

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

JANUARY 2018 - JUNE 2018

SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT NAME: Making Agriculture Profitable and Sustainable

Project Number: TT-T1067 - Project Num.: ATN/ME-15827-TT

Purpose: Promote the adoption of climate smart agricultural practices amongst 500 farmers

Country Admin

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Country Beneficiary

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Executing Agency:

The Cropper Foundation

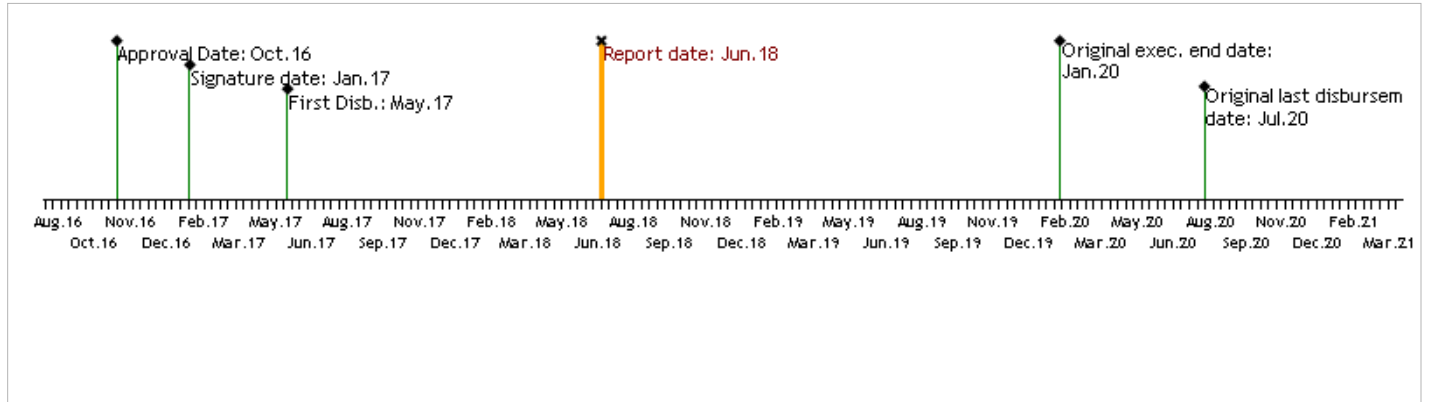
Design Team Leader:

VASHTIE DOOKIESINGH

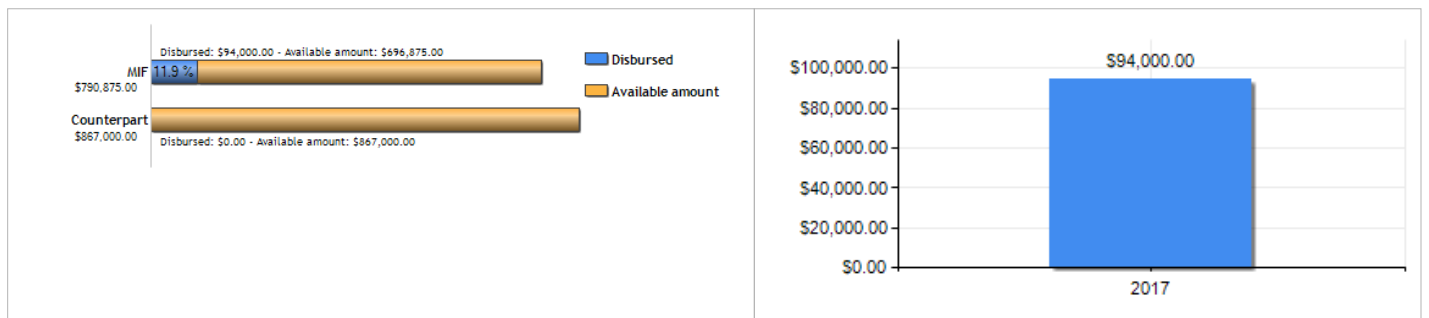
Supervision Team Leader:

VASHTIE DOOKIESINGH

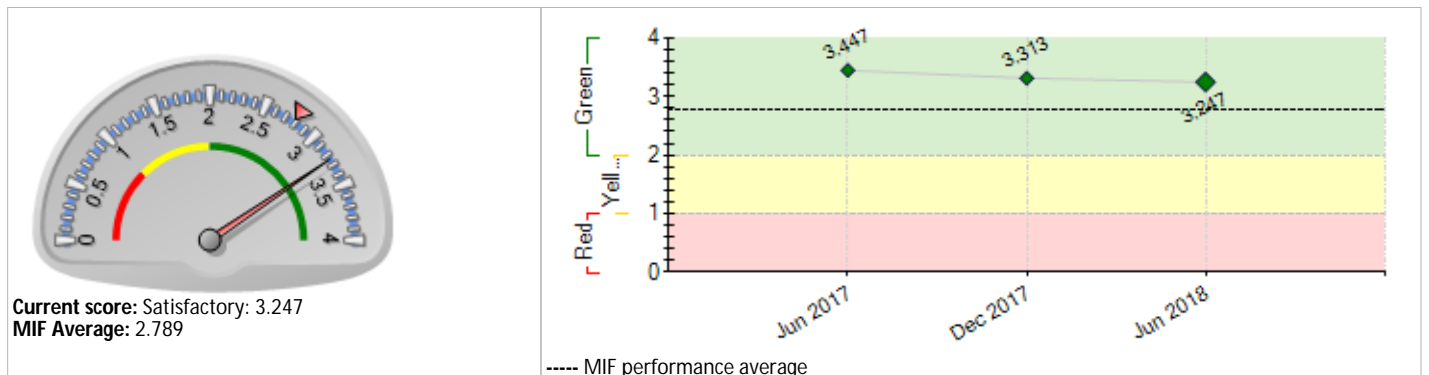
PROJECT CYCLE



FUNDS



PERFORMANCE SCORE



EXTERNAL RISKS

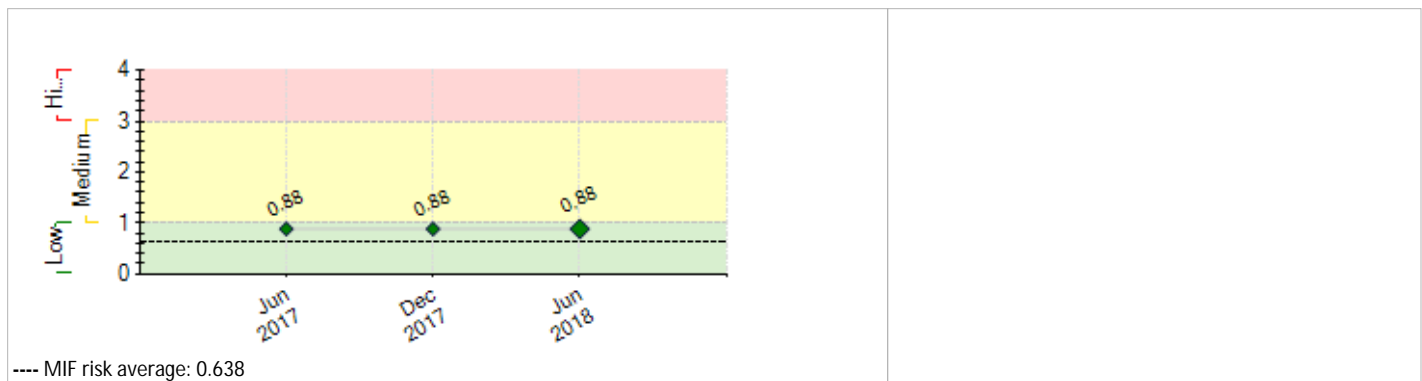
INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

Risk

Financial Management: Low

Procurement: Low

Technical Capacity: Low



SECTION 2: PERFORMANCE

Summary of project performance since inception

57 Agricultural Extension Officers were trained in farming methods that would result in agricultural produce being delivered to the marketplace without residual chemicals either on their surface or integral within their tissues. The Extension Officers are in the field training farmers within their assigned districts.

The 57 Extension Officers are themselves farmers. Anecdotal information from the Officers suggests approximately 100 farmers already trained.

The Caribbean Industrial Research Institute have developed protocols for 50 reactive groups present in agricultural chemicals. The protocols would satisfy the stringent requirements of the European Union and Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) standards, as no local standards exist.

A marketing campaign has been developed for the produce once in the marketplace. The campaign is entitled 'Conscious Crops', as the produce will be marketed by Massy Stores (the country's largest supermarket retail chain) as Health Conscious, Environmentally Conscious, and Price Conscious.

The major delay was the eight-month wait for assignment of Extension Officers to the project by the local Ministry of Agriculture and Food Production. Another delay was the resignation of the first two Project Coordinators (the first to pursue graduate studies and the second due to family commitments). The new Project Coordinator's selection evaluation considered a commitment to a prolonged tenure.

The project is on course to meet its objectives on time.

Comments from the Supervision Team Leader

Agree with the Executing Agency comments

Summary of project performance in the last six months

57 Agricultural Extension Officers were trained in farming methods that would result in agricultural produce being delivered to the marketplace without residual chemicals either on their surface or integral within their tissues. The Extension Officers are in the field training farmers within their assigned districts.

The 57 Extension Officers are themselves farmers. Anecdotal information from the Officers suggests approximately 100 farmers already trained.

The Caribbean Industrial Research Institute have developed protocols for 50 reactive groups present in agricultural chemicals. The protocols would satisfy the stringent requirements of the European Union and Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) standards, as no local standards exist.

A marketing campaign has been developed for the produce once in the marketplace. The campaign is entitled 'Conscious Crops', as the produce will be marketed by Massy Stores (the country's largest supermarket retail chain) as Health Conscious, Environmentally Conscious, and Price Conscious.

Within the next semester, farmer training will continue to obtain 250 committed farmers, who are delivering produce to the marketplace; and to initiate the sale of the delivered produce within the marketplace (and distribution of the profits back to the producers). The testing of the produce by the Caribbean Industrial Research Institute, using their already-developed protocols will also commence, with associated accreditation via labeling.

Comments from the Supervision Team Leader

Agree with the Executing Agency comments

SECTION 3: INDICATORS AND MILESTONES

Indicators		Baseline	Intermediate 1	Intermediate 2	Intermediate 3	Planned	Achieved	Status
Goal: The objective of this project is to mitigate the environmental degradation of watersheds in the Northern Range of Trinidad and Tobago by demonstrating the technical and commercial viability of climate smart agricultural practices.	I.1 The objective of this project is to mitigate the environmental degradation of watersheds in the Northern Range of Trinidad and Tobago by demonstrating the technical and commercial viability of climate smart agricultural practices.					Jan 2020	No	
Purpose: Promote the adoption of climate smart agricultural practices amongst 500 farmers	R.1 Number of actors that have new adopted new technologies or practices	0				300 Jan 2020	57 May 2018	
	R.2 By project completion 6000 tonnes of CO2 will be sequestered	0				6000 Jan 2020	0	
	R.3 Number of agricultural producers with 5% average annual sales growth	0				250 Jan 2020	0	
	R.4 Hectares of Land sustainable managed	0				500 Jan 2020	0	
Component 1: Supporting Adoption of Climate Smart Agricultural Practices Weight: 33% Classification: Satisfactory	C1.I1 Number of Farmers trained	0	100 Jul 2018	250 Jul 2019		500 Jan 2020	100 Jun 2018	On Course
	C1.I2 Number of farmers that have adopted new technologies and farming practices	0	75 Jun 2018	150 May 2019		300 Jan 2020	28 Jun 2018	Delayed
Component 2: Developing Independent Testing Weight: 33% Classification: Satisfactory	C2.I1 Number of Farmers whose produce is tested and certified as chemical free	0	50 Jun 2018	150 Jun 2019		250 Jan 2020		Delayed
Component 3: Positioning Sustainable Produce in High Value Markets Weight: 34% Classification: Satisfactory	C3.I1 Number of farmers linked to new strategic business partners	0	50 May 2018	150 Apr 2019		250 Jan 2020		Delayed

Milestones		Planned	Due Date	Achieved	Date of achievement	Status
M1	Conditions Prior	7	Jul 2017	7	May 2017	Achieved
M1	training of 10 extension officers	10	Mar 2018	10	May 2018	Achieved
M2	development of standards and protocols, and tests to detect the presence of chemicals in produce	1	Jul 2018	1	Dec 2017	Achieved
M3	[*] chemical free produce available for sale in 4 Massy stores	2	Apr 2019			
M4	completion of training of 250 farmers in climate smart agricultural practices	250	Jul 2019			
M5	seminar on adoption of climate smart agricultural practices and uptake of chemical free produce by the T&T market	1	Jan 2020			

[*] Indicate that the milestone has been reformulated

CRITICAL ISSUES THAT HAVE AFFECTED PERFORMANCE

[None reported in this period]

SECTION 4: RISKS

MOST IMPORTANT RISKS AFFECTING FUTURE PERFORMANCE

	Level	Mitigation action	Responsible
1. Farmers do not adhere to operational and quality standards required by the buyers	Medium	work with farmers that are currently working with the buyers and demonstrated the commitment required to implemented the practices developed by the project.	Project Guest
2. Farmers do not adhere to operational and quality standards required by the buyers	Medium	work with farmers that are currently working with the buyers and demonstrated the commitment required to implemented the practices developed by the project.	Project Guest
3. farmers do not understand the business case to participate in this niche market	Medium	The Cropper Foundation has partnered directly with a buyer to demonstrate that commitment of the firm to buying farmers products. This partnership from inception will demonstrate the market access potential of farmers products.	Project Guest
4. farmers cannot afford testing post project execution	Low	the executing agency is partnering with a local standards firm to develop an inexpensive testing protocol	Project Guest
PROJECT RISK LEVEL: Medium TOTAL NUMBER OF RISKS: 4 IN EFFECT RISKS: 4 NOT IN EFFECT RISKS: 0 MITIGATED RISKS: 0			

SECTION 5: SUSTAINABILITY

Likelihood of project sustainability after project completion: P - Probable

CRITICAL ISSUES THAT MAY AFFECT PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY

[None reported in this period]

Actions related to sustainability which have been taken in the reporting period:

Memorandum of Understanding agreed between the executing agency and the National Agriculture Marketing Development Company (NAMDEVCO) to package chemical-free produce and deliver to stores.

Agricultural Extension Officers were provided with field kits with which to train farmers, including beyond the lifespan of the project, in chemically-responsible agricultural practices.

Marketing materials (logo/validation sticker) for agricultural produce grown in a chemically-responsible way developed by Massy Stores' marketing form (Lonsdale Saachi).

SECTION 6: PRACTICAL LESSONS

	Relative to	Author
1. Dealings and requests with government Ministries and their departments involve significant amount of protocol and the anticipated time for such interactions and obtaining decisions should be at least doubled when formulating a workplan and critical path.	Design	Thomas, Mark