

Report on the OAS MIPYMES Project for the Development of Rural Micro, Small and Medium Sized Agri-business in Latin America and the Caribbean

Report Period:- Year 2002

Country:- Jamaica

1. Introduction

Jamaica is a participant in the OAS funded project for the development of rural micro, small and medium sized agri-business in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Scientific Research Council is the coordinating agency for the project in Jamaica.

The local coordinator, Mr. Maurice Lewis, of the Food Technology Institute of the Scientific Research Council attended the first meeting of Coordinators in April in Costa Rica.

This was followed by the evaluation of the local coordinating committee, made up of seven persons, by Mr. Emil De La Rocha.

Three members of the coordinating team received training in Business, Environmental and Quality Management in Costa Rica from June 3 to 7. One person received local funding for attending the training.

The coordinating team has been meeting to plan and to execute the project. The following has been accomplished to date.

- (a) Coordinators meeting was attended in Costa Rica from April 1 to 4, 2002 by the Country Coordinator, Mr. Maurice Lewis.
- (b) The evaluation of the local coordinating committee was done by Consultant, Mr. Emil De la Rocha from May 9 to 10, 2002.
- (c) A report and the required information arising out of the evaluation of the coordinating committee were submitted.
- (d) A brochure on the project was developed to provide information to the rural leaders, companies, and other interested parties.
- (e) Meetings were held by the coordinating committee to plan and execute the programme for the selection and training of rural leaders and the rural enterprises.
- (f) The National Training Institute, in Jamaica, was contacted and agreed on assistance to the project.

The national training Institute were also issued with CD copies of the training programmes for adaptation for the training of members of the Enterprises.

2. Activities under taken by the Project

The following are the progress made on the project.

(a) Coordinators meeting

Country Coordinator, Mr. Maurice Lewis of the Scientific Research Council, attended the first meeting of the project's country coordinators in Costa Rica from April 1 to 4. The previous report commented on this meeting.

(b) National Coordinating Team

A National Coordinating Team for Jamaica was formed in April and was evaluated by the consultant Mr. Emil De la Rocha on May 9 to 10, 2002.

The Team is comprised of:-

Mr. Maurice Lewis	-	Coordinator Food Technology Institute of the Scientific Research Council
Mr. Hawthorne Watson	-	Scientific Research Council
Mrs. Marcia Henry	-	Scientific Research Council
Miss Julia Brown	-	Scientific Research Council
Mrs. Lorna Gooden	-	Rural Agricultural Development Agency
Mrs. Juliette Lee-Tomlinson	-	Social Development Commission
Mrs. Dawn Marie Chin	-	Jamaica Business Development Centre

(c) Training of Coordinators

Three (3) members of the coordinating committee visited Costa Rica and received training in Business, Environmental, and Quality Management from June 3 – 7. One person received funding to pay for her participation. Three persons were sent, each with experience in a specific area of the training.

The persons trained were:-

Mrs. Marcia Henry	(Quality Management)
Mrs. Lorna Gooden	(Business and Rural Enterprises)
Miss Julia Brown	(Environmental Management)

(d) Project Plans and Implementation

(i) A Brochure was developed in order to give information on the project to prospective rural leaders, Enterprises and other interested parties. A copy is attached.

(ii) Criteria were established for the selection of rural leaders and enterprises

i.e. The rural leaders would comprise of:-

- Fourteen rural leaders representing one per parish (province) Jamaica.
- Members would be drawn from
 - (a) Our Rural Agricultural Development Agency (RADA)
 - (b) Our National Training Agency (HEART Trust/NTA) and
 - (c) Our Social Development Commission (to be responsible for the organization of venue and communication of events).

The Enterprises targeted were to have the following characteristics:-

- ❖ Rural
- ❖ Involved with Agri business
- ❖ A micro, small or medium sized company
- ❖ Registered company (to suggest stability)
- ❖ Willing to be trained

(iii) A project implementation schedule was prepared for the execution of the project.

(iv) A list of relevant rural companies was prepared comprising recommendations from the members of the Coordinating Committee and from a list of companies registered with our local Bureau of Standards.

(v) Questionnaires were circulated and the completed forms were evaluated by the coordinating committee for short listing. (see sample attached)

Attached are the companies contacted and those short-listed to date.

Some of the companies to whom questionnaires were circulated did not respond and a second contact/circulation was necessary for which response is awaited.

List of Companies short-listed.

	Number of employees	Name of Company	Name of Owner/Manager	Telephone #	Location (distance from the capital)	Main Activities
1.	50	Southern Fruits and Food Processors Ltd.	Mr. Derrick Rochester/ Ms. Donna Bromfield	965-8060	125 km	Fruit and vegetable processing
2.	4	E. C.'s Koconutz Ltd.	Ms. Yvonne Chin	982-4960	65 km	Jamaican sweets
3.	15	Woburn Lawn Spicy Grove Industry	Mr Ran Shephard	703-0999	65 km	Processing of spices and seasoning
4.	67	West Best Foods Ltd.	Mr. Andrew Morales	955-0100	200 km	Processing of fruits, vegetables and tubers
5.	2	Bunny World	Mr. Devon Bryan	844-4844	65 km	Manufacturer of pastry mix
6.		Buff Bay Development Action Committee (BUBADAC)	Pastor Clarence Brown	996-1956	50 km	Fruit Juice processing
7.	20	Twickenham Industries (RADA)	Mrs. Carmen Edwards	984-9052	20 km	Manufacturer of Bammies, Cassava Pan Cake and Fruit
8.	11	Lime Tree Gardens	Ms Ethel Shirley		90 km	Peanut Processing
9.	22	Canco Ltd.	Mrs. Dorothy Ramsay	982-4318	60 km	Canning of ackees and other crops other food processing activities

Number	Name of Company	Name of Owner/Manager	Telephone #	Location	Main Activities (distance from the capital)	
10.	8	Reach's Chips Producers	Ms Melka Currie	993-6736	85 km	Production of Banana and other chips
11.	12	North Clarendon Processing Co.	Mr. Leslie Thomas	987-2110	80 km	Production of candied peel and fruits and canned ackees
12.	42	St. John Bosco Children's Home	Mr. Orville Bailey	963-0611	95 km	Pig processing and training
13.	10	Faiths Pen Women's Group	Ms. Debbie Henry/ Ms. Claudette Roosevelt	726-9391 372-0908	65 km	Baking
14.	15	Hart Hill Womens Movement	Mrs. Melvina Miller	996-8237	65 km	Agro processing
15.	15	Island Packers Ltd.	Mr. M. Ming/ Mr. Winston O'Neil	996-8237	65 km	Canning of ackees and other crops.

Enterprises contacted

	<u>Company name</u>	<u>Nature of Business</u>	<u>Parish</u>	<u>Type</u>
1.	Hanover Chips Producers	Chips processors	Hanover	Micro
2.	Chins Enterprize		St. Thomas	Micro
3.	Flower Hill Bammies	Bammy processors	St. James	Small
4.	Reaches Chips Processors	Chips processors	St. Thomas	Small
5.	Sues Cottage Industry		St. Thomas	Small
6.	Spicy Grove Industry		St. Thomas	Small
7.	Hart Hill Cottage Industry		Portland	Small
8.	Lime Tree Garden		St. Ann	Small
9.	Wilmington Action Group		St. Thomas	Small
10.	Bromley Pig Rearing		St. Mary	Small
11.	Mocho		St. Elizabeth	Micro
12.	Twickenham Industries	Bammy and Cassava Pan Cake Mix	St. Catherine	Medium
13.	Wood Hall All Age School		Clarendon	Small
14.	Mitchell's Hill School		Clarendon	Small
15.	Alston High School		Clarendon	Small
16.	St. John Bosco School	Pig processing	Manchester	Small

	<u>Company name</u>	<u>Nature of Business</u>	<u>Parish</u>	<u>Type</u>
17.	Taste Bud's Restaurant		Manchester	Small
18.	West Best Foods Ltd.	Canning of ackees and other crops	Westmoreland	Medium
19.	Island Packers Ltd.	Canning of ackees and other crops	Clarendon	Small
20.	Tijule Co. Ltd.	Canning of ackees and other crops and production of sauces	Clarendon	Medium
21.	Plantation Pride	Canning of ackees and other crops	St. Thomas	Medium
22.	Canco Ltd.	Canning of ackees and other crops	St. Thomas	Medium
23.	Southern Processors Ltd.	Fruits and vegetable processors	St. Elizabeth	Medium
24.	Tweedside Processors	Canning of ackees	Clarendon	Small
25.	North Clarendon Processing	Canned peel and fruits processors, canning of ackees	Clarendon	Small
26.	Port Morant Processors	Canning of ackees	St. Thomas	Small
27.	Guy's Hill Processors	Canning of ackees	St. Catherine	Small
28.	BUBADAC	Fruit Juice processing	Portland	Small
29.	Free Hill Processors	Coconut products	St. Mary	Small
30.	Spring Gardens	Bottled Coconut Water	Nutts River St. Thomas	Small
31.	Long Bay Farms	Bottled Coconut Water	Portland	Small
32.	Adelphi Farms	Bottled Coconut Water	St. James	Small

	<u>Company name</u>	<u>Nature of Business</u>	<u>Parish</u>	<u>Type</u>
33.	Byron Allen		St. Catherine	Micro
34.	Rupert Campbell		St. Thomas	Micro
35.	Glenleigh Ltd	Noni sauce processing	St. Mary	Small
36.	Devon Bryan		St. Thomas	
37.	Ran Shepard			
38.	D. Wallace			