



**MOA/USAID/IICA**

# **Hurricane Ivan Farmer Relief Programme**

## **FINAL REPORT**

May 2005

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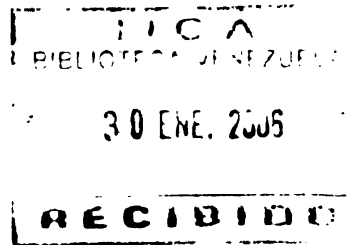
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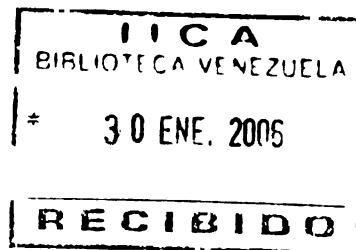
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**LIST OF ACRONYMS**

<b>CARDI</b>	Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
<b>HIFR</b>	Hurricane Ivan Farmer Relief Programme
<b>IICA</b>	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
<b>JAA</b>	Jamaica Aquaculture Association
<b>JAS</b>	Jamaica Agricultural Society
<b>JEA</b>	Jamaica Exporters Association
<b>JPFA</b>	Jamaica Pig Farmers Association
<b>MOA</b>	Ministry of Agriculture
<b>R2RW</b>	Ridge to Reef Watershed Project
<b>RADA</b>	Rural Agricultural Development Authority
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development





## 1.0 Executive Summary

1.1 Documented herein, is the Final report on the USAID/IICA/MOA Hurricane Ivan Farmer Relief Programme. This programme was born out of an initial proposal by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), to assist the Government of Jamaica and specifically the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) in the resuscitation of the agricultural sector, post-Hurricane Ivan. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) subsequently approached IICA and MOA to collaborate in facilitating a wider programme of disbursement of grant funds that was aimed at providing relief to affected farmers - hence the **Hurricane Ivan Farmer Relief Programme (HIFR)**.

1.2 The stated purpose of the HIFR programme was to quickly render assistance to Jamaican farmers within rural parishes whose farms were heavily devastated by Hurricane Ivan, with the view of ensuring that there was expeditious reactivation of their production/trading activities and consequently their income generating capacity.

1.3 Exploratory and consultative meetings with prospective beneficiary farmers and their buyers began in October 2004. The Hurricane Ivan Farmer Relief Programme (HIFR) was formally launched on November 8, 2005, with a financial contribution of US\$ 120,000 from USAID.<sup>1</sup> IICA also allocated US\$50,000 to the programme.

1.4 A Project Steering Committee was immediately established to oversee the implementation of activities which were divided into two phases and executed during the period November 2004 – March 2005.<sup>2</sup> All planned implementation activities were completed within the stipulated time frame. The target of 630 beneficiaries was surpassed with the programme actually delivering assistance to 656 farmers – 98 women and 558 men. Seventy-five percent of all beneficiaries were in the parishes of St. Elizabeth (61.2%) and Manchester (14%). Sixty-four percent were producers of tomato and 23% producers of watermelon.

1.5 The HIFR programme provided support to the resuscitation of a total of 1,092 acres of farmland for the cultivation of six (6) commodities namely, callaloo, hot pepper, tomato, sweet potato, watermelon and tilapia fish.<sup>3</sup> Given favourable weather conditions, it is predicted that a minimum 1.5 million kg of commodities will be produced by beneficiary farmers at an estimated farmgate value of approximately US\$1.6 Million.

1.6 Based on the projected farmgate income to be generated (US\$ 1.6 M) and on the combined value of funds spent on the HIFR programme by USAID and IICA (US\$ 140,713), it is calculated that each dollar spent should contribute to approximately US\$11-12 in generated gross farm income.

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<sup>1</sup> Formal signing of the funding agreement by the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and representatives of USAID, R2RW and IICA took place at the Jamaican Conference Centre in Kingston.

<sup>2</sup> A 14 member Project Steering Committee was chaired by the Chief Technical Officer, MOA

<sup>3</sup> IICA's resources were also used to assist pig farmers with feed, animals and building material.

1.7 In addition to the delivery of inputs to farmers, the HIFR programme also delivered:-

- ✓ An Electronic Farmer Database for future use by MOA/RADA;
- ✓ The renovation of infrastructure for the production of seedlings and fingerlings at the Bodles Research Station and the Aquaculture Division respectively;
- ✓ Fifty-two (52) training sessions in Marketing and Production were conducted by RADA in the target parishes; and
- ✓ A workshop on '*The Role of Farmer Groups in the Process of Disaster Recovery and Mitigation*', which developed recommendations that should enhance the institutional capacity of the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) and the Jamaica Agricultural Society (JAS) to assist farmers in event of a hurricane disaster and further strengthen the agricultural sector's response to these situations.
- ✓ A proposed "Strategy to Improve Disaster Management in the Agricultural Sector of Jamaica".

1.8 Evaluation of the programme took the form of stakeholder consultations as well as a field tour of beneficiary farms (four weeks after the close of the programme) which included the Minister of Agriculture, collaborating agencies and the media.

1.9 It is recommended that for future interventions of such nature, attention be paid to:-

- The involvement of Farmer organizations in planning and implementation disaster relief and mitigation activities
- The uniformity of Farmer/Beneficiary information re farm holdings and needs.
- Communication and feed-back mechanism between programme implementers, farmers and buyers.
- The rationalization and pace of procurement and distribution of inputs and services.
- The timely recovery of infrastructure (public and private) that would facilitate quick provision of planting/stock material as well as other support activities
- The establishment of an MOA Emergency Fund to catalyze the production capacity of public/key private sector stakeholders
- Planned resuscitation versus relief efforts
- A MOA follow-up Work Plan in preparation for the next hurricane season.

1.10 An overall assessment of the results suggests that the Hurricane Ivan Farmer Relief Programme has achieved its purpose. The system of input delivery developed and the activities executed have in effect provided a model approach to partnership amongst national agencies, international funding agencies and development institutions in expeditious response to farmers needs in the aftermath of a natural disaster.



## 2.0 Programme Background

### *- Hurricane Ivan*

2.1 On September 10, 2004, Jamaica experienced major environmental and economic damage due to the passage of Hurricane Ivan. The country's agricultural sector was particularly hard hit, with damage estimated at US\$108 million. This event had immediate impact on the productive and income-generating capacity of domestic food producers. It also had medium to long-term implications for general food availability, agro-processing and fresh export operations, and many other related sector-services.



Damaged farm holding

### *- International Agency Response*

2.2 In an effort to assist with the rehabilitation of the sector's productive and income generating capacity, IICA initiated collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) to implement a programme of assistance to the sector, post-Hurricane Ivan. Subsequently, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) approached IICA to widen the scope of assistance to farmers that had been affected, thereby facilitating the design and implementation of a joint programme of disbursement of grant funds, hence the Hurricane Ivan Farmer Relief Programme (HIFR).

## 3.0 Programme Design

### *- Purpose*

3.1 The purpose of the designed HIFR programme was to quickly render assistance to Jamaican Farmers within rural parishes whose farms were heavily devastated by Hurricane Ivan, thereby supporting the "expeditious reactivation of their production/trading activities and income generating capacity".

### *- Selection of Beneficiaries*

3.2 A total of 630 beneficiary farmers were targeted. Beneficiary farmers were initially selected through a process of consultation with processors and exporters of commodities deemed critical to their operating capacity. Further selection was undertaken by RADA, on the basis of beneficiary farm holding being located in one of the designated parishes, the extent of damage experienced and level of assistance received from other institutions/agencies. Important assistance was also rendered in the selection and verification of beneficiaries (*viz.* tilapia fish and pig) by the Jamaica Aquaculture Association (JAA), the Aquaculture Division of the MOA and the Jamaica Pig Farmers Association (JPFA).

***- Targeted Commodities/Parish***

**3.3** The targeted commodities and parishes were:-

- Callaloo (St. Catherine, Westmoreland, St. Thomas)<sup>4</sup>
- Hot pepper (all parishes except St. Thomas)
- Tomato (Manchester, St. Elizabeth)
- Sweet potato (Manchester, St. Elizabeth, Hanover)
- Watermelon (Manchester, St. Elizabeth),
- Tilapia fish (St. Catherine, Clarendon) and
- Pig (Clarendon, St. Elizabeth, Westmoreland).

***- Programme Benefits***

**3.4** As per Letter of Agreement, the use of USAID grant funds was restricted to the provision of planting material (i.e. seeds, seedlings, sweet potato slips) , fingerlings, fishing and irrigation equipment, small tools, material and supplies for construction and machine rental for land preparation services. Whereas USAID funds could not have been used to assist with provision of requested inputs such as fertilizers, and chemicals (i.e. fungicides, insecticides, herbicides), as well as to provide assistance to certain sectors (e.g. traditional crops, pig), IICA provided grant funding for the purchase of these inputs as well as inputs for a limited number of pig farmers.

**3.5** Beneficiaries were eligible to receive benefits (in the form of inputs) valued between J\$ 10,000 and J\$75,000. Factors taken into consideration in determining the levels of benefit were:

- the extent of damage experienced and level of assistance received from other institutions/agencies;
- the level of commodity production prior to Hurricane Ivan; and
- existing trade/contractual arrangements.

**3.6** It was also programmed that beneficiaries would receive training in good production practices and marketing.

***-Programme Activities***

**3.7** HIFR Programme activities were divided into two (2) Phases. Phase I (i.e. November – December 2004), targeted 58 farmers who had direct trade/contractual arrangements with a buyer or exporter for callaloo, hot pepper, tomato, tilapia fish and pig. In Phase II (i.e. January – March 2005), the number of beneficiary farmers targeted was 570.

**3.8** Beneficiaries under the different phases were eligible to receive input supplies as follows, based on the nature and cost of specific input requirements.

**Phase I**

Crop farmers – J\$15,000  
Aquaculture farmers – J\$75,000.00  
Pig Farmers –J\$75,000.00

**Phase II**

Crop farmers – J\$10,000.00

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<sup>4</sup> Three farmers in the parish of St. Thomas were assisted with inputs from IICA resources.

***- Funding of Programme***

**3.9** USAID's contribution to the HIFR programme was formally initiated on November 8, 2005<sup>5</sup> (Appendix 1). With total funding to the tune of US\$ 170,000, the programme was primarily designed to provide - within a period of no more than six months - production inputs to beneficiary farmers in seven devastated parishes, namely St. Catherine, Clarendon, Manchester, St. Elizabeth, Westmoreland, Hanover and St. Thomas.



Representatives of IICA, MOA, USAID, R2RW formalizing USAID's contribution to the HIFR programme

**4.0 Programme Implementation**

***- Programme Management/Institutional Coordination***

**4.1** A Project Steering Committee (PSC) was established as the coordinating mechanism to guide the implementation of the programme. The committee, consisted of 14 members, met on a monthly basis (i.e. on six occasions). Individual members of the PSC were:-

- Don McGlashan MOA – Chairman
- Michael Pryce – MOA
- Paulette Lyons-Dodd – MOA
- Zuleika Budhan – MOA
- Stanley Dodd- RADA
- Junior Squire – MOA
- Roy Moo Young – MOA
- Joe Suah – USAID/R2RW
- Hugh Graham – USAID/ R2RW
- Robert Reid – IICA
- Kathryn Duncan – IICA
- Holly Robinson - IICA
- Donna Halstead – IICA
- Andrea Tucker – IICA



Project Steering Committee Meeting

***- Implementation Process Activities***

**4.2** The implementation process associated with the HIFR covered the following twenty two (22) activities: -

- i. Preparatory meeting MOA/IICA – drafting process
- ii. Signing of the funding agreement on November 8, 2005
- iii. Project official launch and publicity - November 8, 2005

<sup>5</sup> The signing of the Agreement to officially launch the programme was aired by local television stations and reported in the local print media.

- iv. Meetings of Programme Steering Committee
- v. Development of Programme Administration and Financial Systems
- vi. Consultative meetings with farmers and buyers
- vii. Selection of beneficiaries
- viii. Farmer and farm data collection
- ix. Aggregation of input needs (volume/value) by crop type, parish, extension area
- x. Verification of farmer holdings and damages incurred
- xi. Database development
- xii. Identification of input suppliers/service providers
- xiii. Development of letters of agreement with input suppliers
- xiv. Preparation/distribution of beneficiary vouchers and beneficiary cards
- xv. Procurement, storage and distribution of inputs
- xvi. Submission of Supplier Invoices and disbursement of funds from R2RW/IICA
- xvii. Payment to input/service providers
- xviii. Payment of administrative charges – IICA and MOA/RADA
- xix. Conduct of in-field farmer training in Marketing and Production
- xx. Workshop on role of groups on hurricane disaster management
- xxi. End of programme tour of beneficiary farms by the Minister of Agriculture and the PSC publicizing of programme achievements
- xxii. Submission of Final Programme Report
- xxiii. Programme monitoring and reporting

***- Programme Administration***

**4.3** Administrative and Financial functions were spearheaded by the IICA Office in Jamaica with critical support from RADA Head Office and Parish Managers as well as the USAID/R2RW Management.

***- Farmer/Buyer Consultation***

**4.4** In the first phase of the project, a series of consultative meetings were carried out jointly by MOA, RADA, IICA and USAID with commercial buyers and their supplying farmers, in an effort to introduce them to the programme of assistance, obtain their contact information and identify the specific needs for the farmers' rehabilitation efforts. Identified buyers were Gray's Pepper Ltd, West Best Foods Ltd, Belle Tropical Ltd, Marketing Development Ltd, Jamaica Broilers Ltd and Copperwood Ltd. Input Request Forms were used to gather data on the farmers, their buyers, the nature and extent of their farm losses and their identified needs. (*See Appendix 3*).



Stakeholder consultation (aquaculture),  
Jamaica Broilers Ltd., St. Catherine



Stakeholder consultation  
(vegetable/pig), Gray's  
Enterprise, Westmoreland

Table 1: Consultative meetings held with farmers HIFR Programme

Date	Group	Venue
October 6, 2004	Aquaculture Jamaica Limited (Aquaculture contract farmers and buyer)	Jamaica Broilers, McCook's Pen, St. Catherine
	Jamaica Aquaculture Association (Aquaculture non-contract farmers)	C & C Farms, Bushy Park, St. Catherine
	Hot pepper, callaloo farmers	Bodles Research Station, St. Catherine
October 8, 2004	Hot pepper, tomato farmers, pig farmer and buyers	Gray's Enterprise, Savanna-La-Mar, Westmoreland
November 18, 2004	Hot pepper and pig farmers	Beadles Conference Hall, Santa Cruz, St. Elizabeth
November 19, 2004	Hot pepper, callaloo and tomato farmers	West Best Foods Ltd., Darliston, Westmoreland

***- Farmer identification/selection and Input need determination***

4.5 RADA and the Project Management Unit (MOA) then generated a preliminary listing of farmers and their needs. This was followed by verification of farmer's holdings by RADA extension officers in each parish and the relevant information on input needs relayed to the RADA Head Office for final selection of farmers (Phase I). This information was then passed on to the IICA Office for electronic compilation and aggregation.



Consultantation with callaloo farmers  
(St. Catherine)

4.6 For Phase II, which covered a larger number of farmers, the names of beneficiary farmers were generated by the RADA Parish Offices and again passed on to the IICA Office for electronic compilation and aggregation. In this instance, given the large numbers, farmer bio-data and contact telephone numbers was omitted.

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4.7 Table 2 and Table 3 detail the number of farmers assisted per parish by commodity type in Phases 1 and 2. In Phase 1, hot pepper farmers were the largest number of beneficiaries. Within this group, the largest numbers were from St. Elizabeth. In Phase 2, tomato and watermelon farmers, most of them in St. Elizabeth were the largest number of beneficiaries.

**Table 2: Hurricane Ivan Relief Programme - Number/percentage of beneficiary farmers by parish/commodity type – Phase I**

Commodity	St. Catherine	Clarendon	Manchester	St. Elizabeth	Westmorland	Hanover	St. Thomas	TOTAL	%
Aquaculture	28	1						29	29.6
Hot Pepper	3	2	3	23	8	1		40	40.8
Callaloo	3				4		2	9	9.2
Tomato	1		4	3				8	8.2
Pig	2	1	1	7	1	-	-	12	12.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>%</b>	<b>37.8</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>33.7</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

**Table 3: Hurricane Ivan Relief Programme - Number/percentage of beneficiary farmers by parish/commodity type – Phase II**

Commodity	St. Catherine	Clarendon	Manchester	St. Elizabeth	Westmorland	Hanover	St. Thomas	TOTAL	%
Aquaculture								0	0.0
Hot Pepper					8			8	1.4
Callaloo					1			1	0.2
Tomato		50	39	237	5	14		345	61.8
Sweet Potato			25		2	25		52	9.3
Watermelon			20	132				152	27.2
Pig								0	0.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>%</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>66.1</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

**- Beneficiary Farmer Database**

4.8 An electronic database of beneficiary farmers inclusive of their acreages, crop type, location and type of input needed was developed by IICA's Information Specialist in collaboration with the Director of Data Bank and Evaluation Division (MOA). The database provided access to data on each participating beneficiary farmer and input supplier under the programme, recorded the inputs to be received by each farmer and the associated costs of each input. The database was a composite of the following modules:



**Farmer Database**

- **Farmer/Beneficiary** – Bio-data, extension area, commodity
- **Input** – Input type and quantity to be received by individual farmer
- **Acreages**- Acres to be rehabilitated

4.9 During the execution of the programme, the Database proved extremely useful for:

- contact information
- scheduling of input delivery
- generation of master lists of inputs for delivery to the respective parishes
- preparation of beneficiary vouchers and
- analysis for reporting.



Presentation of database to PSC Chairman

The database (which can be used in the future for impact monitoring, data capture and analysis), was handed over to the MOA at the final meeting of the PSC.

4.10 The acres of farmland covered by the programme are presented in Table 4. The largest acreages were for aquaculture farms in the parish of St. Catherine and the smallest for callaloo, also in the parish of St. Catherine.

Table 4: Acres of farmland covered by Commodity and Parish

	St. Catherine	Clarendon	Manchester	St. Elizabeth	Westmoreland	Hanover	St. Thomas	TOTAL	%
Hot pepper	5	5.5	16.25	29.85	15.35	1.1		73.05	7.2
Callaloo	1.5				3.55		1	5.05	0.6
Sweet potato	-		29		1.5	15		45.5	4.5
Tomato		47.9	53.5	187.2	4.75	12.2		305.55	30.3
Watermelon			27	127.5				154.5	15.3
Aquaculture	396	30						426	42.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>402.5</b>	<b>83.4</b>	<b>125.75</b>	<b>344.55</b>	<b>25.15</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1010.65</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>%</b>	<b>39.9</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

- *Procurement and Distribution of Inputs to Beneficiaries.*

4.11 Twenty two (22) local suppliers of agricultural inputs and services were identified, contacted for quotations and subsequently contracted to provide inputs/services required at different stages of the HIFR programme. Given the limitation of programme resources and the number of beneficiaries to be serviced, attention was paid to best bulk prices and available quantities. IICA's Administrative Officer established a good working relationship with input providers to ensure a smooth delivery of supplies needed for the programme and acted as the liaison between the funding agency (i.e. USAID/R2RW), the input/service suppliers and the beneficiaries. Over 38 input items and services were delivered to farmers. *Appendix 2* is a full

listing of input suppliers. The aggregated inputs per parish (by source of funding) are presented in *Appendix 3*.<sup>6</sup>

**4.12 Special mention must be made of;-**

- the donation of West Indian Red pepper seeds to the Bodles Research Station by the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI). These seeds were used to produce 65,000 seedlings for distribution to programme beneficiaries.
- the land preparation/ploughing service provided by the Jamaica Agricultural Society (JAS) at below market rate. The JAS prepared 166.5 acres of land in the parishes of Clarendon, Manchester and St. Elizabeth.

**4.13** Some physical inputs were procured in bulk from suppliers at different stages of the programme and stored in a warehouse at the Bodles Research Station, Old Harbour, St. Catherine. In other instances (e.g. fish/pig feed, fingerlings, marl) beneficiary farmers, particularly those who were members of the Jamaica Aquaculture Association (JAA) and the Jamaica Pig Farmers Association (JPFA), undertook pick up directly from identified suppliers.



Bodles Farm Management Unit Truck Driver and team

**4.14** Transport logistics for pick-up and delivery of bulk inputs stored at Bodles were managed and scheduled by IICA in collaboration with the Farm Management Unit of the Research and Development Division, MOA. IICA specialists and the truck team delivered inputs to individual farmers (Phase I) and the RADA Office in the six parishes (Phase II). Specific commendation must be given to Mr. William Muschette, Farm Manager; Mr. Tony Reid, Storekeeper; and Mr. C. Brown, Truck Driver and his team<sup>7</sup>, for making transportation available when needed, securing and maintaining an inventory of all inputs stored at the warehouse, and participating in the physical delivery of inputs on a timely basis.

**4.15** To ensure that there was proper accountability for the inputs delivered/received, special duplicate Vouchers and Master List were prepared and signed by IICA personnel, beneficiary farmers, and RADA Parish Managers. (*See Appendix 5*). Payment to some suppliers of inputs in Phase I was done on the basis of Vouchers signed and submitted by beneficiary farmers.



Beneficiary farmer shows with Beneficiary Record Card

**4.16** Farmers in Phase I were also provided with 'Beneficiary Record Cards' which were to be presented to Extension Officers on the occasion of farm visits and attendance at training sessions. (*See Appendix 6*).

<sup>6</sup> Inputs received per beneficiary are recorded in the database presented to the MOA

<sup>7</sup> Sebert Smith and Delroy Thomas



- ***Beneficiary Training***

4.17 During the period December 2004 – April 2005, RADA conducted fifty two (52) training sessions in the six parishes. Nine hundred and sixty eight (968) farmers (which included non- HIFR farmers) attended these sessions which focused on good production and marketing practices for the crops in question.



RADA & R2RW at hot pepper farmer training in Elim

- ***Farmer Group Workshop***

4.18 The experience of working with formal Farmer Groups under Phase I of the HIFR programme (i.e. Jamaica Aquaculture Association and Jamaica Pig Farmers Association) was very positive. The JAA (in collaboration with the Aquaculture Division), as well as the JPFA both played an important role in assisting the implementing agencies with the selection of beneficiary farmers, needs identification, verification of damages incurred, as well as logistics for delivery of inputs to the beneficiaries.

4.19 Based on this experience, IICA organized a workshop on “*The Role of Farmers’ Groups in Disaster Mitigation and Recovery*”.<sup>8</sup> Thirty-four (34) participants were in attendance - including RADA Parish Managers and extension officers, the JAS Parish Coordinators, members of the Jamaica Pig Farmers Association (JPFA) and the Jamaica Aquaculture Association, as well as several farmers who benefited under the programme.



Groups work at Disaster Mitigation & Recovery workshop

4.20 The workshop was deemed successful and concluded that farmer groups can play a positive and vital role in disaster mitigation initiatives as well as in the management and efficiency of delivery of inputs to beneficiaries. The need to establish more commodity producer groups was recognized and recommendations were made by the working groups. These recommendations are presented in *Appendix 7*.

- ***Synergies Created, End of Project Evaluation and Programme Promotion***

4.21 The HIFR programme saw all members of the PSC working closely together and as a result, the relationship among these agencies has been further strengthened. In Phase I of the Programme, a relatively close system of communication was maintained between IICA, RADA and the beneficiary farmers and had its impact on the successful implementation of the programme. The relationship developed with the farmers has been a key element contributing towards the success of the programme. Most farmers were resilient and grateful for the assistance given to them both in terms of inputs and training.

4.22 The relationship between USAID, IICA, MOA and RADA’s Parish Managers/Extension officers, the two Farmer Organizations and individual farmers has also been enhanced as a result of the close working relationship developed over the duration of the HIFR project.

<sup>8</sup> The workshop, held on March 29, 2005 at the Beadles Conference Hall, Santa Cruz, St. Elizabeth

**4.23** Evaluation of the programme took the form of stakeholder consultations as well as a field tour of beneficiary farms which included the Minister of Agriculture, collaborating agencies and the media, four weeks after the close of the programme.

**4.24** During the six months of its execution, the HIFR programme received adequate coverage in the local media, both in print and via the Internet. (*See Appendices 8 & 9*).

## **5.0 Financial Management**

### *- Use of funds*

**5.1** A total of US\$120,000.00 was allocated by the USAID/R2RW for the execution of the programme. Of this amount, US\$100,000.00 was allocated for execution of the programme was used to disburse grant funding to purchase inputs and services that would benefit the farmers for reactivation of their production activities. The balance of US\$20,000.00 was allocated as administrative funds that would be shared in equal amount of US\$10,000.00 each for IICA and MOA/RADA.

**5.2** Total IICA grant allocation to the HIFR programme was US\$ 50,000. This included allocation for additional activities that were executed in relation to IICA's overall assistance to Jamaica's post-Hurricane Ivan relief efforts for the sector.

**5.3** A summary of the use of funds under the Hurricane Ivan Farmer Relief Programme is presented in Table 5.

**Table 5: Hurricane Ivan Farmer Relief Programme**

Funding Source	US\$
<b>USAID FUNDING</b>	
Total Grant Fund	120,000.00
Total Disbursement	91,422.89
Balance on USAID Grant Funding	28,577.11
<b>IICA FUNDING</b>	
Total Grant Fund	50,000.00
Total Disbursement	49,290.99
Balance on IICA Grant Funding	709.01

### *- Financial details*

#### **▪ USAID contribution**

**5.4** The funding received from USAID/R2RW was used to purchase inputs and services and to provide the administrative/technical fees for participation of the implementing agencies IICA and MOA/RADA.

Table 6 provides details of expenditure of the funds provided.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Due to R2RW funding limitations, the Programme could not receive the full complement of funds originally allocated.

**Table 6: HIFR Programme. Detail of Expenditure – USAID Funding**

SUPPLIER	INPUTS/SUPPLIES	US\$
<b>USAID FUNDING</b>		
<b>Total Grant Fund</b>		<b>128,000.00</b>
Lazel Burke	Mani	3,564.52
Fellowship Aquaculture Ltd.	Fingerlings	806.45
Ministry of Agriculture - Aquaculture Branch	Fingerlings	2,083.87
Hipro Farm Supplies	Fish feed	17,539.35
Newport Mills Ltd	Fish feed	4,012.90
Hipro Farm Supplies	Fishing equipment	4,810.48
Bodles Research Station	Hot pepper seedlings	5,265.47
Agro-Grace	Farm Supplies	17,398.35
Frazer Griffiths	Sweet potato slips	2,198.70
Jamaica Drip Irrigations	Irrigation systems	145.87
Santoy Farmers Co-operative Society Ltd	Land preparation	1,752.44
C.A. Keddo	Land preparation	390.88
Antonio Rodrigues	Land preparation	580.65
Jamaica Agricultural Society	Land preparation	10,872.96
IICA	Administrative fees	10,000.00
MOA/RADA	Administrative fees	10,000.00
<b>TOTAL USAID DISBURSEMENT</b>		<b>91,422.89</b>
<b>Balance of USAID funding</b>		<b>28,577.11</b>

▪ **IICA Contribution**

5.5 IICA's financial contribution to the programme was recorded as follows<sup>10</sup>:

- i. Grant of US\$8,983.77 to the Ministry of Agriculture for renovation of screenhouses at the Bodles Research Station, Old Harbour and for pond renovation and acquisition of broodstock at the Aquaculture Branch in Twickenham Park, Spanish Town
- ii. Purchase of inputs that were needed by farmers that the USAID contribution could not cover. A total amount of US\$7,113.12 was spent on fertilizer and chemicals for beneficiaries in all parishes, covering all crop commodities. Also included in IICA's financial contribution was assistance to twelve (12) members of the JPFA to the tune of US\$12,155.53



Broodstock facility – Aquaculture Division



Seedlings inside renovated screenhouse – Bodles Research Station

<sup>10</sup> IICA's cooperation assistance also included a Mission to review the system and process of disaster management relative to the agricultural sector of Jamaica, with a view to developing a strategy for disaster management of the sector. IICA contributed US\$5,045.22 to this activity.

5.6 Table 7 details the total expenditure carried out during the implementation of the programme with funds disbursed by IICA.

**Table 7: HIFR Programme. Details of Expenditure – IICA Funding**

Supplier	Inputs/supplies	US\$
<b>IICA FUNDING</b>		
<b>Total Grant Fund</b>		<b>50,000.00</b>
Quantum Jamaica Ltd.	25 Pro Mix 3.8 cu ft bales	571.72
Mastercraft skylite Ltd.	Translucent Sheet	3,891.15
Longsville Park Farm Ltd	3000 100g broodstock	1,475.41
Agro Grace Ltd.	Agri-chemicals	284.21
Aquaculture Branch - MOA	Labour charges for the renovation of the pond P12 - phases 1	2,380.64
Gilbert Farquharson	Labour charges for the rehabilitation 3 screenhouses at Bodes	380.64
Phil's Hardware	Zinc	5,153.73
Hipro Feeds	Pig feed	5,525.18
St. Jago Farm Supplies	Chemicals	5,940.59
Antilles Chemicals	Fertilizer	7,113.12
Rosend Farms	Pigs	246.10
Herfa Johnson	Pigs	1,230.52
H. Muñoz/A. Pinchinat	IICA Mission	5,045.22
IICA Short-Term Action (2005)	Fertilizer, Field Tour, Farmer Group Workshop, Report Production & Distribution, Project Evaluation	10,052.74
<b>TOTAL IICA DISBURSEMENT</b>		<b>49,290.97</b>
<b>Balance of IICA Funding</b>		<b>709.03</b>

## 6.0 Projections

### - Projected commodity production

6.1 Based on the acreages of farmland covered by the programme and average commodity yields, the projected production of each commodity is presented in Table 8. A total of 1.5 million kg of produce valued at US\$ 1.6 M is projected.

**Table 8: Projected commodity output – volume and value**

	Expected output (kg)	Expected Value (US\$)
Hot pepper	87,660	158,075.41
Callaloo	13,613	5,645.84
Sweet potato	95,550	120,612.30
Tomato	687,488	619,865.78
Watermelon	389,340	491,461.97
Aquaculture	230,040	245,124.59
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,503,690</b>	<b>1,640,785.88</b>

6.2 Based on the combined value of funds spent on the HIFR programme by USAID and IICA and the projected farm gate income to be generated, it is calculated that each US\$ dollar spent should contribute to US\$11-12.00 in generated farm revenue.

## **7.0 Conclusions and Recommendations**

7.1 The programme was a learning experience for all stakeholders. An overall assessment of the results suggests that the Hurricane Ivan Farmer Relief Programme has achieved its purpose.

7.2 The system of input procurement and delivery developed, as well as the activities executed, has in effect provided a model approach to partnership amongst national agencies (public and private), international funding agencies and development institutions in expeditious response to farmers needs in the aftermath of a natural disaster.

7.3 Notwithstanding the success of the programme, there were some recognized areas of implementation that should be the focus of attention in any similar future intervention. These and associated recommendations are as follows:-

### ▪ **Involvement of Farmer Organizations**

Farmer groups have played a positive role in the HIFR programme in terms of the efficiency of delivery of inputs recovery operations.

**It is recommended that the need to establish more formal commodity producer groups be recognized and their role in the development of sustainable disaster mitigation and recovery programme be further examined.**

### ▪ **Uniformity of Farmer/Beneficiary information**

Farmer data (inclusive of needs) that were collected from parishes via RADA, was not presented in a standard format, thus delaying the process of input aggregation and procurement of items/services.

**It is recommended that a prescribed template for data collection should be used by RADA offices in all parishes. Field data should be entered in an electronic worksheet for ease of manipulation. Fields, units of measurement (e.g. hectares vs. acres, kg vs. lbs) must be standardized.**

### ▪ **Consultation, Communication and Feed-back Mechanism**

The period of consultation with farmers and buyers was deemed as relatively lengthy and contributed to some level of frustration on the part of farmer.

**It is recommended that the period of consultation must be compressed.**

Farmers' needs are not always what the relief programme can provide – given the limitation of financial resources.

**It is recommended that the feedback mechanism between implementing agency, extension agency and the farmer, to indicate exactly what inputs he/she will be receiving must be given primary attention. Buyers (i.e. agro-processors and exporters) should also be active participants in the communication/feed-back system.**

▪ **Rationalization/Standardization, Procurement of inputs and services**

**It is recommended that adequate time should be allotted in the Planning Phases to the rationalization, standardization, and procurement of Inputs and services taking into consideration the parameters established by donor agencies. There should be clear definition of inputs particularly land preparation.**

▪ **Commodity Stock Production**

**The demand for commodity stocks (e.g. seedlings, fingerlings) will be significant in any recovery process given their importance to the agro-processing sub-sector.**

**It is recommended that attention be paid to the timely recovery of infrastructures (public and private) that would facilitate quick provision of planting/stock material as well as other support activities.**

▪ **Establishment of an MOA Emergency Fund**

**Quick mobilization of resources to assist farmers and also with commodity stock production is critical to any disaster recovery programme.**

**It is recommended that the Ministry of Agriculture move to establish an Emergency Recovery Fund to catalyze the production capacity of public/key private sector stakeholders.**

▪ **Planned resuscitation vs widespread relief efforts**

**Buyers are of the perspective that the quantity of inputs provided to individual small farmers while viewed as a contribution to start-up activities, could have greater impact on commodity chain and agroprocessor/exporter capacity if more commercial size (i.e. larger) holdings are targeted for inclusion.**

**It is recommended that while this perspective may seem prudent, the intent of providing widespread relief should not be disregarded and that the matter given more detailed examination.**

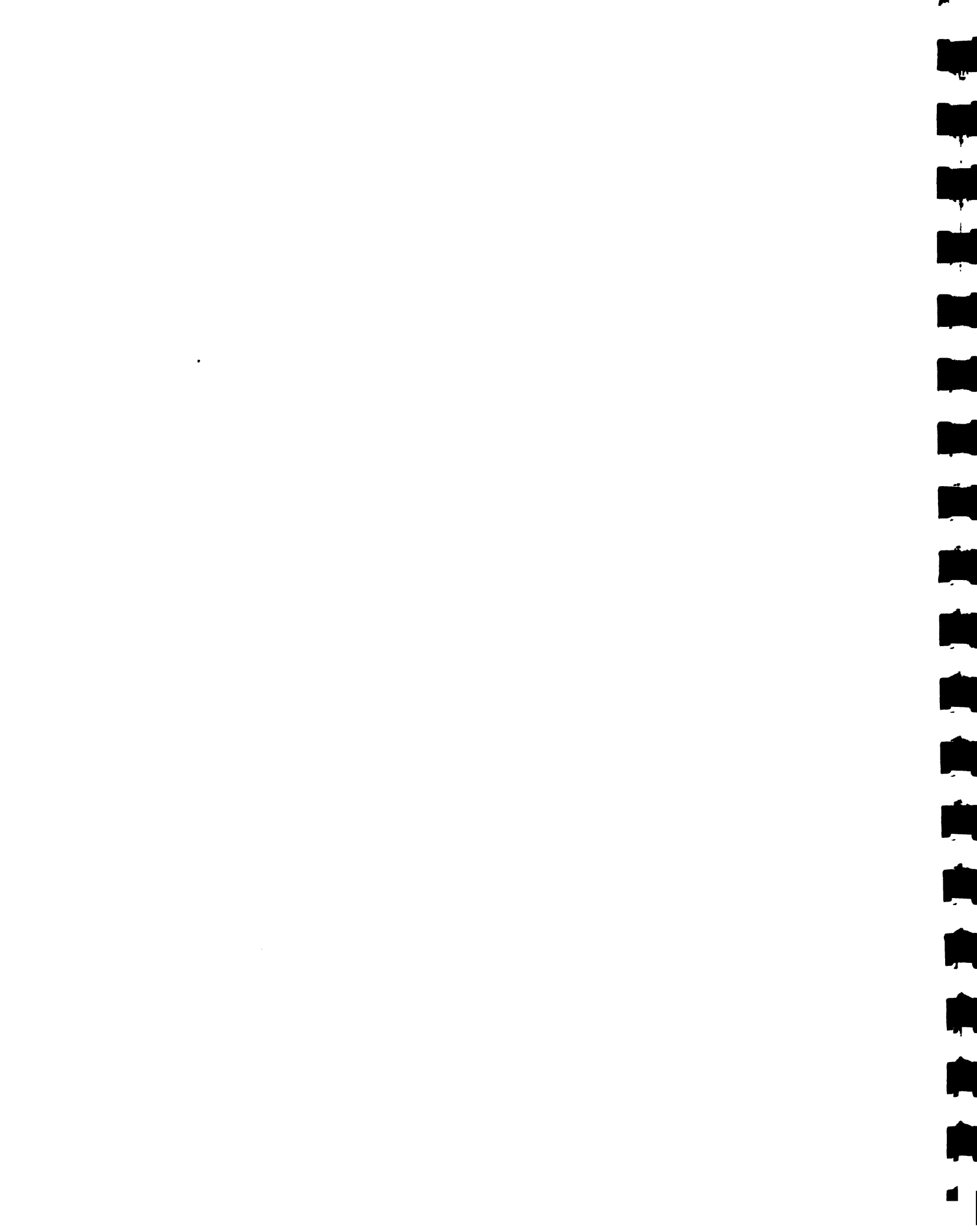
▪ **IICA/MOA joint follow-up Work Plan**

**From the perspective of sustainability, the positive experience gathered should be harnessed within the framework of a MOA Disaster Preparedness Programme.**

**It is recommended that MOA with support from IICA prepares a joint follow-up Work Plan for hurricane relief prior to the start of the next Hurricane season, taking into account the proposed “Strategy to Improve Disaster Management in the Agricultural Sector of Jamaica”.**



**Happy beneficiaries – HIFR Programme**





## APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 – Funding Agreement



November 4, 2004

Mr. Hector Barreyro  
Representative  
Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)  
Hope Gardens  
Kingston 6

Dear Mr. Barreyro,

**Re: Approval of proposal regarding hurricane relief assistance for agricultural recovery to be administered by Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and Ministry of Agriculture**

This serves to confirm that the proposal at caption is approved. Below are the terms of our approval:

**Purpose:** To quickly render assistance to Jamaican farmers within rural Parishes that have been heavily devastated by Hurricane Ivan, so as to ensure that there is expeditious reactivation of their production/trading activities and income generating capacity.

**Term:** November 8, 2004 to March 31, 2005

**Amount:** US\$120,000 (J\$7.29 million) to be disbursed to third parties based upon submission of invoices duly approved by IICA and/or Ministry of Agriculture.

**Implementers:** Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), with Ministry of Agriculture and its agency the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA)

**Reporting:** Progress Reports and Final Report will be submitted to R2RW by IICA

**R2RW supervisors:** Hugh Graham (primary) and Joseph Sush (secondary)

The responsibilities of the agencies involved are as follows:

**Ridge to Reef Watershed Project**

The Ridge to Reef Watershed Project agrees to make available for the procurement of approved inputs and services, grant funds up to a maximum of US\$120,000 to cover payments to input and service providers, administrative and technical expenses related to implementation of the program as outlined in the proposal.

**Hurricane Ivan Farmer Relief Programme – Final Report**

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IICA, Ministry of Agriculture (including its agency the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA))  
agrees to collaboratively undertake:

- Identification of eligible farmers within the parishes defined by the scope of the program.
- Identification of suitable input suppliers and terms of business
- Determination of cost of needed and approved inputs
- Implementation of a system of collection of inputs by beneficiary farmers
- Submission to Ridge to Reef Project supplier proforma invoices for items needed
- Submission to Ridge to Reef Project invoices for the provision of administrative services undertaken by IICA and Ministry of Agriculture/RADA.

If you are in agreement with the terms of our approval, and the responsibilities assigned to each party, please sign on the lines below.

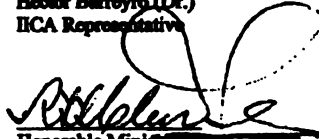
Sincerely,



Mark Nolan  
Chief of Party



Hector Barretero (Dr.)  
IICA Representative



Honorable Minister Roger Clarke  
Minister of Agriculture



Kevin Roshing (Dr.)  
Deputy Mission Director, United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

9/14/04  
Date

APPENDIX 2 - Input suppliers and service providers

Name	Input/Service
Agro-Grace	Farm Supplies: Seeds, seed trays, potting mix, small tools
Antilles Chemicals	Chemicals, fertilizer
Antonio Rodriques	Land preparation
Bodles Research Station	Hot pepper seedlings; transportation
C.A. Keddo	Land preparation
Fellowship Aquaculture Ltd.	Fingerlings
Frazer Griffiths	Sweet potato slips
Gilbert Farquharson	Labour charges re: rehabilitation of screenhouses at Bodles
Herfa Johnson	Pigs
Hipro Farms Supplies	Fish Feed, aerators
Jamaica Agricultural Society	Land preparation
Jamaica Drip Irrigation	Irrigation equipment
Lazel Burke	Marl
Longsville Park Farm Ltd.	Aerators
Ministry of Agriculture - Aquaculture Branch	Fingerlings
Newport Mills Ltd	Fish Feed
Phil's Hardware	Zinc
Quantum Jamaica Ltd.	Potting Mix
Rosend Farms	Pigs
St. Jago Farm Supplies	Fertilizer, chemicals
Santoy Farmers Co-operative Society Ltd	Land preparation

**Hurricane Ivan Farmer Relief Programme – Final Report**

**APPENDIX 3 – Aggregated inputs per parish (by source of funding)**

<b>Inputs</b>	<b>St. Catherine</b>	<b>Clarendon</b>	<b>Manchester</b>	<b>St. Elizabeth</b>	<b>Westmoreland</b>	<b>Hanover</b>	<b>St. Thomas</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>USAID funded inputs</b>								
Pepper seedlings	4000	850	850	36800	16400	1800	-	<b>60000</b>
Sweet Potato slips						225000		<b>225000</b>
Tomato seeds - Gem Pack 1000		52				1		<b>53</b>
Tomato seeds -Gem Pear 1000		24			4	13		<b>41</b>
Tomato seeds - Floradade		8						<b>8</b>
Tomato seeds –Adonis		3	6		2			<b>11</b>
Watermelon seeds			20	357				<b>377</b>
Potting mix		38	35					<b>73</b>
Seed trays		1206	344					<b>1550</b>
Fingerlings	44800							<b>44800</b>
Fish feed (Tonnes)	54	3						<b>57</b>
Aerators	10							<b>10</b>
Marl (loads)	34							<b>33</b>
Irrigation equipment		P/E pipe- 100m Couplin – 250mm						P/E pipe- 100m Couplin – 250mm
Machete & File					9			<b>9</b>
Fork					7	1		<b>8</b>
Hoe					4			<b>4</b>
Land Prep (acres)	1.4	5.8	16.5	144.2	6	26.9		<b>200.8</b>
<b>IIICA-funded inputs</b>								
14.28.14 (bags)	13				30	3		<b>46</b>
11.22.22 (bags)	6		208	200			3	<b>417</b>
Urea	8							<b>8</b>
Sulphate	9	4		22	14			<b>49</b>
Match (100 ML)	12						1	<b>13</b>
Gramaxzone (L)	3		55	23	22		2	<b>105</b>
Karate (250 ML)	12		20		7		1	<b>40</b>
Round Up						1		<b>1</b>
Pegasus		2	1		4	1		<b>8</b>
Kocide		2			5			<b>7</b>
Topsin		2		23	1			<b>26</b>
Sancozeb						1		<b>1</b>
Solocron	2	2	5	23	7			<b>39</b>
Ridomil	3			23	7			<b>33</b>
Diazinon			25					<b>25</b>
Dithane/Ridomil			40					<b>40</b>
Pigs (animals)	1			30				<b>31</b>
Pig feed (T)	1		4	14				<b>19</b>
Zinc	15	50		140	70			<b>275</b>
Lumber				7				<b>7</b>

**APPENDIX 4 – Input Request Forms**

**MOA/IICA AGRICULTURAL SECTOR REACTIVATION PROJECT (ASRP)  
TO SUPPORT COMPETITIVENESS POST-HURRICANE IVAN  
FARMER PROFILE**

<b>CONTACT DETAILS</b>	
<b>Name &amp; Farm</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Telephone No.</b>	
<b>Fax No.</b>	
<b>Email address</b>	
<b>Buyer Name</b>	

<b>Commodity</b>	<b>Targeted areas for rehabilitation (Ha.)</b>	<b>Area in production Pre-Ivan (Ha.)</b>	<b>Required loan amount</b>	<b>Type and amount of input needed</b>

**MOA/ICA AGRICULTURAL SECTOR REACTIVATION PROJECT (ASRP)  
TO SUPPORT COMPETITIVENESS POST-HURRICANE IVAN  
BUYER PROFILE**

CONTACT DETAILS	
Name	
Address	
Telephone No.	
Fax No.	
Email address	

Commodity	Supplier(s)		Volume of purchase (Kgs/month)	Proposed buying price	Required volume of purchase/ Assistance required	Willingness to participate in Contract Revolving Loan Programme		
	No.	Parish				Yes	No	Unsure

APPENDIX 5 - Beneficiary Voucher

HURRICANE IVAN RELIEF VOUCHER

Voucher No. 099B	Date issued 2/02/05
	Date Expires 20/03/05

*Whithead*

BENEFICIARY NAME:	WINSTON MYERS
BENEFICIARY #:	PSE20
BENEFICIARY ADDRESS:	ELIM, ST. ELIZABETH
BENEFICIARY TEL #:	707-6900
SUPPLIER NAME:	BODLES AGRICULTURAL STATION
DISTRIBUTION CENTRE:	RADA PARISH OFFICE, ST. ELIZABETH

ITEM	QUANTITY
Hot Pepper Seedlings (West Indian Red)	1,000

Delivered by <i>Robert Allen</i>	Date <i>2/02/05</i>	Received by <i>Winston Myers</i>	Date <i>7/2/05</i>
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APPENDIX 6 - Beneficiary Record Card



**R2RW/IICA/MOA Hurricane Relief Project  
Beneficiary Record Card**

This card will allow each beneficiary of the project to keep a record of activities in which he/she participates during the project period ending in March 2005. Please record all relevant activities that relate to you, the beneficiary, re: receipt of inputs; visits by the Project Team/Extension Officer; training events.

You will be asked to have your Beneficiary Record Card signed by a member of the Project Team or a RADA Extension Officer on completion of a visit to your farm or a training exercise. Please keep your Beneficiary Record Card in a safe place.

Name of Beneficiary \_\_\_\_\_ Beneficiary No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Commodity & Input Information**

Commodity/Variety	Inputs Received	Date Received
<i>Hot Pepper</i>	<i>Seedlings (West Indian Red)</i>	<i>February 2, 2005</i>

**Farm Visits/Training**

No.	Activity /Commodity	Date	Recommendations/Comments	Project Team/Extension Officer Signature

**APPENDIX 7 – Workshop recommendations**

**‘The Role of Farmer Commodity Groups/Organizations  
in Disaster Mitigation and Recovery’**

**Tuesday, March 29, 2005  
Beadles Conference Centre, Santa Cruz, St. Elizabeth**

**Introduction**

IICA Office was hosting this workshop to deliberate the issue of **the relevance and role of farmers’ groups in disaster mitigation and recovery**. Based on our recent experience under the R2RW/MOA/IICA Hurricane Ivan Farmer Relief Programme, there are indications that commodity farmer groups/organizations can significantly improve the process of disaster mitigation, the conduct of disaster damage assessment, the identification of farmers for relief assistance, as well as logistics for and transparency in the delivery of inputs to disaster relief beneficiaries. Farmer groups also provide a platform for training in basic disaster management.

**Recommendations**

- ❑ Farmer Groups can play a positive role in the management and efficiency of delivery in disaster mitigation and recovery operations.
- ❑ These FGs need technical assistance in capacity building (re expanding membership) as well as a policy framework that recognizes their presence and roles in disaster management.
- ❑ Development of a detailed Farmer Data Base is important if not critical in disaster mitigation and recovery management.
- ❑ Development of a system of easy communication is critical in the proper implementation of a disaster management programme for farmers.
- ❑ Training of farmers in disaster management – via Farmer Groups/Organizations - should be considered under the National Zonal Programme instituted by the ODPEM.
- ❑ The Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) , the Jamaica Agricultural Society (JAS), and other local agencies have roles to play in the development of Farmer Groups with a common focus on building trust amongst farmers, benefits of group membership, leadership training, group registration etc.
- ❑ Challenged the Jamaica Pig Farmers Association and the Jamaica Aquaculture Association to implement their Group Disaster Relief Fund.

APPENDIX 8 - Media Coverage



**AGRICULTURE MINISTER PLEASSED WITH RECOVERY EFFORTS  
OF ST. CATHERINE FARMERS**

**KINGSTON, May 1 (JIS):**

Minister of Agriculture Roger Clarke has said that he was pleased with the resuscitation activities by St Catherine vegetable farmers and aquaculture producers who received assistance under the USAID/Ridge-to-Reef Watershed, Hurricane Ivan Relief Programme.

The programme, valued at approximately US\$140,713 and launched in October 2004, aims to assist farmers in rural parishes to ensure their production and income-generating capacity. It was implemented between November 8, 2004, and March 18, 2005, through funding from the USAID Ridge-to-Reef Water Shed Project and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA).

A total of 644 farmers in the parishes of St. Catherine, Clarendon, Manchester, St Elizabeth, Westmoreland and Hanover who are producing hot pepper, tomato, callaloo, watermelon, sweet potato have benefited from the programme.

"What I saw out there tells me that some things are happening in agriculture and even more profound is the level of technology that's being applied out there," Minister Clarke said after visiting four farms, including two fish, one hot pepper and one tomato farm, as well as the Bodels Nursery and the Agriculture Ministry's Aquaculture Division's fingerling production facility in Twickenham Park, Spanish Town.

(more)

St. Catherine Farmers...2

The agribusiness owners received fingerlings, fertiliser, chemicals and fish feed to assist in restoring their farms and fish ponds. Funds awarded to the Aquaculture Division were used for repairs to damaged fish ponds and brood stock acquisition.

Addressing the tour party, which included Dr. Hector Barreyro, IICA Representative in Jamaica and representatives from the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) and the Agriculture Ministry's staff at Bodles, Minister Clarke said the farmers and the Agriculture Ministry were grateful for the assistance received and thanked the agencies involved in the restoration process.

Referring to the 2005/2006 budget allocations for the Agriculture sector, Minister Clarke said that he was confident that the funds that would be injected in the sector over the next few months would "resound to the benefit of all the farmers and the agriculture sector".

"Based on what we have in the pipeline for the sector this year, if we apply those resources in the right and proper way, I think we can make even a greater difference," the Minister added. He said the Ministry had identified some \$250 million that would be used to target specific projects, of which \$50 million will be used for "productive incentive."

"We do not intend to go around and just hand out things. We're going to be targeting specific areas of potential," he added.

Additionally, Minister Clarke said that some \$284 million, provided by the European Union would be used to resuscitate the banana industry. He said that funds totalling some US\$3 million would be provided by the USAID, while financial contributions would be provided by IICA and the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO).

- 30 -

CONTACT: R. HARTMAN RECKORD

# Farmers Weekly

## Money identified for agricultural sector – Clarke

**Richard Turner**  
Gleaner Writer

SPANISH TOWN, St Catherine

**AGRICULTURE MINISTER**

**A** Roger Clarke has announced that more than \$220 million has been identified to assist with the recovery of the agricultural sector.

Minister Clarke, who was speaking at the Rodale Research Centre in Old Harbour, St. Catherine, last week Friday, following a tour of several farms that were ravaged by Hurricane Ivan last September, said that this money would be used to target specific projects.

"We do not intend to go around and just hand out things. We're going to be targeting specific areas of production," Minister Clarke emphasised.

In the event, the Minister said he was pleased with the efforts of vegetable farmers and agricultural producers to reinvigorate their farms with the assistance they were receiving under the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) 9000-00-0000 Waterbush Management relief programme.

The programme, which was launched last November, is funded by USAID and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), which together have donated just over US\$460,000 or J\$7.2 million for the restoration of farms.

**BENEFITS**  
Many farmers from the parishes of St. Catherine, Clarendon, Manchester, St. Elizabeth, Westmoreland and Hanover have benefited under the programme.

The farmers were given fertilisers, seedlings and financial aid (such as help with labour costs). Aquaculture producers received fingerlings, fertilisers, chemicals and fish feed.

The Minister said he was proud of the resilience of the farmers who were able to bounce back within a few months of the hurricane.

Minister Clarke urged farmers to place emphasis on marketing their produce, as this was important in light of increased competition from overseas. "We are being challenged by several countries all over the world for our yams, darkens, coffee and all the other products, which our once were king of," he said.

Dr. Hector Barreto (right), representative of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in Jamaica, chats with Felice Escobedo (left), head of the Rural Development Section of the European Commission (EC) to Jamaica delegation, and Christopher Henderson (centre), a top of the EC. The occasion was the presentation of the 2004 annual report on IICA's operation in Jamaica at the Hilton Kingston Hotel yesterday.



Dr. Hector Barreto (right), representative of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in Jamaica, chats with Felice Escobedo (left), head of the Rural Development Section of the European Commission (EC) to Jamaica delegation, and Christopher Henderson (centre), a top of the EC. The occasion was the presentation of the 2004 annual report on IICA's operation in Jamaica at the Hilton Kingston Hotel yesterday.

Sunday Observer. May 22, 2005

22, 2005 [www.jamaicaobserver.com](http://www.jamaicaobserver.com)

**Finance**



Joshua Lothan (left), senior pond operator at the agriculture ministry's Aquaculture Division, displays a red tilapia fished from a treatment tank at the fingerling production facility at Twickenham Park. Looking on, from left, are Inter-American Institute for Co-operation on Agriculture (IICA) representative Dr Hector Barreyro, ministry consultant on aquaculture Roy Moo-Young, representative of the Ridge-to-Reef Watershed (R2RW) project, Joseph Suah, and IICA agri-business specialist Robert Reid. The group was on a tour of beneficiary farms in St Catherine under the USAID/R2RW/IICA Hurricane Ivan Relief Programme, on April 29.

APPENDIX 9 - Programme coverage/references on the WWW

Jamaica Information Service (JIS)

**Agriculture Minister Pleased with Recovery Efforts of St. Catherine Farmers**

Tuesday May 3, 2005

[http://www.jis.gov.jm/agriculture/html/20050501T100000-](http://www.jis.gov.jm/agriculture/html/20050501T100000-0500_5560_JIS_AGRICULTURE_MINISTER_PLEASED_WITH_RECOVERY_EFFORTS_OF_ST_CATHERINE_FARMERS.asp)

[0500\\_5560\\_JIS\\_AGRICULTURE\\_MINISTER\\_PLEASED\\_WITH\\_RECOVERY\\_EFFORTS\\_OF\\_ST\\_CATHERINE\\_FARMERS.asp](http://www.jis.gov.jm/agriculture/html/20050319t0900000-0500_5173_jis_south_clarendon_farmers_trained_in_hot_pepper_production.asp)

**South Clarendon Farmers Trained in Hot Pepper Production**

Tuesday, March 22, 2005

[http://www.jis.gov.jm/agriculture/html/20050319t0900000-0500\\_5173\\_jis\\_south\\_clarendon\\_farmers\\_trained\\_in\\_hot\\_pepper\\_production.asp](http://www.jis.gov.jm/agriculture/html/20050319t0900000-0500_5173_jis_south_clarendon_farmers_trained_in_hot_pepper_production.asp)

**Over \$500 Million Secured for Recovery of Agricultural Sector**

Thursday, February 17, 2005

[http://www.jis.gov.jm/agriculture/html/20050216t0900000-0500\\_4882\\_jis\\_over\\_500\\_million\\_secured\\_for\\_recovery\\_of\\_agricultural\\_sector1.asp](http://www.jis.gov.jm/agriculture/html/20050216t0900000-0500_4882_jis_over_500_million_secured_for_recovery_of_agricultural_sector1.asp)

**Farmers in Manchester and St. Elizabeth will get more Hurricane Relief**

Thursday, February 17, 2005

[http://www.jis.gov.jm/agriculture/html/20050216t0900000-0500\\_4883\\_jis\\_farmers\\_in\\_manchester\\_and\\_st\\_elizabeth\\_will\\_get\\_more\\_hurricane\\_relief.asp](http://www.jis.gov.jm/agriculture/html/20050216t0900000-0500_4883_jis_farmers_in_manchester_and_st_elizabeth_will_get_more_hurricane_relief.asp)

**Farmers to Benefit from \$7.29 Million Grant**

Wednesday, November 24, 2004

[http://www.jis.gov.jm/agriculture/html/20041124t2300000-0500\\_4283\\_jis\\_farmers\\_to\\_benefit\\_from\\_7\\_29\\_million\\_grant.asp](http://www.jis.gov.jm/agriculture/html/20041124t2300000-0500_4283_jis_farmers_to_benefit_from_7_29_million_grant.asp)

The Jamaica Observer

**Rural farmers getting help in preparations for natural disasters**

Arlene Martin-Wilkins, Observer staff reporter

Friday, May 06, 2005

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Rasbert Turner, Gleaner Writer

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Damion Mitchell, Staff Reporter

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