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**JAMAICA**

**COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

**(TC0010014)**

**PLAN OF OPERATIONS**

**APRIL 2001**

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**COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

**TC PLAN OF OPERATIONS**

**APRIL 16, 2001**

**Project Name:** Co-Management for Improved Local Stewardship: Community Environmental Management in St. Elizabeth, Jamaica

**Project Number:** TC-00-10-01-4-JA

**Trust Fund:** Netherlands Partnership Program in the Environment Trust Fund

**Country Team:** Leader: Eduardo Figueroa (RE3/EN3); other members: Clark Sand (RE3/OD6); and Steven Stone (COF/CJA).

**Executing Agency:** St. Elizabeth Environmental Protection Agency (SEEPSA).

**Beneficiaries:** Residents in the Parish of St. Elizabeth.

**Financing Plan:**

Trust Fund:	US\$110,000
Local Counterpart:	<u>US\$ 26,000</u>
Total:	US\$136,000

**Tentative Dates:**

Execution Deadline:	15 months after approval
Disbursement Deadline:	18 months after approval

**I. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 Responding to a Government request to facilitate a planned approach to the expected growth in the tourism industry and to explore environmentally sustainable pathways to economic growth, the IDB financed a US\$2.4 million study of the physical and socio-economic characteristics of the South Coast. Financed through the Multisectoral Preinvestment Loan (835/OC), these studies were undertaken over a twelve-month period and completed in June 1999. Through a process of extensive community meetings and consultations, the study

produced 11 technical reports. They include detailed mapping (at 1:50,000) of the entire study area in a geographic information system, a Sustainable Development Plan, and pre-feasibility analyses for three investment projects ranked out of over 100 candidates. The Sustainable Development Master Plan aims to provide a framework for the management of the natural and man-made environment and to achieve orderly and sustainable development of the South Coast.

- 1.2 The proposed Plan envisages sustained development based on adding value to the natural and human resources of the region through the growth of community based services. The key environmental assets which will support sustainable growth are: the high quality of coastal and upland landscapes; the rivers and groundwater resources; the prime agricultural land; extensive forests and wetlands; the beaches, reefs and fish nursery areas; and the distinctive cultural heritage of the region. Building on these resources, including strong protection and management of critical natural resources is at the core of the Plan's vision.
- 1.3 The scale of future tourism growth on the South Coast will be related to the capacity of the physical, environmental and social infrastructure. A phased, incremental approach, with an emphasis in low-density development is proposed. Tourism growth is expected through development of nature and heritage based tourism, increased community involvement and strengthened local economic linkages.
- 1.4 Following the results and recommendations from the Master Plan, the bank has agreed to support a program with the overall objective to promote the sustainable development of the South Coast by financing strategic investments in protected areas, fisheries management and light tourism infrastructure. In addition, institutional support to regional and local governments, community organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) working in aspects related to resource use and management is proposed. The project has been included in the pipeline as 2002A operation.
- 1.5 The Parish of St. Elizabeth covers an important area of the South Coast region, it is richly endowed with substantial terrestrial and marine resources including bauxite, limestone forest, the Black River upper and lower morass which offers an internationally recognized wetland environment. Residents of St. Elizabeth derive the bulk of their income from agriculture, fishing (inland and marine), mining and tourism. A combination of factors - including agricultural imports, over-use of chemicals, over fishing and poor fishing habits, pollution, deforestation and destruction of mangroves – that collectively pose an immediate threat to their livelihood and result in high levels of poverty.
- 1.6 Management for the continued use of the morass is one of the primary planning challenge for St. Elizabeth. Associated with this is the complex issues of maintaining protected ecosystems while under pressure to increase visitor numbers and tourism revenues. Water quality is under threat from agro industry upstream and the presence of other resources, particularly silica sand adds to the

complexity of the management task. Black River is the South Coast premier attraction and the town is a proposed heritage site but requires further investment. A major conservation initiative is required if the unique character of the historic port is to be maintained.

- 1.7 The St. Elizabeth Environmental Protection Association Limited (SEEPa) is the only associated environmental organization in the Parish and since 1996 has been working on long term plans to establish an environment and development centres on eleven hectares of land in Black River. The Black River lower and upper morass is designated to become a protected area by the Government of Jamaica and a potential RAMSAR site. SEEPa was instrumental in this effort and has been working with Natural Resources Conservation Authority of Jamaica to obtain the authority to monitor the area. SEEPa will require additional personnel and significant strengthening in undertaking this task.
- 1.8 This is an opportunity for the Bank to support coastal zone management with direct civil society participation, as mandated by the 8<sup>th</sup> replenishment and the Bank's "Coastal Zone Management Strategy" approved by the Board in 1999. Strengthening of SEEPa and the initial implementation of a Black River management plan will enhance the viability of the South Coast Sustainable Development Program (JA-0112), which encompasses the proposed protected area and for which pre-feasibility studies have been financed by the IDB with a Program with a total cost of US\$20 million expected for the first quarter of 2002.

## **II. OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1 The main objective of the project is to increase public awareness and foster improved environmental stewardship in the Parish of St. Elizabeth through a co-management approach using direct community participation, involvement of NGOs and the local Parish Council. The overall purpose of the project is to strengthen a public-private partnership – the St. Elizabeth Environmental Protection Association - for the sustainable management of natural resources in and around the proposed Black River National Park while delivering a number of social and community benefits, in line with the Bank's recently approved Strategy Paper on Integrated Coastal Zone Management.

## **III. DESCRIPTION**

- 3.1 In order to achieve these objectives, the project has two main components to be executed over fifteen months: i) strengthening the institutional and monitoring capacity of the St. Elizabeth Environment Protection Agency; and ii) improving

environmental management and stewardship practices among communities in the parish. An international firm or specialized institution (hereafter called "Consultant") with the requisite experience will be contracted to carry out the following activities.

**A. Strengthening the Institutional and Monitoring Capacity of SEEPA**

- 3.2 The Consultant will prepare a 2-year organization and development strategic plan for SEEPA which will consolidate its role in environmental management and strengthen its organizational and financial capacity. As part of this work, the Consultant will identify and begin implementing long-term financing mechanisms to ensure the sustainability of the organization. In addition, the Consultant will establish a web-site presence for SEEPA which can be used for both outreach and dissemination of results from the project.
- 3.3 With regard to monitoring, the Consultant will enhance the capacity of SEEPA to collect, compile and analyze data on indicators of coastal and inland water quality, shrimp and fish stock health and growth along the Black River and on the coastline. To this end it will develop a methodology for sampling, and provide the equipment necessary to undertake the analysis. Technical officers will be trained to perform these functions and the consulting firm will ensure that the transfer of knowledge takes place. Finally, the Consultant will help SEEPA establish a communication mechanism to provide responses to the Fisheries Division and the NRCA who will carry out corrective measures.

**B. Improving Environmental Management**

- 3.4 The Consultant will review the information and results of the Environment Assessment completed under the South Coast Sustainable Development Plan and design an awareness program targeting schools, farmers, fishers, homeowners, community groups and business persons. In so doing, the Consultant will utilize a co-management approach which seeks to promote stakeholder participation as the primary means of attaining improved environmental stewardship.
- 3.5 To this end, the Consultant will support SEEPA to conduct Parish wide community meetings to explain the program, disseminate environmental awareness information and increase participation by setting up environmental clubs with which to network. The clubs will act as satellite SEEPA agencies and will be administered out of the central office located in Black River. This program will focus on the areas surrounding and feeding into the Black River basin.
- 3.6 In addition, the Consultant will jointly develop eco-friendly projects with these communities to include: organic farming, composting, shrimp and fish nurseries, environmentally acceptable alternatives to slash and burn and the destruction of mangroves for fuel, production of medicinal plants, recycling of plastic

containers, and opportunities for cultural heritage and eco-tourism. Demonstration projects will be set up for at least one of each initiative.

- 3.7 Finally, the Consultant will launch in collaboration with the Fishers' Association and the Fisheries Division, a management plan to encourage the adoption of more sustainable harvesting practices by diversifying the catch and increasing mesh sizes in the construction of fish pots and traps. As part of the plan, the Consultant will explore the option of diversifying the product line to include shark, red and tu-fu crab, by jointly developing the most effective crab traps and identifying retail markets. Preliminary assessment conducted between December and February 2000 in Calabash Bay, St Elizabeth revealed enormous quantities of red and tu-fu crabs and Caribbean reef sharks.

#### IV. BUDGET

- 4.1 Total budget for this operation is US\$136,000 estimated as follows:

**BUDGET**  
(in U.S. dollars)

CATEGORY	COUNTERPART	NPF	TOTAL
Consultants	0	75,000	75,000
Equipment	5,000	10,000	15,000
Training	4,000	15,000	19,000
Travel	5,000	10,000	15,000
Administrative Support	12,000	0	12,000
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>26,000</b>	<b>110,000</b>	<b>136,000</b>

#### V. RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE BANK

- 5.1 The Team Leader is Eduardo Figueroa (RE3/EN3); the Project Officer is Clark Sand (RE3/OD6) and basic responsibility for the project will correspond to Steven Stone (COF/CJA).
- 5.2 Will be the responsibility of the Bank to select the consultant or consulting firm to carry out this consultancy. The Bank will be responsible for preparing the consultanting contract in accordance with the established Bank's procedures. Country Office in Jamaica will have responsibility for disbursements in collaboration with the other divisions at Headquarters.

## **VI. REPORTS**

- 6.1 A workplan, quarterly progress reports and final evaluation will be submitted to Carmen San Miguel (RE2/TEC) by the consulting firm or specialized agency. These documents will be submitted one month, quarterly and fifteen months respectively following signature of the contract with the firm and the executing agency. These reports will have the written concurrence of the executing agency SEEPA before submission.

## **VII. RECOMMENDATION**

- 7.1 The Country Office of Jamaica, under the direction of Robert H. Bellefeuille, Representative, recommends the approval of this operation using resources from the Netherlands Partnership Program in Environment for up to US\$110,000.

## **VIII. CERTIFICATION**

- 8.1 I certify that resources from the Netherlands Partnership Program in Environment are available for up to US\$110,000 to finance the activities envisaged in the present TC Brief.

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**(TC-00-10-01-4-JA)**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**I. BACKGROUND & STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

- 1.1 The Parish of St. Elizabeth is richly endowed with substantial terrestrial and marine resources including bauxite, limestone forest, the Black River upper and lower morass which offers an internationally recognized wetland environment. Residents of St. Elizabeth derive the bulk of their income from agriculture, fishing (inland and marine), mining and tourism. A combination of factors - including agricultural imports, over-use of chemicals, over fishing and poor fishing habits, pollution, deforestation and destruction of mangroves – that collectively pose an immediate threat to their livelihood and result in high levels of poverty.
- 1.2 Management for the continued use of the morass is identified in the South Coast Master Plan as one of the primary planning challenge for St. Elizabeth. Associated with this is the complex issues of maintaining protected ecosystems while under pressure to increase visitor numbers. Water quality is under threat from agro industry upstream and the presence of other resources, particularly silica sand adds to the complexity of the management task. Black River is the South Coast premier attraction and the town is a proposed heritage site but requires further investment. A major conservation initiative is required if the unique character of the historic port is to be maintained.
- 1.3 The St. Elizabeth Environmental Protection Association Limited is the only associated environmental organization in the Parish and since 1996 has been working on long term plans to establish an environment and development centres on eleven hectares of land in Black River. The Black River lower and upper morass is designated to become a protected area by the Government of Jamaica and a potential RAMSAR site. SEEPA was instrumental in this effort and has been working with NRCA to obtain the authority to monitor the area. SEEPA will require additional personnel and significant strengthening in undertaking this task.
- 1.4 Strengthening of SEEPA and the initial implementation of a Black River management plan will enhance the viability of the South Coast Sustainable Development Program (JA-0112), which encompasses the proposed protected



area and for which pre-feasibility studies have been financed by the IDB with a Program with a total cost of US\$20 million expected for the first quarter of 2002.

## **II. OBJECTIVES**

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#### **C. Project Implementation**

- 2.8 The Consultant will prepare a 12-month detailed work program, in consultation with SEEPA, including hiring of specialized consultant services for training and local technical assistance, prior to initiating these activities. It will also establish a web-page presence for dissemination of results in real time as the deliverables are produced.
- 2.9 During the initial discussions, SEEPA staff will provide the firm or NGO with additional background information on its activities, its community outreach and organizational objectives, and specific technical training needs. The work plan will consider the specific skills and training needs required and will be prepared in conjunction with SEEPA. It is expected that SEEPA will use the human and technical resources provided by this TC in order to continue ongoing monitoring and community environmental work after the project period expires.
- 2.10 Using information provided by SEEPA, the Consultant will prepare a Mid-Term Report to the IDB representing the financial and programmatic progress of the project, as well as a Final Report on the project, with an end-of-project evaluation. These will be posted on the web-page, along with photos of the project work and copies of the environmental awareness program and the fisheries management plan.

### **III. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

- 3.1 The consulting firm or specialized agency should have demonstrated ability to handle the administrative aspects of project management and relevant technical experience in: i) the design and installation of coastal and inland water quality monitoring; ii) the ability to train community volunteers in water quality monitoring; iii.) management of artisanal fisheries; and iv.) experience in community consultation activities. The firm or NGO will act as a service provider to the client, SEEPA, in their effort to bring community environmental management to the the Parish of St. Elizabeth.
- 3.2 It is expected that substantial expertise exists at the local level for community outreach and that to the extent possible these resources should be utilized to reduce costs and increase the probability of buy-in from local communities.

### **IV. REPORTS AND OTHER DELIVERABLES**

- 4.1 The following products will be required of the firm or NGO:
  - A. Workplan/Schedule**
  - 4.2 Within four weeks of signing the contract, the firm or NGO will submit a detailed work plan, budget, and calendar of events for Bank review and comment. This work plan will be the result of initial discussions with SEEPA and will have received their approval prior to submission to the Bank for no objection.
  - B. Mid-Term Progress Report**
  - 4.3 Within six months after receiving the Bank's no-objection to the Workplan, the firm or NGO will submit a mid-term progress report for review and comment by SEEPA and the Bank. The mid-term report will identify the state of progress in completing the tasks specified in Section 3 and any difficulties or obstacles encountered. It will also include, as an annexes, copies of the Environmental Awareness Program and the Fisheries Management Plan. Once accepted, the mid-term report and annexes will be posted on the SEEPA web-site.
  - C. Draft and Final Reports**
  - 4.4 A draft final report, containing an evaluation of the project, will be submitted to SEEPA and to the Bank within twelve months of signing the contract. A final report will be presented two weeks after receiving the written comments from the Bank and SEEPA. The final report will also include the following: a statement that the operation was funded by the Netherlands Partnership Program in the Environment; and an Executive Summary not to exceed three pages in length.

## V. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

- 5.1 This will be a lump sum contract, with disbursement contingent upon the delivery and acceptance of the products listed above, as follows:

### DISBURSEMENT SCHEDULE

Product/Event	Percentage of Total	Actual Amount
1) Signature of Contract	20%	US\$ 22,000
2) Workplan	30%	US\$ 33,000
3) Mid-Term Report	40%	US\$ 44,000
4) Acceptance of Final Report	10%	US\$ 11,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>US\$110,000</b>