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COUNTRY AND INTERCOUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

Consideration and approval of country programmes

THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR
JAMAICA

UNDP assistance requested by the Government of Jamaica
for the period 1982-1986

Illustrative IPF for 1982-1986: \$7.5 million

INTRODUCTION

1. The third country programme for Jamaica has been prepared by the National Planning Agency, which is the governmental body responsible for co-ordination of technical co-operation programmes. During the preparatory process, this agency reviewed with ministries and other government departments their requirements for technical assistance.

2. Consultations with the United Nations system in connection with the exercise started in the latter stages of the second country programme. A series of programming missions from the specialized agencies of the United Nations provided valuable advice, and a substantial list of project proposals was developed, which can also be used in negotiations with aid organizations outside the United Nations system. The UNDP Resident Representative's note on the country programme also represented a significant contribution to the exercise.

Note: In accordance with decision 81/15, adopted by the Governing Council on 27 June 1981 (E/1981/61/Rev.1, Annex I), the third country programme for Jamaica is being submitted to the Council without an accompanying note by the Administrator.

The previous country programmes for Jamaica and the accompanying notes by the Administrator were issued under the document symbols DP/GC/JAM/R.1-DP/GC/JAM/R.2 and DP/GC/JAM/R.1/RECOMMENDATION-DP/GC/JAM/R.2/RECOMMENDATION, respectively.

3. The content of the programme now presented has been determined by the Prime Minister (who in his capacity as Minister of Finance is directly responsible for technical co-operation) upon presentation of the proposed alternatives by the National Planning Agency.

4. The question of timing the country programme to run concurrently with a future national development plan was discussed with the UNDP Resident Representative, but the Government decided that it preferred the country programme to coincide with the third programming cycle, (1982-1986), thus providing a direct continuation of the previously approved programme.

5. The illustrative indicative planning figure (IPF) for the five-year period remains at US\$ 7.5 million, thus regrettably providing for a reduced volume of support in real terms, even if the full value of the IPF were to be delivered. Current financial stringencies imposed on the programme have further reduced this amount to \$6 million only. Any further reduction would have serious implications for carrying out even the reduced programme now being proposed.

6. Approximately US\$ 400,000 is being made available as cost-sharing by the government through a World Bank loan which is part of a US\$ 6 million technical assistance package. It is further expected that the government will make cost-sharing arrangements in at least one project in the agricultural sector. An amount of US\$ 6,197,000 has been programmed, thus leaving a reserve of \$ 203,000. It is also expected that a small unspent amount will be available as a carry-over from the second programme cycle.

7. The second country programme has been reviewed in depth and the results signified its financially modest yet pertinent contribution in areas of special relevance to Jamaica's development. It was noted that the major emphasis of this programme was in human resources development. In addition to the large-scale training projects such as Commercial Fisheries Training (JAM/73/016), Advanced Training - Commercial Toolroom (JAM/77/001) and Telecommunications Training (JAM/77/004), there was a significant training component in all projects regardless of sector. Further, the high percentage of small projects was directly attributable to the fact that, during the course of the second programming cycle, urgent training needs were identified in specialized areas, and unprogrammed UNDP funds were utilized for these projects. However the lack of qualified personnel, caused primarily by the serious brain drain experienced during the 1970s, still remains a problem to be addressed. UNDP is therefore being asked to provide additional assistance in this area.

8. A total of 35 projects were included in the second country programme and had the following objectives:

- (a) Agricultural development: of particular significance in this area were
 - (i) Development of forest industries and increased forestry production, preparation of investment projects financed from other sources of technical co-operation and the creation of the Forest Industries Development Company (FIDCO);
 - (ii) Bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis eradication campaigns as a result of which Jamaica has been declared a modified certified area for eradication of these diseases; preparation and testing of an Emergency Animal Health Disease Preparedness Plan; and

(iii) Pre-investment activities in the area of soil conservation (carried out with joint financing from the Norwegian Agency for International Development (NORAD), which included the formulation of proposals for financing the development of key watershed areas.

(b) Improvement of industrial capability and industrial design, engineering and packaging;

(c) Strengthening of the planning, managerial, technical, administrative and research capabilities of the Government; and

(d) Energy planning and development in areas in which UNDP-supported activities have resulted in substantial savings. A substantial loan from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), in support of further planning as well as investment in energy saving devices, has followed.

9. The natural disasters experienced recently (floods in 1979, hurricane in 1980) have heightened the awareness of Jamaica's vulnerability. The Government's Disaster Preparedness Office has accordingly been strengthened with the help of the United Nations Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO) and steps are being taken to educate the public in protective measures. Similarly, at the request of the Government, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), has prepared a disaster preparedness plan covering the food and agricultural sector. In addition, approximately US\$ 2 million was provided by the United Nations system, either directly or through funds-in-trust arrangements with bilateral sources. The sum includes US\$ 1,350,000 allocated from the UNDP programme reserve.

UNDP TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION ENVISAGED IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

10. A new Jamaican Government was elected in October 1980. It immediately introduced an economic recovery programme to arrest the economic decline experienced during the 1970s. Priority in the short-term was given to the restoration of the country's foreign exchange solvency, increased production, exports, and improved productivity. The cornerstone for the programme is the agreement concluded with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

11. The basic strategies to be relied upon to accomplish these goals are:

(a) Expansion of exports, to be achieved through increased production made possible through the renewed availability of raw materials;

(b) Revitalization of the tourist industry through a vigorous promotion campaign and comprehensive programme to refurbish existing facilities; and

(c) Adoption and implementation of sound agricultural policies aimed at stimulating growth, productivity, exports and lower costs.

12. The Government has decided to take a population census in June 1982. The exercise will provide planning instruments for the various sectors of economic and social activity.

13. The projects slated for UNDP support over the next five years have been selected with a view to supporting the Government's economic recovery programme. Efforts will

accordingly focus on activities which will contribute to increased production as well as to institutional support.

A. Public administration

14. An important UNDP-assisted project, Assistance to the Jamaica National Investment Company (JAM/79/001), underway since 1980, aims at developing the Government's management and recruiting capabilities, thus improving its ability to operate public enterprises and implement investment projects. (Estimated UNDP contribution: US\$ 49,000, with US\$400,000 in cost-sharing through a loan from the World Bank.)

B. Agriculture, forestry and fisheries

15. Two recent policy decisions have had far-reaching consequences for the Forestry Department: (a) the creation of FIDCO which depleted the staff of the Forestry Department; and (b) the merger of the latter with the Soil Conservation Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture. As a result, further technical assistance is being sought for the project, Institutional Strengthening of the Department of Forestry and Soil Conservation (JAM/77/006). Under this project, a national soil and water conservation policy will be developed and training provided. Technical co-operation in this field includes a USAID loan to stimulate industrial plantation activities, and institutional support from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. (Estimated UNDP contribution: US\$ 680,000.)

16. The pilot project, Fresh Water Prawn and Rice Fish Culture is intended to determine the feasibility of fresh water prawn culture and to train aquaculturists. It will also introduce and popularize rice/fish culture. (Estimated UNDP contribution: US\$ 240,000.)

17. The small project, Coconut Timber Utilization, based on UNDP/FAO experience in the Philippines, which will utilize the considerable amount of dead coconut trunks resulting from the lethal yellowing disease, is being proposed. (Estimated UNDP contribution: US\$ 120,000.) UNDP assistance will be augmented by funds from the Technical Co-operation Programme of FAO and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB).

18. A UNDP contribution of US\$ 900,000 under the project (JAM/78/006), together with US\$ 1 million from Norway administered by FAO, gave strong support to the National Soil Conservation Programme during the second country programme. Feasibility studies are now being prepared for presentation to financing institutions. The project will be completed in 1982. (Estimated UNDP contribution for 1982: US\$ 297,000.)

C. National resources

19. Mining is an important sector of the Jamaican economy, with bauxite and alumina accounting for a significant percentage of the gross national product (GNP). The goal of the Government is to maximize production in the 1980s. Small-scale workings of other mineral deposits such as gypsum, anhydrite, limestone, clay and marble have taken place in the past, but geological exploration has not been systematic. The Government intends to pursue a programme of exploration and exploitation of these resources. UNDP support is sought for institutional strengthening for mineral exploration and development of the Geological Survey Division of the Ministry of Mining and Energy. (Estimated UNDP contribution: US\$ 864,000.)

20. An important project (JAM/80/T01) in this field is the establishment, with the assistance of the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development (IFST) and

the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), of a well-equipped bauxite laboratory with a pilot testing plant which will assess the potential of locally usable and exportable bauxite and alumina. The project is being implemented largely by locally-recruited experts, including the project co-ordinator. The estimated IFST contribution is US\$ 951,000; that of the Government, approximately US\$ 4 million.

21. The project (JAM/77/007) in energy planning and development will be completed in 1982 with an estimated contribution from UNDP of US\$ 44,000.

22. The Survey Department is scheduled to commence the remapping of Jamaica. At present, it is carrying out surveying and mapping work in connection with nine major projects. Institutional assistance to the Department using locally-recruited expertise, is requested for this exercise. The Government will execute the project. (Estimated UNDP contribution: US\$ 16,000.)

D. Industry

23. A UNDP-assisted project (JAM/77/008), has established a Packaging Centre. It is now proposed that a Plastics Unit be created within the Centre. The Unit will establish standards for materials and containers and introduce new manufacturing methods. (Estimated UNDP contribution: US\$ 90,000.)

24. The immediate objectives of the ongoing project, National Planning and Development of Small Industries and Handicraft (JAM/81/002), are to improve the design, production, and marketing system of the handicraft institution, "Things Jamaican", and to support the 250 Villages Programme for Rural Industries by developing a main craft promotion centre at Devon House in Kingston. (Estimated UNDP contribution: US\$485,000)

E. Human Settlements

25. The Government is desirous of enhancing the physical conditions of both rural and urban areas. Important in this context are the development of capabilities and method for integrated planning and the search for and introduction of locally-produced building materials. The identification of areas for development which are free from the risk of damage by floods, and the provision of flood protection for flood-prone areas are also important aspects of this development. The Government is requesting UNDP assistance for three projects to address these problems.

26. An earmarking has been made for the project, Mapping of Flood-prone Areas and Feasibility Studies for Flood Control. It includes a disaster preparedness element. (Estimated UNDP contribution: US\$ 500,000.)

27. The town of May Pen, in south central Jamaica, has been selected as a pilot area for integrated rural development. The immediate objectives of the project, Integrated Urban Planning, will be the preparation of an integrated development plan for the town and its environs. (Estimated UNDP contribution: US\$ 385,000.)

28. UNDP assistance is sought for the establishment of a building and construction institute to research the production and use of local raw materials and building design. The first phase project is to be funded by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT). (Estimated UNDP contribution: US\$ 1,206,000.) Complementary to the work of this institute will be research into the use of red mud waste from the alumina industry for manufacturing building materials, under a UNIDO/Special Industrial Services (SIS)-financed project. (UNIDO/SIS: US\$ 66,000.) Also complementary will

be Jamaica's participation in a proposed UNIDO regional stone technology project, which would also be relevant to the mineral exploration and handicraft projects mentioned above.

F. Education

29. The main thrust of the Government's educational programme is to improve and expand primary education. Improvements, however, will be instituted at all educational levels. Curricula will be restructured in accordance with national priorities, particularly in the fields of agriculture, health care, business services, tourism and engineering. Increased educational opportunities are to be provided to the rural population, inter alia, through the media. Accordingly, UNDP assistance is being sought for the following:

(a) Telecommunications and Electronics Training (JAM/77/004): to complete the project begun during the first country programme at the College of Arts, Science and Technology (CAST). (Estimated UNDP contribution: US\$ 19,000);

(b) Restructuring of Engineering Courses at CAST (JAM/79/005): to complete restructuring of the part-time technician and full-time diploma programmes. (Estimated UNDP contribution: US\$ 455,000);

(c) Establishment of a Printing Unit at CAST (JAM/79/006): to meet the College's requirements for educational publications. (Estimated UNDP contribution: US\$ 109,000); and

(d) Assistance to the Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation (JAM/78/001): to complete project activities aimed at creating a central facility at the Corporation for developing educational programmes and at establishing a radio station in north east Jamaica. (Estimated UNDP contribution: US\$ 38,000).

30. UNDP supported regional projects of importance to Jamaica are: (a) the Caribbean Project Development Facility (RLA/81/010); (b) the Educational Programme for Animal Health Assistants (RLA/80/006); (c) the Education Project for Allied Health Personnel (RLA/79/054); and (d) the Caribbean Tourism Development Programme (RLA/79/063)

31. The commitment of the Government to areas of special concern to the United Nations such as technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC), the participation of women in development, etc., is demonstrated in its national budget. Due to lack of funds and other priorities, no specific allocation has been made in the third country programme to cover such concepts. Mention should be made however, of the US\$ 201,000 grant made by the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women for the promotion of women in development. As regards TCDC, bilateral co-operation agreements, notably in training, have existed for a number of years. A Government department for co-ordinating TCDC has in fact been established.

32. Most of the technical assistance in Jamaica is directed towards the agricultural sector, followed by industry, education and health. This orientation is likely to continue with increased emphasis on production, exports, tourism, minerals and mineral-linked industries. New agreements are expected to substantially increase the volume of aid with a tendency for a larger share to be obtained bilaterally. In 1980, for example, when technical assistance to Jamaica totalled \$15.3 million, US\$ 9.5 million was provided from bilateral sources and US\$ 5.8 million from multilateral sources of which the UNDP contribution amounted to US\$ 2.8 million.

Annex
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

A. Resources

(a)	IPF and other resources	\$
	(i) Illustrative IPF for programme period	7 500 000
	(ii) Carry-over from previous IPF cycles	-
	(iii) Other resources (Government cost-sharing)	400 000
(b)	Provision for adequate programming	-
	TOTAL	7 900 000

B. Use of resources

(a)	Programmed	
	(i) Ongoing projects	1 457 000
	(ii) New projects and new phases included in the country programme	3 034 000
	(iii) Earmarked for specific objectives and activities for which projects are to be worked out (continuous programming at a later stage)	1 706 000
	Subtotal	6 197 000
(b)	Reserve	203 000
(c)	Unprogrammed balance ^{a/}	1 500 000
	TOTAL	7 900 000

C. Financial distribution of programme, by sector

	<u>Sector</u> ^{b/}	<u>Ongoing projects</u>	<u>New projects</u>	<u>Sectora earmarkings</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
02	General development issues, process and planning	\$ 449 000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 449 000
04	Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	297 000	940 000	-	1 237 000
03	Natural resources	60 000	864 000	-	924 000
05	Industry	485 000	390 000	-	875 000
09	Human settlements	-	385 000	1 706 000	2 091 000
11	Education	166 000	455 000	-	621 000
	TOTAL	1 457 000	3 034 000	1 706 000	6 197 000

a/ Representing 20 per cent of the illustrative IPF which has not been taken into account for programming in accordance with the Administrator's instructions contained in UNDP/PROG/FIELD/111; UNDP/PROG/HQTRS/126.

b/ According to ACC classification.

