





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

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



## SHORTS

#### A NOVEL SOCIAL ENTERPRISE HELPS ARTISANS PRODUCE, EARN & THRIVE

Mae Market was solely a semi precious stone business until it transformed into a social enterprise to help other artisans produce and market their goods. With a small grant, from the Development Minerals Programme, they refurbished and purchased equipment, tools and supplies to work with semi-precious stones and other materials. They also pivoted their business model to bolster their support to a network of 25 artisans.

**Project** Country Grant under the ACP/EU Development Minerals Programme Phase 2

Funded by European Union (EU)

**Implemented by** United Nations Development Programme

**Implementation partner in Jamaica**Mines and Geology Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining

**Duration** 2019 to 2024 **Overall Budget** 600 000 USD

### **RESULTS AT A GLANCE**



Artisan House's inventory of custom equipment which cuts and polishes semi-precious stones is now one of a kind in Jamaica.



Mae Market has helped develop the semi-precious stone industry in Jamaica, and develop and diversify their portfolio.



#### COMBINED SALES INCOME FOR THE ARTISANS GREW

161 % 2020 TO 2021

**768 %** 

2021 - 2022

20%

2022 - 2023

## THE CHALLENGES

Many local artisans import raw materials while development minerals such as semi precious stones, clay etc. are heavily underutilized.

The COVID pandemic ushered in the prospect of economic ruin for many artisans due to lockdowns and decreased interpersonal interactions.

# FULL ACCESS

#### **SUSTAINABLE INCOME**

With a new business to business model targeting retail enterprises, supported by a strong digital catalogue, a steady source of income has been created for 25 artisans.



They helped me to sell the product, to design fresh things that can take the market more readily, and it's been 'going good'. I just have to produce the things; they will do the sales, and we are in business. - Egbert 'Stone Boss' Hamilton

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