

Strengthening Jamaica's Capacity to Meet Transparency Requirements under the Paris Agreement

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10014

Countries

Jamaica

Project Name

Strengthening Jamaica's Capacity to Meet Transparency Requirements under the Paris Agreement

Agenices

IADB

Date received by PM

5/20/2019

Review completed by PM

10/16/2019

Program Manager

Milena Vasquez

Focal Area

Climate Change

Project Type

MSP

PIF

CEO Endorsement

Project Design and Financing

1. If there are any changes from that presented in the PIF, have justifications been provided?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

There are changes from PIF that have not been sufficiently justified:

-While at PIF there was co-financing of \$159,000 from the government, there is now no co-financing listed. We understand the limitations detailed in the proposal, but the project has had a year to process this request. Please clarify. While co-financing is not a requirement, we do find that especially for a project that is meant to be

embedded in the government to increase its capacity for transparency, a certain level of co-financing ensures ownership for the project, even if it is only in kind. In addition, we were under the impression that this project is being supported by the IADB within a larger package of support.

-Furthermore, the execution arrangements have been changed from PIF, and IADB plans to carry out both functions. However, the GEF Fee Policy explicitly precludes the merging or crossing over of the implementing functions of the GEF Agencies and the execution functions undertaken by EAs. In exceptional cases, a beneficiary country can make a request for execution support from the agency through a letter signed by the OFP that outlines the specific execution functions, why and for how much. The GEF Secretariat assesses the request and decides whether to approve it.

-Please provide additional clarifications on the change in component 3 relating to additional training on the IPCC software and guidelines. We understand that there are other sources of support and training for this specific purpose and want to ensure that the CBIT resources are being used with incremental reasoning and are not duplicating other efforts. For example, this training is supported by the GEF's funded Global Support Programme and by the CGE. Please provide additional clarification on the expected scope of this training program and how the capacity's built will be sustained in the long-term.

8/30/2019: Please copy and paste responses on the portal review sheet for all questions.

- No, Co-financing is reinstated but no evidence is provided. Further, there is co-financing from IADB (for example PMC, M&E) that is not being counted. Please add and also provide evidence.

- The letter does not sufficiently explain why it is requesting the IADB to carry out the execution functions (which should be the last resort) instead of a third-party. Please ask the government to consider alternative options to include another entity to take on the EA roles. Procurement challenges could be addressed without having to give up all execution. This needs to have a stronger justification or an alternative.

- This comment is cleared, but please add these additional details onto the submission itself.

10/1/2019: All comment cleared.

- Co-financing from the IADB and the Government of Jamaica has been added and letters have been provided. Comment cleared.

- Execution functions have been returned to the **Climate Change Division at the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation. Comment cleared.**

- **Comment cleared.**

Response to Secretariat comments

1. After discussions with the Government of Jamaica, the co-financing of \$159,000 has been reinstated to the financial structure of the project. The support being provided to Jamaica is through the climate change programming to the country which includes work on the improving infrastructure resilience through PPPs in Jamaica and through the Bank's NDC Invest Platform which supports countries with the implementation of the Paris Agreement. In addition the co-financing from the IDB has been updated and evidence for both co-financing have been added (emails from GOJ and from the Bank)

2. The arrangements for the execution have reverted to GOJ who will execute the project through the Climate Change Division of the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation. The Project Management Cost has been included in the budget.

3. The training on the IPCC guidelines at the national level is expected to be additional to the training that is supported by the GEF's funded Global Support Programme and by the CGE, as it is being embedded into a full professional certification programme that will be developed with the local academic institution. It will be more extensive, more in-depth and at a higher granular level than that of the global training programs, as a curriculum and associated material related to the IPCC GHG software and guidelines, and carbon accounting, will be produced that will add to or build on the platform of the IPCC guidelines. It is expected that the course will be designed around the following topics: (i) Introduction to MRV Systems and Transparency; (ii) Introduction to Carbon Accounting and GHG Inventory Management Systems; (iii) Carbon Accounting Methodologies and the basics of organizational GHG accounting; (iv) Basics of project-level GHG accounting; (v) GHG Accounting for Forest Inventories; (vi) GHG Accounting for Forest and Other Land Use Projects; (vii) GHG Accounting for Energy Efficiency Projects; (viii) GHG Accounting for Renewable Energy Projects; (ix) IPCC Guidelines Introduction, GHG Software and Cross Cutting Issues; (x) IPCC 2006 Guidelines-Energy Sector; (xi) IPCC 2006 Guidelines-Industrial Processes and Other Product Use; (xii) IPCC 2006 Guidelines – Agriculture; (xiii) IPCC 2006 Guidelines -Forestry and Other Land Uses; (xiv) IPCC 2006 Guidelines – Waste.

The output of the training program will be persons who are certified under a nationally developed GHG academic program. The principal targets of the training program will be government personnel, private sector representatives and non-governmental organizations. As the training program is being developed and implemented by the local academic institutional who has already agreed in principle to partner with the Government on this effort, it will mean that the this short course will become part of the ongoing academic programming of the institution and ensure that there is regular cohort of persons trained in the thematic area, not only in Jamaica but also from the region.

2. Is the project structure/ design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

No, the project is requesting a change to the execution arrangements. Please see comment above.

Furthermore, we expect a more detailed description of the intended activities under each project component at CEO Endorsement stage, and in absence of a Project Document, we expect additional information on the project including a detailed budget, project workplan and deliverables, terms of reference, etc.

8/30/2019: Please copy and paste responses on the portal review sheet for all questions. In addition, we appreciate some of the additional information, but this should be part of the submission in the portal, embedded not as separate tables in response to our comments.

10/1/2019: All comments cleared.

Response to Secretariat comments

1. Execution of the project has reverted to the original arrangements of the Government of Jamaica responsible for execution of the project.

2. Detailed Budget

a. 3. Deliverables of the project in the form of the Results Matrix.

The deliverables for this project are outlined in the Result Matrix which the Bank uses to track the progress of our projects, both of in terms of physical and financial milestones. A summary of these deliverables is provided in the following tables:

ACTIVITIES

COST ALLOCATION

GEF CBIT

IDB

GOJ

TOTAL COST

in cash in kind in cash in kind

US\$

Component I: Strengthening of Jamaica's transparency framework as described in Article 13 of Paris Agreement

Capacity Needs and Gaps Assessment of Institutional Enabling Environment for Transparency Related Activities

\$15,000

\$15,000

Assessment of institutional arrangements across ministries for transparency related activities	\$55,000			\$55,000
National Transparency Working Group Meetings	\$53,000		\$63,000	\$116,000
Component sub-total (USD)	\$123,000	\$0	\$63,000	\$186,000
Component II. Improving Jamaica's technical capacity to establish a robust domestic MRV system				
Assessment of enabled technologies for the establishment of Jamaica's domestic MRV system	\$30,000		\$48,000	\$78,000
Design and implementation of the MRV & M&E tools	\$250,000			\$250,000
Technical Expert to manage the implementation of the MRV system	\$80,000			\$80,000
Consultant to assist in the implementation and management of the MRV system	\$60,000			\$60,000
Climate Adaptation Mapping GIS Infrastructure	\$100,000			\$100,000
GIS expert for Climate Finance Mapping and Tracking	\$40,000			\$40,000
Component sub-total (USD)	\$560,000	\$0	\$48,000	\$608,000
Component III: 3 Improving knowledge sharing and capacity building for the effective coordination amongst national agencies in the implementation of transparency-related activities				
Design of Centralized Knowledge Platform for Transparency	\$297,000		\$48,000	\$345,000
Design and delivery of national training program on IPCC GHG Software, guidelines and carbon accounting	\$153,000			\$153,000
IT Consultant to manage the knowledge platform	\$ 50,000			\$50,000
Component sub-total (USD)	\$500,000	\$0	\$48,000	\$548,000
Project administration				
Project management unit	\$65,000			\$65,000
Monitoring and evaluation	\$32,000	\$21,500		\$53,500

Audit (external)	\$20,000			\$20,000
Component sub-total (USD)	\$117,000			\$117,000
PROJECT TOTAL	\$1,300,000	\$21,500	-	\$159,000

Component	Deliverables
1. Strengthening of Jamaica's transparency framework as described in Article 13 of Paris Agreement	National Transparency Working Group
	Eight assessments of the institutional arrangements across various ministries
	Five assessments of ongoing initiatives at the national, subnational and sectoral levels to support transparency related activities
2. Improving Jamaica's technical capacity to establish a robust domestic MRV system	Domestic MRV system
	Three methodologies for tracking and assessing adequacy and effectiveness and M&E tools for compilation of data for adaptation, mitigation and international climate finance including (i) GIS system; (ii) national transparency inventory data management system and (iii) software tool to calculate estimations for NDC mitigation targets.
	Feasibility study on emerging technologies and implementation of pilot based on assessment
3. Improving knowledge sharing and capacity building for the effective coordination amongst national agencies in the implementation of transparency-related activities	One centralized National Climate Knowledge Platform for transparency designed and implemented
	One national electronic guidebook on transparency management process developed
	One national training programme in the IPCC GHG software and guidelines and carbon accounting developed
	Thirty persons trained in software to calculate GHG emissions

b. 4. For the project workplan, please see the Procurement Plan below which sets out the schedule of activities, it is what the Bank will use as the workplan.

PROCUREMENT PLAN FOR IDB-EXECUTED OPERATIONS

Country: Jamaica

Executing Agency: IDB

**UDR:
CSD/CCS**

Project number: JA-T1165

Project name: Strengthening Jamaica's Capacity transparency requirements under the Paris Agreement

Period covered by the Plan: July 2019 - June 2021

Total Project Amount: \$1.3 million

Component	Procurement Type (1) (2)	Service type (1) (2)	Description	Estimated contract cost (US\$)	Selection Method (2)	Type of Contract	Source of Financing and Percentage				Estimated date of the procurement notice	Estimated contract start date	Estimated contract length	Comments
							IDB/MIF		Other External Donor					
							Amount	%	Amount	%				
Select comp	Select Proc. Type	Goods Included in Firm Cons. RFP	Consultant 1: brief description		select method	Select Cont. Type					1-Mar-16			
Component 1	A. Consulting services	Individual Consultant (AM-650)	Capacity Needs and Gaps Assessment of Institutional Enabling Environment for Transparency Related Activities	\$ 15,000	ICQ	Lump Sum	\$ 15,000	100%	\$ -	0%	1-Aug-19	1-Sep-19	31-Jan-20	

Component 1	A. Consulting services	Individual Consultant (AM-650)	Assessment of institutional arrangements across ministries for transparency related activities	\$ 55,000	ICQ	Lump Sum	\$ 55,000	100%	\$ -	0%	1-Aug-19	1-Sep-19	31-Jan-20
Component 2	A. Consulting services	Consulting Firm (GN-2765)	Assessment of enabled technologies for the establishment of Jamaica's domestic MRV system	\$ 50,000	SSS	Lump Sum	\$ 50,000	100%	\$ -	0%	1-Jun-19	1-Jul-19	1-Sep-19
Component 2	A. Consulting services	Consulting Firm (GN-2765)	Design and implementation of national transparency process, that includes software tool to calculate estimations for the mitigation targets defined in the NDC	\$ 353,000	FCS	Lump Sum	\$ 353,000	100%	\$ -	0%	1-Oct-19	1-Jan-20	1-Dec-20
Component 2	A. Consulting services	Individual Consultant (AM-650)	Technical Expert to manage the implementation of the MRV system	\$ 80,000	ICQ	Lump Sum	\$ 80,000	100%	\$ -	0%	1-Aug-19	1-Sep-19	2-Sep-21
Component 2	A. Consulting services	Individual Consultant (AM-650)	Assist in the implementation and management of the MRV system	\$ 60,000	ICQ	Lump Sum	\$ 60,000	100%	\$ -	0%	1-Aug-19	1-Sep-19	2-Sep-21
Component 2	A. Consulting services	Consulting Firm (GN-2765)	Climate Change Mapping GIS Infrastructure	\$ 200,000	FCS	Lump Sum	\$ 200,000	100%	\$ -	0%	1-Aug-19	1-Jan-20	31-Dec-20

Component 2	A. Consulting services	Individual Consultant (AM-650)	GIS Expert for Climate Finance Mapping and Tracking	\$ 40,000	ICQ	Lump Sum	\$ 40,000	100%	\$ -	0%	1-Aug-19	1-Jan-20	3-Sep-21
Component 3	A. Consulting services	Consulting Firm (GN-2765)	Design of Centralized Knowledge Platform for Transparency	\$ 297,000	FCS	Lump Sum	\$ 297,000	100%	\$ -	0%	1-Feb-20	1-May-20	2-May-21
Component 3	A. Consulting services	Consulting Firm (GN-2765)	Design and delivery of national training program on IPCC GHG Software, guidelines and carbon accounting	\$ 100,000	FCS	Lump Sum	\$ 100,000	100%	\$ -	0%	1-Feb-20	1-Jun-20	1-Jul-21
Component 3	A. Consulting services	Individual Consultant (AM-650)	IT Consultant to manage the knowledge platform	\$ 50,000	ICQ	Lump Sum	\$ 50,000	100%	\$ -	0%	2-Jul-20	1-Aug-20	1-Sep-21
Prepared by:	Gerard Alleng (CSD/CCS)	TOTALS		\$ 1,300,000			\$ 1,300,000	100%	\$ -	0%			

(1) Grouping together of similar procurement is recommended, such as publications, travel, etc. If there are a number of similar individual contracts to be executed at different times, they can be grouped together under a single heading with an explanation in the comments column indicating the average individual amount and the period during which the contract would be executed. For example: an export promotion project that includes travel to participate in fairs would have an item called "airfare for fairs", an estimated total value of US\$5,000, and an explanation in the Comments column: "This is for approximately four different airfares to participate in fairs in the region in years X and X1".

(2) (i) Individual consultants: ICQ: Individual Consultant Selection Based on Qualifications; SSS: Single Source Selection. Selection process to be done in accordance with AM-650.

(2) (ii) Consulting firms: Per GN-2765-1, Consulting Firm selection methods for Bank-executed Operations are: Single Source Selection (SSS); Simplified Competitive Selection ($\leq 250K$) (SCS); Fully Competitive ($>250K$) (FCS); and Framework Agreement Task Order (TO). All Consulting Firm selection processes under this policy must use the electronic module in Convergence.

(2) (iii) Goods: Per GN-2765-1, par. A.2.2.c: "The procurement of goods and related services, except when such goods and related services are necessary to achieve the objectives of the Bank-executed Operational Work and are included in the consulting services contract and represent less than ten percent (10%) of the consulting services contract value."

5. Terms of References were uploaded

3. Is the financing adequate and does the project demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objective?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

No co-financing is listed. See comments above.

8/30/2019: Please fill out Table C and provide evidence.

10/1/2019: All comments cleared.

Response to Secretariat comments 1. Table C has been filled out and evidence provided.

4. Does the project take into account potential major risks, including the consequences of climate change, and describes sufficient risk response measures? (e.g., measures to enhance climate resilience)

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Yes

Response to Secretariat comments

5. Is co-financing confirmed and evidence provided?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

No co-financing is listed. See comments above.

8/30/2019: Please fill out Table C and provide evidence.

10/1/2019: All comments cleared.

Response to Secretariat comments 1. Table C has been filled out and evidence provided.

6. Are relevant tracking tools completed?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Yes the CBIT Tracking Tool has been completed.

Response to Secretariat comments

7. Only for Non-Grant Instrument: Has a reflow calendar been presented?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement N/A

Response to Secretariat comments

8. Is the project coordinated with other related initiatives and national/regional plans in the country or in the region?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

Please provide additional information on how the project will coordinate with the new Caribbean MRV Hub and the work under the NDC Partnership in the updating of Jamaica's NDC.

8/30/2019: Please copy and paste responses on the portal review sheet for all questions. The response on the NDC is clear, but additional details on complementarity and coordination with the work of the MRV Hub is needed.

10/1/2019: All comments cleared.

Response to Secretariat comments

Regarding the new Caribbean Corporative MRV Hub (CMRVH or the hub), it is envisioned that the domestic MRV established under the CBIT project will complement the regional MRV, ensuring a greater level of transparency. In addition, Jamaica plays a critical role as a member of the Steering Committee and Data Management Software Expert Group and other technical work crews, supporting and coordinating Caribbean SIDS in transparency efforts. Through the Hub Jamaica's CBIT efforts can be seen as a model for the region and can further facilitate exchange of knowledge, mentoring and sharing of lessons learned during its implementation of the CBIT project.

The Caribbean MRV Hub will also be used as a training partner and discussions on this partnership have already started. CCMRVH had engaged and presented at the initial CBIT initial stakeholder consultation meeting in Kingston in January. The hub together with UNDP office in Jamaica conducted a training in Jamaica on IPCC guidelines for sectoral experts and a technical expert from the Climate Change Department of the Ministry is already involved in two of the technical working groups of the Hub. These engagements are expected to be further strengthened as work of the Hub and the Jamaica CBIT are implemented. The close collaboration between the CCD and the Hub will ensure coordination between the programs and the avoidance of duplication of efforts

On working with the **NDC Partnership**, Jamaica is a member of the coalition (it joined in August 2018) given its interest in raising its ambitions and NDC implementation. Jamaica's current NDC is exclusively focused on activities in the energy sector but the Government of Jamaica is committed to expanding the scope of the NDC to possibly reflect additional sectors such as transport, water, agriculture, waste and forestry before 2020. One of the steering committee members of the NDCP, the World Bank, manages the NDC Support Facility to facilitate the implementation of the NDC pledged by countries under the Paris Agreement in 2015. In June 2019, the Support Facility approved Jamaica's project proposal, supported by the World Bank, aimed at facilitating the assessment and update of its first NDC. These additional sectors must be considered in the design of the MRV system. For instance, the transparency system when operational will assist with tracking the progress of the NDC commitments made by the country. Therefore, coordination between the CBIT proposal and the revised NDC will be fundamental to the design of the MRV system. Continued support from the NDC Partnership will also complement our national efforts to make our transparency system more robust.

9. Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

A budgeted M&E plan is included, but it has several boxes as TBD. Please clarify the expected amounts as at this stage there should not be any TBD listed.

8/30/2019: Please copy and paste responses on the portal review sheet for all questions. TBD amounts have been clarified. please note that this cofinancing should be listed.

10/1/2019: All comments cleared.

Response to Secretariat comments

Updated table is below and co-financing amount has been listed in budget.

Table 6. M&E Plan

Activities	Primary Responsibility	Indicative Budget		Time Frame
		GEF	IDB Cofinancing	
Inception Workshop	PMU/IDB /MEGJC	5,000		After three months of project signature
Workshop Report	PMU/IDB	1,000		Two weeks after workshop
Standard IDB Monitoring and Supervision Missions	PMU	-	12,000	Semi Annually and Annually
Monitoring of results Framework	PMU	1,000	1,500	Annually
Mid Term Review	PMU/ IDB	10,000	3,000	Mid-Point of Project
Final Project Report and Evaluation	PMU/ IDB	15,000	5,000	2) months before closure
Total Costs		32,000	21,500	

10. Does the project have descriptions of a knowledge management plan?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Yes.

Response to Secretariat comments

Agency Responses

11. Has the Agency adequately responded to comments at the PIF stage from:

GEFSEC

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

No, at PIF approval the GEF Secretariat included the following comments to be addressed by CEO Endorsement:

"By CEO Endorsement we will expect to see a cleared vision for how exactly distributed ledger technology will be piloted in Jamaica with this project"

"By CEO Endorsement please provide a sustainability plan"

"By CEO Endorsement, please provide more details on the scope and recipients of the different capacity building activities"

Please further clarify these aspects of the project and include responses to these comments under Annex B.

8/30/2019: Please copy and paste responses on the portal review sheet for all questions.

10/1/2019: All comment cleared.

Response to Secretariat comments

1. Response to distributed ledger technology question:

To facilitate a successful implementation of a pilot on distributed ledger technology in Jamaica, it was determined that following steps would be required: (i) assessment of the appropriate technology including the Distributed Ledger Technologies that will be able to support the various aspects of the domestic MRV. The assessment will explore the existing systems that match requirements for a cohesive MRV design/GHG inventory management systems, as well as the costs of these systems and implementation procedures, together with the use of Distributed Ledger Technologies and their juxtaposition to other emerging secure data driven technologies that will address technical requirements and societal issues. The assessment will also identify and analyze climate finance flows, identify current gaps and define best technology for climate finance tracking through comparison; (ii) Propose recommendations for appropriate technology solution including the design of a new system or a design that integrates an existing system with a new system, an outline of the cost effectiveness, the execution and implementation process to build and/or integrate the system, and suggestions for future implementations for further development if needed); (iii) Financing of the system will be considered specifically an outline costs for development and long term sustainability of system and processes. This outline will include design, development, human capital management, and private vs public engagement. The pilot will be implemented upon conclusion of the steps outlined.

Response to sustainability plan question:

The institutional capacity building program is expected to be maintained after the end of the project as its principal elements (i) the Centralised National Climate Knowledge Platform will be embedded into the daily operational procedures and policies of the Climate Change Department of the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation. It will become part of the overall policies and procedures of the government which will facilitate and govern the provision of information by various governmental institutions and will become standard practice in the tracking and monitoring of the progress of the country in achieving its targets under the Paris Agreement. The Department already has an internal GHG estimation database that is offline (not connected to external institutions) which the government supports and is expected to continue this support once the system is enhanced and goes online with the implementation of the project; (ii) the creation of the IPCC GHG guidelines and carbon accounting course at the local university, which has agreed to in principle to develop and deliver the course, will ensure that this effort is sustained beyond the lifetime of the project.

Response to question on scope and recipients of the different capacity building activities:

The scope of the capacity building activities will focus on the training program on IPCC guidelines, methodology and use of data collection tools together with the national electronic guidebook on transparency management processes. The local university will help develop the course work and deliver the program to practitioners. These practitioners are expected to come from various government ministries, academic institutions and private sector entities. A list of expected recipients is as follows:

Ministry of Energy	Transportation Authority	Jamaica Public Service Company
Ministry of Transport	Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica	Forestry Department
Jamaica Private Power Company	Ministry of Agriculture	National Solid Waste Management Authority
Airport Authority of Jamaica	Environmental & Engineers Managers Limited	Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN)
Rural Agriculture Development Authority	National Environment and Planning Agency	Agricultural Land Management
Ministry of Health	National Land Agency	Maritime Authority of Jamaica
Jamaica Customs Agency	Planning Institute of Jamaica	University of the West Indies
Climate Change Division	Jamaica Bauxite Institute	Caribbean Cement Company

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement N/A

Response to Secretariat comments

GEF Council

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement N/A

Response to Secretariat comments

Convention Secretariat

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement N/A

Response to Secretariat comments

Recommendation

12. Is CEO endorsement recommended?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

No, please address comments above. In addition, if the portal allows, please mark YES under CBIT in Part I: Project Information.

8/30/2019: Please copy and paste responses on the portal review sheet for all questions.

In addition, please fill out the focal area outcome under Table A.

10/1/2019: All comment cleared.

10/14/2019: Please upload updated Project Document, with changes on implementing and executing arrangements.

10/26/2019: New TC (agency project document) has been uploaded with the updated execution arrangements.

Response to Secretariat comments 1. Focal area outcome has been filled in.

Review Dates

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review		
Additional Review (as necessary)		

CEO Recommendation

Brief Reasoning for CEO Recommendations

The objective of this project is to strengthen Jamaica's transparency framework through the design and implementation of a fully functional and harmonized domestic Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system for the effective implementation of the country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and other transparency-related activities. This project is funded by the CBIT Trust Fund, and the executing agency will be the Climate Change Department (CCD) of the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC).

Regionally, the project will be closely aligned with the German financed, International Climate Initiative Caribbean Cooperative MRV Hub (CCMRVH). This project assists English-speaking countries in the Caribbean region to efficiently develop GHG inventories, mitigation projections, and track their NDCs. The CCMRVH pools experts from participating countries to establish regional MRV institutional arrangements and products. Jamaica is participant in the project and will closely with the CCMRVH to ensure that there will be no duplication, and there will be the effective use of resources.

The project consists of three components:

1. Strengthening of Jamaica's Transparency Framework as defined in Article 13 of Paris Agreement;
2. Improving Jamaica's technical capacity to establish a robust MRV system; and
3. Improving Knowledge sharing and capacity building for the effective coordination among national agencies in the implementation of transparency-related activities.

The project will put in place distributed ledger technology (DLT i.e. blockchain) to support to climate action, strengthen monitoring, reporting and verification, improve transparency and traceability, build trust among climate actors and stakeholders and cost effectiveness of climate action. Updated information on DLT/Blockchain development in Jamaica indicates that there will be the need to undertake an assessment of the application of DLTs and other enabled technologies to support the various aspects of a MRV system before a pilot can be designed. Discussions with the CCD and stakeholders from the various consultations indicate a measure of uncertainty of the level of the readiness of governmental agencies to implement or participate in a DLT program. It was ascertained that there was a need to undertake a preliminary assessment of the existing ICT capabilities as well as level of digitization of the government, available hardware & software in order to identify the best available market technologies that could be used for each aspect of the MRV system and provide a plan of the implementation of a DLT pilot.