

**Internship with USAID Jamaica Farmers Access to Regional Markets
Kingston, Jamaica
Summer 2008**

Background

The US Government, through USAID/Jamaica, has granted Citizens Development Corp (Implementer of the Jamaica Farmers Access to Regional Markets [JA FARMS] Project) a one year agreement to work directly with the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) to assist in building the knowledge base of the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands (MOAL) and its extension arm, the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) to better serve the growing protected horticulture (greenhouse, shade house or hydroponics) sub-sector in Jamaica. The overarching goal of this project is to strengthen the capacity within the MOAL to better address unsustainable agricultural practices, promote greenhouse technology and facilitate appropriate technology transfer to the growing protected agriculture sub-sector. The Rural Agricultural Development Authority is our major collaborative partner.

JA FARMS will embed greenhouse technology within the MOAL by collaborating and implementing the project with their extension authority, the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA). The implementation of the project will start with thorough project planning and a market survey identifying not only the product and quantities to be produced in the greenhouses, but companies that are willing to provide fixed-price contracts and additional services to the greenhouse growers as part of a Corporate Social Responsibility Strategy. JA FARMS will target the two biodiversity zones identified by USAID for 2/3 of project activities. In collaboration with RADA, lead farmers will be identified and become the beneficiaries of cost-sharing grants through which the farmer will invest 1/3 of the cost for greenhouse construction as their 'buy-in' into the project. These lead farmers will then be linked to the companies identified in the market survey. Three clusters of greenhouses (2 clusters within the biodiversity zone and one outside of the biodiversity zone) will be developed each with their own lead farmers. Meanwhile, JA FARMS will have developed a Jamaican greenhouse growing training curriculum based on environmental protection, current technology and best practices from local growers, such as the Greenhouse Growers Association, to be deployed within RADA.

Specific objective

The past has proven that the environment and local economies are inextricably linked; therefore, it behooves JA FARMS to create sustainable and more importantly profitable businesses for those who are threatening the biodiversity and environment of Jamaica. Citizens Development Corps has therefore designed a project that makes the vital link between environmental protection and economic development with local growers. To ensure sustainability and replicability of the model, throughout the project JA FARMS will make policy and regulation recommendations to the MOAL, conduct intensive monitoring and evaluation, and collaborate with the US Peace Corps by facilitating the placement of program volunteers at the project activity sites. JA FARMS will achieve sustainability by developing sustainable agriculture practices that shift

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the agricultural paradigm to preserving Jamaica's rich biodiversity. The project will also improve the crucial human element of developing positive relations between growers and end markets in a Corporate Social Responsibility strategy that benefits both parties' bottom line.

A training of trainers will take place with RADA officers from the Parish and surrounding Parishes of each greenhouse cluster. The newly trained Extension Officers will in turn be able to hold numerous additional greenhouse training workshops with farmers in and outside of the biodiversity zones. All data will be recorded with the lead farmers and information dissemination will take place by posting project findings on the MOAL and JA FARMS websites.

Scope of Work

IN country travel with Trainer: 50% field work and 50% office work

The intern will work directly with the JA FARMS trainer in delivering the training programme to Agriculture Extension Officers. The intern will provide support to the trainer and assist the project coordinator in the monitoring and evaluation of the training. The intern will report directly to the Chief of Party.

- Assist in the use of IT in the logistical support and delivery of the greenhouse training to Agricultural Extension Officers and small farmers
- Provide logistical support to the Technical Trainer in deploying the greenhouse training with the RADA Officers
- Assist in the development of training hand-outs with the Technical Trainer
- Create Attendance log and attendance spreadsheet
- Assist with project communications with an emphasis on the use of IT

The Intern will be responsible with all costs associated with the internship aside from in-country travel with the Trainer.



Compost Training



Squash In Tunnel



Lettuce in Tunnel



Construction Training

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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