



Draft 2012 to 2015 Country Programming Framework - Jamaica

*Cooperation between the Food and Agriculture
Organization of the United Nations and the
Government of Jamaica*

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

CARDI	Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
CARICOM	Caribbean Community and Common Market
CARIFORUM	Caribbean Forum of African, Caribbean and Pacific States
CFC	Common Fund for Commodities
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CPF	Country Programming Framework
EC	European Community
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAOCR	Country Representative, Food and Agriculture Organization
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GOJ	Government of Jamaica
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IICA	Inter-American Institute for Agriculture
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
M & E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MoAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Jamaica
MTP	Medium Term Plan 2010 -2013, FAO
NIC	National Irrigation Commission
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
PIOJ	Planning Institute of Jamaica
RADA	Rural Agricultural Development Authority

TCP	Technical Cooperation Programme
UNCCA	United Nations Common Country Assessment
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

I. INTRODUCTION

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is an intergovernmental organization of 192 member countries and one member organization, the European Community. FAO is a knowledge based organization whose mandate is to raise nutrition levels; improve agricultural productivity and the lives of rural populations and contributes to growth in the world economy

FAO has cooperated with the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) in the development of the agriculture and natural resources sector for decades with the mechanisms for assistance being:

- The Technical Cooperation Programme
- The Technical Cooperation Programme Facility
- Telefood

FAO's global goals and related principles underpin its results based Medium Term Plan for 2010 to 2013 (MTP). The strategic, functional objectives, organizational results and core functions of the MTP have informed the development of Jamaica's Country Programming Framework (CPF) for the 2012 to 2015 period. The CPF is expected to contribute to Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 1 – the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger; MDG 7 – Ensure environmental sustainability and MDG 8 – Develop a global partnership for development

The 2012 to 2015 CPF is an update of the 2006 to 2010 National Medium Term Priority Framework (NMTPF). It provides a national framework for continued technical cooperation between FAO and the Government of Jamaica through the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MoAF) and is a programming instrument for guiding FAO's technical assistance and that of other international development agencies.

A participatory, consultative and analytical process was used in the development of Jamaica's 2012 to 2015 CPF to ensure that it reflects the felt needs of Jamaica's agricultural sector. Existing and proposed cooperation with Jamaica's other development partners, some already cooperating with the FAO at the national regional levels have been taken into account in the interest of the harmonization of interventions to prevent duplication. The CPF facilitates effective monitoring, evaluation and review.

The national goals and key outcomes of Vision 2030, Jamaica's national development plan, launched in 2009 and the Agriculture Sector plan component have been the basis for the selection of the priorities for FAO cooperation in Jamaica during the 2012 to 2015 period. A clearer definition of the priority areas of cooperation was determined through stakeholder consultations and priority setting workshops.

Four thematic areas for FAO cooperation during the 2012 to 2015 period have been identified:

1. Value chain development;
2. The creation of an enabling framework for the transformation of the agricultural sector;
3. The sustainable management of natural resources

4. National food security.

II. SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

A. National Context

The global economy registered its first decline in over five decades in 2009. Despite this, global economic activities were estimated to have grown during the second half of the year due largely to the implementation of effective monetary and fiscal policies.

The Jamaican economy, in contrast to the performance of the global economy, continued to experience low or negative growth with the contraction of GDP by 2.7% in 2009 following an annual average real GDP growth of 1.1% per year for the 2004 to 2008 period. This low / negative growth was accompanied by relatively high inflation and large deficits in external current account balances. For the first half of 2010 Real GDP contracted by an estimated 1.5% relative to the similar period of 2009. Real GDP is estimated to have contracted by 0.6% for the October to December 2010 quarter.¹ The 2009 inflation rate was 10.2% and there was a nominal depreciation of the Jamaican dollar of 21.4%. 2010 inflation was 11.7%. The 2010-2011 targets for GDP and inflation are 0.0 to 1.0% and 7.5 – 9.5% respectively.

Jamaica's adverse financial situation and its vulnerability to changes in the external environment, especially within the context of the global financial crisis, resulted in the country signing a 27 month standby agreement with the International Monetary Fund in 2010 January. This agreement that ends on 2012 March is for an amount equivalent to SDR820.5 million or 300% of quota (approx. US\$1300 million)

In 2009 the Goods Producing and service industries contracted by 8.5% and 0.6% respectively with all goods producing industries recording lower value added with the exception of the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries sector that recorded growth at 12.1%. The Goods producing industry declined by 0.7% for the October to December 2010 period with the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing sector declining 6.0%.

B. Situation and Outlook for Food Security and Rural Development, Agriculture and Natural Resources and Relevant Policies and Programmes

Approximately 65% of the Jamaican population live in rural districts and towns. In 2009 the Planning Institute of Jamaica reported that urbanisation continues to be a significant feature in Jamaica's population distribution and one of the population trends shaping its future. This is consistent with FAO's report of dynamic urbanisation in developing countries that include a massive population shift from rural to urban areas.

The general poor economic performance and the decline of the agricultural sector has triggered this population shift with the increased rural to urban migration including migrations from deep rural

¹ Planning Institute of Jamaica – Review of Economic Importance – October to December 2010 Volume 15 #3 & Overview of Jamaican Economy 2010

districts to rural towns resulting in congestion and increased incidences of squatting, especially in towns adjacent to tourism resorts. The 2009 Economic and Social Survey found that population growth continues to be evident and in tourism resorts such as Montego Bay and, Ocho Rios.

Increased investment in tourism has displaced agriculture as the engine of economic development in some rural parishes and offers opportunity in the increased demand for food and value added products. Tourism investment, accompanied by investment in construction and the service sectors, has been neither sufficiently widespread geographically nor generated enough employment to significantly reduce the impact of the decline in agricultural production and the bauxite/alumina industry on rural development in Jamaica, however. Rural farming communities adjacent to tourism resorts are yet to exploit the opportunity for significant increase in the demand for food with the demand being met currently by primarily imports. These sectors have created employment opportunities that compete directly with the agricultural sector for labour.

Goal No. 5 of the Agricultural Sector Plan: *“Contributor to Rural Development”* has incorporated the goals of the sustainable rural development policy, drafted by the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) in 2004. The related outcomes and major strategies are the provision of sustainable livelihoods for agriculture community residents; comprehensive land use planning and utilisation for agricultural development that includes the establishment of a policy and planning framework to protect and develop suitable agricultural lands and; establishment of a culture of wholistic community development

The agricultural and natural resources sector in Jamaica has been adversely impacted by changes in land use patterns and the significant decline in the production of major sub-sectors especially the production of traditional export crops such as sugarcane, bananas and coffee. Banana exports ended in 2008 and sugar and coffee exports have declined 23% and 13% respectively between 2004 and 2009.

The policy development programme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries ² is the framework for addressing these challenges and for exploiting emerging and existing opportunities. MoAF’s interventions, implemented through a number of projects and programmes are supported by local and international development partners, including the FAO.

The decline in the actual area of land used for active farming, over the last two decades in particular, has resulted in the reduced contribution of the agricultural sector to the country’s Gross Domestic Product and economic development. The growing pressure for the change in the use of prime agricultural lands for non-agricultural purposes such as industrial and commercial expansion has intensified. Jamaica has lost 25%, a quarter, of Jamaica’s 184,000 hectares of flat, mechanisable lands.³ This has had a negative impact on food security and the livelihood of agricultural communities particularly the rural farmers. The changes in the use of agricultural lands between 1997 and 2006 are shown in Table 1 of Annex 2.

² MoAF’s Policy Development Programme at 2011 January is shown in Annex

³ 2010 to 2011 Budget Speech of the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries

The Agricultural Land Use policy document is now being prepared and its Implementation is expected to achieve the goals of enhanced national food security; diversified, dynamic and productive use of agricultural land; environmentally sustainable use of agricultural land resources, and the creation of an enabling environment that promotes agricultural development activities through the provision of infrastructure and support services.

Jamaica's agricultural production is predominantly rainfed with only approximately 25,000 hectares, or 10% of cultivated lands in Jamaica being currently irrigated. Jamaica, the land of wood and water, has adequate water resources that can significantly increase agricultural productivity in areas with arable and irrigable lands that are still available for agricultural production. 50% or approximately 15,000 hectares of the 30, 000 hectares of these arable lands with irrigation infrastructure are idle and offers opportunity for renewed private sector investment in the agricultural sector. Irrigation costs in areas served by the National Irrigation Commission (NIC) benefits from an eighty percent (80%) subsidy although NIC has strategies to gradually implement full cost recovery thereby increasing revenues needed for the maintenance of these highly capital intensive systems.

The Policy Framework for Sustainable Fisheries development, aimed at improving the institutional capacity and present management practices of the fishing industry is well advanced. A draft Fisheries bill has been developed and the legislation is being finalized. A fifteen year strategic plan is to be developed once the policy is adopted. Despite a reported 64% increase in inland fish/shrimp production between 2004 and 2009, and a 32% increase in marine fish production, the marine fishing industry continues to be adversely affected by overfishing, introduction of invasive species such as lion fish, coastal degradation and development, especially on the north coast of Jamaica that has destroyed nursery and breeding grounds. This industry is of critical importance to food security and sustained livelihoods in many rural areas.

MoAF has placed priority on finalizing the Food and Nutrition Security policy that will define the food and nutritional goals that are to be met if Jamaica's agriculture and food systems are to deliver adequate and appropriate quantities of food especially to low income and vulnerable groups. It will also prescribe a structured food import substitution programme and a reorientation of Jamaica's food import and distribution system with the aim of increasing the availability of good quality nutritious foods to all Jamaicans. MoAF is collaborating with the Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute and the Ministry of Health in the development of the policy and technical assistance from the FAO would facilitate greater coordination and expedite the drafting and adopting of this critical policy.

MoAF continues to cooperate with the Bureau of Standards and other relevant government agencies in the development of appropriate standards for the sector has developed some capacity in standardization and certification. The existing gaps in policy formulation and institutional capacity building offer opportunities for FAO cooperation and are in accordance with FAO's regional results.

A Plant Health policy that has the objective of establishing a coordinated, sustainable and internationally compliant plant health system is in place. This policy is expected to foster consumer, plant and

environmental health and food security and an action plan is to be developed with the input of the National Plant Health Coordinating Committee.

A medium term policy framework for Jamaica's cattle sector has been drafted. To exploit the existing potential for the export of meat, fish and meat products the development of a Veterinary public health system with supporting legislation and fast-tracking of the development of the Animal health policy is considered to be of critical importance. Provision of infrastructure such as abattoirs and appropriate legislation that facilitates the required ante and post-mortem inspection of livestock ensuring that animals are transported and slaughtered in accordance with international standards are expected to be some of the direct benefits of the introduction of this system.

The implementation of a national animal identification and traceability system, starting with cattle, has been affected by budgetary constraints and the InterAmerican Development Bank has been approached for assistance.

The management and conservation of Jamaica's forest resources are the responsibility of the Forestry Department, an executive agency. The mandate of the Forestry Department is outlined in the Forest Act of 1996 and a Strategic Forest Management Plan for the 2009 – 2013 period has been drafted.

In 2008 approximately 333,000 hectares or 30% of lands in Jamaica were categorized as forests, approximately 88,000 hectares of which is classified as closed broadleaf forest with a closed canopy and minimal human disturbance. Most of the remaining forest is "disturbed broadleaf" (showing varying degrees of human disturbance) or natural dry open forest. The estimated overall deforestation rate is 0.1% per year but the extent and rate to which forest cover and biodiversity is being degraded as a result of the disturbance is unknown. Reducing deforestation and restoring forests are recognized as high national priorities

C. Main Actors and Institutions

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MoAF) has direct responsibility for the administration of public sector programmes and projects of Jamaica's agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors. The political directorate of the MoAF is headed by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries assisted by a Minister of State. The civil service arm of the MoAF is headed by the Permanent Secretary.

The vision of the MoAF is that of being the driver for the sustainable development of the Jamaican agricultural sector and natural resources by the year 2020.

MoAF's mission is to advance the development of a modern, efficient, internationally competitive agricultural sector and the sustainable management of Jamaica's fishery resources, in order to promote food security and food safety, in an effort to contribute to the development and well-being of all Jamaicans

The MoAF is comprised of a four major divisions:

- The Technical Services Directorate that has responsibility for Research and Development, Veterinary Services, Public Gardens, Plant Quarantine and Project Management and Coordination. The Fisheries Division that is now a part of this Directorate is currently in the process of being converted into an executive agency subject to the finalization of appropriate legislation.
- Policy Administration and Coordination that has responsibility for Human Resource Management & Development; Documentation, Information and Access services; Communication & Public Relations; Corporate Planning & Performance Evaluation; Information & Communication Technology; Facilities and Property Management
- Agriculture Planning and Policy that has responsibility for the Economic Planning Division; Agricultural Marketing and Information and International Trade

The MoAF has administrative responsibility for a number of commodity boards, agencies and statutory bodies including the Dairy Development Board, the Sugar Industry Authority and the Forestry Department.

A cabinet directive for a review of the roles and functions of commodity boards was the basis of a study to *Rationalize the Institutional Arrangements and Functions Governing the Production and Export of Selected Agricultural Commodities*. The targeted commodities were coffee, cocoa, coconut, banana and spices. A number of far reaching recommendations that include the repeal of enabling legislation; transfer of regulatory and technical support functions to public sector entities and the divestment of marketing and commercial functions have been made and are now the subject of public consultations that will inform a final proposal to Cabinet.

Statutory bodies include the Rural Agricultural Development Authority that has responsibility for technology dissemination, the Jamaica 4H clubs and the Jamaica Agricultural Society, the country's main farmer's organisation. The Agro-Invest Corporation has assumed the roles and functions of the former Agricultural Development Corporation.

D. FAO and the International Cooperation

The implementation of FAO's Technical Cooperation Programme in Jamaica has been varied. Budgets have ranged from US\$5,667 for assistance in developing a National Water Resources Development Water Plan in the 1986/87 biennium to US\$480,000 in the 2010/2011 biennium for assistance in the management of the Citrus Greening Programme in Jamaica that is still operationally active. There are currently twelve operationally active TCP programmes in Jamaica. These include provision of technical assistance for a value chain analysis of Jamaican dairy and beef cattle; analysis of agricultural education in Jamaica and disaster response and emergency assistance.⁴ Jamaica also benefits from a number of TCP regional projects such as the provision of technical assistance in support of the Regional Special Programme for Food Security for CARIFORUM

⁴ List of currently active FAO projects shown in the annex

Jamaica has also benefitted over the years from the Technical Cooperation Programme Facility that enables FAO Country representatives to respond to the urgent needs of government by the provision of a maximum of US\$200,000 per biennium for urgent small-scale development assistance.

Since 1977 more than 2700 TeleFood projects have been approved in 130 countries, 627 located in the Latin America and Caribbean region. Jamaica has benefitted from 31 Telefood projects financed from TeleFood 1997 to 2009 campaigns. The 14 operationally active projects are being implemented with the technical support of the Rural Agricultural Development Authority and the Jamaica 4H Clubs and include school garden, poultry rearing and beekeeping projects.

FAO is currently cooperating with GOJ and the European Union in the implementation of a two year project, "Strengthening Jamaica's Food Security Programme" commonly called the EC Food Facility project. The main objectives of this project are the reduction of poverty and the enhancement of food security for vulnerable groups through improved availability of safe, affordable and nutritious food for the rural population and urban poor. Partnership with the Common Fund for Commodities in a regional project is aimed at the improvement of livelihoods along the root and tuber crop commodity chain through the use of appropriate marketing and production technologies.

The FAO office in Jamaica has contributed to the United Nations Common Country Assessment (UNCCA) completed in 2010 December and is currently partnering with other United Nation agencies viz. PAHO, UNDP, UNEP and UNESCO in the development of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) especially the UNDAF pillar of Environment.

In pursuit of its vision and mission the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is partnering⁵ with a number of other international partners.

E. Challenges and Opportunities for Agricultural and Rural Development

The challenges for agricultural, rural development and food security are summarized as follows:

- Sustained poor macroeconomic performance for more than two decades resulting in severe budgetary constraints and Government's ability to adequately provide critical services such as research, development and other technical support services to agricultural investors
- The long term implementation of structural adjustment policies that included the institutionalization of an inflationary monetary policy and the liberalization of trade and foreign exchange. These policies, although offering some advantages, especially for the financial and service sectors, have had a negative impact on the goods producing sectors such as manufacturing and agriculture resulting in significant job losses and increased poverty. Many agricultural investors lost property and other assets as a result of the high interest rate policies and subsequent action to save the financial sector from collapse. Potential agricultural investors have, therefore, become even more risk averse because of the negative experience.

⁵ See list of MoAF's Internationally funded projects; list of FAO projects and the UNDAF Environment Results Matrix in Annex

- Changes in international trading arrangements resulting in the loss of preferential markets for traditional export crops such as bananas, sugar, coffee and other commodities
- The recent economic recession and rising food prices in a country that is dependent on imports to meet its food security needs.
- Increased urbanization and the change in the use of arable agricultural lands for housing and industrial development.
- Increasing incidences of natural disasters such as hurricanes. Between 2004 and 2008 Jamaica's agricultural sector was adversely affected by two tropical storms and four hurricanes
- High levels of crime including praedial larceny
- Low education performance levels and inadequate skills training resulting in capacity issues compounded by inadequate research and development activities and the development of appropriate and new technologies.

Rising world food prices and the strong domestic demand for food offers major opportunities for renewed investment in Jamaica's agricultural sector boosting MoAF's strategy of targeted import substitutions of critical agricultural produce. MoAF has determined that some 30% of food imports could be substituted by local production. This will require change in some of the existing trade policies.

This import substitution strategy, and the value chain approach that seeks to identify competitive and comparative advantage in domestic and international markets and encourage public and private sector investment that can exploit such advantage along the value chain, can result in significant foreign exchange savings and the creation of jobs in rural areas. Significant investment in new hotel rooms and related tourism attractions can be exploited by this strategy as the tourism sector is a major market for both fresh and processed foods, most of which are now imported.

Jamaica, despite the change in land use, has 87,000 acres of lands with irrigation infrastructure of which only 50% is currently being utilized. 67,738 acres is owned privately and 20,200 acres by Government. The use of these lands that are available for investment can significantly improve agricultural productivity levels if they are the subject of appropriate crop zoning aimed at optimizing land use efficiency.

III. PRIORITIES OF FAO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

A. Introduction

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) embody a core global agenda and framework for outcome-focused development cooperation.⁶ The MDGs are the world's time-bound and quantified targets, with a deadline of 2015, for addressing extreme poverty in its many dimensions. The MDGs of greatest relevance to the agriculture and natural resources sector are:

- Goal No. 1: Eradicated extreme hunger and poverty
- Goal No. 7: Ensure environmental sustainability and
- Goal No. 8: Develop a global partnership for development

FAO's results based, strategic development planning framework is guided by its vision of a world free of hunger and malnutrition where food and agriculture contribute to improving the living standards of all, especially the poorest, in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner.

To foster the achievement of this vision and of the Millennium Development Goals, FAO will promote the continuing contribution of food and sustainable agriculture to the attainment of three global goals:

- Reduction of the absolute number of people suffering from hunger, progressively ensuring a world in which all people at all times have sufficient safe and nutritious food that meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life;
- Elimination of poverty and the driving forward of economic and social progress for all with increased food production, enhanced rural development and sustainable livelihoods;
- Sustainable management and utilization of natural resources including land, water, air, climate and genetic resources, for the benefit of present and future generations.

The strategic and functional objectives, organizational results and core functions of the Medium Term Plan 2010 to 2013 have informed the development of the 2012 to 2015 Country Programming Framework and the selection of the priority areas for FAO cooperation. The CPF also takes cognizance of the priority action areas for the Latin American and Caribbean region documented in the review of the MTP. This review has shifted some of the priorities of the organizational results related to each strategic objective. In the case of Strategic Objectives A and B, for example, higher emphasis will now be placed on the promotion of an integrated systems approach that exploits opportunities for synergies between crop and livestock systems.

Jamaica's 2012 to 2015 Country Programming Framework links the FAO's strategic objectives to the national goals, outcomes and priority sector strategies of Jamaica's Agriculture sector plan, a component of Vision 2030 Jamaica, Jamaica's National Development Plan that was launched in 2009. A vision of "Jamaica the place of choice to live, work, raise families and do business" is the strategic guide or roadmap for Jamaica to achieve developed country status by 2030.

The four thematic areas identified for FAO cooperation are:

⁶ CL136/16 FAO Council – Elements for the Draft Strategic Framework Medium Term Plan 2010 to 2013

1. Value Chain Development
2. Creation of an Enabling Framework for the Transformation of the Agricultural Sector
3. The Sustainable Management of Resources
4. National Food Security

Six strategic priority areas⁷ have been identified within the framework of the above four thematic areas for FAO Cooperation.

B. Definition of Thematic/Priority Areas for FAO Cooperation in the Country

Thematic Area 1: Value Chain Development

Food production, agro-processing and distribution is organized along tightly aligned value chains that facilitates the coordination of the flow of inputs, products, information and financial resources among farmers, processors, retailers and other economic actors along the chain. The value chain approach acknowledges and seeks to strengthen livelihoods by improving efficiencies and facilitating synergies along this linked value chain as products move from primary production to the consumer.

Strategic Objective G –Enabling Environment for Markets to Improve Livelihoods and Rural Development, of FAO’s Medium Term Plan, 2010 to 2013, assumes that there is significant need for assistance to countries like Jamaica, given the globalization of value chains and the need to be cognizant of developments in international markets and policy and in international trade rules. Analysis and information concerning markets are needed to support the development of appropriate policies and FAO and its partner organizations have the capacity to assist.

Regional conferences to review the 2010 to 2013 MTP has validated the approaches in value chain development and the inclusive business models and the capacity building and support services needed to facilitate the integration of small farmers into markets. Emphasis is to be placed on strategies and policies to support small farmer integration into value chain, and also on strategies and institutional strengthening to maximize the development impacts of agri-business and agro-industries.

The need for the revitalization and reorganisation of Jamaica’s agricultural sector on the basis of modern technology and management in order to achieve greater efficiency and competitiveness has resulted in priority being placed on a market driven and export led strategy for the sector. This strategy is consistent with a strong long term relationship between GDP growth and export performance. A reported elasticity estimate of 0.84 for the 1980 to 2006 period⁸ that indicates that a 10% growth in exports can lead to 8.4% growth in GDP supports this strategy.

⁷ See National Medium Term Priority Framework Matrix in Annex

⁸ Jamaica – Agricultural Competitiveness Programme

A number of non-traditional crop and livestock products have emerged with good competitive prospects. Structural impediments to improved competitiveness such as poor linkages to markets manifested in inadequate market information; poor market infrastructure especially for post-harvest handling and poor communication or lack of communication within value chains currently limits the sectors ability to effectively exploit these opportunities. The development of value chains are said to be adversely affected by weak linkages of agro-processors with farmers, consumers, service providers – research, extension and finance; and international markets.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, with support from international development partners such as the IDB, European Union and USAID has initiated a number of programmes in support of its strategy to utilize a value chain development approach as the means of exploiting existing and emerging markets.

The US\$15 million, IDB financed Agricultural Competitiveness Programme,⁹ signed in 2010 November, is the most significant intervention, The general objective of this intervention is to increase the competitiveness of the agricultural sector through the achievement of three specific objectives:

1. Increase the capacity of small and medium size farmers to access national and international markets
2. Increase the performance of the country's food quality and safety management systems
3. Foster the development of agricultural and agro-processing value chains

The Agribusiness value chain development component of the IDB project promotes the integration of stakeholders into value chains and seeks to leverage greater levels of private sector investment in agriculture. Five pilot experiments of end-to end value chains are to be initiated.

The upgrading of MoAF's Export Division to more effectively exploit advantages along the value chain through the targeted development of the spices industry – pimento, ginger, turmeric and nutmeg, and the redevelopment of the dairy industry are in line with the value chain approach.

The relevant Vision 2030 Agriculture Sector Plan goals and strategic priority areas for the Value Chain development thematic area are:

Goal No. 1 - Efficient competitive diversified value-added agricultural production. The strategic priority area being the utilization of the value chain approach.

Goal No 2: Strong Marketing Systems for Domestic and Export Markets. The strategic priority area being the analysis of the local and international markets on an on-going basis, including new and emerging alternative markets.

The priority areas for FAO's technical assistance and cooperation during the 2012 to 2015 period are:

⁹ See List of Internationally funded projects in Annex

- The continued identification of the critical areas where comparative and competitive advantage exist for local and international markets
- The assessment and development of the value chain for key sub-sector areas.

Thematic Area 2: Creating of an Enabling Framework for the Transformation of the Agricultural Sector

The long term vision for the agricultural sector is its dynamic transformation through a sustained, research-oriented, technological, market driven and private sector led revolution that revitalizes rural communities, creates strong linkages with other sectors and repositions the sector to focus on the production of high value commodities and contribute to national food security.

The achievement of this long term vision requires an appropriate legislative and policy framework that is underpinned by capacity building that will result in the strengthening of research and development capabilities, the development of standards and standardization and certification capabilities; identification and mapping of production zones and related production systems and the application of local and international best practices.

The development of appropriate policies and strategies and the strengthening of institutional capacity are consistent with the related organizational results cross cutting most if not all of FAO's strategic objectives and with links existing between a number of these strategic objectives with respect to the creation of an enabling framework for agricultural development and transformation.

Enhanced institutional capacities, policy formulation (including regional coordination and institutional links) and investment is one of the six areas for priority action by FAO in the Latin America and Caribbean region.

MoAF has developed a policy framework for addressing the challenges and exploiting the existing opportunities of Jamaica's agricultural sector. Some policies are still at the concept paper stage and others, although well advanced or even adopted, now require assistance in the development of related strategic plans.

MoAF affected by financial and human resource constraints requires the continued support of its international partners for the creation of this enabling framework. Assistance in the area of protected agriculture/greenhouse technology; capacity building; provision of irrigation infrastructure is currently being provided by international development partners such as the European Union, CIDA, CFC, CARDI and IICA

The relevant Vision 2030 Agriculture Sector Plan goal is Goal #4: Enabling and Facilitating Framework, Infrastructure and Support Services and the strategic priority areas identified are:

1. The strengthened application of technology innovation, research and development to agricultural development
2. Development and maintenance of appropriate modernized policy legislation and regulatory framework for the agricultural sector

FAO technical assistance and cooperation will be required in the following areas:

- Conservation and improvement of genetic livestock and crop resources (including honey bees) through implementation of breeding and other relevant programmes
- Legislative framework and policy formulation for a veterinary public health system and related animal health policy and a national seed policy
- The development of a comprehensive fifteen year strategic development plan for the Fisheries industry

Thematic Area 3: Sustainable Management of Resources

The sustainable management of natural resources requires distinct technical disciplines for addressing key aspects of natural resources management, but it also requires a multi-disciplinary and a multi-sectoral approach to reduce competition for these resources. The multi-disciplinary/multi-sectoral approach recognizes that the challenges to the sustainable management of natural resources are predominantly social and hence the solutions are both technical and social.

The transfer of a significant percentage of arable agricultural lands for housing and other commercial use; increasing incidence of natural disasters such as hurricanes and floods and more devastating impacts of these disasters have created significantly increased demand on the country's limited financial and technical resources affecting the poor, the vulnerable and impacting the country's food security. International cooperation in recent years, as shown in the list of projects in the annex, has been concerned with the rehabilitation of the agricultural sector.

Good agricultural practices and the ability to compete in international markets now require strict adherence to the maintenance of environmental integrity as a means of ensuring sustainability. FAO has in the past been integrally involved in the development of appropriate land utilization policies and effective application of soil conservation and land husbandry practices in the agricultural sector. Some of these gains have been eroded with the decline in land use and the loss of arable and other agricultural lands to other sectors.

The relevant Vision 2030 Agricultural Sector Plan goal is Goal #6:Environmentally sustainable sector and the strategic priority areas identified are;

1. The need for an appropriate framework for the sustainable management of agriculture and natural resources
2. The development of a comprehensive hazard preparedness and disaster response and recovery mechanism for the agricultural sector

FAO's technical cooperation and assistance being required in the following areas:

- Development of a framework policy and appropriate legislation for the sustainable management of Jamaica's agricultural and natural resources that will include as key components:
 - The development of risk mitigation framework for the agricultural sector that specifically targets irrigated agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries and,
 - The development of a comprehensive emergency response plan for the agricultural sector utilizing improved technology

Thematic Area 4: National Food Security

Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary need and food preferences for an active and healthy life. The four dimensions of food nutrition and security are availability, access, utilization/national adequacy and the stability of food supply.

Food insecurity exists when people are undernourished as a result of the physical unavailability of food, their lack of social or economic access to adequate food, and/or inadequate food utilization. Food insecure people are those whose food intake falls below their minimum calorie (energy) requirements, as well as those who exhibit physical symptoms caused by energy and nutrient deficiencies resulting from an inadequate or unbalanced diet or from the body's inability to use food efficiently because of infection or disease.

FAO reports that between 2003 and 2005 the food requirement for Jamaica was 1860 kcal/capita/day while consumption averaged 2810/kcal/capita/day. Not everyone in Jamaica consumes 2810 kcal proportionately. The report also shows that Jamaica's undernourishment rate was 5% between 2003 and 2005 which is a 2% reduction from the 1995 to 1997 report.

Imports of food have increased significantly, moving from US\$ 453, 838 in 1999 to US\$802,332 in 2009. This has severely impacted the country's balance of payments. The widening gap between per capita domestic food production and per capita food consumption is attributed to the growing tourism sector's (46.6% growth in stop over visitors to 1.8 million in 2009 over 1999) demand for food, increased population (by 4.5% to 2.7 million in 2009/1999) and improved standard of living. Cereal imports consisting of rice, maize, wheat and flour accounts for 80% of all food imports.

Food security initiatives of the MoAF include cooperation with the FAO and the European Union through the EC Food Facility Project; the CARICOM/CARIFORUM Food security project financed by the Italian Government; and the Small Ruminant Project financed by the Common fund for Commodities

The relevant Vision 2030 Agricultural Sector Plan Goal is No. 7: National Food Security with the related strategic priority area identified being undertaking key food security projects

The specific areas for FAO cooperation are in keeping with FAO's Strategic Objective H – Improved Food Security and Nutrition and HO1: B O1: Countries and other stakeholders have strengthened capacity to formulate and implement coherent policies and programmes that address the root causes of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition. They are also in keeping with Strategic Objective D – Improved quality and safety of food at all stages of the food chain with emphasis on DO2: Institutional, policy and legal frameworks for food safety/quality management that support an integrated food chain approach.

The strategic priority area identified is the need to effectively address Jamaica's food security issues within the framework of food safety and the four overarching food and nutrition security objectives of food availability; food access; food utilization/nutritional adequacy and the stability of food supply.

FAO's technical assistance and cooperation are being sought in the following areas:

- Finalizing the drafting of a national food and nutritional policy and the development of appropriate legislation
- The drafting of a Food safety policy
- The development of a programme aimed at building the capacity of small farm families and other vulnerable rural families in the home preservation and storage of foods.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

A. Implementation Mechanisms

The Country Programming Framework for 2012 to 2015 is a joint product of the GOJ and FAO. Implementation of the CPF will be based on close collaboration with GOJ's lead agency, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, its agencies and other relevant government ministries and agencies. The FAO Country Representative (FAOCR) in Jamaica will assume full responsibility and leadership for the implementation of the CPF on behalf of the FAO in the context of FAO's decentralization policy. The FAOCR will receive the full support of the technical officers of the FAO's sub-regional office for the Caribbean with technical and managerial support being provided by the Latin American and the Caribbean regional office in Chile and from the respective FAO Headquarters Divisions in Rome.

B. Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms

The short and medium term priorities, policies and programmes of Vision 2030, including those of the Agricultural Sector Plan are captured in GOJ's Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework. This implementation framework facilitates consistent monitoring and evaluation, allows the incorporation of domestic as well as global changes into the national development plan that has informed the CPF. This monitoring and evaluation framework is compatible with the medium term framework of the FAO CPF.

MoAF will use its existing M & E mechanisms that will include quarterly review of the CPF by its Capital Projects committee to ensure that the CPF continues to reflect the felt needs of Jamaica's agricultural

and natural resources sector and that it continues to be compatible with the Agriculture Sector Plan and GOJ's Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework.

FAO and the GOJ will prepare annual progress reports on the implementation of the CPF which will be discussed in an annual CPF Implementation Review workshop. This review will facilitate the incorporation of any changes required to ensure that the CPF continues to reflect the felt needs of Jamaica's agricultural and natural resource sector. Monitoring and evaluation of the CPF will also be done within the framework of the regional results for Latin America and the Caribbean that will be used to guide operational planning and the allocation of resources within each region during the biennium.

The UNDAF¹⁰ for Jamaica is currently being finalized with FAO's contribution to the Environment Pillar. The related MDGs are MDG 7 and 8. The indicator of the UNDAF and localized MDGs constitute the general indicators against which the impact and contribution of FAO's intervention will be assessed and evaluated. Monitoring activities will therefore be harmonized and synchronized as much as possible with the UNDAF monitoring and review process. Specific plans for the results-based monitoring of the CPF will be developed prior to its implementation. These plans will establish key performance indicators for expected outputs and will refine outcome indicators in the strategic priority areas to facilitate the monitoring and evaluation process.

C. Resource Mobilization and Partnerships

FAO will continue to use existing mechanisms for cooperation in Jamaica to provide the required financial and other resources needed for the implementation of the CPF. GOJ is expected to provide counterpart contributions in terms of human resources, project offices, access to available data, duty exemptions and by other means.

FAO and GOJ will jointly facilitate the mobilization of external donor resources for the funding of Trust Fund projects through donor consultation and/or joint resource mobilization efforts. The CPF provides the framework for cooperation with other international development agencies in collaboration with the FAO or through direct partnership with the GOJ.

Existing partnerships, detailed in Section II above, will be strengthened and new partnerships sought. Partnerships at the domestic level will be encouraged between the relevant Ministries and GOJ agencies, private sector organisations, Non state actors and other stakeholders.

D. Assumptions and Risks

The successful implementation of the CPF will require effective and timely resource mobilization by GOJ, FAO and collaborating partners. National budget support and the timely release of budgeted funds, the anticipated private sector investment in the sector, political and social stability including further gains in reducing violent crimes, improved capacity of GOJ institutions and non-state groups are factors that can affect expected results.

¹⁰ Draft UNDAF Matrix is shown in Annex

Major risks include adverse macro-economic performance; the increasing risks of natural disasters such as floods and hurricanes and changes in international markets that can result in significant increases in energy, food and agricultural input prices.

V. ANNEXES

1. NMTPF Matrix
2. Situational Analysis
3. Major Programmes, Laws and Policies in the areas of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
 - a. Policy Development Programme, MoAF at 2011 January
 - b. List of International Development Agency Projects of MoAF at 2011 January
4. Field Programme in the Country
 - a. FAO Technical Cooperation Programme in Jamaica at 2011 March
 - b. Historical Evaluation of FAO Cooperation in the country
5. Draft UNDAF Results Matrix – Environment Pillar