

FINAL GRANTEE PROJECT EVALUATION/SITE VISIT REPORT CBA PILOT PROJECT-PIMS 3508

Introduction

The CBA programme is supporting the implementation of between 8 and 20 community-based adaptation projects, designed to enhance the adaptive capacity to climate change of participating communities, in each of ten countries (Bangladesh, Bolivia, Guatemala, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Samoa, and Vietnam). In order to ensure cost-effectiveness, projects are implemented in areas that are particularly vulnerable to climate change including variability, and where there is high potential to secure global environmental benefits in the context of climate change. Projects like this one under review, emerges from each of the focal areas [biodiversity, land degradation, coastal zone management, etc] depending on local context, specific vulnerability and adaptation analysis in each of the selected sites within the countries. To achieve the objective of this project and in line with the overall CBA programme, all activities discussed during evaluation should provide clear inputs to the three overall outcomes at the global levels. These are:

- (i) Enhanced adaptive capacity allows communities to reduce their vulnerability to adverse impacts of future climate hazards
- (ii) National policies and programmes designed to include community adaptation priorities to promote replication, up-scaling and mainstreaming of best practices
- (iii) Cooperation among member countries promoted for innovation in the design and implementation of adaptation to climate change including variability projects and policies.

SECTION A: Project Details

1.0 Name of Project: : Reducing Climate Change-Driven Erosion and Landslide Risks through Sustainable Agriculture for Safer Slopes

2.0 Project Number: **CBA/JAM/SPA/08/02**

3.0 Project Start Date: September 2008 Project End/Termination Date: June 2010

4.0 No. of Project Extensions If Any: 1 (2). Please provide a paragraph for the reasons of extension:

There was loss of the project manager during the length of the project, this initially delayed several activities. Additionally severe drought conditions did not make any form of planting suitable for sustainable land practices.

SECTION B: ORIGINAL PROJECT INFORMATION (Please summarise briefly):

- 5.0** Project Goal, objectives, expected outputs and sustainability plans:
- To increase the capacity of the targeted farming communities on the slopes of the Blue Mountains to adapt to climate change.

Outputs include:

- Agro-technical capacity for applying soil conservation techniques that will become necessary in steep slope environments increased.
- Alternative livelihood practices promoted
- Forest and tree cover (with appropriate species) promoted on slopes that are vulnerable to climate-driven increases in erosion and landslide risks

Sustainability

- JCDT will continue to seek project funds to expand the work started under this project. It should be noted that one of the goals of JCDT is to build the capacity of community members and making livelihood practices more sustainable through the promotion of activities such as water, soil, and biodiversity conservation. This goal is stated explicitly under the Park's Education & Public Involvement Programme (BJCMNP Management Plan 2005 - 2010, p. 98).

SECTION C: METHODOLOGY *(Describe the innovative methods/systems/strategies used in the project and a listing of name of participants/organisations in this process):*

Please the Table below indicating methods/strategies used in the project.

Climate Change Projection	Impact on Community and Ecosystem	Project activities to address climate change pressures
1. Increasingly intense storms and stronger rainfall	Increased erosion risks, leading to declining soil fertility	Agro-forestry activities, terracing, improved drainage, tree-planting on degraded land, greenhouse farming, and other soil conservation methods will increase vegetative cover, protecting the soil and preserving soil fertility. These activities will also reduce the pressures driving farmers towards protected areas upslope.
2. Increasing risks of drought during the dry season	Increasing evapo-transpiration, increasing stress on crops and vegetation, increasingly dry soils are more susceptible to erosion. Increased risk of bushfire.	Agro-forestry activities will help preserve the humid microclimate, while reducing soil water loss, and decreasing erosion risks faced by soils. Increased tree cover, fire management training, will prevent bush fires (as moist forests are less susceptible to fire than undergrowth with no tree cover).
3. Increasing temperatures	Decreasingly favourable microclimate for agricultural production	Agro-forestry activities will increase shade, and help to preserve the misty microclimate that favors cool-adapted crops, reducing the pressures driving farmers upslope.

Community groups which participated were from Woodford, St. Andrew and Cascade, Portland. Most participants were small farmers from these communities which farm coffee and cash crops.

6.0 Please complete table below [provide summary only here] on the basis of documentation and field observations provided.

Objectives	Findings on Activities and Implemented strategies	Lessons learned and Challenges Encountered	Tools and Products developed
M+E performed previously	The decreases in scores of the VRA suggest that community members have a better understanding of their vulnerability and also that now they see, and are involved in the implementation of project activities, they can better anticipate the likelihood of a positive impact on their livelihoods	The suggested areas of improvement from community members indicate that there is need for continued support especially based on how the project was structured.	
Training and Capacity building of grantees and communities	Increased awareness and knowledge of new technologies/farming techniques such as soil conservation practices, greenhouse farming and organic farming. Farmers were introduced to these technologies/ farming techniques through field trips as well as demonstrations done on their farms and in the community	Time constraint on the part of Greenhouse Specialist who was integral in the construction of the greenhouses. It was noted that farmers volunteering their time at the greenhouse had to wait this Specialist to complete specific tasks such as the roofing	
Community mobilization	Collaboration of individuals who could now work in a group and share ideas and concepts. This facilitated group dynamics and team work among farmers in both communities.	Community's felt needs have to be taken into consideration, during planning phase of project, to account for travel cost and meals. The recession has made it challenging for community members to more actively participate in project activities	
How project promoted or impacted policy	The project had major influence on local policy and farming practices within communities. However there was contribution from the project findings to the draft sustainable land	In Jamaica's context, policy influence is a very slow process with respect to implementation through legislation. It is therefore reinforced that continued activities of this nature (as implemented in the project)	

	management policy.	within small rural communities will only have some amount of impact in the long term i.e. over 5 years.	
Other important activities of Project			

SECTION D: Environmental Benefits

7.0 Please provide a summary of the VRA/IAS, Volunteerism Activities and a one paragraph on the interpretation of the data/information in the M+E table below

Item Description	Supportive Narrative Information and or Data		
Results of the Vulnerability Reduction Assessment	First/Initial 7.60	Second/Mid term 4.58	Third/Final 4.5
Description of the voluntary contribution (capacities, knowledge, know-how, manual labor, materials, tools, etc.). Please include gender segregated data on communities engaged, opportunities and barriers to volunteerism, describe existing volunteerism activities before and after implementation of project as much as possible.	<p>There were different types of volunteers working on the project; there were community members who contributed manual labour, know how, materials, tools, while outside agencies/individual contributed their expertise to the process.</p> <p><u>Opportunity for volunteerism</u> The community, because of the practice that exists there; to assist each other on their farms' during planting and reaping, this method of volunteering was carried over into the project.</p> <p><u>Obstacles to volunteerism</u> The challenging economic times that people have been experiencing globally, is true of the communities in this region. The number of times and the length of time that people could have given to the project was less than anticipated as farmers had to dedicate more time to securing their own livelihood.</p> <p>See attached document re: volunteerism for more information</p>		
Describe the results of the Impact Assessment System Indicators (Global Environmental Benefit focal areas + Livelihood and Empowerment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10 hectares of land restored - 40 hectares of land sustainably managed - 35 persons were empowered and capacities built in various areas; climate change effects and impacts on the community and farmers, green house technology, organic farming technique and compose heaping. 		
Describe the results of the Adaptation indicators measured during the project	<p>(1) Three measures were deployed as part of the activities for sustainable farming in the project area – the use of greenhouse technology was successfully employed in both project areas; the use of pineapple barriers at selected sites most vulnerable to soil erosion were successfully completed and have resulted in soil stability within these locations and; the use of native and fruit trees as a mechanism of sustainable agricultural practice was successfully completed with farmers engaged in the activity stating that given trees were helpful in their farming activities and contributed to their livelihood.</p> <p>(2) Ten percent of project area was be engaged</p>		

	<p>in climate-resilient farming activities.</p> <p>(3) Two policies influenced/adjusted as a result of lessons from the project – the policy affected was that of local policy with respect to farming practices in the communities, however it was recognised that policy influence on the level of government was a very slow process. However the results of the project have been mentioned in the draft national policy of sustainable land management.</p>
<p>Provide a Summary Paragraph on the above monitoring and evaluation activities</p>	<p>The results from the VRA exercises indicate that the project affected the perception and thinking of community members with respect to their awareness of climate change and how the resilience of the communities to climate change had increased during the progress of the project.</p>

8.0 List all the project outcomes with respect to the following variables: (Add clarifying notes where deemed necessary and use quantitative and/or qualitative data. If not applicable, place N/A in space).

8.1 *Organisational:* Has this project impacted your organisation – briefly explain

- The project has impacted positively on the organisation. The outcomes have been helpful in preparing the Public Involvement and Education Programme for the National Park. It has also assisted in strengthening the relationship between JCDT and the Cascade and Woodford communities. Critical also is the fact that JCDT has through this project imparted important capacity building knowledge to community members and encourage farmers to practice sustainable agricultural activities. Through lessons learnt JCDT has understood all the necessary planning details especially as it relates to maintenance activities on farmlands.

8.2 *Capacity Building:* How were local capacities enhanced and how did it contribute to project success?

- Increased awareness of climate change and adaptive techniques/ practices to cope such as terracing. Farmers were introduced to varying practices which they readily adapted on their farms as a way of positively impacting the environment and saving their livelihoods.
- Creating group dynamics and team work. This influenced farmers to take on different leadership roles and positively impacting members of the group as well as the community.
- Alternatives to traditional farming. Farming realized that there were other methods they could use for treating pests and diseases on their farms. Organic farming was just as effective as using chemicals on their farms.

8.3 *Poverty Reduction:* Has this project impacted poverty – briefly explain

- Community participants, small farmers, have gained additional income through

the production within the Greenhouses in the short-term and in the long-term there will be contributions made to the communities themselves.

8.4 *Community Participation:* How was community implementation and ownership of project achieved. How did this contribute to project success? Indicate pitfalls and tactics to be avoided.

- This project was conceptualized based on community feedback to the Education and Community Outreach Officer, through the National Park's Education and Public Involvement Programme. This Officer has been involved in community education and capacity building activities in these communities for over a year, working with farmers and youth in particular. Earlier this year, this Officer facilitated a meeting in which students from the University of Michigan working through JCDT, presented results of their research conducted the previous year to the Cascade community. Whilst the research and discussions were general – about forest conservation and the relationship between the National Park management and the community, this provides an example of a meeting in which the Education and Community Outreach Officer would have received feedback from the community members regarding their concerns. During the planning stage of this project, both communities have participated in sensitization meetings and are aware of the importance of the forest for protection against the impacts of climate change, and for biodiversity, water and soil conservation. They are also aware of some soil conservation practices, but have not received adequate training and guidance to be able to implement them on their farms. During the planning stage the communities were also involved in formulating the project activities.

8.5 *Sustainable Livelihoods/Benefits:* Describe the immediate benefits received by the participants and/or the recipient communities. Describe long term benefits.

- Transfer of technical knowledge to farmers who have adapted specific practices and implemented them on their farms for example, farmers constructing their own greenhouses and getting financial returns.
- Minimization of soil erosion as a result of soil conservation practices adapted and implemented on farms. The use of pineapple barriers was one such practice adapted and used to minimized soil erosion on the farms.
- Financial benefit from the sale of fruits from trees received as well as pineapples from pineapple suckers that were used as barriers.
- Financial benefits from the sale of produce in the greenhouse. This includes a variety of vegetables.

8.6 *Policy Impact:* Has this project influenced government policy? Explain what the government policy is, how it has been affected and the role and nature of the project influence.

- During the implementation process, the project influenced local policy which directly impacted farming practices in both focal communities of Cascade and Woodford. This was evident in the change in attitude of the farmers towards traditional agricultural practices compared with new technological advances and the implementation of more sustainable agricultural practices. Even though no actual change to national policy is presently evident, efforts have been made to influence national policies by the implementing agency. JCDT/Green Jamaica is a representative on the Sustainable Land Use Management Committee which is presently working on the Draft Sustainable Land Use Management Policy (SLM) for Jamaica. JCDT has made contribution to the



draft SLM policy in influencing some thoughts and outputs regarding sustainable agricultural practices on

steep slopes in the eastern end of the island and identifying train.

In moving forward, JCDT/Green Jamaica has recognized that in Jamaica’s context, policy influence is a very slow process with respect to implementation through legislation. It is therefore re-enforced that continued activities of this nature (as implemented in the project) within small rural communities will only have some amount of impact in the long term i.e. over 5 years.

8.7 Sustainability Plan: Did this project have a sustainability plan and was it feasible?

- JCDT will continue to seek project funds to expand the work started under this project. It should be noted that one of the goals of JCDT is to build the capacity of community members and making livelihood practices more sustainable through the promotion of activities such as water, soil, and biodiversity conservation. This goal is stated explicitly under the Park’s Education & Public Involvement Programme (BJCMNP Management Plan 2005 - 2010, p. 98).

8.8 Financing and Co-financing: How much financial resources were received from CBA global project. Did this project receive co-financing? If so, please indicate sources and amounts. Describe how links to other donors or agencies were made, networking strategies and negotiations.

- CBA provided support of US\$48,526.07, there was co-financing (cash and in-kind) of US\$78,291.31. This was sourced through the Forest Conservation Fund and Ja FARMS, along with in-kind support from JCDT staff.
- The inclusion of other donors was through other funded projects which had similar objectives as the CBA projects.

8.9 Replication: Is this project suitable for replication in other communities or regions. Please indicate any plans or what has taken place in this regard.

- The project is suitable for replication, based not only on its success but its practicality and results oriented structure. Proposals have been prepared to support the work initiated in this project and to do other similar activities in buffer zone communities of the Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park which face similar threats and hazards as those of Woodford and Cascade.

8.10 Gender Mainstreaming: How did women and men participate in planning, implementing and evaluating the project? Was there a planned gender focus or did it evolve in the course of the project implementation? What were some of the issues that came up in this regard?

- Both men and women were closely involved in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the project. There was no planned gender focus, but as the project developed especially during the implementation phase the impacts to both men and women of both communities were observed.

8.11 Were all the objectives achieved? If not, what were the challenges related to the objectives not achieved?

- It must be noted that all the planned activities were successfully implemented in both Cascade and Woodford, thus resulting in the project achieving approximately 100% of the stated objectives. For outcome 1, the forty (40) participating farmers in Cascade and Woodford received training in

- soil conservation and all established pineapple barriers on their farms as the

soil conservation practice introduced.

- The activities of outcome 2 and 3 were also successfully implemented and heeded the same result as outcome 1. Over 90% of farmers participated in the trainings and field trips held in organic farming as represented in attendance registers used.
- For outcome 3 as all farmers eagerly accepted both native and fruit trees that were introduced and readily planted them on their farms. Approximately one thousand (1000) fruit and native trees were proportionately distributed among the farmers.

8.12 How did the project contribute to the outcomes and impact identified in the Country Programme Strategy?

As a SIDS, Jamaica's CPS speaks to targeting communities in the coastal and agricultural zones for project intervention. These areas are the most vulnerable ones for Jamaica and contribute 13.3% to the country's GDP combined. Cultivated lands in Jamaica are about a quarter of the country's total land mass, and the sectors employs a significant portion of the national labour force and the country relies on them for foreign exchange earnings (Mahlung, 2006). Climate change poses a number of threats to the agricultural sector and the projections will have a deleterious effect on crop survival and yield, especially since the vast majority of Jamaica's agricultural production is rain-fed.

CBA intervention then will be helping these vulnerable areas to put in measures that will help them cope better with climate change projections in order to better adapt and increase the resilience of these sectors.

9.0 Other Lessons learned not captured in section/part 6 above (Please list):

A number of lessons were learnt both on the part of the participating farmers as well as JCDDT who implemented the project. These must be viewed as positively impacting attitudes and future activities.

Farmers

- Increased awareness of climate change and adaptive techniques/ practices to cope such as terracing. Farmers were introduced to varying practices which they readily adapted on their farms as a way of positively impacting the environment and saving their livelihoods.
- Alternatives to traditional farming. Farming realized that there were other methods they could use for treating pests and diseases on their farms. Organic farming was just as effective as using chemicals on their farms.

JCDDT (implementing agency)

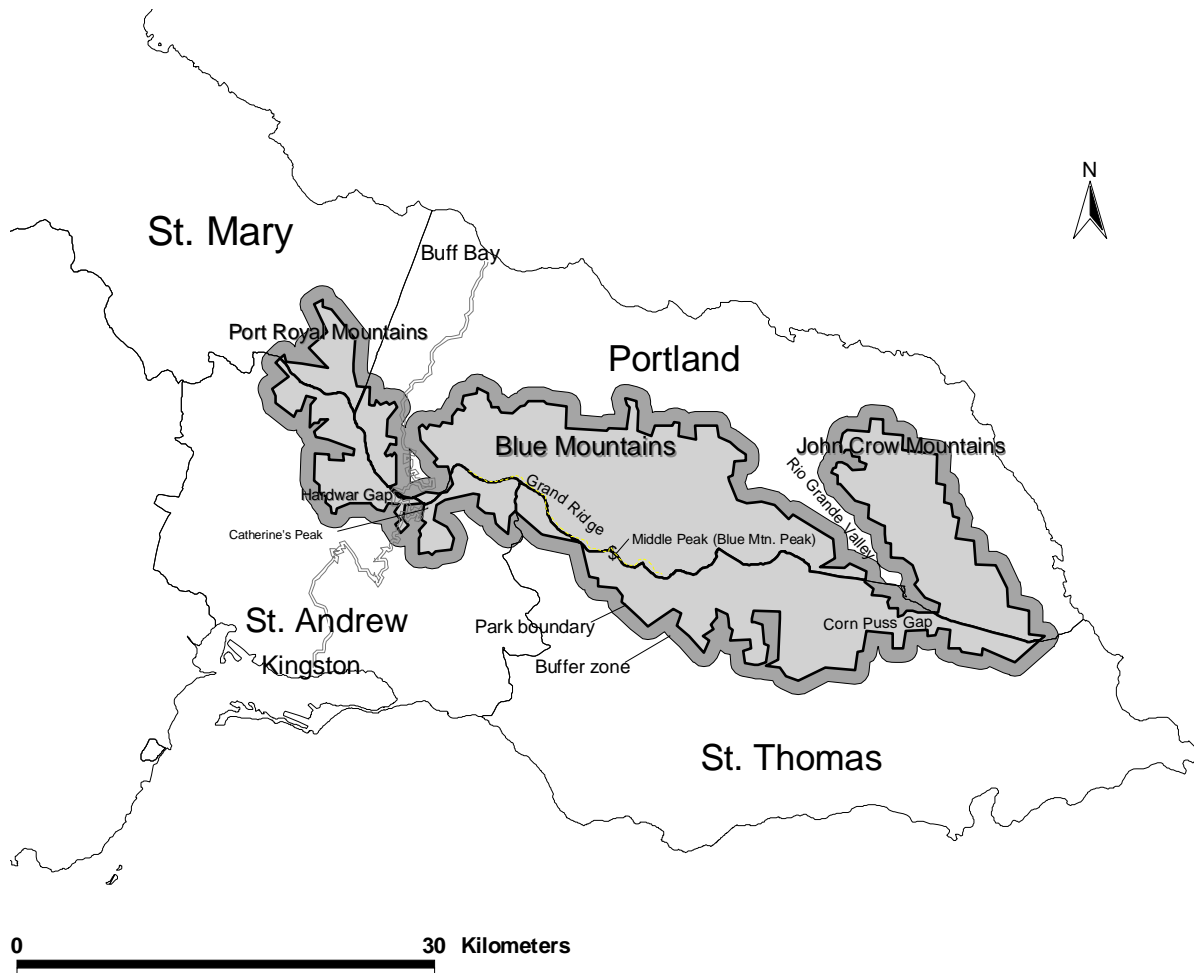
- Adequate plans were not incorporated into the project for problems such as the effect of natural disasters on the activities. This was specifically lacking on the part of the greenhouse that got damage during the heavy rains.
- Additional activities and plans for maintenance of the project would be needed by participants to increase their confidence in adapting all the practices introduced.



- More public education needed with heavy use of visual aid needed to communicate climate change; its projections and effects on farmers and strategies on how to adapt and the benefits to be derived from adapting.
- There ought to have been a more structured approach to the distribution of seedlings and seeds to participants instead of the ad hoc process that was employed.
- Stronger management and organisational structure needed at the community level for handing over of the project and the distribution of benefits to community. The full impact of the livelihood component of the project is not being immediate felt, as to date only one community person has benefited in Cascade and hence the support from the other members of the community is slow in coming. Greater distribution of the benefits will redound to greater participation from persons.
- Sustainable land management practices employed on the project have yielded desired outcome and so these measures can be replicated in other areas with similar vulnerabilities.



10.0 Attach (as annex to the report) any relevant documentation, such as maps before and after project, stakeholder/community quotations,



comments/accolades by external parties, government representatives, awards received, local media attention (print and electronic), cross project and country lessons shared, etc.

<http://jamaica-gleaner.com/gleaner/20110319/news/news2.html> for news story on project
http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/environment/Five-J-can-communities-adapting-to--climate-change_8301624 for mention of project in the news.

11.0 Final comments by the Evaluator/Grantee/Individual filling the evaluation template

This project highlighted and addressed critical environmental challenges, faced in the communities of Woodford and Cascade and the threat posed to lives, livelihood and property by climate change. While

there were some challenges encountered in the implementation of the project, it was able to achieve it's objectives, outcomes and impacts. There are some important lessons learnt that will be useful in formulating and implementing other projects in order to make them successful in coping with climate change and build resilience.

12.0 Digital photographs taken during the evaluation/appraisal with title to be attached here:

Name of Person Compiling Report: Marlon Beale/Michelle Curling-Ludford

Signature:

Evaluation/Appraisal Date or Period: July 6, 2011

Date Evaluation/Appraisal Report was submitted: July 11, 2011