

# PROJECT STATUS REPORT

JULY 2018 - DECEMBER 2018

## SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY

**PROJECT NAME:** Project Grow: Promoting Local Sourcing for an International Jamaican Brand

Project Number: JA-M1035 - Project Num.: ATN/ME-15663-JA

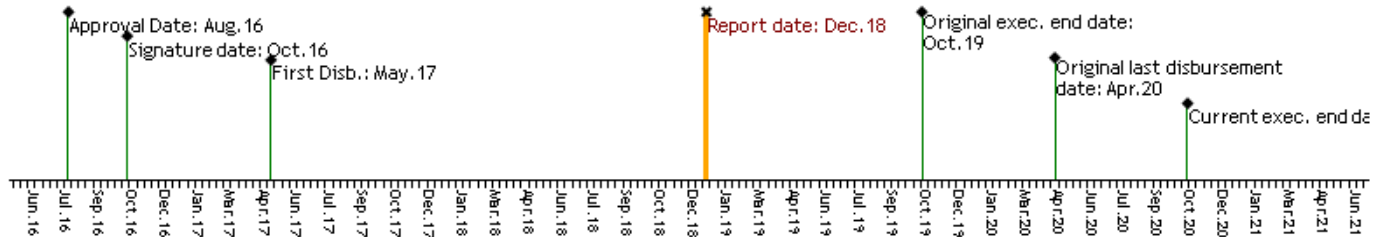
**Country Admin**  
JAMAICA

**Country Beneficiary**  
JAMAICA

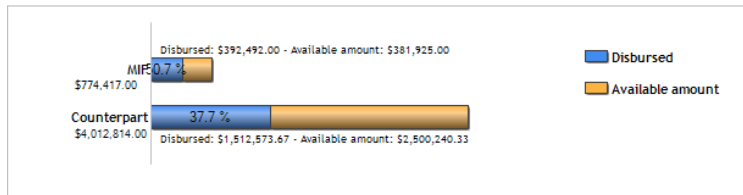
**Executing Agency:** DESNOES & GEDDES FOUNDATION

**Design Team Leader:** YOLANDA STRACHAN  
**Supervision Team Leader:** SEGREE TERRY-ANN SHARLENE

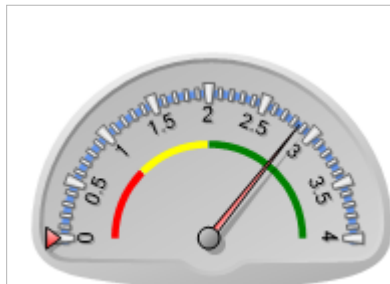
### PROJECT CYCLE



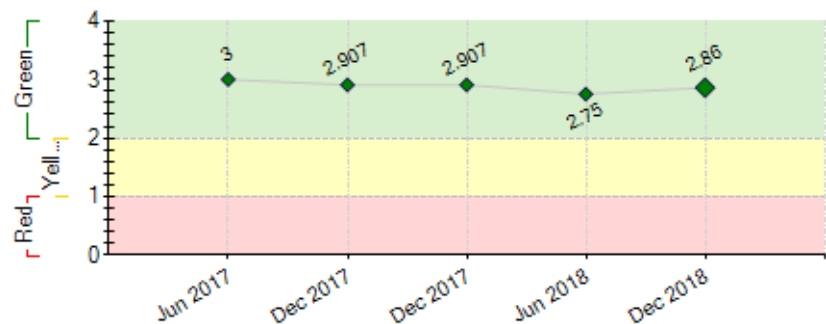
### FUNDS



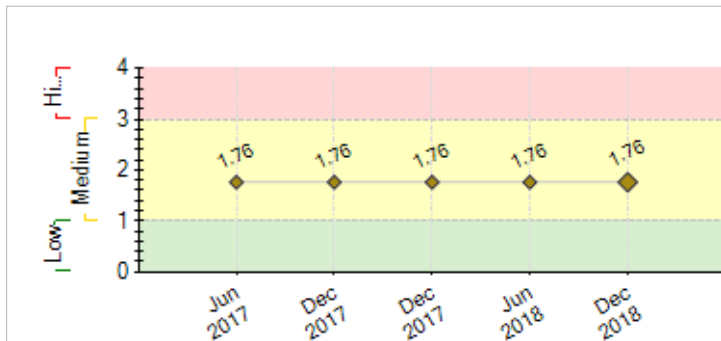
### PERFORMANCE SCORE



Current score: Satisfactory: 2.86  
MIF Average: 0



### EXTERNAL RISKS



### INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

**Risk**

**Financial Management:** Medium

**Procurement:** Medium

**Technical Capacity:** Low

## SECTION 2: PERFORMANCE

## Summary of project performance since inception

The Impact Objective is being met. 141 farmers have been contracted by Red Stripe to supply cassava, this represents 'new' income to the farmers as cassava is not the income or crop being cultivated by most of the farmers. Additionally youths have been trained and received employment along the cassava value chain with some of them reporting that this was their first time earning and going to an ATM and that they are now able to do things for themselves such as buy a bed and go back to school to improve literacy.

However only 2 of the 4 Indicator targets have been met to-date [Indicators 1 and 3] The targets for 3 of the 4 have not been met due to (1) the closure of the factory and no harvesting over an extended period and (2) the incorrect amount used to calculate the expected earning (J\$33/kg was used when the highest paid is J\$30 if maximum starch is achieved and most do not achieve maximum starch),

The milestones for the project have all been met and the remaining milestones are on target to be met.

It is highly likely that the project will achieve its objective qualitatively however quantitatively it is marginal, the operation of the factory in year 3 will greatly determine if the quantitative targets will be met.

The PEU will seek to work closely with the farmers and Red Stripe to improve on the agronomic practices to realize higher yields and starch. Also the finding of the research will greatly benefit the sustainability of Project Grow after the IDB project

## Comments from the Supervision Team Leader

Agree with the Executing Agency comments

## Summary of project performance in the last six months

The PEU worked hard specifically on Component 3 to identify and deliver the agronomic and life skills training and provision of employment to youths. This saw an increase from 12 youth trained to over 200 youth trained and another 150 receiving employment. The first Knowledge Sharing forum under the project was held in November 2018 with over 60 persons attending, there were presentations on all the components of the project

Activities also continued under the Component 2 with the inter-crop trials started and climate modelling added to the varietal trials

Challenges during the period were mainly around the delayed start up of the upgraded factory and the subsequent closures due to mechanical and other issues. This has affected the targets to be achieved for kilograms harvested, amount earned, starch and yield averages.

The next semester will see (1) the training of new farmers contracted by Red Stripe, (2) continued training and provision of employment for youths, (3) harvesting of cassava on the varietal plots, (4) harvesting of the inter-crops on the trial plots, (5) training of young entrepreneurs along the cassava value chain, (6) completion of the development of Cost of Production, (7) partnering with other financial institutions to provide credit options for the farmers, (8) completion of the last Milestone

## 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
Goal:							
Purpose:							
Milestones	Planned	Due Date	Achieved	Date of achievement	Status		

## CRITICAL ISSUES THAT HAVE AFFECTED PERFORMANCE

[None reported in this period]

## SECTION 4: RISKS

## MOST IMPORTANT RISKS AFFECTING FUTURE PERFORMANCE

	Level	Mitigation action	Responsible
1. Farmers are unable to repay the loans for starter kits.	Medium	Farmers selected for purchase contracts will be carefully screened by both Red Stripe and the financial institution to determine their capacity to produce cassava and repay the loan.	Project Coordinator
2. The partnering financial institution has lower than expected capacity to develop new products and administer the credit facility for farmers	Medium	The MIF has worked with Red Stripe to develop specific TORs in order to select a financial institution with the capacity, experience and track record to manage the credit facility.	Project Coordinator
3. Jamaica, like most small island developing countries, is vulnerable to the impact of climate change, particularly extreme drought, flooding and storm events which could negatively affect the cassava harvest	Medium	The promotion and use of high-yielding climate resilient cassava varieties could help to mitigate the risk of crop losses. Further to this, the geographical dispersion of the cassava clusters across the island will also mitigate against this risk. The cassava cultivation training provided will also build the knowledge of farmers on land practices to reduce the effect of adverse climatic conditions	Project Coordinator

**PROJECT RISK LEVEL:** Medium    **TOTAL NUMBER OF RISKS:** 5    **IN EFFECT RISKS:** 3    **NOT IN EFFECT RISKS:** 0    **MITIGATED RISKS:** 2

## SECTION 5: SUSTAINABILITY

**Likelihood of project sustainability after project completion:** HP - Highly Probable

## CRITICAL ISSUES THAT MAY AFFECT PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY

*[None reported in this period]*

**Actions related to sustainability which have been taken in the reporting period:**

An assessment of each farmer cultivating for Red Stripe was undertaken and a capacity building plan developed to ensure farmers' ability to continue operation without continued monitoring by Extension Officers.

## SECTION 6: PRACTICAL LESSONS

*[No lessons learned found]*