



Governance and Peacebuilding

Strengthening human resilience in Northern Clarendon & West Kingston

The Challenge

Clarendon is the third largest parish in Jamaica by population and land area with an estimated population of 245,103 people. Human insecurities are widespread in the parish and are amplified in the rural farming communities within Northern Clarendon. An average of 40% of households is headed by an unemployed person. The region has the 2nd highest number of registered farmers in the country and agriculture is the main livelihood for men and women in both communities. Furthermore, poor sanitation infrastructure in the target areas continues to worsen health insecurity with as much as 74% of households using pit latrines, and up to 14% using shared toilet facilities.

The West Kingston area comprises five urban communities: Denham Town, Hannah Town, Fletcher's Land, Central Downtown and Tivoli gardens, with an estimated total population of 20,057 persons with predominantly female-headed households. The inner-city communities of West Kingston are marked by high levels of crime and violence, unemployment, illiteracy and poor infrastructure. Kingston had 723 major crimes committed, with murder, shootings and robbery making up 65% of that total. Contributing factors to crime in West Kingston are limited youth engagement and infrastructural issues. In some communities, derelict buildings, overgrown lots and limited street lights compound the insecurity issues by providing a haven for illegal activities for gangs. Economic insecurity is



UN Caribbean
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



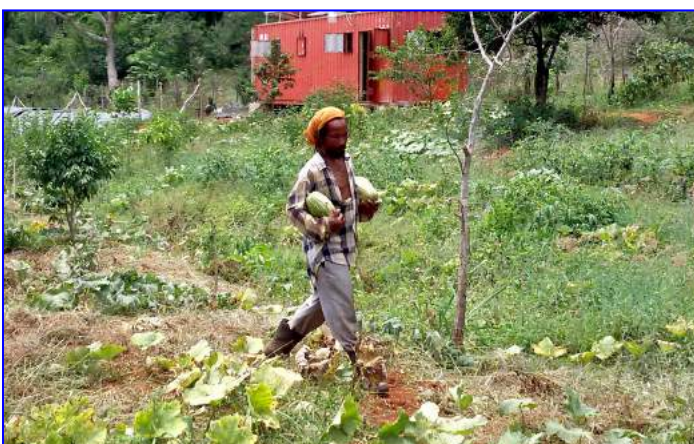
characterized by high rates of unemployment. Among household heads, unemployment ranges from 29 % to 51.8 % across the four communities, disproportionately affecting the youth population with unemployment rates as high as 46 %.

Alignment with 2030 Agenda

This **Joint UN Human Security** programme is aimed at enhancing resilience and human security of selected communities in rural and urban Jamaica. It is multidimensional and seek to comprehensively address the interconnected nature of the challenges impeding human security. It will advance the 2030 agenda by addressing the Economic, Environmental, Personal and Health Insecurities facing targeted communities. These insecurities are expressed in the form of poverty, unemployment, land degradation, poor health and reduced social cohesion. Specifically, the programme will contribute to the attainment of relevant goals in Vision 2030: Jamaica and SDGs 1, 2, 11, 13, 15, 16 & 17.

The integrality of the development approach

Based on the diverse and complex human security issues faced by the target communities, the programme's interventions are designed to be delivered in an integrated, multidisciplinary and multi-sectoral manner. Centred on poverty reduction and climate change adaptation, the



Community Farm in Northern Clarendon



Women participating in the activities for the West Kingston composting project

programme will bolster economic development through enhanced climate resilience, sustainable agriculture, social cohesion and sustainable livelihoods. It features a bottom up and top down approach to addressing policy, institutional and community challenges. It will work across sectors to accelerate results and the 2030 agenda. Also, it highlights the “Delivering as One” approach thus advancing the new way of working in the UN.

Inclusion and integration of vulnerable populations

A comprehensive Human Security Analysis and mapping was completed to identify the most critical and pervasive threats and insecurities, their root causes, key affected areas, and the differential impacts on vulnerable subgroups within the targeted communities. The programme will target Women, Youth and farmers (both urban and rural), and have ensured their inclusion in the design of interventions and implementation. Formal structures will be designed to ensure the voice and participation of the target populations and sub-groups in the communities.

The results/impact of the project.

The three-year programme will start in September 2017 and is expected to reach 43,000 direct beneficiaries. There are four main results to be achieved by the end of the programme. These are:

1. Strengthened local and community governance capacities to organize and oversee their development.
2. Enhanced economic and food security through climate change adaptation and income generation initiatives, bolstered by a Social Enterprise approach.
3. Improved health and water security through a gendered approach to access, safety and management of water.
4. Improved institutional capacity for the Human Security approach in both the Government and UN System.

Innovation approach

This is the first Joint UN Human Security (HS) programme in Jamaica, under the “Delivering as One” approach. Its success will hinge on effective partnership, efficient use of combined resources and collective expertise of the UN entities involved. The HS methodology is innovative as it allows for an integrated and people-centred approach to programme development and implementation. It places emphasis on empowerment of people, social inclusion & enhanced institutional capacities which will contribute to achieving the SDGs. The programme will also develop a community-based Social Enterprise Model which will contribute to sustainable livelihoods while strengthening community resilience to climate change.

Sustainability and scalability

Key to sustainability will be the strengthening of local and community governance bodies to develop and implement initiatives to address insecurities. Results will also be maintained through the establishment of a community Social Enterprise model which will empower and enable communities to develop solutions and sustain results. This business model has worked in similar communities and has shown evidence of scalability. Through mainstreaming of the Human Security approach, it is expected that this methodology will be applied to new and existing UN and Government programmes, through a detailed documentation of the lessons learnt and best practices from implementing the programme.

United Nations Development Programme

1-3 Lady Musgrave Road
Kingston 5, Jamaica
Tel: (876) 978-2390
Fax: (876) 946-2163
E-mail: stacy-ann.tomlinson@undp.org



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

For more information, visit: www.jm.undp.org

Join us on:

