



FACT SHEET

Community-based Micro-enterprise Development Project

BACKGROUND

Contractor(s)/Grantee(s): Local Initiative Facility for the Environment (LIFE)

Project Title: Community-based Micro-enterprise Development in Five Parishes in Jamaica Project

Duration: 42 months

Total Project Amount: US\$1,232,663

Objective:

The overall purpose of the project is to facilitate the development of agricultural-based micro-enterprises in rural communities to improve standards of living and promote economic diversification.

The Objective is the development or expansion of 169 agriculturally/environmentally based Micro-enterprises in 30 communities through the application of beekeeping, protected farming, agro-processing, renewable energy technologies and community tourism activities over a 42 month period.



ABOUT LIFE

The Local Initiative Facility for the Environment (LIFE) is a non-government organisation with a mandate to support local efforts aimed at improving living conditions and promoting sustainable development in marginalized communities through a dynamic process of dialogue, capacity building, resource mobilization, livelihoods development and partnerships.



Project Status:

Through funding from USAID's Development Grants Program 2, more than 200 persons have directly benefitted from this project, with training in beekeeping, greenhouse farming, agro-processing, rainwater harvesting, governance and community tourism. A total of 166 micro-enterprises have been established. These include four green houses, and two agro processing facilities and 160 apiaries for production of wax, honey, bees and pollen. Renewable energy is integrated into all aspects of the project. Beekeepers have solar wax melters and pollen dryers, and two solar powered water supply systems have been installed for crop production and agro-processing. The governance and management systems of three groups have been strengthened.