



# Inception Report

Support for REDD+ readiness in Jamaica



Including annexed revised workplan for years 1 and 2

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## 1. Introduction

Jamaica is currently engaging the first of three phases of Reducing Emissions for Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+), namely 'readiness' which will then be followed by 'implementation' and 'payments for results'. Those envisaged results-based payments are expected to be part of broader policy alignment behind the objective of REDD+ within Jamaica.

The IIED team have been contracted by the Climate Change Division of the Government of Jamaica to provide support for REDD+ readiness in Jamaica. IIED expects to support the Jamaica Forest Department working closely with the Climate Change Division, other relevant Government agencies and stakeholders over a period of one and half years to complete the REDD Readiness process.

This Inception Report provides details of the project initiation and plans for the anticipated deliverables. It covers: the background to the project with relevant information on REDD+; a summary of initial activities to operationalise the project; highlights of initial meetings around the proposed workplan and alternations that have to be made in light of the limitation imposed by the current pandemic; and next steps.

This inception report was prepared after several engagements with stakeholders in Jamaica – each of which is summarised in the Annexes to this report. These include: (1) An Inception meeting held on 16 July 2020; (2) A launching meeting with the Forestry Department held on 13 August 2020; (3) An initial sensitization and discussion VIRTUAL mini-workshop held with Interim REDD+ Steering Committee on ;(4) A initial geospatial meeting with the forestry Department held on 28 August 2020 and (5) Sensitization and virtual orientation sessions held with the four National REDD+ Working Groups assembled by the Forestry Department; and (6) an initial meeting with the communications department of the Forestry Department held on 25 August 2020.

The report is organised into six sections including this Introduction, as follows:

- Introduction
- Background to this Jamaica REDD+ project
- Preliminary activities to become operational
- Pointers from early stakeholder engagement
- Agreed priorities around next steps
- Annexes

## 2. Background to this Jamaica REDD+ project

### 2.1. Introduction to Jamaica's REDD+ vision

Jamaica is known as 'the land of wood and water'. It is therefore fitting that the shared vision of both Jamaica's Forest Policy and its National Forest Conservation and Development Plan is that "By 2062, Jamaica's forests and its biodiversity are sufficiently restored and sustainably managed, so once again the island can adequately be described as "the land of wood and water", capable of meeting the social, economic and ecological needs of current and future generations." This ambition is fully integrated within Jamaica's National Development Plan, Vision 2030, that commits the country in Goal 4 towards a healthy natural environment.

These policies signal Jamaica's intent to go beyond no-net-loss of forest cover towards restoring forests and to do this in a manner that reduces poverty and improves its overall economic development while meeting broader forest management goals, including, but not limited to: enhanced forest management capacity at the governmental and stakeholder levels; greater inclusion of private lands and land owners and local communities in active forest management; improved forest governance arrangements; and biodiversity protection.

Jamaica's Forest Department of the Ministry for Economic Growth and Job Creation has represented the country in international dialogues about climate change for approximately two decades. Jamaica joined the UNREDD process in 2015 to qualify for REDD+ results-based payments in support of its ambitious Forest Policy for Jamaica (GoJ, 2016a) and National Forest Conservation and Development Plan 2016-2026 (NFMCP – see GoJ, 2016b). Jamaica submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) in November 2015. Jamaica then ratified the Paris Agreement in April 2017 (INDC then becoming a Nationally Determined Contribution - NDC). It revised its NDC in June 2020.

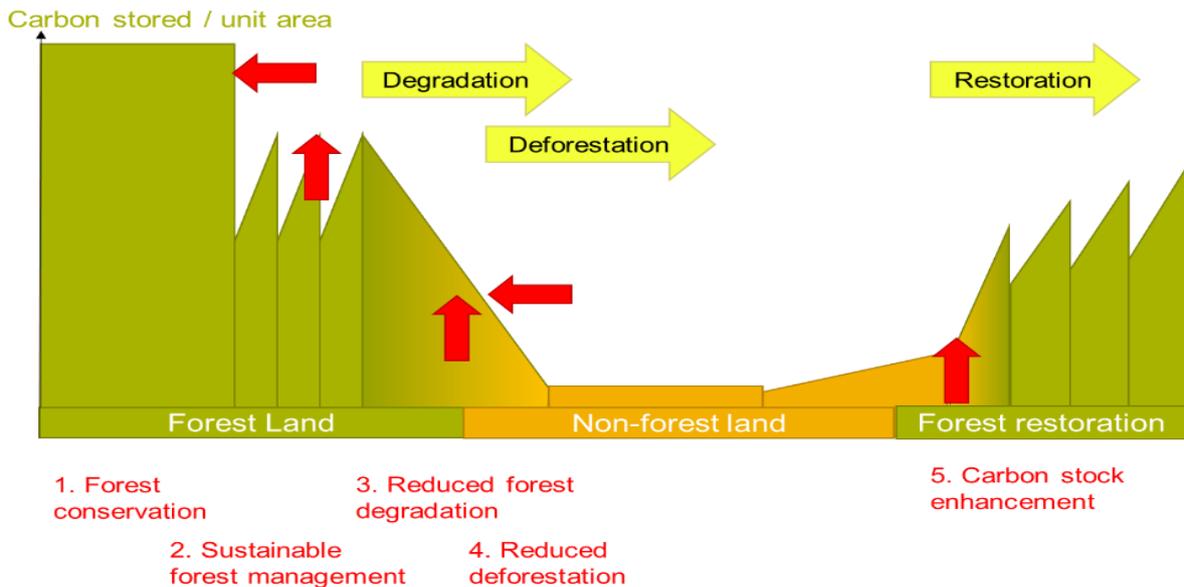
Initiatives in the forestry sector are part of a broader commitment to addressing climate change, both in terms of reducing Jamaica's contribution and adaptation as a vulnerable Small Island developing State. The Climate Change Division of the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation developed a Climate Change Policy Framework in 2015 (GoJ, 2015) which is currently being revised. Jamaica took the decision to integrate climate considerations and initiatives into all twelve of its productive sector plans, though only the forestry sector has to date completed its sector plan (see GoJ, 2016b).

### 2.2 The international REDD+ context

In joining the international community, and also signing the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, Jamaica is aware that it must meet agreed international standards for the operationalising results based payments (currently largely funded through Overseas Development Assistance [ODA] but ultimately to be sourced from compliance markets). International consensus as agreed in the 2009 COP15 in Copenhagen are that there are five main outcomes of REDD+ (see Figure 1. Below).

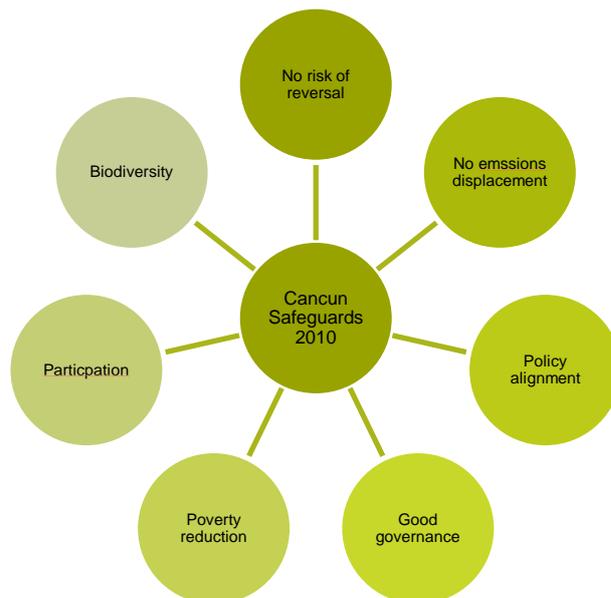
But as thinking has developed on how results-based payments for these five outcomes might be achieved – international concerns have surfaced in seven areas (see Figure 2. Below):

- Good governance and REDD+ oversight - What if payments for emissions reductions were misused by the recipient?
- Policy coherence - What if payments for emissions reductions in forestry are over-ridden by policies in another authority such as mining?
- Risk of reversals - What if carbon emissions reductions are reversed in the future?
- Emissions displacement - What if carbon emissions reduction in one country lead to increased emissions elsewhere?
- Participation - What if achieving emissions reductions favours one set of people over another?
- Poverty reduction - What if attempts to lock up carbon in trees displace poor people?
- Biodiversity - What if attempts to lock up carbon in trees were to favour monoculture plantations over biodiverse natural forests?



**Figure 1. Five main outcomes of REDD+ (in red)**

Questions such as these led to the agreement in 2010 at COP 16 in Cancun that there needed to be some safeguards put in place for each of seven major areas (Figure 2).



**Figure 2. The seven areas of safeguards endorsed by COP16 in Cancun (Source UNFCC)**

To check up on these areas, thinking turned to adequate monitoring systems, emissions reference levels, and safeguard information systems. And by 2013 at COP 19 the requirements for such safeguards systems to be a condition against which results-based payments could take place had become enshrined in the four pillars of the 2013 Warsaw Framework for REDD+ which include the development of:

- A National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)
- Forest Reference (Emissions) Levels (FR[E]L)
- A Safeguards Information System (SIS)
- A National REDD+ Strategy

Stakeholder participation is central to the effective development of REDD Readiness, particularly the feasibility of options and robustness of the pillars of the Warsaw Framework. There must therefore be a process of building capacity for stakeholders to participate meaningfully in the process and helping

to design options to deliver the five REDD+ outcomes along with other co-benefits (poverty reduction, biodiversity). As well as engaging forest land users, it is also important that there is active participation by different Government agencies and optimal cooperation and coordination between the different agencies with various responsibilities relevant to REDD+ (to ensure good governance oversight, policy alignment, and no reversals or risk of leakage).

The utility of stakeholder participation is directly affected firstly, by their capacities in terms of knowledge and skills and resources to participate and by the quality of the information they have about what is happening to forest in Jamaica and what is causing those changes (hence the need to combine geospatial data collection and analysis with good analysis of the policy and legislative frameworks that shape what people do and why).

All these considerations have been considered during the inception phase of this project – and will inform the delivery of the project's 23 deliverables.

## 2.3. REDD Readiness Project Deliverables

### Inception Activities

- D1: Hosting / facilitation services for Inception Meeting Process **OUTCOME - Delivered**
- D2: Inception Report **OUTCOME Delivered**
- D3: Final Annual Work Plan for Year 1 and Year 2 **OUTCOME Delivered**

### Geospatial Activities

- D11: Report on the assessment of land use, land use change drivers that result in deforestation and forest degradation
- D15: Provide Technical support to the Forestry Department +
- D16: Delivery of practical training to staff of the Forestry Department and the NRSC on preparing data for GHG inventory

### Environmental and Social Safeguard Activities

- D5: Delivery of NRSC Induction Training + training completion report
- D6: Report from awareness raising sessions with forest dependent communities
- D7: Consultation reports + on the design of the Grievance Redress Mechanism developed
- D8: Stakeholder inventory and mapping conducted to support REDD+ planning process and priority stakeholders identified
- D9: REDD+ Communication, Outreach and Consultation Strategy and Action Plan+ outreach materials and minutes of stakeholder Meetings
- D10: Stakeholder groups organised to effectively engage in the REDD+ process and implementation, inclusive of training reports and module
- D12: Gap analysis of the legislative, policy and institutional frameworks governing the relevant sectors, inclusive of action plan
- D17: Strategic Environmental and Social Safeguards Assessment
- D21: Gender Assessment Report
- D22: Gender Strategy
- D23: Gender Consultation Report

### End Points

- D4: Jamaica Roadmap for REDD+ and an Annotated Table of Contents for National REDD+ Strategy developed (Early iteration)
- D13: Report on REDD+ Strategy Options
- D14: REDD+ Implementation Framework (with Roadmaps)
- D18: Environmental and Social Management Framework
- D 19: Final Draft REDD+ Strategy consolidating the findings from all components
- D 20: Two Draft Project Concept Notes for submission to GCF based on a selected Strategy Priority option

### 3. Preliminary activities to become operational

#### 3.1 Finalising operational arrangements in a COVID-19 context

IIED has been strongly motivated to undertake this contract with the Government of Jamaica. Nevertheless, two factors affected the start of operations:

- The delay of approximately nine months in the start time of the consultancy, which has resulted in the team of consultants having to reschedule and renegotiate their other commitments to prioritize and accommodate the project.
- The COVID-19 pandemic, which has meant that while the team is considering travel options it is now apparent that much of the anticipated early activities will take place virtually over the next six months. These are discussed in the relevant sections.

In terms of the delayed start-date, having met the submission deadline for an expression of interest on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2019, and then a full tender document on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019, the contract was finally signed with a mutually agreed start date of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020 and an end date of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Additional challenges emerged because the Government of Jamaica required IIED to become tax compliant in Jamaica (notwithstanding a tax agreement between the two countries) such that as of 31 August 2020, IIED had not been paid, nor sub-consultant contracts signed or their costs paid. The IIED team have acted in good faith and commenced work prior to eventually achieving tax compliance on 21 September 2020 (although still unpaid on 16 October 2020) but the long initial delays and uncertainty over payment have inevitably delayed progress.

The unforeseeable advent of the COVID-19 pandemic has added further complexity to project delivery. Jamaica was added to the UK's quarantine list on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2020. Jamaica allows travel from the UK contingent on a prior test and an arrival test that proves negative (or if positive requires a quarantine). The team have agreed to be guided by the Government of Jamaica regulations under the Disaster Management Act regarding missions. Currently, it is impossible to travel unless those conditions change – and there will remain risks involved.

In the light of COVID realities, the team has developed a modified start up plan – postponing the anticipated in-country mission and attempting to engage with stakeholders remotely. At the time of writing the team is assessing with travel agencies how best to manage missions to Jamaica if that continues to seem desirable and under the Government of Jamaica regulations under the Disaster Management Act. In country activity would be highly desirable especially for the stakeholder consultation processes and geospatial analysis and training – so the team remain committed to making that happen if possible and will work around it if not. In the early phases, it should be possible to engage with many stakeholders through virtual platforms and the team also have one team member on the ground that could help to facilitate any hybrid situations where the team engage with small, socially distanced gatherings through a combined in-person and virtual presence. The team are hopeful that the situation with the pandemic will relent rather than intensify and that visits become possible in due course. At this stage, working virtually is not anticipated to significantly impact the initial assessments and outputs, as most of the in-country work would intensify after the results of the geospatial study on the drivers of deforestation are available. Preliminary information is expected by end of November of 2020 and more details by February 2021.

#### 3.2 Pre-inception preparation

With the signing of the contract, the team set aside other activities to provide the necessary time to complete the deliverables outlined in section 1 above. An immediate priority became gathering existing information relevant to the project. The procurement process of Jamaican documents was much slower than expected given COVID-19. At the time of writing, the team was still awaiting some documents, and expects that it will take some more time to gather all relevant background information on forest stakeholder groups and Forest Department engagements. However, the team has assembled documents and commenced reviews of:

- Relevant policies, laws, and regulations (e.g. Vision 2030, Forest and Climate change policies, National Forest Conservation and Management Plan, INDC and revised NDC etc.

- Climate Change Division and Forestry Department documents (e.g. organograms of departments and roles of individuals, main current project documents, maps of catchments and parishes, management plans for various units, reports on forest cover and drivers of deforestation etc)
- Geospatial information (e.g. information on government departments or organisations working with geospatial data, documents that showcase the current use of Earth Observation data, existing forest cover maps, documents describing current inventory processes and maps, definitions of land use, locally calibrated allometric equations in general use, and any information on forest growth rates etc).
- Information on forest stakeholder groups (e.g. Institutional architecture and arrangements for forest outreach, list of landowners, and other forest users – plus any lists or names and contacts of key persons, background, and information on Local Forest Management Communities, including contacts etc.)
- Other reports (e.g. reports of existing or past initiatives / studies with forest users and forest owners (especially where dealing with avoided deforestation or sustainability) – plus any contacts for personnel or persons who worked on the initiatives, reports on challenges and opportunities for improved management, past gender-based work in the forest sector etc).

A Jamaica REDD+ Microsoft Teams site has been set up by IIED with facilities for shared working, and a file structure for all of the documents listed above along with files for examples of other REDD+ strategies, meeting minutes, project reports, contractual arrangements and letters. All the IIED consultants now have access to all the documents deemed relevant for preparation for this process of REDD+ support.

## 4. Inception mission

IIED's proposed work programme envisaged a full team inception mission to Jamaica. During that mission, IIED's team would have the opportunity to work intensely engaging relevant stakeholders. The work programme had envisaged the following: (1) An inception meeting; (2) An inception assessment of the national forest inventory; (3) A rapid situational and needs assessment looking at: land use management capacity and needs, initial assessment of perceptions of forest cover change, drivers of deforestation and stakeholders, a rapid stakeholder analysis (including a gender analysis), a needs assessment for training, communications and stakeholder engagement for the REDD+ process. This field mission was not possible because of the restrictions due to the COVID 19 pandemic. As a result, the consultants have had to engage virtually on all these matters.

### 4.1 Inception meeting

A brief inception meeting was held on 16 July 2020. The IIED proposal envisaged the full team having an in-country visit with relevant stakeholders to discuss substantive aspects of the work. But the COVID-19 situation meant that the inception meeting was held virtually and focussed on practical operational and project management parameters between the IIED Team Leader, the Department of Climate Change, and the Forestry Department (see Annex 1). A major point of discussion was how to execute the project in the unforeseen circumstances of COVID-19. It was agreed that the IIED team would continue to try and stick with the 24-month time frame of the project but with many of the early face-to-face interactions and consultation now necessarily taking place virtually. It was agreed that the scheduling (albeit necessarily virtual in the early months) could proceed as planned such that the Government of Jamaica could maintain timely spend of the core GCF grant. It was agreed that IIED would regularly liaise with Marlon Walcott to assess travel possibilities and ensure that any changes were assessed jointly.

To accommodate the lack of the full inception meeting originally envisaged, and still have the opportunity to discuss substantive matters with at initiation of the project, the IIED team requested to have a launch meeting with the Forestry Department as well as meetings with the National Steering Committee and Working Groups that were established prior to the engagement of the consultants. Individual meetings were also held with sections of the Forestry Department. These interactions provided a practical understanding of situation on the ground and enabled us to adapt our proposed work programme to address the realities of engagement considering COVID-19.

### 4.2 Launching meeting with the Forestry Department

This meeting on 13 August 2020 helped to deepen the engagement between the IIED team and the Forestry Department and to understand better the rationale behind the REDD+ endeavour so far and who to work with in implementing this project (see detailed notes in Annex 2). The Forestry Department explained how sectoral plans such as the National Forest Management and Conservation Plan (GoJ, 2016b) backed by a National Forest Policy for Jamaica (GoJ, 2016a) were grappling with the issue of how to manage forests in a context where 73.5% of Jamaica's forests are on private land – but also where there is believed to be an annual afforestation rate of 0.41%. Initial understanding that any forest loss was primarily driven by mining had now altered to suggested that infrastructure development was a major player. Capitalising on the ecosystem services provided by Jamaica's forests through a REDD+ results-based payment mechanism could help the Forestry Department to finance some of the ambitions of its' Forest Policy and NFMCP.

It was agreed that the same stakeholders who helped to define the vision and objectives of the Forest Policy and NFMCP were now to be engaged to help develop the national REDD+ strategy and it was hoped that there would be a close convergence in vision and strategic objectives, albeit informed by much more precise geospatial analysis on land use cover change – such that the drivers of deforestation and degradation – and indeed the drivers of forest restoration could be better understood and addressed. Additionally, it was noted that the Forestry Department as an 'Agency' is looking to shift its Modus Operandi to a more commercial entity that generates its own resources from forest utilisation and recreation focused components – so the REDD+ strategy design should be cognizant of that.

It was noted that the Government is also currently in the process of amending the Forests Act of 1996 which is currently under Judicial review – such that this process could also help inform that legislation such that by 2023, the aim would be to have amended forest legislation that will serve as a legislative underpinning of the REDD+ vision. The department is also looking at enacting forest regulations to further these ends – an important element given the proportion of land under private control. So, better geospatial information and good consultations with these stakeholders are a critical part of REDD+ Strategy development. The full range of projects relating to the Forestry Department was discussed. And it was also noted how many of the drivers of deforestation might lie outside the forest sector and so require careful consultation with other stakeholder groups and authorities to ensure safeguards were in place that ensured policy alignment and good governance, alongside active participation and due attention to poverty reduction and biodiversity conservation.

The IIED team quizzed the Forestry Department about the terms of reference and composition of both the National REDD+ Steering Committee (NRSC) and Working Groups it was noted that:

- A national REDD steering committee has been convened which is composed of members from across the board, including academia, landowners, government etc.
- Members had been identified for 4 separate working groups:
  1. Working Group 1 – Environmental and social safeguards and gender
  2. Working Group 2 - Policy, regulatory and legal
  3. Working Group 3 – Participation and consultation
  4. Working Group 4 – REDD+ methodology and tools

Notwithstanding the pre-existing terms of reference and first meeting of the NRSC in August 2019, it was agreed that as clarity over the causes of deforestation and forest degradation increased, it would be necessary to adjust the membership of the NRSC and working groups to reflect all the stakeholder groups most pertinent to REDD+.

A full listing of the current stakeholder groups envisaged in the early terms of reference for this project were discussed – and the main Forestry Department staff responsible for overseeing elements of the project including: geospatial analysis (Donna Lowe and Alysia Edwards) policy and legislative matters (Rainee Oliphant and Sandy-Lou Cole) stakeholder consultation, safeguards and grievance mechanisms (Rainee Oliphant and Jerome Smith) and communications (Francine Black Richards). One critical issue raised was to ask the Forestry Department to draft a letter of authorisation for the IIED team to contact and consult stakeholders and it was agreed that there was a need for a generic letter that would provide official cover from the Forestry Department for the team to begin to reach out to stakeholders. A draft of this letter was provided promptly after the meeting of the NRSC.

### 4.3 Second National REDD+ Steering Committee meeting

An important step in the early stakeholder engagement process was the second meeting of the provisional National REDD+ Steering Committee (NRSC) that was held 19 August 2020 and which also involved an early induction training on the purpose of the Steering Committee and the process of managing social and environmental safeguards through stakeholder consultations (see Annex 3).

The objectives of the meeting were: (1) To introduce to the NRSC the IIED team executing the Global Climate Fund supported Jamaica REDD+ preparedness process; (2) To sensitize the NRSC on the process and outputs over the next 22 months; (3) To train the Steering Committee on stakeholder and social safeguards and their NRSC roles and responsibilities in this process; and (4) to conduct a participatory needs assessment of the Steering Committee preparedness and needs in order to fulfil its responsibilities.

Duncan Macqueen (IIED Team Leader) presented the evolution of REDD+ internationally and described the process within Jamaica to date. The main goals and objectives of REDD+ were introduced, alongside the work that would be undertaken by the IIED over a two-year period to make Jamaica REDD+ ready. It was explained that REDD+ is not merely about managing forests to address carbon emissions, but also integrating positive social outcomes for local forest communities and broader biodiversity conservation gains together with reduced carbon emissions. The opening presentation also introduced the Cancun Safeguards outlined in Figure 2 above:

- (1) Alignment of forest policies and regulations.
- (2) Governance structures.

- (3) Integration and respect of the rights and knowledge of forest communities.
- (4) Full and effective stakeholder participation.
- (5) Conservation of natural forest biodiversity and other social and environmental benefits.
- (6) Prevention of the risk of reversal; and
- (7) prevention of emissions displacement.

Through the REDD+ process a reference level would be established for the country looking at the past trend of carbon emissions. The goal of REDD+ would be to reduce the national carbon emissions from that baseline trajectory going forward. However, because REDD+ is not just about carbon, REDD+ initiatives must be based on the Warsaw Framework, which includes a national REDD+ strategy with options for REDD+ interventions, a National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS), A Forest Reference Emissions Level (FREL) with a Monitoring Reporting and Verification (MRV) System, and a Safeguard Information System (SIS). The projects twenty-three deliverables were introduced alongside how each deliverable fit with international REDD+ requirements.

Sam Bowers (Geospatial support specialist) presented the remote sensing methodology that would be used to estimate forest cover change due to deforestation and degradation. Geospatial tools are the only existing tools for capturing forest change at a large landscape scale, as it is not possible to properly assess changes at that scale by using ground plots alone. However, as a tool geospatial analysis must be accompanied by ground truthing/sampling to verify that the patterns found through remote sensing are interpreted correctly. Previously it has been difficult to access satellite data free of cost at a resolution that was adequate for tracking forest changes for REDD+ purpose – but now there is freely available, open-access data from Sentinel 1&2 satellites that provide data to 10 m resolution every five days, which is adequate for estimating forest cover loss and degradation. This data is also guaranteed into the future. Using freely available data, as well as cloud processing, is an economically optimal way to conduct geospatial analysis and monitoring. The kinds of maps that would be produced by the consultants were introduced. Noting that Jamaica is very cloudy, radar data will also be used as this is not affected by clouds and could provide a clearer picture of what was happening on the ground – including around forest degradation.

Simone Mangal-Joly (Social safeguard and gender specialist) ran a facilitated session providing an orientation to NRSC members on the REDD+ Cancun Safeguards and the role of consultation and stakeholder engagement for achieving safeguards. The overall process for developing REDD+ strategy options was explained and how central stakeholder participation was to all stages of that process. The roles, responsibilities and expected composition of a National REDD+ Steering Committee (NRSC) were also discussed.

Safeguards were explained, firstly, to be measures to protect or to avoid risks (do no harm), while promoting benefits (do good). They have been built into the REDD+ mechanism because of concerns in early REDD pilots since 1992 that powerful actors might capture the benefits of carbon offset projects and disenfranchise poor forest dwellers. REDD was proposed and started in 2005; but in 2008, it became REDD+, with the 'plus' indicative of positive social change and biodiversity outcomes that should accompany carbon emission reduction objectives. Advocates of forest people's rights, particularly indigenous peoples, have successfully lobbied for safeguards as part of the UNFCCC framework.

Safeguards are also needed, secondly, because REDD+ is a results-based, conditional payments system. To assure those paying that conditionalities are being met, standards and systems for monitoring must be put in place. The slow global market evolution around carbon payments was introduced. Despite the 2015 Paris Agreement that enshrined REDD+ as an international mechanism in Article 5, there is yet to be full agreement on Article 6, which outlines a Global Carbon Market. Thus by 2019, there was still no global mandatory carbon market or large-scale funding mechanism. It was explained that presently, the major funders of REDD+ initiatives are project based: The United Nations Green Climate Fund (\$500 mil pilot) and World Bank Carbon Fund (\$900 mil). However, there is growing private sector interest in becoming "Carbon Neutral Operators". Companies such as Amazon, Microsoft, Royal Dutch Shell, and JetBlue have embraced this with interests spanning not only carbon, but also the biodiversity and social benefits, as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility. Having safeguards in place protect the global reputations of such carbon investors from scandal. CORSIA, a UN carbon offsetting and reduction scheme for airline companies, had begun but had been delayed by COVID 19. It was emphasised that REDD+ is not just another forest

project. It is about getting the country ready to participate beneficially in an emerging international market. Financiers need mechanisms to verify that:

- (1) That there is in fact overall carbon reduction (with displacement to other areas).
- (2) That sufficient political guarantees, commitment, and structural design will prevent “reversal” - a situation where the country commit to reduce emissions, but then goes back on its commitments after payments have been made.
- (3) That REDD+ projects also enhance biodiversity and poverty reduction.

Policy alignment is needed across all sectors at the national level for such mechanisms to work. National policies cannot contradict each other. There needs to be effective and accountable governance systems that are consistent across all economic sectors, have clear rules of fair engagement for all stakeholders and effective grievance redress mechanisms. The laws, regulations, and practices must enable REDD+ activities. Institutions responsible for land governance need to have seamless collaborative working relations. Governance is about who gets to decide what. Customary rights as well as local knowledge of forest dwellers and users must be respected and integrated into the definition of problems and into the solutions. Thus, there must be genuine stakeholder participation to achieve the level of integration that is necessary and ensure a seat at the decision-making table for all stakeholders that are affected by REDD+ initiatives.

Participation is a critical element of any REDD+ readiness process. It was emphasised that participation is different from communication and consultations, which are just a means to achieve participation. Communication involves an information sharing exercise, either with information in or out or exchanged two ways. Consultations involve going out a soliciting information and views from stakeholders. It was explained that in this IIED-led set of exercises, all processes must be:

- (1) Inclusive of all relevant actors.
- (2) Accessible – have mechanisms for open voluntary participation and rather than being only just invitation based.
- (3) Involve Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), which requires at a minimum that information and knowledge is shared to create a common understanding so all stakeholders can understand issues at stake.
- (4) Respect the Legal and Customary rights of forest users, Indigenous peoples, or culturally distinct groups, such as the Maroons,
- (5) Equitable in that stakeholders have equal chance to participate, and this would require attention to providing resources to some community and other stakeholders who are not participating in the process in the capacity as paid employees discharging their functions or who have additional costs associated with travel that are high relative to their income status,
- (6) Fair in that the rules of engagement of the process allow all stakeholders to be heard and the benefits are fairly distributed.
- (7) Transparent and properly documented.
- (8) Accountable.
- (9) Pay special attention to the vulnerable, whether this is the result of gendered relations, age, or another socio-economic factor,
- (10) With clear and consistent rules for exchanges.
- (11) With clear and consistent system for addressing grievances; and
- (12) Consultations should provide the right to anonymity as some actors may feel uncomfortable speaking truth to power fearing consequences.

In this regard, the role of the IIED team is to be able to assess and constructively contribute the information to the discussion.

It was agreed that having all stakeholders meaningfully participating would:

- (1) ensure more accurate identification of the drivers of deforestation and degradation
- (2) improve the range of unique and innovative skills and knowledge to work out the solutions.
- (3) build collective ownership and commitment to achieve those solutions,
- (4) avoid unwanted outcomes such as inequitable benefit sharing or the worsening of social inequalities,

Most importantly, 45% of Jamaica is covered by forests but the Government has control of only 25% of these lands as Crown Lands. The rest is under private large- and small-scale ownership. There is a strong likelihood that REDD+ opportunities and intervention would include activities on private lands. Given the reality of the national forest tenure pattern, the Government of Jamaica will not be able to

guarantee carbon financiers that lands will be protected unless the landowners commit wholeheartedly and legally to any arrangements – which makes their full participation essential.

The NRSC orientation session concluded with an explanation that the deliverables of the project involving stakeholder communication, consultation, and engagement are not about just meeting requirements. There can be no REDD+ strategy without them. Some 15 out of the 23 project deliverables were about stakeholder engagement or relied on stakeholder participation. These stakeholder assessments, development of a stakeholder engagement, communications, training, gender strategy, and grievance redress mechanism are all meant to prepare stakeholders and level the playing field for all stakeholders to participate in defining problems and designing sound REDD+ options on a fair and equitable basis.

Finally, it was explained that the geospatial team's analysis of forest cover change would overlap with the process of stakeholder appraisal (approximately six months). Once the geospatial study provides detailed information on areas of forest loss and degradation, there would be a period of training and stakeholder preparation tailored to the needs of different groups. This would be followed by further participatory engagement to look at the drivers of deforestation and options for developing REDD+ options. At that stage there would also be discussion of the possible social and environmental impacts and preparation of a Social and Environmental Management Framework and a Roadmap for a Safeguards Information System (SIS). Only in the next phase of REDD+ (after this project) would the stakeholders populate that SIS with information and animate it, depending on what kinds of information they had agreed it was necessary to gather. The projects final deliverables would involve A REDD+ National Strategy with options accompanied by safeguards that include a Grievance Mechanism, Social and Environmental Management Framework and the other Warsaw legal requirements: The National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) with a Monitoring Reporting and Verification (MRV) system, Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL) and Forest Reference Level, and a Safeguards Information System (SIS). In addition, there would have to be a final public validation process for all the deliverables as well as the Composition of the National REDD+ Steering Committee in line with REDD+ requirements for stakeholder representation. Finally, the IIED team would draft two financing proposals for REDD+ pilot projects.

After this orientation session, the conversation turned to the roles and responsibilities of the REDD+ Steering committee and expected composition. These were matched against the Terms of Reference set up for the National REDD+ Steering Committee and known categories of drivers of deforestation in Jamaica for the NRSC to self-assess the composition of their current committee. There was a discussion around clarifying roles and responsibilities and augmenting the NRSC membership as the process goes forward, as well as how resources could be made available so that local communities and persons volunteering their time could be supported by covering their costs to participate where necessary.

Nicole West-Hayles (REDD+ communication specialist) reviewed the overall timeline for the project work and focused on activities in the next six months as the project got underway. There was a discussion on the timeline that allowed the team to engage and clarify it further.

#### 4.4 Working groups

Prior to commissioning IIED the implementing agency had set up the NRSC and four Working Groups. The IIED team met with each of the four working groups (albeit with groups 1 and 3 amalgamated into a single group because of the strong synergies in their subject matter). In each working group, introductions were made by the Working Group chair, followed by a presentation on the REDD+ project, and then a presentation on the specific issues of relevance to the theme of the working group.

##### **Working Group 1 and 3 –Environmental Social Safeguards and Gender and Participation & Consultations**

These two Working Groups were convened together on September 1, 2020. From the consultants' perspective there was an artificial separation between social and environmental safeguards and stakeholder consultations. In practice these are deeply intertwined, and it would be more helpful to have the groups merged and create a fourth working group focused on communications and public

outreach. The working group met for three hours, as the consultants incorporated an orientation on the safeguards and stakeholder process requirements under REDD+. One key participant, Mr. Noel Benette, Rural Sociologist with twenty years' experience had technical difficulties in participating. So, a further meeting was scheduled with him soon after the working group meeting concluded, and the team was able to gain valuable insights and discuss logistical possibilities for engaging with local communities.

Nicole West-Hayles and Ryan Lee delivered a presentation on the background to REDD+ internationally, REDD+ in Jamaica and the current project.

Simone Mangal-Joly provided an orientation on the REDD+ safeguards process and centrality of the stakeholder engagement. Distinction was drawn between the process and final outcomes of the project. Deliverables were explained in terms of a REDD+ strategy that is fully compliant with UNFCCC requirements. The overall work process over the next six months was explained, including an initial stakeholder analysis and inventory to be refined when the geospatial team produces information on forest cover change. Following that new information, the key geographic areas identified as hotspots of deforestation or degradation would be further targeted to ensure that no stakeholders were missed. Initial semi-structured interviews will also involve needs assessments for training, communication, and outreach, and will shape the designing of the stakeholder engagement strategy as well as assessment of gender issues for the gender strategy and existing grievance processes for informing the design of the grievance redress mechanism. The IIED team would use an actor network approach to identify stakeholders that are currently not on the radar screen and build up the stakeholder inventory and assessments through this process. Due to COVID-19 limitations, this process will have to occur virtually but it may also involve some hybrid approaches where Nicole West-Hayles and Forest Department Staff may be present, especially in rural areas where technology and Internet reach may not be optimal.

A worksheet of known causes of forest loss and degradation was presented by the consultants compiled from the background research conducted. The working group were asked for feedback on any critical issues and key governmental and non-governmental stakeholders that they feel should be engaged. It was explained that some stakeholders were known but the sheet had been initially left blank specifically so as not to influence the working group. Members of the group contributed where they could. The causes of forest cover change identified (not exhaustive) were: bauxite mining, quarrying, informal settlement, large scale farming (coffee and other commodities), small scale farming, road building, illegal timber harvesting, legal timber harvesting, tourism expansion, charcoal production, harvesting of trees for scaffolding for the construction industry and pallets for shipping, hotel and tourism expansion and settlements that spring up around them, fire, and yam stick harvesting.

The group members, supplemented by the subsequent one on one input from Mr. Bennett identified stakeholders as follows:

- *Bauxite Mining:* The Jamaica Bauxite Institute, Ministry of Transport and Mining, Mines and Geology, Noranda, Jamalco, Jamaica Environment Trust, Cockpit Country Stakeholders' Group and the National Environment and Planning Agency.
- *Quarrying:* Ministry of Transport and Mines, Coast to Coast Quarrying, S&G Limestone and the Development and Minerals Project.
- *Agriculture:* The Rural Agricultural Development Agency, Jamaica Agricultural Society, the Rural Agricultural Development Authority, Mr Turner of Tulloch Spring Estates, and Mr. Hannah.
- *Road Building/Built Environment Expansion:* The National Works Agency, Municipal Corporations (Parish Council/Local Authority); Construction Factories Corporation of Jamaica, West Indies Home Contractors, Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica, and Social Development Commission, The Construction Industry Council.
- *Logging:* They were less specific identifying sawmillers/loggers, haulers/truckers, and Jamaica Developers' Association.

- *Yam stick harvesting interest groups*: The Nature Conservancy, The Forest Conservancy, Windsor Research Centre, Southern Trelawny Environmental Agency (STEA) and USAID Protected Areas and Rural Enterprise (PARE) project.
- *Local forest dependent Communities*: Maroon Council, and Leaders of Maroon Villages, Local Forest Management Committees: Dolphin Head, Bull Head, Cockpit Country South West (St. James), North (Trelawny), South East (Litchfield), Buff Bay/Pencar Watershed, and Rio Minhó
- More generally they recommended Gun Clubs, University of the West Indies (universities In Jamaica), Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport, Bureau of Gender Affairs, and the National Centre for Youth Development. It was also suggested that persons with disabilities should be considered (Jamaica Combined Disabilities Association and Jamaica Council for Persons with Disabilities) as well as the Media.
- *Environmental NGOs*: it was noted that there are many local NGOs in the country and the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica would know of the active ones, as it the main grant giving body. The Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation and Jamaica Environmental Trust were identified. The groups also suggested that the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) would have background information and links to activities in Jamaica.

### **Working Group 2 - Policy, regulatory and legal**

In this working group, Duncan Macqueen explained the approach that would be taken to policy regulatory and legal gap analysis and assessment. It was noted internationally, REDD+ lies embedded in a number of broader initiatives including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the UNFCCC, UNFF and UNCBD – and at national level REDD+ lies embedded in Vision 2030, the climate change policy framework, the Forest Policy and the National Forest Management and Conservation Plan 2016-2026. In the new Forest Policy, there is a useful section on collaboration and coordination that covered many of the non-forest sector policies such as mining and land use planning that would need to be assessed in line with the early understanding of the drivers of deforestation.

Discussions highlighted important areas for further institutional and policy investigation including: the National Land Agency (and the National Land Use Policy), the Ministry of Transport and Mining (and the Mining Act), The National Environmental Protection Agency (and the Environmental Impact Assessment procedures and rules for private lands), the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries – and the Rural Agricultural Development Agency (and its Agricultural Development Activity Act). A process for further development of the gap analysis of the legislative, policy and institutional framework was discussed and is described in section 5.2.

### **Working Group 4 – REDD+ methodology and tools/Geospatial**

In this working group Sam Bowers and Casey Ryan explained their approach to geospatial data. This covered issues such as why use remote sensing data; how remote sensing data is changing (and the new regular 10m resolution data that is freely available). The team outlined how they would work towards assessing land cover and change, carbon stock measurement, deforestation, degradation, and restoration and quantifying the drivers of forest change. They also outlined the training plans around: use of cloud processing platforms, quantification of carbon stocks, change detection and modelling future scenarios of change. Discussions introduced existing in-country monitoring projects, discussed how to ensure both tropical broad-leaf and dry forest cover could be assessed, the means of assessing degradation, and plans to cope with COVID-19. It was also suggested that this working group should be renamed the geospatial working group, as the REDD+ methodology and tools were broader than geospatial for achieving the intertwined social, environmental and carbon emission reduction objectives of REDD.

## 4.5 Forest Department meetings for assessment of the national forest inventory

Where the geospatial assessment with the Forestry Department is concerned, the team's preference would have been to be present on the ground. Given COVID-19, the team has been able to make progress with the Forestry department to rapidly assess the situation by virtual contact. A meeting was conducted with the Forestry Department Forest Science and Technology and Services team on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2020 with a further meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 to review plans in the light of COVID-19. In the first meeting and following introductions and an introductory presentation on remote sensing methods by Sam Bowers, discussions focussed on the current use of geospatial and forestry data by the Forestry Department.

Land cover mapping is conducted by the Forestry Department roughly once per decade. These maps are at national-scale and are based on interpretation of high-resolution imagery from commercial satellites. The Forestry Department is currently considering acquisition of data to produce an updated land cover map. The Forestry Department considers high-resolution mapping to be the best option for mapping Jamaica's diverse forest types, and these data are valued by other government departments.

To manage and report on forest changes, the existing mapping approach may need to be supplemented with more frequent mapping of forest cover. Such mapping can be achieved using open access satellite data (i.e. through the Copernicus Programme) and can form the basis for ongoing monitoring for REDD+. While more frequent, these maps would have reduced thematic and spatial resolution, so would complement rather than replace existing approaches.

Data sourced from high resolution commercial satellites are also costly. The meeting discussed the potentially \$100,000s required to image the entire island. Open access data offers a sustainable route forward for REDD+, not requiring ongoing payment for data to monitor forest change. While this is an advantage, the large volumes of data supplied by free satellite data providers (i.e. NASA, ESA) creates a computational challenge. To download and process these large data volumes locally is computationally challenging, adding a 'cost' to free data. These challenges are commonly met through use of cloud platforms, where processing is performed on the cloud, only requiring the download of outputs and data products.

The meeting also discussed work towards consistent collection of forest plot data across Jamaica, eventually to form the basis of a National Forest Inventory (NFI). Historical plot measurements do exist in Jamaica, although these were usually produced on an ad-hoc basis and may not be fully representative of all forest types in Jamaica. The Forestry Department has designed a new protocol for future plot measurement work, based on methods published by USFS. The Forestry Department asked that the consultancy team review these and assess their applicability towards future REDD+ work. The utility of historical data for calibration of satellite images will need to be assessed by the IIED team, as this will have implications for the most appropriate satellite mapping methods to be used in this work.

Following these discussions, the University of Edinburgh team prepared a revised process for developing the geospatial component of the work. This was then discussed with the Forestry Department on 1 September 2020 and is summarised below in section 5.4.

## 4.6 Meeting with the Forestry Department's communication department

The REDD+ Communication Specialist met with the Forestry Department on Tuesday, August 25, 2020. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the Communication Specialist to the Forestry Public Relations and Corporate Communication (PRCC) Division and to seek guidance on policies, protocols and procedures managing the Forestry brand, that of the wider Government of Jamaica and their commitments to the Green Climate Fund and REDD+. Both parties made suggestions relating to the way forward on the project and it was agreed that the project would align all of its communications and outreach with the strategy of the Forestry Department, and seek approval of the PRCC prior to public dissemination. The IIED team expects that if there are any instances where the Forestry

Department's strategy does not meet the standards of REDD+, they would be motivated to upgrade it. For further details see Annex 5.

#### 4.7 Rapid situation analysis and needs assessments

This activity has been most impacted by the COVID-19 situation. The intensive two-week period of in-country engagements that was anticipated must be replaced with virtual contact. To the date the team has focussed on engaging the National Steering Committee and Working Groups and will be advancing this assessment over the next two months. This type of contact by nature involves more transaction time to arrange and presents challenges with respect to meeting stakeholders in communities, particularly in rural areas where Internet access may be problematic or stakeholders do not have the economic means to afford Internet or the technologies for remote conferencing. This will require arrangements to ensure access and can no longer be a rapid assessment. The team must redirect its energies towards identifying and scheduling virtual meetings. As this will take a longer amount of time to organise and implement, the information will be gathered over a longer period than initially foreseen. However, this is not going to greatly affect the overall timing of deliverables, as the rapid appraisal was meant to guide deeper analyses with outputs that were originally planned for month 5. It will cause minor delay in the drafting of the policy gap analysis and Phase 1 assessment of the drivers of deforestation, as these will require time for analysing the information gathered in the assessment interviews.

The consultation report on these engagements will come only after they are all concluded. Given the various team schedules involved, it is estimated that this can be achieved by the end of November 2020 and a report on the consultative activity provided no later than December 15, 2020.

#### 4.8 Main issues arising

From the various meetings above, several key points have arisen that require re-emphasis here:

- **Virtual work considering COVID-19.** There will be a front-loading of virtual interactions and remote work to try and get started. Inevitably, the lack of face-to-face consultations will push back some deliverables as outlined in the workplan – but with others being brought forward where that is possible. See Annex 6.
- **Composition of Steering Committees.** There are gaps in the composition of the NRSC – especially in relation to some of the sectors causing deforestation and these will have to be addressed to ensure good representation as clarity on the drivers of deforestation emerges through geospatial analysis. There is also a requirement that local forest communities are represented on the Committee. The stakeholder analyses and assessments will provide information for transparently guiding the composition of the Steering Committee, which will also have to go through a national validation workshop. It is recommended that the project should refer to the current committee as an “Interim REDD+ Steering Committee” and obvious gaps, especially with governmental counterparts in sectors that impact on forest should be plugged.
- **Roles and responsibilities of the National REDD+ Steering Committee (NRSC)** – The steering committee is there for oversight and especially to ensure the careful handling of safeguards and there may need to be modifications to composition and functions over time in order to ensure it plays that role. Concerns were raised about the amount of time engagement given the broad set of responsibilities of the Committee. However, it was explained that the Committee can rely on sub-committees and can also maintain direct contact with local stakeholders by holding their statutory quarterly meetings at key locations across the country, where stakeholders can have direct opportunities for contact.
- **Roles and responsibilities and composition of the Working Groups** – The Working Groups will provide a very useful source of review, critique and feedback on deliverables individually or collectively and their membership should expand as necessary to take stock of opinion – especially from those likely to be affected by implementation plans for REDD+. The IIED team envisages that the feedback process would be operationalised largely through oral

feedback sessions after the team has had adequate time with written deliverables; and that any specific written comments would be routed through and collated by the Project Manager. The working group function is not “approval” of products. The IIED-led team recommend the merging of Groups 3 and into Group 1 and creation of a Communities and Public Outreach Working Group as Group 1. It must be emphasised that the composition of the working groups may be altered as the project moves through different phases of the project. This is not uncommon in REDD+ processes as new skill sets may be identified or needed at different junctures.

- **Level of Participation from Government Agencies** - It would be helpful if senior government agency members participate in the Steering Committee or the working groups, as juniors may be unaware of all information and unable to properly contribute or would feel inhibited in contributing their agency’s work or position on critical but sometimes controversial issues. Both the Steering Committee and Working groups need high level commitment to their success for REDD+ to succeed.
- **Commitment to safeguarding and Understanding Connectivity of Project Activities** – It is natural for people to categorise activities and not uncommon for experts to treat quantitative analyses as data with privilege above qualitative stakeholder processes. It is essential that all actors engaged with this project, especially the NRSC and Working Groups, understand that the stakeholder engagement process is critical to REDD+ and the level of commitment to safeguarding the integrated nature of those safeguards (i.e. social, environmental, economic and political). Thorough participatory review of the evidence of drivers of deforestation and degradation must be allied to thorough participatory discussion of possible options to address those drivers – with a thoroughly participatory process of management, including a grievance mechanism should any group feel disempowered. In this regard, the connectivity between working groups must be appreciated, each of these groups carry equal weight in the contribution they make to the process and their work will from time to time overlap.
- **Resources for equitable participation in the Steering Committee and Working Groups** – to ensure the equitable participation required by REDD+, it is recommended that NRSC and Working Group meetings are planned well in advance and compensatory resource provided to support participation, of community persons who incur costs to participate and are not at the table executing functions as paid employees.
- **Structure of National REDD+ Governance – Connections and Linkage to Parliament** – it is noted that several of the sectors affecting deforestation and degradation have powerful agencies and stakeholders outside of forestry. This means that REDD+ must ideally have high level status and governance arrangements if it is to be effective. A clear linkage to the Parliament is also one of the most effective ways to mitigate the risk of reversal (Cancun Safeguard), as the project would be more secure and not subject to change of Government administrations change.
- **REDD+ is not a Just a “Forestry Project”** - it is a process of preparing Jamaica to participate competitively in an emerging global market for carbon offsets. Therefore, it should be core part of the economic strategy and future economic planning for Jamaica and it would be best if it were championed at the highest levels of leadership.
- **Building Capacity for REDD+ is also in the process and just “training” initiatives** – a successful project process would not unfold as an external consultancy that will deliver REDD+. To work, REDD+ needs collaborative working relationships between different government agencies and among different stakeholders. The various governmental departments with relevant mandates need to be at the table together and it is important that they take active participation in assessing changes, understanding the causes of those changes, designing and discussing possible solution options and so on throughout the process. The end point should be well functioning relationships based on mutual respect and understanding among the different governmental and non-governmental stakeholder.

- **Project implementation is an iterative process** – The main drivers of deforestation and degradation will only be triangulated by geospatial data 6-12 months from now– which mean that the certainty of who is causing what and why will become clearer over time. The early deliverables therefore need to be treated as iterative and evolving documents, not ‘tick box’ products for which no future change is envisaged. Also, given the COVID 19 situation, plans will necessarily have to be reviewed at certain junctures to ensure effective means of delivery.
- **Resolution of satellite data adequate for determining drivers of deforestation** – the consultancy team assert that 10m resolution data – now available with considerable frequency at five day intervals, is the best and most practical option for future use in a REDD+ National Forest Monitoring System.
- **Team access to stakeholders to conduct analyses considering COVID-19.** The aspect of the teamwork that is most significantly impacted at this juncture in terms of time is the access to in-country stakeholders for one on one interactions, participatory observation, and focus groups. Provisions are being explored for virtual access and a hybrid of virtual and face to face access relying on Forestry Department’s resource persons and IIED’s in-country specialist. The team will work hard to find alternative means of communicating and consultation until such time that a field mission is possible. It is estimated that it will be possible to get through the planned work through virtual means to make any necessary compensations when in country.

## 5. Next steps

### 5.1 Finalising the workplan

The Terms of Reference for this assignment and our proposed workplan were written prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. The discussions that have been held so far with the Forestry Department and other stakeholders have covered how best to manage the process of deliverables in the light of this emerging reality. As a result, the team have made small changes to the workplan which are shown in Annex 6. Changes do not pertain to the deliverables themselves, but in the scheduling and means by which they are delivered – which in many cases involves early production of drafts but then gradual refinement towards a final product once fuller consultations are feasible.

In our proposed workplan we had foreseen that this revised workplan must still be considered in *draft* form until the planned rapid situation analyses, needs assessment and the stakeholder assessment and mapping were complete, as these would provide necessary information for tailoring the Work Programme. Since we were unable to undertake the country mission for the rapid situation analysis and expect that the stakeholder engagement for the planned analyses will take some time to arrange and execute, any revisions or iteration of the workplan will be provided in November 2020, when a report of the consultations undertaken is tabled. Given the COVID-19 context, a review of the workplan is proposed against the situation on the ground six months from now in February 2021.

### 5.2 Gap analysis of legislative, policy and institutional framework and Assessment of Drivers of Deforestation (towards a REDD+ strategy)

#### Introducing the political dimension of REDD+

The progress of any country from REDD+ readiness, through implementation to results-based payments is now conditional in the UNREDD process on installing the four pillars of the Warsaw Framework which have been described in Section 2.2 of this report. One of these pillars is a National REDD+ Strategy – which typically is structured in the format below with several main sections:

- Introduction to REDD+ (global, national, process summary)
- Situation analysis (socio-economic, forest cover, policies)
- Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation (direct, underlying, winners and losers, policy gaps)
- The strategy (vision, goal, principles, objectives, implementation logic for each option)
- Implementation (roles and responsibilities, institutional, financing)
- Monitoring progress (Social Environmental Management Framework – SIS and grievance, NFREL, NFMS)
- Next steps (GCF proposals)

In all the sections, including the introduction, situation analysis, drivers of deforestation, strategic objectives, implementation, and monitoring progress – the area of legislative, policy and institutions looms large. The reason is that deforestation and degradation are often and indeed mainly caused by the legislative, policy and legal frameworks *outside* of forestry. So, the National REDD+ Strategy is liable to be completely ineffective unless it engages these other sectoral domains of legislation, policy, and institutional mandate. Indeed, some of the potential REDD+ options may involve changes to legislation that will enforce practice – rather than results-based-payments to reward changes in practice. Examples might include mining legislation to enforce restoration of degraded mining land, environmental protection legislation requiring replanting after felling on private land and so on. Such changes require high-level buy-in. For that very reason, it is essential that REDD+ governance and indeed the NRSC, are sufficiently high level as to be able to trump sectoral resistance to forest cover considerations. It is also essential that during the design of the National REDD+ Strategy that consultations are held with high level representatives in the Ministries most clearly implicated in deforestation and degradation. Given the COVID-19 realities, and through discussions with Working Group 2, it was agreed that a four-stage process would be implemented over the next 5 months.

### 1. Surveying representatives of sectors known to affect REDD+ - virtual interviews.

During the inception period, the IIED team managed to consult with forest sector governance stakeholders in the main Government agencies. Relevant policies plan and commitments have been secured and studied. But outside the forest sector, there is now a need to identify key informants to secure other relevant legislative and policy documents and discuss institutional dynamics and processes to bring them on board into REDD+.

A first step in this process will be for Duncan Macqueen to consult with the members of the WG2 to identify key contact persons for government agencies in sectors responsible for the drivers of forest loss. See Table 1.

**Table 1. Drivers of deforestation and the agencies responsible for their governance**

<b>Drivers of deforestation and degradation</b>	<b>Main impact of driver and agencies responsible for it</b>
Hurricanes	Nationwide – disaster preparedness and adaptation.
Infrastructure / new settlement including on private lands	Nationwide – National Land Agency, National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), Ministry of Local Government Community Development, Ministry of Transport and Mining, Ministry of Tourism, Planning institute of Jamaica, Urban Development Corporation, Jamaica National Housing Trust.
Subsistence agriculture / yam sticks / charcoal / fires	Nationwide – Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries / Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology – Rural Agricultural Development Agency (RADA), Jamaica Agricultural Society.
Commercial agriculture including on private lands	Nationwide – Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries – Rural Agricultural Development Agency (RADA), National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) - Banana Industry Board, Coffee Industry Board etc.
Mining	Localised – Ministry of Transport and Mining, Mining Geology Division, Jamaica Bauxite Institute.
Forest wood extraction – timber	Nationwide – Ministry of Economic Growth, Jobs and Commerce – Forestry Department, LFMCS, Private landowners, Protected Areas Committees.

### 2. Assessing legislative, policy and institutional coverage and gaps – desk reviews

The next step will be to analyse the documents and survey information to make an initial draft assessment of the main gaps covering issues relating to deforestation and degradation. This will of course require an initial assessment from the literature of the drivers of deforestation and degradation, drawn from recent assessments of the forestry department. As better data on those drivers becomes available, the emphasis as to which legislative, policy and institutional priorities are of greatest concern, will become apparent.

### 3. Rapid early assessment and consultation with main stakeholder groups

Since it is not possible to conduct the envisaged rapid assessment in-country further work will be undertaken Virtually in close collaboration with the social and environmental and communications teams to ensure that findings from the consultations are fed into the gap analysis and for Duncan Macqueen to participate in meetings as may be necessary. It will be possible to structure meaningful consultations with the main stakeholder groups about their perceptions of the main drivers of deforestation and the underlying causes of those drivers. Some of those underlying causes may involve legislative, policy or institutional failings that need to be addressed, and might become the subject of one of the options in the national REDD+ strategy. The result of the perception of cause for forest loss would be compared with the findings of the geospatial team expected in February 2021

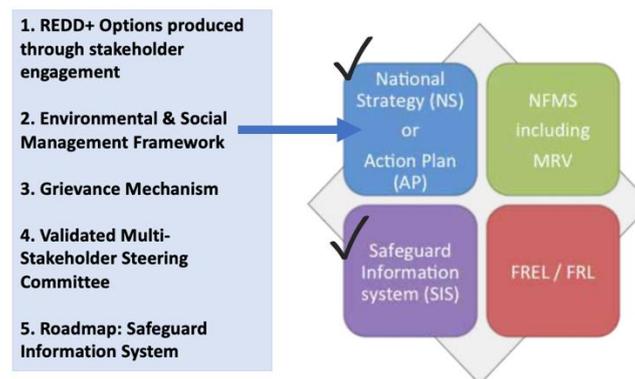
and work on understanding drivers broadly will be advanced ahead of the availability of the geospatial study findings.

#### 4. Presentation and feedback from a broader working group

Once the gap analysis on legislative, policy and institutional frameworks governing REDD+ has been concluded, it will be subjected to peer review. At that point it will be necessary to broaden the membership of Working Group 2 to ensure that it includes representatives of all the relevant Government agencies implicated in its findings. The final gap analysis will both inform and be informed by the analysis of drivers of deforestation and degradation emerging from the geospatial team, and from the consultations of the social and communications teams. Duncan Macqueen will present that gap analysis for review in January 2021 – and will then work with more accurate information proceeding from the geospatial analysis and ongoing consultations, to develop a roadmap for REDD+ and an annotated outline of the National REDD+ Strategy. Those bodies of work will inform the development of options for REDD+ that will form the mainstay of the National REDD+ Strategy.

### 5.3 Social and environmental safeguards, stakeholder engagement and communications

The safeguards and communications teams have responsibilities for the bulk of the deliverables by number in this project. It is helpful to understand the process deliverables – deliverables that move us towards the end products and the final deliverables, those that are the end products. Figure 3 below summarises the end products of all the stakeholder participation and socio-environmental analyses woven through the process.



**Figure 3. The main end products of any national REDD+ readiness process.**

These are: (1) The REDD+ Strategy, and particularly the options that would comprise the Strategy and that would be arrived at through a multi-stakeholder process; (2) A Social and Environmental Management Framework to accompany the strategy; (3) A Grievance Mechanism for the REDD+ process; (4) Final public validation of all outputs, including the membership of the National REDD+ Steering Committee; and (5) The Roadmap for a Safeguards Information System. In addition, stakeholders will be engaged as necessary to support the development of two funding proposals.

The process outputs help to arrive at the end points and these process outputs are: (1) Stakeholder inventory and mapping conducted to support REDD+ planning process and priority stakeholders identified; (2) Delivery of NRSC Induction Training + training completion report; (3) Report from awareness raising sessions with forest dependent communities, (4) Consultation reports + on the design of the Grievance Redress Mechanism; (5) REDD+ Communication, Outreach and Consultation Strategy and Action Plan+ outreach materials +minutes of stakeholder meetings; (6) Stakeholder groups organised to effectively engage in the REDD+ process and implementation, inclusive of training reports and module; and (7) As noted earlier under Section 5.2. multi-stakeholder contribution to an early phase 1 assessment of drivers of deforestation. Attention has been drawn to stakeholder consultations and engagements being central to the process and the utility of having a Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Communications and Outreach Strategy, rather than isolating consultations as part of the communications process.

All these process deliverables will rely on information garnered from our initial situational and focussed stakeholder assessments. Thus, the period of Virtual Assessment planned in Sept-Oct 2020 will be done largely through semi-structured interviews with government and non-governmental stakeholders and some small group meetings. The appraisals will have the following components:

- Stakeholder Identification, Inventory and Analysis.
- Training needs assessments for different categories of stakeholders to participate meaningfully in the REDD+ process.
- Assessment of Critical Gender issues in the REDD+ context in Jamaica.
- Communications assessment.
- Assessment of existing mechanisms for resolving grievances; and
- Stakeholder perception of the reasons for land cover change, the factors driving those reasons and key actors

The information gathered through these assessments will then be analysed to produce: (1) The Stakeholder Engagement Plan; (2) Communications and Public Outreach Plan with materials; (3) The Gender Strategy; (4) Preliminary information for advancing consultations on an appropriate grievance mechanism, and information for developing an early draft of assessment of the drivers of deforestation. All these products will be in draft form and available for review. However, when the geospatial analysis of forest cover change is complete in February 2021, all of these draft plans may be refined in light of the what the study reveals, as it may show the importance of particular geographical areas in REDD+. At that stage, the team will engage in those areas with all the relevant stakeholders to ensure nobody, nor any critical issues, have been missed. Once the plans are refined and pass through reviews with the Working Groups and NRSC, a national validation workshop will be held to ensure public acceptance and that there are no objections to the forward strategy. The one exception relates to the Communications Plan, which will be tabled ahead of the original schedule to commence some public sensitization and awareness exercises in early 2021.

After the various plans and strategies have been validated, they will be implemented. Key stakeholders will be targeted for training and engagement to ensure that they can come to the table in an informed way and there is no inequity in understanding or information. Stakeholders will then be engaged around the geospatial information and look at scenarios and options for the REDD+ initiative. The problems and solutions will be collectively defined, as will the identification of the actors, and the assessment of the likely social- and environmental impacts of any options. The feasibility and risks will be assessed to arrive at a transparent assessment of the REDD+ options and a country strategy. An examination will be made of the utility of the draft grievance mechanism with tweaks as necessary, alongside a collaborative outline of what the criteria and indicators should be the Safeguard Monitoring System. This will be done through focal groups and mini workshops. The structure of the NRSC will be re-examined to determine whether the configuration is appropriate to the REDD+ strategy needs and augment the group if necessary; and any new members will be trained.

When this second tranche of multi-stakeholder engagement is complete, the team will focus on drafting the final products. These will be provided for review and prepared for the final validation workshop. The public communications programme will continue throughout and will remain active after the final products are delivered and cover the final validation workshop.

At present, much of the information that is needed to elaborate strategies and approaches must be gathered through virtual means. The next six months of work must therefore focus on stakeholder mapping and inventory, training and communication needs assessments, gender assessments and initial grievance assessments that will be conducted using semi-structured interviews and focus groups.

The table below summarizes what these assessments are, the main areas they will touch on, and expected outputs. We will integrate these assessments into semi-structured interviews, which will be tailored in language and complexity, as well as time allotted for engagements based on the specific audience, whether Government Agency, NGO, or CBO. At this stage, the team still await information on private landowners to formulate our approach with them. However, the team will be able to engage with local Forest Management Committee using the infrastructure of the Forestry Department. It may be possible to create virtual hubs in the South East, South West, North East, and North West where members of these committees can be met. The team are also aware of a five-year-old initiative to

organise a national committee comprised of representative from these committees and will explore this further with the Forestry Department. In addition to the planned appraisals, the team will seek to understand the experiences of these committees in forest management, the challenges and opportunities and lessons learned, as they are long standing mechanisms that have a great potential to play a meaningful role in REDD+.

The team are in the process of compiling a draft inventory of stakeholders, which will be shared with the Forestry Department in the coming week with a request for project support to arrange virtual sessions so that we may proceed with the appraisal as soon as possible (see Table 2)

**Table 2. Main mechanisms of consultation with their purpose and outputs**

Mechanism	What & Purpose	Outputs
<p><b>Stakeholder Inventory and Analysis</b></p>	<p>UNREDD+ defines stakeholders as those groups that have a stake/interest/right in the forest and those that will be affected either negatively or positively by REDD+ activities. They identify relevant government agencies, formal and informal forest users, private sector entities, civil society organisations, research organisations, resource owners, indigenous peoples and other forest-dependent communities as categories of stakeholders but categorisation is not limited to these categories of persons. In our assessment, the potential financiers of REDD+ projects should be explicitly identified as well as citizens at large for the country whose national patrimony and common future would be affected by REDD+ activities. We also find it useful to categorize “culture producers” as a particular category of stakeholders as they have the potential to greatly influence what other stakeholders know, believe and how they act. Culture producers would include media workers, religious leaders/preachers, artistes, and teachers. Even though ambiguities surround the rights of Maroon Communities, we would apply the principle of caution and ensure that all engagements meet UNFCCC standards for engaging indigenous and culturally distinct communities.</p> <p>The main purpose for identifying stakeholders is to effectively engage those who have a stake in REDD+ projects to a threshold level of participation where they are involved in collective decision making and not merely consulted or informed.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Stakeholder Matrix Showing inventory of stakeholders, their interest, rights, competing stakeholders, influence, and importance to REDD+ success along with an inventory of stakeholders.</li> <li>2. Information gathered from a wide range of actors on critical socio-ecological issues related to REDD+ and perceptions of drivers of forest change, challenges, and opportunities</li> <li>3. Understanding of the policy frameworks and governance structures in place, how consistent they are across the agencies, how they impact on stakeholders and the extent to which they are consistent as whole with respect to REDD+.</li> <li>4. Understanding of stakeholder dynamics and hierarchies that are linked to the broader cultural context and that may pose a challenge to effective REDD+ readiness process with a view to focussing on building the necessary relationships in order to prepare for the process. We will seek to determine who has access, who has control, who is likely to benefit from a REDD+ initiative, and who is likely to lose.</li> </ol>

		<p>5. Provide overarching information to inform the design of the Safeguards Information System.</p>
<p><b>Capacity Needs Assessment</b></p>	<p>A Capacity Needs assessment is a tool for gauging stakeholder capacities against a set of knowledge, skill, and resources that they would require to function at a pre-determined level. This will be the threshold of information and access that each type of stakeholder would need to “participate” and the best means of delivering support to bring them to the point where could participate in REDD+ discussions - with a clear understanding of the issues and process and can take decisions with Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC).</p> <p>The assessment would focus on education levels, socio-economic background, accessibility, unique experience and skills, awareness, and knowledge and understanding of the REDD+ and the Readiness project. It would identify what types of information and training would help this type of stakeholder to effectively come to the table and what would be the best method for delivering training.</p>	<p>1. Understanding of the information, training, and resource needs for different stakeholders to participate effectively in the REDD+ Readiness process.</p> <p>2. Understanding of the educational background, socio-economic factors, logistics, optimal means of delivery and other considerations in designing materials and delivering training on REDD+.</p> <p>3. Contribute information towards the design of the Safeguards Information System.</p>
<p><b>Gender Analysis</b></p>	<p>A gender analysis examines the relationships between men and women, their access to resources, their activities, and the constraints they face relative to each other in each stakeholder groups.</p> <p>Forest resource use is a gendered activity, with specialised roles. Men and women can have shared household interests, but different resource use needs and interest. Gender cannot be isolated from its relationship with race, class, age, culture, geographic location, disability, and/or other status.</p> <p>In Jamaica there is highly inequitable pattern of land ownership where only an estimated 10% of women own land, they often have informal tenure and are farmers and forest users that do not have tenure security. At the same time there is a high incidence of single female-headed household with a disproportionate burden on females to provide for family and socialize children. Even within this context, young men, especially in rural areas, lag being young women in educational achievement and capacity for employment in the formal sector. The gender analysis tool seeks to understand the more nuanced dynamics</p>	<p>1. Understand the different patterns of involvement, behaviour, and activities that women and men have in economic, social, and legal structures related to forest use and REDD+</p> <p>2. Identify the unique needs related to gender what factors influence whether persons from a particular gender and age group are likely to benefit or lose from REDD+, what kinds of actions would need to be taken to ensure equitable involvement in the REDD+ Readiness process and ensure access and equitable benefit sharing.</p> <p>3. Provide information on policy, institutional, behavioural, and material conditions at national, and local levels to guide drafting of the gender strategy and design of the Safeguards Information System.</p>

	<p>around forest use and REDD+ and while a general analysis will be conducted through interviews, it will definitely have to be refined to capture the unique characteristics in geographical areas that offer promise for REDD+ options. This will have to be done via rapid analysis, but further work will likely be built into the Roadmap for establishing a Safeguards Information System.</p> <p>The analysis will look at gender roles, including: The differential perspectives, roles, needs, and strategic interests; The relations between women and men with respect to their access to, and control over resources, benefits and decision-making processes; Social and cultural constraints, opportunities, and entry points for reducing gender inequalities and promoting more equal relations between women and men; The differences among women and men in terms of their social networks and status; The capacity of institutions to program for gender equality; and the potential differential impact of REDD+ program or project interventions on women and men, girls and boys. The assessment will also look at the practical needs of different gender groups and how these may be met by opportunities a REDD+ project could realistically offer.</p>	
<p><b>Grievance Mechanism (GRM)</b></p>	<p>GRMs are organizational systems and resources to receive and address concerns about the impact of policies, programs, and operations on stakeholders. The stakeholder input handled through these systems and procedures may be called “grievances,” “complaints,” “feedback,” or another functionally equivalent term. GRMs are intended to be accessible, collaborative, expeditious, and effective in resolving concerns through dialogue, joint fact-finding, negotiation, and problem solving. (UNFCCC). They should also have a learning component and be accepted as legitimate by stakeholders.</p> <p>The appraisal will look at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grievance mechanisms in operation in Government Agencies responsible for land management to determine strength, weaknesses and lessons learned and how these are perceived by the those who administer the systems versus forest/land users.</li> <li>• Local community systems for resolving grievances and what forest users think would be the hallmark of fair mechanisms.</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Background understanding of existing strengths and weaknesses of GRMs In Jamaica and lessons learned as well as input into what different stakeholders needs and capacities are to equitably engage in such mechanisms.</li> <li>2. Understanding of culturally appropriate forms of GRM and how best to design a simple, accessible, efficient, and effective system.</li> <li>3. Aid with drafting a GRM for testing and refinement.</li> </ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local cultural practices and how these support or clash with formal grievance mechanisms. The lessons this may offer for the design of a GRM.</li> </ul> <p>Once a grievance mechanism for the RECC+ process is drafted, the NRSC, Working groups, and focus groups of different categories of stakeholders will be assembled to test the mechanism and provide feedback and to rate it against UNFCCC guidelines.</p>	
<b>Communication and Public Education</b>	<p>During the semi-structured interviews information and communication needs will be explored with each category of stakeholders.</p> <p>The interviews and focus groups will seek to determine the awareness, attitudes, knowledge, and interest of different stakeholder groups, as well as the public. Awareness of forest issues and connection to the ordinary Jamaican; climate change; REDD+ and its potential role in bringing a watershed, biodiversity and land protection, and adaptation benefits to Jamaica; and carbon emissions trading as a global financial market in the making are among the issues that will be examined. Annex A</p>	1. Information to guide the design the development of a strategy and stakeholder sensitization and public education products.

## 5.4 Geospatial analysis and support (towards a National Forest Monitoring System – NFMS and National Forest Reference Emissions Level – FREL)

### Geospatial data products

Four geospatial data products are envisaged to be produced to inform Jamaica's REDD+ strategy, summarised in Table 3. These products are designed to meet the immediate and future needs of the Forestry Department and NRSC for work on REDD+, and build on existing work by the geospatial data team at the Forestry Department. The map outputs will be developed in order beginning with outputs 1 and 2, with the more research-oriented outputs 3 and 4 to follow.

**Table 3. Summary of the four data products proposed to inform Jamaica's REDD+ strategy**

Product	Method	Data source		Link to ongoing work	Proposed training
		From/via Forestry Department	From elsewhere		
1: Annual land cover maps for 2015 - onwards	Land cover classification, using open access satellite data, implemented on a cloud platform.	Reference data (e.g. existing land cover maps, and ground truth).	Images from Sentinel-1, Sentinel-2, ALOS PALSAR	Supplement to existing decadal land cover maps. Method will be suitable for ongoing production of land cover maps on an annual basis. May provide	Use of Google Earth Engine for land cover classification.

				data for future work on FREL.	
2: Assessment of the drivers of deforestation	Deforestation data combined with small Area Estimation modelling framework. Projections of future scenarios following Ryan et al. (2014).	Reference data of change activities (e.g. from FAO Collect Earth), socio-economic data on forest use (e.g. census, LSMS, DHS, agricultural surveys)	Global Forest Watch data for stratification	Requirement for effective REDD+ strategy, links to FREL	FAO Collect Earth
3: Biomass change and degradation estimates	Modification of McNicol et al. (2018) with data from Sentinel-1.	In situ biomass estimate (i.e. forest plots, transects)	Images from Sentinel-1, ALOS PALSAR	Estimation of C-stocks for GHG and FREL.	Linking Earth Observation with field measurements
4: Drivers of degradation	As 2	As 2	Outputs from 3.	Links to REDD+ strategy and FREL.	As 2.

## 1. Annual land cover maps for 2015 - onwards

Land cover mapping in Jamaica is currently conducted by the Forestry Department using interpretation of high-resolution imagery. This exercise is conducted around one each decade, providing an infrequently updated time series of land cover. For the purposes of REDD+ monitoring more frequently updated maps using coarser resolution data are advantageous. These can be produced rapidly and at low cost and allow the more consistent mapping of changes through time. The team propose using existing high-fidelity land cover information to train a classifier to produce annual maps of land cover. The land cover maps will use a simplified set of land cover classes but will retain consistency with existing maps through a hierarchical land cover classification. Annual maps will be produced using open access images from Sentinel-1 and Sentinel-2, which are available from 2015 -onwards and have strong guarantees of future data provision. Consistency in land cover time series will be maintained through logical constraints preventing unlikely land cover transitions following methods trialled in similar map products from Mapbiomas and ESA CCI land cover<sup>1</sup>. The algorithm will take the form of an automated processing chain, allowing production of updated land cover maps on an annual basis. The output will be a time series of annual maps of land cover at 10-20 m resolution.

## 2. Assessment of the drivers of deforestation

The Forestry Department has experimented with quantification of the drivers of forest loss through labelling of changes identified in the land cover maps for the period 1998 – 2013. This analysis was effective, though differences inherent to the land cover mapping approaches were identified as a limitation.

The team will update the existing analysis through inputs of new data and expanded statistical analyses. Outputs from [1] and Global Forest Watch<sup>2</sup> will provide a more consistent framework against which to survey the drivers of deforestation, such that changes in land cover maps will be better related to changes on the ground. Drivers of change will be assessed by labelling deforestation

1 <https://www.esa-landcover-cci.org/> and <https://mapbiomas.org/>

2 <https://www.globalforestwatch.org/>

events using high resolution data with the FAO's Collect Earth tool<sup>3</sup>. Using a method developed by Ryan et al. (2014)<sup>4</sup>, data collected will be used to model future scenarios of forest change in Jamaica. The result will be estimates of the main activities causing forest change and the associated carbon emissions, and a set of modelled scenarios of future carbon emissions associated with each driver of change.

### 3. Biomass change and degradation estimates

The Forestry Department currently collects data from forest plots on biomass and biomass change on an *ad hoc* basis, and these data are not currently integrated into remote sensing analyses. Future updates to data collection protocols will result in a more consistent dataset for forest inventory and remote sensing, but existing historical data may also have value for mapping biomass and biomass change.

Existing forest inventory data will be analysed by the IIED geospatial team to assess their suitability for producing maps of biomass. Where data are not suitable for local model calibration, an alternative generic model calibration will be tested. Annual biomass maps will be produced using data from Sentinel 1, ALOS PALSAR and ALOS-2 PALSAR-2 (2007 – 2010 and 2015 – 2018). These data will be used to quantify the carbon stocks in the main forest types, their spatial variation and to identify areas where stocks are changing through time. These temporal changes can be an indicator of degradation, if carbon stocks are going down, or regrowth if stocks are increasing. The maps will be used to identify the main hotspots of biomass change.

The ability to map biomass with these methods depends on the type and quantity of ground data available (i.e. plot data with forest inventory data sufficient to make in situ estimates of carbon stocks). These in situ data are used to calibrate and validate the biomass maps, and so it will be necessary to first assess the available data to decide on the way forward here.

### 4. Assessment of the drivers of degradation

Deliverable [2] will be repeated for degradation, using the outputs of [3] to identify the locations of degradation. It is unclear at this stage as to whether it will be possible to identify the activities that cause degradation using high resolution imagery and Collect Earth (as proposed for 2). The method also relies on an accurate biomass change map, which as noted above, depends on in situ data. As such the outputs under this heading should be considered more experimental than the other 3 outputs discussed above.

### Supporting a National Forest Inventory for Jamaica

Jamaica is in the process of updating its forest inventory protocol, based on methods developed by USFS. National Forest Inventory (NFI) data are an important source of data for REDD+ monitoring, so the IIED geospatial team will support Jamaica in ensuring these data will also be fit for the purposes of REDD+. This will begin with provision of feedback on the new proposed monitoring approach, including its suitability for future REDD+ applications and their utility. This includes looking at the options for the timing and sequencing of the plot data collection, so that it can best support the REDD+ process.

### Supporting a Forest Reference Emissions Level (FREL)

The IIED team will provide training to the Forest Department on methods applicable for production of a Forest Reference Emissions Level (FREL) suitable for submission to UNFCCC. This will include relevant statistical concepts, open source software, and review of other FREL submissions by similar countries. By the end of the engagement, the Forestry Department should be in the position of having the knowledge and capability of constructing a FREL for Jamaica.

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3 <http://www.openforis.org/tools/collect-earth.html>

4 Ryan, Casey M., Nicholas J. Berry, and Neha Joshi. "Quantifying the causes of deforestation and degradation and creating transparent REDD+ baselines: A method and case study from central Mozambique." *Applied Geography* 53 (2014): 45-54.

**Supporting a National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)**

Methods developed for the REDD+ strategy are envisaged to be suitable for future use as part of a Jamaican National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS). To ensure the ability for future forest monitoring, all methods will be built on free and open access data and implemented using cloud processing. The IIED team will provide training in application of data as part of an NFMS, including review of other examples and identification of key areas for future development of an operational NFMS.

**Training for the National REDD+ Steering Committee**

Geospatial data analysis is one of multiple strands of REDD+ work, and not all those involved in the REDD+ process need to be an expert. Yet as geospatial data is one of the central sources of data to inform REDD+ activities, those interpreting these data need to understand the opportunities and afforded by geospatial data analysis and its limitations. Along with the Forestry Department, the IIED team will report process on geospatial data to the NRSC and provide training to assist in the translation of insights from geospatial data into the REDD+ strategy.

## 6. Annexes

### Annex 1. Minutes of the inception meeting

# Inception Meeting Minutes

The Support for REDD+ Readiness Preparation in Jamaica Project

Date: July 16, 2020

Time: 11:00am

Virtual Meeting facilitated through Microsoft Teams

#### Participants

- Una-May Gordon (Principal Director, Climate Change Division)  
unamay.gordon@megjc.gov.jm
- Ms. Rainee Oliphant (The Acting CEO & Conservator of Forests) roliphant@forestry.gov.jm
- Donna Lowe (Senior Director, Forest Science and Technology and Services)  
dlowe@forestry.gov.jm
- Dorothy Hansel (Principal Director, Corporate Services) dhansel@forestry.gov.jm
- Sandy-Lue Cole (Senior Legal Officer) scole@forestry.gov.jm
- Katherine Blackman (Climate Finance Advisor, The Climate Change Division)  
katherine.blackman@megjc.gov.jm
- Taneque Heslop (Project Coordinator, the Climate Change Division – GCP programme manager) taneque.heslop@megjc.gov.jm
- Kereene Robinson (Administrator, The Climate Change Division)  
Kereene.robinson@megjc.gov.jm
- Marlon Walcott (Project Coordinator, The Forestry Department) forestry.redd@gmail.com
- Duncan Macqueen (Project Team Leader, International Institute for Environment and Development) duncan.macqueen@iied.org

#### Meeting overview

Introduction were made between the Climate Change Division, IIED and the Forest Department. The agenda was introduced.

#### Project inception

Marlon Walcott introduced the project – a GCF grant to CCD in support of Forestry Department work on REDD+. There are 23 deliverables for the IIED consultancy team with significant capacity building for the Forestry Department to carry out emissions work and situate Jamaica within the GCF REDD+ readiness. Several stakeholders will be engaged to develop a REDD+ roadmap and strategy. Project goals agreed – but this meeting needs to discuss challenges arising from COVID-19 – and how this might affect implementation.

Duncan Macqueen from IIED responded with a statement of the preparedness of the team and the way in which this REDD+ strategy as a response to climate change has big overlaps with responses to COVID-19 (where the strength of local organisations is vital across both).

## Work-plan Update

Original workplan presented in the background terms of reference document with an attempt to complete most activities in less than 24 months but within an overall time envelope of 24 months in case of slippage. In the work planning schedule, the grey task bars relate to activities and the red bars relate to deliverables. Month 1 relates to July 2020 and Month 2 is August 2020. In the light of COVID-19 there needs to be some careful thinking about scheduling.

Marlon described how in the terms of reference, many of the early activities (after the inception deliverables 1-3) were 'consultations' working with stakeholders to develop thinking about the strategy and grievance mechanisms etc. (deliverables 4-10). Given COVID-19 it is not advisable in terms of Jamaican Government responsibilities to undertake face to face consultations. But the project has some stand-alone activities that could be started remotely and then benefit from consultation later. The problem is that the scheduling if altered too much would require new authorisation from the Government of Jamaica. So, we need to find creative ways of keeping on track. Marlon suggested that the first three deliverables are stand alone. The first consultations come in deliverables 5-10 including with gender inputs with awareness raising sessions. But there are subsequent stage 2 activities that can happen more remotely. Deliverables 1-4 seem to be feasible, with then focus on deliverables 11, 12, 15 and 16 to get that part under way before moving back to Deliverables 5-10.

One issue raised was the deliverables are linked to payment tranches – and this is not just to ensure cash flow to IIED (not an issues) but also to ensure timely spend of the core GCF grant (more of a problem). No problem with deliverables 1-4. So, we could treat 5-10 in terms of design and with efforts to achieve most remotely and accept 'design' as adequate for payment but with fulfilment only possible when rules on social distancing allow consultation. Without that we could weight each deliverable as a percentage – and so allow payment based on a percentage delivery. An amendment to the contract is best avoided. **ACTION POINT Sandy-Lue Cole** to check on the viability of that strategy. Now it seems that it would be necessary to agree that delivery of something substantive for each deliverable is required to trigger payment. IIED to check possibilities after new orders on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

IIED response was that we might need to start and see how we go as the COVID-19 situation develops. An issue is that an early mission is much needed to get to know the relevant people, discuss in a detailed way the schedule and requirements. Some of this can be done remotely. With Nicole based in Jamaica – it might be possible to do some of the stakeholder consultations – but bring Simone in remotely. As the situation evolves, we can see whether this strategy works or not. IIED does not need to worry about payment schedule – as IIED can advance funds. But for the CCD the national processes in the fiscal regime of the government – to be allocated the expenditure needs to happen. So, we do need to make sure we are hitting the deliverables – i.e. in the first two months completing an inception report and a revised workplan. The CCD will be prepared to look leniently 'in good faith' on partly cooked deliverables if COVID-19 makes consultations necessarily deferred to get the deliverable into final shape.

## Project Team

Una-May Gordon clarified that the executing agency is the CCD, but the project is to be carried out with the Forestry Department. So IIED will be reporting to CCD but working with FD (led by Dona Lowe from the office of the CEO headed by Ms. Rainee Oliphant)

Duncan Macqueen introduced the team and where they were based. Duncan, Casey, and Sam plus Geraldine in Scotland (Edinburgh) – Simone Mangal (in Ottawa, Canada) and Nicole West-Hayles (in Jamaica). UK have currently no travel restrictions.

Current relationships between team and Jamaica is responsive and constructive – so we think the operating relationships through the contact point of Marlon Walcott will go well.

Dorothy Hansel from CCD requested to IIED (having just submitted NDC with forest and land use sector in it) that IIED will keep abreast of the Biennial Update Report (BUR) as the two are closely related. In the submission of the next BUR we need to attach the REDD+ as a technical annex to it in some way.

IIED requested a documentary repository – and so would welcome the latest versions of all documents – a full list to be sent to Marlon so that he can feed them to us.

For the duration IIED will have Marlon as the main contact person and as this develops, certain members of the team will develop specific specialist contacts to follow up with. Good protocol would be to ensure that Duncan and Marlon are copied in.

Intention is to stick with the schedule even if we must do some of this remotely. A brief overview of the planned activities was given by IIED. Draft sub-contracts have gone to the team members, but we cannot sign those documents until we are tax-compliant (see matters relating to tax below).

#### **Discussion Issues:**

Not much of an identified space in the Forestry Department for the consultancy team due to safe working requirements in the Forest Department. But Jamaica is declared a safe corridor with the UK. But quarantine might apply if we were to get positive tests – and perhaps the need to get pretested before we travel. **ACTION POINT – Marlon** to update IIED team on the new orders that will come out on the 25<sup>th</sup> July

#### **Potential Contract Issues**

Contract signed on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2020 and fully executed by the PS on the 25<sup>th</sup> June BUT commencement date in contract is 1st June 2020. This appears to be a typo so will be formally amended to by a start date of 1 July on page 17 under special conditions in the contract of the Inception meeting toolkit. The end date is the end of June 2022. **ACTION POINT – CCD** to change the original copy to a start date of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020.

#### **Matters relating to tax**

Marlon Walcott has been working with Brian Barban of IIED on Tax Compliance Certificate (TCC) and Tax Registration Number (TRN). Notarised documents have been delayed as this is an unusual request. The documents will be notarised and forward to Jamaica as soon as possible. Nicole West-Hayles will be the signatory officer – acting on IIEDs behalf to make sure we are tax compliant. We should have no problems after these hurdles have been cleared in mid-August. TCC and TRN assigns a payee to whom moneys can be paid. **ACTION POINT – IIED** to notarise and send documents

#### **Adjournment**

Una-May Gordon concluded that Project is now initiated, and CCD is now disposed to receive and pay for deliverables. And the heavy lifting now begins, and we look forward to making sure that this project meets its expectations.

## Annex 2. Minutes of the launching meeting with FD

# Jamaica REDD+ Launching Meeting with the Forestry Department

## Support for REDD+ Readiness Preparation in Jamaica

Date: 13 August 2020

Virtual Meeting facilitated through Microsoft Teams

### Participants

Donna Lowe	-	Senior Director, FSTS, Forestry Department
Marlon Walcott	-	Project Coordinator
Duncan Macqueen	-	IIED Team Leader
Simone Mangal-Joly	-	Social safeguard & gender specialist
Nicole West-Hayles	-	REDD+ communication specialist
Casey Ryan	-	Technical lead biophysical expert
Sam Bowyers	-	Geospatial support specialist

### Background rationale to Jamaica REDD+

The IIED team introduced themselves and Duncan asked what the Jamaica Forestry Department's understanding of REDD and its history. What do they hope to get out of this project? And why has REDD+ been prioritised in a country where forest cover is increasing?

- In 2014-15, the Forestry department has always been represented in climate change discussions. The earlier REDD predecessor agreements removed small island states from discussions. But the reworked REDD+ agenda added them back in. The government of Jamaica has not yet looked at the issues involved in this – but with small government departmental budgets they do wish to capitalise on the ecosystem functions of the forest. There are few public lands left to reforest, so the question is what to do now? The department would like to be in an international arena where they can establish partnerships and support and so access finance to utilise forest services in a sustainable way.
- There is a new national forest management and conservation plan (NFMCP) that runs until 2026 with clearly defined indicators and objectives. The intention of the REDD+ strategy is to assimilate the same vision and same set of objectives, but to provide a means of resourcing them through the UN REDD system. The desire is that, by 2023, the Forestry Department will be able to affect the ambitions in the plan. The first plan struggled due to a lack of capacity and funding. The new plan is funded to 2023 under EU Budget support. Beyond this date, the department would like to be in a state of REDD+ readiness to access results-based payments for climate change mitigation by then.

### Other Departmental ambitions/projects

The IIED team was aware of the revision of the Forest Act and Duncan wondered what other current projects and priorities were in play.

- The government is currently in the process of amending the Forests Act of 1996. The act is currently under Judicial review. By 2023, the aim is to have amended forest legislation that will serve as a legislative underpinning.
- The department is also looking at addressing forest regulations. The agency is looking to shift its Modus Operandi to a more forest utilisation and recreation focused component. There is currently a business development model again supported by the EU Technical Assistance programme. It is expected that the agency would be able to use this to start to develop goods and services that can bring income for the government. These goods and services would cover the whole forest sector, including local forest management communities, furniture, non-forest wood, timber, recreation & Ecotourism, and carbon trading.
- Also, a big component is that Jamaica has revised its NDCs under the Paris Agreement. The first report covered only the energy sector but going forward forestry will be included. Climate change legislation will also be producing another, separate, action plan. The REDD component will also fit into this.
- It was agreed that these documents would be made available to the team.
- **Marlon** to provide the EU Business development programme documents and revised NDC documents.
- Biennial reporting processes – these were set up in 2014-15 to attract climate finance into Jamaica, they cover all sector plans. The Forestry plan is currently the only plan with everything integrated into it.
- CCD is also the NDA for the Green climate fund.
- Several GCF proposals and projects have been won by the Ministry for Economic Growth. One proposal was also prepared by the NGO CANARI and the department is currently looking at a 5 Caribbean Islands combined approach.
- **Marlon** to forward this document.
- There was also a CCCCC project on Coastal community area management, covering drylands stone forest and some coastal mangroves for protection.
- The forestry department offered to assemble data to share collect information about what was done on these projects.
- There was also a land cover assessment performed in 2013. The assessment used the most refined satellite data available of the island of Jamaica. The department is in the process of acquiring newer images, but these are due next year.
- In the 1990s, the main drivers of deforestation were felt to be mining and large-scale quarrying. In 2013, infrastructure development became the major driver, particularly on abandoned, former agricultural land. The department has an internal report on this.
- **Marlon** to send the 2013 Assessment Document.
- **Duncan** to find the 1998 management plan by googling National Forest conservation plan 1998.
- **Donna/Marlon** to also provide a PowerPoint on land use and forest inventory.
- The forestry Department is also looking at a joint project with the US Forest Service for new sampling. The entire island has been surveyed, but this used the methodology for the Mangrove and stock assessment because of a need to meet EU targets. It is hoped this new forest programme will kick-off in FY21-22.
- It was noted that this list of projects is not exhaustive of all the projects run by the Forestry department. Projects pay for the majority of the Department's budget.
- Other programmes in the pipeline:
  1. A GEF 6 project (The forestry department is not leading this but is one of the implementing partners). The project is meant to implement national resource evaluation on a large estate.
  2. A programme on Carbon Stock assessments.
  3. A GEF 7 project with a strong Mangrove component.
  4. There is also a government project called "3 million trees in 3 years". The department is currently sourcing the seeds, however a lot of funding and energies for the project have been postponed due to COVID-19.

## Drivers of REDD

Simone flagged that her reading of the national forest policy was that the Government clearly wanted to implement REDD+, but she was not comfortable with conclusions about REDD+ merely being used to implement the NFMCP. In tackling drivers of REDD, many activities are outside forestry. This is consistent with what is in the Jamaican forest approach.

- Donna agreed. The Forestry department has had a large social component for the past 10-15 years. One goal is safeguarding economic and social drivers for all stakeholders. All this sort of work has been done. The department also has two sociologists (one at each end of the island) to cover social issues, as well as client services to deal with social aspects of communities. There is also a structure within the organisation that seeks to address social issues of the harder side of success of forestry.

## Specific REDD+ Activities

The IIED team asked about specific REDD+ activities carried out to date. Two specific REDD+ initiatives have been undertaken.

- A national REDD steering committee has been convened which is composed of members from across the board, including academia, landowners, government etc.
- Members had been identified for 4 separate working groups. WG1 is Environment, safeguards, and gender, WG2 is participation and consultation, WG3 is a REDD+ Methodology looking at greenhouse gas inventory, WG4 is policy regulation and legal matters.
- All steering committee members and stakeholders met in around August 2019 for a basic launch.
- It was noted that REDD+ requires a very transparent process for the steering committee. Certain standards of equity and fairness must be met. Equity is noted as being a concern that needs to be taken into consideration to ensure that all different stakeholder groups are adequately represented. The Department can share a TOR / guideline covering the process of selecting steering committee members which the team can review.
- **Marlon** to share the TOR/guidelines for the committee.
- The issue was raised of how to suggest ways of reconstituting the steering committee to reflect emerging findings about the main stakeholder groups involved in deforestation processes and plans to address them.
- It was felt that it was important to also make the committee understand that their membership may need to be reworked. However, since their work has not started, it should be easy to rework things that have been decided previously.

## Working Group engagement

It was agreed that the initial next steps are for the team to (i) procure the necessary background documents, (ii) meet with the steering committee (iii) develop their initial ideas present them to the working groups. It might also be useful to feed draft ideas to the working groups at an early stage to allow working in tandem. However, the groups have not officially met yet so this might be difficult without first putting the necessary context in place. Ideally, the team could have an initial session with the groups to clearly explain how things will work and THEN they can begin passing ideas to them.

## Key Technical staff

Donna Lowe introduced some of the key Forestry Department staff with whom the IIED team could interact.

- Donna Lowe and her second Alecia Edwards are the key people to contact in relation to: surveying management, planning, mapping, REDD.
- Alecia Edwards is the key person to talk to for carbon stock research (for Casey).
- For Simone's work, she should talk to Rainee Oliphant for the time being who is the acting CEO, for agency level (Rainee can also cover political/legislative matters). For client services, local forest management and activities across the island, she should contact Jerome Smith. For legal and political/legislative matters, Sandy-Lou Cole.
- For Nicole's work in comms and outreach, she should talk to Francine Black Richards.

- The Gender Focal point is Novelette Anderson.
- All Forestry department staff have an email address consisting of their first name initial and surname, @forestry.com.
- Marlon to also send a staff organogram to make the process easier.
- For contacting the climate division, it is less easy to suggest who to contact. There are parallel groups that Forestry does not necessarily interface with.
- The key climate finance person is Katherine Blackman.

### Key Stakeholders

It was suggested that it would be extremely useful to understand, from a stakeholder perspective, who the most powerful players are?

- Marlon provided a list of key stakeholders that was included in the TOR for the project to support this.
- The main stakeholders, in the context of the steering committee, are:
  1. The Forestry Department
  2. National planning agency
  3. RADA
  4. University of the West Indies
  5. Academia
  6. Carbon Coastal Management
  7. Roger Turner (as a primary representative of the private forest sector)
  8. UNDP.
- All of these were identified to be represented on the steering committee.
- The NFMCP also contains a list of pretty much all stakeholders, and REDD is a subset of this. These stakeholders include:
  1. Jamaica national housing trust
  2. The Ministry of Transport, mining (and other related mining groups)
  3. Office of disaster planning and emergency management
  4. The Meteorological office
  5. Bureau of Standards
  6. Jamaica Fire Brigade (both for fighting forest fires and community engagement on forest fires)
  7. MICAF (the forestry department was part of this ministry until 2012)
  8. Ministry of education
  9. Tourism product development company
  10. National Solid waste management authority
  11. Urban development corporation (They own some forest land and are represented on the working groups)
  12. National Spatial data management division
  13. Jamaica Scientific research council
  14. Academia
  15. Jamaica constabulary force
  16. Jamaica Defence Force
  17. Jamaica Chamber of Commerce
  18. Forestry Department
  19. National Land agency
  20. National Environmental Protection Agency
  21. Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation – Climate change division – Environmental risk
  22. Jamaica Bauxite institute (Mining takes precedence over forests)
  23. Institute of Jamaica
  24. Rural Agriculture Development Agency
  25. Water resources authority
  26. Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica (Roger Turner as the representative of private groups)
  27. Social Development Commission
  28. Planning Institute of Jamaica
  29. LFMC
  30. Private Forest Landowners

31. Bureau of Women's Affairs
  32. NGOs (C-CAM, EFJ, JCDT, etc. on a rotational basis.
  33. Jamaica Coffee Board
  34. Jamaica Cocoa Board
  35. Master Builders Society
  36. Jamaica Developers Association
- There is no national farmers union, but there are some local community groups. Most farms are small or Medium size.
  - Managing social interactions will therefore be important. The team has already met to discuss stakeholders etc.
  - **Marlon** to provide a listing from the climate change division about their broader stakeholders.

### Meeting with Steering Committee

The IIED team suggested proposing an agenda for the planned meeting with the steering committee on 20<sup>th</sup> August and getting feedback from the Forestry Department. The team has also developed a very draft outline of what a REDD+ strategy could look like. Presenting something on this to the steering committee might be beneficial as it could help capture things that might have been missed and that the strategy matches the expectations set for it.

- The TOR to be provided by Marlon will help facilitate this.
- It was raised that every meeting with the steering committee will count as stakeholder engagement and so will have to be carefully managed. Therefore, it was suggested that meetings with the committee should always be checked by the Forestry Department.
- It was noted that it is unusual for a steering committee to be convened before any work has been done. The induction training will therefore have to be conducted later.
- It was suggested that the meeting will be split into 2 parts covering 3 hours total.
- **Simone and Marlon** to discuss drafting an invite to the steering committee for why they are meeting.

### Travel options

It was hoped that at least some members of the team could travel for a local meeting in Jamaica before the end of September.

- Although team members could go, there is a requirement to take a COVID-19 test once they arrive. They will also require a certificate showing that they have tested negative for the virus within 7 days of their departure.
- Sam and Duncan might be able to get this test done. There would then be a decision about whether they would be able and happy to go.
- The department would also need to consider how to accommodate those who do travel. A section of office would likely require clearing to make space.
- However, it was raised that a lot could be done remotely outside of the offices. For example, stakeholder meetings could be conducted remotely from a hotel in Jamaica.
- **Duncan and Marlon** to discuss this in further detail.

### Final Workplan

There was some confusion about when the final workplan was due with the IIED team aiming for the end of August (Month 2). It was unclear whether it was due 10 days after contract signature, or with the inception report.

- Marlon requested some updates as soon as possible to assist him in planning his own work on the project.
- The workplan is also important since the project essentially has a double reporting structure. Partly in the Forestry Department and partly in the climate change division. Both have different concerns and timelines. The climate change division are also more concerned with timeline issues. Marlon needs to be able to provide quarterly updates about the project. The next update is due in September.
- It was agreed that it would be possible to provide him informal updates on what the team was planning/working on.
- **Duncan and Marlon** to set up a regular weekly meeting to discuss issues.

### Roundup and next steps

Simone asked if it would be possible to draft a generic letter that would provide official cover from the Forestry Department for the team to begin to reach out to stakeholders. A draft of this could be provided by the team if necessary.

- Marlon suggested that he could draft this letter himself and **Duncan** offered to help with a first draft
- Marlon to also provide the final TOR that he tried to send via Teams for the meeting.
- **Marlon** to provide: Organogram, documents discussed, concerns around EU business model, Cover assessment model, Climate finance advisor information and a list of private forest landowners.
- The main priority is the letter of introduction so that the team can begin contacting stakeholders.
- **Duncan** to provide Marlon the final inception meeting minutes.

Annex 3. Minutes of National REDD+ Steering Committee 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting

## Jamaica REDD+ National Steering Committee (NRSC) 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting

### Induction Meeting and Training Module 1: Roles and Responsibilities of REDD+ Steering Committee

Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> August 2020

10:00-13:00 hrs

#### OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the meeting were:

- To introduce the International Institute of Environment and Development team executing the Global Climate Fund supported Jamaica REDD+ preparedness process.
- To sensitize the Steering Committee on the process and outputs over the next 18 months.
- To train the Steering Committee on stakeholder and social safeguards and their Role and Responsibilities in this process.
- To conduct a participatory needs assessment of the Steering Committee preparedness and needs to fulfil its responsibilities.

#### PARTICIPANTS

Acting Chair:

Ms. Rainee Oliphant - Acting CEO, Forestry Department

Present:

Ms Donna Lowe	-	Forestry Department
Mr Vincent Sweeney	-	The United Nations Environment Programme
Mr Ajani Alleyne	-	Research Officer, CCD
Ms Samantha Grant	-	Representative, National Environment and Planning Agency
Ms Ingrid Parchment Foundation (C-CAM)	-	Executive Director, Caribbean Coastal Area Management
Ms Abby – Gale Clarke	-	The Bureau of Gender Affairs
MS Sandy-Lue Cole	-	Forestry Department
Mr Marlon Walcott	-	Project Coordinator
Mr Duncan Macqueen	-	IIED – Team Leader and forest governance expert
Ms. Simone Mangal-Joly	-	Social safeguard and gender specialist
Nicole West-Hayles	-	REDD+ communication specialist
Dr Casey Ryan	-	Uni. Edinburgh – Technical lead biophysical expert
Dr Sam Bowyers	-	Uni. Edinburgh – Geospatial support specialist

Apologies:

Ms Katherine Blackman	-	Climate Finance Advisor, CCD Chairperson
Mr Locksley Waites	-	Representative, Rural Agricultural Development Authority
Ms Kamoy Beckford	-	Representative, Social Development Commission
Mr Roger Turner	-	Owner, Tulloch Estates Limited
Ms. Una-May Gordon	-	Principal Director, Climate Change Division

#### PRESENTATIONS

10: 00-10:10 hrs – **Opening comments and introduction of the REDD+ GCF Project – Marlon Walcott (Project Coordinator)**

- Forest department and climate change department have taken critical steps which includes forest policy reforms that are linked towards mitigating and adapting to climate change
- Green Climate Fund (GCF) application was approved – Jamaica has taken a step to engage the REDD+ process – and an IIED-led project will help implement several phases of work to support Jamaica REDD+ readiness
- The aim of this meeting is detailed on the invite and is about the National REDD+ Steering Committee (NRSC) being introduced to IIED
- The team will explain a clear engagement process in dealing with the deliverables of the project. The intent is to ensure that project and process of 2 years results in a strong forestry sector (contributing to climate change action).
- Introductions from different members of steering committee

10:10-10:40 hrs **What is REDD+ and what to expect in Jamaica REDD+ preparedness process – Duncan MacQueen**

- The IIED team were introduced – and thanks expressed for the opportunity to be service providers to Jamaica's REDD+ readiness preparation process
- The carbon cycle shows that, despite human emissions being relatively small at the planetary scale the 4GtC annual increase leading to an atmospheric concentration of 414 ppm CO<sub>2</sub> is having major climate change impacts
- While land use change in agriculture and forestry makes up a small portion of emissions (putting CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere), alongside the oceans, forests form a vital part of the land sink (taking CO<sub>2</sub> out of the atmosphere).
- Forests play a vital role not only in helping mitigate climate change by taking CO<sub>2</sub> out of the atmosphere (the subject of REDD+) but also in helping rural communities to adapt to climate change through diversifying income generating opportunities. In Jamaica, the intention is that mitigation and adaptation will be woven together into sectoral strategic action plans such as the NFCMS
- The aim of a REDD+ strategy is to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation against a projected reference level of emissions for that country
- There are five main ways in which this can be done – (i) maintaining the high carbon concentrations in natural forests, (ii) making sure that the carbon concentration in production forest, despite periodic cutting, is maintained in equilibrium through sustainable forest management, (iii) reducing degradation (i.e. cutting for yam sticks) (iv) reducing deforestation – the conversion of forest to other land use like agriculture or mines and (v) restoring trees on farm or in degraded land to enhance carbon stocks.
- As the idea of a mechanism for REDD+ evolved, people became concerned not only that REDD+ reduced carbon emissions, but also that it did so permanently, not displacing emissions elsewhere, and without dispossessing local people, or taking decisions without their participation, and without replacing biodiverse forests with monocultures, in other words through good integrated governance. Because of concerns about these things seven 'safeguards' have to be put in place.
- A brief history of the international REDD+ process involves:
  - 1992 – UNFCCC convention commits parties to calculate carbon – growing recognition that deforestation = 10-20% of emissions
  - 2001 – COP7 Avoided deforestation too complex for CDM...just new forests
  - 2005 – Consultations about RED including 2006 Stern report
  - 2007 – Bali Action Plan approves RED(D) and NICFI motivates
  - 2008 – UNREDD and World Bank FCPF set up
  - 2009 – COP 15 Copenhagen endorses REDD+ (five central outcomes)
  - 2010 – COP 16 Cancun inaugurates REDD+ partnership and safeguards, and need for national monitoring systems
  - 2013 – COP 19 Warsaw framework for REDD+ Readiness outlines four pillars that must be in place to access finance
  - 2016 – COP 21 Paris Agreement explicit on forests with GCF to fund REDD+ readiness, implementation, and results-based payments
- Financially, the aim is for compliance markets to fund results-based REDD+ achievements – gradually replacing ODA with market-based funding. At the national level REDD+ funding

- mechanisms need to be discussed alongside policies in support of REDD+. Articulation with the parish level in terms both of funding and policies will also be a priority
- REDD+ finance will be contingent on countries developing the four pillars of the Warsaw Framework which include a National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) and National Forest Reference Emissions Level (FREL), a safeguards information system (SIS) and a National REDD+ strategy.
- In Jamaica, the history of REDD+ has involved the following steps
  - 2001 – NFMCP land use cover change assessment – funded by CIDA (0.1% loss between 1989-1999)
  - 2009 – Vision 2030 – Goal 4 – a healthy natural environment
  - 2015 – Climate Change Policy Framework – adaptation woven into sectoral strategies and action plans – Jamaica joins UNREDD – Jamaica’s land use cover assessment (10% increase 1998-2013 but due to better remote sensing and increase in secondary forest?)
  - 2017 – Forest Policy for Jamaica and NFMCP 2016-2026 commit to ‘no net loss’ of forests – GCF 1<sup>st</sup> readiness grant – Paris agreement, NDC
  - 2018 – GCF 2<sup>nd</sup> readiness grant – REDD+ strategy development. Drivers of deforestation report prepared – subsistence farming is main driver?
  - 2019 – Call for proposals to develop REDD+ strategy
- A range of preparatory work to establish forest cover and start looking at the drivers of deforestation and degradation has been completed.
- The IIED team will endeavor to overcome COVID constraints to support Jamaica FD to develop a National REDD+ strategy as detailed below

## 2020-2022 support for REDD+ readiness

DELIVERABLES	Months <sup>2</sup>																									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
	J	O	A	S	O	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J
<b>PHASE 1 INCEPTION AND SITUATION ANALYSIS</b>																										
Inception meeting, final inception report, final work programme																										
<b>PHASE 2 DEVELOPMENT OF REDD+ ROADMAP AND IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK, ANALYSES AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT</b>																										
Stakeholder mapping and inventory, REDD+ communication strategy, grievance redress mechanism, assessment of land use change drivers (1 <sup>st</sup> ), gap analysis of policies, gender assessment report, and gender strategy																										
Partial REDD+ implementation framework (National FREL), training on GHG inventory																										
Partial REDD+ implementation framework (National FREL), technical support on ground based inventory, practical training of FD and NRSC																										
REDD+ roadmap and annotated ToC for REDD+ strategy, Completed NRSC induction training, report of training and sensitization of stakeholders, stakeholder groups effectively organized to engage REDD+																										
Report on REDD+ strategy options (for discussion)																										
<b>PHASE 3 ASSESSMENT OF REDD+ OPTIONS AND DEVELOPMENT OF REDD+ STRATEGY AND CONCEPT NOTES</b>																										
Final REDD+ implementation framework (National FREL), Social and environmental safeguards and SIS, Environmental and social management framework, final draft of REDD+ strategy, two concepts to GCF																										

- A rough guide to what a REDD+ strategy might look like would be:
  - Introduction to REDD+ (global, national, process summary)
  - Situation analysis (socio-economic, forest cover, policies)
  - Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation (direct, underlying, winners and losers, policy responses)
  - The strategy (vision, goal, principles, objectives, implementation logic for each option)
  - Implementation (roles and responsibilities, institutional, financing)
  - Monitoring progress (Social Environmental Management Framework – SIS and grievance, NFREL, NFMS)
  - Next steps (GCF proposals)

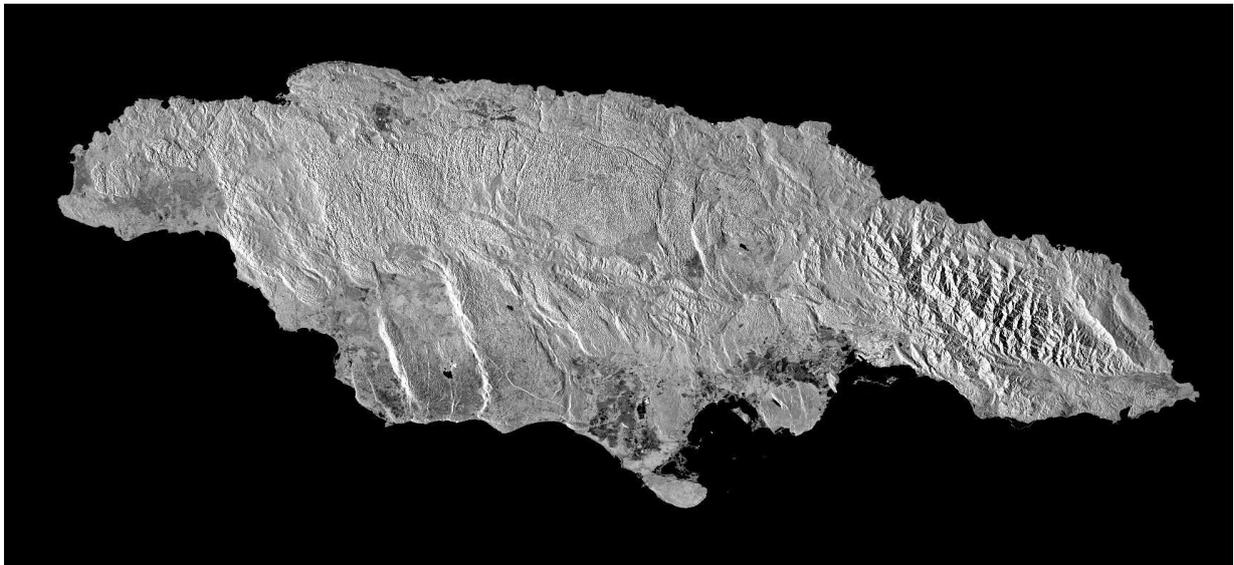
10:40-11:00 hrs **Geospatial Study of Drivers of Deforestation: What to expect – Sam Bowers**

- Why remote sensing?
  - Cannot measure enough plots!

- 2. Cannot access all areas
- 3. Plot data may not be fully representative
- 4. Consistency, frequency, repeatability
- Remote sensing is changing
  - 1. Open access data
  - 2. New satellites
  - 3. Guarantees of future provision
  - 4. Cloud processing
- There has been an increasing availability of high-resolution data until now when we can access 10m resolution data every 5 days through Sentinel-2 and there are guarantees of future provision. The quality is high – and using multiple images can reduce cloud cover problems (see below)



- Sentinel 1: synthetic aperture radar can also be used and is very good for detecting degradation as well as deforestation (see below)



- It is possible not only to look at forest cover but at change over time such as the deforestation shown in red that can be interpreted
- For Jamaica's REDD+ strategy the team will help the FD to look at:
  - 1. Land cover and change
  - 2. Carbon stock measurement
  - 3. Deforestation and degradation

4. Quantifying the drivers of forest change
- The team will also develop a training plan to help the FD with:
    1. Use of cloud processing platforms
    2. Quantification of carbon stocks
    3. Change detection
    4. Modelling future scenarios of change

## Questions

One of Sam Bowers slides showed higher quality resolution data (less cloud cover issues) is this something we will we have access to free? If yes, will have positive impacts on the budget?

We do not have access to free data with high quality resolution. We do have access to 10metre dataset – frequent images updated every 5 days; higher quality dataset may not be as frequent (and not necessarily better) something to be considered.

In Duncan Macqueen's presentation, among the deliverables – development of a national REDD+ fund, this may be a bit of a challenge to introduce and manage locally, do you have any experience of funds that have worked in developing countries or specifically the Caribbean?

The idea of a fund is a generic idea often presented in UN REDD+ pictures of how finance might flow from international to national to local levels. We can consider options for how to put in place a fund – good examples internationally of funds that are being used for forestry (e.g. Bolsa Floresta in Brazil). We can talk through the specifics of designing a fund but may not be the way to go – will look at strategy for deliverables and then how to finance – will think through how this will best work going forward. One failing of REDD+ currently is that very little money has yet reached local level – money spent on consultancy, designing and paper documents – so how can we change what people do in practise and fund this?

Deforestation is easier to quantify – but harder to empirically assess degradation. We need to discuss how this might be done.

Sam Bower and Casey Ryan have been successfully using radar data to show detailed patterns of degradation which cannot be picked up by other types of techniques (and if this data is free, even more positive for the project).

### 11.00-12.00 Hrs **Jamaica REDD+ Strategy Preparation – Simone Mangal-Joly**

- Ms Mangal Joly introduced several points:
  1. Evolution of REDD+ - why safeguards
  2. Elements of Safeguards
  3. Safeguard Mechanisms
  4. Centrality of Stakeholder Engagement in REDD+
- Social and environmental safeguards to protect or avoid risks (no harm to land, biodiversity, people) and at the same time promote benefits
- Need to engage stakeholders to ensure such safeguards are upheld (central)
- Forest interventions involve many actors (different levels: international, national & local)
- 3 characteristics of REDD+ Evolution
  1. Evolved to include broader social and environmental goods
  2. Rights and protections of vulnerable peoples
  3. Results based payments
- REDD became REDD+ which started integrating biodiversity and social/environmental aspects
- Funding? A lot of private sector interest (made commitments to become carbon neutral and social & environmental benefits)
- Important for the steering committee to think broadly, globally and into the future for why the safeguards need to be there – global financial market which hopefully is about to take off and these things need to be in place to be able to access \$\$\$
- If your policies clash may cause issues for REDD+ funding (e.g. reforestation and indigenous peoples rights to the forest)
- Tend to privilege school/university (scientific/technical) knowledge over traditional knowledge of the land – need to value all forms of knowledge
- Risks of reversal (if a new government comes in) – cannot assume you will fully get paid, need to include buffers

- Emissions displacement – need consistency and jurisdictional payments (so pay countries as opposed to entities within countries)
- Need a system to track the socio-economic, biophysical and process outcomes – tracking socio-economic data – what are the elements of this (e.g. geospatial information, will need to decide a framework and then populate this framework)
- 4 pillars of REDD+: MRVs, FREL and SIS – safeguarding techniques to help inform national strategy
- Difference between communications, consultations (can democratise & disempower people) and participation
- Equitable – what do we mean by this? Equity is not about equality; it is about getting a fair return for what you put in. Secondly, it is about what you must give. Issue with REDD+ people are not given a fair price for the activity
- Methodologies for stakeholder analysis & engagement – important for example participatory observation (what people say may not always match their actions – can be subconscious) – combination of approaches to understand the real problem. Problem definition is critical to creating solutions

#### 12.00-12.20 Hrs **Roles and responsibilities of a REDD+ Steering Committee – Simone Mangal-Joly**

- A national stakeholder committee will serve as a platform for overseeing progress, addressing delays, changes, or reorientation of a country programme, and ensuring alignment with and delivery of results as approved.
- Need to ensure a shared vision – how do we come together around a common goal, objectives, vision – needs to be explicit
- Mandate from the steering committee is well written

#### **Discussion: Steering Committee**

##### *Rainee:*

There are gaps in the makeup of the steering committee referred to in Simone's presentation – we may not have links to individual members of the deforestation sectors – so will need to be more integrated (not just an environmental perspective). Will need to reach out to ensure good representation

##### *Simone:*

Guyana had a huge steering committee – but never held a public meeting, did not have a real connection to citizens – would be helpful to have a feedback process every 6 months.

##### *Vincent:*

Should develop a clear ToR for the steering committee and any subcommittees – currently the group in this meeting would not be able to fulfil the scope of the safeguards.

Steering committee should be at a higher level, guidance, oversight and reviewing progress. But this committee cannot also be part of outreach in the communities etc as this may not be possible for the steering committee to engage with (lack of time/capacity)

Need to be realistic what the roles and responsibilities, distinctions between this committee and any others that may be formed.

##### *Simone:*

The steering committee is there for oversight however should be some measure of contact with stakeholders at junctions – this is part of the REDD+ portfolio however everyday functions should be taken over by the project

Everyone involved must be aware of the level of commitment to safeguarding

Have the steering committee function but also will require multi sub-groups

We may not need a new ToR – the roles etc will develop as the steering committee moves forward

##### *Ingrid:*

Concern regarding technical reports – if it is outside her remit should she be part of this process and this may be asking a lot of volunteers on the committee.

Do people have skillsets and capacity – is there training? Travel costs (if you go into the committee how will this be paid for)

Considering COVID - a lot of areas do not have Wi-Fi (especially rural areas) – how are we going to engage people in these areas? As we move away from face-to-face, people may need to upgrade or travel to Wi-Fi areas to engage - how to ensure a level playing field for access to communities

Positive: Involving stakeholders at different levels - excited to see it be translated in lay-terms to people on the ground (e.g. visual aids like maps), taking it beyond a national level to local people.

*Simone:*

To be discussed regarding budget and new ways of working

*Rainee:*

There is some allocation in the budget to cover travel costs – this to be further discussed and whether we need reallocation (costs from consultation can be reallocated towards technology)

12:50-13:00 hrs **Next Steps in the Jamaica REDD+ Process - Nicole West-Hayles, Team Leader, Communications**

- Ms West-Hayles introduced the process and timeline for the REDD+ readiness process

## Annex 4. Minutes of initial meeting of geospatial team with FD

# Geospatial Meeting with Forestry Department

Date: 20 August 2020

### Attendance:

Casey Ryan  
Sam Bowers  
Marlon Walcott  
Donna Lowe (head of department)  
Alicia Edwards (manages forest technicians)  
Thomas Donaldson  
Kerry-Anne Harriott  
Jennilyn Burrell

### Introductions, followed by presentation by Sam Bowers

#### On resolution:

High res data is preferred by Forestry Department, considered to produce higher quality outputs. Important especially for identifying different species assemblages (e.g. 4 types of mangroves). Many other users of this data, forming an important revenue stream for FD. Differences in resolution between land cover analyses are considered to produce different answers. New data will be another increase in resolution, so may provide a different answer again. We discussed the advantages of consistent monitoring with the same instrument (i.e. Sentinel-2) for REDD+ and other applications.

#### On data:

The Land Information Council of Jamaica (LICJ) manages geospatial data in Jamaica.

#### On forest inventory:

There has been a recent update to Jamaica's forest plot monitoring. Old method was opportunistic, and used one-time plots along transects to monitor plots of land. It did not represent forest on private lands well, and less useful for long-term monitoring. The new system will use permanent sample plots, based on a USFS method. The plots will be spread across Jamaica systematically, with the option to vary intensity of plot measurement. There are questions about how to apply the new approach in a way that is consistent with REDD+.

#### Donna's low-hanging fruit:

Review of NFI approach  
Map carbon and changes over time  
Determine how current information can inform FREL and REDD+.

#### Overall strategy:

Pull together all forestry work, currently disconnected, under a coherent REDD+ strategy.

First steps?

Consider updates to land cover mapping using Sentinel-1 and Sentinel-2. Aim for a consistent method that can be used for future reporting.  
Assess availability of historical forest plots, and how they can be used for this work.

## Annex 5. Minutes of the meeting with Forestry Department PRCC

### Meeting | Communication and Logistics Team and Forestry Department August 25, 2020

#### Support for REDD+ Readiness Preparation in Jamaica (JAM-RS-003)

##### **Purpose**

The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the Communication Specialist to the Forestry Department's Public Relations and Corporate Communication (PRCC) Division and to seek guidance on policies, protocols and procedures managing the Forestry brand, that of the wider Government of Jamaica and their commitments to the Green Climate Fund and REDD+.

The REDD+ Communication Specialist met with the Forestry Department (FD) on Tuesday, August 25, 2020 via Microsoft Teams.

##### **In attendance were:**

- Mrs Francine Black Richards – Senior Manager, Public Relations and Corporate Communication
- Miss Kadeon Crighton – Supervisor, Marketing
- Mr Marlon Walcott – Project Manager (Meeting Chairman)
- Mrs Nicole West-Hayles – REDD+ Communication Specialist

##### **Matters Arising - Discussions**

Given the purpose of the meeting, the Communication Specialist was asked to lead the discussion which was an interactive session of questions and answers. She indicated that communication activities are subsumed specifically in Deliverable 6 and Deliverable 7 as well as Deliverable 9. However, along with safeguards activities; these activities are overarching and will interface with every deliverable and component of the project; and, therefore critical to project outputs and success.

In furtherance, the Communication Specialist provided the following updates:

##### **i. Introduction to REDD+ Communication, Outreach and Consultation Strategy and Action Plan**

The REDD+ Communication Specialist highlighted that communication would be undertaken in three phases (a) initiation of Readiness to begin December/January; (b) implementation of Readiness; and (c) Post Readiness, which involves a suite of communication activities to close the REDD+ Readiness phase and advance towards 'implementation'.

She further indicated that the scope of communication was intended to build synergies with other Forestry Department project communications. In addition, key messages would be consistent with, and support the expectations of REDD+ Phase 1 (Readiness), which encompass namely the following:

- What is REDD+
- How REDD+ operates
- What are the implications/impact for Jamaica in the Readiness phase?
- What REDD+ participation means for Jamaica
- Expected outputs/outcomes (expected achievements) of Readiness phase and associated findings (drivers of deforestation, boundary delineation, safeguards mechanism, etc.)
- How to participate

The REDD+ Communication Specialist further indicated that potential tools/media may include:

- REDD+ Fact Sheet
- Radio interviews
- Key stakeholder interviews

- Television appearances
- Audio/video/WhatsApp/SMS messages
- Local content
- Articles
- Social media
- Influencers/culture producers particularly from forest communities (Usain Bolt, Veronica Campbell-Brown, Dalton Harris, Romain Virgo, Christopher Martin, journalists, athletes, bloggers, etc.)
- Town criers
- School clubs
- Professional service clubs
- Faith-based organisations
- Local Forest Management Committees and other community-based groups
- Environmental Non-Governmental Organisations
- Youth/gender-based, elderly and disabilities groups

## ii. Forestry Liaison and Protocols

Mrs Black Richards advised as follows:

Communication activities must be aligned with Forestry guidelines and must be approved by the PRCC and the relevant technical unit with responsibility for the subject prior to public dissemination. A 1-week lead is required for this process.

The IIED team will interface with:

- Office of the Chief Executive Officer
- Legal Enforcement Division
- Corporate Services Branch
- Forest Operations Branch
- Planning and Monitoring Branch
- Client Services Branch
- Public Relations and Corporate Communication Division

Face-to-face communication has been most effective but since March, the bulk of interaction has been through the dissemination of printed materials as the current restrictions due to SARS-CoV-2. Other effective tools used include forest treks

Face-to-face interactions will resume with small groups, probably arranging to meet with many small groups on any specific day.

## iii. Way Forward/Action Items

FD will share the following documents:

- List of private landowners received from National Land Agency
- List of current stakeholders
- Stakeholder engagement guidelines
- Offence Report Form

## Annex 5. Revised and final workplan for years 1 and 2



# Revised work programme for years 1 and 2 supporting REDD+ readiness preparation in Jamaica

## INTRODUCTION

The Terms of Reference for this assignment were written prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the inception phase of this project, the IIED-led team discussed with the Forestry Department and other stakeholders how best to manage the process of deliverables in the light of this emerging reality. As a result, there are small changes, not in the deliverables per se, but in the scheduling and means by which they are delivered.

As noted in our first workplan, this revision of the workplan will be delivered in *draft* form until rapid situation analyses, needs assessment and the stakeholder assessment and mapping are complete, as these will provide necessary information for tailoring the Work Programme. Since the team were unable to undertake the country mission for the rapid situation analysis and expect that the stakeholder engagement for the planned analyses will take some time to arrange and execute, any revisions or iteration of the workplan will be provided in November 2020, when a report of the consultations undertaken is tabled. Given the COVID-19 context, it is also proposed to review the workplan against the situation on the ground six months from now in February 2021.

As noted in our proposal that has been assumed into our contractual arrangement, the Terms of Reference for this assignment usefully group activities according to three components, used for budgeting and reporting purposes. Nevertheless, for practical scheduling purposes the document talks in terms of three chronological phases within the work plan to achieve the deliverables and it is these chronological phases that will govern the delivery schedule:

**Phase 1: *Inception and Situation Assessment Period (Months 1 and 2)***. At inception the team will conduct a series of situational and needs assessments, some of which were not foreseen in the initial Terms of Reference. The initial situational assessment that would have been conducted through a full team ground mission is now being conducted by virtual means due to the travel and gathering constraints of COVID-19 and runs into Phase 2.

**Phase 2: *Development of REDD+ Implementation Framework, analyses, and preparation for Stakeholder Engagement on REDD+ Options (Months 3-15)***

It will take twelve months for the geo-spatial team members to have a robust system to assess the drivers of deforestation and degradation and model future scenarios in support of exploring REDD+ strategy options. While this is being advanced, the team will advance all aspects of the stakeholder engagement and training, analyses, and preparations to engage stakeholders to examine drivers of deforestation and develop options. The geo-spatial team will be working on the REDD+ Implementation framework and training the Forestry Department and other staff while other team members concentrate on process deliverables and adjunct analyses.

**Phase 3: *Assessment of REDD+ Options and Development of REDD+ Strategy and Concept Notes (months 15-22)***

By organizing the work plan in this way Jamaican stakeholders can better understand in three phases how the many process components of the work (involving a bewildering number of different actions and documents) make up the twenty-three project deliverables:

- D1: Hosting / facilitation services for Inception Meeting
- D2: Inception Report
- D3: Final Annual Work Plan for Year 1 and Year 2
- D4: Jamaica Roadmap for REDD+ and an Annotated Table of Contents for National REDD+ Strategy developed
- D5: Delivery of NRSC Induction Training + training completion report
- D6: Report from awareness raising sessions with forest dependent communities
- D7: Consultation reports + on the design of the Grievance Redress Mechanism developed
- D8: Stakeholder inventory and mapping conducted to support REDD+ planning process and priority stakeholders identified
- D9: REDD+ Communication, Outreach and Consultation Strategy and Action Plan+ outreach materials +minutes of stakeholder meetings
- D10: Stakeholder groups organized to effectively engage in the REDD+ process and implementation, inclusive of training reports and module
- D11: Report on the assessment of land use, land use change drivers that result in deforestation and forest degradation
- D12: Gap analysis of the legislative, policy and institutional frameworks governing the relevant sectors, inclusive of action plan
- D13: Report on REDD+ Strategy Options
- D14: REDD+ Implementation Framework
- D15: Provide Technical support to the Forestry Department +
- D16: Delivery of practical training to staff of the Forestry Department and the NRSC on preparing data for GHG inventory
- D17: Strategic Environmental and Social Safeguards Assessment
- D18: Environmental and Social Management Framework
- D 19: Final Draft REDD+ Strategy consolidating the findings from all components
- D 20: Two Draft Project Concept Notes for submission to GCF based on a selected Strategy Priority option defined in the National REDD+ Strategy
- D21: Gender Assessment Report
- D22: Gender Strategy
- D23: Gender Consultation Report

These deliverables will eventually culminate in preparation of four main pillars of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+ that include capabilities within the Forestry Department to oversee:

- (1) A National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) that will be able to measure annually forest cover change and degradation, drivers of deforestation and degradation – to provide a credible system for assessing progress.
- (2) A national forest reference emission level (NFREL) and extrapolated forest reference level (FRL) developed against international standards as a baseline against which to assess progress in cutting forest related emissions – and so provide the basis for results-based payments.
- (3) A Safeguards Information System (SIS) to ensure that REDD+ is aligned with other Government policies, designed through meaningful participation of all stakeholders, overseen by good governance, without reversals or leakage, and helping (or at least do not harm) to marginalized groups and forest biodiversity.
- (4) A national REDD+ strategy – that will define how the drivers of deforestation and degradation will be addressed to make progress in cutting forest related emissions.

Some activities may serve a discrete purpose of information gathering or engagement, but most serve more than one purpose in terms of putting together the final deliverables.

In the work plan that follows a key is used for the deliverables (D1/D2...D23 etc.) to clarify what will be delivered and when. For deliverables see red left justified text at the end of each Phase described in the workplan. The specific steps of the work programme are outlined below, with an explanation of what activities will be undertaken, team members that will be involved, the products that will be delivered, indicative timelines and a summary of the deliverables as numbered per component in the Terms of Reference.

## DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES AND DELIVERABLES

Overall, a twenty-four-months process is necessary to submit all deliverables. The assignment will be implemented in three Phases as follows:

### PHASE 1 (Months 1-2)

#### (1) Pre-Inception Preparation (July 2020)

The Team Leader and team members will engage the Focal Point and Forestry Department remotely as necessary to discuss plans, obtain and review necessary documents and data sets, and plan initial engagements in Jamaica.

#### (2) Inception period (July - August 2020, variable for team members)

During this period an Inception Meeting, situational analyses and National REDD+ Steering Committee needs assessments, and initial stakeholder analysis and mapping was foreseen to be conducted to determine the state of play, gather necessary information for advancing various aspects of the assignment, and refining the workplan. Through this process, the team will engage with stakeholders to: explain the purpose of the assignment and REDD+ process; the process for developing a REDD+ Strategy; initiate relationships; and gather necessary documents and information and an understanding of the circumstances of key stakeholders, abilities, interests and likelihood of successful participation in the REDD+ process.

2.1 An **Inception Meeting** was to be held with the Focal Point, Forestry Department, NRSC and any other relevant stakeholders to review the assignment objectives, approach of the draft workplan, existing information, discuss practicalities, and ensure that expectations are understood and there was a common understanding of the objectives of the assignments, relative roles and responsibilities. All members of the team will be present. The Project Coordinator Marlon Walcott and Team Leader, Duncan Macqueen, will facilitate the meeting, and it will be documented in a brief Inception Meeting report submitted along with Deliverables 2 & 3: Inception Report and Annual Work Plan Year 1 and 2. However, it is proposed to review again when the rapid situation analyses, needs assessment and the stakeholder assessment and mapping are complete, as these will provide necessary information for tailoring the workplan. Team Leader, Duncan Macqueen will provide the output. In practice, an inception meeting was called between the Climate Change Division, Forestry department and IIED Team leader and was focused on project mobilization and management. To meet the original objectives, IIED requested a launch meeting with the Forestry Department, and orientation meetings with the National REDD+ Steering Committee established by the project before the consultants were contracted as well as four Working Groups.

**2.2 Inception assessment of the national inventory:** At this point the geo-spatial team members will also assess whether the methodology used to develop Jamaica's existing ground-based inventory meets international standards and provide recommendations on how to address any deficiencies. This will be conducted through a desk-based review of the data, methodology and discussions with key staff. The methods will be analyzed considering the IPCC Good Practice Guidelines, and FAO and GFOI guidance on national inventories. It will also involve data analysis to test the robustness of the data and sampling strategy. The data will also be assessed for its utility in calibration and validation of remote sensing data products. It was feasible to carry out this aspect of the workplan through a virtual online engagement in the anticipated time, given the small number of nodes involved in communicating and sharing information.

**2.3 Rapid Situation Analyses and Needs Assessments:** This early set of assessments will comprise the following:

2.3.1 **Land Use Management Capacity and Needs Assessment:** Over a period two weeks, the geo-spatial sub-team Casey Ryan and Sam Bowers were to engage with stakeholders on the ground. They did engage virtually with various national agencies and their local partners, including through the NRSC and Working Group 4 (REDD+ Methodology and tools) on geospatial analysis to: Conduct a rapid assessment to establish current land use and land cover spatial data sets and key requirements of government agencies and partners; Identify existing ground data sets such as forest inventory data and

land tenure maps; Identify key issues for in country partners and key questions and gaps, including forest definitions, and key land cover transitions; and conduct a rapid training needs assessment to assist with laying out their work programme for spatial assessment of land use change and drivers, establishing a national reference level, preparation of the GHG inventory, and review of the methodology used to develop the existing ground based inventory. They will assess the existing knowledge and skills of Forestry Department staff, whether the level of staffing is appropriate, relevant training needs and practical factors for completing the assignment and providing training and capacity support. This information will be used to tailor the Work programme and for development of training and capacity building initiatives. This engagement has progressed within the timeline foreseen.

**2.3.2. Phase 1 Drivers of Deforestation and Degradation and Policy, Laws, and Institutional Framework Assessment and Data Gathering.** Over a period of five intensive in-country work days, Duncan Macqueen and Simone Mangal-Joly (as well as Nicole West-Hayles for two of the days) were to meet governmental and non-governmental organisations, to gather information and understand the state of play in various sectors such as agriculture, tourism, forestry, mining etc. to understand the trends, critical issues, and further plans. In addition, Duncan Macqueen was to discuss and gain understanding through a rapid participatory assessment of policy, laws, and institutional needs for REDD+. These meetings were to be used to gather relevant information and partially support the subsequent stakeholder analysis and mapping, led by Simone Mangal-Joly, and supported by Nicole West-Hayles. It would have involved in-country meetings with organized groups of stakeholders, including but not limited to, Government stakeholders, private sector bodies, individual companies with large forest land holdings, trade unions, NGOs and CBOs, local government authorities, and local forest management committees. Relevant documents were to be gathered through one on one contact to support a Phase 1 REDD+ assessment in advance of the geospatial analysis. Aspects of the analysis of gender and communication issues detailed in 2.2.3. were to be conducted with these stakeholders during meetings.

However, given COVID-19 contexts these sessions will take longer to organize and implement using virtual platforms. The team met with the NRSC and Working Groups assembled by the Project prior to contracting IIED to gather information and understand the state of play in various sectors such as agriculture, tourism, forestry, mining etc. to understand the trends, critical issues, and further plans.

As a result, the five intensive work days and additional twelve intensive-in country days where Simone Mangal-Joly and Nicole West-Hayles would have advanced the rapid appraisals and stakeholder analysis will now be scheduled for the remainder of October and November, the report on these consultations will be provided in December, 2020 This time period allows for the transactions times now necessary to set up these meetings as well as team scheduled commitments. The extension of the process will only affect this process deliverable and a slight delay in Deliverables 11 and 12, which rely on information gathered in this process that will then have to be analysed. These meetings will be used to gather relevant information and will also partially support the stakeholder analysis and mapping, led by Simone Mangal-Joly, and supported by Nicole West-Hayles. It will involve meeting organized groups of stakeholders, including but not limited to, Government stakeholders, private sector bodies, individual companies with large forest land holdings, trade unions, NGOs and CBOs, local government authorities, and local forest management committees. Relevant documents will be gathered to support a Phase 1 REDD+ assessment in advance of the geospatial analysis. Aspects of the analysis of gender and communication issues detailed in 2.2.3. below will be conducted with these stakeholders during meetings.

**2.3.3. Stakeholder Assessment and Mapping, Gender Rapid Analysis, and Rapid Training and Communication Needs Assessment.** During the inception period, Simone Mangal-Joly and Nicole West-Hayles will engage with stakeholders including the NRSC and working group 1 and 3 to flesh out a full stakeholder map for the REDD+ initiative, and plan for further consultations, and to plan to conduct a gender analysis across stakeholder categories, and conduct needs assessments to determine the circumstances of stakeholders, assess the extent of training needed to enable stakeholders to meaningfully participate in the REDD+ process, and assess the needs and best modalities for public education and communications. The planning process will be participatory (and virtual), using mostly ethnographic interview methods, and will involve direct interaction with stakeholders, assessment of interest, knowledge, attitudes, skills, enabling environment, stakeholder connectivity and working relationships, capacity building needs, and discussion of the most effective of engagement. In addition, there will be initial dialogue with stakeholders on an effective grievance mechanism for guiding the REDD+ development process. A capacity needs assessment and stakeholder connectivity analysis will

be conducted with the NRSC. As noted in 2.3.2. it is not feasible to conduct these activities in the original time if done remotely, the timeline is adjusted for this.

Duncan Macqueen will debrief the Focal Point and NRSC at the end of the inception period through an inception report and revised workplan and Simone Mangal-Joly will also help debrief the Project Focal Point, Forestry Department and Interim NRSC in the same manner. Within the inception report the consultants will include summaries of the various stakeholder engagements undertaken by the team Jul-Aug 2020 by the first week of September 2020.

Casey Ryan and Sam Bowers will submit a Skills Training Plan for Forestry Department Staff and relevant members of the NRSC. On request of the Forestry department, they will spend the first week of October elaborating this plan together with the Forestry Department.

Duncan Macqueen will submit the revised Final Work Programme on first week of September 2020.

#### **By September 2020**

**D1: Inception Meeting,**

**D2: Final Inception report,**

**D3: Final Work Programme**

#### **By November 15, 2020**

**D7, D23 (Partial) Consultation reports**

### **PHASE 2: Months 3-15**

#### **(3) Geospatial Home-based analysis and engagement (2) in Jamaica.**

**3.1 Geospatial data preparation** - From September 2020 - February 2021 Casey Ryan and Sam Bowers will produce annual wall-to-wall land cover and aboveground biomass maps using remote sensing methods. During this time remote tutorials and one to one support will be provided to in-country Jamaican partners to conduct analysis, visualize the resultant data sets, and analyze results at different scales. The forest cover mapping approach will make use of current freely available data at 10m resolution, and closely follow established practices for forest cover monitoring (e.g. GFOI methods and guidance documents). This approach is also expected to map the extent of mangroves more effectively. The approach of making forest biomass maps offers advantages over traditional forest land cover mapping. It allows subtle changes in biomass (either growth or degradation) to be assessed and avoids classification into often spurious land cover classes (such as open and closed forest), which may not have “hard” distinctions between them. This is particularly important in this context where degradation emissions are thought to be high, and where complex mosaic land uses of secondary forest, small scale agriculture and fallows, are interwoven in ways that make classification difficult. The forest biomass mapping approach avoids these problems by quantifying the biomass stored in each pixel and does not rely on a forest type map.

Based on what is known presently it is expected that this activity will be completed at month six after the Inception phase, which is February 2021.

**3.2 Geo-Spatial Field Visit (1)** – In late Oct-Nov 2020, Sam Bowers will contemplate an initial visit to Jamaica, contingent on the COVID-19 situation, to engage with partners on the production and finalization of a first iteration of land cover and forest biomass maps. Sam Bowers will debrief, and review progress made with the NRSC before leaving the field.

#### **By February 2021**

**D14: Partial - REDD+ Implementation framework (Obtain Forestry dataset).**

**D16: Partial – Provide practical training to staff of the Forestry Department**

#### **(4) Analyses and Production of Process Deliverables to Advance the REDD+ Strategy Process Oct-Dec 2020**

While the geo-spatial specialists advance the production of forest cover and forest biomass maps, the rest of the team will focus on analysis of information gathered to advance the assessments for the REDD+ process and provide the process deliverables needed to guide the process. These will be produced as penultimate drafts and will be consulted on with stakeholders and refined as may be necessary into final draft deliverables.

**4.1 Stakeholder Analysis Inventory and Mapping, Stakeholder Engagement Plan, REDD+ Communication and Outreach Plan, Gender Assessment and Gender Strategy.** In Nov 2020- Jan 2020, Simone Mangal-Joly and Nicole West-Hayles will analyze the information obtained during the virtual appraisal exercises run from September-October 2020.

Simone Mangal-Joly will lead the analysis and produce: (1) A draft Stakeholder Analysis with Inventory and Mapping; (2) A draft Stakeholder Engagement Strategy for development of REDD+; A draft Gender Assessment and draft Gender Strategy to Guide the Development of the REDD+ Strategy. Simone Mangal-Joly will review material available as well as stakeholder input to produce a draft Grievance Redress Mechanism. Nicole West-Hayles will produce provide inputs onto the Gender Assessment and Gender Strategy and Nicole West-Hayles will produce a draft REDD+ National Communications Plan in the original time frame of month six, December 2020. Duncan MacQueen will also participate in some of the Virtual meetings to advance the analysis of policy and governance.

However, beginning in early March 2021, after the result of geospatial assessment study on forest cover change is available (month 8, February 2021) and the specific geographical areas of likely prospects for REDD+ interventions are identified, Simone Mangal-Joly and Nicole West-Hayles will engage stakeholders further as may be necessary to refine the draft outputs in order to ensure that the specific stakeholders in those sites are represented to the fullest extent in the assessments and plans. This will necessitate a slight shift in the timeline for the final draft deliverables to be presented for review and acceptance.

**By December 2020 drafts will be produced of:**

**D7: Grievance Redress Mechanism.**

**D8: Stakeholder Mapping and Inventory.**

**D9: REDD+ Communication, Outreach and Consultation Strategy and Actions Plan with Outreach Materials.**

**D21 Gender Assessment Report.**

**D22 Gender Strategy to guide the development of the REDD+ Strategy**

**By March 2021:**

**Finalized outputs of the above**

**4.2 Phase 1 Assessment of Drivers and Trends and Assessment of Policy, Legal and Institutional Framework.** In Dec-Jan 2020, Duncan MacQueen and Simone Mangal-Joly will analyze all information gathered in Virtual Interviews and background reviews of studies to conduct a Phase 1 Assessment of Drivers of Deforestation and Degradation from known data and likely scenarios given trends in different sectors and national development priorities and circumstances. This assessment will also review initiatives already undertaken by the Forestry Department to advance REDD+ discussions even if they were not done to the international process standards required. This analysis will enable the team to share with all stakeholders a snapshot of the likely critical issues and likely direction. The analysis will rely on existing data, information, and stakeholder perceptions. It will serve as an important pedagogical and stakeholder engagement tool as the underlying assumptions and conclusions about drivers of deforestations will later be compared with the bio-physical evidence found in the geo-spatial mapping process to examine gaps between perception and realities and advance the discourse on how actors can engage with each other going forward.

Using the initial (unpublished) evidence on drivers and trends of deforestation and degradation, Duncan MacQueen will identify relevant areas of policy and institutional practice and draft an analysis of Policies, Laws, Regulations and Institutional Arrangements and Gaps, and identify remedies needed for REDD+ and produce a draft report. The assessment will identify Tier 1 (Likely high impact on forest and/or results) and Tier 2 stakeholder groups and will guide the next phase of on-the-ground stakeholder engagement.

**By January 2021:**

**D11(Part 1) Initial (unpublished) assessment of Land Use and Land Use Change Drivers that Result in Deforestation and Degradation.**

**D12: Gap Analysis of legislative, policy and institutional frameworks and action plan**

**4.3 Online Consultation – Review of Draft Deliverables Feb 2021**

In early February 2021, the following deliverables will be circulated in draft to the Focal Point and NRSC: (1) Draft Stakeholder Analysis and Map; (2) Draft Gender Assessment Report; (3) Draft Stakeholder Engagement Strategy for development of REDD+; (4) Draft Gender Strategy to guide development of REDD+ Strategy; (5) Draft Communications and Outreach Plan; and (6) Draft Governance Analysis: Policy, Laws, Regulations and Institutional Framework for REDD+. The team will put this to a two-week review period and ask for any written feedback by the third week February 2021.

In the final week of Feb 2021, an online meeting will be held with the Focal Point and NRSC to discuss the draft deliverables and feedback. This information will be used to refine the drafts and refine the approach going forward. Revised Penultimate drafts of these documents will be submitted by May 2021 after Simone Mangal-Joly and Nicole West-Hayles, have the benefit of the geospatial study findings and can refine to target any critical geographical location as may be necessary.

4.3. In February 2021 Nicole West-Hayles will engage the Focal Point to commence an initial phase of national sensitization about the REDD+ strategy development process (the National Communications Plan would have been approved). The initial phase will explore how best to reach stakeholders within the confines of the budget, assessing radio, television, newspapers, direct stakeholder sensitization, outside broadcasts, social media engagements – to optimize targeting of all age groups and geographical spread. It will help prepare stakeholders for the deeper engagement to come, build understanding and support for the REDD+ process, and also serve as a long incubation ground for cultivating an interest and place for culture producers (journalists, preachers, teachers, artists) to engage with forest management and the REDD+ process.

**4.4. Development Stakeholder Training Programme and Grievance Mechanism** In Mar-May 2021 Simone Mangal-Joly and Nicole West-Hayles will review stakeholder training needs and jointly develop a training programmes for different stakeholder groups to enable them to fully understand and participate in the development of the REDD+ strategy and to support that strategy. Training materials will be produced.

Simone Mangal Joly will produce a capacity building course for the NRSC with all materials.

Duncan Macqueen will produce an annotated table of Contents of the draft REDD+ Implementation Strategy so that stakeholders can become familiar with what the final REDD+ written product would look like – what the consulting team and stakeholders will produce collaboratively.

Simone Mangal Joly will produce a draft Grievance Mechanism and may engage a focus group of stakeholders to test the methodology before tabling the draft.

All training programme and materials, the annotated Table of Contents for REDD+ strategy will be submitted, and Draft grievance Mechanism will be submitted by end May 2021 to the Focal Point and NRSC remotely for their review. A follow-up online session with the NRSC, Focal Point, key stakeholders and the team will be held in May 2021.

**By May 2021:**

**D7: Grievance Redress Mechanism**

**(5) Geo-Spatial Home-Based Analysis and Engagement (2) in Jamaica Feb-Apr 2021**

With initial geospatial data outputs established, Sam Bowers will turn to analyzing and identifying deforestation, degradation, and forest growth and quantifying carbon stock changes and emissions Feb-Apr 2021. This analysis will establish the baseline that will be used to inform the National Reference Emissions level. Once these data are available, Sam Bowers will convene a 5-day workshop in Jamaica, subject to COVID-19 restrictions being lifted (or remotely if not) in late April 2021 with relevant actors to

train and co-produce the analysis needed to include the data sets into an up-to-date estimate of land use change and GHG emissions.

**By April 2021:**

**D14: Partial REDD+ Implementation Framework (National Forest Reference Emissions Level).**

**D15: Practical Training to staff of the Forestry Department and NRSC on preparing data for GHG Inventory.**

**(6) Geo-Spatial home Based and 1 Month Field Analysis (3) of Direct Cause of Biomass Change Mar-Jul 2021**

Once all the parameters are in place, analyses of the direct causes of forest cover change will be done by examining ground activities that cause changes in forest carbon stocks. Different activities/drivers will be comprehensively assessed along with all the different spatial signatures they create. The team will co-conduct the analysis with Jamaican counterparts as part of their training and support the generation of a reference dataset of change events.

A suitable reference dataset can be generated with two approaches: either through interpretation of high-resolution optical imagery (e.g. from Google Earth), or through field visits to map examples of forest change events or ground truth findings of the spatial analysis. The use of high-resolution imagery has advantages of being a low-cost and rapid option, although it is unlikely to be able to cover all forms of change. For instance, many activities resulting in degradation are likely to be missed. Where fieldwork is feasible, the team proposes to train local staff to support one month of field work to map examples of forest change events or ground truth the findings of spatial analysis. We consider the process of spending time in the field important for two reasons. One, the field data is required to assess the validity and limitations of the remote sensing analysis of the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. Secondly, and more importantly, it gives an opportunity for experiential learning for all staff involved to understand where and why forest loss is happening, to engage with the key actors and understand the lived reality of the processes the remote sensing data can reveal.

Ideally, in the case of Jamaica, given the local drivers and poverty rates in forest communities, the REDD+ process should develop community-based Monitoring Reporting and Verification that can meaningfully involve community members in livelihoods that benefit forest management. Since this is the REDD+ preparation phase, the possibility of community based MRVs could be discussed in the planning process.

Casey Ryan and Sam Bowers will re-convene with Jamaican technical trainees and counterparts for a five-day review of results – ideally face to face but virtually if COVID-19 necessities require. This will include an assessment of which activities are detectable and separable using geospatial data, and a review of how results compare to previous assessments of the drivers of deforestation. This process will conclude the spatial assessment of drivers and provide information on actual land use activities that have been impacting on degradation and deforestation.

**By July 2021:**

**D14: REDD+ Implementation Framework (partial).**

**D15: Technical Support to the Forestry Department and other relevant entities on the development of the ground-based inventory.**

**D16 (partial) Delivery of practical training to Forestry department staff and NRSC**

**(7) National Validation Workshop: Safeguard Process & Commencement of Stakeholder Training/Preparation for Deep Engagement on REDD+ options Jul 2021**

In Jun-Jul 2021, providing COVID-19 restrictions allows for it, Duncan Macqueen will lead a field mission with Simone Mangal-Joly. This mission will overlap on the last two days with the mission with Sam Bowers. The full team will discuss the emerging results of the driver's assessment with the geo-spatial team and the NRSC.

A **National Validation Workshop** will be convened in Jul 2021 (end of year 1) where the findings of all assessments, methodologies, stakeholder engagement process, gender strategy, social and environmental safeguards assessment and the overall process that will be used to develop the REDD+

Implementation will be publicly ventilated for stakeholder feedback and adoption. Duncan Macqueen will facilitate the workshop and Simone Mangal-Joly and Nicole West-Hayles will present much of the content. Once this is done, the stage will be set for deep engagement with stakeholder groups to assess the REDD+ drivers and scenarios and building Jamaica's roadmap with participatory processes to help shape the final concept notes.

Duncan Macqueen will also give a presentation on the Preliminary Findings of Drivers of Deforestation and Degradation at the national workshop.

Simone Mangal-Joly will remain in Jamaica after the validation workshop and COVID-19 permitting together with Nicole West-Hayles, will implement training programmes with key stakeholders, including forest dependent communities, to ensure that they understand all aspects of the REDD+ process and safeguards, have knowledge of the results of all analyses done up to that point and that the steps that will be undertaken to discuss drivers and options for addressing those drivers and REDD+ options. This intervention will be focused on preparing stakeholders to engage with the process. The elements of social safeguards and the Social and Environmental Safeguard Assessment will be explained along with the Environmental Safety and Management Plan process and need to establish a Safeguard Information System so that stakeholders are fully aware of what outcomes to expect and what analyses will be done to reach REDD+ options. Based on the findings of assessments and decisions taken by the Forest Department and NRSC, Simone Mangal-Joly will also engage with critical stakeholders to train and sensitize them on elements of collaborative management agreements as approaches to forest management and Benefit Sharing Agreements. This process will also be evaluative, as the training itself will allow stakeholders to explore what roles they can play in co-management agreements and what types of benefit sharing agreements would work for them.

In addition, Simone Mangal-Joly will implement a training course for the NRSC to fully prepare the steering group to take up their roles in the process.

Nicole West-Hayles, will continue to oversee the national communication and sensitization process where the pertinent information from the national validation workshop will be shared with the broader stakeholder community along with the next steps for developing Jamaica's REDD+ implementation strategy.

**By July 2021:**

**D4 Jamaica Roadmap for REDD+ and Annotated Table of Contents for National REDD+ Strategy.**

**D5: NRSC Induction Training and Training Completion Report.**

**D6: Report from training and sensitization sessions with forest dependent communities and other stakeholders.**

**D10: Stakeholder groups Organized to Effectively Engage in REDD+ Process (reports and modules)**

**(8) Geo-Spatial Home-Based preparation for Scenario Modeling Jul-Aug 2021**

The geo-spatial team will, COVID-19 allowing, spend approximately two months in close contact with their Jamaica trainees using the historic forest change data and the driver's analysis to develop future scenarios. Ryan and Bowers will do this using a transparent model of drivers and activities that can be used to investigate the results of different interventions. The model is simple enough that it can be used as a participatory engagement tool to quantify the expected impacts of different interventions as developed in 9 and 10. In this activity we will work to assemble the required data on drivers and activities, and to assess the plausible impacts of interventions in different sectors. For example, if unsustainable timber harvest is found to be an important cause of forest carbon loss, we will work to understand the underlying drivers of this (e.g. [international] demand), quantify how the drivers are expected to change in the future, and then estimate the likely impact that interventions might have. Likewise, if agriculture is found to be a major driver of deforestation, the underlying demographic and economic drivers will be assessed that are leading to agricultural expansion, and their likely future trajectories. Interventions such as policies to promote new crops or intensification can then be evaluated in terms of the impact they will have on agricultural expansion and the associated carbon stock losses from deforestation.

**(9) Preparation of Penultimate Draft Drivers of Deforestation and Degradation Report and Options Menu, Aug 2021**

Duncan Macqueen and Simone Mangal-Joly will engage with the geo-spatial team when their analysis of drivers is complete and produce a Final Drivers of Deforestation and Degradation Assessment Report, which, will build on the unpublished Phase 1 draft. This report will specifically identify priority stakeholders to engage based on geographical locality and type of activity, their impacts on forests and the likelihood that they would be adversely affected. This draft report will form the basis for re-engagement on the ground to assess options and advance the development of the REDD+ Implementation Strategy and Concept Notes. Duncan Macqueen will also use the geospatial analysis, stakeholder consultations and assessment of drivers of deforestation to lay out REDD+ strategy options in a draft report that will serve as a basis for consultation and design of the final Jamaica REDD+ strategy.

**By August 2021:**

**D11 Final assessment of Land Use and Land Use Change Drivers that Result in Deforestation and Degradation.**

**PHASE 3 – Months 16-22****(10) Stakeholder Engagement REDD+ Scenario Modeling, Appraisal and Prioritization of REDD+ Options, Sep 2021**

Duncan Macqueen, Simone Mangal-Joly, Casey Ryan and Sam Bowers will engage with key stakeholders to model future scenarios to address forest degradation, deforestation, and enhancements (using the tool developed in 8 above, and our experience of developing such scenarios [Zorrilla-Mira, Ryan et al 2018]). For each plausible scenario, a cost benefit analysis, Social and Environmental Safeguards Assessment, gender analysis, SWOT, feasibility analysis and other analyses stated earlier will be conducted. The elements of a national safeguard information system will also be discussed. The options for co-management agreements for the management of forests in private lands and benefit sharing agreements will be explored. The process will provide a short list of interventions that are prioritized. Out of this two will be selected for the development of Concept Notes.

Duncan Macqueen and Simone Mangal-Joly will engage the relevant stakeholders to shape the drafting of the Concept Notes while in Jamaica. Each concept note will involve a thorough participatory process including sign off by the relevant national agencies.

Nicole West-Hayles will continue overseeing the national communications programme, the updates to the public on the REDD+ process and options assessment.

**By September 2021:**

**D13: Partial - Report on REDD+ Strategy Options**

**(11) Handover of National Forest Monitoring System - Sep 2021**

The geo-spatial team will “hand over” the National Forest Monitoring System to local counterparts and allow sufficient lead time for them to work with the system before the close of the assignment. The system will build on the analyses proposed above, with the aim of identifying a series of processes and methods that can be effectively reproduced for ongoing forest monitoring. The selected methods will be consistent with the following criteria:

- Make use of free and open-access data, with guarantees of future availability
- Utilized with methods that are consistent with GFOI methods and guidance documentation
- Deployable in the cloud, or where processing if performed locally be practical given current IT infrastructure.
- Consider forest change from both deforestation and degradation
- Be compatible with community based MRV
- Integrate into current workflows and practices.

**(12) Preparation of Draft REDD+ Implementation Strategy with Environment and Social Management Framework, and Roadmap for National Safeguard Information System Oct 2021 – Feb 2022**

Duncan Macqueen will draft Jamaica's National REDD+ Strategy and lead a participatory process to design, shape and then refine two Concept Notes for Jamaica to submit to GCF based on two selected Strategy Priority Options. Each concept note will be subject to consultation and sign off by the relevant national agencies.

Casey Ryan and Sam Bowers will prepare a final summary REDD+ Implementation Framework Document addressing drivers of deforestation and degradation all aspects of the geo-spatial system in place for monitoring forest changes, carbon stock, and Green House Gas Emissions.

Simone Mangal Joly will prepare a report on the Strategic Environmental and Social safeguards Assessment, an Environmental and Social Management Framework with a National Safeguard Information system.

Nicole West-Hayles will review all stakeholder engagement and prepare a summary closing report on stakeholder engagement for the entire process under the supervision of Simone Mangal-Joly. She will continue to oversee the implementation of a national communications programme to keep stakeholders abreast with the development of Jamaica's REDD+ process.

All reports and the draft REDD+ strategy will be submitted to the Focal Point, NRSC and stakeholders for review in the last week of Dec 2021. Written feedback will be requested by the last week of Jan 2022. Nicole West-Hayles will meet with forest management committees on the ground to aid them to review the relevant documents and document their feedback.

In the first week of Feb 2022, an online review will be held with the Focal Point, NRSC and consulting team. All feedback from stakeholders will be recorded and relevant matters will be incorporated into a Penultimate Draft of the REDD+ strategy and Concept Notes for public presentation.

### **(13) Final Team Mission: Stakeholder Validation Workshop: Review and Adoption of Jamaica's REDD+ Strategy and GCF Concept Notes – Mar 2022**

A final national validation workshop will be held in the first week of Mar 2022 where Jamaica's REDD+ Strategy, REDD+ Implementation Framework, and will be presented in a public transparent setting with key stakeholders for their final reactions, and feedback and adoption. Simone Mangal-Joly will moderate this workshop and Duncan Macqueen and representatives of the Forestry Department will present much of the content.

Following the national workshop, Nicole West-Hayles will wrap up the national communications programme providing information on the outcomes of the whole process.

### **(14) Submission of Final Jamaica REDD+ Strategy and GCF Concept Notes**

Duncan Macqueen will present the final deliverables for the project in writing to the Focal Point and NRSC in June 2022.

#### **By June 2022:**

**D13: Final report on REDD+ Strategy Options.**

**D14: Final - REDD+ Implementation Framework.**

**D17: Strategic Environmental and Social Safeguards Assessment + National Safeguard Information System.**

**D18: Environmental and Social Management Framework.**

**D19: Final Draft REDD+ strategy.**

**D20: Two draft Project concept Notes – to GCF**



N°	Activity <sup>1</sup>	Months <sup>2</sup>																							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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4.1	Stakeholder analysis and mapping, REDD+ communication and consultation strategy, gender assessment and strategy																								
4.2	Phase 1 assessment of drivers and trends - and assessment of policy legal and institutional framework																								
	Deliverable 8 Stakeholder mapping and inventory																								
	Deliverable 9 REDD+ communication, outreach, and consultation strategy																								
	Deliverable 21 Gender assessment report																								
	Deliverable 22 Gender strategy to guide the development of the REDD+ strategy																								
	Deliverable 11 Assessment of land use and land use change drivers (first iteration)																								
	Deliverable 12 Gap analysis of legislative, policy and institutional framework																								

N°	Activity <sup>1</sup>	Months <sup>2</sup>																							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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4.3	Online consultation - review of draft deliverables																								
4.4	Development of stakeholder training programme & grievance mechanism																								
	Deliverable 7 Grievance redress mechanism																								
5	Geospatial home-based analysis and engagement in Jamaica																								
	Deliverable 14 Partial REDD+ implementation framework (National forest reference level)																								
	Deliverable 16 Practical training to staff of the Forestry Department and NRSC on data for GHG inventory																								
6	Geospatial home based and 1-month field analysis of direct causes of biomass change																								
	Deliverable 14 REDD+ implementation framework (partial)																								
	Deliverable 15 Technical support to Forestry Department on ground-based inventory																								
	Deliverable 16 Practical training to staff of the Forestry Department and NRSC (Partial)																								

N°	Activity <sup>1</sup>	Months <sup>2</sup>																							
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7	National validation workshop engagement: safeguard process and commencement of stakeholder training/preparation for deep engagement on REDD+ options																								
	Deliverable 4 Jamaican REDD+ roadmap and annotated ToC for REDD+ Strategy																								
	Deliverable 5 NRSC induction training and training completion report																								
	Deliverable 6 Report from training and sensitisation sessions with forest dependent communities and other stakeholders																								
	Deliverable 10 Stakeholder groups organised to effectively engage in REDD+ process																								
8	Geospatial home-based preparation on scenario modelling																								
9	Preparation of penultimate draft drivers of deforestation and degradation report and options menu																								
	Deliverable 11 Final Assessment of land use and land use change drivers																								

N°	Activity <sup>1</sup>	Months <sup>2</sup>																							
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PHASE 3 ASSESSMENT OF REDD+ OPTIONS AND DEVELOPMENT OF REDD+ STRATEGY AND CONCEPT NOTES																									
10	Stakeholder engagement on REDD+ strategy options - appraisal and prioritization of options																								
	Deliverable 13. Report on REDD+ strategy options																								
11	Handover of National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)																								
12	Preparation of draft REDD+ implementation strategy with social and environmental management framework and national safeguard information system																								
13	Final team mission engagement - stakeholder validation workshop: review and adoption of Jamaica's REDD+ strategy and GCF concept notes																								
14	Draft, revision, and Submission of final Jamaica REDD+ strategy and GCF concept notes																								
	Deliverable 14 Final REDD+ Implementation framework																								

N°	Activity <sup>1</sup>	Months <sup>2</sup>																							
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	Deliverable 17 Strategic environmental and social safeguards assessment and national safeguard information system																								
	Deliverable 18 Environmental and social management framework																								
	Deliverable 19 Final draft Jamaica REDD+ strategy																								
	Deliverable 20 Two draft project concept notes - to GCF																								

- 1 Indicate all main activities of the assignment, including delivery of reports (e.g.: inception, interim, and final reports), and other benchmarks such as Procuring Entity approvals. For phased assignments indicate activities, delivery of reports, and benchmarks separately for each phase.
- 2 Duration of activities shall be indicated in the form of a bar chart

## References

GoJ (2015) Climate Change Policy Framework for Jamaica. Government of Jamaica, Kingston, Jamaica.

GoJ (2016a) Forest Policy for Jamaica. Government of Jamaica Forestry Department, Kingston, Jamaica.

GoJ (2016b) National Forest Management and Conservation Plan. Government of Jamaica Forestry Department, Kingston, Jamaica.

Ryan, Casey M., Nicholas J. Berry, and Neha Joshi. "Quantifying the causes of deforestation and degradation and creating transparent REDD+ baselines: A method and case study from central Mozambique." *Applied Geography* 53 (2014): 45-54.