

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

JANUARY 2014 - JUNE 2014

SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT NAME: Renewal of the Jamaican cocoa sector

Project Number: JA-M1024 - Operation Number: ATN/ME-13437-JA

Result: The specific objective is to sustainably position JCFA cocoa in global supply chains and high value markets

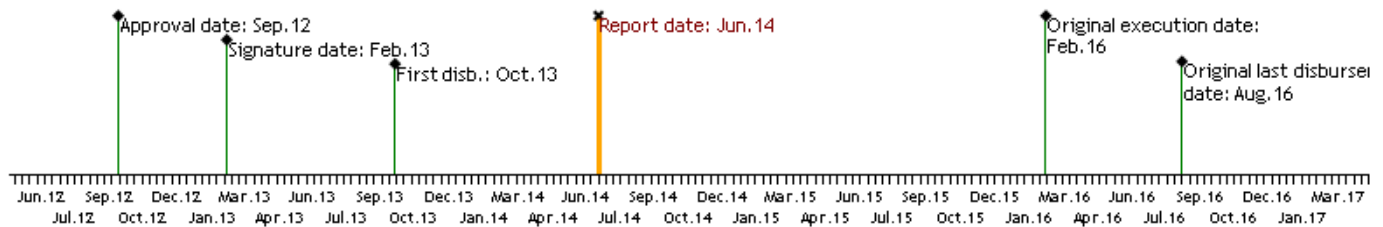
Country Administrator
JAMAICA

Beneficiary Country
JAMAICA

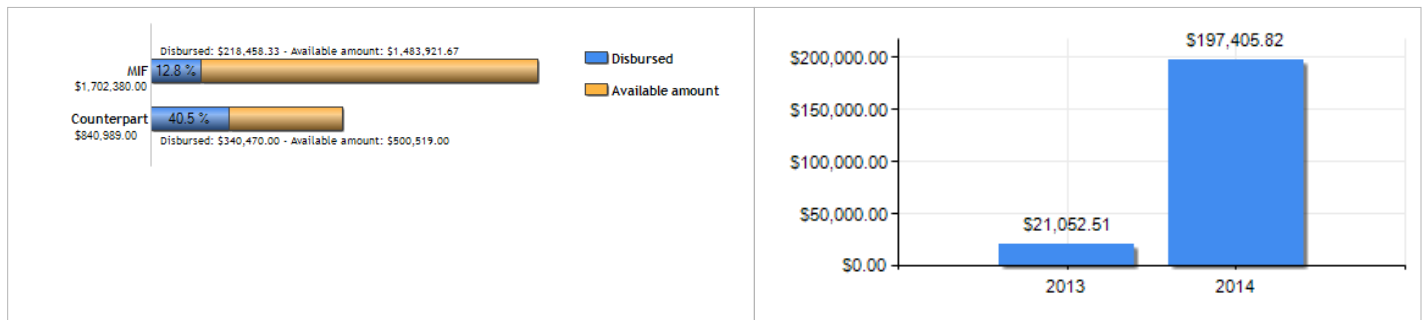
Executing Agency: Jamaica Cocoa Farmer's Association

Design Team Leader: Escobar A., Alejandro
Supervision Team Leader: Beecher, Wayne

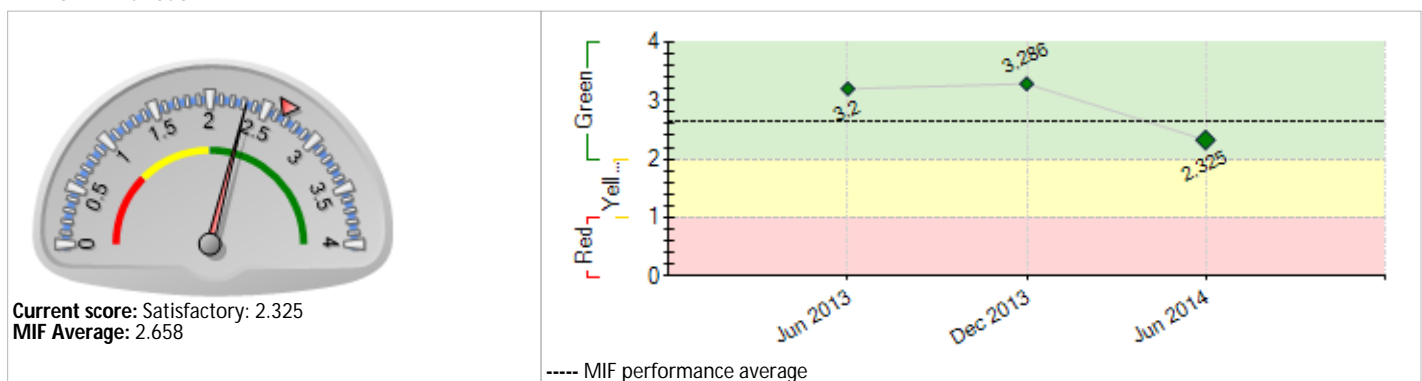
TIMELINE



FUNDS



PERFORMANCE SCORE



EXTERNAL RISKS

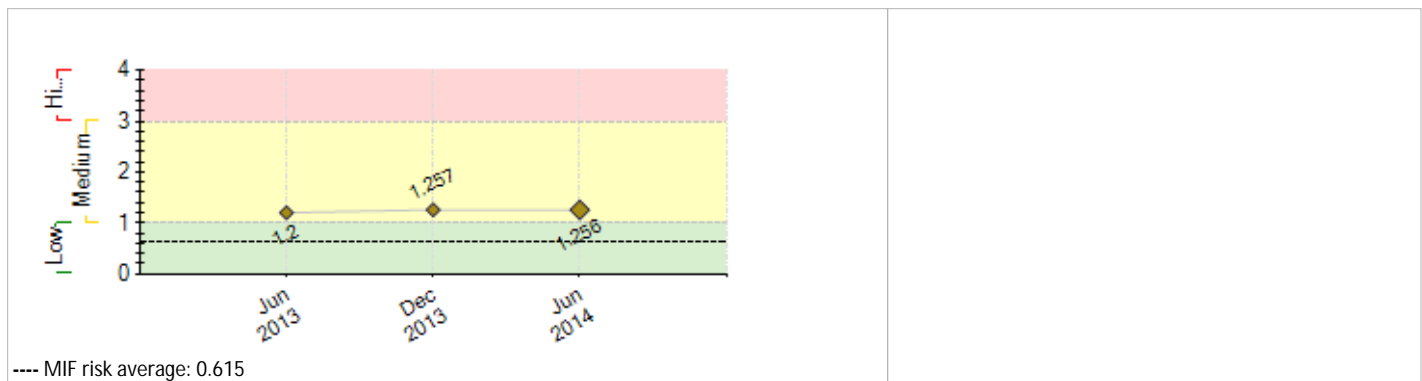
INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

Risk

Financial Management: Medium

Procurement: Medium

Technical Capacity: Medium



SECTION 2: PERFORMANCE

Summary of project performance since inception

Rehabilitation - Approximately 200 acres of cocoa orchards have been rehabilitated representing 133 beneficiaries.

200 persons trained in post-harvest handling and processing of cocoa. Four (4) processing facilities implementing post harvest protocols on fermentation and drying; this resulted in a drastic decline in rejected beans both at the processing facilities and at the wharf for export.

The main challenges encountered are as follows:

The rehabilitation exercise showed farmers reluctance to have their cocoa trees pruned to the recommended height.

Resignations of Consultants – The Extension Officer assigned to St. Catherine resigned resulting in no rehabilitation taking place in that parish. The resignation of the Project Accountant resulted in late submission of Justification and disbursement request of funds request and the projects' financial statements. The lack of sufficient human resource at the Executing Agency resulted in a delay in meeting the deadlines of some critical activities.

Milestone # 2 was not achieved within the stipulated time, this resulted in a temporary suspension of the project.

Critical Actions to be taken for the next semester

Due to human resource constraints, the JCFA will procure the Business and Strategic Plan Consultant to assist with the institutional strengthening of the JCFA.

Comments from the Supervision Team Leader

Agree with the Executing Agency comments

Human resources issues at the EA is an emerging risk to the project execution. The issue was discussed with the EA and an action plan agreed.

Summary of project performance in the last six months

125 new farmers were recruited to become members of JCFA. 200 hundred farmers have received extension services. Over 90 acres have been rehabilitated representing 63 beneficiaries. 200 persons received training in Fermentation and Drying Protocols. Four Processing facilities have implemented post harvest protocols.

The following milestones were achieved; Milestone #1, 2 and 6.

The following activities were done; Local Counterpart Reports for the period September 26, 2012 to June 30, 2014 . Annual Project Financial Statement, Advance for Funds Disbursement Requests 7 & 8 and Disbursement Justification of Funds.

One of the Extension Officers resigned in April and the Project Accountant from the Project Inception resigned in May.

Project Suspension - April 30, 2014 was the scheduled date for the achievement of Milestone # 2, this wasn't accomplished until May 30, 2014 and the Project went into suspension.

A number of mis-procurements resulted in the re-procurement of a number of consultants.

Critical Actions to be taken for the next semester

For the next six (6) months the Executing Agency will concentrate on hiring critical consultants so that the project Logical Framework Indicators can be achieved.

Milestone #3 - Medium term business and strategic plan for the JCFA written and approved is the only milestone schedule for this semester and is on schedule to be achieved.

Comments from the Supervision Team Leader

Agree with the Executing Agency comments

SECTION 3: INDICATORS AND MILESTONES

Indicators		Baseline	Intermediate 1	Intermediate 2	Intermediate 3	Planned	Achieved	Status
Result: The specific objective is to sustainably position JCFA cocoa in global supply chains and high value markets	R.1 New market tapped by the JCFA	0				1 Feb 2016	0	
	R.2 JCFA annual cocoa exports have increased	0				150 Feb 2016	25 Jun 2013	
	R.3 Farmers (JCFA members) are successfully applying improved cultivation and processing techniques learned from the farmer field school program.	0				500 Feb 2016	0 Jun 2013	
	R.4 Average per-hectare yields have increased compared to when the project began due to rehabilitation and improved cultural practices	0				50 Feb 2015	0	
	R.5 Percentage of JCFA cocoa producing communities are in the process of obtaining organic certification	0				20 Feb 2015	0	
	R.6 n/a	0				0 Feb 2014	0	
Component 1: Research and technical skills development to enhance productivity of cocoa farms Weight: 44% Classification: Satisfactory	C1.11 Number of acres of existing cocoa farms have been rehabilitated	0				200 Aug 2014	200 Jun 2014	On Course
	C1.12 Number of producers have been trained in sustainable agricultural practices through the farmer field school training program.	0				250 Aug 2014	10 Jun 2014	Delayed
	C1.13 Number of farmers (JCFA members) and young people from the communities trained in entrepreneurship skills and farming as a micro enterprise.	0				125 Aug 2014		
	C1.14 Local cocoa varieties have been genetically mapped and propagated	0				2 Aug 2014		
	C1.15 JCFA nurseries have been established and stocked with high yielding local varieties	0				2 Aug 2014	2 Jun 2014	On Course
	C1.16 Number of acres of existing cocoa farms have been rehabilitated	0				400 Feb 2016	200 Jun 2014	On Course
	C1.17 Number of farmers (JCFA members) have been trained in sustainable agricultural practices through the farmer field school training program.	0				500 Feb 2016	0 Jan 2013	On Course
	C1.18 Number of farmers (JCFA members) and young people from the communities have been trained in entrepreneurship skills and farming as a micro enterprise.	0				250 Feb 2016		
Component 2: Building capacity to manage agricultural and food production systems Weight: 26% Classification: Satisfactory	C2.11 JCFA members and/or community residents trained in post-harvest handling and processing of cocoa.	0				30 Feb 2014	200 May 2014	Finished
	C2.12 Processing facilities implementing JCFA postharvest protocols on drying and fermentation	0				2 Feb 2014	4 May 2014	Finished
	C2.13 The computerized traceable acquisition system has been developed and tested in 2 processing facilities.					Feb 2014		Delayed
	C2.14 JCFA members and/or community residents trained in post-harvest handling and processing of cocoa	0				100 Feb 2015	200 May 2014	Finished
	C2.15 Processing facilities implementing JCFA Postharvest protocols on drying and fermentation	0				8 Feb 2015		
	C2.16 Processing facilities fully implementing the traceable acquisition system.	0				8 Feb 2015		
	C2.17 The JCFA has achieved a number of quality and/or environmental certifications (Rainforest, Fair trade, HAACP etc.)	0				2 Feb 2015		
	C2.18 Quality assurance laboratory established to carry out testing and flavor profiling of beans.	0				1 Feb 2015		
	C2.19 Number of chocolate profilers trained in cocoa flavor profiling.	0				3 Feb 2015		
Component 3: Building Capacity for Strategic Management and Marketing Weight: 24% Classification: Unsatisfactory	C3.11 Number of strategic plans under implementation for each of the 4 JCFA regional branches.	0				3 Feb 2014		Delayed
	C3.12 A medium term business plan for the JCFA approved by the Board of Directors and under implementation	0				1 Feb 2014		Delayed
	C3.13 A JCFA marketing strategy has been approved by the Board of Directors and is under implementation	0				1 Feb 2014		Delayed
	C3.14 A digital farmer registry for JCFA developed and functioning in JCFA headquarters					Feb 2014		Delayed
	C3.15 A real time information system for market prices developed and functioning	0				1 Feb 2014		Delayed
	C3.16 The web based marketing platform has been developed and is available	0				1 Feb 2015		
	C3.17 Number of specialists have been professionally trained in advanced chocolate making	0				2 Feb 2015		
	C3.18 Number of JCFA members and/or community	0				50		

	residents (of which 25 are youth ages 18-35) have received training on chocolate formulation					Feb 2015		
C3.19	New business relationship established by JCFA representatives with a potential buyer or trader	0				1		
						Feb 2016		
C3.11	JCFA cocoa/chocolate products developed and marketed	0				2		
0						Feb 2015		

Component 4: Capturing and Disseminating Knowledge**Weight:** 6%**Classification:** Satisfactory

C4.11	Learning exchanges between JCFA representatives and other cocoa producing countries	0				2		
						Feb 2015		
C4.12	A cocoa resource center has been jointly established with the University of West Indies as a repository for cocoa research in Jamaica	0				1		
						Feb 2015		
C4.13	An assessment of best practices in other fine flavor cocoa producing countries disseminated among JCFA's members and relevant stakeholders	0				1		
						Feb 2015		
C4.14	Presentation to an international audience to share the JCFA experience of process and product upgrading to reach high value markets	0				1		
						Feb 2016		
C4.15	Case study on community based cocoa processing in Jamaica produced and disseminated to relevant audiences	0				1		
						Feb 2016		

Milestones	Planned	Due Date	Achieved	Date achieved	Status
M0 Conditions Prior	8	Aug 2013	8	Aug 2013	Achieved
M2 [*] Training manuals on organic cocoa production and post-harvest processing completed	1	Mar 2014	2	Mar 2014	Achieved
M1 [*] 1 consultant hired to develop a computerized traceable acquisition system	1	Apr 2014	1	May 2014	Achieved late
M3 1 medium term business and strategic plan for the JCFA written and approved	1	Aug 2014			
M4 JCFA farmers engaged in the process of group organic certification	250	Feb 2015			
M5 JCFA farmer registry completed and functioning	1	Mar 2015			
M6 Annual JCFA cocoa production increases to 100 tons	1	Aug 2015	120	Dec 2013	Achieved
M7 Final inspection audit carried out to achieve certification	1	Dec 2015			
M8 1 expression of interest/contract signed with a new buyer	1	Jan 2016			

[*] Indicate that the milestone has been reformulated

CRITICAL ISSUES THAT HAVE AFFECTED PERFORMANCE

- [X] Executing agency institutional capacity
- [X] Supplier/contractor performance
- [X] Purchase difficulties

SECTION 4: RISKS**MOST IMPORTANT RISKS AFFECTING FUTURE PERFORMANCE**

	Level	Mitigation action	Responsible
1. 1. The inadequate performance or resignation of the project team	Medium	The Project Director will actively participate in the implementation of project activities and developing competencies in IDB's policies and procedures.	Project Coordinator
2. Unfavourable weather patterns	Medium	Rehabilitation of cocoa fields is expected to reduce the negative impacts associated with natural disaster damages.	Project Coordinator
3. Suitable partners are not available and willing to host learning exchanges	Medium	Use International Cocoa Organization (ICCO) in region. Use Gene bank for ICCO in region, such as Trinidad	Project Coordinator
4. Necessary culinary tools and equipment are not available to provide training on chocolate making	Medium	...	Project Coordinator
5. Farmers are not willing to provide information to populate registry	Medium	Use of field officers and known industry specialist to gain acceptance and promote the benefit of the registry	Project Coordinator

PROJECT RISK LEVEL: Medium **TOTAL NUMBER OF RISKS:** 17 **IN EFFECT RISKS:** 17 **NOT IN EFFECT RISKS:** 0 **MITIGATED RISKS:** 0**SECTION 5: SUSTAINABILITY****Likelihood of project sustainability after project completion:** P - Probable**CRITICAL ISSUES THAT MAY AFFECT PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY**

[None reported in this period]

Actions related to sustainability which will be or have been implemented:

A training component was deliberately placed in the Terms of Reference of all the consultants employed under the "Revitalizing of the Jamaican Cocoa Sector" project. The rationale for this was the transfer of knowledge and sustainability long after the end of the project. This will have a tremendous impact on the livelihoods of these folks if they implement the improved practices and techniques their annual income from cocoa sales will increase by 25%. The expected impact of two of the consultancies is explained below:

Rehabilitation – As a requirement in his Terms of Reference the Rehabilitation Specialist is expected to trained a cadre of young persons in the various parishes on the rudiments of rehabilitation. When trained, these group of young people will be expected to carry out rehabilitation exercise in their various communities when the need arise. Having this skill will make them employable in cocoa producing communities.

Youth and Gender Workshops – The average age of a cocoa farmer is 65. When these workshops are completed, it is expected that more young people will be

motivated to venture into cocoa production.

SECTION 6: PRACTICAL LESSONS

	Relative to	Author
1. Start the procurement exercise for goods and services very early so as to put in mitigating strategies for any unforeseen obstacles that may affect the targeted results.	Implementation	Edwards, Donovan Horace
Due a thorough due diligence check before engaging consultants		