

## THE IDB IN JAMAICA IN BRIEF

### Country Strategy with Jamaica

Beginning 2012, the IDB and the new administration is engaging in finalizing the medium-term strategy for IDB support to the Government of Jamaica. This is an important step in providing the necessary framework in which the Board of Directors can approve individual projects.

### Lending and Disbursements

Financing approved for 2011 totaled US\$328 million, and US\$95.1 million was disbursed. This continues elevated levels of Bank support to the Government in which total lending during the 2006-2010 period amounted to US\$1.4 billion, solidifying the IDB role as the most active multilateral development partner in Jamaica.

The Government of Jamaica started its public sector reform to improve government management efficiency and economic perform with IDB support. In this regard, IDB program aimed at strengthening taxpayer's compliance and revenue yields through more efficient administration and collection procedures, and improved debt management and government payment operations. The programs approved targeted the strengthening of the key government bodies such as the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Energy and Mining, and the expansion of Jamaica's social safety net Program of Advancement through Health and Education (PATH).

These programs have been added to a robust set of activities in the portfolio, including areas such as citizen security and justice, education, agricultural development, water, roads and energy projects.

### Grants

In addition to its lending, the IDB approved US\$7.3 million in grants to complement the initiatives associated with the lending program for 2011. A total of US\$5.3 million was disbursed in grant resources to the country to support strategy areas including private sector development, value for money and reducing vulnerability to natural disasters. The Bank's technical work was instrumental to Jamaica being able to access budget support from the World Bank, Caribbean Development Bank, the European Union and the IMF. Furthermore, the Bank supported the preparation of a consolidated policy matrix, overseen by the Government of Jamaica, to ensure synergy of policy targets.