**Analysis of Interventions and Lessons Learned from MDB and Donor Operations related to JA-L1048/JA-G1002**

1. **Recent IDB Interventions in Jamaica**
2. The “**National Irrigation Development Programme” (JA0106)** aimed at contributing to an increase national agricultural area under irrigation management practices. This intervention financed the strengthening of the institutional framework and capacity for irrigation, promotion and formation of water users associations, farmers’ technical assistance and training, irrigation infrastructure including rehabilitation of irrigation systems. The specific lessons learned in the implementation of this program related to the current proposed climate change operation (JA-L1048/JA-G1002) include: (i) the need to remove stringent requirements of land titling for beneficiaries; (ii) more emphasis needs to be placed on risk management; (iii) steering committees alone are not always an effective risk mitigation practice for project management; (iv) farmers’ access to credit is important for the implementation of proposed actions; and (v) farmer field schools are an integral part for the achievement of the adoption of practices and long term sustainability.[[1]](#footnote-1)
3. The “**Agricultural Competitiveness Programme” (JA-L1012)** is oriented towards increasing the competitiveness of the agricultural sector in Jamaica. The project includes components oriented towards: (i) market access and market linkages focused on small and medium farmers; (ii) food quality and safety management systems; and (iii) agribusiness value chain development. For this purpose, financed activities include the strengthening of RADA’s to provide continuous support to farmers as well as the promotion of public-private partnerships. This project is currently under implementation.
4. **Other Interventions**
5. Jamaica (World Bank)

The “**Rural Development Initiative Project**”[[2]](#footnote-2) was aimed at increasing rural incomes and generating new employment opportunities in rural areas by financing activities in the agricultural sector. These activities included the support for revenue generating activities, technical assistance and strengthening of key organizations and agencies to provide services at the local level. The program included an analysis of the support provided which demonstrated the economic viability of post-harvesting agricultural activities −including sorting, grading and selling− and greenhouse production (ERR of 23% and 37% respectively).

1. Eastern Africa (FAO).

Pilot projects on climate change adaptation through land and water management in Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania have been conducted by FAO.[[3]](#footnote-3) The results indicated that climate resilience is increased with the adoption of practices that: (i) improve soil health and fertility while contributing to water conservation; (ii) diversify income and livelihood sources; and (iii) strengthen institutional networks.

One of these pilots was the intervention in the Wurba watershed in Ethiopia focused on reducing the impacts of increasing climate variability and climate change. This program promoted the implementation of climate resilience activities including the construction of stone check dams, rainwater harvesting methods, reforestation, diversification of income via production of horticultural crops, and technical assistance. Project beneficiaries report significant increases in crop yields (e.g. sorghum yields rose from 2t/ha to 6t/ha), decreased occurrence of downstream waterlogging and flash floods, reduction in the time and labor previously required to fetch water, and availability of water to irrigate horticultural crops.

1. For more details see project’s PCR (April 2014). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. World Bank. 2009. Report No. 49392-JM. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. FAO. 2014. “Adapting to climate change through land and water management in Eastern Africa: Results of pilot projects in Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania.” Rome. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)