4 members of the MICAF attended.
- Support was provided to three (3) participants from The Toadstool Limited to visit the Netherlands for enhanced Mushroom Production during the period June 17-24, 2019.
- Support was given to the Agricultural Marketing Information Division (AMID) to sponsor a member of staff from who is undertaking a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agronomy at the Northern Caribbean University. Studies began in September, 2019.
- Project Management training was supported for 19 participants from Project Management, Economic Planning and Policy, ACPBP, Accounts, HRM&D, and Strategic Planning, AMID, R&DD, Plant Quarantine and the Facilities & Property Management Division. The training was facilitated over a period of 6 days and was held between February 3– 11, 2020. Of the 19 participants, 14 candidates will be moving on to take the Project Management for Professional exams.
- Five (5) employees were trained Microsoft Project at Levels 1 & 2 from the Facilities and Property Management and Economic Planning Division. The training was facilitated over 5 days from February 24 to March 3, 2020 and the trainings were conducted by Project Management Global Institute.
- The procurement of furniture, equipment and supplies for Economic Planning and Policy, Accounts, Project Management and Coordination, Facilities and Property Management and the Technical Services Directorate.

**Component 3a: Agri-business Value Chain Development- Support to the Development of the Strawberry Industry**

- The supply and installation of a greenhouse at the Top Mountain Research Station to facilitate the research, propagation and supply clean planting material to the industry is 100 % completed.
- The construction of office space at the at the Top Mountain Research Station to house staff, provide cold storage for plants and fruits, facilitate the preparation of plants for growing out is 80% underway.
  - The procurement of five (5) strawberry varieties (Florida Beauty, Sweet sensation, Florida Brilliance, Albion, and Festival) for trailing is underway.
  - Application for the importation permit was completed by R&DD
- Procurement of lab equipment, storage crates, farm tools, on farm irrigation equipment, water storage tanks where applicable for R&DD, J 4H- Clubs, CASE and RADA is contracted.

**Component 3b: Agri-business Value Chain Development- Support to the Mango Industry Development Programme**

- Nursey development
  - The project procured of 960 dozen mangoes with support from RADA
  - 1600 seedling grafted and 5,500 seedlings ready for grafting
- Establishment of a Modular Hot Water Treatment Facility
  - Twice with support from the IADB and EU tenders to solicit a design consultancy for the facility were not responded to from the USADA APHIS approved firm list.
- Lands were not made available to begin orchard establishment.

**Principal Focus for 2020/21**

**Strategic Priorities 1, 7 & 8:** Optimize the production and productivity of key local produce and products towards targeted markets

Strengthen Agricultural Health and Food Safety Systems

Strengthen the capacity of Ministry and entities to efficiently and effectively implement policies, programmes and projects

**Programme:** Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security

**Sub-Programme:** Agro-Industry Development

**Budget for FY2020/21** J\$326 M

**Key Activities:**

Component 1

- Renovation of packaging Facility at Spring Garden
- Implement River Training activities at Spring Garden

Component 2

- Implement training in leadership and Management for MICAFA Staff

Component 3

- Continue mango nursery establishment at Bodles Research Station
- Advance lease payment and clear lands for orchard establishment.
- Establishment of 400 acres of mangoes
- Construction of on-farm access way and water channel way at the orchard site
- Supply and install irrigation at the orchard site

## 10. **Rehabilitation of Research Centres (Bodles Redevelopment Project - BRP)**

The main objective of the BRP is to rehabilitate selected facilities at the Bodles Research Station which impact directly the level of support given to farmers. This will include

- Rehabilitation of offices, residences and sanitary facilities;
- Overhaul of security systems;
- Construction of dairy cattle barn;
- Design of a new piggery;
- Upgrade of irrigation system and solid waste disposal system;
- Renovation of Bio-Control Laboratory;
- Construction of aeroponics/hydroponics system;
- Rehabilitation of crop research and customer service offices;
- Capacity building and institutional strengthening.

### **Planned Targets and Key Achievements for FY2019/2020**

- Construction of Dairy Barn
  - Dairy barn completed and keys handed over to Client.
  - Fencing and grating Contract in progress
- Piggery Renovation
  - Working drawing and report reviewed and first payment made
  - Contract 60% completed
- Renovation of Apiculture Office and Lab
  - Apiculture Office and Lab 80% completed
- Rehabilitation of Dairy Milking system
  - Dairy parlour milking system in bidding stage for the second time
- Energy Audit Conducted
  - electrical circuits reports available
  - JPS notified to resume audit

**Principal Focus for FY2020/21**

**Strategic Priorities 1, 7 & 8:** Optimize the production and productivity of key local produce and products towards targeted markets

Strengthen Agricultural Health and Food Safety Systems

Strengthen the capacity of Ministry and entities to efficiently and effectively implement policies, programmes and projects

**Programme:** Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security

**Sub-Programme:** Agricultural Research and Development

**Budget for FY2020/21** J\$320.58 M

**Key Activities:**

- **On-going Implementation of the BRP project**
  - Fencing and grating installed at cattle barn
  - New Piggery design completed and drawings and plans sent to relevant agencies for approval
  - Renovation of Apiculture Office and Lab 100% completed
  - Dairy parlour milking system approved and contract awarded
  - Gaps identified in energy audit and report received

## **11. Global Services Skills Project**

The main objective of the Project is to promote the growth of the Global Services Sector (GSS) in Jamaica particularly in higher value-added segments. Specially, it intends to: Provide the sector with better skilled workers and increase Jamaica's institutional capacity to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and increase its exports. This project has two components:

- (1) Skills Development for Global Services Sector and Strengthening of the Skills Development System and
- (2) Strengthening Jamaica's institutional capacity to increase investment and promote exports in the Global Services Sector

### **Planned Targets and Key Achievements for 2019/20**

#### **Component 1: Skills Development for Global Services Sector**

- Global Services Skills Board established and active
  - The GSSB was established on January 16, 2019.
- Diagnosis for Gender Imbalances in the industry developed
  - Final Report issued in February 2020
- Job Readiness Curriculum developed and approved
  - Enhanced Job Readiness Curriculum completed in March 2020 and the Digital Skills Curriculum was completed in May 2020
- Competitive Fund Management set up and active
  - Apprenticeship Framework and Guidelines were developed and endorsed by the Global Services Skills Board in October 2019.
  - Competitive Fund Manager and Competitive Fund Assistant were contracted.
  - Project Steering Committee endorsed Competitive Fund Framework on December 9, 2019.

#### **Component 2: Strengthening Jamaica's institutional capacity to increase investment and promote export**

- Regulatory and Incentives framework optimization designed and delivered to JAMPRO
  - Final Report for the SEZ carve out for services was submitted in October 2019.
- Change Management Strategy
  - deliver training on Scrum/Agile Project Management to beneficiary agencies
- Participation in and hosting of international investment targeting events
  - Target of three (3) participation o in international investment targeting events attended as follows:
    - Shared Services Conference in Lisbon, Portugal (May 13-16, 2019)
    - Customer Contact Week in Las Vegas (June 24-28, 2019)
    - o2LAC Conference, Buenos Aires, Argentina (July 11-12, 2019)
  - Executive Summary Report was produced.
- Awareness Campaign Activities executed
  - Future of Work Event hosted by JAMPRO in October 2019.

**Principal Focus for FY2020/21**

**Strategic Priority 5:** Improve the ease of doing business to facilitate investment in Jamaica

**Programme:** Trade Promotion and Development

**Sub-Programme:** Investment Promotion

**Budget for FY2020/21** J\$308.636 M

**Key Activities:**

- **On-going Implementation of the GSS project**
  - Develop industry skills and update strategies
  - Acquire and implement talent platform
  - Develop career pathway framework
  - Update digital skills curricula and develop pilot training plan
  - Develop digital global services strategy
  - Develop branding campaign

## 12. **Essex Valley Agricultural Development Project (EVADP)**

The Government of Jamaica (GOJ) in July 2017 received grant funding from the United Kingdom Caribbean Infrastructure Partnership Fund (UKCIF) administered through the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) in an amount equivalent to £35,515,000 towards the cost of the Essex Valley Agriculture Development Project (EVADP) to be implemented by August 31, 2022.

Transformation of the Irrigation sector is essential to sustainable growth of agriculture in Jamaica. The effects of climate change have resulted in more frequent and longer periods of drought and more unpredictable rainfall patterns; severely reducing the dependability of rainfall as the primary source of water for agriculture. The project will positively impact the livelihoods of over 700 farmers on 718 hectares of land through the provision of irrigation water and improved access to local and global agricultural markets.

The Essex Valley Agriculture Development Project was launched in St. Elizabeth on January 16, 2019. The major components under EVADP are:

1. Improved Irrigation Systems
2. Enhanced Agriculture Production
3. Marketing Facilities and Systems
4. Energy Efficiency/Renewable energy
5. Technical Assistance

**The Aim of EVADP is: “Enhanced production and productivity of farmers in the community of Essex Valley, St. Elizabeth in a socially inclusive, gender equitable and climate sensitive manner.”**

### **Planned Targets for FY2019/20**

- Development of wells, pumps houses and irrigation infrastructure
- Development for Infrastructure system for renewable energy
- Development of access road network
- Improve the resilience of farmers in Essex Valley to climate change
- Increase Global GAP certified farmers

### **Key Achievements for FY2019/20**

- Drilling of eight (8) wells completed (only five (5) produced water)
- Climate Vulnerability Assessment to support the development of the gender-responsiveness guidelines and training manual completed
- Global GAP Assessment 50% completed
- Energy Audit for energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions at the national irrigation commission/Agro-Investment Corporation completed
- Irrigation Network Design in progress

**Principal Focus for FY2020/21**

Strategic Priority 4: Build climate-resilient agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing and services sectors

Programme: Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security

Sub-Programme: Irrigation Systems

Budget for FY2020/21 \$612,378,000

Key Activities:

- Well Drilling – completion of additional wells in adjacent aquifer to ensure sustainability
- Irrigation Network Design – Completion of Final Engineering Designs and procurement of works contracts
- Design of Agricultural Buildings – Final design
- Tariff Study of NIC – Completion of Tariff Study
- Capacity Building for Climate Smart Agriculture and Crop Vulnerability Assessment – Completion of Modelling and Commence CSA Training via MOU with RADA

### **13. Promoting Community Based Climate Resilient Fisheries**

The Project focuses on climate change resilience of the local fisheries sector and more specifically on the access to improved livelihoods of local fishing and fish farming communities by assisting the development of fisheries policies and institutional capacity building among fishers and fish farmers. The objective of the Project is to enhance resilience to climate change among targeted fishing and aquaculture communities of Jamaica. The project will be implemented under the following components:

- Strengthening the Fisheries Policy and Regulatory Framework
- Diversification and Fisheries-based Alternative Livelihoods
- Capacity Building and Awareness Raising, and
- Project Management and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

#### **Planned Target for 2019/20**

- Develop a robust and climate-smart fisheries policy and regulatory framework
- Reduce vulnerability of the targeted fishing and fish farming communities to climate shocks
- Diversify and strengthen livelihood of targeted artisanal fishers and fish farmers

#### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

#### **COMPONENT 1- Strengthening the fisheries policy and the regulatory framework**

##### **Seven (7) contracts signed:**

- Consultancy to conduct an Analysis of Climate Change Knowledge Attitude and Practices in the fisheries Sector being carried out by BRAC Consultants.
- Consultancy to conduct A Social Assessment on Climate Change Impacts on Gender Youth and Labour Dynamics being carried
- Consultancy Service to carry out upgrade of the existing Hatchery contract awarded
- Yamaja to provide 1 Vessel to be used for enforcement activities
- Procured motor vehicles from Toyota Jamaica and Stewarts Auto Sales
- Kingston Industrial Garage to provide One (1) 4x4 Super Duty Truck to be used for enforcement activities

## Principal Focus for 2020/21

**Strategic Priorities 2 & 4:** Increase access of select local industries to emerging and existing markets

Build climate-resilient agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing and services sectors

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**Programme:** Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security

**Sub-Programme:** Fisheries Development

**Budget for FY2020/21** J\$90M

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### Key Activities:

- Develop policy and regulatory framework for climate smart fisheries
  - Acquire one longline sea vessel
  - Develop design specifications for upgrade to fisheries Authority hatchery
  - Prepare business plan for Fisheries Authority hatchery
  - Develop alternative feed production options and prepare business plan
  - Conduct baseline assessment of gender and youth dynamics in the fisheries sector.
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## 5.3 SUPPORTING PROGRAMMES

### LAND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

#### Agricultural Land Management Division

##### Mission

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

##### Planned Targets for 2019/2020

- ISO Accreditation of selected procedures in the Soil Laboratory
- Technical advice on nutrient status of lands suitable for agriculture -170 reports
- Participate in the Development approval process by providing recommendations to NEPA and Local Authorities
- Implementation of public education campaign to sensitize stakeholders on the importance of sustainable soil management Assessment of land capability and use change to determine % of land suitable for agriculture
- Implement public education on Sustainable Soil Management
- Improve human resource capacity

##### Key Achievements for 2019/2020

<b>Sector Strategy: : To maximize the percentage of lands in agricultural production</b>	
<b>Priority Action</b>	<b>FY2019/20 Performance</b>
Alignment of laboratory procedures with ISO 17025 requirements	Pre Accreditation Gap Audit completed, Quality Manual reviewed, staff training conducted and infrastructure improved
Provide technical advice on nutrient status of samples	113 Reports submitted 612 samples analysed (559 soil, 32 plant, 17 water& 4 fertilizer) Total revenue earned \$1,802,454.90
Contribute to the development approval process	256 Reports submitted to NEPA and Local Authorities 38 Reports prepared on requests for change of land use change
<b>Priority Action</b>	<b>FY2019/20 Performance</b>
Alignment of laboratory procedures	53 Reports submitted to Mines and Geology

<b>Sector Strategy: : To maximize the percentage of lands in agricultural production</b>	
<b>Priority Action</b>	<b>FY2019/20 Performance</b>
with ISO 17025 requirements	Division
Contribute to the expansion of Information Communication Technology in agriculture	7 Training sessions conducted 12 staff trained in use and application of GIS technology in agriculture Increased utilization of GIS technology in assessment of sites and data collection
Provide feedback on policies developed by Government of Jamaica	Provided input for proposed Agricultural Policy Identification of marginal land for crop production – St Catherine and Clarendon Climate Change Policy
Implementation of staff training and development programme	10 staff trained in Soil Sampling and Identification

### **Principal Focus for 2020/21**

**Strategic Priority:** Strengthen agriculture health and food safety systems

**Programme:** Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security

**Sub-Programme:** Agricultural Health and Food Safety

**Priority Initiative:** Increase access to arable lands

#### **Key Activities:**

- Soil Fertility Mapping Project
- Land use assessment and monitoring
- Soil health assessment to determine fertility recommendations
- Implementation of ISO 17025 Quality Management system
- Public education on the importance of sustainable soil management
- Facilitate the expansion of use ICT in Agriculture

## **PLANT QUARANTINE, PRODUCE INSPECTION & FOOD SAFETY**

### **Plant Quarantine and Produce Inspection Branch**

The Branch main function is to prevent the introduction and establishment of exotic pests by the use of appropriate measures to safeguard our borders; thus protecting the integrity of Jamaica's agricultural sector. Additionally, to ensure that only the highest quality, pest free agricultural commodities are exported and imported in compliance with national and international agricultural health and food safety standards.

#### **Planned Targets for 2019/2020**

- 1,600 inspections and certification of imports
- 1,000 imports permits for fresh produce
- 4 Pest risk assessments conducted
- 80% compliance of exports and export facilities
- Target staff for training canine unit
- 40 phytosanitary treatment conducted
- 95% of fresh produce exporters registered

#### **Key Achievements – 2019/2020**

- 2,290 Inspections and certification imports
- 4,433 import permits for fresh produce
- 8 pest risk assessment
- 5,787 shipments exported to trading partners in various countries
- MOU between JCF and MICAF legal team completed. MICAF entered a second Bi-Lateral agreement with the Mexican Government to implement the Programme.
- 2,311 USA Preclearance Certificates issued. Weekly shipments exported to Grand Cayman
- Online import permits system that links with Jamaica Customs; E-phyto system implemented.

**Principal Focus – 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priorities 7:** Strengthen Agricultural Health and Food Safety Systems

**Programme:** Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security

**Sub-Programme:** Agricultural Health and Food Safety

**Budget for 2020/21:**

**Key Activities:**

- USA Mango Export Phase II
  - 700 Fruit Fly Monitoring traps distributed and farm certification
  - 20% increase in volume of mangoes exported
- Implementation of Alternate Phytosanitary Treatment
  - Conduct a trail test for alternate phytosanitary
- Canine Detection Programme
  - MICAF/JCF MOU signed
  - Canine Unit established staff recruited
  - Monitor of ports for unauthorized imports of plant and plant material
- Repeal and replacement of PQ Bill
  - CPC finalized draft instructions
  - Bill debated
  - Promulgation of Act
- Plant quarantine Modernization implementation
  - Recruit of top management in restructuring
- Alternate fumigation Facility
  - Facility Proposal finalized and approval of design and tendering of proposal

## **Food Storage Prevention of Infestation Division**

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

- Regulatory inspection and disinfestation services conducted by the Inspectorate and Disinfestation Unit
- 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 2019/2020**

- Inspection
  - 16140 ships/shipping containers/premises inspected under the FSPI Act
  - 1100 pest control activities conducted
  - 400 statutory notices estimated to be served on persons and organization for non-compliance with the FSPI Act was.
- Laboratory services
  - 2550 analyses to determine the levels of biological, physical and chemical contaminants
  - 35 Farm/field visits
- Rodent Biology and Control
  - 20 Rodent Control Programmes
  - Setting 800 rodent bait and glue stations
  - 40 inspections
- Postharvest Technology
  - 30 survey/data collection instruments disseminated for postharvest training analysis
- Training and Information
  - 4 training programmes and participate in 12 exhibitions
  - Continue to supporting other FSPID units with regard to ISO/IEC 17020 and 17025 accreditation and ISO 9001 certification

### **Key Achievements – 2019/2020**

- Inspection
  - Carried out 17,348 ships/shipping containers/premises inspected under the FSPI Act
  - 1,116 pest control activities conducted
  - 657 statutory notices estimated to be served on persons and organization for non-compliance with the FSPI Act was.
- Laboratory services
  - 2,931 analyses to determine the levels of biological, physical and chemical contaminants
  - 53 Farm/field visits
- Rodent Biology and Control
  - 12 Rodent Control Programmes
  - Setting 1,246 rodent bait and glue stations
  - 16 inspections
- Postharvest Technology
  - 16 survey/data collection instruments disseminated for postharvest training analysis
- Training and Information
  - 12 training programmes and participate in 10 exhibitions<sup>20</sup>
- Legislation and Accreditation
  - The Inspection and Disinfestation Unit received accreditation to the ISO/IEC 17020:2012 standard for the inspection of food and feed in cargo ships, shipping containers and premises
  - Amend Food Storage and Prevention of Infestation Act (1958) and Regulations (1973) :The Food Storage and Prevention of Infestation Act and Regulations were amended to increase the powers of the FSPID to address contamination issues, in addition to infestation

### **Principal Focus – 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priorities 7:** Strengthen Agricultural Health and Food Safety Systems

**Programme:** Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security

**Sub-Programme:** Agricultural Health and Food Safety

**Budget for FY2020/21:** \$145 M

#### **Key Activities:**

- Monitoring of compliance standards for food safety
- On-going lab tests and research
- Inspections of facilities and certifications
- Disinfestations activities

<sup>20</sup> Exhibitions were done at World Food day, Clarendon Public Health Dept, FSPID Open Day, Montipelier Agricultural Show, Hanover JAS, Agrofest, Knockalva Agricultural Show, St Thomas RADA, Denbigh Agricultural food Show, St James Health Dept.

## VETERINARY SERVICES

### Veterinary Services Division

The Veterinary Services is the designated Competent Authority with responsibility for the administration of National Animal Health Programmes, Risk Analyses, Veterinary Certification, Animal Production Food Safety, Disease Surveillance, Prevention, Control and Eradication.

#### Planned Targets for 2019/2020

1. Registration of cattle farms and tagging of cattle. **8,000** heads of cattle to be identified in FY 19/20. At least **2,000** heads of cattle per quarter identified with NAITS ear tags and passports issued.
2. Issue cattle passports. Monitor cattle movements.
3. Conduct Risk Assessments and investigate reported disease occurrences.
4. Artificial insemination stud animals kept healthy and tested for diseases. Semen collected and stored using liquid nitrogen.
5. Maintenance of an average of **3, 000** straws of bull semen of the four national breeds for artificial insemination of cattle.
6. Active and Passive surveillance conducted for animal diseases.
7. Permit applications accepted and reviewed. Import permit applications approved. Approval and issuance of **15,000** veterinary import permits.
8. **450** Flights monitored.
9. **2,800,000** dozens hatching eggs inspected and cleared.
10. **6,000** samples collected, received and analysed at the Veterinary Laboratory.
11. Ships and aircrafts inspected. Cargo aboard vessels inspected. Disposal of international garbage supervised.

#### Key Achievements for 2019/2020

- National Animal Identification and Traceability System (NAITS) implemented/operational across the island. More than **6, 443 heads** of cattle were tagged in the financial year.
- Maintenance of an average of **2, 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.
- Further Laboratory Accreditation **ISO/IEC 17025** acquired for the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and the Residue and Biochemical Analytic Laboratory.
- Approximately **12,820** 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 included live and frozen lobsters and other fishery products; meat patties; dairy products; animal feeds; poultry and poultry products.
- **1,547** Veterinary Export Health certificates issued.

- Approval and issuance of **18,894** Veterinary import permits.
- **3515** Flights monitored.
- **5,154 Kgs** of contraband confiscated and destroyed.
- **1,776** inspections site conducted.
- **6,887,000** Dozens hatching eggs inspected and cleared.
- 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.

#### Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2019 – 2021 Progress

<b>Sector Strategy:</b> Promote National Food and Nutrition Security and Food Safety	
<b>Priority Action</b>	<b>FY2019/20 Performance</b>
Continued implementation of National Animal Identification Traceability (NAIT) System	<b>6, 443</b> heads of cattle were tagged
Continue to develop and implement the food safety certification and standardization programme for trade and domestic production	<b>12,820</b> samples were received and analysed at the Veterinary Laboratory. <b>1,547</b> Veterinary Export Health certificates issued. <b>18,894</b> Veterinary import permits approved and issued.

### Principal Focus – 2020/2021

**Strategic Priority:** Strengthen Agricultural Health and Food Safety Systems

**Programme:** Agricultural Production, Productivity & Food Security

**Sub-Programme:** Agricultural Health and Food Safety

**Priority Initiative** Pest Surveillance

**Key Activities for FY2020/21:**

- National Animal Identification and Traceability System (NAITS)
- Delivery of Animal reproductive technology
- Disease Surveillance and emergency disease preparedness
- Epidemiology and Risk Analysis
- Maintenance of Compliance with Int'l Standards
- Sample collection and Analysis
- Port surveillance and Import/Export Inspection
- Live Animal Quarantine
- Inspection and Monitoring of Terrestrial and Aquatic Animals
- Registration and certification of farms/animal holdings
- 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.

## **AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

**Mission:** To generate promote and transfer technology for the sustainable development of a modern, efficient and competitive agriculture sector and agroindustry through partnerships, the development of human capital and innovation.

### **Aims & Objective:**

1. To increase the access of new and adaptable technologies increasing climate resilience, production and productivity
2. To enhance knowledge systems, processes as well as the adoption of new technologies to better respond to sector issues and support growth and sustainability

### **Planned Targets for 2019/2020**

#### **Sub-programme 20 - Livestock Research and Improvement:**

- Research into the development of 2 livestock production technologies adaptable to climate resilience, increased production and productivity
  - Utilization of indigenous feed sources in animal feeding systems
  - Conservation of animal genetic resources
- ≥50% of stakeholders (farmers) benefit from animal genetic resources in target areas
  - Number of livestock animals and quantity of semen sold to stakeholders
  - 500 stakeholders trained in improved and validated technologies

#### **Sub programme 21 - Crop Research & Development**

- Research into the development of 6 improved crop varieties for climate resilience, increased production and productivity
  - Cassava, Ginger & Strawberry
- Research into increasing fertilizer use efficiencies
  - Application of NI5 Isotope technology for improving fertiliser use
- Protection of Jamaica's Plant Genetic Resources for Food & Nutrition Security
  - Implementation of systems to support the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources - Complete upgrade of Seed Storage Facility to expand local seed storage capacity
  - Facilitate access to and use of plant genetic resources – Development of quality assurance system and increase availability of select planting material

#### **Sub-programme 24 Post Entry Quarantine**

- Development of standardized and accredited systems of detection, and identification of harmful disease-causing agents in imported germplasm and commercial planting material
- Provide support to Crop Research and Development through safe introduction and the production of clean foundation stock for breeding studies and mass propagation of clean planting material

#### **Strengthen agriculture research institutions and programme**

- Promote collaborative projects focused on the development of new/improved technology products – 7 projected
- 80% of technologies developed transferred/communicated to stakeholders
- Publications, training and seminars for stakeholders (farmers, EOs, etc.)

**Sub programme 22 - Plant Protection and Apiculture**

- Research and knowledge generation through **epidemiology and surveillance** for the development of climate smart technologies effecting at least 30% reduction in impact of pests and diseases on post-harvest losses in crop production and beekeeping production systems in targeted areas
  - Validation of three pest management technologies for sweet potato weevil, Beet armyworm & Cocoa Frosty Pod
  - 100 new apiaries & 1,000 new colonies established, and 1,000 farmers trained & 100 new farmers trained; Incidence of bee pest and disease <5%; 9000 apiaries inspected free of disease
- ≥50% of farmers with access to technology in targeted area

***Rehabilitation of Research Centres 20172***

- To rehabilitate selected facilities at the Bodles Research Station which impact directly the level of support given to farmers
- Complete post-harvest offices, Bio-control Lab;
- Upgrade existing dairy parlour;
- Construct new piggery unit (phase 2);
- Complete energy audit;
- Upgrade irrigation system and order incinerator;
- Upgrade and construct greenhouse facilities
- Renovate laboratories to international standards;
- **Accreditation:** Advance international accreditation of plant health and animal nutrition laboratories for ISO standard 17025 for improved testing capacity and reduced turnaround time of results

**Key Achievements for 2019/2020:**

- Promote increased local content and use of indigenous methods in animal feeding systems
  - Animal trials conducted at Bodles Research Station and on two commercial farms on the digestibility of two high energy and fibre ensiled Total Mixed Ration (TMR) formulations developed by the R&DD in the diet of small ruminants and dairy cows
  - Two silage delivery technologies evaluated (small bag silage and, plastic drums silage)
- Apply suitable emerging biotechnologies for plant breeding and expansion of production
  - Induced mutation technology using irradiation or chemical mutagenesis identified as suitable breeding strategies under the concluded collaborative IAEA ARCAL Regional TC Project RLA5068 - Improving Yield and Commercial Potential of Crops of Economic Importance. Three officers from the R&DD and SRC benefitted from capacity building under the project.
  - Bodles Research Station Seed Storage Facility Upgrade completed with increased seed storage capacity and laboratories for seed quality testing
  - **Ginger** – Planting material using protray multiplication technology under field evaluations at Montpellier Research Station
    - Continued partnership with the SRC and NCU to increase the volume of certified clean **ginger** planting material to supply 10ha Ginger certification pilot programme partially funded by the FAO
  - **Irish potato** seed production system under evaluation. 19 commercial Irish potato varieties with promising traits and 13 varieties obtained from the International Potato Centre (CIP) under evaluation by the PEQ facility.

- **Sweet potato** - 13,404 sweet potato slips sold to five farmers.
- **Strawberry**: Over the period field numbers moved to 182 and nursery numbers are now at 96. Plants sold are 200 and another 100 distributed to RADA (Under ACP project)
- **Citrus** certification programme - 5,643 budeyes harvested and sold to nurseries
- **Scotch Bonnet Pepper**

Crop	Quantity of seed (kg)/planting material	Acreage equivalent (ha)	Value \$JMD
Scotch Bonnet pepper	27.85 (4,902,720 seeds)	632.2	4,118,720
West Indies Red pepper	5.76 (1,015,000)	82.2	406,000

▪ **Livestock research and Development**

- **328** Jamaica Hope animals
- **77** Jamaica Hope cows in milk producing at 4.6L/cow/day
- **248** animals at swine genetics unit 58 sow herd (80 piglets born pre-weaning mortality 8.1%; average born alive per litter 8.3)
- Hounslow - **102** goats, **70** sheep (goat prolificacy 1.7; 12 kids born)
- Bodles: **158** goats and **87** sheep. Prolificacy 1.7
- Montpelier – **30** Jamaica Blacks animals and **250** Jamaica Polled Brahman animals

▪ **Crop Research & Development**

- **Postharvest characterization**: Phenotypic and genotypic characterization of cassava underway to identify high yielding cassava varieties with desirable traits for processing from germplasm for Red Stripe;
- **Seed Room Facility**: Upgraded under the IDB/CARDI/MICAF seed storage project to support climate resilience was officially opened in 2019 by the Honourable Minister. to underpin implementation of the Protection of Plant Genetic Resource for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA) act. Now storing seeds for sale and research to benefit the farming community.
- **Seed/Planting material**:
  - Corn – Sold 64 lbs/29 kg which can establish 2.61Ha/6.4 acres to 31 farmers
  - Sorrel- Sold 124lbs/56.36 Kg which can establish 62 acres/25.3 Ha to 25 farmers
  - Cow peas – Sold 25.5 lbs/11.59 Kg which can establish 2.55 acres/1.04 Ha to 6 farmers
  - Fruit Trees – Sold 8853 seedlings to 52 stakeholders, included mango, garden cherry, guava, ackee, grafted Otaheite apple, hybrid naseberry, soursop, cashew, moringa, sweetsop, mulberry, and jackfruit
  - Castor Bean - Sold 73.7 lbs/33.5 Kg which can establish 73.5 acres/30.08 Ha to >2 stakeholders;
  - Stakeholders accessed 100 cassava sticks valued at \$100
  - Hot Peppers - see clean seed programme

- **Plant Protection & Apiculture:**
  - **IPM of Beet army worm (BAW):** Two years of risk assessment as an early warning tool of BAW, successfully validated in collaboration with RADA and the Meteorological Office of Jamaica. Report initiated. Twelve monthly reports produced & disseminated through RADA to 7 extension areas to benefit 3873 scallion farmers and protect 852.54 Ha of crop.
  - **IPM of Cocoa Frosty Pod (CFP):** Chemical treatments identified for the control of CFP from on farm trial
  - **Pest Management Advisories:** Total 551 pest advisories delivered to farmers to support on farm crop cultivation island-wide; Overall on farm crop losses due to pests <30%
  - Pest management advisories based on farm surveillance visits covering 120 acres of 5 priority crops (Onion, Irish potato, Hot pepper, Cocoa) provided across five parishes
  - **Apiculture:** 1428 new apiaries established, 3067 existing farmers and 40 new farmers trained; 7134 apiaries of 8,204 inspected free of disease; Incidence of bee pest and disease <5%
  
- **Post Entry Quarantine- Phytosanitary Research**
  - 346 samples were submitted this year, 325 imported and 22 local varieties. All imported samples were Irish potato (4 varieties and 1 unknown), and local samples consisted of varieties of pepper, tobacco, melon, corn, ginger, ornamentals. 60% of imported samples and 100% local testing completed.
  - No pathogens of quarantine importance were detected
  
- **Publications/Training /Technology Transfer**
  - **Publications:** Online Book published: Compiled report of over 200 years of Biological control programmes in Jamaica. in Chapter 20: Biological Control in Latin America and the Caribbean: Its Rich History and Bright Future. Publisher: CAB International.
  - Two ginger certification programme manuals finalised
  - Ongoing publication report with IICA re 2nd validation of Beauveria for managing sweet potato weevil trial completed
  - **Training:** Five technical training sessions involving over 130 stakeholders (farmers, RADA & JACRA officers)
  - **Seminar:** Five seminar series held with 13 research technologies presented to 232 attendees – extension, farmers, private sector & MICA staff
  
- **Advance international accreditation**
  - PPDL core team trained in the updated ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard that came into effect on April 2019.
  - PPDL core team brought in to assist both the Crop Research and Animal Nutrition Laboratories to begin certification and accreditation document preparation. Gap analysis of both sections done

- **Enhance livestock research and conservation of animal genetic resources**
  - Consultancy Services to Coordinate DNA Fingerprinting, Genome Sequencing of Jamaica Hope Cattle populations and Training of MICAF Staff in Animal Breeding and Selection completed;
    - National genetic improvement plan for Jamaican hope dairy cattle developed and proposed
    - 30 staff & private stakeholders trained in basic animal breeding and genetics; introductory genomics and bioinformatics; and selection and breeding strategies;
    - Final report submitted
- **Increase the use of soil and land information in agricultural production and planning**
  - The 2nd evaluation of **N15 isotope technology** for fertilizer use efficiency in sweet potato production completed; Dry matter content for storage roots and vines completed; (Under IAEA/NIC project)
  - **Sweet Potato trial:** Variety x fertilizer trial completed. The effects of different fertilizer regimes on two imported varieties (Beauregard and Bonita) and two local (Yellow Belly and Clarendon) sweet potato varieties

**Principal Focus for FY2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority #1:** Optimize the production and productivity of key local produce and products towards targeted markets

**Programme:** Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security

**Sub-Programme:** Agricultural Research and Development

**Budget for FY2020/21:** \$443M

**Priority Initiative:** Production Incentive Programme

**Key Activities:**

Bodles Redevelopment Project

- Expansion, upgrade and restoration of infrastructure at North and South Bodles
- Strengthen the responsiveness of the research programme to immediate problems or needs of clients
- Separation and expansion of commercial and research activities to support maintenance of research infrastructure
- Strengthen management, administrative systems and capacity building of staff

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

Crop Research and Development

*National Irish potato, Onion, Scotch Bonnet pepper and Strawberry Programmes*; Provision of planting material for production 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
- Infrastructure & capacity building in place for production of clean seeds for National Hot pepper production programme
- Strawberry 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; Produce App for BAW risk assessment tool
- Operationalize Biological Control Facility to support IPM programmes as part of implementation of Plant Health components of MASP and ACP project programme activities funded by IDB
- Ongoing Research in Cocoa Frosty Pod Disease and ginger certification pilot project; at least two efficacy trials
- Encourage establishment of new apiaries & colonies, train new entrant farmers; Surveillance for AFB to maintain incidence of bee pests and disease <5%
- Ongoing IPM programmes of Cocoa Frosty Pod, Beet armyworm

Phytosanitary Research

***Clean Seed Programme:***

- Continued production of mini-tubers for Irish potato pilot programme.
- Continued production of ginger plants to supply research stations for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> generation rhizomes for farmers for production.
- Increase production of budeyes to produce a minimum of 30,000 budeyes per year to supply Citrus industry, upon completion of the second budwood facility.
- Fully implement the certification programmes for Irish potato, Sweet potato and Ginger.

***Phytosanitary Services:***

- Conduct phytosanitary diagnostics of planting material to detect diseases of quarantine importance

Modernization of Agricultural Research

- *Accreditation of Plant Health Laboratories:* 3 Laboratories accredited under the International Standard 17025 by 2019/20 Completion
- Complete protocols and increased implementation of ISO 9001
- Transformation into an executive agency:

## INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND EXPORT PROMOTION

### Industry Division

**Mission:** To facilitate, through policy and research, the development of manufacturing and services with a view to increasing their economic impact including employment and GDP growth.

#### **Planned Targets for FY 2019/2020**

- **Policy Development-** Advancement of the National Bamboo Industry Development Plan; initiate comprehensive review of National Industrial Policy; advance development of National Services Policy; Concept paper on development of the Cannabis Industry.
- **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.
- **Policy advocacy 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.
- **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 2019/2020**

- National Craft Policy  
The National Craft Policy approved as a white paper by both houses of Parliament in November 2019. Work commenced towards the official launch and implementation of the policy, in collaboration with the Jamaica Business Development Corporation (JBDC). Draft Terms of References (TORs) have been prepared for the National Craft Council as required in the Policy and a Project Manager to lead the day to day implementation of the policy. Final approval of the TORs rests with the Permanent Secretary and Minister.

Cannabis Alternative Development (AD) Programme

Cabinet approval for the implementation of a Cannabis Alternative Development (AD) Program in Jamaica was received by Cabinet Decision Number 1/17 dated January 9, 2017. 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 contributing to poverty alleviation and providing a means of sustainable economic development.

In keeping with the approval received work began to implement pilot projects in two (2) approved traditional cannabis cultivating areas, Accompong Maroon Town, St. Elizabeth and Orange Hill, Westmoreland. The pilot project commenced in July 2019 in the Accompong and ran through to November 2019. Despite significant challenges with the rollout of the pilot project, Accompong Town completed its first sale to the downstream buyer under the watch of the Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA) and members of the AD Programme monitoring team. Cannabis weighing 44.3lbs was sold at a concessionary rate of US\$150/lbs to Timeless Herbal Care for US\$6,945.00. This price was agreed by the parties. The lessons learnt in this phase of the pilots will be carried into the rollout of the second phase in Orange Hill.

Orange Hill continues to experience challenges in accessing land to commence the project. Efforts continue to identify and secure suitable land for use and implementation of the AD Pilot Project in Orange Hill is targeted for the first quarter FY 2020/21.

▪ Development of the Manufacturing Sector

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

The Industry Division continued to administer the PIR facility in tandem with the Jamaica Customs Agency (JCA). Applications are received by the Division and subsequent to technical review and adjustment as needed, are referred to the JCA for scheduling of a site visit to the production location of companies. Joint site inspections (Industry Divisions and JCA) are then conducted and a recommendation made by the Division to the JCA to issue/not issue, the incentive based on the findings from the site visit. Upon approval, companies are able to access the relevant fiscal incentives primarily, duty relief on productive inputs.

For the fiscal year 2019/2020 the following were achieved:

- i) Total number of referrals to JCA- 185
- ii) Total number of joint site visits conducted- 185
- iii) Total number of companies benefitting from the PIR facility – 166

The Division continues to work with JAMPRO to develop a National Business Portal which will move the PIR processing to an online platform. Applicants will be able to start, track and complete the entire process online. The NBP will allow for real time analytics to be gathered with respect to manufacturing companies and will reduce the processing times. The industry Division, working with the consultants, achieved a revised mapping of the PIR process which will be used in the portal. Phase 3 of the project will see the identification of IT architecture requirements and procurement by JAMPRO of the requisite firm to build and commission the platform.

- *Manufacturing National Five 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. The 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 critical new initiatives (and seeks to prioritize key existing initiatives) geared towards growing manufacturing output by a minimum of 3% per annum up to 2025. The Industry Division with technical support from JAMPRO and the JMEA, completed review of the latest draft with comments from key Ministries including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, The Planning Institute of Jamaica. A draft Cabinet Submission was prepared and is currently the subject of internal review prior to submission to the Cabinet.

- National Bamboo Industry Development Plan (NBIP):

The global market for high value bamboo is expanding, especially in North America and is driven mainly by product innovation that includes the medical industry. Bamboo has a global annual trade value of approximately USD 60 billion, according to INBAR. The emerging Bamboo industry in Jamaica remains a going concern and to date there has been approximately \$650 million of investment in the industry. There are opportunities for Jamaica given its nearshore location to North, Central and South America and established channels of trade with the European Union. Currently, Jamaica has approximately 160,000 acres of bamboo in formal and ad hoc cultivation across the island. To maximize economic gains from bamboo, emphasis must be placed on targeted seedling production and concentrated plantation establishment to ensure a consistent high quality supply of raw material to support product and industry development. A first draft of the NBIP has been prepared and will form the basis of consultation with the industry through the Bamboo Industry Association. The NBIP will incorporate planned cultivation; maximizing the ecological benefits of bamboo; and product diversification as well as financing and business development. To improve participation in the global bamboo value chain through product innovation, focus must be placed on the establishment of a sustainable supply of bamboo raw material.

## **Principal Focus for 2020/21**

**Strategic Priority 5:** Improve the ease of doing business to facilitate investment in Jamaica

**Programme:** Executive Direction and Administration

**Sub-Programme:** Policy, Planning and Development

**Priority Initiative** Industrial Development

### **Key Activities for FY2020/21**

- **Policy Framework Development:**
  - National Services Policy
  - National Bamboo Industry Development Plan and
  - Cannabis Industry Policy –establishment of a Ganja Industry Development Taskforce will form part of this activity
  
- **Strengthen value added services for the productive sector:**
  - 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.
  - Contribute to the design and structure of a National Business Portal which will drive this entire process online from end to end (i.e. application to the issue of incentive letter).
  - Complete the establishment of a manufacturing companies' database to facilitate data driven interventions to support the sector and better quantify the GoJ's contribution to the sector through incentives granted.
  
- **Improve the policy advocacy role of the Division through strengthening external linkages:**

This will be done through continuous collaboration with sector interest groups (JMEA, Jamaica Chamber of Commerce, Agri-Business Association) other Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), MICAF Divisions and Units, in order to better identify and address issues affecting the productive sector. Additionally, the Division will deepen its role in the Distributive Trade group and the Tourism Linkages Manufacturing sub-committee as well as the newly established Export Growth Team.
  
- **Support/facilitate the implementation of strategic programs/projects:**
  - Continue to play a lead coordinating role in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the *Alternative Development Programme* including the Pilot projects and expansion of the Programme into other communities.
  
  - Contribute to the implementation of the *Agri-Business Development Plan* and the *National Craft Policy*.
  
- **Development of Industry Profiles**

## **Commerce Division**

### **Mission**

To regulate, develop and promote Jamaica's commerce and trade through formulation, implementation and monitoring of appropriate commercial policies and programmes aimed at increasing commercial activities, sustaining business and promoting export.

### **Planned Targets for 2019/2020**

- Strengthen the national quality infrastructure to meet global standards and enhance competitiveness through the implementation of the Revised National Quality Policy
- Strengthen the consumer protection framework through the development of a National Consumer Policy
- Monitor specific industries and levels of imports to ensure consistency with national developmental objectives, make policy recommendations and ensure policy adjustments and licensing regimes are appropriate
- Monitor selected commodities to ensure consistent and quality supplies of basic items to meet the demands of the market
- Intensify the support to the business sector
- Improve the policy support provided to the portfolio agencies
- Increase the use regional and international measures to improve domestic trade and exports
- Build and strengthen the capacities of exporters and manufacturers in targeted areas to stimulate activities that will grow industries/businesses, facilitate trade, increase exports and create employment opportunities
- Expand the commerce databases; strengthen the linkages with other data providers and the application of data and data analysis

### **Key Achievements for 2019/2020**

- Revised National Quality Policy (White Paper) approval
- National Consumer Policy – The process for the selection of the consultant for the development of the National Consumer Policy completed
- Policy positions for cement imports maintained in keeping with Cabinet Approved Safety Net Principle
- Maintained monitoring and licensing framework for cement and clinker and facilitated eight (8) import licenses and one (1) extension for importation of cement into Jamaica
- Processed fifty-four (54) 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\$44,905,230
- Processed forty-nine (49) 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 sixty-one(61) responses to CARICOM’s enquiries regarding availability of local products
- Facilitated the approval of one hundred and twenty eight (128) notices of exemption, one hundred and three (103) licences and two (2) extensions of exemption in keeping with the Ministry’s statutory obligations under the Companies Act.
- Gazetted eighty-two (82) 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 48<sup>th</sup> and 49<sup>th</sup> Meetings of the CARICOM Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED)
- Provided technical input and support for the First Special Meeting of th CARICOM Conference on Oils and Fats; Eightieth Special COTED Meeting; and the Fifth joint Meeting of the COTED and COHSOD
- Maintained CARICOM monitoring mechanisms for Rice, Red Kidney Beans, Cement and Sugar
- Participated in twenty-six (26) work permit meetings and reviewed one thousand one hundred and fifty-three (1,153) portfolio related applications for work permit

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority 7:** Strengthen the National Quality Infrastructure

**Programme:** Executive Direction and Administration

**Sub-Programme:** Policy, Planning and Development

**Budget for FY2020/21**

#### **Key Activities**

- 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.
- 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
- Ensure that the Ministry’s obligations under the Companies Act and Charities Act are met
- Increase and strengthen the analysis and use of data
- Provide support to the commercial sector
- 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
- Management of CARICOM Monitoring Mechanisms
- Monitoring and Management of Commodity Imports
- 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
- 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 fora
- Improve the support provided to the assigned portfolio agencies and increase the monitoring of policy and operational activities of the agencies
- Monitor operational activities and policy issues of assigned portfolio Agencies
- Ensure the Declaration and Gazetting of Jamaican Standards
- Programme to increase exploitation of the opportunities to supply local and regional demand by developing a database of local manufacturers and producers to promote trade within the CARICOM region.
- Review Motor Vehicle Import Policy (MVIP) focusing on motor vehicle dealership registration.
- Merger - Fair Trade Commission (FTC) and the Consumer Affairs Commission (CAC)
- Closure of (Jamaica Marketing Company (JAMCO))
- Establish a National Quality Council to provide oversight and governance required for the NQI
- Continue work for the development of the National Consumer Policy
- Quarterly meetings of the Agency Heads
- Improve the monitoring of the Agencies of Commerce

## Economic Planning Division

### Aims and Objectives

To enhance the performance of all the sectors that fall under the purview of the Ministry through the formulation of policies, economic plans, programmes and projects within the National Plan.

### Planned Targets for 2019/2020

- Conduct Cost of Production Estimates for 20 domestic crops and 3 livestock island wide;
- Develop 2 Financial Farm Models;
- Develop and submit at least 5 project proposals for funding;
- Procure consultancy service develop a 10 Year Agriculture Sector Development Plan;
- Develop a Agri-Insurance project concept;
- Develop Climate adaptation project proposals;
- Provide technical support to policies, programmes, plans, projects as requested.

### Key Achievements for 2019/2020

- Cost of Production Estimate Report for 19 crops completed;
- Two (2) Financial Farm Models developed;
- 8 project proposals submitted to PIMSEC;
- Terms of Reference for 10 year Agriculture Sector Plan finalized;
- Situation analysis for the Agri-Insurance project concept completed;
- Green Climate Fund Concept Note was completed;
- Technical support to policies, programmes, plans, projects was provided as requested.

### Principal Focus for 2020/2021

<b>Strategic Priority 1:</b>	Optimize the production and productivity of key local produce and products towards targeted markets
<b>Programme:</b>	Executive Direction and Administration
<b>Sub-Programme:</b>	Policy, Planning and Development
<b>Budget for FY2020/21</b>	42,865,000

#### **Key Activities**

- Conduct Cost of Production Estimates for 20 domestic crops and 3 livestock island wide
- Develop 2 Financial Farm Models
- Develop and submit at least 5 project proposals for funding
- Procure consultancy service develop a 10 Year Agriculture Sector Development Plan
- Develop a Agri-Insurance project concept
- Develop Climate adaptation project proposals
- Provide technical support to policies, programmes, plans, projects as requested

## **Agricultural Marketing Information Division**

### **Aims and Objectives**

To provide a formidable information gathering mechanism for the collection, analysis, storage and dissemination of agricultural and marketing information to various stakeholders in the business sector

### **Planned Targets and Key Achievements for 2019/2020**

- Update JAMIS
  - 195 price reports disseminated to 2,000 stakeholders.
  - Market Studies in Draft
  - Market Demand for Cannabis and its derivatives
  - Situational outlook report for Hot Pepper
  - Analysis of the Lemon Grass Industry
- Grades & Standards Promotion, Development
  - Grades and Standards Manual Pocket Books disseminated to stakeholders.
- Value Chain Selection
  - Stakeholder engagement in collaboration with FAO
- Supply Chain Management
  - Recommendation for Sensitive Commodities
- Value chain development
  - Ginger Value Chain Upgrading Strategy
- National Business Portal
  - Inclusion of Agricultural Incentives
- Digitisation of records for Agricultural incentives
- Duty Concessions approved – 35
- Production Input Relief approved – 42
- ASD waiver
  - Refined Sugar (174)
  - Other raw materials (102)
- Facilitate the appointment of Directors for seven (7) Boards
- Facilitate the tabling of eight (8) Annual Reports in Parliament
- Facilitate the gazetting of
  - Six Board appointments/resignations
  - All-Island Jamaica Cane Farmers' Assn. budget

**Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority 1:** Optimize the production and productivity of key local produce and products towards targeted markets

**Programme:** Executive Direction and Administration

**Sub-Programme:** Policy, Planning and Development

**Budget for FY2020/21** \$428.56M

**Key Activities**

- Explore possible options for Jamaican coffee and cocoa
- Expansion of the JAMIS platform
- Quantitative/Financial assessment of waivers, permits and concessions
- Assessing viable market opportunities for small farmers in the tourism industry
- Identifying viable options for reducing the food import bill
- Market Demand for Coconut (dried & water)
- Market Demand for Mangoes

## **6.0 DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES AND BOARD SUMMARY REPORTS:**

### **AGRO-INVEST CORPORATION (AIC)**

#### **Establishment of the Agency**

Agro-Investment was established by an Act of Parliament in April 2009.

#### **Aim and Objective**

- Agricultural sector modernization
- Management of state owned assets
- Investments & project development
- Investment promotion
- Project management facilitation
- Resource mobilization

#### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- **88.78%** of infrastructure works completed for all Agro Parks
- **14,156M** of drains, verges farm access roads maintained
- **4** tractors fully operational and maintained
- **75%** of irrigated lands on Agro Park under production
- **2,639,672 kg** of products produced, substituted for imports and exported from the Agro Parks
- **189** farmers/investors trained in group dynamics.
- **2** financial windows created for farmers
- **2** of AEZ's operationalized
- 3 international, 5 local learning journey completed
- **4** field experiments conducted
- **206** investors operating in the Agro Parks.
- **206** farmers/investor operating in the agro parks.
- **634** persons employed in the Agro parks
- **61** youths, women and other target groups investing in the Agro parks.

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority 1&2 :** Optimize the production and productivity of key local produce and products towards targeted markets

Increase access of select local industries to emerging and existing markets

**Programme:** Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security

**Sub-Programme:** Agro-Industry Development

**Budget for FY2020/21:** \$59,000,000

**Priority Initiative:** Agro-Parks and Agro-Economic Zones Development

#### **Key Activities for FY2020/21:**

- Infrastructural development on the agro-parks, ie, irrigation and drainage
- Increased security for enhancing production
- Increase production of primary crops
- Soliciting of large scale investment opportunities
- Increase awareness and visibility of the Corporation's programmes
- Optimize on both arable and non-arable lands to increase food production

## **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.

### **Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2018-2021**

- Complete amendment to the Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Act and accompanying Regulations
- Establish an industry helpdesk to assist businesses including MSMEs to file and complete a trade remedy investigation

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

- 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. Consult with, train, and advise ten (10) companies or industries.
- Educate stakeholders, including consumers, regarding the legal framework of international trade defense laws (Trade Remedies) - the Acts and Agreements.
- Conduct investigation(s), if any, in accordance with the Acts and Agreements.

### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

#### **Legislation**

- Staff provided expert analysis and comments to facilitate advancement of the pending amendment to the Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Act which is now being reviewed by the Attorney General's Chambers for onward submission to the Legislation Committee of the Cabinet

### Industry Training and Public Education

- Industry Consultations as an Industry Help Desk with more than the target of seven (7) goods-producing Industries/companies<sup>21</sup>
- Training of more than the target of ten (10) goods producing Industries/companies
- Stakeholder/public education – Trained more than one hundred and fifty (150) staff and affiliates of the Jamaica Customs Agency; JMEA Manufacturer’s Month event.
- National Exporters Month partnered with JMEA and JAMPRO to present: ***Thrive at Home .... Flourish Abroad***, Workshop for Exporters
- Five ADSC (5) Courses accredited by the General Legal Council for training lawyers
- **Draft Complaint** by one (1) industry was received, reviewed by Staff and feedback given
- **Staff Paper:** Summary Report on Use of Trade Remedies In Jamaica: *The Role and Impact of the Anti-dumping and Subsidies Commission in defending Jamaican industries*
- Provided information to other Governments of the region; Bahamas on legislation; Guyana, via Skype presentation at WTO and Emerging Trade Issues in November 2019
- Reviewer and content provider for Jamaica Trade Information Portal launched May 2019

### Principal Focus for 2020/2021

**Strategic Priority 5:** Improve the ease of doing business to facilitate investment in Jamaica

**Programme:** Industrial Development and Regulation

**Sub-Programme:** Business [and Credit Defense] Protection

**Budget**

**Priority Initiative:**

**Key Activities for FY2020/21**

- Industry Outreach, Training and Consultation
  - Help Desk consultation and/or hand holding of three (3) industries with the intention to file a case. Redevelopment of courses for delivery through online meeting applications.
- ADSC TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES incorporating Public Education and Public Agency Training and Capacity Building
  - Redesign of the website.
  - Content development for website and social media to disseminate information, consultation and training.
  - Develop methods, content and processes to serve industry through online engagement.
  - Major public speaking celebratory event.
- Compliance and Governance
- Research on Products
  - In the absence of cases, two researched Industry Reports.

<sup>21</sup> In papers that may be widely disseminated, the Commission observes best practices and does not identify industries with which it is consulting or from which it expects to receive a complaint. Identities of industries are available to the Minister, upon request.

## **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**

The major objectives of the Banana Board are to increase production and productivity on farms and by-products manufacturing by several strategies and activities.

#### **The Specific Objective or Purpose**

- To increase production and productivity on farms and by-products manufacturing of the Jamaica Banana and Plantain Industry (JBPI).
- To facilitate the implementation of an industry-wide cess to support the development of the JBPI.
- To facilitate implementation of the ORISA action plan to prevent entry of TR4 disease or detect it early to eradicate or manage it successfully after.
- To implement the strategic business plan of the Banana Board for sustained growth in the JBPI.

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

- Increase banana and plantain production for local and export market
  - 70,000T or 28% greater than base year of 2015
  - 20% improvement in productivity
  - Implementation of Banana/Plantain Export Expansion Programme (BEEP 2) and Climate Smart Agriculture Project (CSAP)
  - On-going exports
- Disease mitigation, irradiation and management
  - > 5% of farms infected with Moko disease
  - Excluding of Tropical Race 4 (TR4) Disease on farms
  - Monitoring of Black Sigatoka Disease
- Applied Research, Agribusiness Development and Certification
  - On-going monitoring of commercial value-added factories (ripening and chips etc).
  - 75 farmers trained/certified in (national & Global G.A.P.)
- Production and distribution of tissue culture plantlets
  - Nurseries operating economically
  - Register of famers in plantlet distribution updated - 4,000 plantlets distributed

- Extension service to farmers
  - 400 youths impacted
  - Ongoing farm visits
- Project implementation of prepared ness for TR4 and development and expansion of farms

### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- Production and Productivity
  - 63,652.60 Kg of bananas and 45,140.20 Kg of plantains were produced in 2019. *Target of 70,000 T or 28% greater than the 2015 base year over four years was not met due to drought.* However, banana and plantain production in 2019 was respectively 16.63% and 17.49% greater than in 2015.
  - Yield Productivity was recorded as 12.2 and 2.9 T/Ha for bananas and plantains respectively in 2019. *The target of 20% improvement in productivity within the next two years was not achieved due to drought.*
  - Export fruits in 2019/2020 totaled 628.223 T (33,958 boxes): 316.128 T (17,088 boxes) were for the Cayman Islands, 311.170 T (16,820 boxes) for Canada, 925.0 T (50 boxes) for the USA, 745 T (40 boxes) to the UK and 925.0 Kg (50 boxes) were exported to West Africa (WA).
- Disease Mitigation, Irradiation and Management
  - Moko Disease
    - A total of 84 farms were investigated and no infection was detected in 2019/2020 fiscal year. *The target of restricting the spread of the disease to other parishes and less than 5% of plants infected was achieved.*
  - Tropical Race 4 (TR4)
    - 50 reports of suspected cases were made by farmers and citizens. 10 samples were collected and analyzed using the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) method. A total of 47 visits were made by the Banana Board's Extension Officers. All samples tested negative. *The target of excluding the disease was achieved.*
  - Black Sigatoka Disease (BSD)
    - During the period 60 leaf samples were collected from 60 farms in St. James, Portland, St. Mary and St. Catherine. All farms investigated had disease that was still sensitive to the fungicides used to mitigate. *The target of 60 samples for the year was 100% completed.*
    - Of the 20 reference farms monitored, the disease intensity had average youngest leaf infected (YLI) of 6.4, which is above the threshold of 5.0 indicating acceptable level of BSD control on farms.

- Applied Research, Agribusiness Development and Certification
  - Advisory Reports
    - For the period 459 technical advisory reports on: *Quality Management (QM) of Chemistry Procedures, Quality Management System for International and Domestic Farm Procedures*, were communicated. *The target of 316 reports for the year is 145% completed.*
  - Value-added Production
    - *Nine (9) chips factories and 34 ripeners operated in 2019.*
    - Seven audits were conducted for ripening facilities during the period, indicating the realization of a thriving banana and plantain industry. Monitoring of the standards of operation showed an average of 67% conformances and 33% non-conformances. Hence there is need for improvement in the standards of operation.
    - Value added facilities (VAF) continued to be profitable despite challenges, such as drought. A total of 8442.3 T of fruits was supplied to VAF in 2019: 1763.3T for chips, 6643.8 T for ripening and 35.2 for peeled green (but 7799.2 for 2019/2020).
  - Certification
    - *The target of 75 farms audited for certification was exceeded with:117 farms trained and internally audited in 2019, (74 farms internally audited for GLOBAL G.A.P. and 43 for the domestic market), and 34 farms externally audited and certified GLOBAL G.A.P.*
    - 107 farmers certified in business management in 2019/2020.
- Production and Distribution of Tissue Culture Plantlets
  - Five (5) selected varieties: FHIA 01, 17 & 25 bananas, FHIA 21 plantains, Williams and Robusta bananas, multiplied & distributed. *The target was achieved.*
  - IBP Cuban imports were nursed & distributed (11,000 imported (8000 FHIA 25, 1000 FHIA 1 and 2000 Grand Naine).
  - Parent nursery continued to operate and 3 regional nurseries were used occasionally. *The target was achieved.*
  - A total of 19,487 plantlets distributed were distributed in 2019. *The target of 16,000 was exceeded.*
  - *The target of establishing the Tissue-culture bio-factory was achieved, and it continued to operate; 406 meristems were initiated and 799 plantlets were acclimatized and 735 planted in 2019/2020.*
- Extension Service to Farmers
  - 484 youths were impacted in 2019/20. *Target of 400 exceeded.*
  - 1546 Individual farm visitations (1298 males & 246 females) for 2019/2020. *Target of 1,620 exceeded.*
  - 634 farmers trained in agronomy for 2019/2020. *Target of 500 exceeded.*
  - 53 Field days /Group sessions for farmers in 2019/20. *Target of 48 exceeded.*

- 24 On-farm training for 2019/2020. *Target of 24 achieved.*
  - 107 farmers trained in business management 2019/2020. *Target of 32 achieved.*
  - Communication and awareness is critical to preventing or curtailing diseases of quarantine importance. A total of 53 awareness and training sessions (33 for TR4 and 23 for Moka) were conducted for 760 participants in 2019/2020.
- Project Implementation of Preparedness for Tropical Race 4 and Development and Expansion of Farms.
- *The target of 111 hectares established and currently producing fruits was 92% achieved.*
  - Established production fields were audited for best practices.
  - 1,308,326 Kg or 70,720 boxes of fruits produced by farmers that were previously apart of the Banana Export Expansion Programme (BEEP) for 2019/2020.
  - Of the 140 full-time jobs created by BEEP1, 123 were being maintained during the period.
  - With the emergence of TR4 disease in Columbia, in August 2019, the Banana Board was selected by MICAFA to lead the programme and a Task Force to exclude, prepare and possibly mitigate the disease, should it enter. With \$J 10M allocation of the last quarter of the fiscal year, communication and border security interventions were done.

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority:** Optimize the production and productivity of key local produce and products towards targeted markets

**Programme:** Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security

**Sub-Programme:** Agro-Industry Development

**Priority Initiative:** Banana Industry Development

**Key Activities:**

- Technologies to mitigate drought and storm damage to be transferred
- Tissue bio-factory established in Banana Board.
- Operate Bodles Banana Research Station and newly constructed tissue culture bio-factory.
- Continue to execute new Framework Agreements signed in June 2016 with IBP Cuba for further supply of plantlets, transfer of somatic embryogenesis technology, breeding research, Climate smart initiatives and other bio-technological cooperation.
- Implement BEEP2: GLOBALG.A.P. Certification
- Increased exports with market penetration and development.

## **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.

### **Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2018-2021**

- Advance accreditation of laboratories and assist exporters in meeting requirements of the USFSMA, HACCP and ISO standards

### **Planned Targets and Key Achievements for 2019/20**

Performance Indicator	Target	Achievement
# of standards completed	64	65
% of companies that receive a favourable inspection from the FDA	≥75%	100%
# of stakeholders provided with technical assistance	88	86
% of enquiries for standards and trade-related information addressed within 3 days business days	≥90%	100%
# of certificates issued (product/produce)	4	1
# of companies certified (management systems certification)	2	1
# of training solutions provided to external stakeholders	44	51
# of external stakeholders trained	720	629
% completed on time in full (COTIF) for laboratory testing and calibration services	≥80%	87%
Customer satisfaction rate	≥88%	86%

### **Other Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- Accreditation maintained for 47 tests conducted by 4 BSJ laboratories (Chemistry, Microbiology, Packaging and Metallurgy) to ISO/IEC 17025
- 15 companies assisted in meeting US market access requirements for food products
- 1 company certified to ISO 9001 during 2019/20. Another 12 companies maintained their certification status. Another 10 entities (public sector) contracted during the period.

- 12 entities provided with technical support on implementing a laboratory management system that conforms to ISO/IEC 17025
- Published 58 standards; another 31 standards completed (Minister's approval pending). Note: 24 of these standards had been completed during the previous financial year.
- Launched/promoted 7 national standards for the food & beverage and tourism sectors; and 20 international standards for tourism and travel.
- 4 standards developed for the medical cannabis industry (to be published in 2020/21).
- Attained authorization from the Cannabis Licensing Authority to receive, conduct tests and analyses, handle, transport, temporarily store and dispose of cannabis for medical and therapeutic or scientific purposes.
- Provision of discounts valued at almost J\$2.2M on selected technical services to 76 MSMEs under collaborative agreements with the Jamaica Agro-Processors Association and the Jamaica Business Development Corporation.
- 6 Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and one Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed with 7 entities/associations in the areas of time stamping; energy efficiency; business growth and export facilitation; standards in education; and bamboo in construction.
- Conducted/participated in 37 promotional/educational sessions, impacting over 1200 persons.
- Effective October, BSJ (on behalf of Jamaica) was appointed to the position of Vice Chair of CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards & Quality (CROSQ) for a year.
- Accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025 maintained for 6 testing and calibration laboratories (Chemistry, Microbiology, Metallurgy, Packaging, Mass, and Flow & Volume Laboratories).
- Microbiology Laboratory successfully transitioned to the 2017 version of the ISO/IEC 17025 standard.
- Maintained the organization's quality management system to ISO 9001:2015.

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority:** Strengthen MSMEs' contribution to Jamaica's economy

**Programme:** Industrial Development & Regulations

**Sub-Programme:** MSME Development

**Budget for FY2020/21** \$1.04B

**Priority Initiative** MSME Development

### **Key Activities for Fy2019/20**

#### MSME Development

- Provide 213 MSMEs with standards implementation, training, certification and advisory services
- Provide discounts on selected services valued at J\$7M to eligible MSMEs (*May be reduced due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic*) - under MOUs with Jamaica Business Development Corporation, Jamaica Agro-Processors Association, Jamaica Manufacturers & Exporters Association and JAMPRO
- Offer 44 training courses in the area of standards and conformity assessment

### Standards Development

- Facilitate the development/revision and adoption of 80 standards
- Publish 20 standards for local industries (MSMEs)

### Regulatory Support Programme, Laboratory Services Programme, National Time Stamping Project

- Seek to attain accreditation for 4 laboratories (Energy Efficiency, Cement Testing, Aggregates Testing, Concrete Masonry Testing)
- Conduct regulatory testing on behalf of the National Compliance & Regulatory Authority, Cannabis Licensing Authority, Office of Utilities Regulation Pesticide Control Authority, and Ministry of Science, Energy & Technology
- Transition 3 of our accredited laboratories (Chemistry, Microbiology & Metallurgy) to the 2017 version of the ISO/IEC 17025 standards
- Establish legal and physical framework for the provision of electronic time stamping services (legal framework to be developed with the Bank of Jamaica)

## **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.

### **Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2018-2021**

- Fully operationalize the Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA)
  - Secure funding
  - Equip and staff the entity
  - Issue licences
- Streamline the Cannabis Industry Regulations

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

- Conditional Approvals and Licences Issued
- Communication Strategy and Activities
- Compliance and Enforcement Actions taken
- Partnerships and MOUs formed with stakeholders
- Application Procedures and Protocol reviewed Organizational Review of the CLA

### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

#### **Conditional Approvals and Licences Issued**

Currently, there are 310 applications at the Conditional Approval Stage. Applicants at the Conditional Approval stage are building their facility (the proposed Licensed Site) in order to meet the requirements of the CLA's Pre-licensing Site Inspection.

A total of 60 Licences have been issued as of March 2020 and 18 applications are at the Licence Granting Stage of the Application Process. The CLA awaits outstanding payments and documents before Licences are issued for the 18 applications at the Granting Stage.

During the 2019/2020 FY, as of March 31, 2020, the CLA issued 27 Licences and 8 applications are at the Licence Granting Stage of the Application Process.

- **Communication Strategy and Activities**

The Communication Strategy was updated and implemented during the period. There were 45 Public Awareness and Communication Activities, which included Sensitization Sessions, Event Participation, Media Releases, Television and Radio Interviews, Advertisements, etc.

- **Compliance and Enforcement Actions taken**

The CLA has conducted 75 Pre-Licensing Site Inspections and 466 Post Licensing Activities as of March 2020. A Pre-Licensing Site Inspection is conducted after a Conditionally Approved Applicant has completed the construction of the proposed Licenced site or facility. The Post Licensing Activities that have been conducted by the CLA include Compliance Audits, Sale/Purchase/Transfer, Harvest, Startup, Disposal, and Exports.

A total of eleven (11) Enforcement Actions have been taken against non-compliant Licensees, as of March 2020. Matters relating to Licensees' non-compliance with the regulations, were elevated to the Sub-Committee of the CLA's Board of Directors. The enforcement actions include Suspension and Revocation.

- **Partnerships and MOUs formed with stakeholders**

Several strategic partnerships have been established to bolster the Authority's efforts at achieving its mandate. Such partnerships are with the Bureau of Standards Jamaica (BSJ) for developing industry standards, the Scientific Research Council (SRC) for establishing protocols to collect cannabis samples for testing, the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) and the Jamaica Defense Force (JDF) for technical guidance on security standards, assistance with preventing diversion and inversion and general operations. The Financial Investigations Division (FID) provides support with due diligence. The Authority partners with JAMPRO through joint meetings and information-sharing with potential investors. Both entities also have joint media releases to increase awareness about the sector and its commercial potential. The CLA has signed two (2) MOUs during the Financial Year; an MOU was signed with the Fair-Trading Commission and with JAMPRO for the inclusion of the Licensing and Application process on the GOJ's National Business Portal, which is being constructed. Recently the CLA approved an authorization for BSJ and SRC to provide testing services for the Medical Cannabis Industry.

▪ **Application Procedures and Protocol reviewed.**

The Authority has conducted an internal strategic review of the applications process in order to decrease the licensing and application processing times.

Further, the Authority has signed an MOU with JAMPRO for the implementation of an online business portal to re-engineer the licensing and applications process for ease of access to information in respect of application status and services online to include; payment, reduce processing time, allow for the electronic filing of applications/documents, ultimately resulting in the more efficient management of the applications process.

The Authority commenced the process of attaining ISO 9001: 2015 Quality Management Systems Certification. The ISO Quality Systems Division of MICAFA has supported the implementation process through a GAP Audit of the CLA's processes and ISO 9001:2015 Training Sessions. The CLA has received the ISO 9001:2015 Implementation Plan and it is projected that the CLA will attain certification by March 2022.

▪ **Organizational Review of the CLA**

The Senior Management at the CLA conducted an internal review of the CLA's Organizational Structure and the entity's capacity to meet the demands of the Industry. This resulted in an increase of the CLA's Organizational Structure from 18 approved posts to 65 approved posts. Therefore, the Authority has increased its human resource capacity more than four-fold since its inception. Currently, fifty-seven (57) of the sixty-five (65) posts have been filled. Therefore, the CLA has surpassed the initial target or planned staff complement of 32 posts. These posts include; scientists, law enforcement officers, ICT specialists, Attorneys-at-Law, Botanists and Agronomists and so on.

**Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

<b>Strategic Priority:</b>	Optimize the production and productivity of key local produce and products towards targeted markets
<b>Programme:</b>	Agricultural Production, Productivity, and Food Security
<b>Sub-Programme:</b>	Agro-Industry Development
<b>Budget</b>	\$ 299,628,000.00
<b>Priority Initiative</b>	Cannabis Industry Development
<b>Key Initiatives</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 22 Licences Issued for applications transitioning from the Licence Granted Stage</li> <li>▪ 6 months maximum time taken to process Cannabis Licence (up to Conditional Approval Stage)</li> <li>▪ 80% of Import /Export/ Transit/ Trans-shipment permits issued for applications that satisfy the requirements</li> <li>▪ 10 enforcement actions taken against breaches</li> <li>▪ 70 Pre-Licensing Site Inspections conducted and reported</li> <li>▪ 400 routine Post-Licensing Activities conducted and reported. (Harvest, Disposal, Export, Sale/ Purchase/ Transfer &amp; Disposal)</li> </ul>	

## 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 and Key Achievements for 2019/20

<b>Planned Targets</b>	<b>FY2019/20 Performance</b>
To increase the acreage of Esher Seed Garden by clearing and planting 20 acres of land in coconut.	20 acres of land was cleared and 2000 coconut seedlings were planted.
To set 400,000 seed nuts in order to produce 200,000 seedlings.	105,836 seed nuts were set.
To distribute 100,000 coconut seedlings to registered coconut growers	55,477 seedlings were distributed to registered coconut growers.
To reduce the number of Lethal Yellowing Disease infected trees through cutting and spraying them.	5,219 lethal yellowing affected trees were cut and burnt.

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority 1:** Optimize the production and productivity of key local produce and products towards targeted markets

**Programme:** Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security

**Sub-Programme:** Agro-Industry Development

**Budget for FY2020/21:**

**Priority Initiative** Coconut Industry Development

**Key Activities for FY2020/21:**

- Setting 400,000 seed nuts per annum in CIB's nurseries
- Acquisition and Development of Water Valley Property
- Clear 20 acres of land and plant 4000 seedlings at Esher Seed Garden per annum.
- Refurbish the Board's Farmhouses located at their Seed Garden and nurseries in Esher, Barton Isles, Spring Garden, Plantain Garden and Orange River
- To distribute 100,000 coconut seedlings per year to qualified coconut growers free of cost with fertilizer per annum.
- To manage the Lethal Yellowing Disease by assisting farmers with the cutting of the LY diseased coconut trees.

## COMPANIES OFFICE OF JAMAICA (COJ)

### Establishment of the Agency

1999 under the Executive Agencies Act

#### **Mission**

To continually facilitate ease of doing business in Jamaica by providing easy to use, efficient registration systems that will promote voluntary compliance and deliver accurate information to all stakeholders.

#### **Vision**

To become a world-class business registry providing valuable, easy to use and customer focused information.

### Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2019 – 2021

- Fully operationalise electronic platform for company registration and incorporation of business names

### Planned Targets and Key Achievements for FY2019/20

<b>Planned Targets for 2019/20:</b>	<b>Key Achievements for 2019/20:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 7 days' registration time for MSMEs.</li> </ul>	90.58% of new company applications processed within 4 work days and 94.96% of new Business Names applications processed within 2 work days.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 80% Customer Satisfaction</li> </ul>	92% Customer Satisfaction rating
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Revenues earned cover 90% of expenditure</li> </ul>	Revenues earned covered 98% of expenditure.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improved compliance rate- 12,500 companies filing Annual Returns</li> </ul>	Improved compliance rate- 13,311 companies filing Annual Returns (up to February, 2020) Electronic Business Registration Form launched in August, 2019.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fully operationalise electronic platform for company registration and incorporation of business names</li> </ul>	Electronic Business Registration Form (eBRF) became fully operational in August, 2019.

**Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority 3: Strengthen MSMEs' contribution to Jamaica's Economy**

**Programme:** Industrial Development and Regulation

**Sub-Programme:** MSME Development

**Budget for FY2020/21:** \$568,262,00 (expenditure)

**Priority Initiative (/s):** 1. Achieve ISO 9001:2015 ISO certification  
2. Business Processing Re-engineering of COJ operations

**Key Activities for FY2020/21**

- Introduction of new simplified naming rules as well as completion of eBRF validation rules in order to increase online filings.
- Introduction of “concierge” services to assist customers to complete registration services.
- Phasing out of COJ security paper and introducing bar codes on documents issued by the COJ.
- Review of Companies and Registration of Business Names legislation and proposal of amendments to foster improved compliance by customers.
- Introduction of new value-added services and other revenue generation activities.

## **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.

### **Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2018-2021**

- Develop and promulgate National Consumer Policy
- Participate actively in the work of regional institutions towards the finalization of the regional strategies and plans for the services sector
- Develop a Consumer Protection Policy

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

- *85% of persons polled associate CAC with consumer protection by end of Q4*
  - Develop National Consumer Policy - Engage consultant and commence development of policy
  - 87% Annual Resolution Rate achieved
  - 1,800 complaints handled
- *85% of 14,000 consumers and providers indicate knowledge of rights and responsibilities*
  - 6 education campaigns implemented
  - Educate 143,000 consumers directly through 370 outreach activities
  - 700 businesspersons sensitized through 12 presentations to business providers
- *78% of persons polled are knowledgeable of the CAC*
  - 28 price surveys conducted
  - 650 broadcast and 60 print media exposures achieved
- *Consumer score of 55% for ethical relations with providers*
- *Providers score of 65% for ethical relations with consumers*

### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- **71%** brand recognition score achieved in survey
  - National consumer policy: 2 Steering and 4 Sub-Committee Meetings held. Consultant identified through procurement; however, additional funding needed.
  - **83.70%** complaint resolution rate achieved
  - **1,645** complaints handled
  - **\$24.642M** in compensation/refund
  - **Launched** the CAC Mobile Application
  
- **85%** Knowledge of Rights and Responsibilities
  - 6 consumer campaigns implemented
  - 90,024 consumers directly sensitized
  - 414 outreach activities conducted
  
- **75%** of persons knowledgeable of the CAC
  - 30 price surveys conducted: 13 groceries; 12 petrol; 1 hardware; 1 Textbook; 1 banking; 2 Sanitation products.
  - Achieved 469 broadcast media and 68 print media exposures
  - 654 requests for advice – 100% handled
  
- Ethical relations study commenced but was aborted due to covid-19 outbreak in Jamaica.

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

<b>Strategic Priority 5:</b>	Improve the ease of doing business to facilitate investment in Jamaica
<b>Programme:</b>	Consumer and Public Protection
<b>Sub-Programme:</b>	Consumer Protection
<b>Budget for FY2020/21:</b>	\$144.823M
<b>Priority Initiative:</b>	Consumer Empowerment

### **Key Activities:**

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- Merger of the CAC and FTC
  - Complete relocation exercise.
- Develop National Consumer Policy
  - Secure funding and commence consultancy.
- Increase surveillance and provide consumers with a wider range of industry and statistical data.
  - Conduct and publish 28 price surveys; 20 Rights and Responsibilities surveys and conduct programme evaluation surveys
- Improve CAC's complaint resolution mechanism and services
  - Resolve 87% of 1,800 complaints handled
- Improve public awareness and service delivery
  - Achieve 710 traditional media exposures
  - Educate/directly sensitise 143,000 consumers through 370 activities and 700 businesspersons through 12 activities
- Improve ICT infrastructure resiliency and level of modernization
  - Acquire necessary professional services and replace network equipment

## DEPARTMENT OF COOPERATIVES AND FRIENDLY SOCIETIES (DCFS)

### Establishment of Agency

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.

### Aims and Objectives

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 2019/20

Planned Target	Key Achievements for 2019/20
100% of application (Groups) processed within agreed timeline	55 % process within the timeline Twenty-two (22) applications were received for the FY plus two (2) being carried over from the previous year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twelve (12) were finalized within timeline.</li> <li>• Seven (7) outside of the timeline</li> <li>• Five (5) pending</li> </ul>
100% of application (charities) processed within agreed timeline	96% process within the timeline Two Hundred and eighty-nine (289). Applications
100% of renewal processed within established timeline.	Not Available
656 Entities of Societies receiving technical assistance (Development, Audit, and Inspectorate).	1,111 Entities
122 Entities inspections carried out.	56 Entities
774 societies monitored/ assessed (Audit, Inspectorate).	362 Entities
65 Pre-Audits carried out.	54 Entities
120 Entities Audited	118 Entities

Planned Target	Key Achievements for 2019/20
8 entities investigated and completed.	12 Entities

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority 3:** Strengthen MSMEs' contribution to Jamaica's economy

**Programme:** Industrial Development and Regulation

**Sub-Programme:** Business [and Credit Defence] Protection

**Budget for FY2020/21:** \$192,463,000

**Priority Initiative:**

1. Regulation for the registration and monitoring of Charitable Organizations
2. Regulation for the monitoring of Agricultural Loan Societies and Approved Organization

#### **Key Activities:**

- Compliance with the Act, Rules, Policies and Regulations ensured.
- Audits and Investigation facilitated.
- Appropriate Policy, Legislation and Regulations for long-term development established.
- Institutional Strengthened of Societies to facilitate expansion in business ventures and sustainability

## EXIM BANK LIMITED

### Establishment of the Agency

The EXIM Bank, established in May of 1986, is an independent public sector, limited liability Company, wholly owned by the Government of Jamaica. EXIM Bank is Jamaica's premier trade financing institution and the Caribbean's first Export-Import Bank. The Bank's mandate is to facilitate sustainable economic growth through increased exports and sustained job creation by providing competitively priced trade financing solutions to the productive sector including exporters, potential exporters and direct suppliers to exporters.

### Aim and Objective

With access to finance being long recognized as a major challenge for MSMEs in Jamaica, the Bank remains conscious of its role in promoting and contributing to the sustainable development of the productive sector through innovative financing solutions and strategies in keeping with changing market realities. The Bank aims to empower and facilitate the sector through new and revised programmes that:

- grow and transform SMEs,
- address challenges for SMEs regarding financial inclusion,
- enhance job creation, innovation and import substitution,
- facilitate sector-based initiatives and data gathering

### Planned Targets and Key Achievements for 2019/20

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR/MEASURE	TARGET 2019/2020	TARGET YTD	ACTUAL YTD
Total Exports From Customers	5%	Measured Annually	Measured Annually (Not Yet Available)
Loan Utilization (Disbursements)	J\$9.36 Billion  Revised J\$7.22 Billion	J\$7.22 Billion	J\$5.95 Billion
Profit Before Tax	J\$67.146 Million  Revised J\$43.82 Million	J\$-113.205 million	J\$-158.49 million
Customer Satisfaction Score	95%	Measured Semi-Annually	Measured Semi-Annually <sup>i</sup> (Not Yet Available)

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR/MEASURE	TARGET 2019/2020	TARGET YTD	ACTUAL YTD
ECL provision as a % of total loan portfolio	4.5%	4.5%	Not Yet Available
% adherence to regulatory and statutory requirements	100%	100%	94.12%
Staff satisfaction score	85%	Measured Annually	Measured Annually (Not Yet Available)

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority 3:** Strengthen MSMEs' contribution to Jamaica's economy

**Programme:** Industrial Development and Regulation

**Sub-Programme:** MSME Development

**Priority Initiative** MSME Development; Industrial development

#### **Key Activities for FY2019/20**

- Target SMEs with export potential,
- Increase sale of TCI and Insurance Policy Discounting Facility (IPDF) for both the domestic and international market,
- Conduct business needs analysis to identify gaps and opportunities,
- Continue to review processes and incorporate feasible technological solutions,
- Consider the impact of ECL calculated at origination in making the credit decision, diversify Revenue streams

## 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.

### Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2018-2021

- Participate actively in the work of regional institutions towards the finalization of the regional strategies and plans for the services sector
- Complete amendment to the Fair Competition Act

### Planned Targets and Achievements for 2019/20

<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Target 19/20</b>	<b>Actual Result 19/20</b>
Case resolution rate	75%	76%
Number of allegations of anti-competitive conduct in the economy	196	151
Number of information dissemination activities executed	17	17
Number of market studies & competition advocacy activities undertaken	26	26
\$ benefit accrued from markets investigated (\$ billion)	\$3,830,000	\$6,319,000

### Principal Focus for 2020/2021

<b>Strategic Priority 5:</b>	Improve the ease of doing business to facilitate investment in Jamaica
<b>Programme:</b>	Consumer and Public Protection
<b>Sub-Programme:</b>	Consumer and Public Protection
<b>Priority Initiative</b>	Consumer empowerment
<b>Budget for FY2020/21</b>	\$111.018M

## Key Activities

### *Sector assessments:*

*Auditing Services:* To understand the environment in which auditing firms operate and recommend measures to encourage greater competition in this market. Auditing services are essential, is required for any company, in particular, to micro, small, and medium-sized entities (MSMEs) attempting to enter the formal sector.

*Cannabis Regulation:* To examine the legislative and operational framework to identify any competition issues that might arise in the various markets along the supply chain, given the newness of the markets.

*Digital economy:* To understand the dynamics of the digital economy and the methods used by market players to interact with and attract consumers while competing. Encourage more significant value offerings to consumers and facilitate a better understanding by consumers of the methods being used by market players.

*Gaming Market:* To assess the effect on the market concerning mergers and acquisitions as well as the pending entry of new market participants.

*Nursing Homes Services:* To understand the main characteristics of this market, with a special focus on entry conditions and the regulatory environment. The study will allow the FTC to recommend measures to encourage greater competition in this market and higher quality services.

### *Institutional Strengthening*

#### *Merger Review Regime:*

- To facilitate consultation workshops with various key stakeholders as well as technical training on implementation and operational aspects of the Merger Review process.
- To complete and implement the required administrative procedures/processes for the regime; and improve the Staff's technical capacity to handle merger applications and operational aspects.

*Electronic Case Management system:* To procure and operationalize a new electronic content management system.

*FTC/CAC Merger:* To facilitate the completion of the legislative, administrative, and operational aspects for 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 with the employment of three (3) staff members.

### Aims and Objectives

The aim of the HSRA is to facilitate the protection of people, property and the environment from the harmful effects of hazardous substances through implementation of programmes, projects and activities to ensure the safety and security of those substances in line with international regulations, standards and best practice.

The main objective is to regulate all activities, practices, apparatuses, and facilities which utilize or contain ionizing radiation sources, nuclear technology and connected activities for the protection of people, property and the environment from the harmful effects of ionizing radiation.

### Planned Targets and Achievements for 2019/20

<b>Planned Targets for 2019/20:</b>	<b>Key Achievements for 2019/20</b>
<b>350</b> radiation sources registered in HSRA database	<b>445</b> radiation sources registered in HSRA database
15 Applications for Authorization received	4 Applications for Authorization received
10 Grants of Authorization issued	3 Grants of Authorization issued
5 Inspections conducted	4 Inspections conducted
<b>28</b> person-course/person-workshops	<b>37</b> person-course/person-workshops
<b>90%</b> Authorization issued within specified time	<b>100%</b> Authorization issued within specified time
<b>50%</b> occupational exposures within prescribed limits	<b>100%</b> occupational exposures within prescribed limits

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priorities 5 & 6** Improve the ease of doing business to facilitate investment in Jamaica

Strengthen the National Quality Infrastructure

**Programme:** Consumer and Public Protection

**Sub-Programme:** Regulation of Nuclear Technologies

**Budget for FY2020/21:** \$ 37.3 M

**Priority Initiative:** National Trade Facilitation

#### **Key Activities:**

- Grant 20 Authorizations
- Conduct 20 Inspections
- Attend 10 person-course/person-workshops
- Achieve 90% Efficiency in timely issuance of Authorizations
- At least 70% occupational exposures within prescribed limits (data entered into National Registry)
- Achieve 40% completion for ISO 9001 Certification
- Conduct 12 stakeholder awareness sessions

## 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 organisation'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 islandwide.
- 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 Islandwide.
- Centre Development to underpin training and model projects geared towards youth entrepreneurship

### Planned Targets and Key Achievements for 2019/20

Programme	Performance Indicator	Planned Targets 2019/20	Key Achievements 2019/20	Targets 2020/21
Training youth in a range of skills	# of training exposures	220,000	209,875	220,000
Attraction and Registration of members	# of members registered	110,000	91,218	110,000
School Garden Programme	# of School Gardens established and maintained	550	563	600
Continuous staff training	# of training opportunities	80	82	80
Broaden organizational appeal	# of media engagements	10	123	15
Centre development to underpin training and economic viability	# of Centres developed	4	2	4
Healthy lifestyle awareness	# of exposures	25,000	24,604	25,000

<b>Programme</b>	<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Planned Targets 2019/20</b>	<b>Key Achievements 2019/20</b>	<b>Targets 2020/21</b>
Livestock Development Programme	# of Projects developed	140	339	150
Product Development Programme	# of Products developed	4	8	4
Scholarship/Bursaries	# of Scholarships awarded	150	322	250
Capacity building for volunteers	# of training exposures	500	807	600

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority 1:** Optimize the production and productivity of key local produce and products towards targeted markets

**Programme:** Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security

**Sub-Programme:** Youth Agriculture and Entrepreneurship

**Budget for 2020/21:** \$279,008,000.00

**Priority Initiative** Agricultural Youth Empowerment

#### **Key Activities**

To increase the number of youth and rural women empowered through the provision of training in agriculture, climate change and adaptive technologies. In addition, the will to increase the number of youth owned agricultural enterprises and young farmers.

## **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, MICAF, have been subsumed under JACRA.

### **Aims and Objectives**

#### **Strategic Goals for 2019 - 2023**

- To facilitate the Development & Diversification of a Global Marketing Plan for Jamaica.
- To ensure that the named commodity industries operate in an environmentally friendly manner consistent with Health, Safety, Environmental Standards and Regulations.
- To facilitate the sustainability and viability of the named industries, through among other things, the viability of the appropriate genetic materials.
- The facilitation and improvement of Production and Quality features of the named Jamaican agricultural commodities.

#### **Strategic Objectives for 2019 - 2023**

- To promote the interest, growth and efficiency in the development of the regulated agricultural commodities industry in Jamaica.
- To ensure that all regulated agricultural 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 strengthen the value chain by encouraging and facilitating the Development of Value Added Coffee Products (VACP).
- To ensure that all the named commodity dealers trading in all branded commodities are Licensed and operate within the terms and conditions of their Licenses.
- To ensure that all of the named regulated commodities tested are in compliance with the applicable standards and taste profile and to establish standards where none existed.

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

- To issue 10 New Licenses and sign 3 Joint Project Agreement/MOU.
- To conduct Approximately 8 Inspections of Works Facilities and provide training in the use of chemicals, Soil & Leaf Sampling Techniques and conduct Research Activities.
- The Registration of 1,600 Blue Mountain & High Mountain Farmers with 4,476 Photo I.D, 300 Farmers from other regulated crops and the Maintenance of a Database with the named commodity Farmers.

- To conduct 50 Commodity Farmers Meeting & 4 Educational Tour per Region.
- To conduct 4 Commodity Dealers Meeting & 56 Surveys for Coffee, 50 Surveys for Cocoa and 20 Surveys for Spices.
- The provision of training for 24 JACRA Staff or 40% of JACRA Staff trained for the year.
- To (arrange/host/participate) in 8 Trade shows for the year on Value Added Coffee Products and with the provision of training.
- To ensure that approximately 50% of all brand infringements identified are addressed with an aim to bring these matters to full termination.
- To conduct quality test on exports as 80% of the Coffee Commodity Dealers are required to achieve the Pass Rate of 80%. Approx. 40 Inspection, 100 Visits at Roasters and 20 training sessions to be held with Coffee Processors by members of the JACRA Coffee Division Quality Assurance Team.
- To conduct quality test on exports as 90% of the Cocoa Commodity Dealers are required to achieve the Pass Rate of 90% of good fermentation. Ongoing In-house training to be done for both JACRA Staff & Cocoa Stakeholders which should result in defects level of less than 3%.

### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- A total of **43 New Licenses** were issued and no Joint Agreement/MOU signed compared to the budgeted total of 10 New Licenses issued and 3 Joint Project Agreement/MOU signed. This represents an achievement of 330% in excess of the budgeted target of 10 New Licenses.
- **18 Inspections of Works Facilities** was done compared to the budgeted total of 8 inspections. This represents an achievement of 125% in excess of the budgeted target of 8 inspections.
- **57 Commodity Farmers Meeting** was actually held for the year compared to the budgeted total of 50 Commodity Farmers Meeting. This represents an achievement of 14% in excess of the budgeted target of 50 Commodity Farmers Meeting.
- A total of **60 Surveys** were conducted for Cocoa compared to the budgeted total of 50 Surveys. This represents an achievement of 20% in excess of the budgeted target of 50 Surveys. 24 Surveys were conducted for Coffee or an achievement of 42.85% of the budgeted target of 56 Surveys. 8 Surveys were conducted for Spices or an achievement of 40% of the budgeted target of 20 Surveys.
- A total of **9 Trade shows** were held for the year on Value Added Coffee Products and with the provision of training compared to the budgeted total of 8 Trade shows. This represents an achievement of 12.5% in excess of the budgeted target of 8 Trade shows.
- Approximately **80% of all brand infringements** identified were addressed with an aim to bring these matters to full termination compared to the budgeted total of 50%. This represents an achievement of 60% in excess of the budgeted target of 50%.
- The total quality test conducted on coffee exports for the year showed that **78% of the Coffee Commodity Dealers achieved the Pass Rate of 80%**. This amounts to an

achievement of a compliance rate of 97.5% of the budgeted target of 80%. A total of 40 Inspections, 176 visits at Roasters and 20 Training sessions were done compared to the budgeted total of 40 Inspections, 100 visits at Roasters and 20 Training sessions. This represents an achievement of 100% for both Inspections and Training sessions when compared to the budgeted targets for the year as well as an achievement of 76% in excess of the budgeted target for visits at Roasters.

- The total quality test conducted on cocoa exports for the year showed that **100% of the Cocoa Commodity Dealers achieved the Pass Rate of 90%** of good fermentation with defects level of less than 3%. This amounts to an achievement of a compliance rate of 11.11% in excess of the budgeted target of 90%.

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

<b>Strategic Priority:</b>	Strengthening MSMEs
<b>Programme:</b>	Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security
<b>Sub-Programme:</b>	Agro-Industry Development
<b>Priority Initiative</b>	Production Incentive

#### **Key Initiatives for FY2020/21**

- The main focus for 2020/21 would be on the execution of the activities within the plan while navigating the strictures of the revised budget. This revision was due mainly to a Government of Jamaica decision to reduce fees by 50% effective April 1, 2020.
- Facilitating the maintenance of Jamaica's "Fine and Flavour" cocoa status by addressing the necessary Administrative and Financial Obligations.
- Facilitating the sustainable development of the cocoa industry by collaborating with suitable nurseries to produce cocoa seedlings that are resistant to Frosty Pod Rot disease but which will not compromise our "Fine and Flavour status.
- Facilitating the protection of Jamaica's coffee origin in the form of traceability and accountability through the completion of Farm Registration and Tracking System (FRATS) online support. This allows for the standardization of transactional relationship with registered farmers and licensed dealers throughout the value chain of the respective industries.
- Facilitating the protection of Jamaica's coffee origins by ensuring the registration of the JAMAICA BLUE MOUNTAIN® and JAMAICA HIGH MOUNTAIN® trademarks in the respective designations and collaborating with local and external legal support to police the wrong use of the trademarks by unscrupulous persons.
- Facilitating smooth trading by collaborating with the Jamaica Customs Agency in the rolling out of the single window for coffee export.
- Continue to carry out activities to achieve strategic outcomes.

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

### **Establishment of Agency**

The JAS was incorporated under the Jamaica Agricultural Society Act 1941. The organization serves as an umbrella organization consisting of varied 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 & Sheep Farmers Association and the Jamaica Fishermen Cooperative Society.

The Jamaica Agricultural Society also has established parish offices island-wide. 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 for FY2019/2020**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- 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 Taskforce** established by the Ministry of Tourism which will be used as a basis to re-engineer Jamaica Agricultural Society Commercial Enterprises Ltd (JASCEL) and the Central Marketing System which will be underpinned by market access for farmers’ produce in an organized framework.
- Engaged in multiple project implementations through forged alliances with organizations such as Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Organisation 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.

**Principal Focus for 2019/20**

**Strategic Priorities 1 & 3:** Optimize the production and productivity of key local produce and products towards targeted markets

Strengthen MSMEs’ contribution to Jamaica’s economy

<b>Programme:</b>	Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security
<b>Sub-Programme:</b>	Agro-Industry Development
<b>Priority Initiative</b>	Farmer advocacy; praedial larceny prevention

**Key Initiatives for FY2020/21**

- 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.
- E-Farmers (ICT Access): The Society aims to empower 5000 of our members with information and communication assets and services that will increase their productivity and incomes, thereby protecting food security and livelihoods.
- 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
- Continued the transition process of the Jamaica Agricultural Society
- To increase membership by 10%

## 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 and Key Achievements for 2019/20

<b>Planned Targets for 2019/20</b>	<b>Key Achievements for 2019/20</b>
Three (3) SBDCs established island wide benefitting 400 clients	Twelve (12) SBDCs established island wide benefitting 702 clients
Fifty (50) beneficiaries accessing incubator space	Eight Three (83) beneficiaries accessing the fashion & food and gift & craft incubator space
Eighty (80) Business Advisory Services' clients formalized and tax compliant	231 Business Advisory Services' clients referred to business development entities (COJ, BSJ, SRC, JIPO) for formalization
One Thousand Five Hundred (1500) MSMEs with access to BAS; training; mentorship programme	MSME access to Business Advisory Services; Two Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy Seven (2, 677) MSMEs accessed training; Nine Hundred and Two (902) MSMEs accessed counseling/mentorship programme
One Hundred and Fifty (150) MSMEs receiving assistance to access at least \$50M in equity loan or grant financing	Three Hundred and Ninety One (391) MSMEs accessed Financial Literacy Interventions; 21 MSMEs referred for funding
One Hundred (100) new products developed or enhanced	Two Hundred and Twenty Seven (227) new products representing the Gift & Craft, Fashion and Agro-Processing Industries were developed or enhanced

## **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority:** Strengthen MSMEs contribution to the economy

**Programme:** Industrial Development and Regulation

**Sub-Programme:** MSME Support and Development

**Budget for FY2020/21:** \$494,522,000

**Priority Initiative (/s):** MSME Development

**Key Activities for FY2020/21:**

### Business Development Support

This programme will provide MSMEs with business development support in the areas of product development, marketing support, financial management, business/financial model development, preparation of funding documents (business plans, proposals & pitches) and improving their business process.

### Establishment of Small Business Development Centres (SBDCs)

The Small Business Development Centre (SBDCs) is a central and comprehensive source of support for MSMEs. During the upcoming fiscal period, the JBDC will continue to lead the expansion of the SBDC network in Jamaica. This initiative will also provide a platform for Business Development professionals to acquire capacity building opportunities to further serve the MSMEs.

### EXPORT MAX III

The goal of EXPORT MAX III is to enable businesses in the goods and non-goods sector to be competitively positioned in external markets with viable opportunities. The role of JBDC is to provide capacity building and business monitoring support to MSMEs.

### Essential Oil Incubator Project

The Government of Jamaica is focused on developing the value chain in agriculture through several initiatives, including increasing the production of herbs, plants and other crops which can contribute to high value products. The Essential Oils Incubator Project seeks to establish an incubator with manufacturing capacity for the processing of oil from locally viable plant stock with high demand to supply the aromatherapy and food industries. The creation of the incubator will provide access to capital-intensive manufacturing facilities for entrepreneurs and will provide a platform for market development, training among other support services.

## **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.

### **Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2018-2021**

Complete Jamaica's accession to the Madrid Protocol for international registration of trademarks by:

- I. finalize and enact Trade Marks (Amended) Bill;
- II. Enact the new Patents and Design Bill and accompanying regulations; and
- III. Strengthen the institutional capacity of JIPO to oversee implementation of Jamaica's obligation under the Madrid Protocol
- IV. Revise the Copyright Act to meet international obligations under WIPO treaties

Establish a national coordinating mechanism to facilitate planning and policy implementation towards optimal use of infrastructure and resources; maximizing the value and benefits of intellectual property

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

- Annual revenue of \$87,291,150.00
- Process 2700 IP registrations
- Over 8250 customers provided with IP information in office or by phone
- Data for 1000 patent files and 500 design files uploaded to electronic database
- Components 1-2 of JIPO-IDB-CDB Project complete
- Complete ISO training and certification
- Complete PMAS implementation
- Review and provide comments and recommendations on draft Bills within one month of receipt
- Implement the new Patents and Designs Bill
- Implement the Patent Cooperation Treaty, permitting the international registration of patents

- Implement The Hague Agreement, permitting the International Registration of designs
- Implement the amendments to the Trade Marks Act and Rules
- Implement the Madrid Protocol, permitting the international registration of trade marks
- Implement the Marrakesh Treaty, permitting exceptions to copyright for visually impaired persons
- Finalize with MICAF, OPC and AGC the draft Copyright Regulations to regulate the CMOs under the Copyright Act
- Finalise draft Plant Variety Protection Bill with MICAF and OPC

### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- Earned annual revenue of \$86,910,254.00
- Processed 3161 IP registrations
- Over 7800 customers provided with IP information in office or by phone
- Achieved the passage of the Patents and Designs Bill in the Parliament of Jamaica
- Conducted seminars and workshops to prepare staff and key stakeholders for implementation of the new Patents and Designs Bill, the Patent Cooperation Treaty and The Hague Agreement
- Initiated communication to MFA&FT regarding readiness to accede to the Patent Cooperation Treaty and The Hague Agreement
- Finalised the amendments to the Trade Marks Act
- Data for 605 patent files uploaded to electronic database
- Geographical Indications training provided for RADA extension officers from all parishes and farmers in Portland, Manchester and St. Elizabeth.

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority:** Improve the ease of doing business to facilitate investment in Jamaica

**Programme:** Trade Promotion and Development

**Sub-Programme:** Trade Facilitation

**Priority Initiative** Promotion and expansion of innovation

#### **Key Activities for FY2020/21**

- Complete ISO training and certification steps
- Complete PMAS implementation steps
- Intellectual Property Week Essay Competition (launch April and close in September 2020)
- Commence Component 3 of the JIPO-IDB-CDB Project
- Select consultants and commence Components 1&2 of the JIPO-IDB-CDB Project
- Organise and host a series of workshops and seminars addressing IP valuation and collateralization as part of the JIPO-IDB-CDB Project
- Establish a national coordinating mechanism to facilitate planning and policy implementation towards optimal use of infrastructure and resources; maximizing the value and benefits of intellectual property
- Protect intellectual property and national brand rights for agricultural products
- Representation in national, regional and international meetings promoting IPRs activities that have relevance to Jamaica

## **JAMAICA PROMOTIONS CORPORATION (JAMPRO)**

### **Establishment of the Agency**

Jamaica Promotions Corporation (JAMPRO), established as a statutory body under the JAMPRO Act, 1990, promotes business opportunities in export and investment to the local and international private sector; on behalf of the Government of Jamaica.

### **Aim and Objective**

To be a world class business enabler and promotions agency, making Jamaica the premier destination to do business.

Drive Jamaica's economic development through growth in investment and export

### **Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2018-2021**

- Promulgate National Investment Policy
- Package and promote Shovel-Ready Investment Project (SRIPs)
- Develop a National Business Portal
- Develop a Compelling brand proposition for Jamaica
- Develop a productivity based incentive programme for rural micro firms in agribusiness
- Establish Jamaica as an international shipping Centre to include the provision of varied services such as :
  - Dry docking/ship
  - Bunkering
  - Ship registry
- Continue to implement the 2015-2019 National Export Strategy II

### **Planned Targets and Key Achievements for 2019/20**

	Target FY 2019/20	YTD Achievement <sup>22</sup>	% Achieved Against Target
Value of Local & Foreign Direct Investments (LDI & FDI) by JAMPRO Clients (CAPEX)	<b>US\$659.0mn</b>	<b>US\$676.23mn</b>	<b>103%</b>
Number of Jobs Created by JAMPRO Clients	<b>17,071</b>	<b>20,671</b>	<b>121%</b>
Value of Export Shipments (Export Sales) by JAMPRO Clients	<b>US\$905.5mn</b>	<b>US\$797.48mn</b>	<b>88%</b>

### **Other Key Achievements for FY2020/21**

#### **National Competitiveness Council (NCC) - Getting to Top Ten in the Doing Business Report:**

##### Communication

- NCC Communications Campaign commenced in March 2020. The aim is to create awareness among the Private sector about the various efforts being made to improve the local business environment. The campaign will initially aim to generate awareness around: 1) The COJ's eBRF online application; 2) Online application for TCC; 3) The Port Community System.

##### Productivity Sub-Committee

- Meetings were held to refine the Total Factor Productivity initiatives identified mainly from the GCR among others.
- The Secretariat also facilitated a meeting with the MSME Alliance to explore the impact of flexi work week on productivity. Input was subsequently given to developing a short survey to be issued among the Alliance's members. Similar discussions are to be held with JEF and HMRAJ

<sup>22</sup> Please note that figures are preliminary pending completion of the internal audit. Audited figures will be available in July 2020.

### Protecting Minority Investors TWG

- The TWG began the process of reviewing the World Bank's recommendations for the DBR initiative. An Additional member was co-opted into the Committee from the JCC and an invitation was also extended to the JSE.

### Registering Property TWG

- This TWG is focused on the development of the eTitling project and reviewed the ongoing consultancies that are being undertaken to drive the preliminary work on this project. The IFC was invited to participate in the meeting given the role they are playing in providing technical assistance in the project

### Starting a Business TWG

- The TWG continue to discuss improving the process of online business registration. The major activities to be undertaken will be covered under the FCGP2 funding.

### **National 5-year Agribusiness Strategy**

JAMPRO initiated a meeting with Min. Shaw and Min. Green of MICAFA to present the action items coming out of the Agriculture Roundtable. Min. Shaw agreed to the establishment of a National Agribusiness Council (NAC), which was also proposed under the 5-Year Agribusiness Strategy commissioned by JAMPRO, to be comprised of key representatives from the public and private sector. Minister Green was appointed to oversee the establishment of the Council. The Council is yet to be established by MICAFA.

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

<b>Strategic Priority:</b>	Improve the Ease of doing Business
<b>Programme:</b>	Trade Promotion and Development
<b>Sub-Programme:</b>	Investment Promotion
<b>Priority Initiative</b>	Business Agenda Reform, National Trade Facilitation, MSME Development and Investment expansion

#### **Key Initiative for FY2020/21**

Given the current global COVID19 pandemic, JAMPRO will be exploring the resilience of our core sectors and mitigation measures that must be considered in the future. This calls for the urgent need to diversify the country's economy, particularly given the dependence on food imports. It is also critical that the world understands that despite COVID19, business continues in Jamaica. With this in mind, JAMPRO will explore new opportunities to chart new directions and restructure existing industries for greater productive activity to emerge.

This renewed focus will see JAMPRO:

- Increase support to the agriculture, manufacturing and technology sectors
- Drive Jamaica's conversion to a digital economy
- Increase our facilitation and business matchmaking services
- Focus on upskilling Jamaicans and accelerating the development of a National Digital Services Strategy
- Accelerate recovery of interlinked and enabling sectors
- Execute forward-thinking, market driven solutions
- Secure innovative, technology-based investments

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

### **Establishment of Agency**

JANAAC was incorporated in March 2007 as a Company Limited by Guarantee under the Companies Act of Jamaica.

### **Aim and Objectives**

To provide internationally recognized accreditation services and training to Laboratories, Inspection Bodies and Certification Bodies that facilitate market access, enhance competitiveness and consumer wellbeing through improved stakeholder confidence in the quality and integrity of goods and services supplied.

### **Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2018-2021**

- Advance accreditation of laboratories and assist exporters in meeting requirements of the USFSMA, HACCP and ISO Standards

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

- Extend scope of multilateral and mutual recognition arrangements with the Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC) and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) to include the accreditation of Inspection Bodies to the ISO/IEC 17020 standard.
- Award 6 accreditation certificates
- Award 6 scope extensions per certificate
- Acquire 8 new clients
- Train 240 persons in the application of the international standards for accreditation
- Increase the number of products and services
- Improve customer satisfaction evidenced in an improved net promoter score

### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- JANAAC received certificates for the Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC) Multi-lateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) for the Accreditation of Inspection Bodies to the ISO/IEC 17020:2012 standard on March 20, 2020 and March 26, 2020 respectively. This allows for the international recognition of test certificates produced by accredited inspection bodies.
- The Agency commenced providing accreditation services to its first calibration laboratory client.
- JANAAC achieved an annual net promoter score (NPS) of 0.7 which exceeded the annual target of 0.4 by 172%, a 52% increase when compared with the annual NPS of 0.46 in the

previous period. This reflects an overall increase in client satisfaction and willingness to recommend JANAAC's services to others.

- Eleven (11) accreditation certificates awarded; 183.3% of target achieved.
- Five (5) scope extensions awarded; 83% of target achieved.
- Acquired five (5) new clients; 62.5% of target achieved. 211 persons were trained in the application of the international standards for accreditation. 88% of target achieved; 377 billable person days achieved.

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

<b>Strategic Priority:</b>	Strengthen the National Quality Infrastructure
<b>Programme:</b>	Trade Promotion and Development
<b>Sub-Programme:</b>	Trade Facilitation
<b>Priority Initiative:</b>	Grow accreditation revenue from new and existing services and market segments

### **Key Activities for FY2020/21**

- Award 4 accreditation certificates
- Award 3 scope extensions per certificate
- Acquire 3 new clients
- Train 150 persons in the application of the international standards for accreditation

## **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 Micro Investment Development Agency exists to promote sustainable growth in the micro enterprise sector through the provision of financial services, networking with partners to promote and facilitate the delivery of non-financial services to those wishing to start or expand their businesses so as to create employment and wealth through a highly efficient and well-motivated staff.

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.

### **Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2019 – 2021**

- To Restructure the Micro Investment Development Agency (MIDA) as a wholesaler of loans to support the micro productive sector.

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

<b>Planned Targets for 2019/20</b>	<b>Key Achievements for 2019/20</b>
Disbursements by the MFOs: \$42.89 M	Disbursements by the MFOs: \$38.27
Number of loans Disbursed: 315	Number of loans Disbursed: 222
Number of Jobs created/sustained: 400	Number of Jobs created/sustained: 353
Collections : \$159.74M	Collections: \$152.67M

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

Close out of Agency

## **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:

- To protect consumers by safeguarding their health, safety and equity in trade and maintain confidence in regulated products offered for sale that are imported or manufactured locally
- To promote compliance of products and establishments through the education of stakeholders on compulsory standards and regulations
- To promote equity in trade through legal metrology activities
- To safeguard the health and safety of consumers by undertaking the requisite enforcement action for non-compliance with applicable regulations
- To improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the organisation through implementation of the ISO 17020 standard which specifies the requirements for impartiality and consistency of inspection activities
- To build capacity of the organisation through investment in training and development opportunities for employees

### **Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2018-2021**

- Develop the enforcement mechanism for transport infrastructure standards (material, design, construction and climate change/environmental resilience, national roadway standards)

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

- Number of Inspections:  $\geq 23,208$ 
  - Registration assessments – 660
  - Routine & Sampling inspections – 1,140
  - Ports of entry and Importers' premises – 6,900
  - Domestic market – 3,840
  - Block makers - 240
  - Weighing & Measuring devices – 9,048
  - LPG cylinders – 1,380
- Number of samples to be collected for analysis:  $\geq 4,056$ 
  - Food – 1,020
  - Port of Entry & Importers premises – 480

- Domestic market – 240
- Blocks – 240
- Aggregate – 24
- Ready Mix Concrete – 24
- Cement – 36
- Petrol from gas stations – 1,992
- Number of stakeholder sensitisation sessions: ≥8
- ISO/IEC 17020 policies and procedures documented and implemented
- Paperless entry processing at Berth

### **Key Achievements for FY2019/20**

- Draft for legislation to create the NCRA was reviewed with MICAFA legal team for submission to the Chief Parliamentary Counsel (CPC)
- Conducted four (4) sensitization sessions islandwide to create awareness of labelling regulations to various groups of stakeholders. Conducted two (2) Public Awareness and Engagement sessions for the LPG Monitoring Programme. Conducted two (2) stakeholder consultation regarding Inspection Protocol on cement and Paperless inspections at Berth 11
- NCRA Food Inspectors participated as observers, in FDA Inspections conducted at fourteen (14) local food processing establishments monitored by the NCRA. No major violations were cited
- Partnership proposed with Ministry of Education/Ministry of Health and Wellness for enforcement action for non-compliant entities offering beverages above required sugar limits, to schools
- Sixteen thousand and seventy two (16,072) inspections were conducted. Ten percent (10 %) by the Food Inspectorate; 56% by Legal Metrology, and 34% by the Standards Compliance team
- Ten thousand and four hundred and forty six (10, 446) products were withdrawn from retail outlets during domestic market surveillance. Sixty (60) warning letters issued for breaches of Standards Act and Labelling Regulations
- Seventeen hundred and seventy seven (1,777) samples collected. Forty two percent (42%) of sampling attributed to the Food Inspectorate, 14% to the Legal Metrology team and 44% by Standards Compliance
- Four hundred and sixty five (465) samples of petroleum imports and petroleum products blended at Petrojam, were collected for testing. All samples were released for sale after returning satisfactory test results
- Five hundred and twenty one (521) Registration Certificates were issued , 95% of which were issued within 4 days of satisfying all requirements
- Three hundred and ninety six (396) Certificates of Free Sale and three hundred and sixty nine (369) Certificates of Health/Hygiene were issued to exporters, within two days of application for certificates
- Three inspectors trained and certified in concrete technology by American Concrete Institute

- Strategic Implementation teams were established to review/develop areas of operation to facilitate change management in the NCRA. Teams included: Communication, Business Model, Balanced Scorecard, Decision Rights, Infrastructure, Crisis Management and Competency
- Review of JS36 Standard Specification for Processed Food (General) was conducted to inform the National Food Standards Technical Committee of amendments required to make this standard more comprehensive, in the monitoring of processed food establishments.
- Revised MOU with Block Makers Association of Jamaica. Entered into MOU for National Business Portal and Jamaica Trade Information Portal
- Began paperless inspection at Berth 11 in October 2019
- Sixty percent of required documentation towards implementation of ISO/IEC 17020 completed
- Implemented Crisis Management Activities regarding COVID19. Designed COVID 19 Inspection Protocol; provided protective equipment (gloves, disposable lab coats, sanitiser, masks); established Sanitising Protocol for the office (entrance for Visitors, entrance for Employees); augmented Work from Home Policy and drafted Business Continuity Plan.

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

<b>Strategic Priority:</b>	Strengthen the National Quality Infrastructure
<b>Programme:</b>	Consumer and Public Protection
<b>Sub-Programme:</b>	Consumer and Public Protection
<b>Budget for FY2020/21<sup>23</sup></b>	\$273,299,974 with projected income was \$287,904,067.

#### **Key Activities for FY2020/21**

- Compliance monitoring inspections conducted- 15,000
- Samples collected for analysis – 1,400
- Testing of weighing and measuring devices used in trade – 6,000
- Testing of 100% of petroleum product imports
- Implementation of ISO/IEC17020 *Conformity assessment- Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection*
- Stakeholder engagement sessions to be held, to improve partnership in order to increase compliance – 15
- Operationalise a revised organisation structure with amended respective job descriptions to improve organisational efficiency; effectiveness and consistent service delivery
- Engage in capacity building and institutional strengthening activities to improve staff competence - ≥80% of training plan achieved

<sup>23</sup> The annual budget is being recast to align with forecast of impact from COVID 19. The NCRA earns 80% of income from fees on imports and with COVID 19, the projection is that operational income is negatively impacted. The initial pre-COVID 19 budget anticipated that expense budgeted for the fiscal year 2020/21 was \$273,299,974 and the projected income was \$287,904,067. The revised Cash Flow up to the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter projects -\$36,221,000.

## **NATIONAL FISHERIES AUTHORITY (NFA)**

### **Establishment of the Agency**

The NFA was established in 2019.

### **Aim and Objectives:**

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

### **Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2018-2021**

- Advance maritime delimitation negotiations on Jamaica's Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ)
- Establish new fish sanctuaries and maintain existing fish sanctuaries to achieve increased fishing stock
  - Implement a management system and governance for the Pedro Cay fisheries area.
  - Increase the adoption of climate resilient practices among targeted fishing and fish farming communities.
  - Capacity building and awareness raising
  - Strengthening the fisheries policy and regulatory framework

### **Planned Targets for 2019/2020**

- 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.
- 18% compliance to licensing requirement among fisheries and aquaculture stakeholders

**Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- **1,251.55** pond acreage in tilapia production
- **18** fish sanctuaries
- **3,412** licensed fishers
- **155** samples of artisanal fish landing sites with estimates of **9,825.4MT** valued at **J\$11,845.8M**

**Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority:** Increase access of select local industries to emerging and existing markets

**Programme:** Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security

**Sub-Programme:** Fisheries Development

**Budget for FY2020/21** \$215,951,000

**Priority Initiative** Fisheries Development

**Key Activities for FY2020/21**

- Increase tilapia production via seed stock expansion
- Rehabilitation and maintenance of aquaculture ponds
- Survey of select fisheries – sea cucumber
- Licenses of fishers
- Training of fish farmers

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

### **Establishment of the 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.

### **Aim and Objective**

- 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 2019/20**

- Amphibious Excavator
- Hydraulic Gates, Rio Cobre Dam
- Lower Old Harbour Canal Rehabilitation
- Bushy Park - Restoration of Declining Infrastructure
- Replacement motors for Freetown & Half Way Tree #2
- Sandy Bay, Upper Rhymesbury, Thetford Variable Frequency Drive (VFD)
- Mid Clarendon Canal Repair (Line 18), Gravel Hill (Line 50), Head Canal, Old Content (Line 38 & 39)
- Energy costs avoided from the Jamaica Public Service Company
- Percentage of energy costs avoided
- Energy costs avoided with the use of renewable energy
- Water Sales of J\$553.70 million.
- 3,635 active customers as at March 31, 2020.
- Active service area of 10,923 hectares with irrigation.

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

- Projected expenditure of J\$64.82 million by French firm Société du Canal de Provence (SCP) to complete Feasibility and Preliminary Design Study for a total budgeted cost of €692,540 or J\$110.56 million.
- Completion of Feasibility Study and Preliminary Designs and presentation of reports as stated in the Terms of Reference.

### **South St. Catherine & Clarendon Agricultural Development Project (SCCADP) Feasibility & Design Study**

- Completion of Feasibility and Design Study to provide inputs to the Southern Plains Agricultural Development Project (SPAD)
- Projected expenditure of J\$186M

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

- Signing of the Grant Agreement between Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and Government of Jamaica (Ministry of Finance and the Public Service)
- Hiring of Project Manager, Project Accountant, Procurement Specialist, Hydrogeologist
- Commencement of Implementation activities starting with the Well Drilling at the Parnassus site, Clarendon

### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- Rehabilitation of 500 metres of the Lower Old Harbour Canal
- Installation of 1,700 metres of HDPE pipe - Bushy Park Restoration of Declining Infrastructure
- Installation of two (2) Replacement motors for Freetown & Half Way Tree #2
- Installation of three Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs) - Sandy Bay, Upper Rhymesbury, Thetford
- Rehabilitation of 575 meters - Mid Clarendon Canal Repair (Line 18); and 730 metres Upper Rhymesbury (Line 50),
- Installation of 90kW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) System – Bengal, Trelawny
- Installation of 150 kW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) System at three locations – Ebony Park, Hounslow and St. Dorothy offices.
- Avoided \$60 million in Energy Costs from the Jamaica Public Service Company
- 12% of energy costs avoided
- \$3.3 million Energy costs from renewable energy
- Water Sales totalled \$561.9 million.
- 2,921 active customers as at March 31, 2020 due to fallout in the sugar cane lands.
- Active service area with irrigation was 8,747 hectares as at March 31, 2020 as a result of the fallout in the sugar cane lands.

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

Key Results of the FSD are:

- i. Both the Feasibility Studies and Preliminary Engineering Designs were delivered as required under the MOU between NIC and SCP. The project was deemed feasible with an EIRR of 20%. The overall capital cost is estimated at US\$157 million and the main elements of the preliminary designs include:
  - Irrigated area covering 4,103 ha to serve an estimated 4000 customers in Pedro Plains
  - A Photovoltaic system of 8.26 mW (peak) to supply 64% of the energy requirements.
  - A draft schedule for implementing the project over an 8 year period.
- ii. A total of J\$103.8 million or 99.7% of the budget was expended under the project

### **South St. Catherine & Clarendon Agricultural Development Project (SCCADP) Feasibility & Design Study**

- The Final Design Studies (FDS) was 20% completed during the Financial Year 2019/20. The award of the FDS contract was significantly delayed due to the disqualification of the preferred bidder by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and time taken for negotiations with the 2<sup>nd</sup> ranked bidder (RINA S.p.A) The six (6) month contract valued at J\$102.8 was eventually signed on Dec. 30, 2019 with RINA S.p.A, Italy
- Invoice totaling \$10.218 million was approved and submitted to CDB for payment. Note the project budget for FY 2020/21 was reduced eventually to \$15 million by the GOJ.

**Note** also the COVID-19 pandemic will likely have a negative impact on the timeliness of project deliverables. The NIC has asked the consultants to develop the appropriate risk management strategy.

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

- The Grant Agreement between Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and Government of Jamaica (GOJ) was signed August 9, 2019
  - Project Manager hired
- Negotiations completed for the hiring of the Procurement Specialist commencing F/Y 2020/21
- Hiring of Project Accountant completed with a start date of April 2020
- Field work not yet commenced. However, Well Drilling Contract approved by Cabinet and contract negotiations completed with the preferred bidder

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

<b>Strategic Priority:</b>	Build climate-resilient agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing and services sectors		
<b>Programme:</b>	Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security		
<b>Sub-Programme:</b>	Irrigation Services		
<b>Budget for FY2020/21</b>	Recurrent Budget	-	J\$ 1,991.38 million
	Capital A Budget	-	J\$ 250 million
	Capital B Budget	-	J\$ 352.57 million
<b>Priority Initiative</b>	Expansion of Irrigation Services		

### **Key Activities for FY2020/21**

#### South St. Catherine South Clarendon Agricultural Development Project (SSCADP) Feasibility & Designs Study

- Hiring of a Project Manager
- Continuation of project implementation activities in accordance with the contract terms
- Completion of the deliverables – CVRA, ESIA and Final Engineering Designs and Tender documents
- Approved Budget of \$87 million for FY20/21

#### Southern Plains Agricultural Development Project

- Finalize recruitment of Procurement Specialist, Hydro-geologists, Construction Supervisor and Clerk of Works;
- Complete Well Drilling activity;
- Land clearing and levelling and land surveying;
- Complete procurement of Motor Vehicles;
- Procurement of Engineering & Construction firm;
- Commence procurement of Consultant for Operations Manual for Matching Grant Scheme
- Approved Budget of \$250.7 million for F/Y 2020/21.

#### Solar Retrofit of the Beacon/Little Park Irrigation District

- Design, procure, install, testing & commissioning

#### Premium Efficiency Motors Upper Rhymesbury

- Procure, install, test and commissioning

#### Variable Frequency Drives (Heartease, Bowers and Hounslow #3)

- Procure, install, test and commissioning

#### Rehabilitation of Pipeline – Upper & Lower Rhymesbury

- Procure, install, test and commissioning

#### Restoration of Declining Infrastructure (Upper Old Harbour Branch 500 m) Point 1400-1900 Metres

- Procure, install, test and commissioning

#### Replacement of Aging and Inefficient Turbine

- Procure, install, test and commissioning

#### Procurement of Lift Truck (2.5-3 ton)

- Develop specification & procure

## 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 and Key Achievements for 2019/20

<b>Planned Targets for 2019/2020</b>	<b>Key Achievements for 2019/2020</b>
<p><b><i>Insolvency Administration</i></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 14 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. 75% of active bankrupts complying with Payment Order and Surplus Income</li> </ol>	<p><b><i>Insolvency Administration</i></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 53 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 some seized assets completed within 12 months; others in progress</li> <li>6. 65% and 100% of active bankrupts attending Public Examinations and Examination under oath</li> <li>7. 65% of active bankrupts complying with Payment Order and Surplus Income</li> <li>8. 39 Trustee reports prepared and submitted</li> </ol>

<b>Planned Targets for 2019/2020</b>	<b>Key Achievements for 2019/2020</b>
8. 5 Trustee reports prepared and submitted 9. 4 applications for discharge filed 10. 12 dormant files reviewed 11. 8 matters closed 12. Dividends paid in 159 estates and average 15% of creditors' liabilities satisfied in respect of dividend paid	9. 3 application for discharge and 14 automatic discharges filed 10. 410 dormant files reviewed 11. 7 matters closed 12. Dividends paid in 68 estates and average 26% of creditors' liabilities satisfied in respect of dividend paid
<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 85% of available funds invested 6. Average of 5% interest earned on investment 7. \$630,000.00 earned in legal fees 8. \$1.581M earned as commission 9. Declaration published within 1 week of decision to pay dividend 10. 10 dividends totaling \$23,318,686.00 paid 11. 123 creditors benefitting	<b><u>Estates Accounting &amp; Finance</u></b> 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 91.87% of available funds invested 6. Average of 2% interest earned on investment 7. \$1,477,435.00 earned in legal fees 8. \$1,271,505.44 earned as commission 9. Declaration published within 2 weeks of decision to pay dividend 10. 34 dividends totaling \$20,826,233.34 paid 11. 112 creditors benefitting

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority:** Improve the ease of doing business to facilitate investment in Jamaica

**Programme:** Industrial Development and Regulation

**Sub-Programme:** Business [and Credit Defense] Protection

#### **Key Activities for FY2020/21**

- Expediently 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 2019/20**

- Licensing of Insolvency Practitioners
  - Issue ≥10 trustee licences and renew two (2)
- Regulate Insolvency Practitioners
  - Attend meetings of creditors; issue directives to/convene meetings with trustees
- Supervise Insolvency Administration
  - Assess 50 applications; appoint the Government Trustee within two (2) weeks of assessment; provide 820 paid insolvency searches and earn revenue of \$2,520,000.00
- Serve as a repository of insolvency records
  - Input data; review and approve database monthly
- Build capacity within the Office
  - Train six (6) members of staff; recruit two (2) members of staff
- Promote new insolvency regime
  - Conduct/attend sensitization sessions; sensitize ≥200 stakeholders
- Facilitate amendments to legislation
  - Review legislation; note anomalies or errors and make recommendations

## **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- **Licensing of Insolvency Practitioners**  
3 trustee licences issued and 9 renewed earning \$159,000.00
- **Regulation of Insolvency Practitioners**  
23 Meetings of Creditors attended to provide guidance and ensure adherence to the Act.
- **Supervision of Insolvency Administration**  
146 persons made enquiries and information provided. 41 preliminary assessments conducted. 23 applications referred to the Government Trustee. 33 Court hearings attended. 6 meetings held with first time bankrupts re automatic discharge. 9 Trustee Reports received
- **Serve as Repository for Insolvency Records**  
**Insolvency Status Reports:** a total of 2,292 searches conducted with 1,202 paid searches, earning \$3,606,000.00. Critical data provided to relevant stakeholders
- **Management of the Various Regimes**
  - a. **Proposals – Reorganizations:** 4 Notices of Intention to File Proposal and 3 proposals filed. 9 applications for time to file proposals received and granted. Informal proposals for 8 applicants made to 18 creditors and 5 accepted.
  - b. **Bankruptcies:** 24 Certificates of Assignments issued. 1 Receiving Order granted. 24 applications for time to convene First Meeting of Creditors received and time granted. 1 Certificate of Discharge issued. 1 Certificate of Annulment issued. Government Trustee appointed in 23 matters.
- **Capacity Building**  
10 training exercises conducted/attended: 7 external and 3 internal. All 13 members of staff received training and 2 Wellness seminars held with all members of staff. 2 members of staff recruited. 1 staff member on secondment
- **Promotion of the new insolvency regime**  
Five (5) sensitization sessions held/conducted; 44 persons were in attendance making a total of 170 persons sensitized.
- **Facilitate Amendments to Legislation**  
First draft proposed amendments submitted to ministry.

### **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority:** Improve the ease of doing business to facilitate investment in Jamaica

**Programme:** Industrial Development and Regulation

**Sub-Programme:** Business Protection

**Budget for FY2020/21:** \$67,419,000.00

#### **Key Activities for FY2020/21**

- **Regulation of Insolvency Practitioners**  
Regulate trustees by encouraging an independent and competitive insolvency practitioner profession; ensure only competent and qualified persons are licensed and monitor current practitioners to ensure good repute is maintained; issue directives and advisories for guidance and exercise appropriate sanctions as necessary.
  
- **Supervision of Insolvency Administration**  
Assess potential insolvency clients and refer matters to the appropriate trustee, issue certificates and ensure 100% of estates are administered in accordance with the Insolvency Act. Obtain reports from trustees biannually.
  
- **Public Education/Sensitization Sessions**  
The OSI will continue to participate in attending and/or conducting sensitization sessions to ensure all relevant stakeholders are sensitised.

## **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.
- Implement the national farm road rehabilitation programme

### **Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2018-2021**

- Improve the inter-institutional arrangements for construction, maintenance and management of main, parochial and farm road networks
- Prioritize the creation of value-added products from crops and livestock in which here is a comparative advantage
- Expand the execution of existing programmes for target sub-industries for crops and livestock
- Promote the use of water harvesting in agricultural production
- Develop and implement community-based drought and other hazard mitigation responses strategies
- Continue to utilize the farmer field school (FFS) methodology to promote climate smart agriculture
- Promote the use of safety equipment and protected gear including public education on health and safety standards in agriculture.

## **Planned Targets and Key Achievements for 2019/20**

### ▪ **Farmer Training**

#### Planned Targets

RADA has a responsibility of building the capacity of our stakeholders through practical yet effective means of training. Since its inception, RADA has utilized a wide range of methods to empower and build the capacity of farmers islandwide. Farmer training has proven to be an effective method in disseminating relevant new technologies and information to farmers with an aim of increasing productivity and alleviating poverty. For the period under review a total of **2,353** farmers training sessions were targeted to benefit **39, 000** farmers.

#### Achievements

RADA remains steadfast in its drive to promote the development of Agriculture in Jamaica. In this regard, farmers were engaged in several interactive sessions to include key areas such as Good Agricultural Practices, Farming As a Business, Climate Smart Agriculture and Pest Management among several other areas. For the 2019/2020 period a total of **3,231** training sessions held with a total of **36,932** farmers being exposed island-wide.

### ▪ **Production Incentive Programme (PIP)**

#### Planned Targets

Throughout the reporting period, special emphasis was placed on; field establishment, crop care management, monitoring and evaluation of the programme for the nine (9) policy crops (Yams: sweet and yellow, cassava, ginger, strawberry, hot pepper, dasheen, MD2 pineapple, onion and irish potato) targeted for the 2019/2020 fiscal year. Land preparation activities were been hampered initially for most parishes due to the inclement weather conditions affecting the island.

The farmers were strongly encouraged to establish accounts and set aside funds in order to help offset cost for funding the operation of the next crop cycle.

**Please see breakdown of funds in the table below:**

Allocation in Estimates of Expenditure	\$280,000,000.00
Funds Received to date	\$320,900,0000.00
Expenditure	\$256,934,200.00
Balance/Committed	\$63,956,800 (bid for Irish Potato seeds, chemicals for Irish Potato etc.)

*Note: MICAF has committed to providing additional funds to procure the Spring Irish potato and on one (1) additional container of MD2 pineapple suckers.*

### **Sweet Yam**

A total of 50 hectares was established and treated with fungicide under a structured management programme. This was in an effort to minimize the spread of the anthracnose disease, thus enabling the farmers to be able to supply clean planting material for the incremental increase in production annually. Achievements to date on the programme are as follows:

- \$J20.8M spent to date
- Fungicides and motorized sprayers have been distributed to farmers within the targeted parishes
- Over 450 farmers have benefited to date
- A total of twenty-four (24) farmer training sessions have been held to date
- Exporters and other buyers have been engaged for the purchasing of the commodity
- Over 55 hectares reaped to date, realizing a 12% increase when compare to the corresponding period of 2018-2019
- A total of 8,454.54kg of sweet yam heads procured to start the 2020-2021 production year
- SRC has been engaged to supply 10,000 tissue culture plantlets for the non-traditional growing areas

### **Yellow Yam**

The programme sought to establish the crop within the non-traditional growing parishes. The parishes targeted were: St. Mary, Portland and St. Thomas. Updates on the programme are as follows:

- 10,000 lbs. of round leaf yam heads were purchased and distributed to date.
- 1.40 hectares established to date.
- A total of 25 farmers have benefitted under the programme.
- The crops are in excellent condition and reaping will commence during the month of April 2020.

### **Cassava**

This programme was aimed at supplying the raw material on a consistent basis to Twickenham Bammy Producers LTD and other producers throughout Jamaica. Growers were identified within the targeted parishes of St. Elizabeth, Clarendon, Manchester, St. Thomas, St. Catherine and St. Ann.

- A total of 48.8 hectares has been established to date involving 53 farmers

<i>Parishes</i>	<i>Total Hectares</i>	<i>Planting material distributed</i>	<i>No of farmers Benefitted</i>
St Elizabeth	6.0	55,000 sticks	12
Manchester	6.6	51,600 sticks	7
St. Ann	2.8	16,335 sticks	4
Clarendon	6.8	48,705 sticks	8
St Catherine	12	90,000 sticks	7
St Thomas	14	114000 sticks	15

- Cassava established is experiencing prolonged dry spell, therefore, no germination has been observed for crops planted in Parishes of Manchester and St. Ann.
- Six (6) training sessions were conducted on Cassava production and management practices.

### **Dasheen**

The programme sought to increase the acreages under production and control the deadly taro leaf hopper insect pests. Updates on the programme are as follows:

- A total of \$J10M has been spent to date
- A total of 382,965 suckers were purchased and have been distributed
- A total of 21.1 hectares established to date
- Over 230 farmers have benefited (planting material, agro-chemicals & technical support)
- Twenty (20) farmer training sessions have been held to date
- Close monitoring of the fields continued for the deadly taro leaf hopper and samples collected and sent to Bodles Research Station

**MD2 Pineapple**

This programme was geared towards incrementally increasing the acreage of the MD2 variety in order to satisfy consumer demands.

<b>First Shipment (70,000)</b>	<b>Second Shipment (280,000)</b>
<b><i>Distributed (to date) as follows:</i></b>	<b><i>Four (4) containers imported with a total of 280,000 suckers and distributed as follows:</i></b>
St. Elizabeth - 25,000	St. Elizabeth - 87,500
Westmoreland - 10,000	St. Ann - 25,000
St. Ann - 15,000	Westmoreland - 35,000
Hanover - 7,500	Hanover - 7,500
St. James - 7,500	St. James - 14,000
Trelawny - 5,000	Trelawny - 17,000
	Manchester - 8,000
	Clarendon - 20,000
	St. Catherine - 20,000
	St. Andrew - 12,000
	St. Thomas - 13,000
	Portland - 8,000
	St. Mary - 13,000

- A total of 7 hectares has been established.
- A total of 25.6M spent to date
- Twelve (12) training exercises were conducted, in order to impart best practices to farmers on; the management of phythopthera (crown rot)

**Hot Pepper**

This programme is aimed at increasing the acreages of both West Indian Red and Scotch Bonnet hot pepper in order to satisfy exporters, Grace Foods and other agro-processors within the industry. Achievements to date are as follows:

- Over \$J42.5M spent to date (planting material, agro-chemicals, land preparation, irrigation and technical support)
- A total 987,500 seedlings have been distributed to date within all the parishes
- Over 161 hectares established to date
- Over 400 farmers benefitted.
- Grace Food Processors, exporters other buyers within the industry continues to move the available supplies

### **Strawberry**

The programme was designed to produce clean planting material under greenhouse conditions for distribution to small farmers within the targeted parishes of Manchester and St. Andrew.

- A total of \$J3.5 M has been disbursed and spent within the targeted parishes;
  - (i) Manchester \$J2.5 M
  - (ii) St. Andrew \$J1M
- Six (6) greenhouse producers have been engaged to produce planting material for establishing two (2) hectares of the Albion variety in open field condition
- A total of 23,333 seedlings have been ordered for establishing 12,000 sq. ft. of greenhouse as nursery
- Additional farmers have been sensitized to make preparation for supply of planting material in order to incrementally increase the number protective house under production.

### **Ginger**

A total of 40 hectares was established under this programme and supported with agro-chemicals to control the Ginger Rhizome Rot disease and improve crop nutrition.

- A total of \$J10 M disbursed and spent within the following targeted parishes
  - (i) St. Elizabeth - 2.5 million
  - (ii) St. Thomas - 2.5 million
  - (iii) Clarendon - 5.0 million
- Over 120 farmers are involved in the management programme
- A total of 50 tons of ginger reaped and sold for planting material and to agro-processors

### **Irish Potato**

The programme was designed to establish 1,200 hectares in order to support GOJ import substitution programme.

Achievements to date are as follows:

- Seed purchased and distributed - 22,582 x 22.7 kg bags
- \$J9.2 million spent on fungicides
- Hectares planted to date - 911.63
- No. of Farmers Planted - 4,462
- Ha. reaped to date - 456.41
- Tonnes reaped to date - 6,981.58
- Reaping has started and the commodity is in excellent condition. Farmers are fetching \$80.00/k at the farm-gate.
- One (1) sensitization workshop was held; benefitting 30 farmers.
- Planting for Spring Season has commenced.

## **Onion**

This programme is geared towards establishing 300 hectares of onions in order to support the Government of Jamaica's import substitution programme.

Achievements to date are as follows:

- Hectares planted - 139.93 Ha.
- Number of farmers planted - 411
- Ha. reaped to date - 14.3 Ha
- Tonnes reaped to date - 236.86
- Money expended to date - \$ 30 Million
- Seed purchased and distributed - 2,000 x 1Pound Pack
- Herbicides purchased - 1,200 Litres Dacthal
- Farmers are fetching \$100.00/lb. at the farm-gate
- Two (2) sensitization workshops were held; benefitting 60 farmers.

### **▪ Farm Road Rehabilitation Programme**

#### **Planned Targets**

For the financial year of 2019/20, **Seven Hundred & Fifty-Two Million Dollars (\$ 752,000,000.00)** was allocated for the rehabilitation **eighty-six (86) farm roads** across all parishes. The rehabilitation of these roads are expected to benefit an estimated 20,000 farmers directly island-wide, in addition to the incalculable increase in agricultural production both for local consumption and export.

#### **Achievements**

A total of **one hundred and one (101) roads** have been completely rehabilitated for the 2019-2020 period with an expenditure of **Six Hundred & Fifty-Two Million Dollars (\$652M)**.

Roads were put out for tender in packages consisting of 1 -5 roads using the National Competitive Bidding process and the Restricted Bidding Process. The Process was guided by the National Procurement guidelines. The rehabilitation was done to pre- existing farm roads with high levels of disrepair. The type of rehabilitation done includes the restoration of the base of the roads by scarifying, reshaping, applying the necessary base materials such as marl then applying pavement. There are three types of Pavement normally used. They are; double surface dressing, asphaltic concrete overlay and reinforced concrete. The rehabilitation of these farms are accompanied with the necessary drainage such as curb and channels, v drains, cross drains etc to ensure durability.

A Quality Assurance programme was also put in place to ensure the quality of work implemented. This programme entails creating quality documents/forms and conducting quality test for selected roads. This Quality Assurance Programme is at its initial phase and has been assessed to identify shortfalls. Steps are being taken for its continual improvement during the 2020/2021 program and beyond.

## **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority 1, 2, 4 & 7 :** Optimize the production and productivity of key local produce and products towards targeted markets

Increase access of select local industries to emerging and existing markets

Build climate-resilient agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing and services sectors

Strengthen Agricultural Health and Food Safety Systems

**Programme:** Agricultural Production, Productivity and Food Security

**Sub-Programme:** Agricultural Extension Services

### **Key Activities for FY2020/21**

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.**

## **SCJ HOLDING LIMITED**

**Establishment of the Agency:** December 12, 2001

### **Mission Statement:**

To provide efficient and effective land management services that will foster sustainable economic growth, job creation and entrepreneurial opportunities in Jamaica.

### **Aim and Objectives:**

- Generally, to support GOJ's strategic priorities to promote inclusive sustainable economic growth and job creation. Specifically,
  - Manage and facilitate the transition of former sugar lands to non-sugar productive economic Activities to drive economic growth, facilitate entrepreneurship and facilitate job creation; and
  - Promote and facilitate the implementation of the Greater Bernard Lodge Development Master Plan.

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

- Complete the recovery of lands from failed privatizations.
- Increase the amount of former sugar lands utilized (through lease or sales) in non-sugar productive economic activities (Target – 60% of arable lands in agricultural production).
- Advance the Greater Bernard Lodge Development project by completing the sales already approved by Cabinet and by advancing the compensation, relocation and re-establishment of displaced farmers and other investors.

### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- SCJH approved 92 new leases covering over 25,000 acres. (The vast majority were for agriculture but the target of over 60% of arable lands in agricultural production is still to be verified).
- In the Greater Bernard Lodge Development Project
  - (i) Over 100 displaced farmers and investors have been compensation by over \$350M.
  - (ii) SCJH has identified and allocated lands to relocate the displaced farmers and investors and has started the programme of infrastructure development to assist with and facilitate re-establishment.
- SCJH has continued to recover lands from failed privatizations.
  - Trelawny (Long Pond) – 4,300 hectares/10,626.30 acres, and
  - St. Thomas (Golden Grove) – 2,549.34 hectares/8,299.43 acres

**Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

<b>SCJH Annual Budget 2020 - 2021</b>	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>562,941,644</b>
Agricultural and Non- Agricultural Revenue	173,157,913
Land Sales	389,468,732
Other Income	315,000
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>483,555,326</b>
Administrative Expenses	338,616,905
Post-Divestment and Operational Expenses	99,947,430
Interest and Depreciation Expenses	44,991,000

## **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 (MICAF) 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.

### **Alignment for Vision 2030 MTF 2018-2021**

- Establish a Trade Information Portal

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

- Preparatory work towards fifty percent (50%) reduction in export licensing fees (for non-motor vehicle commodities)
- JTIP to be formally launched and go live in May 2019
- Preparatory work towards incorporation of Trade in Services in JTIP (either as a stand-alone services portal or as a component of the existing JTIP)
- Complete development work on the core JSWIFT and TBL modules
- Introduction of PSI sanitization of used motor vehicles and motorized equipment from all five (5) PSI source jurisdictions (Japan, Singapore, USA, UK, UAE)
- Relaxation of age limits at importation (on basis of model year) for a range of used motor vehicles and motorized equipment.
- Reduction in the number of commodities/commodity groups subject to TBL import/export licensing while ensuring retention of regulation as necessary by relevant MDAs.

### **Key Achievements for 2019/20**

- Launch of Jamaica Trade Information Portal (JTIP) in May 2019, providing a single portal with a timely, comprehensive, sustainable database of trade/trade-related information in support of the National Trade Facilitation Programme, with emphasis on growing exports. Work begun on incorporation of Trade in Services in JTIP.
- Delicensing of fourteen (14) product groups (in both the import and export categories) to reduce transactional costs and bureaucracy, consistent with the National Trade Facilitation Programme.
- Core development work on the JSWIFT Platform and the TBL module 90% completed. Internal and external User Registration commenced. Basic training on use of TBL Module conducted with TBL staff.
- Recruitment of appropriate staff as necessary, especially in the context of the Organization Restructuring approved with effect from April 1, 2019.
- Greater emphasis on staff training/motivation.
- Greater emphasis on succession planning.
- Work begun on specific enhancement to staff performance monitoring via an improved staff appraisal instrument.
- Greater emphasis on public awareness of TBL programmes and initiatives e.g. PSI, JTIP.
- Work commenced towards repealing and replacing the Trade Act 1955 (Law 4)
- Work commenced in collaboration with other MDAs towards role for PKI in the rollout of National Identification System (NIDS).
- 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).
- Under PSI, introduction of sanitization of motor vehicles prior to importation, in support of national effort to minimize microbial and other contamination of agricultural/other resources.
- Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the 2014 Motor Vehicle Import Policy (MVIP).

- 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.
- Special and Differential Treatment Mechanism in Public Procurement: Led by MOFPS, framework established for set-aside of budgetary resources for procurement of goods, works and services by GOJ MDAs, through determination of Minimum Domestic Content by TBL in a manner consistent with the methodology of Rules of Origin (ROO) verification.

<b>Vision 2030 MTF 2019-2021 Progress</b>	
<b>Sector Strategy:</b> Streamline the administrative process for movement of goods through ports of entry.	
<b>Priority Action</b>	<b>FY2019/2020 Performance</b>
Jamaica Trade Information Portal (JTIP)	JTIP launched on May 16, 2020 and performing to international standards. Work commenced to broaden remit of JTIP via incorporation of Trade in Services.
Jamaica Single Window for Trade (JSWIFT)	Core development work on the JSWIFT Platform and the TBL module 90% completed. Internal and external User Registration commenced. Basic training on use of TBL Module conducted with TBL staff.
Used Motor Vehicle Pre-shipment Inspection (PSI)	Continued implementation/improvement of PSI services entailing inter alia, increased number of inspection points in source jurisdictions in particular Japan and the USA. Introduction of Quarantine Inspection (Sanitization) component to safeguard Jamaica's agricultural sector/environment from microbial and other contamination.

## **Principal Focus for 2020/2021**

**Strategic Priority 6:** Improve the ease of doing business to facilitate investment in Jamaica

**Programme:** Trade Promotion and Development

**Sub-Programme:** Trade Facilitation

**Priority Initiative** National Trade Facilitation Programme

### **Key Activities for FY2020/21:**

- Introduction of a research project/programme to establish a comprehensive database for domestic motor vehicle information.
- Continued implementation of Used Motor Vehicle Pre-shipment Inspection (PSI) with focus on further reducing throughput time.
- JSWIFT - full implementation of TBL module (facilitating online application for all TBL services).
- JSWIFT - Introduction of regional (CARICOM) online Certificates of Origin.
- Continued implementation/enhancement of JTIP with incorporation of Trade in Services component of JTIP (either a stand-alone portal or integrated with existing portal).
- Contribute in multi-agency collaboration towards a renewed role for Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) as a facilitator of the National Identification System (NIDS).
- Commence implementation of Special and Differential Treatment Mechanism in Public Procurement via verification of Minimum Domestic Content of goods, works and services.
- Modifying work processes/procedures and interface as triggered by the experience from the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Related to the immediately above, seek to enhance the sophistication and rigour of Risk Management Analysis and planning to embrace the potential effects of shocks (e.g. pandemics) beyond the range of those traditionally taken into account.

## 7.0 Conclusion

Throughout the medium term, the Government of Jamaica through the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries (MICAF), will play a leading role in removing several critical constraints which continue to inhibit private-sector-led investments in the agricultural and business sectors, with the goal of enhancing the overall resilience of Jamaica's business environment, and strengthening the country's international competitiveness framework. These should result in increased production and the expansion of the capacity of the agriculture, manufacturing and service sectors to drive inclusive economic growth.

In FY2020/21, MICAF will continue to play its part in achieving GROWTH by abiding to a strategic trajectory geared towards addressing its **eight (8) strategic priorities** through **5 Budget Programmes** implemented under **22 Priority Initiatives** including **11 Public Investment Projects (PIP)**. These are detail in the Ministry's Strategic Business Plan 2020/21 – 2023/24.

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**Hon. Minister Audley Shaw, CD, M.P.**  
**Minister of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries**  
**June 16, 2020**

