



UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)
Multi Country Office in Jamaica

Serving Jamaica, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, The Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands

Table of Contents

Message from the UNDP Resident Representative

1

The 2021 Report

4

Sustainable Development

4

Democratic Governance and Peacebuilding

12

Crisis Resilience and Recovery

22

UNDP-implemented Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme

32

Gender Equality

36

Financial Report

40

Message from the Resident Representative

A New Day Beckons

In 2021, the team I lead at the UNDP Multi Country Office (MCO) in Jamaica closed the final chapter of our 2017 to 2021 Country Programme (CP) and began the work of transitioning to a new programming cycle in the midst of the COVID pandemic. Such periods of transition are rites of passage in development work. They mean performance reviews, environmental scans and frank discussions to determine what worked, what didn't and why. It is the foundation on which we construct a new programme aligned with the national priorities and aspirations of our partner countries. In an era marked by uncertainties and explosive global crises, we are compelled to review the past with an eye to the future, while identifying the highlights, critical lessons learnt and next steps that will enrich our partnerships for people and planet and set countries on a resilient path to sustainable development.

My first highlight underscores the power of partnership in this challenging era. Our donor partners shared our vision for sustainable development by investing in the Country Programme. With a mix of UNDP core funds and financing from bilateral and multilateral partners and collaborations with NGOs and private sector entities, we were able to expand our partnership with governments and other relevant stakeholders in three of the five territories we cover. Lesson number one: Partnerships matter. Donor funding expands development interventions and impact and coalesces resources efficiently around key development priorities. We are ready to utilize innovative financing instruments and explore partnerships with non-traditional donors in pursuit of our shared commitment to sustainable development.

Second highlight: Understanding that water is the very essence of life, UNDP partnered with government to strengthen the policy and regulatory framework for the Water Resources Management sector of Jamaica. Lesson number 2: Ending water poverty is a game changing mission that requires sustained investments in underserved communities guided by a strong regulatory framework. We commit to working with government and community-based partners on

interventions which will strengthen policies and ensure no community is left behind in accessing water.

Third highlight is our significant contribution in increasing access to justice services for vulnerable populations and underserved communities in partnership with the Ministry of Justice. Lesson number 3: Justice denied for the underserved and marginalized creates structural inequalities that must be systematically uprooted. We are ready to support expanding the reach of justice services, so no one is left behind, and to affirming their humanity and value through a customer centric approach.

My fourth highlight is the projected reduction in health sector energy bills through renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies in six public hospitals. Lesson number 4: Reduction of carbon emissions and energy costs is a win-win for health care and public expenditure. We stand ready to assist in renewable energy sources and technologies to support Jamaica's vision for an energy secure future which generates savings for capital growth.

Finally, my fifth highlight from CP 2017 – 2021 underscores national progress towards protecting life on land through the operationalization of the National Conservation Trust Fund for Protected Areas Management which provides sustainable financing for Protected Areas. Lesson number 5: Biodiversity is the true wealth of our nations and must not be exploited for short term gain and long-term consequences. We commit to strengthening biodiversity protection and ensuring communities equally share in the benefits of the genetic material extracted from these assets.

In 2021, the final year of the Country Programme, we remained resolute in championing a sustainable approach to development. This meant laying the foundation for a new project which aims to introduce ground-breaking biodiversity legislation to govern environmentally ethical usage of genetic resources in biodiversity hotspots; and championing an environmentally conscious approach to the Development Minerals industry while strengthening earning potential of women Artisanal Small and Medium Enterprises (ASMEs) and increasing access to financing.

We helped advance water security in drought-stricken 'breadbasket' communities to open channels of economic activity; expanded our portfolio of projects in energy security to contribute to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and public sector savings; and further expanded partnerships and small grants disbursement for community-based climate change adaptation and mitigation groups in Jamaica and The Bahamas.

In response to rising insecurities, UNDP MCO in Jamaica expanded our Democratic Governance

portfolio by strengthening the legislative and policy framework geared at addressing Gender Based Violence and strengthened the quality and availability of data to inform strategy. But most importantly, the establishment of six new Domestic Violence Intervention Centres for victims of GBV is a standout of the portfolio given its compassionate services that saves the lives of GBV victims.

As we close the book on the 2017 to 2021 CP, we have curated lessons learned to develop a future-smart and fit for purpose CP 2022 – 2026 that aims to mitigate existential crises such as the COVID pandemic and Climate Change. Our new CP will prioritize social resilience and inclusion; citizen safety and security and rule of law; climate change resilience and sustainable natural resource management which includes supporting the emergence of the blue and green economies in our assigned territories. Our new CP is built on the strong foundation of UNDP's six Signature Solutions and inspired by our world-leading 'Next Generation UNDP' vision of leaving no one behind. It's a vision fully anchored on helping countries and communities respond to a fast-changing development landscape filled with a multiplicity of unprecedented challenges and opportunities. UNDP is equipping countries to level up its development gains through research and development, innovation, digitalization, and development financing, and is equipping teams in the field with new collaboration platforms, partnerships, and instruments for development.

These are indeed exciting times for UNDP, our partners and the people we serve. With CP 2022 – 2026, I can confidently declare, a new day beckons. We look forward to working with you as a development partner of choice in your sustainable development journey.

Denise E Antonio

**Resident Representative,
UNDP Multi Country Office in
Jamaica**



Sustainable Development



*Artisan Robert Hart and
apprentice at his studio in
Clarendon, Jamaica*

Leveraging natural resources to support jobs and growth while preserving the environment

In 2021, UNDP continued to press the case for a sustainable approach to development anchored on Jamaica's commitment to clean, pollution-free environment and an environmentally conscious approach to the Development Minerals industry. UNDP also started the process of supporting Jamaica's vision for a digitally enabled and ready society.

In pursuit of clean air commitments, UNDP Multi Country Office (MCO) in Jamaica continued its support for the elimination and replacement of dangerous pollutants which are major inputs of key industries.

The institutional capacity of the Government of Jamaica to implement national actions to address the management of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in compliance with the

Stockholm Convention was strengthened during 2021. To complement this result, the capacity of private and public sector stakeholders was strengthened to effectively manage POPs. With funding from the Global Environment Facility, UNDP supported Jamaica's continued compliance to the Stockholm Convention with a series of stakeholder sessions of private and public sector organizations to improve awareness of POP sources, and regulatory requirements. Under this convention Jamaica is obliged to reduce and eliminate Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), a critical step in sustainably transforming key industries and practices. Known sources of POPs include transformers run by power companies; firefighting foam used by the fire services; pesticides used by the agricultural sector; discarded cars and burning garbage – all causes of long-term harm to human health and the environment. In 2021, working in partnership with the Ministry of Economic

Financing facilities and opportunities are expanded for artisanal and small scale miners through capacity building with the financial sector

Growth and Job Creation, Pesticide Control Authority, and the National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), UNDP supported Jamaica in completing the development of its National Implementation Plan (NIP) for Management of Persistent Organic Pollutants in Jamaica. Eighty-four (84) public and private sector workers were trained to support the management of POPs in Jamaica in data collection, and 75 firefighters were trained in the use and storage of sustainable alternatives to firefighting foam.

While championing a sustainable approach to the development minerals sector, UNDP and the Ministry of Transport and Mining continued to strengthen the business enabling environment of the sector by bolstering its capacity to generate financing and earnings for small scale miners and artisans. In 2021 the European Union (EU) and Organization of African Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS)-funded Development Minerals Programme enhanced the capacity of financial institutions to facilitate business development services for the sector. Additionally, the financial literacy of 73 artisanal small and medium-sized entrepreneurs and relevant stakeholders was enhanced in enterprise development and management, resulting in improved financial and technical mining skills.

The capacity of tertiary level public institutions to deliver industry relevant development minerals curricula was also strengthened through the development and upscaling of two courses. Development Minerals curricula was developed by Utech and upscaled to a landmark four-year Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) degree in Mines and Quarry Management, to provide operators in the mining and quarry sector with academic qualifications to operate at the management level. Additionally, a four-month Manager's certification course at the Excelsior Education Centre (EXED) in collaboration with



Artisan Delroy Lamont displays a stunning piece of gypsum (a development mineral) which he has carved into functional art. The financial literacy of 73 artisanal small and medium-sized entrepreneurs and relevant stakeholders was enhanced in enterprise development and management during 2021.

**BSc programme
and online
certification
course in Mines
and Quarry
Management are
launched**

Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica (CCCJ) Mines and Geology Division and Ministry of Transport & Mining, in quarry management was upscaled to an online delivery modality, focusing on enhancing the capacity of quarry managers to execute occupational health and safety and environmental best practices and to comply with legal requirements.

By supporting rural communities and small-scale miners to expand their earning potential, with environmental sensitivity, families and local economies win, and so do future generations.

A fully accessible digital network expands opportunities to earn, learn, transact business and network to underserved populations and fully aligns with UNDP's global mission to support digitization as an enabler of sustainable development. In the period under review, UNDP rescoped its 'Advancing Jamaica's Digital Response to COVID-19' project to support the expansion of community Wi Fi networks in 17 locations across vulnerable communities in 10 parishes and undertake an assessment of Jamaica's digital readiness. At least one community benefited from the provision of Wi Fi infrastructure and tablets in 2021 to reverse learning loss and access to

Project Coordinator Alicia Bowen McCulskie poses with young recipients of tablets in west Kingston





UNDP rescoped its 'Advancing Jamaica's Digital Response to COVID-19' project to support the expansion of community Wi Fi networks in 17 locations across vulnerable communities in 10 parishes.

lessons during the height of the COVID pandemic. Under a major programme funded by the Human Security Trust Fund, UNDP established and equipped a virtual learning centre in West Kingston serving 185 students.

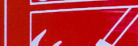
The same programme also provided small grants for social enterprise ventures in upholstery; screen printing; events equipment rental; landscape equipment rental, beekeeping and agroforestry. Grants were coupled with mentorship and training to enhance the earning potential of community groups and the sustainability of their enterprises.



Firefighting foam is a Persistent Organic Pollutant that can harm human health and the environment.



1 USE UPRIGHT PULL OUT PIN



2 AIM HOSE AT BASE OF FIRE

TESTIMONIAL

ON TRACK TO ELIMINATE POPS (PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS) PESTICIDES



The Pesticide Control Authority (PCA) has continued the work of removing some of the pesticides that are on the Stockholm Convention, and in 2011 we also placed 4 additional pesticides on our 2nd schedule - so that's our prohibited list. As it is now in 2021, I can say that Jamaica is almost free of Persistent Organic Pollutants for pesticides.

Tamara Morrison
Registrar,
Pesticides Control Authority of the
Ministry of Health and Wellness



Democratic Governance & Peacebuilding



Letesha Whyte, president of the National Police Youth Club Council of Jamaica (NPYCCJ) a delegate of the 2021 Youth Summit on Crime and Violence.

Supporting local efforts to secure peaceful, just and inclusive societies, leaving no one behind.

Pervasive insecurities and limited access to justice continues to place restraints on economic growth and potentially limit the extent to which the marginalized poor can lift themselves out of poverty. With a documented 9.9% and 18% increase in the murder rates of Jamaica and The Bahamas respectively, Citizen Safety and Security remains a priority of governments in the Caribbean region. In response, the MCO has strengthened its Democratic Governance and Peacebuilding portfolio and expanded its network of partnerships to focus on access to Justice, Gender Based Violence, Youth inclusion and public sector debt management.

Partnering with UN agencies, the Government and civil society groups under the European Union (EU)-funded Spotlight Initiative, UNDP focused on

strengthening the policy and regulatory framework regulatory frameworks and institutional capacities to address Gender Based Violence (GBV) in Jamaica. Recommendations resulted in the removal of discriminatory elements and increased protection and redress protection for victims in the Sexual Harassment Bill and bolstered recommended reforms to the Domestic Violence Act, Sexual Offences Act, Offences Against the Person Act and the Childcare and Protection Act.

In 2021 UNDP partnered with the Jamaica Constabulary Force to strengthen the delivery of coordinated essential services to survivors of GBV by establishing six new Domestic Violence Intervention Centres in the parishes of St. Catherine, St. Mary, St. Ann, St. Elizabeth, Clarendon, and Westmoreland. UNDP's partnership with the Jamaica Constabulary Force on the DVICs essentially expanded its DVIC network to 10 island wide and strengthened the footprint of its existing

Six new Domestic Violence Intervention Centres are established in Jamaica for GBV victims which expands the network to 10 island wide

'DVICare' service to GBV survivors. The centres, established at police stations in rural and urban communities with high rates of GBV, offer counselling and immediate care to victims including access to justice services and referrals to legal and health services.



Jaqueline Dillion head of the Jamaica Constabulary Force's Domestic Violence Intervention Centres and and Constable Steve Tyndale.

A Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Prevention Framework is developed

National capacity to address GBV was further bolstered in 2021 with the development of a Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Prevention Framework. National institutions including the Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF) now possess a framework to guide the development of gender sensitive and responsive citizen security interventions to help prevent VAWG incidents. Training curriculums on victim response were also developed for community level organizations to access online support in the administration of victim support counselling.

Early Warning and Alert System is established to predict and respond to family violence

GBV planning capacities were complemented by data collection and surveillance interventions. The Ministry of National Security's (MNS) capacity to predict and respond to violent incidents including family violence was also strengthened in 2021 through the establishment of an Early Warning Alert & Response System. Seventy-four police officers, including 51



Centre manager for the Portmore Domestic Violence Intervention Centre in Jamaica, Detective Constable Damian Hammond (right) and Sergeant Princess Bayliss Ranger sub officer in charge of the Portmore Community Safety and Security Branch.

Youth leaders advance 14-point call to action to advance youth inclusion in citizen security and safety

Youth Voice & Action project. UNDP awarded 10,000 USD grants each to 10 youth NGOs to innovate citizen security related solutions and trained grantees in project development and implementation. The micro projects generated helpful interventions for target communities including – Conflict resolution training and peace ambassador appointments in volatile communities; sign language training for police officers to support the filing of police reports by the deaf community; training and job placements for youth at risk; business development and entrepreneurial skills training to boost income earning potential; community telemedicine services and anti-bullying and safety campaigns including a safety fence



18 youth leaders have acquired research skills to probe social development issues impacting youth

for a vulnerable school. Youth participants pressed their case for stronger participation in citizen security solutions by staging a virtual Youth Summit on Crime and Violence and issued a 14-point Call to Action. UNDP partnered with UNESCO to train and deploy young people to conduct research on the extent of youth centric approaches in the implementation of Citizen Security Initiatives. Employing their Youth as Researchers programme methodology, UNESCO-mentored participants, researched Government Programmes on Peace and Security,



Debt mismanagement negatively impacts all; likewise Debt Management holds benefits for all. Scene from Disabilities Week Fair in Nassau in December 2022.

(UNDP MCO in Jamaica Photo).

females and 23 males were trained to conduct community risk assessments, map hotspots and utilize response mechanisms including dispute resolution and conflict mediation.

UNDP and partners also focused on strengthening data collection to better inform strategic interventions. To this end, UNDP/Spotlight Initiative supported the expansion of the Jamaica Crime Observatory and the expansion of the Jamaica Injury Surveillance System to three additional hospitals for a total of 12. Both interventions have strengthened the capacity of the Government of Jamaica to collect quality GBV data and to perform high-level statistical analysis.

The robust institutional capacity building focus was complemented by interventions to secure the financial independence of GBV victims from abusive partners. Fifty-five GBV victims were trained in product development, marketing strategies, financial planning, and management. Additionally, UNDP is on track to support

the economic independence of these survivors through the provision of grants, as well as business coaching and mentoring during the business start-up phase. UNDP and partners also facilitated access to quality support services for 32 victims of VAWG through the provision of psychosocial and counselling services.

Another plank in UNDP's citizen safety and security portfolio focused on bolstering youth participation in the development and leadership of solutions. In partnership with Youth NGOs, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Ministry of National Security, Ministry of Education, Youth and Information, Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ), Rise Life Management Services and the Private Sector Organization of Jamaica (PSOJ), UNDP piloted a participatory approach to citizen safety and security under its Amplifying





Image courtesy of Freepik

Youth-centric Policy-Design for Peace, Citizen Safety and Security, Youth Engagement and CSOs in Peace. This resulted in capacity building in research for 18 youth participants and more importantly, concrete and actionable recommendations from youth researchers for strengthening youth engagement in Peace and Security.

In 2021, access to legal information and advice on justice related services,

rights and obligations was bolstered by equipping courts with six customer service and information desks to facilitate dissemination of legal information to the public. Made possible through the Canada-funded Justice Undertakings for Social Transformation (JUST)-Social Order project, the UNDP and Ministry of Justice-implemented project also disseminated multimedia public education products on child rights, divorce, summons, protection order and probate.

In The Bahamas, UNDP's Democratic Governance portfolio primarily focused

on strengthening the nation's public debt management framework and developing a Government Bond Market.

In the period under review, UNDP in collaboration with the Commonwealth Secretariat partnered with the Government of The Bahamas to reform the legal framework and institutional arrangements for public debt management and promote transparency in public debt management. These are cornerstones for achieving sound public debt management practices and public debt sustainability in The Bahamas.

To this end, a new Public Debt Management Act (PDMA) 2021 providing a modern and robust framework for public debt management and improved accountability and transparency in operations was enacted by the Parliament on 31 March 2021 and became effective 1 July 2021. Public Debt Management Regulations were developed and submitted to Government for Cabinet approval and Parliamentary adoption and a new Fiscal Agency Agreement was finalized in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank to establish roles, responsibilities, and coordination arrangements for public debt management operations.

Institutional arrangements were also established in 2021 to spearhead public debt management in The Bahamas. A new Public Debt Management Office was set up within the Ministry of Finance on 1 July 2021, and a new Procedures Manual for its effective functioning developed and submitted to the Government.

Roadmaps for public debt management were also promulgated with the development and publication of a Maiden Public Debt Bulletin and the Annual Borrowing Plan and a Medium-Term Debt Strategy (MTDS) for managing public debt. The MTDS was submitted for Cabinet approval in 2021.

A new Public Debt Management Act (PDMA) 2021 took effect on July 1, 2021 in The Bahamas, providing a framework for public debt management and improved accountability and transparency.

Bahamas establishes a Public Debt Management Office to spearhead public debt management in The Bahamas

The Bahamas develops roadmaps for public debt management

TESTIMONIALS

AMPLIFYING YOUTH VOICE AND ACTION



What I liked most about the project was the fact that it was youth-led, and we got a chance to present our findings to different stakeholders,

Youth As Researchers Participant

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION CENTRES



We have gotten a lot of 'thank you's'. Persons really appreciate the effort. There are times we are about to refer elsewhere, and they wish to stay with the DVIC. When they move on, they check in to report how their counselling is going

Detective Constable Damion Hammond
DVIC Centre Manager, Portmore



DEBT MANAGEMENT IN THE BAHAMAS



If the project did not exist, the risks faced would mean higher costs, higher cost of debt, more aggressive repayment schedules which leads to higher taxes – which increases risk of economic and fiscal instability and potential for default

Simon Wilson,
Financial Secretary in the Ministry of Finance



Crisis Resilience & Recovery



This couple was among 300 beneficiaries of a project that provided inputs for backyard gardens during COVID-19 to improve food security

Supporting resilience to Climate Change including natural disasters

UNDP's support to Crisis Recovery and Resilience in The Bahamas and Jamaica in 2021 included a significant portfolio of climate change adaptation and mitigation interventions at the national and community levels. Building local capacities to withstand crisis bolsters nations against catastrophic impacts that can hurt livelihoods, physical infrastructure, jobs, earnings, standards of living and economic growth.

In 2021, the mission to boost resilience and aid recovery included relief to vulnerable groups left behind by the COVID pandemic, and efforts to advance water security in drought-stricken 'breadbasket' communities to open up channels of economic activity. UNDP also boosted its portfolio of projects in energy security to contribute to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions with a view to

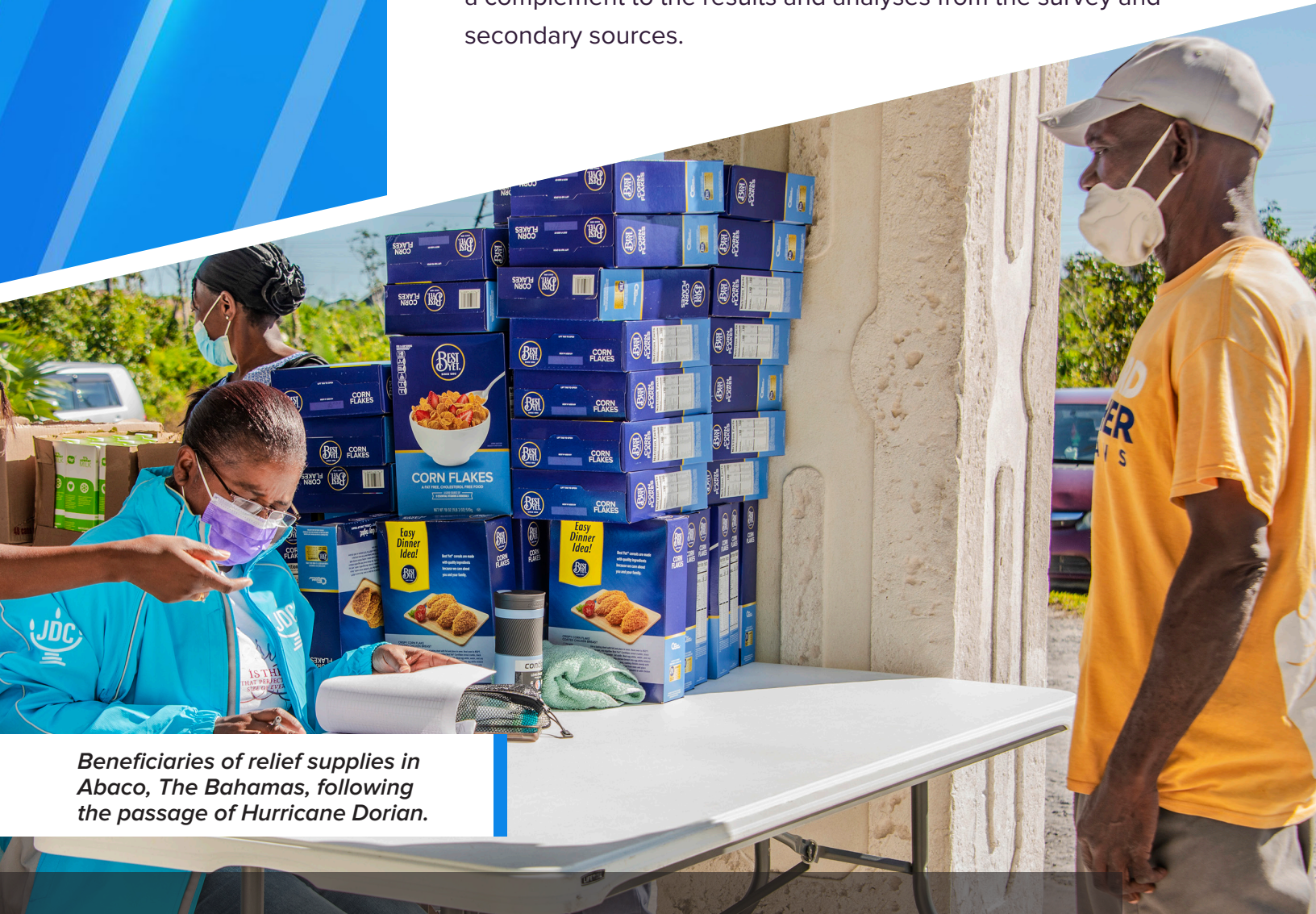
generating savings for capital projects on the national growth agenda.

In support of The Government of The Bahamas' response to the COVID 19 pandemic, UNDP provided emergency relief and small business grants to the most affected islands in partnership with local NGOs. In Abaco, 2,400 families were supported with 15,305 food parcels, and in Grand Bahama, 4,500 Meals on Wheels were delivered to shut-ins, persons with disabilities and the elderly. Additionally, 300 food parcels were delivered monthly to families in need in Grand Bahama. Thirteen Micro, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (eight in Abaco and five in Grand Bahama), 50% owned by women received grants to restore their productivity and contributions to local commerce and job creation.

Another significant COVID response focused on data gathering and analysis to support the formulation of evidence-led policy and strategic interventions.

Youth leaders
advance 14-point
call to action to
advance youth
inclusion in citizen
security and
safety

The Bahamas and Jamaica participated in primary research to inform post pandemic interventions. UNDP released the findings of a Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of Hurricane Dorian and the COVID-19 Pandemic on MSMEs in The Bahamas and a Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of COVID-19 and Policy Options for Jamaica. Both studies were the first comprehensive assessments providing a definitive record of the impact and coping measures utilized in the management of the COVID-19 pandemic in both countries. Jamaica's study provided the first systematic identification of the vulnerable segments of the society negatively impacted by the pandemic and Bahamas' study did likewise by focusing on the MSME sector. Both studies provided policy options for reducing impact in the future and were the first Impact Assessments that employed a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) as a complement to the results and analyses from the survey and secondary sources.



Beneficiaries of relief supplies in Abaco, The Bahamas, following the passage of Hurricane Dorian.



Water flows to the taps once again at this school in upper Clarendon which benefitted from water harvesting infrastructure

Water is life and critical to many household and economic functions, but communities hit by dwindling rainfall and poor access to potable water are often left behind. A joint United Nations (UN) programme designed to strengthen the resilience of communities to water scarcity, economic hardships and other insecurities went into its third year with funding from the Human Security Trust Fund. In 2021, the project strengthened the policy and regulatory framework for the Water Resources Management sector of Jamaica through the completion of a legislative review and gap analysis. The review sought to address the need for a more holistic and coordinated approach in water management (including sanitation), particularly the legislative and policy elements. UNDP also supported increased access to potable water through the rehabilitation of two communal water harvesting systems in Mt Airy and Culloden in Northern Clarendon serving 3500 persons. Hand water washing stations established in three schools in Northern Clarendon (James Hill Primary, Park Hall Primary, and Trout Hall Primary) helped schools to reopen after the peak of the COVID crisis and improved infection control.

3500 residents rural communities secure improved access to potable water

350 backyard gardens have been established, boosting food security and supplies for families and communities.

Working with the Jamaica 4H Clubs, 350 families located in drought-stricken areas of Clarendon benefited from inputs and technical assistance to establish backyard gardens as a means of boosting food supplies for local families and overall food security during the COVID crisis.

Hospitals operating extensive facilities 24-7, results in significant energy bills that leaves less funding for health sector investments. 2021 was therefore the year that UNDP ramped up support for Jamaica's energy security agenda with a view to contributing to reductions in Jamaica's public sector energy bill. Under a GEF-funded renewable energy project, two grid-tied Photo Voltaic (PV) systems (83kilowatt and 13kW) were installed and commissioned at the National Chest and Sir John Golding hospitals. The final three of six targeted hospitals were also completely retrofitted with LED bulbs as part of an energy efficiency drive to reduce operational costs at May Pen, Savanna-la-mar and Black River hospitals. Spearheaded in partnership with the Ministries of Health, Science, Energy and Technology and the Development Bank of Jamaica, the energy efficiency footprint of the intervention was also expanded with a donation of 160 additional LED bulbs to retrofit health centres in western Jamaica. Expert analysis indicates the solar and LED investment is on track to save \$348,944 USD per annum at all six hospitals. Calculated 20-year savings for all six hospitals is projected at \$3.5 million USD. The interventions are expected to reduce the public health sector energy consumption bill by 22% annually. Careful attention was also paid to strengthening the regulatory framework to facilitate efficient expansion of the renewables sector. Updates to the Building, Mechanical and Property Maintenance Codes were completed and are expected to enhance national capacity to align regulations to international standards for designers, regulators and the building industry. Further, the institutional capacity to support

The public health sector is poised for a 22% per annum decrease in energy costs and increased savings for capital projects



Student nurses pass in front of the National Chest Hospital, one of three hospitals retrofitted with solar energy systems.

Jamaica's renewable energy and energy efficiency ecosystem was strengthened with the training of 42 energy service providers, government officials and financial institutions in energy financing and measurement and verification of savings.

In recognition of the national development target of increasing the renewable energy mix to 30% by 2030, UNDP expanded its energy security portfolio into the E-Mobility sector in 2021. A new project, supporting Jamaica's transition to a sustainable transport system and promulgation of electric cars was approved and resources allocated.

A new project supporting Jamaica's transition to a sustainable transportation system is approved.

UNDP's commitment to reductions in levels of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) remained on track in 2021 through interventions to reduce the importation, trade and usage of Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) which damages the earth's protective ozone layer. With funding from the Montreal Protocol Unit, NEPA and UNDP partnered to strengthen the Government of Jamaica's capacity to monitor the importation of HFCs and to ensure compliance with the Kigali Amendment particularly CO₂ equivalents. Jamaica developed a licensing and quota framework to monitor HFC importation and completed a baseline assessment diagnostic to help determine the consumption level, distribution and use of HFCs in Jamaica. The baseline is expected to support calculations of HFC levels in the country which will guide the development of a national phase-out timeline. The interventions are all industry enabling activities required to support Jamaica's ratification of the Kigali Amendment. UNDP mobilized additional financing in 2021 to support Jamaica's continued adherence to the obligations of the Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment.

Jamaica has developed a licensing and quota framework to monitor importation of ozone layer-harming substances



The Government of Jamaica's capacity to monitor the importation of HFCs like those which run Air Conditioning units has been strengthened. AC technicians like Dane Rookwood, pictured in this file photo have been participating in the UNDP-implemented project.

TESTIMONIALS

RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT



(The renewable energy project) is a very, very good initiative. We have saved a lot on our electricity and as you know a hospital is where you use high voltage. At this time our bills should be cutting by more than half. This is very good not just for the hospital but for the Ministry of Health and Jamaica as a whole. It's a very good cost saving.

Carlton Grant
Maintenance Supervisor,
May Pen Hospital



This is a very significant project to the health sector. Energy consumption is a critical part of our operations. To a large extent this is a very impactful project, and we hope to be able to expand to other facilities to see a change in our energy consumption in health facilities

Leslie James
Senior Director for Project Management and Health Facilities
Ministry of Health and Wellness

TESTIMONIALS

WATER SECURITY BOLSTERING HUMAN RESILIENCE IN DROUGHT-HIT CLARENDON

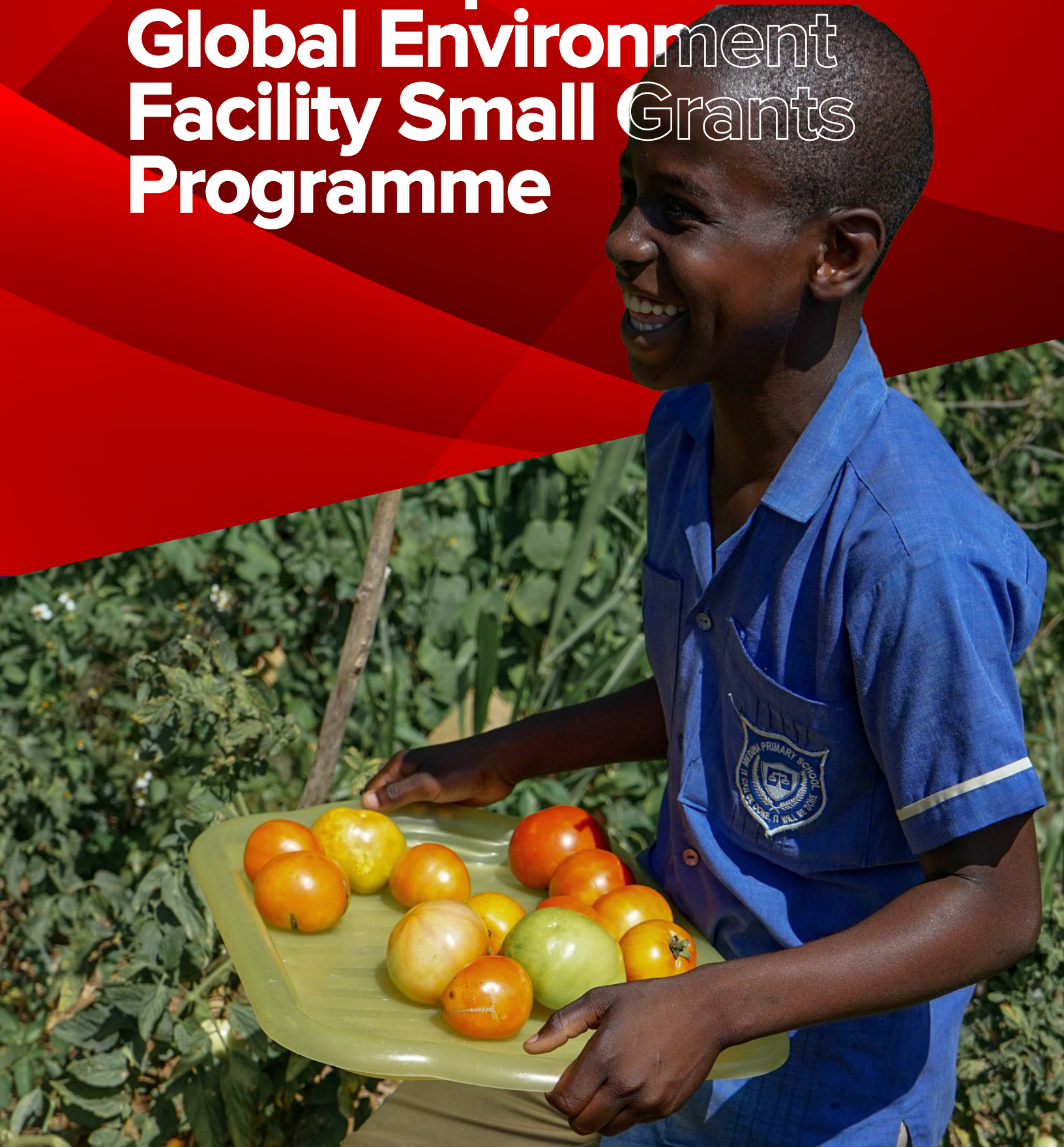


The farm irrigation system is a gift which is reversing crops losses due to extended drought declares Euxan Smith, farmer and president of the Mt Airy Farmers Group in a telephone interview.

“We are planting less but reaping more. I now plant half the area, but reaping twice the amount, while harvesting more crops, with more weight over a longer time with more weekly income”. He attributes the turn around to the drip system and the sustainable agricultural methods taught under the project. “It was never like that before. Farmers are saying it’s the way to go, and that if we had more rainfall, we could reap another 200%”.



UNDP-implemented Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme



GEF SGP provides grant funding to community based organizations and non-governmental organizations to help them protect the environment, adapt to the challenges posed by climate change and generate sustainable livelihoods for vulnerable communities across the island.

The day-to-day fight against the impacts of climate change takes place in communities. This is where the UNDP-implemented Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP) carries out its mission, working with groups in communities on the frontline. In 2021, GEF SGP expanded its grant funding and partnerships in Jamaica, which helped strengthen local climate action capacities and climate smart agriculture and sustainable income earning opportunities, benefitting 20 communities.

For example, climate-vulnerable communities within the Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park buffer zone received support to strengthen their climate change resilience. Working with community groups including the Maroons, a rest stop in Hayfield was constructed as an ecotourism facility. Other income generating opportunities are now in the hands of residents with the refurbishment of a solar dryer and installation of a solar system as well as bamboo craft making equipment and training. Support was also provided to sustain the biodiversity and pristine nature of the surrounding environment by planting trees to attract threatened bird and insect species.

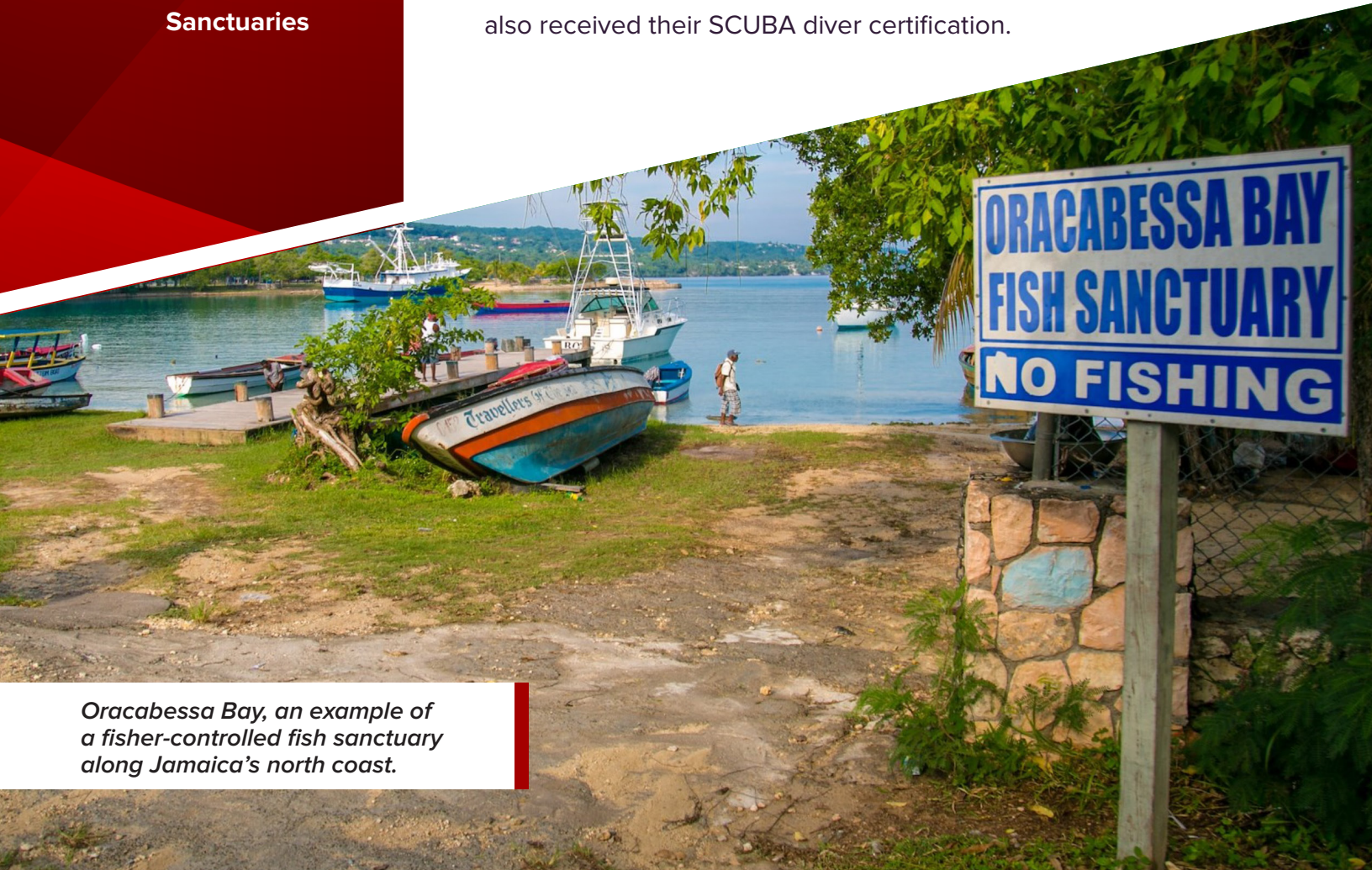
Climate-friendly enterprises and employment opportunities were further advanced in partnership with the Jamaica 4H Clubs. The partnership has strengthened capacities to

**Eco friendly
income generating
facilities are
created in a major
protected area**

**Groundwork
is set for the
establishment of
three new Fish
Sanctuaries**

generate jobs in the agro processing sector by refurbishing and fully equipping an agro-processing facility with new equipment for training and Incubator purposes. To this end, youth were awarded certification in Food Production Systems and Nutrition Diversification with another cohort trained in agro-processing enterprise development.

In 2021, GEF SGP grant funding laid the foundation for the establishment of three new fisher-controlled fish sanctuaries in high value, high use areas along Jamaica's north coast. Fish sanctuaries are marine ecosystem friendly zones that help to revive depleting seafood populations, coral reefs and marine habitats. They are critical for biodiversity and food security. Foundational work in 2021 included registration of two fisherfolk groups with the Companies Office of Jamaica (Scarlett Hall, Salt Marsh Fishers Association, and Whitehouse Fishing Village Association), mapping of four new fishing communities and spatial planning for fish sanctuary boundaries. Three fishers also received their SCUBA diver certification.



Oracabessa Bay, an example of a fisher-controlled fish sanctuary along Jamaica's north coast.



Growing of sweet peppers inside the solar-powered greenhouse installed by the Negril area Environmental Protection Trust in Green Island, Hanover

GEF SGP worked on building the resilience of persons living in Riversdale, St Catherine to the impacts of climate change using an inclusive approach. Community members were taught Sustainable Land Management and Climate Smart Agricultural Practices and Entrepreneurship and supported with inputs such as a greenhouse and farm tools to enable their participation as climate smart farmers. The beneficiaries put their training into practice by planting 250 ackee and timber trees on farms and degraded lands. Efforts to strengthen the adoption of climate smart agricultural practices as a means of boosting resilience of vulnerable farming communities continued in the community of Negril in western Jamaica focusing on the Negril Environmental Protection Area. A Hydroponics-powered greenhouse was constructed and capacity building sessions on environmental conservation, climate change, budgeting and finance were convened with farmers. Five thousand climate resilient seedlings were also distributed.

Community greenhouses are established to support climate smart agriculture in farming communities

Gender Equality



WE ARE
ALL CREATED
EQUAL

UNDP is committed to supporting capacity development of its national partners to adopt approaches that advance gender equality and take account of the full range of their contributions to development.

Women are often disadvantaged, marginalized and left behind when disaster strikes. In female headed households this can be catastrophic. With funding from Global Affairs Canada and the UK Government, the challenge is being addressed from the planning stage. Under the Enabling Gender-Responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean (EnGenDER) project, Government of Jamaica and UNDP are working to ensure women access equal opportunities, and that they are included in disaster risk reduction (DRR), climate change (CC) adaptation and mitigation, and environmental management frameworks.

The advent of the COVID pandemic became a testing ground for the implementation of the project and with approval from the funding agencies, activities were rescoped to help women survive the pandemic.

In partnership with the Bureau of Gender Affairs (BGA), UNDP disbursed income generation grants to male and female entrepreneurs from the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) sector whose businesses were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The entrepreneurs indicated that the

Grant funding aids GBV entrepreneurs to keep their business alive and improve their resilience to crisis.



Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport, Hon. Olivia Grange (right), and Programmes Specialist UNDP, Richard Kelly present a hygiene and nutrition package to a teen mother at the Women's Centre of Jamaica Foundation in St. Andrew. Others pictured from left are Chairman of the Centre, Debbyann Brown Salmon; Chargé d'Affaires at the High Commission of Canada, Kevin Gilhooly, and Principal Director for Gender Affairs at the Ministry, Sharon Coburn Robinson.

grants helped to secure the sustainability of their businesses and improved their capacity to weather the pandemic.

Project rescoping also enabled training of eight first responders to deliver First Line Response and tools to survivors of Gender Based Violence (GBV); training of 20 female mentors to deliver case management and a client-sensitive environment; and GBV sensitivity training for 14 community leaders from the communities of Riverton, Waterhouse, Ellerslie Garden, Tawes Pen, Denham Town, Barrett Town, York Town and Tivoli Gardens in Kingston & St. Andrew. The psychosocial intervention was made possible through a Low Value Agreement with the Non-Governmental Organization Eve for Life. Female survivors of GBV also received psychosocial intervention and GBV sensitization training. Early reports indicate that the training resulted in the creation of a safety plan by four participants and the successful utilisation of the safety plan by at least one participant to exit a 3-year abusive relationship.

GBV victims create safety plans arising from psychosocial training; One victim exits an abusive relationship using the plan

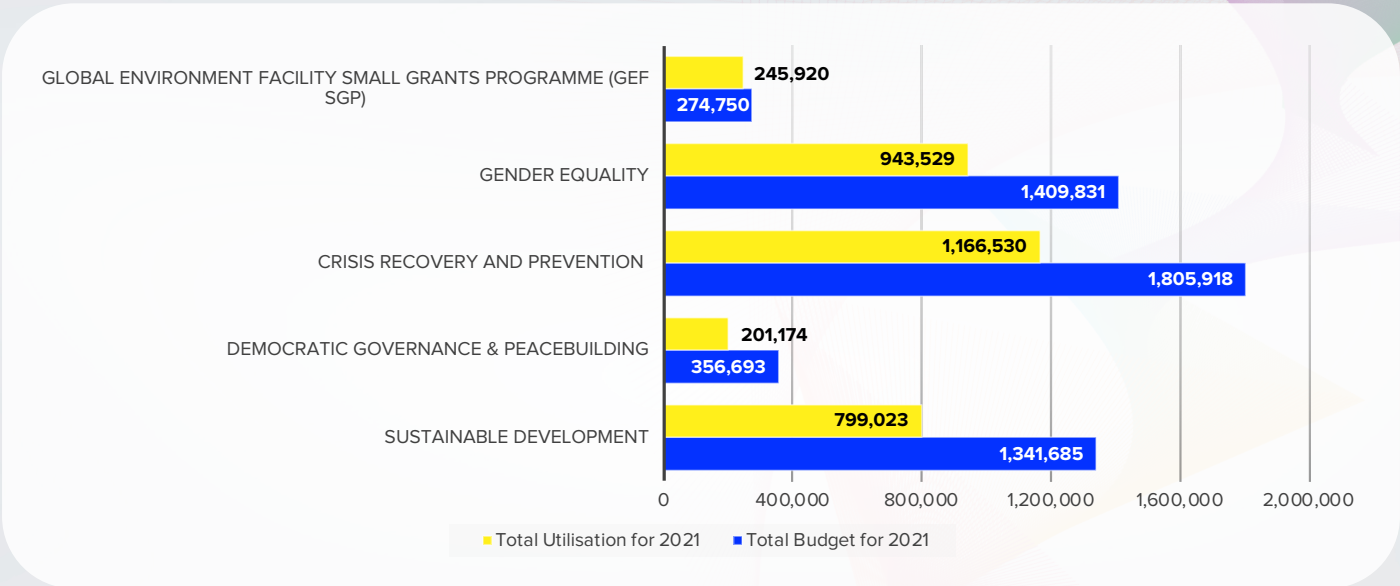


Small business persons like shopkeeper Coleen Lewin pictured in this earlier file photo, received income generation grants through the Canada-funded EnGenDER project.

Financial Report

CATEGORY	TOTAL BUDGET FOR 2021	TOTAL UTILISATION FOR 2021
Sustainable Development	1,341,685	799,023
Democratic Governance & Peacebuilding	356,693	201,174
Crisis Recovery and Prevention	1,805,918	1,166,530
Gender Equality	1,409,831	943,529
Sub Total UNDP	4,914,127	3,110,255
Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP)	274,750	245,920
Grand Total including GEF SGP	5,188,876.88	3,356,175.37

Budgeted vs Actual Expenditure






**United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Multi Country Office in Jamaica**

 1–3 Lady Musgrave Road | Kingston 5 | Jamaica

 876 978-2390-9

 registry.jm@undp.org

 [@undpjamaica](https://www.facebook.com/undpjamaica)

 [@undpjamaica](https://www.instagram.com/undpjamaica)

 [@undp](https://twitter.com/undp)

PHOTO STORIES www.undpjamaica.exposure.co

 [@undpjamaicatv](https://www.youtube.com/undpjamaicatv)

The UNDP Multi Country Office in Jamaica serves Jamaica, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, The Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands