

Country: Jamaica

Date of submission: September 30, 2014

## Voluntary National Report to the 11th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

### Background

The eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF11) will be held from 4 to 15 May 2015 in New York. In accordance with the Forum's Multi-Year Program of Work for 2007-2015, the overall theme of UNFF11 is *Forests: progress, challenges and the way forward on the international arrangement on forests (IAF)*. The UNFF11 will, *inter-alia*:

1. Review progress towards the achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs) and implementation of the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (hereinafter referred to as the "Forest Instrument"), and
2. Review the contribution of forests and the IAF, including the Forest Instrument, to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The submission of national reports by UNFF Member States on the above items will provide a crucial input to the Secretary-General's analytical, consolidated report to UNFF11 on the progress and trends in the above-mentioned areas, as well as to the Forum's deliberation on the future of the IAF.

Pursuant to Resolution 10/1 of the tenth session of the Forum<sup>1</sup>, the UNFF Secretariat (UNFFS) in collaboration with the CPF member organizations and in close consultations with countries, revised and streamlined the reporting format. The attached revised format builds on and further simplifies the UNFF10 reporting format. Specifically, the number of questions has been reduced by consolidating previous areas of overlap, and Member States are asked to submit only information that is not currently provided to CPF member organizations, or that is unavailable in other international databases.

The UNFF11 reporting format is presented in two parts. Part I includes questions related to the progress on the implementation of the Forest Instrument, including achievement of the GOFs. Part II includes questions on the contribution of forests and SFM to the achievement of the MDGs.

To the extent possible, the information submitted by countries to the UNFFS will be supplemented with quantitative data, *inter alia*, from the following international data providers:

- FAO, Forest Resources Assessment (FRA)/Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CRFQ) - FAO, Forest Europe, UNECE, ITTO, Montreal Process and OFAC
- Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (JFSQ) – FAO, ITTO, UNECE, EUROSTAT
- FAO, State of the World's Forests (SOFO) 2014
- Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC).

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution 10/1 of UNFF10 requested the UNFF secretariat (UNFFS) to further streamline the guidelines and format for voluntary national reporting to the eleventh session of the Forum including a technical discussion on reporting methodology with relevant experts of Collaborative Partnership on Forest member organizations, taking into account types of information provided to Collaborative Partnership on Forest member organizations and through criteria and indicators and other regional processes and balanced regional workshops depending on available resources. (United Nations Forum on Forests, Report on the Tenth Session -8 to 19 April 2013, E/2013/42 \_E/CN.18/2013/18, Page 6)

## Reporting Guidelines and Format

Member States are kindly requested to:

1. Submit their completed national report **electronically (in MS Word) in English, French or Spanish to [unff@un.org](mailto:unff@un.org), by 30 September 2014**, at the latest. Early submissions will greatly facilitate the Secretariat's preparation of the analytical, consolidated Secretary-General's report to UNFF11. Please note that the MS Word file of the reporting format can also be downloaded from the UNFF website at: [http://www.un.org/esa/forests/unff11\\_reporting\\_template.doc](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/unff11_reporting_template.doc)
2. Submit, in a separate electronic file, a scanned version of the official, signed letter conveying their submission from their respective Ministry, or a note verbale from their Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York.
3. Submit any graphic elements included in their national report, as separate electronic files.
4. Check all boxes that apply to questions that have multiple-choice components. In addition to the "Yes" or "No" answers, countries are encouraged to provide brief descriptive narratives, as this provides context and background. Please also note that space provided for the descriptive information is limited to 250 words per question.

In view of the cross-cutting nature of issues related to forests and sustainable forest management (SFM), respondents are encouraged to consult with experts from relevant national ministries to complete the reporting format, including, for example, the ministries of environment, economic development, finance and agriculture. Respondents are also strongly encouraged to consult with the national focal points for the FAO Forest Resources Assessment (FRA), the Rio Conventions, other CPF member organizations and C&I processes, where applicable.

Please note that the Year 2007 – the year of the adoption of the Forest Instrument (2007), is used as a baseline throughout the document.

All terms used in this document are consistent with the FAO/FRA Working Paper 180 "Terms and Definitions FRA 2015": <http://www.fao.org/docrep/017/ap862e/ap862e00.pdf>

### Abbreviations

C&I	Criteria and Indicators processes
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FLEGT	Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
FRA	FAO's global Forest Resources Assessment
GOF	Global Objectives on Forests
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NFP	National Forest Programme
ODA	Official Development Assistance
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SFM	Sustainable forest management
UN	United Nations
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests

## General information

### Head of Forest Agency

Name:	Ms. Marilyn Headley
Title:	CEO & Conservator of Forests
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Organization:	Forestry Department
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### UNFF national focal point

Name:	Ms Marilyn Headley
Title:	CEO & Conservator of Forests
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Organization:	Forestry Department
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### Person to contact concerning the national report, if other than the UNFF national focal point

Name:	Mrs Siran Mitchell Bent
Title:	Manager, Strategic Corporate Planning
Address:	173 Constant Spring Road, Kingston 8 Jamaica
Organization:	Forestry Department
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**PART I:**  
**Progress on the implementation of the Forest Instrument,**  
**including achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs)**

1. Since the adoption of the Forest Instrument in 2007, what actions has your government taken to strengthen forest-related policies, legislation, and law enforcement in support of sustainable forest management (SFM)? Please specify:

	New	Amendment of existing
Forest policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Forest legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
National forest programme	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest land tenure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Please provide further information on these and/or other actions:

*A draft Forest Policy has been developed to amend the Forest Policy 2001. Preparations are being made for island-wide stakeholder consultations to be conducted once Green Paper status is granted to garner feedback on the proposed amendments. Drafting Instructions have been carried out to amend the Forest Act of 1996 but this process is awaiting the completion of the Policy amendment process.*

To what extent have these actions been effective in advancing implementation of the Forest Instrument?

	Effective	Partially effective	Not effective	Not in place
Forest policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Forest legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NFP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest land tenures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide 2-3 examples of effective actions in support of the Forest Instrument and web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

The National Forest Management & Conservation Plan continues to be implemented.  
<http://192.168.10.55/national-forest-management-conservation-plan>

2. Since 2007, what steps has your government taken to prevent and reduce international trafficking in illegally-harvested forest products such as timber, wildlife and other biological resources?

☐ New legislation

- ☒ Improved enforcement of existing legislation
- ☒ Export controls
- ☒ Import controls
- ☐ Bilateral agreements between exporting/importing countries
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other, e.g. public procurement policies, public-private partnerships. Please list below:

Please provide 2-3 examples and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

1) Routinely contact is made with the Forestry Department by the Customs Department before authorisation is granted for the export of timber and / or timber related products. In addition the Agency works with key government Agency's in an effort to protect environmental resources:

- The Ministry of Agriculture–Plant Quarantine Division ensures that all plant import/exports must be inspected and certified by a Plant Quarantine/Produce Inspector in accordance with the Plant Quarantine Act:  
<http://www.moa.gov.jm/AboutUs/departments/ts.php>  
<http://www.moa.gov.jm/AboutUs/departments/Plants%20%28Quarantine%29%20Act.pdf>
- The National Environment & Planning Agency (NEPA) under the Wildlife Protection Act is primarily concerned with the protection of specified species of fauna.  
<http://www.nepa.gov.jm/legal/wild-life-act/wild-life-protection-act.pdf>
- Ministry of Industry, Investment & Commerce-Trade Board Limited. The Trade Board Limited is Jamaica's certifying authority responsible for issuing import and export licences for specific items that may have a negative impact on the environmental, social or economic conditions of the country;  
<http://www.tradeboard.gov.jm/tb/aboutus/about.html>

2) In February 2014 the Jamaican Government halted the export of charcoal as charcoal production was having a negative impact on the country's forests and watershed.  
<http://jamaica-gleaner.com/latest/article.php?id=46028>

**3. Since 2007, what steps has your government taken to raise the importance of forests and SFM in national development plans, poverty reduction strategies or other equivalent plans?**

- ☒ Forests/SFM are now included in national development plans/strategies
- ☐ Forests/SFM now have a higher priority in national development plans/strategies
- ☒ The contribution of forests/SFM to poverty eradication, food security, water security, employment is an ongoing subject of discussion
- ☐ Other, please list below:

Have these steps resulted in:

- ☐ More Official Development Assistance (ODA) being programmed to SFM-related activities
- ☐ More domestic public resources devoted to SFM-related activities
- ☒ Increased awareness of the importance of forests/SFM to sustainable development
- ☐ Increased awareness of the importance of forests/SFM to poverty eradication
- ☐ Other, please list below:

Please describe these steps, and, if possible, provide 2-3 examples and web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

1) Completed in April 2009, Vision 2030 is the National Development Plan for Jamaica from which the priority areas for Ministries, Departments and Agencies must be aligned. The Plan is based on Guiding Principles that put people at the centre of Jamaica's development. It prioritizes issues for attention, based on elements that are critical for enhancing the quality of life of all Jamaicans and for the country's achievement of world-class standards in the predetermined areas. This long-term development plan seeks to put Jamaica in the position to achieve developed country status by 2030. **One key priority area of Vision 2030 is that Jamaica 'create prosperity through the sustainable use and management of our natural resources'.** The Plan is built on:

7 Guiding Principles

4 National Goals

15 National Outcomes

**Outcomes 13 speaks to Sustainable Management and Use of Environmental & Natural Resources**-The Plans of the Forestry Department as well as several key ministries & Agencies within the Ministry of Water Land Environment & Climate Change are aligned with this outcome.

- <http://www.vision2030.gov.jm/>

-<http://www.vision2030.gov.jm/Portals/0/MTF/MTF%202012-2015%20%28Final%29.pdf>

2) The Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF) is the main mechanism for translating the National Goals and Outcomes of Vision 2030 Jamaica - National Development Plan into action. The first in the series is MTF 2009-2012. The Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Frameworks (MTFs), identifies the priority outcomes, strategies and actions for each three-year period from 2009 to 2030. The Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF) 2012-2015 is the second medium term strategic programme to advance the implementation of the Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan, and builds on the results of the previous MTF 2009-2012. MTF 2012 – 2015 presents the priorities over the medium term to move Jamaica forward.

<http://www.vision2030.gov.jm/Medium-Term-Socio-Economic-Policy-Framework>

3) Climate Change Framework Policy:

The Climate Change Policy Framework will create a sustainable institutional mechanism to facilitate the development, coordination and implementation of policies, sectoral plans, programmes, strategies, and legislation to address the impacts of climate change. These

sectors may include, but are not limited to: water, energy, agriculture, fisheries, **forestry**, coastal and marine resources, health, mining, tourism, transportation, solid waste management, planning and disaster risk reduction and response management. Possible mitigation and adaptation actions based on recommendations from stakeholder consultations are included for consideration:

<http://www.mwh.gov.jm/Library/Public/Climate%20Change/Climate%20Change%20Policy%20Framework%20and%20Action%20Plan%20November%202013%20-%20Green%20Paper.pdf>

<http://www.mwh.gov.jm/index.php/focus-areas/climate-change/draft-policy-framework>

4. **Since 2007, has your government taken measures to strengthen coordination across ministries and departments whose policies have an impact on or may affect forests and SFM?**

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, please specify which ministries and/or departments are involved and how effective these measures have been in implementing SFM:

In 2012 the Ministry of Water, Land Environment & Climate Change was created to better coordinate Agencies with impacts on Climate Change. The vision of the Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change (MWLECC) is to provide an environment in which natural resources are sustainably managed and made accessible to all Jamaicans. The Water Division is responsible for policy formulations, legislation, monitoring of all water agencies to ensure compliance with procurement and procedures of Government. The ministry is responsible for the National Water Commission, the Rural Water Supply Ltd, and the Water Resources Authority. The ministry's Land divisions and units provide policy and procedural guidance in respect of divestment of Government lands and land administration. **Under the Environment portfolio the ministry is responsible for the management of chemicals and hazardous waste; managing forests; and has supervisory responsibility for the National Environmental & Planning Agency (NEPA), Meteorological Service and Forestry Department.**

	Effective	Partially effective	Not effective	Not in place
Agriculture/Rural Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate Change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mining	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tourism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Please provide 2-3 examples of cross-sectoral cooperation and, if possible, web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

- 1) The National Land Agency which houses the position of the Commissioner of Lands, continues to consult with the Forestry Department before it divests or leases areas which have been designated as forest reserves or forest management areas.  
<http://www.nla.gov.jm/>
- 2) The Ministry also monitors the plans of Agencies to ensure that they are aligned with priority areas as listed in the National Development Plan.  
[http://www.mwh.gov.jm/Library/Public/MWLECC\\_Divisions\\_&\\_Functions.pdf](http://www.mwh.gov.jm/Library/Public/MWLECC_Divisions_&_Functions.pdf)
- 3) The Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) within the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries works with and supports the Agency in its Agroforestry efforts within rural communities. RADA field officers offer trainings and support for Agroforestry programmes and field schools. [http://rada.gov.jm/?page\\_id=52](http://rada.gov.jm/?page_id=52)

**5. Does your government's national forest policy/strategy or national forest programme contain time-bound and quantified targets related to the forest area?**

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please list the targets and dates by which they are to be achieved and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

- 1) The National Forest Management & Conservation Plan (NFMCP) is a long term plan developed and approved for implementation. The National Forest Management and Conservation Plan is presented in three parts. Part I provides background information on forest policy and law, a description of forest lands and an overview of the forestry sector. The environmental and economic values of forests to society are presented in Part II together with the goals of the forestry sector, consistent with these values. Part III provides recommendations for implementation, including strategies, activities, projects and budgets. The purpose of the NFMCP- Forest Plan is to promote and improve the conservation and sustainable use of the forest resources of the country to meet local and national needs through protecting, managing and restoring the resource for the benefit of present and future generations:  
<http://www.forestry.gov.jm/sites/default/files/Resources/forestplan.pdf>
- 2) The Strategic Forest Management Plan (SFMP) is the short to medium term plan for the Agency. The SFMP details strategies for managing Jamaica's forests and details their implementation:  
[http://192.168.10.55/sites/default/files/Resources/sfmp\\_final\\_0.pdf](http://192.168.10.55/sites/default/files/Resources/sfmp_final_0.pdf)

**6. Since 2007, what activities has your government undertaken to reverse the loss of forest cover and/or to enhance the area and quality of forests? Please specify:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Afforestation	16	ha
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reforestation	954	ha
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Restoration	18	ha

Introduction or enforcement of:

☒ Existing legislation aimed at reduction of deforestation and/or support afforestation and or reforestation



- ☐ New legislation aimed at reduction of deforestation and/or support of afforestation and/or reforestation
- ☐ New legislation and actions aimed at conservation and protection of forests
- ☐ Subsidies for forest owners to prepare and implement management plans
- ☐ Subsidies for forest protection
- ☒ Reduced/deferred taxes for forest land
- ☐ Low-interest loans for forest activities/management
- ☐ Other, please list below:

Please describe, and, if possible, provide 2-3 examples and web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

### 1) Reforestation projects:

- Capacity building for Sustainable Land Management Project:  
<http://jis.gov.jm/land-management-project-gets-funding/>  
<http://jis.gov.jm/sustainable-land-management-will-reduce-degradation-pickersgill/>
- Climate Change Adaptation & Disaster Risk Reduction project:  
<http://www.gcca.eu/national-programmes/caribbean/gcca-jamaica>  
[http://192.168.10.55/sites/default/files/Resources/fd\\_finalreport\\_eu\\_ccadrr\\_apr2014.pdf](http://192.168.10.55/sites/default/files/Resources/fd_finalreport_eu_ccadrr_apr2014.pdf)  
[http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/EU-lauds-success-of-Jamaica-s-climate-change-project\\_15623703](http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/EU-lauds-success-of-Jamaica-s-climate-change-project_15623703)
- Jamaica Rural Economy & Ecosystems Adapting to Climate Change project-  
<http://www.forestry.gov.jm/news/march-2014/reforestation-project-launched-stephney-john%E2%80%99s-vale-forest-reserve>  
[http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/Farmers-get-climate-change-training\\_17102411](http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/Farmers-get-climate-change-training_17102411)
- Adopt a Hillside (Partnership with private sector/NGOs)  
<http://www.forestry.gov.jm/content/adopt-hillside>

### 2) Existing Legislation:

The Forest Act of 1996 makes provision for the remission of property tax for areas declared under the Act. Since 2007 several expressions of interest have been received in relation to the declaration of several privately owned land holdings. One application is almost complete.  
<http://www.forestry.gov.jm/content/declaration-lands>

The Forest Act of 1996 makes provision for the declaration of areas managed by the Forestry Department by the portfolio Minister of the Agency as Forest Reserves or Forest Management Areas. In 2013 the Agency under the Climate Change Adaptation & Disaster Risk Reduction project submitted a request to the Minister for the declaration of three thousand seven hundred (3700) hectares of forested crown lands (24 parcels) which were identified and categorized for declaration either as a forest reserve or a forest management area. Thirteen (13) of the parcels of land identified were proposed for designation as a Forest Reserve and the remaining eleven (11) as Forest Management Areas. In July 2014 the declarations were made and the subsequent Notices and Orders signed by the Minister.

[http://www.forestry.gov.jm/sites/default/files/attachments/forest\\_reserves-1.pdf](http://www.forestry.gov.jm/sites/default/files/attachments/forest_reserves-1.pdf)

<http://www.forestry.gov.jm/news/august-2014/forestry-department-seeks-declare-new-forest-reserves>

7. What types of mechanisms are currently in place for involving stakeholders in forest/SFM policy formulation, planning and implementation?

- ☐ Roundtables/committees have been established which meet regularly
- ☒ Forest authorities meet with stakeholders on an *ad hoc* basis as issues affecting them arise
- ☐ Other, please list below:

How effective are these mechanisms in promoting consensus approaches:

	Effective	Partially effective	Not effective	Not in place
Private sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest workers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indigenous communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NGOs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
General Public	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide 2-3 examples, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

- 1) The Government of Jamaica through its Cabinet Office has established a Policy Register to provide an up-to-date information system, containing a record of all national policies. It includes a brief explanation of the intent of each policy, the Ministry that is responsible for each policy and where available the date of promulgation of each policy. **The Register serves as a reference point for stakeholders who require information on policies guiding the work of Ministries and should enhance coordination in assist policy development and implementation.**  
<http://www.cabinet.gov.jm/files/GOJ%20Policy%20Register%20as%20at%2031%20August%202014.pdf>
- 2) The Agency from time to time through its Public Relations & Corporate Communications Branch conducts stakeholder consultations and community meetings. For the ammendments to the Forest Policy several stakeholder consultations were held.

8. To what extent do local and indigenous communities have tenure or user rights over publicly-owned forests?

- ☐ Completely
- ☒ Partially
- ☐ None
- ☐ Not applicable

Please provide 2-3 examples how local and indigenous communities are benefiting from goods and services produced by forests and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

The Local Forest Management Committee (LFMC) is an institutional body created in Watershed Management Units to enable the participation of local & indigenous communities in the co-management of forested areas (specifically those managed by the Forestry Department). The formation of Local Forest Management Committees (LFMCs) is provided for by the Forest Act, 1996 and is an integral component of the "Community Participation" strategy of the Agency:

<http://192.168.10.55/content/community-forestry>

**9. Since 2007, has your government developed or updated financing strategies to achieve SFM and to implement the Forest Instrument?**

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, what is the timeframe of these strategies?

- ☐ 2-5 years  
☐ 5-10 years  
☐ 10-20 years  
☒ Other, please specify:

The proposed financing strategy is currently before the Office of the Cabinet- no timeline provided at this time. Financing strategies are being developed under the Strengthening The Operational and Financial Sustainability of the National Protected Area System project which will run July 2010- July 2016.

These strategies take into account:

- ☐ Domestic public funding  
☒ Domestic private funding  
☒ Public international (including ODA and REDD+)  
☒ External private funding

Please provide 2-3 examples, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

In July 2010 US\$7million was secured for the execution of the 'Strengthening the Operational and Financial Sustainability of the National Protected Area System' project. The project which ends in 2016 seeks to consolidate the Operational and financial sustainability of Jamaica's National System of Protected Areas (NSPA). The objective will be achieved through three components:

- (1) Strengthening of planning and revenue generation;
- (2) Rationalizing and integrating the NSPA; and,
- (3) Increasing the effectiveness of Protected Area (PA) management.

The 3 main project outcomes are:

Outcome 1: Strengthening of planning and revenue generation

Outcome 2: Rationalizing and integrating the NSPA

Outcome 3: Increasing PA management effectiveness

Several Forest areas managed by the Agency will benefit from the development of Business Plans under the project.

[http://www.nepa.gov.jm/projects/description/strengthening\\_operational\\_financial\\_national\\_PAS.pdf](http://www.nepa.gov.jm/projects/description/strengthening_operational_financial_national_PAS.pdf)

<http://jis.gov.jm/nepa-gets-46-million-strengthen-protected-area-system/>

<http://jamaicachm.org.jm/PDF/November2006.pdf>

**10. Has your government established one or more systems/mechanisms for payment for ecosystem services (PES) provided by forests?**

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, please specify, and, if possible, provide the estimated total value of these payments since 2007:

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Watershed protection/water supply    | USD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carbon storage (including REDD+)     | USD |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nature conservation       | USD |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other, please list below: | USD |

The Declaration of Lands programme was established as a mechanism for private land owners to receive tax incentives for declaring their lands as a Forest Reserve or Forest Management area, contributing to the preservation and protection of Jamaica's Forest Resources

Please provide 2-3 examples of PES and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

Under the Forest Act 1996 the Government of Jamaica offers financial incentives (tax breaks) to private land owners who apply to have their forested lands declared as either a forest reserve or a forest management area:

<http://192.168.10.55/content/declaration-lands>  
[http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/Preserve-forest-cover--get-property-tax-relief\\_16302113](http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/Preserve-forest-cover--get-property-tax-relief_16302113)

**11. Since 2007, has your government been able to mobilize significantly increased financial resources for the implementation of SFM? If yes, please specify sources:**

	2007	2013
<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic public funding	USD	USD
<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic private funding	USD	USD
<input type="checkbox"/> Public international funding (including ODA and REDD+)	USD	USD
<input type="checkbox"/> External private funding	USD	USD

If there has been no increase, please describe the main challenges in mobilizing funds:

Amounts received have not been 'significantly increased'. Assistance is woefully inadequate. Increased financial resources are needed.

**12. Since 2007, what steps has your government taken to encourage private sector investment in SFM and forests?**

- ☐ Policy and legal reforms that encourage greater private investment
- ☒ Financial incentives, such as credit guarantees, tax breaks, employment subsidies etc.
- ☐ Establishment of markets for ecosystem services provided by forests
- ☒ Outreach to the private sector (leaflets, conferences, fairs promoting investment in forests)
- ☐ Development and improvement of infrastructure and other public services related to SFM
- ☒ Other; please list below:

Please provide 2-3 examples, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

**The Private Planting Programme** was designed to encourage private landowners and other entities to plant trees on parcels of land not currently under productive use for commercial wood production and for soil conservation. Over 3000 private farmers are registered with the programme todate.

<http://192.168.10.55/content/private-planting>

**The Declaration of Lands programme** was established as a mechanism for private land owners to receive tax incentives for declaring their lands as a Forest reserve or Forest Management area, contributing to the preservation and protection of Jamaica's environment.

<http://192.168.10.55/content/declaration-lands>

[http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/Preserve-forest-cover--get-property-tax-relief\\_16302113](http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/Preserve-forest-cover--get-property-tax-relief_16302113)

**Adopt a Hillside Programme** is an initiative of the Forestry Department geared towards engaging primarily private sector, community based and Non-Governmental entities in the reforestation of Jamaica. The programme seeks to get environmentally minded institutions involved in the replanting of critically denuded forest areas islandwide. It was conceptualized out of a recognition that while reforestation remains the chief mandate of the Forestry Department, greater success can be realized if partnerships are forged that allows for secured external funding. Since 2007, seven (7) private sector/non-governmental organizations have partnered in the initiative reforesting over 20ha of lands:

<http://192.168.10.55/content/adopt-hillside>

<http://www.forestry.gov.jm/news/june-2014/inter-american-development-bank-adopts-15-hectares-forest>

[http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/LIME-Foundation-adopts-part-of-forest-reserve\\_15190271](http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/LIME-Foundation-adopts-part-of-forest-reserve_15190271)

13. Is your government engaged in international cooperation to promote SFM?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, please specify with whom:

☒ Government

- ☒ Intergovernmental Organization
- ☒ Private sector/philanthropy
- ☒ NGOs
- ☐ Others

Type of cooperation:

- ☒ North-South
- ☐ South-South
- ☒ Technical
- ☒ Financial
- ☐ Others

And specify the areas of cooperation:

- ☒ Forests and climate change
- ☒ Forest biodiversity
- ☐ Valuation of ecosystem services provided by forests
- ☒ Socio-economic issues, including livelihoods
- ☒ Forest degradation and rehabilitation
- ☐ Scientific cooperation
- ☒ Forest monitoring/data collection
- ☒ Technology transfer and capacity development
- ☐ Other, please list below:

Please provide 2-3 examples of international cooperation, and, if possible, web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

During the period the Government has engaged in several partnership projects with International Government Organisations including the European Union, United Nations, United States Agency for International Development & Global Environment Facility:

- Jamaica Rural Economy & Ecosystems Adapting to Climate Change project-  
<http://www.forestry.gov.jm/news/march-2014/reforestation-project-launched-stephney-john%E2%80%99s-vale-forest-reserve>  
[http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/Farmers-get-climate-change-training\\_17102411](http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/Farmers-get-climate-change-training_17102411)
- Climate Change Adaptation & Disaster Risk Reduction project:  
<http://www.gcca.eu/national-programmes/caribbean/gcca-jamaica>  
[http://192.168.10.55/sites/default/files/Resources/fd\\_finalreport\\_eu\\_ccadrr\\_apr2014.pdf](http://192.168.10.55/sites/default/files/Resources/fd_finalreport_eu_ccadrr_apr2014.pdf)
- Capacity building for Sustainable Land Management Project:  
<http://jis.gov.jm/land-management-project-gets-funding/>  
<http://jis.gov.jm/sustainable-land-management-will-reduce-degradation-pickersgill/>

Please list the key challenges faced by your government in implementing SFM:

Boundary verification, funding, land tenure, social and political issues including squatting.

**14. Does your country have one or more institutes or centers of excellence engaged in the development and application of scientific, technical and technological innovations for SFM?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, what areas do these technical/scientific activities focus on:

- ☐ Forest inventory systems
- ☐ Low-impact logging or other harvesting techniques
- ☐ Wood production for energy
- ☐ Wood processing technology
- ☐ Waste reduction and recycling
- ☐ Other, please list below:

*Not applicable*

Are these programs directed at:

- ☐ Forest owners
- ☐ Timber companies/forest products industry
- ☐ State agencies
- ☐ Local communities
- ☐ Indigenous communities
- ☐ NGOs
- ☐ General public

Since 2007, has funding for forest-related science and research increased?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Please describe, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

*Not applicable*

**15. What actions has your country undertaken to increase public awareness of the important benefits provided by forests?**

- ☒ Published broadcasts on TV and/or Radio
- ☒ Published materials, e.g. brochures, pamphlets, leaflets, or/and posters, etc.
- ☒ Meetings with the general public
- ☒ Art events/Exhibitions
- ☒ Activities in support of the International Day of Forests
- ☐ Other

Please provide 2-3 examples, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

1) The Agency hosted the Forest Forum on March 21, 2013, to mark the UN's International Day of Forests. <http://jis.gov.jm/economic-benefits-analysis-of-jamaicas-forests-suggested/>. Annually the Agency host seminars, foras and participates in expositions to increase awareness on forests.

2) Each year the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday in October is designated National Tree planting day. A National tree planting project is the focus for the day. Seedlings are also distributed islandwide in the month leading up to National Tree Planting day in an effort to encourage persons to plant trees.

<http://jamaica-gleaner.com/gleaner/20131012/news/news2.html>

<http://www.forestry.gov.jm/search/node/tree%20planting>

[http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/westernnews/Trees-for-Spot-Valley-High\\_15224051](http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/westernnews/Trees-for-Spot-Valley-High_15224051)

3) Since 2011 the Agency has successfully hosted an annual 'Forest Trek' to increase public awareness of the role of forests. The Forest Trek is an organized hike that takes interested members of the public on trails through thick natural forests. At the end of the hike, a tree planting exercise is done as part of reforestation efforts.

[http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/results/Trekking-through-the-forest\\_16564006](http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/results/Trekking-through-the-forest_16564006)

[http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/Forestry-Department-high-on-fitness\\_16296918](http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/Forestry-Department-high-on-fitness_16296918)

4) Annually brochures & posters are produced & distributed islandwide (at schools, and public forums/functions) which provide additional information:

<http://192.168.10.55/sites/default/files/pdf/WetlandForest.pdf>

<http://192.168.10.55/content/cards-and-posters>

<http://192.168.10.55/sites/default/files/pdf/PartsofaTree.pdf>

**16. What sets of criteria and indicators (C&I) for SFM are used in your country:**

- ☒ National set of C&I
- ☐ Regional/international set of C&I (e.g. ITTO, Forest Europe, Montreal Process, Tarapoto etc.)
- ☐ Other

Please describe, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

Land Use Cover Change and Deforestation rates

Are these C&I used to:

- ☒ Generate information to national reports on forest conditions and management
- ☒ Monitor and assess and monitor forest conditions and management
- ☒ Review and develop national forest policies and tools for SFM
- ☒ Communicate with society and carry out dialogue with stakeholders
- ☒ Report on forests to regional and international organizations If so, which ones:

- Global Forest Resource Assessment -Country Report- Jamaica
  - Economic and Social Survey Jamaica Reports
  - State of the Environment Reports Jamaica
- <http://www.jm.undp.org/content/dam/jamaica/docs/researchpublications/energyenv/StateofTheEnvironmentReport2010Jamaica.pdf>

**17. Has your country translated the Forest Instrument into another language (not including the official UN languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish)?**



No

**18. Please give examples of your country's success stories and lessons learned related to the implementation of the Forest Instrument, including contributions towards the four Global Objectives on Forests:**

Under the Climate Change Adaptation & Disaster Risk Reduction project 2010-2013 (funded by EU/UNEP) a total of 405ha of denuded lands were reforested in selected Watershed Management Units islandwide. This amount represents one of the largest reforestation targets in the Agency's recent history. The project also had a strong livelihood & agroforestry component which saw the development of livelihood activities in select vulnerable communities with training in sustainable forest and land management to over 400 farmers, the establishment of demonstration plots, & the distribution of 65, 000 fruit & timber seedlings.

The successful execution of the Forestry Department component of the Jamaica Rural Economy & Ecosystems Adapting to Climate Change (JA\_REEACH) project in 2013-2014 (funded by USAID, ACDI/VOCA) saw the reforestation of 200 ha of denuded lands in the Stephney-John's Vale Forest Reserve in St Ann, and the training of over 200 farmers in agroforestry techniques & sustainable livelihood. These achievements serve as strong testament to the implementation of sustainable forest management techniques and the forest instrument in Jamaica.

The Sustainable Land Management (SLM) project (funded by the GEF/UNDP) and implemented by the Forestry Department 2009- 2012 saw the development of a Sustainable Land Management Policy which was developed & submitted for inclusion as a chapter of the National Land Policy (NLP).

The success of these projects will provide a significant boost to the development of sustainable forest management in Jamaica and will support three of the four global objectives of the Forest Instrument:

- Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management (SFM), including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation;
- Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people;
- Increase significantly the area of sustainably managed forests, including protected forests, and increase the proportion of forest products derived from sustainably managed forests;

Key lesson learned from the success of these projects, as well as smaller projects during the period relate to the integral role to be played by key stakeholders in successfully implementing the Forest Instrument. A multipronged approach involving key stakeholders with key responsibilities for environmental management is vital. Three agencies were key to these projects: The Forestry Department, The Environmental Risk Management Division of the Ministry of Water, Land, Environment & Climate Change, and the National Environment & Planning Agency.

## **PART II**

### **Contribution of forests and SFM to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)**

The aim of Part II of this reporting questionnaire is to learn how forests and SFM have contributed to achieving the MDGs in your country, particularly with respect to poverty and hunger eradication (MDG1), environmental sustainability (MDG7) and developing a global partnership for development (MDG8).

#### **19. How have forests/SFM contributed to eradicating extreme poverty and hunger (MDG1) in your country?**

Please rate the scale of contribution on a scale of 1-5 (1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest)

<b>By:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
Improving livelihoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting subsistence needs, including fuel wood, fodder and shelter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contributing to food security, including through agroforestry systems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Providing employment, including employment in informal economy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please describe, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

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#### **20. How have forests/SFM contributed to ensuring environmental sustainability (MDG7) in your country?**

Please rate the scale of contribution on a scale of 1-5 (1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest)

<b>By:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
Providing habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting ecosystem, species and genetic diversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stabilizing soils and slopes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safeguarding water resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sequestering carbon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Providing timber, energy and other products	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please describe, and, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s):

**21. How have forests/SFM contributed to developing a global partnership for development (MDG8) in your country?**

Please rate the scale of contribution on a scale of 1-5 (1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest)

By:	1	2	3	4	5
Engaging in regional and international collaboration on issues related to improved governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Through trade agreements involving forest products (e.g. bilateral/sub-regional/regional/inter-regional free trade agreements, EU voluntary partnership agreements, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fostering partnerships with the private sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attracting foreign investment in the forest sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fostering bilateral and international financial cooperation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fostering north-south, and south-south technical, technological and scientific partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please describe, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

As stated above the Agency has during the period partnered with international donors including the United States Agency for International Development, the European Union, the United Nations and the Global Environment Facility to fund project activities. The Agency has also successfully partnered with the Private Sector.

**22. Have forests/SFM contributed to making progress in achieving any of the remaining MDGs in your country?**

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, please describe, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

The Agency through its employment of women contributes to the income generation of many local/ rural household in rural communities.

**MDG2: Achieving universal primary education**

NO

**MDG3: Promoting gender equality and empowering women**

**YES.**

**As an equal opportunity employer the Agency employs women from rural communities for planting, plant nursery & other reforestation activities**

**MDG4: Reducing child mortality**

**NO**

**MDG5: Improving maternal health**

**NO**

**MDG6: Combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases**

**NO**