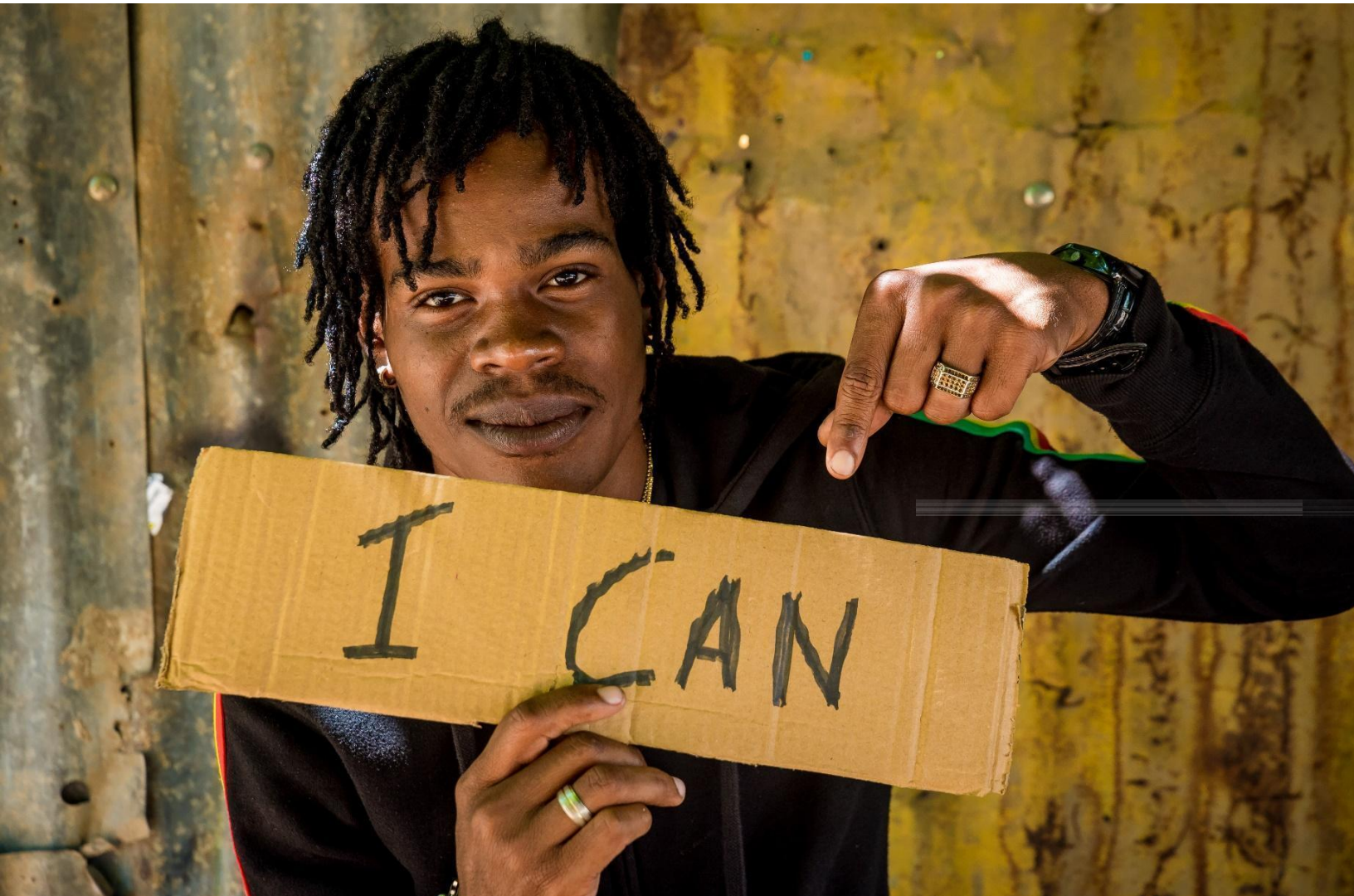




USAID | **JAMAICA**
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



COUNTRY DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION STRATEGY (CDCS)

May 7, 2020 - May 7, 2025
Amended on: August 4, 2023

Approved for Public Release

Table of Contents

Acronym List	2
CDCS Amendment Preface - August 2023	4
Country Context	8
Strategic Approach	12
Climate Resilience	12
Crime and Violence	14
Epidemic Control	15
Results Framework Narrative	16
Goal Statement Narrative	16
DO 1: Jamaica’s Resilience to Disasters Increased	16
DO 2: Youth crime and violence prevented in targeted communities	21
DO 3: Epidemic Preparedness and Response Improved	27
Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning	31
Annexes	32
A. Country Roadmap	32
B. Climate Risk Screening	32

Acronym List

ART	Antiretroviral
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CBSI	Caribbean Basin Security Initiative
CDCs	Community Development Committees
CLA	Collaborating, Learning, and Adapting
C-TIP	Countering Trafficking in Persons
DA	Development Assistance
DFC	International Development Finance Corporation
DRR	Disaster Risk Resilience
DO	Development Objective
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHSP	Global Health and Security Program
GoJ	Government of Jamaica
JCF	Jamaica Constabulary Force
JPS	Jamaica Public Service Company
INL	State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs
LGBT	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender
MNS	Jamaican Ministry of National Security's
MSM	Men who have Sex with Men
MSMW	Men who have Sex with Men and Women
MTSF	Medium- Term Socio-Economic Framework
NISP	National Integrated Strategic Plan
ODPEM	Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management
OE	Operating Expense
PEPFAR	President's Emergency Plan for AIDS relief
PLHIV	People Living with HIV
TIP	Trafficking in Persons
USG	U.S. Government

USAID/Jamaica CDCS 2020-2025

CDCS Amendment Preface - August 2023

USAID/Jamaica’s CDCS was originally approved on May 7, 2020. During January to May 2023, the Mission completed a mid-course strategy review, which evaluated the consequences of major changes in the country context, the U.S. Administration’s realignment of USG priorities and strategies, and other findings. The conclusion of this review proposed several amendments that were incorporated into the CDCS in August 2023:

- Development Objective 1 was modified from “Self-reliance gains protected by increased resilience to natural disasters” to “Jamaica’s resilience to disasters increased” (pages 17 to 21).
- Development Objective 3 was modified from “Progress Toward HIV Epidemic Control Accelerated” to “Epidemic Preparedness and Response Improved” (pages 27 to 31).

The amended CDCS Results Framework is depicted on page 7. Other sections in the document with text significantly updated include Country Context (pages 8 to 11), Program Resources and Priorities (pages 32 to 33), and Management Resources and Structure (pages 33 to 35).

Executive Summary and Results Framework

Throughout this strategy period, USAID will help Jamaica capitalize upon its advanced levels of commitment and capacity to catalyze new forms of partnership that address outstanding development challenges impeding further progress towards greater self-reliance and threatening previous achievements. Specifically, these new models and partnerships will focus on addressing Jamaica's high rates of violent crime¹, strengthening the country's preparedness and response to current and future pandemics, and vulnerability to disasters. In focusing on these areas, USAID development assistance will support progress toward the following goal: *"Through strategic partnerships, Jamaica furthers its achievement as a secure, healthy, and resilient nation."*

The sectors of focus are unique in their potential to advance, hinder, or reverse Jamaica's development progress. High rates of violent crime can weaken key components of Jamaica's economy, thwart investments required for further growth, erode confidence in democratic governance, and limit the opportunities for Jamaica's youth to achieve their full potential. Health epidemics, including the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) as well as HIV-AIDS, globally, deprive countries of resources required to address other development challenges, and natural disasters threaten to wipe away previous gains.

Therefore, USAID has strategically chosen to invest in these sectors based on their potential compound effects, as well as the level of Jamaica's commitment and capacity to address these remaining challenges. To achieve its goal, USAID will employ new models of partnership with Jamaica that leverage greater private sector and Government of Jamaica (GoJ) engagement, mobilize domestic resources, and build upon locally led initiatives. USAID will also identify and support opportunities for Jamaica to share its best practices with other Caribbean countries, thereby furthering Jamaica's ability to play a greater leadership role within the region.

From 2020-2025, USAID will pursue a strategic transition in its assistance to Jamaica, marking a different approach and the employment of a new strategic partnership model. At the center of this shift, the Mission will emphasize support for Jamaican-led initiatives, helping to mobilize domestic resources (including the private sector's), and changing the donor-recipient relationship.

Programmatically, USAID support to strengthen Jamaica's resilience to natural and man-made disasters will focus on global climate change and disaster risk reduction. USAID's objective is to

¹ Jamaica scores .51 on the J2SR Roadmap Safety and Security measure. The score falls below the average for low- and medium-income countries and is consistent with other measures that identify Jamaica's high crime rates as a lasting development challenge.

support Jamaica in building a legacy platform that encompasses two components: 1) disaster risk financing and 2) an alternative energy market. USAID will support climate adaptation and mitigation strategies to manage the effects of climate change, including efforts to reduce, avoid, or sequester carbon dioxide. USAID will bolster priority sectors, including possibly water, agriculture and other supportive areas, with improved technology, tools, and human capacity to secure livelihoods against disaster risk including risk coming from weather events or cyber attacks.

Under Citizen Security, an area in which USAID operated in the previous strategy, activities will align with the new Caribbean Basin Security Initiative (CBSI) strategic framework, reflecting a shift from crime and violence **reduction** to crime and violence **prevention**. USAID/Jamaica will pursue greater partnership with the GoJ and other donor initiatives that address youth crime and violence. Partnerships with the private sector will provide support for the alternative livelihood components of our activities in the form of apprenticeships and jobs for at-risk youth. The result will be a more sustainable response to youth crime and violence prevention through increased local leadership.

USAID/Jamaica is well aligned with the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS relief (PEPFAR). PEPFAR's objective, achieving HIV/AIDS epidemic control as represented by the cascade goal of 90-90-90 by 2020² and 95-95-95 by 2030 remains constant. In contributing to this, USAID programming has remained focused on key and targeted populations. However, USAID has shifted partnership models from a direct government-to-government agreement with the Ministry of Health (with sub-grants to NGOs) to working with a local NGO and the private sector. USAID believes that this more customer-centered approach will yield better results. USAID will also support the country's health system to detect and monitor emerging health threats. This includes activities such as strengthening the laboratory system and staff surveillance capacity which should enhance the ability to plan for and respond to outbreaks and provide adequate information to the general public and GoJ as it is tracked.

Progress along all of these programmatic areas will advance the goal of ending the need for foreign assistance, reaching epidemic control targets for Jamaica and the wider Caribbean, achieving the shared objectives of the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative, and advancing the U.S. Government's (USG) hemispheric goals outlined in the National Security Strategy and the Joint Regional Strategy. For instance, lines of effort to strengthen energy resilience supports the U.S.-Caribbean Partnership to Address the Climate Crisis 2030 (PACC 2030) . This initiative aligns

² PEPFAR defines epidemic control in line with the World Health Organization cascade targets of 90 percent of People Living with HIV (PLHIV) know their status, of those 90 percent are on antiretroviral treatment, and of those, 90 percent have achieved viral suppression (90-90-90). The 2030 goal of 95-95-95 is based on this same formulation.

with pillars of the U.S. National Security Strategy and is part of the U.S. government's increasing engagement in the region within the rubric of the U.S. Strategy for Engagement in the Caribbean, also known as *Caribbean 2020*.³

The 2019 *Trafficking in Persons Report* classifies Jamaica as a Tier 2 country. As reported over the past five years, communities vulnerable to sex trafficking and forced labor include young women and children from poor households, child victims of sexual abuse, residents of Jamaica's poverty-stricken areas effectively controlled by criminal "dons," migrant workers, and workers in the informal sector, particularly on family farms and in markets and shops.

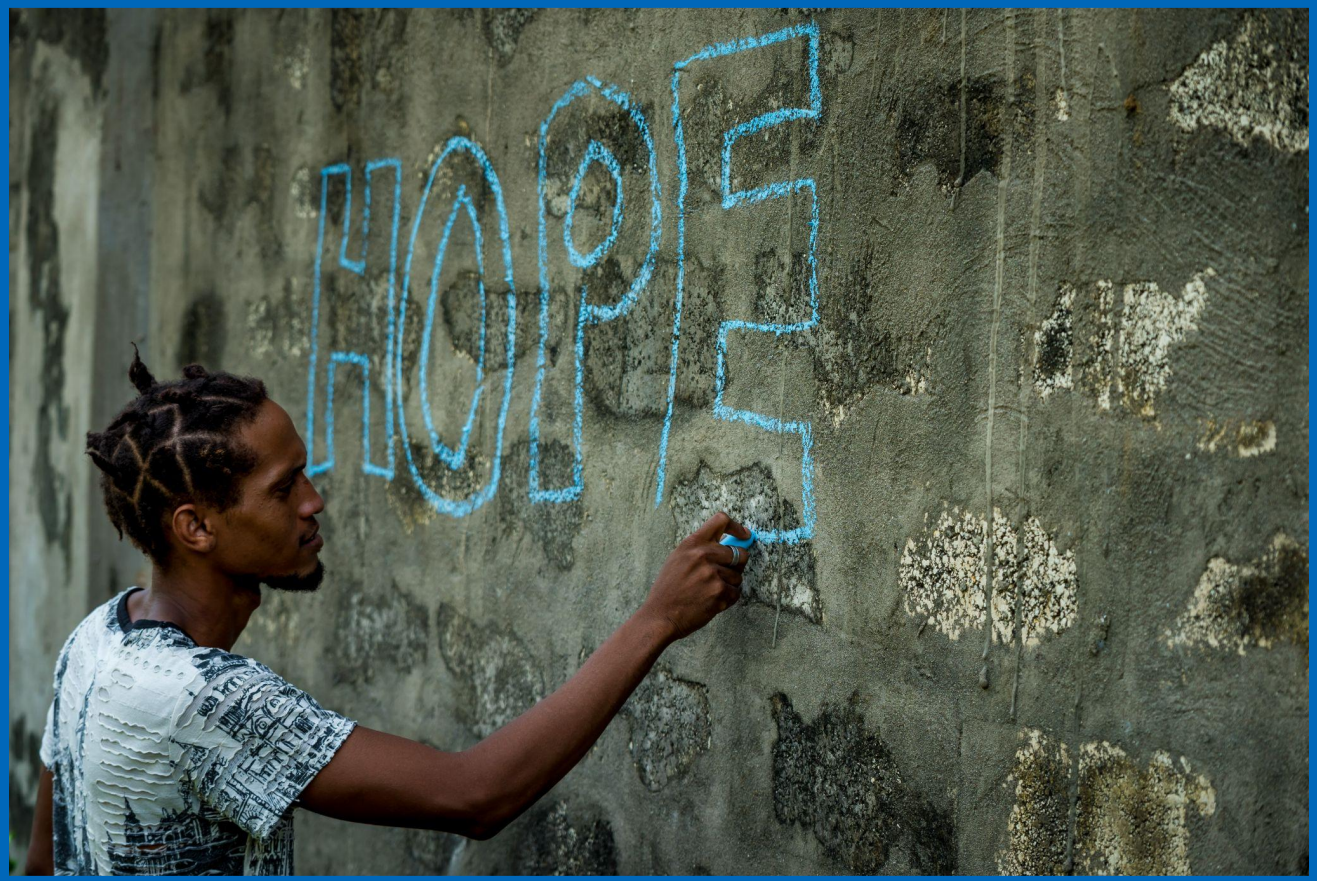
Preventing youth crime and violence is a major focus of USAID/Jamaica's new CDCS. Under its citizen security portfolio, USAID/Jamaica will support efforts to prevent youth crime and violence through improved youth-police relationships, provide support and tools for families and parents to increase their children's resilience to violence, and strengthen services that provide the most at-risk children (perpetrators and victims of crime alike) with pathways away from crime. Additional assistance will focus on improving state institutions' abilities to more effectively respond to crime. Throughout the design and implementation of its citizen security portfolio, USAID/Jamaica will look for means to address TIP issues, build resilience within communities, and complement other GoJ and USG C-TIP efforts.

The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom ranks Jamaica as neither a Tier 1 nor Tier 2 country. The State Department's most recent (2018) *Report on International Religious Freedom* finds that Christian, Jewish, and Muslim groups perceive Jamaica to be a society tolerant of diverse religious beliefs. The report also finds increasing tolerance for smaller religious groups, such as Rastafarians. There is still a law on the books criminalizing Obeah and Myalism, religious practices with West African influences. Potential punishment for practicing Obeah and Myalism includes imprisonment of up to 12 months. The law is not enforced and has rarely been enforced since the country became independent in 1962. The 2019 State Department Human Rights Report does not cite any specific issues facing ethnic minorities and states that there were no reports of anti-Semitic acts.

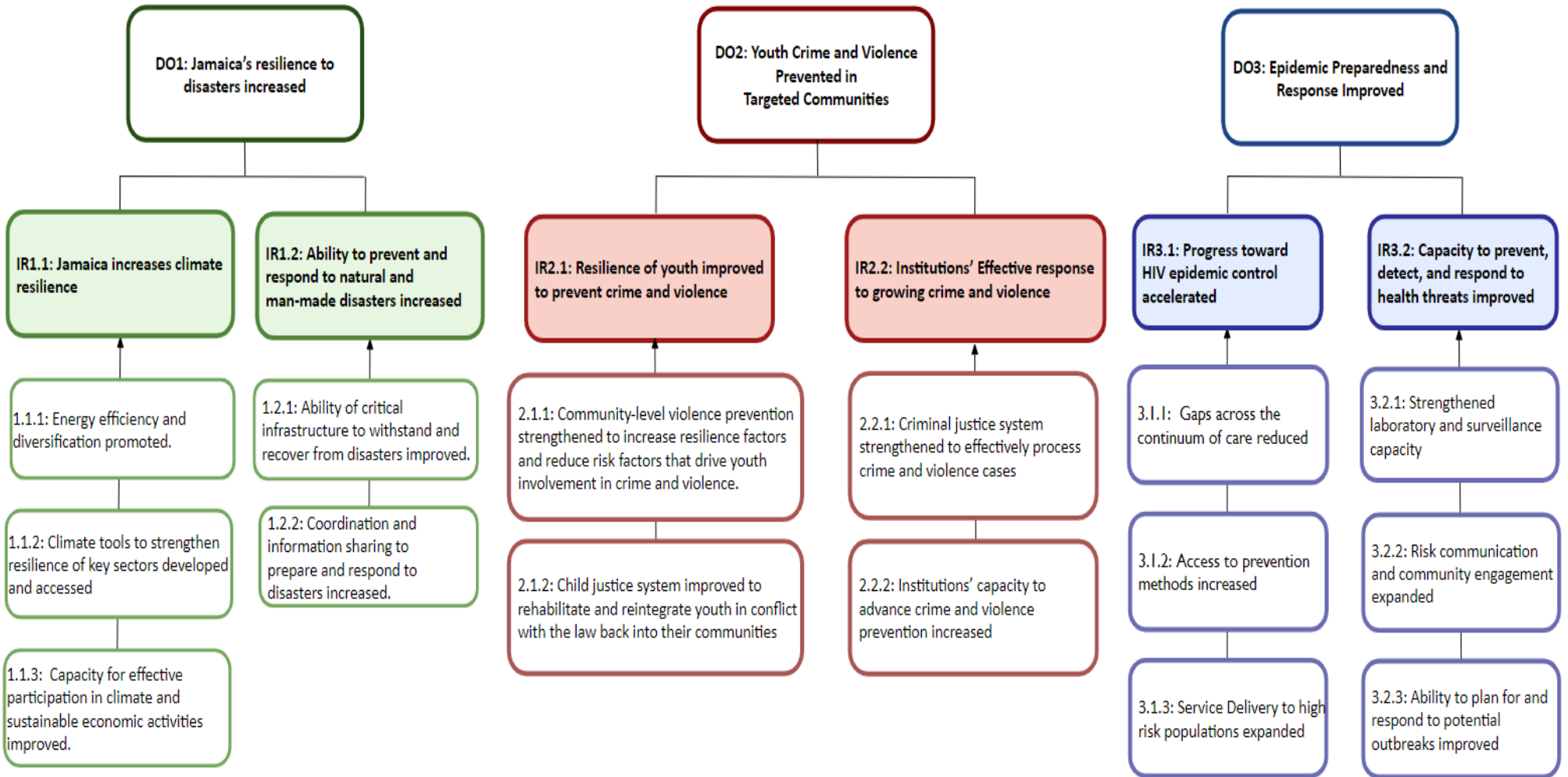
During implementation of our CDCS, USAID/Jamaica will ensure that central to the design and implementation of our strategy will be the mission-wide effort to diversify our partner base, and engage (and co-create with) new and underutilized partners, including faith-based organizations; strengthen private sector engagement; support women's economic empowerment; LGBT rights and advance religious freedom. USAID programs will work to

³ *Caribbean 2020* defines the Department of State and USAID's security, diplomacy, prosperity, energy, education, and health priorities for the region.

incorporate the principles of procurement reform and support Jamaica as it leads its own development journey to the point when there is no longer a need for foreign assistance.



GOAL: Through strategic partnerships, Jamaica furthers its achievement as a secure, healthy, and resilient nation.



Country Context

Over the past decade, Jamaica has made significant strides in its macroeconomic performance. The country's debt to GDP ratio fell from 135.5 percent in 2013 to 92 percent by the end of June 2019 due in large part to the successful implementation of IMF programs under the Extended Fund Facility and Standby Arrangements. Jamaica also boasts a relatively high life expectancy and a high literacy rate. Despite these gains, the country is confronted with challenges, including a high homicide rate, an HIV epidemic concentrated in key and other targeted populations, and susceptibility to natural disasters.

High levels of crime and violence continue to be a major concern of the GoJ and citizens of Jamaica—threatening the tourism industry and placing a heavy burden on the health sector. Jamaica has the third highest homicide rate in Latin America and the Caribbean at 47 deaths per 100,000 people. Meanwhile, 40 percent of Jamaicans expressed views that police officers are involved in criminal activity. Despite that perspective, there appears to be opportunity to further citizen trust in the police. Average levels of trusting the police were 43.9 points on a 0-100 point scale in 2017, 10 points higher than trust levels in 2014. On questions about the prospect for improved police-citizen cooperation in combating crime, Jamaican attitudes are favorable.⁴

The GoJ has implemented (with limited success) several strategies to reduce the number of homicides and increase cooperation with the police. The Ministry of National Security ended its major intervention—the Citizen Security and Justice Program — in September 2019 and has launched a new Citizen Security Plan, which will seek to intensify and deepen interventions in targeted hot spot communities and address the challenges identified, including trust levels between police and citizens and impunity among public officials. To support this effort, USAID/Jamaica will seek opportunities to partner directly and indirectly with the host government, non-government organizations, and the private sector to prevent youth crime and violence in targeted communities, including through strengthening youth-police relations.

In addition, as a Small Island Developing State, Jamaica is highly vulnerable to external shocks such as man-made and natural disasters. According to the World Bank, natural disasters cost Jamaica an estimated US \$1.2 billion between 2001 and 2010. One major hurricane can wipe away all the gains made over the past decade; for example, Hurricane Ivan in 2004 caused over US \$350 million in damages (World Bank, 2018). The objective of USAID/Jamaica's disaster risk reduction program is to reduce the economic impact of disasters, including cybersecurity attacks. Though not directly included in the roadmap, the country's vulnerability to natural disasters may be captured to some extent in the GDP and Poverty Rate, as natural disasters are

⁴ Vanderbilt University (2017), *The Political Culture of Democracy in Jamaica and in the Americas, 2016/17: A Comparative Study of Democracy and Governance*.

likely to impede economic activity, damage critical infrastructure, and displace persons from their homes.

This is also the area where arguably the country is most vulnerable to slippage, as a major hurricane has the potential to set back the country's economic progress by decades. The GoJ is cognizant of the high risk posed by natural disasters and has taken the initiative, working with the World Bank, to develop a disaster risk financing policy and framework. Additionally, the GoJ plays a lead role in disaster response within the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), providing regional support to other island nations. GoJ's lead agency for disaster response, the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM), is the strongest agency of its kind in the 14-nation CARICOM and serves as a focal point for international disaster relief in the western Caribbean.

Jamaica's vulnerability to cyberattacks is high. An estimated 12 million cyberattacks were attempted on Jamaican targets in 2022. In the first two months of 2023, at least two GoJ entities suffered cyberattacks including the Southeast Regional Health Authority, part of the critical health infrastructure for the region. Cyberattacks have the potential to disrupt the economy and cause significant financial and social damage. USAID/Jamaica will seek to build the resilience of Jamaica's cybersecurity systems by providing training and targeted technical assistance for cybersecurity personnel and investing in technology to deter and mitigate cybersecurity incidents.

Approximately 32,000 persons are living with HIV (PLHIV) in Jamaica.⁵ Jamaica is behind in its efforts to fight the epidemic and will not meet the UNAIDS 90-90-90 targets by the end of 2020. As of this writing, Jamaica's current cascade is 84-47-62. HIV/AIDS prevalence among key and other targeted populations remains another area of concern. The HIV epidemic is concentrated in key populations, with men who have sex with men (MSM) having an HIV prevalence rate of 29.3 percent (MSM IBSS Survey, UCSF, 2018). Given the high levels of stigma and discrimination against PLHIV and MSM, the Ministry of Health has partnered with NGOs who are better able to meet the needs of these targeted populations in a safe space. USAID now supports some of these NGOs directly (which aligns with the civil society effectiveness metric on the country roadmap), as well as the development of private sector HIV health services.

The COVID-19 pandemic is a strong reminder of the effect that emerging pathogens can have on people's health, and on global economies. Nearly 75 percent of all new, emerging, or re-emerging diseases affecting humans at the beginning of the 21st century are zoonotic (i.e., originated in animals). Jamaica, with weak surveillance systems and an over-stretched workforce, is more vulnerable to emerging infectious diseases than its GDP suggests. Jamaica is

⁵ UN Spectrum Estimate 2019

home to over 21 bat species; a robust commercial poultry industry; an antiquated and insufficient wastewater management system; and relies heavily on tourism. USAID/Jamaica aims to reduce the impact of such threats by implementing activities in accordance with USAID's Global Health Security Program, which strengthens the country's capacity to (1) prevent avoidable disease outbreaks; (2) detect threats early; (3) respond rapidly and effectively when outbreaks occur.

The three sectors that USAID will support over the life of the CDCS are closely aligned with Jamaica's long-term development strategy – Vision 2030 – which aims to make “Jamaica the place of choice to live, work, raise families and do business.” USAID's Development Objectives are closely aligned with Vision 2030 Priority Outcomes as operationalized in the Medium-Term Socio-Economic Framework (MTSF) (2018-2023).

DO 1 “Jamaica's resilience to disasters increased” aligns with GoJ Priorities “Hazard Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change,” “Energy Security and Efficiency,” and “A Stable Macroeconomy.” The DRR program seeks to mitigate the negative impacts of natural disasters, including improving the GoJ's ability to withstand fiscal impacts, thus stabilizing the macroeconomy. The program also focuses on increasing energy resilience, which has the potential to improve energy security and cyber security capabilities.

DO 2 “Youth Crime and Violence Prevented in Targeted Communities” aligns with “Security and Safety.” As stated previously, this is a major area of focus for the GoJ and USAID will work closely with the Ministry of National Security to select target communities and support specific interventions to prevent youth crime and violence.

DO 3 “Epidemic Preparedness and Response Improved” is aligned with a “Healthy and Stable Population.” While the MTSF does not specifically mention HIV/AIDS or COVID-19, the GoJ recognizes the importance of addressing the HIV epidemic, which although currently concentrated in key and other targeted populations, has the potential to affect the general population if allowed to spread, as well as preparing for and responding to other pandemic threats that may emerge.

Jamaica is an important ally of the United States and often supports the U.S. on key issues such as Venezuela. China is Jamaica's largest bilateral “donor,” offering loans at concessional rates, grants, educational exchanges and technical assistance. For example, a new loan agreement for the Southern Coastal Highway Improvement Project was signed with China for financing of US \$384 million. It will fund the rehabilitation of 110 kilometers of roadway to facilitate future development along the southern corridor.⁶ The U.S. Government has issued warnings about the

⁶ Economic & Social Survey Jamaica 2017, Planning Institute of Jamaica

debt implications of new loans for Jamaica and the possible negative effects of Chinese investments in terms of the displacement of Jamaican workers by Chinese laborers. For its part, following an official visit to China by the Jamaican Prime Minister, the GoJ has advised that it has entered a new phase of cooperation with China, focusing on increasing trade, climate change resilience, education and sport.⁷ New infrastructure projects will not be based on loan financing but will be funded through joint venture partnerships, public/private partnerships, or private sector transactions between Jamaican and Chinese firms.⁸

It should also be noted that with the successful implementation of IMF programs, Jamaica's debt-to-GDP ratio continues to decline and is targeted to reach 60 percent by FY 2025/2026.⁹ The GoJ is transparent about the tenure of Chinese loans and the GoJ Minister of Finance has stated that 90 percent of outstanding debt to China's Export-Import Bank will be repaid in ten years. Furthermore, the ratio of Chinese loans to Jamaica's total debt stock is approximately 3.9 percent; hence, the GoJ does not see Chinese loans as a cause for concern.¹⁰



⁷ <http://jamaica-gleaner.com/article/news/20191110/holness-says-ja-china-partnership-now-focus-more-trade>

⁸ http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/pm-says-no_179387?profile=1373

⁹ <https://jis.gov.jm/government-reduces-debt-to-gdp-ratio/>

¹⁰ <https://jis.gov.jm/90-per-cent-of-loans-from-china-to-be-repaid-in-10-years/>

Strategic Approach

Jamaica possesses a high degree of self-reliance. USAID's country roadmap methodology places Jamaica in the northeast quadrant of the scatterplot, demonstrating high levels of both commitment and capacity relative to all other low- and middle-income countries. Yet challenges do persist. Jamaica continues to suffer high rates of crime and violence; its HIV epidemic stubbornly resists control; and it remains unduly vulnerable to natural disasters and cyber security attacks.

The sectors of focus are unique in their potential to advance, hinder, or reverse Jamaica's development progress. High rates of violent crime can weaken key components of Jamaica's economy, thwart investments required for further growth, erode confidence in democratic governance, and limit opportunities for Jamaica's youth to achieve their full potential. The HIV epidemic in Jamaica deprives the country of resources required to address other development challenges, and natural disasters threaten to wipe away previous gains. Therefore, USAID has strategically chosen to invest in these sectors based on their potential compound effects, as well as the level of Jamaica's commitment and capacity to address these remaining challenges.

Jamaica has diverse civil society organizations that are active in all three sectors within which the Mission works; this is reflected in the country's high score on the Civil Society Capacity metric. With respect to Disaster Risk Reduction, groups are focused at the community level and include faith-based organizations that mobilize before and after natural disasters to provide assistance. Under Citizen Security, there are Community Development Committees (CDCs) that are supported by the GoJ's Social Development Commission. The CDCs comprise Community-Based Organizations and citizens and have varying levels of activism across the country. In addition, there are various NGOs that provide a voice for civil society on issues like anti-corruption and youth crime and violence. With respect to PEPFAR, there are NGOs that provide services to key populations, particularly MSM, who may not be comfortable accessing care from public health institutions due to stigma and discrimination. While there is a significant number of CSOs, assessments done through USAID/Jamaica's Local Partner Development activity and other capacity building initiatives have shown that the actual capacity of these organizations is very low and their sustainability is questionable due to high dependence on donor and GoJ funding.

Climate Resilience

Jamaica's vulnerability to natural disasters threatens to undermine many of the advances it has made in both commitment and capacity, as detailed in the FY 2019 and FY 2020 country

roadmaps. Success in helping Jamaica to reduce the risks it faces from natural disasters will therefore help Jamaica strengthen its resilience.

Efforts under this DO will support and catalyze Jamaica's use of its domestic resources to finance its own disaster responses and mitigate negative impacts on its fiscal accounts. As part of this CDCS, USAID is investing \$5 million to support these new mechanisms. This investment will leverage \$14.85 million provided by Germany and the UK to the Global Risk Financing Facility (GRiF)¹¹ and \$16 million set aside by the GoJ in its disaster contingency fund.

USAID assistance will unlock the private sector's ability to strengthen Jamaica's energy sector in the face of natural disasters. This includes improving the enabling environment for renewable energy markets, promoting energy efficiency and diversification, and increasing the ability of critical energy infrastructure to withstand and recover from natural disasters. USAID programming under this DO is centered on Jamaica leading the partnership, as work in both areas supports the priorities, plans and existing efforts by the government to decrease its vulnerability to natural disasters. Work will also include reviewing Jamaica's current cyber security activities to identify ways to increase workforce capacity, the systems and processes as well as to support the Government of Jamaica to develop its cybersecurity regulatory framework.

Strengthening the Caribbean's resilience (in terms of energy and disaster risk reduction) is a key thrust of USG policies such as Caribbean 2020. Initiatives such as PACC 2030 offer multiple opportunities for a whole-of-government approach to meet Jamaica's disaster risk reduction needs.

In addition to collaborating with these initiatives, the United States' new International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) brings the equities of the Development Credit Authority (DCA) and OPIC to bear. USAID recently signed a new DCA credit guarantee with a leading Jamaican bank to expand access to finance for renewable energy throughout the Caribbean, including Jamaica. USAID/Jamaica will continue to explore efforts to utilize DCA programming, as well as opportunities with the DFC, which is investigating means to support energy investment on the island. Collaboration with the State Department, both at Post and in Washington, will remain close, and the Mission will search for means to amplify the effects of the overall USG effort.

If successful, USAID expects by the end of this strategy that it will have established a legacy platform (in terms of disaster risk financing, energy resilience, and cybersecurity) that supports

¹¹ GRiF is a multi-donor trust fund housed at the World Bank, which is supported by Germany and the United Kingdom.

Jamaica's leadership in protecting itself from one of its greatest threats: natural and man-made disasters. Furthermore, success will also mark USAID's final foray in these sectors. It is currently anticipated that Development Assistance, unless it is tied to a USG initiative such as PEPFAR or CBSI or in the case of an unforeseen external shock, will no longer be sought for disaster and energy resilience or other sectors beyond 2025.

Crime and Violence

USAID/Jamaica is an implementer of the USG's CBSI. Therefore, programming decisions must align with and contribute to the initiative's strategy. Under this premise, the Mission's approach in this sector will shift from *reducing* the levels of crime and violence in target communities (as in the last CDCS) toward a focus on youth crime and violence *prevention*. Specifically, USAID/Jamaica will address the risk and resilience factors faced by youth, families, and communities and strengthen institutional capacity for crime and violence prevention.

By the end of this strategy, USAID expects to have transformed how it engages partners and supports local leadership on the challenge of safety and security. USAID will adopt more locally owned partnership models that put local actors in the lead for addressing their own challenges. As improving safety and security is also a GoJ priority, USAID will seek opportunities to strengthen, complement, and facilitate execution of GoJ plans. USAID will seek opportunities to partner directly with the GoJ; however, in contrast to past partnerships, government-to-government partnerships in this strategic period will emphasize financial contributions and resources over in-kind contributions.

Government cooperation alone will not suffice. **Private sector engagement**, locally led problem solving, co-creation and co-implementation will be utilized. In addition to government stakeholders, USAID will engage firms, communities, families, academia and youth to determine the types of interventions, risk and resilience factors, communities, and institutions to target. **Private sector engagement** will form a critical component, as the interests of the private sector are aligned with increasing safety and security. Bringing the private sector into the equation will be a major focus of the Mission's efforts. For instance, many businesses are already investing in crime prevention activities, although these initiatives are largely uncoordinated. USAID will work with the private sector to implement joint coordinated crime prevention interventions and mobilize financial resources towards crime and violence prevention programs.

USAID actively cooperates with the State Department's efforts under CBSI objective 1, "Reduce Illicit Trafficking," led by the State Department's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, and under objective 2, "Increase Safety and Security," led by the State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL). Horizontally and vertically, USAID

makes demonstrable efforts to coordinate on reporting and planning for the delivery of assistance with law enforcement agencies. In this strategic period, USAID will seek close collaboration with INL on efforts to strengthen Jamaica's criminal justice system and increase the efficacy with which crime and violence cases are processed, as well as help Jamaican institutions advance crime and violence prevention.

Epidemic Control

If not addressed and controlled, the epidemics have the potential to make Jamaica not only less healthy but less prosperous as a nation. HIV and public health issues have proven track records of undermining other components of a society (governance, security, economics, social cohesion). Helping Jamaica accelerate its progress toward HIV epidemic control and strengthen its pandemic preparedness and response are a critical component to achieving the CDCS goal.

The GoJ identifies a "healthy and stable" population as a key national outcome. This includes strategies to reduce the levels of infectious diseases, such as HIV, among the population. In order to ensure HIV does not become a larger problem for the general population, the GoJ has recognized that it must access key populations that are essential for it to reach its epidemic control targets. Furthermore, the GoJ has committed its own resources to controlling the epidemic. The GoJ's work in this area includes partnerships with NGOs that can reach these key populations and incorporating the private sector into the overall effort. In support of this, USAID HIV/AIDS programming will directly support high-performing NGOs operating in this space and work with private sector health providers.

While the focus of our PEPFAR program has remained on key and targeted populations, USAID has recently **redefined its relationship** from a direct Government to Government agreement with the Ministry of Health (with sub-grants to NGOs) to working directly with a local NGO as the prime partner. USAID also has begun working with a private sector network of clinicians to serve these populations, which may not wish to visit public health facilities due to stigma and discrimination. These new partnerships align with the GoJ's vision in which NGOs and the private sector play a greater role in the nation's epidemic response and complement the public sector response.

Resources for Jamaica will be contingent upon success toward the stated cascade. As success toward epidemic control is achieved, expectations of smaller resource levels and the opportunity to deepen strategic transition are reasonable.

As PEPFAR is a USG-initiative, USAID is but one implementing agency in Jamaica. The Department of State/Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator is responsible for overall interagency

coordination and direction. USAID, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Health Resources and Services Administration (within the Department of Health and Human Services) collaborate in the implementation of PEPFAR programming in Jamaica—ensuring agency resources and expertise are leveraged and applied to address the unique features of the country’s epidemic. USAID will also use Global Health Security resources to provide targeted technical assistance to address critical weaknesses in the country’s health system and identify appropriate risk communication strategies to improve the detection and response to pandemic threats.

Results Framework Narrative

Goal Statement: “Through strategic partnerships, Jamaica furthers its achievement as a secure, healthy, and resilient nation.”

Goal Statement Narrative

As outlined in the “Strategic Approach” section of this CDCS, the sectors of focus (crime and violence, disaster risk reduction, and HIV/AIDS) are unique in their potential to advance, hinder, or reverse Jamaica’s development progress. USAID has strategically chosen to invest in these sectors based on their potential compound effects, as well as the level of Jamaica’s commitment and capacity to address these remaining challenges. To achieve its goal, USAID will employ new models of partnership with Jamaica that leverage greater private sector and GoJ engagement, mobilize domestic resources, and build upon locally led initiatives. USAID will also identify and support opportunities for Jamaica to share its best practices with other Caribbean countries, thereby furthering Jamaica’s ability to play a greater leadership role within the region.

Progress toward the CDCS goal will be demonstrated by several factors. Jamaica’s security will improve as youth crime and violence decreases. Momentum toward the 90-90-90 and 95-95-95 HIV cascade targets will provide a clear indication that Jamaica is improving the health of its population. The establishment of financial mechanisms will insulate Jamaica from the shocks of a disaster, making it more resilient to the disaster’s effects. Likewise, in diversifying the energy sector, Jamaica will become less vulnerable to the effects of disasters. Combined, progress in these areas will address last-mile challenges (health, safety and security), as well as protect against natural disaster-instigated backsliding.

DO 1: Jamaica's Resilience to Disasters Increased

Jamaica's vulnerability to natural disasters threatens to undermine many of the advances it has made in both commitment and capacity, as detailed in the FY 2019 and FY 2020 country roadmaps. Success in helping Jamaica to reduce the risks it faces from disasters will therefore help Jamaica strengthen its resilience.



DO 1 Development Hypothesis

If Jamaica increases its climate resilience through mitigation and adaptation efforts, and strengthens its ability to prevent and respond to natural and man-made disasters, it will decrease the probability that a series of catastrophic events will derail the developmental gains the country has made and hinder prospective development.

Development Hypothesis Narrative

As Jamaica has progressed, its continued vulnerability to natural disasters remains a threat to the country's prosperity. To help protect the country's achievements, USAID will strengthen Jamaica's ability to reduce its vulnerability, improve its responsiveness, and increase its ability to rebound after a natural disaster. Coupled with continued work on responding to natural disasters, USAID will look to improve the cyber resiliency of Jamaica's critical infrastructure by promoting coordinated preparation and response to cyberattacks through engagement with the GoJ, international organizations and the private sector to learn more about their internal practices, coordinate efforts and for data sharing purposes.

Jamaica's Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) provides a good example of the Government of Jamaica's strong capacity. ODPEM has the technical expertise to respond effectively to disasters and is seen as a leader within the region. Jamaica's vulnerability to natural disasters lies elsewhere—particularly the high costs of inevitable damages and the energy sector's insufficient resilience. These vulnerabilities threaten the development advances the country has made.

At the community level, decreasing Jamaica's vulnerability will mitigate the differential impacts natural disasters have on men and women due to pre-existing inequalities in society such as gender biases in selecting girls over boys to attend school as the boys aid in recovery efforts. Indeed, natural disasters may have the unintended effect of increasing praedial larceny attributed sometimes to young unattached males as they seek to find alternative sources of income and sustenance in the aftermath of a disaster.

In addition, the livelihoods of women who provide marketing and domestic service activities for the tourist industry are more vulnerable to the secondary effects of natural disasters, such as road destruction and transportation gaps due to storms or land erosion/landslides. Helping Jamaica build its resilience to recover quickly from natural disasters will likely mean more resilient infrastructure and therefore less disruption to the local economy.

"Hazard Risk Reduction" and "Energy Security & Efficiency" are among Jamaica's top priorities, as outlined in the country's *Vision 2030*. These priorities, coupled with Jamaica's expressed interest in partnering with USAID on both issues, drives USAID activity under this DO. USAID will capitalize on different components of Jamaica's overall commitment and capacity to support progress towards this development objective.

IR 1.1: Jamaica Increases Climate Resilience

Planned climate resilience strategies include both climate adaptation and mitigation strategies to more ably manage the effects of climate change. Illustrative activities include promoting renewable energy, including installing solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and batteries for energy

generation, providing internationally recognized certification for people looking to expand their professional qualifications, and supporting the Government of Jamaica to further develop the regulatory framework to increase renewable energy uptake. USAID will also support climate tools, such as financing and weather prediction tools, to strengthen the resilience of key sectors. USAID will continue to build the capacity of key stakeholders such as the private sector and individuals at the community level to implement climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives, including within the energy sector as well as the water, agriculture, and fisheries sectors.

IR 1.2: Ability to prevent and respond to natural and man-made disasters increased
USAID will bolster priority sectors, including energy and possibly water, agriculture and other supportive areas, with improved technology, tools, and human capacity to secure livelihoods against disaster risk including risk coming from weather events or cyber attacks. Illustrative activities working with the agriculture sector to determine how best to alter planting dates and crop varieties, relocating crops, building hurricane resistant greenhouses, and implementing better land management for erosion control and soil protection. Working with the tourism sector to incentivize investment in nature-based solutions to protect their properties from storm surges, and ensuring adequate building standards, to include hurricane straps and storm shutters. USAID/Jamaica will also seek to improve the cyber resiliency of Jamaica’s critical infrastructure through (a) drafting of a critical infrastructure protection strategy; (b) identification and cataloging of critical infrastructure and systems; (c) capacity building for cybersecurity of regulatory bodies; and (d) sectoral monitoring and collaboration initiatives.

A World Bank study of Jamaica’s Disaster Risk Financing status and opportunities found:

“On average, in the long term, the GoJ would need to cover losses of approximately USD 121 million (J\$16 billion) annually, or 0.84 percent of Jamaica’s 2015 gross domestic product (GDP) to address its contingent liabilities related to hurricanes and floods. This amount is also equivalent to 3.09 percent of total government expenditures in 2016. Hurricane damage to public and private building infrastructure alone will amount to USD 67 million (J\$9 billion) on average each year in the long run. In addition to long-term impacts on economic and social development in Jamaica, disasters also increase Jamaica’s sovereign debt, as more loans are borrowed to finance unplanned post-disaster expenditures.”¹²

The same study finds that existing instruments for disaster risk financing are not optimized to address Jamaica’s disaster risk profile, but it also provides recommendations that would “allow

¹² “Advancing Disaster Risk Finance in Jamaica,” World Bank, February 2018, page 10.

the GoJ to finance its contingent liabilities from a flood or hurricane event with a 20-year return period with its own funds without reallocation or further indebtedness, other than drawing down on a contingent financing mechanism.”

Concurring with these findings, Jamaica has partnered with the World Bank to develop a country-specific strategy for comprehensive disaster risk financing. The intent is to improve the GoJ’s public financial management and risk management frameworks in order to mitigate the financial risks that disasters pose, and to develop and launch financial instruments to mitigate or transfer these costs. The GoJ recently began recapitalization of the country’s disaster reserve fund to the tune of \$16 million and is exploring the launch of a catastrophe bond¹³ or indexed insurance vehicle as part of a diversification strategy.

The GoJ requested bilateral assistance and participation from USAID to further its financial resilience agenda. USAID has rallied donors to crowd in capital in support of a cross-sectoral financial resilience strategy, largely in partnership with the World Bank. As part of this CDCS, USAID is investing \$5 million to support these new mechanisms. For instance, USAID became an early partner in the development and launch of a Jamaican catastrophe bond. Assistance resources could be used to support catastrophe bond premiums or capitalization of other risk transfer mechanisms. In doing so, USAID will leverage \$14.85 million provided by Germany and the UK to the GRiF and the \$16 million set aside by the GoJ in its disaster contingency fund.

Given USAID’s desire to see Jamaica significantly contribute its own funds and resources, the Mission has established a working relationship with the World Bank to provide technical assistance to ensure that the correct policy environment, coordination, and checks and balances are in place to guide any new financial instruments and maximize the outcomes of respective contributions for vulnerable populations in Jamaica.

As Jamaica establishes models for energy sector resilience and for financing disaster recovery, the Mission will seek opportunities to help Jamaica’s disaster response agency (which provides technical support to other nations in the region) and other GoJ and private sector stakeholders to export these models throughout the Caribbean. For instance, the Minister of Finance has expressed interest in using Jamaican models of disaster risk financing to create region-wide, multi-national instruments that will reduce cost exposure on a greater scale and increase regional cooperation. Similarly, as experience is gained in energy resilience programming, Jamaican approaches and models may be explored in relation to other regional resiliency

¹³ Catastrophe bonds or “cat bonds” are fixed income securities that pay an enhanced coupon to bondholders, commensurate to the risk from losing part or all of the invested capital if a natural disaster occurs.

efforts. Where opportunities arise, the Mission will position Jamaican stakeholders to help others in the region.

DO 1 Assumptions:

- GoJ and the energy sector regulator will continue to support increasing energy sector resilience through diversification of fuel sources, energy efficiency measures, and alternative approaches (such as microgrids) to energy infrastructure;
- JPS will not block increased renewable and microgrid integration into the power grid;
- Adequate financing tools can be activated to stimulate a market for energy efficiency and energy services companies;
- With targeted attention, Jamaican private sector companies in certain sectors will engage in launching renewable energy approaches;
- Cost structure for financial instruments enables their benefits to be sufficient enough to attract investors;
- GOJ will remain committed to reaching cybersecurity development objectives through bringing laws, policies, and regulations in line with international standards, increasing GOJ capacity to protect its cyberspace, and improving the quantity and quality of its cybersecurity workforce;
- The Jamaican private sector will be open to adopting cybersecurity standards; and
- Opportunities will exist for the local cybersecurity workforce to find employment in Jamaica.

DO 1 Risks:

- Energy utility does not support liberalization of the market for electricity distribution in Jamaica;
- Regulatory, policy, financing and public education changes needed to launch the energy efficiency and renewable market are not adequately coordinated; and
- Ability to implement or install RE options faces two real constraints: unique factors facing the tourism sector; and limited options for procuring U.S. solar panels and other RE equipment.

DO 2: Youth crime and violence prevented in targeted communities

High levels of crime and violence are a major concern of the government and citizens of Jamaica—threatening the tourism industry, adding costs to business operations, and placing heavy burdens on the public sector. Jamaica had the third highest homicide rate in Latin America and the Caribbean—47 homicides per 100,000 people in 2018, which was eight times higher than the global average of six per 100,000 (GoJ Citizen Security Plan 2019-2022). This is further reflected in Jamaica’s J2SR FY 2020 Roadmap “Safety and Security” score of .51, which is below average for low- and medium-income countries and shows considerable room for improvement.

In Jamaica, youth are most often the perpetrators and victims of crime and violence. The Jamaican National Youth policy reveals that about 15 percent of students between ages 10 and 18 carry a weapon to school; 14 percent of boys and five percent of girls have been stabbed or shot in a fight; eight percent of all adolescents have been knocked unconscious; and one in six adolescents have belonged to a gang at some point in their lives. Moreover, youth are arrested, jailed, and murdered at twice the rate of the general population, with over 400 youth in juvenile correctional facilities and another large percentage in the general correctional services. Many possess criminal records that present obstacles to accessing legitimate social services and accompanying opportunities and that keep them confined in the perpetual cycle of a criminal and violent lifestyle.

Jamaica’s crime epidemic also has a disproportionate impact on young males. An IDB study¹⁴ on crime and violence in Jamaica profiles most victims of homicide as, “male, young, uneducated, and poor.” The study found that, “In 2013, 90 percent of all victims were male” and 51 percent were under the age of 35. In 2017, the homicide rate per 100,000 of population, by sex, was 109.8 for male (Statistical Institute of Jamaica), compared to 60.2 for the overall population. Similar to the homicide victims, most perpetrators are young men. Approximately 97 percent of arrestees for murder in 2013 were young men under 35 years of age (ibid. pg 19). Per USAID/Jamaica’s Gender Analysis, the frequency of physical violence for males averaged 2,799 per year over the 2007-2012 period and the violence frequency for females averaged 311 during the same period.

On the other hand, gang violence impacts women and girls in vulnerable areas in many ways. They often experience sexual coercion by gang members and refusal could result in punishment against themselves and their families. Women and girls are also victims of reprisal crimes, including sexual violence, for being perceived as having reported or actually reporting criminal activity to the police, or in relation to a personal or family vendetta.

¹⁴ Inter-American Bank (IDB) Series on Crime and Violence in the Caribbean: Crime and Violence in Jamaica, 2016



Development Hypothesis: *If there is a holistic approach to youth crime and violence prevention that (1) addresses the risk and resilience factors faced by youth, families, communities, and societies on one hand, and (2) strengthens the enabling environment for crime and violence prevention on the other, then this will result in an overall reduction in levels of youth crime, violence and victimization over time in the programming in targeted areas.*

Development Hypothesis Narrative

USAID’s own research¹⁵ into what does and does not work in preventing youth crime and violence provides evidence that informs the approach taken under this DO. Evidence demonstrates that a country’s violence problems will not be solved solely through higher investment in policing, increased incarceration rates, more education or employment. A holistic approach is needed to target youth crime and violence both geographically and demographically, while addressing systemic and institutional issues hindering effective crime

¹⁵ “What Works In Reducing Community Violence: A Meta-Review and Field Study of the Northern Triangle,” USAID, February 2016; “USAID Crime and Violence Prevention Field Guide,” USAID, July 2016.

and violence prevention. Thus, assistance under this DO will implement a multidisciplinary approach to target the factors faced by youth, families, and communities and help them to build systems that address risks and strengthen resilience. Simultaneously, efforts will strengthen the enabling environment for crime and violence prevention. This includes support for justice sector reforms that provide alternatives like dispute resolution and diversion that reduce the number of youth entering the system and address the unique risk factors of youth offenders. In addition, addressing issues such as increasing civil society involvement, promoting community-oriented policing, and strengthening local governance for effective crime and violence prevention are key.

Focusing on preventing youth crime and violence will complement and support Jamaica's own priorities. DO 2 is well aligned to Jamaica's "Vision 2030" and the country's national security strategies and plans. This will enable USAID to coordinate directly with key GoJ ministries, agencies, and departments with responsibility to implement the national crime prevention strategies. It will also position the Mission to leverage Jamaica's relatively high commitment and capacity levels and pursue financial cost-sharing and government-to-government partnerships as part of its efforts to **redefine its relationship** with the partner government.

As a result of interventions under DO 2, youth resilience to participating in crime and violence will increase; pathways out of or away from violence will be established; and communities and institutions will be better able to implement efforts that decrease the propensity for youth crime and violence.

IR 2.1: Resilience of Youth Improved to Prevent Crime and Violence

Traditional crime control measures do not address the underlying causes of violence, which include, among other things, broken families and social decay; neglected and abused children, with early exposure to violence; the erosion of moral authority by entrenched systems of lawlessness; and the influence of gang-dominated communities with poor physical infrastructure, poor education, and limited job opportunities. While it is necessary to deal resolutely with crime, to be truly effective in decreasing crime and violence, efforts must also simultaneously resolve the causes of violence. This requires a multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral approach. The police and the security forces play an indispensable role, but they alone cannot solve all the social, economic, political, psychological, and cultural problems in a society.

To formulate the right approach, multiple factors must be taken into consideration. Crime and violence reduction research recommends that programming focus on targeted geographical areas or "hot spots" instead of the general population. As such, programming under this IR will

be geographically selective. Working with local partners and stakeholders, USAID will initially work with three to five communities where multiple interventions can be clustered, have depth, and be sustained. Communities will be selected from the Jamaican Ministry of National Security's (MNS) 21 prioritized or "hotspot" communities in the parishes of Kingston, St. Andrew, St. James, St. Catherine, and Clarendon. GoJ data collection agencies identify these parishes as among those with the highest crime rates for the past several years.

Programming under this IR also will be cognizant of the effects crime and violence have on economic output. For instance, the World Bank estimated the direct cost of crime (excluding the impact on business) to Jamaica to be at least 3.7 percent of GDP (ibid, IDB, pg. 42). A USAID-funded study in a similarly violent country also provides lessons applicable to Jamaica—finding that the high levels of crime and violence reduced economic activities, coupled with the direct economic loss of investing in private security for many businesses.¹⁶ The Mission will use this knowledge to recruit affected stakeholders into the response—pursuing private sector involvement in defining and implementing solutions to resolve crime and violence.

USAID/Jamaica's gender analysis states that an estimated one in every five (21 percent) adolescent girls aged 15-19 reported having experienced sexual violence, while about 5 percent of boys in this age group reported the same. Girls account for 97.3 percent of the 1,094 child abuse reports. Moreover, the danger that intimate partner violence poses to the children of women who are victims of domestic violence is particularly profound as they are more likely to drop out of school at a young age and face increased risks from early exposure to violence. According to the Jamaica Women's Health Survey (2016), adolescent mothers are especially vulnerable to intimate partner violence and are more likely to exhibit patterns of negative parenting that create a vicious cycle of poverty, marginalization, and violence.

Under this IR, USAID will support efforts that help targeted communities increase resilience factors and reduce risk factors that drive youth involvement in crime and violence. Programming can help develop systems that empower parents with the skills and resources to keep children from involvement with negative actors. Assistance can also bolster psychosocial services to youth and family members who have physical and psychological scars, as such trauma places them at a higher risk for becoming desensitized to the effects and consequences of violence and more likely to commit such acts. The dynamics identified in the gender analysis will play a particularly important role in shaping assistance in this area. Programming will be tailored to address the distinctions between how males and females are pulled into, contribute

¹⁶ "Private Initiative: Crime and Violence Cost Estimation in Mexico" 2019. (Funded by USAID as part of the *Juntos para la Prevención de la Violencia* project.)

to, perpetrate, and experience acts of violence. For instance, assistance may be targeted to help adolescent mothers develop parenting skills and resist domestic violence, as well as employ practices that decrease their children’s exposure to violence and alter their comprehension of it.

Programming also will work with youth at a higher risk of participating in crime and violence or those that have already committed such acts. This could include support for rehabilitative initiatives, life skills training, psychosocial support, literacy training, technical and vocational training, business and entrepreneurship training, career counseling, and job placement assistance. Regardless of the intervention, programming will focus on making practical assistance the priority—prioritizing second chances and not criminal identity; homing in on strengths and not risks; building social capital; recognizing and marking achievements towards criminal / gang desistance; working with parents and partners; incorporating approaches that respond to gender differences; and forming partnerships with other support communities.

There is a general lack of trust between citizens and the police in Jamaica. However, despite this trust deficit, as reported in the 2018 LAPOP Survey,¹⁷ which found that, “the average level of trust in the police is 43.9 points on a 0-100 point scale,” there are also opportunities for law enforcement and communities to work together to prevent crime and violence. The study also revealed that, “64.8 percent of Jamaicans report that when the police come to their neighborhood, they come to help; about 74 percent of Jamaicans feel that the interests of people in their neighborhood are in common with those of the police; 65 percent of Jamaicans express a willingness to work with the police in their community to combat crime and almost 83 percent of Jamaicans feel that a closer working relationship between police and the community would reduce crime.” The Mission will capitalize on these opportunities as well, looking for opportunities to support the GoJ’s proximity policing effort and to enhance police-citizen relations.

Per the USAID/Jamaica gender analysis, communities vulnerable to sex trafficking and forced labor include young women and children from poor households; child victims of sexual abuse; residents of Jamaica’s poverty-stricken areas effectively controlled by criminal “dons”; migrant workers; and workers in the informal sector, particularly on family farms and in markets and shops. Some boys may be subjected to forced criminal activity by gang members. Activities under IR 2.1 will therefore support countering trafficking in persons (C-TIP) efforts by building youth resilience to the pull of gangs that may participate in trafficking in persons.

IR 2.2: Institutions’ Effective Response to Growing Crime and Violence

¹⁷ *Americas Barometer* February 2018, The Political Culture of Democracy in Jamaica and in the Americas, 2017/17: A Comparative Study of Democracy and Governance

Jamaica's criminal justice system faces several challenges. Case backlogs, slow proceedings, and procedural issues diminish confidence in the justice sector among the general public. Meanwhile, a vast geographic spread of crime and violence confronts the country. Hot spots like St. James have now evolved into major centers for crime and violent activities in the same way that the Kingston Metropolitan area has. Overall, the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) is now confronted with two major centers (Kingston/St. Andrew and St. James) and four distinct areas (St. Catherine, Clarendon, Hanover, and Westmoreland) requiring intensive targeting. This significant increase in hot spots brings into sharp focus the capacity problem of the JCF – specifically, that the JCF was unable to manage one center and will now be required to manage two centers with four concomitant hot spots.

USAID will support efforts to strengthen the Jamaican criminal justice system's ability to be more proactive rather than reactive toward criminal behavior. Interventions will include collaboration with GoJ institutions, including the Ministry of Justice, to strengthen restorative justice practices, enhanced support for social workers and case management, and continued sensitization of alternative dispute resolution methods and practices in order to reduce court backlogs at the parish and community levels. Activities will incorporate strengthening child diversion programs or alternatives to prevent youth from entering the initial or continued juvenile delinquency programs. Partnerships will work to strengthen the national security architecture through improving police effectiveness and enhancing interventions to build trust and confidence at the community level among the JCF and citizens.

USAID's multi-sectoral approach includes utilizing civil society and the public and private sectors to achieve this development objective. Under this IR, assistance will strengthen the capability of targeted CSOs to design and implement coordinated secondary and tertiary crime prevention initiatives, allowing them to become more effective actors that are able to provide sustainable services to vulnerable youth.

Meanwhile, a central tenet of this IR will be partnerships with the private sector to prevent crime and build safer communities. USAID will provide technical assistance to local businesses, especially those that are already engaged in community safety programs, to strengthen their capacity to implement joint crime prevention interventions through co-creation and joint identification of risks, as well as mobilization of financial and other resources towards crime and violence prevention programs.

Systematic crime reduction requires greater focus on evidence-based interventions at the secondary and tertiary prevention levels, which treats youth who are at the highest risk of involvement in criminal activities or have already had direct experience with crime and violence. Interventions will be based on approaches that have already proven to be effective. USAID will

work with key stakeholders to use available data to analyze the characteristics and dynamics of targeted communities, identify realistic and relevant goals and objectives, establish measurable indicators, and apply a well-articulated theory of change to design and plan activities.

For USAID to achieve this DO certain critical assumptions (outlined below) must hold. Coupled with these critical assumptions and USAID's direct alignment with GoJ's priorities, interventions under this DO will be evidence-driven and locally-led, thereby resulting in youth who are more resilient and institutions that are more effective in preventing youth crime and violence.

DO 2 Assumptions:

- GoJ continues to prioritize crime and violence prevention;
- Local actors (private sector, police, government institutions, CSOs, faith-based organizations) support crime and violence prevention interventions;
- Political and economic stability is maintained in the country; and
- Government and institutions demonstrate commitment to advance crime and violence prevention programs.

DO 2 Risks:

- Change in fiscal outlook that results in less resources allocated to youth crime and violence prevention;
- Ability of the country's economy to offer opportunities (e.g. employment) to youth to deter them from crime and violence; and
- Private sector may not allocate substantial resources to youth crime and violence prevention.

DO 3: Epidemic Preparedness and Response Improved

Jamaica's HIV epidemic remains a drag on the country's overall health. If not addressed and controlled, the epidemic has the potential to make Jamaica not only less healthy but less prosperous as a nation. HIV and public health issues have proven track records of undermining other components of a society (governance, security, economics, social cohesion). Thus, helping Jamaica accelerate its progress toward HIV epidemic control is a critical component to achieving the CDC's goal. Jamaica's management of the COVID 19 pandemic exposed weaknesses in the country's ability to effectively respond to pandemics. Therefore, USAID will use Global Health Security resources to reinforce surveillance systems and train people to respond appropriately to emerging health threats.



Development Hypothesis:

If Jamaica accelerates its progress toward HIV epidemic control, focusing on a model supporting a continuum of response, and if Jamaica improves its capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to health threats, then it will improve its preparedness and response to epidemics.

Development Hypothesis Narrative:

USAID supports Jamaica's vision to achieve HIV epidemic control, a global health challenge that can impede a country's advances. Jamaica is committed to gaining control over the HIV epidemic. Through its National Integrated Strategic Plan (NISP), the GoJ lays out its vision and approach for developing systems that will facilitate and maintain epidemic control. The NISP also sets targets in line with global efforts (i.e., UNAIDS, PEPFAR). Further, the GoJ recently assumed more financial responsibility for solving this development challenge. The GoJ contributes significant funding to national HIV activities to support its commitment to achieve epidemic control.

Despite its commitment and growing financial contributions, Jamaica continues to fall below its targets and struggles to achieve its vision. The HIV epidemic is concentrated in high-risk populations, specifically MSM and Men who have Sex with Men and Women (MSMW). Laws and cultural norms criminalize and marginalize these behaviors, resulting in these populations facing social stigmatization. Per the USAID/Jamaica Gender Analysis (2019), mobs continue to attack and sometimes kill LGBT individuals. Frequent threats of violence have led LGBT individuals to live in fear and, in some cases, to flee their homes. This makes these groups harder to reach. In addition, cultural attitudes that disempower women and promote sexual violence as a reflection of masculinity limit safer sex negotiation for condom use and the refusal of sex, due to fear of violence.

Broadening its scope beyond HIV/AIDS, the implementation of a Global Health Security Program will enable USAID to address concerns related to the ability of the Jamaican health system to adequately detect and monitor emerging health threats. This is to be completed through increasing the capacity of the laboratories' surveillance system, enhancing the capacity of the staff's skill set and improving the biosafety and biosecurity procedures. Under this broader scope, USAID will also look at enhancing the communication methods and processes to disseminate information on identified health related risks primarily at the community level and across the local government and NGOs. Planning and response preparation will also be improved through the Voluntary External Evaluation (VEE) which is designed to identify the critical gaps within the health system and improve the planning and response mechanism to potential health threats.

IR 3.1: Progress toward HIV epidemic control accelerated

Jamaica's HIV epidemic remains a concern. It disproportionately affects the most vulnerable and if not addressed and controlled, has the potential to become more generalized, threatening Jamaica's overall health and prosperity. HIV and public health issues have proven track records of undermining other components of a society (governance, security, economics, social

cohesion). Thus, helping Jamaica accelerate its progress toward HIV epidemic control is a critical component to achieving the CDCS goal.

Jamaica demonstrates above average government effectiveness, and the Ministry of Health has a vision for improving and maintaining the country's response to its HIV epidemic. This includes leveraging NGOs and the private sector to play a distinct role within the epidemic control paradigm. USAID will support this component of that vision. Assistance will continue working directly with for-profit and non-profit private sector partners, which have demonstrated success in areas where the public sector continues to struggle. This will complement GoJ efforts, and provide additional means of reaching the "95-95-95" goal.

USAID/Jamaica is part of the PEPFAR initiative in Jamaica. PEPFAR (and thus USAID) further supports the GOJ's vision through programming that reduces gaps across the continuum of care, which is critical to attaining progress towards epidemic control.

USAID's HIV programming will support progress toward the 95-95-95 targets by working with NGOs and the private sector to reach key and other target populations, helping individuals in those populations determine their status, link to care, and progress toward viral load suppression. USAID assistance will continue to expand the acceptability, availability, and use of Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) as a proven method of preventing further infections. This will include training for health workers in both the public and private sectors; community outreach; and the dissemination of PrEP through NGOs and private providers. Technical assistance to the MOHW on how to scale up use of PrEP in the public system will also be provided.

USAID will continue to focus its efforts on expanding the capacity, reach, and sustainability of both for-profit and not-for-profit providers to support the national strategy, including ensuring more Jamaicans know their health status, receive appropriate treatment care and support, and - as the population continues to age - manage any comorbidities. This will include a client-centered differentiated care model to return PLHIV previously lost to the public system (including reimbursement agreements with physicians for servicing lower socio-economic status PLHIV returned) and it will ultimately help to unburden public facilities, reduce wait times and other related barriers to care in the public sector.

IR 3.2: Capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to health threats improved

The COVID-19 pandemic is a strong reminder of the effect that emerging pathogens can have on people's health, and on global economies. Nearly 75 percent of all new, emerging, or re-emerging diseases affecting humans at the beginning of the 21st century are zoonotic (i.e. originated in animals). Jamaica, with weak surveillance systems and an over-stretched

workforce, is more vulnerable to emerging infectious diseases than its GDP suggests. Jamaica is home to over 21 bat species; a robust commercial poultry industry; an antiquated and insufficient wastewater management system; and relies heavily on tourism.

USAID/Jamaica aims to reduce the impact of such threats by implementing activities in accordance with USAID's Global Health Security Program, which strengthens the country's capacity to (1) prevent avoidable disease outbreaks; (2) detect threats early; (3) respond rapidly and effectively when outbreaks occur. To that end, USAID/Jamaica will collaborate with national and international partners to (1) improve Jamaica's laboratory and surveillance capacity; (2) expand its risk communication and community engagement regarding health threats; and (3) improve its ability to plan for and respond to potential outbreaks. Collectively, these activities are expected to improve Jamaica's resilience in the face of health threats emanating locally or from abroad. A key element of successful outbreak detection is the presence of a strong laboratory system, which is vital to quickly and accurately detect the emergence of new health threats. Working with relevant stakeholders, USAID will support improvement of the laboratory system's diagnostic capacity, the skills of laboratory staff, and biosafety/biosecurity procedures. USAID will work with communities, local governments, and NGOs/CSOs to improve risk communication and community engagement (RCCE). To improve planning and response preparation, USAID will support the country's first Voluntary External Evaluation (VEE), which is designed to identify the most critical gaps within the country's human and animal health systems and improve planning for and response to potential outbreaks. USAID may also support other planning and response activities, including for example desk-top exercises, data and reporting systems, and emergency operations systems.

Overall, by accomplishing this DO, USAID/Jamaica will help to increase Jamaica's resilience to a global health challenge that, if uncontrolled, will continue to hamper the country's progress.

DO 3 Assumptions:

- There continues to be a favorable policy, legal, and regulatory framework to facilitate service delivery;
- The HIV epidemic continues to be concentrated in targeted populations—not increasing beyond these populations or within the general public;
- Partnership continues between the affected communities, service delivery providers, and donors;
- General practitioners continue to be interested in private sector network participation; and
- NGOs continue to play a significant role in HIV program development and implementation.

- Jamaica will prioritize and adopt the necessary policy and regulatory frameworks in support of GHS, including allowing external review of systems.

DO 3 Risks:

- FY 2020 marks the first instance NGOs will receive direct support from USAID. Risks may include deficient experience in pipeline and program management that is required to achieve stated targets;
- The GOJ de-prioritizes HIV care and prevention, and shapes policies that cause barriers to HIV-related programming and outreach to priority populations;
- While in principle the Ministry of Health is committed to improving their ability to prevent, detect, and respond to emerging infectious diseases, capacity is limited; and
- Jamaica does not have a “whole of government” approach to GHS, presenting challenges to the USG/USAID “one health” approach.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning will prove critical in achieving the goals outlined in this CDCS. By developing systems and processes to collect, review, and analyze performance monitoring data, USAID/Jamaica will be able to make evidence-based decisions and validate the logic of the relationships between the Sub-Intermediate and Intermediate Result levels and ultimately the DOs at key points in the strategy. The Mission will select appropriate indicators and conduct evaluations to assess progress toward meeting CDCS DOs. This includes conducting activity and project level evaluations as necessitated to understand and adapt performance.

At the goal and DO level, the Mission will monitor context indicators, such as the “Safety and Security” metric contained in the USAID Country Roadmap. Other indicators, such as Jamaica’s HIV prevalence rate, the 95-95-95 cascade, levels of capital raised and reserved for disaster responses, and the proportion of renewables as part of the overall electricity mix, will be used to supplement data not captured by the USAID Roadmap. USAID/Jamaica will also utilize data from local sources such as the Planning Institute of Jamaica, which monitors implementation of Vision 2030, Jamaica’s long-term development strategy, and the country’s progress in achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

USAID/Jamaica places great emphasis on using Collaborating, Learning, and Adapting (CLA) approaches in CDCS implementation. At the strategic level, the Mission will develop a Performance Management Plan which will include key monitoring, evaluation and learning activities that will occur over the life of the strategy. Individual Project MEL Plans will be developed for the three DOs that will include specific methodologies to answer key learning

questions. The Mission will seek to generate evidence to respond to the Agency’s Self-Reliance Learning Agenda (SRLA) and has identified preliminary learning questions as follows:

DO 1:

- What are the best approaches for engaging with the Jamaican private sector on shared value propositions for development? (Links with SRLA Q#4)
- What additional binding constraints need to be addressed in order to strengthen Jamaica’s renewable energy market?

DO 2:

- What are the factors that impede or accelerate the progress of interventions aimed at preventing crime and violence?
- How has USAID/Jamaica contributed to increasing the capacity of civil society organizations to advance youth crime and violence prevention?
- How can private sector resources be best harnessed to help prevent crime and violence in Jamaica?

DO 3:

- What are the factors that impede or accelerate the progress of interventions implemented by NGOs aimed at reaching the targeted/high-risk populations?
- How effective are the strategies being employed to retain PLHIV in care and how does it enable the end goal of viral suppression?
- What context-specific factors drive effective engagement with the private sector to deliver services to targeted/key populations? (SRLA Question #4)

The Mission will use several methodologies to answer these questions—pause and reflect moments (for example, portfolio reviews), assessments (private sector landscape assessments, youth risk and vulnerability assessments), and mid-term and final performance evaluations for large activities. The Mission will require that a local expert be part of all evaluations and coordinate with government and private sector partners to pool resources for learning endeavors.

Annexes

- A. Country Road Map**
- B. Climate Annex**

JAMAICA

JOURNEY TO SELF-RELIANCE:
FY 2020 COUNTRY ROADMAP

LEGEND



Jamaica's Score
0-1, least to most
advanced globally



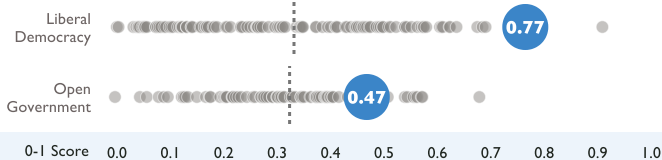
Other Low- and
Middle- Income
Countries' Scores



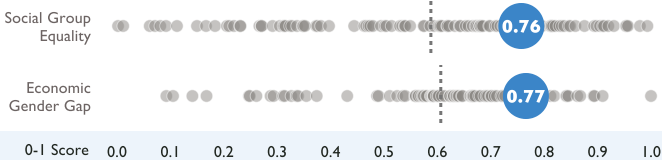
Average Score for
Low- and Middle-
Income Countries

COMMITMENT

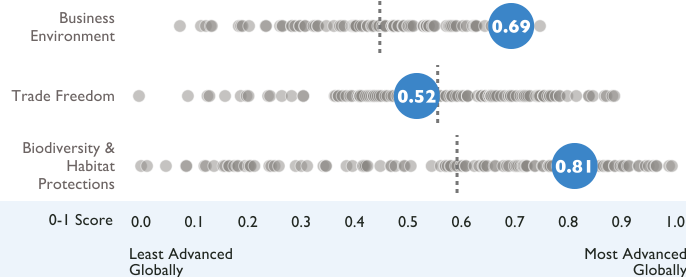
OPEN AND ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE



INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT



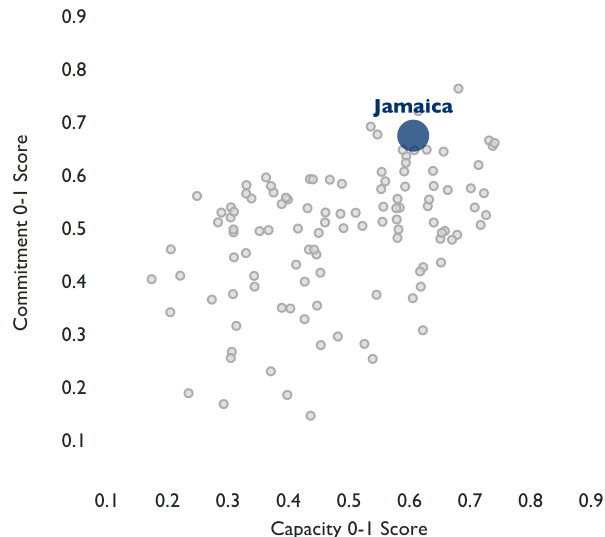
ECONOMIC POLICY



RISK OF EXTERNAL DEBT DISTRESS

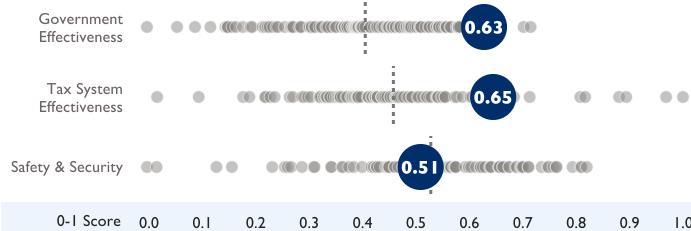
Recent IMF Risk of External Debt Distress rating not available for this country. See the USAID Self-Reliance Metrics Methodology Guide for more information.

LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRY SNAPSHOT

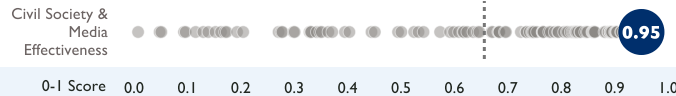


CAPACITY

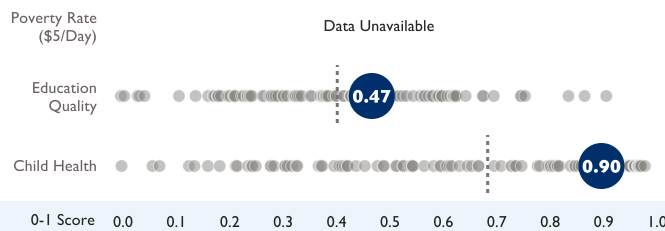
GOVERNMENT CAPACITY



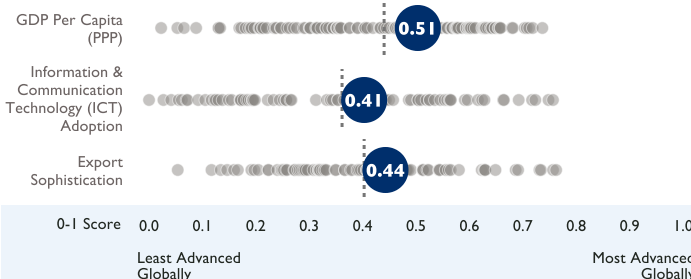
CIVIL SOCIETY CAPACITY



CITIZEN CAPACITY



CAPACITY OF THE ECONOMY



SELF-RELIANCE ROADMAPS

INDICATOR DEFINITIONS AND SOURCES

COMMITMENT

OPEN AND ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE

Liberal Democracy: Measures freedom of expression, freedom of association, suffrage, elections, rule of law, judicial constraints on the executive branch, and legislative constraints on the executive branch. Source: *Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem)*.

Open Government: Measures the degree to which a government shares information, empowers people with tools to hold the government accountable, and fosters citizen participation in public policy deliberations. Sub-factors include: publicized laws and government data, right to information, civic participation, and complaint mechanisms. Source: *World Justice Project, Rule of Law Index*.

INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

Social Group Equality: Measures political equality with respect to civil liberties protections across social groups as defined by ethnicity, religion, caste, race, language, and region. Source: *Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem), Social Group Equality in Respect for Civil Liberties*.

Economic Gender Gap: Index comprising five components: (1) wage equality between women and men for similar work; (2) the ratio of female estimated earned income to male income; (3) the ratio of female labor force participation to male participation; (4) the ratio of female legislators, senior officials, and managers to male counterparts; and (5) the ratio of female professional and technical workers to male counterparts. Source: *World Economic Forum, Global Gender Gap Report, Economic Participation and Opportunity Sub-Index*.

ECONOMIC POLICY

Business Environment: Assesses a country's entrepreneurial climate by measuring business' access to infrastructure (such as the internet and transport, and to credit), business flexibility (the costs of starting business and of hiring and firing), clear and fair regulations (e.g., intellectual property rights), and perceptions of meritocracy and opportunity. Source: *Legatum Institute, Prosperity Index*.

Trade Freedom: Measures a country's openness to international trade based on average tariff rates and non-tariff barriers to trade. Source: *Heritage Foundation, Index of Economic Freedom*.

Biodiversity & Habitat Protections: Measures extent of marine protected areas, terrestrial biome protection (weighted for both national and global scarcity), representativeness of protected areas, and whether protected areas cover the ranges and habitats of critical species. Source: *Yale University/Columbia University Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN)*.

RISK OF EXTERNAL DEBT DISTRESS

Rates a country's risk of public sector debt distress on a four-tier scale: "low risk", "moderate risk", "high risk", and "in debt distress". Ratings are based on countries' debt and market structures, fiscal and macroeconomic outlook, and institutional capacity to manage debt burden. Ratings help guide the borrowing decisions of lower-income countries to meet development needs while reducing the chances of excessive debt build-up. Ratings are shown for 54 lower-income countries for which the IMF prepares risk ratings and are not scored components of Commitment or Capacity. Source: *International Monetary Fund, Debt Sustainability Analysis for Low-Income Countries*.

All source data are for the latest year available, typically 2018 or 2017, and are derived from third-party institutions. All indicators are weighted equally in the calculation of the overall Commitment and Capacity scores. Names and boundary representation in the map are not necessarily authoritative.

For more information on definitions and sources, please visit selfreliance.usaid.gov.

CAPACITY

GOVERNMENT CAPACITY

Government Effectiveness: Measures the quality of public services, the quality of the civil service and its independence from political pressure, the quality of policy formulation and implementation, and the credibility of the government's commitment to its stated policies. Source: *World Bank, Worldwide Governance Indicators*.

Tax System Effectiveness: Ratio between a country's actual tax collection and the estimated level of tax revenue that a country could achieve given its macroeconomic, demographic, and institutional features. Source: *USAID, Collecting Taxes Database, Tax Effort Indicator*.

Safety & Security: A combination of objective measures of security, and subjective measures of personal safety, personal freedom, and social tolerance. Source: *Legatum Institute, Prosperity Index*.

CIVIL SOCIETY CAPACITY

Civil Society & Media Effectiveness: Measures the range of actions and mechanisms that citizens, civil society organizations, and an independent media can use to hold a government accountable. The mechanisms include using informal tools such as social mobilization and investigative journalism. Source: *Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem), Diagonal Accountability Index*.

CITIZEN CAPACITY

Poverty Rate (\$5/Day): Measures the percent of the population living under \$5/day in purchasing power parity (PPP) terms. Source: *World Bank, PovCalNet*.

Education Quality: Gauges both the quality of education—using harmonized scores across major international student achievement testing—and the quantity of schooling received—using age-specific enrollment rates—to evaluate the relative performance of educational systems worldwide. Source: *World Bank, Human Capital Index, Learning-Adjusted Years of Schooling Indicator*.

Child Health: A composite measure that aggregates child mortality, access to at least basic water sources, and access to at least basic sanitation facilities. Source: *Columbia University Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN)*.

CAPACITY OF THE ECONOMY

GDP Per Capita (PPP): Measures the flow of resources available to households, firms, and government to finance development as the country's total Gross Domestic Product (PPP) divided by the country's population. Source: *World Bank, World Development Indicators*.

Information & Communication Technology (ICT) Adoption: Index comprising: (1) mobile-cellular telephone subscriptions; (2) mobile-broadband subscriptions; (3) fixed-broadband internet subscriptions; (4) fiber internet subscriptions; and (5) internet users. Source: *World Economic Forum (WEF), Global Competitiveness Index*.

Export Sophistication: Measures the diversity and ubiquity of a country's exported goods, key markers that can help gauge economic sophistication and resilience. Source: *Center for International Development at Harvard University, Economic Complexity Index*.

USAID/JAMAICA CLIMATE STRATEGY CONTRIBUTIONS (2022-2030)

Summary of conclusions from Mission Dialogue

Jamaica is a small Caribbean island with economically valuable tourism, fisheries, industry, and agriculture assets. As a small-island developing state, Jamaica is acutely aware of the risks posed by climate change to the country's development and the wellbeing and economic security of its people. Roughly 90 percent of the country's gross domestic product is produced within the coastal zone, making its key industries and over half of the population vulnerable to hurricanes, tropical storms, sea level rise, and land loss. Rising temperatures and intense rainfall events increase incidence of mosquito-borne and waterborne diseases already endemic to the country. Scarce water supplies are also threatened by warming temperatures, increasing water stress vulnerabilities for households and the agriculture sector. Jamaica's greenhouse gas emissions are driven primarily by manufacturing, construction, and electricity and heat generation.

In order to support the implementation of USAID's 2022-2030 [Climate Change Strategy](#) and to support Jamaica's efforts to respond to climate change, USAID/Jamaica ("USAID/Jamaica" or "the Mission") has reviewed climate change risks across its development portfolio and identified entry points to address climate change impacts. These findings are summarized in this document which will be added to the Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS).

Mission Dialogue

The Jamaica Mission held the CDCS Mid-course Stocktaking (MCST) from January to April 2023. During these meetings the technical and program staff discussed the future direction of Mission programming including a planned orientation toward adaptation and Global Health Security to complement the clean energy, citizen security, and PEPFAR work already taking place. During the MCST, Mission staff, along with support from LAC/SPO, discussed ways that climate change considerations could be integrated into future programming with LAC/RSD/ENVE providing support in conceptualizing integration potential. The conclusions from those discussions and follow-on work are summarized herein.

Mission CDCS Programming Alignment with USAID Climate Priorities

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 1: JAMAICA'S RESILIENCE TO DISASTERS INCREASED

Development Objective 1 of the USAID/Jamaica CDCS will increase the island's resilience through mitigation and adaptation efforts that strengthen its ability to prevent and respond to natural and man-made disasters while decreasing the probability that a series of catastrophic events will derail

development gains and hinder future potential. USAID/Jamaica’s work under this Development Objective contributes to Intermediate Results under both of the Agency Climate Strategy’s Strategic Objectives including reducing emissions (1.1), building adaptive capacity (1.2), mobilizing finance (1.3), transforming key systems (2.1), shifting market signals (2.2), and improving governance (2.3).

For example, the Mission’s clean energy programming will support both mitigation and adaptation. Investments will advance reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, and encourage greater use of renewable energy. Investments will also strengthen resilience by improving Jamaica’s ability to withstand more frequent and more intense extreme weather events. This programming also leverages private sector financing for clean energy investments in the manufacturing sector and small and medium enterprises. Current and future technical assistance under this DO will assist in the transformation of energy generation, distribution, and transmission systems in Jamaica while also improving governance.

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 2: YOUTH CRIME AND VIOLENCE PREVENTED IN TARGETED COMMUNITIES

USAID/Jamaica activities under Development Objective 2 align with the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative (CBSI) strategic framework, reflecting a shift from crime and violence reduction to crime and violence prevention. The Mission is pursuing greater partnership with the GoJ and other donor programs that address youth crime and violence. Compounding crises of marginalization and socioeconomic barriers make it difficult for target youth in Jamaica to make the transition from the formal education systems to meaningful economic activities. Partnerships with the private sector can provide support for the alternative livelihood components of our activities in the form of apprenticeships and jobs for at-risk youth. The end result will be a more sustainable response to youth crime and violence prevention through increased local leadership.

The Mission’s work as a CBSI implementer can address these vulnerabilities while playing a role in Jamaica’s efforts to respond to climate change, including where feasible supporting clean energy transition as a means of mitigating and adapting to climate change. Activities under DO2 can integrate climate objectives into citizen security and violence prevention activities by providing at-risk youth with technical and vocational training in areas that aid in climate adaptation such as the installation of warning signs, the retrofitting of buildings and other infrastructure to make them safer and more climate resilient and the construction and erection of innovative low-technology protective infrastructure such as gabion baskets and retaining walls from stones or old tyres. The youth can also be exposed to emergency response and management including preparedness and response to disaster related emergencies such as flooding, fires or storms.

Increasing renewable energy as a proportion of the country’s overall energy mix requires a well-trained workforce to construct and service distributed energy resources like wind turbines and solar photovoltaic panels. While the majority of the youth involved in the Mission’s activities may lack the background and skills needed as a prerequisite to attend more specialized training, a few youth may be able to do so. Supporting these youth to acquire more specialized skills in construction and maintenance of renewable energy equipment would create the opportunity for this work to contribute to both Strategic

Objectives in the Climate Strategy by enabling youth to lead climate action (IR 1.5) and working across assistance types (2.4).

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE 3: EPIDEMIC PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE IMPROVED

Development Objective 3 focuses on improving Jamaica’s ability to manage infectious diseases, including HIV. The COVID-19 pandemic further demonstrated the dramatic impact that emerging infectious diseases can have on the physical, emotional, and economic health of countries around the world. Jamaica was announced as a target country for the U.S. Government’s expanding Global Health Security initiative in 2022. The Mission will undertake initial analyses and risk mapping to understand the current epidemiological context in the country as well as challenges and opportunities with the human, animal, and environmental health sectors to inform priority intervention areas.

Climate change is breaking down the natural systems that have kept animals and humans apart for much of human history. Climate change is increasing and changing the ways animals and people interact in new and risky ways, creating new opportunities for more viral spillover events and potentially future outbreaks and pandemics. Climate-sensitive diseases, such as malaria, dengue, and many food and water-borne diseases are rising at an alarming rate and expanding geographic range, seasonality, and increasing incidence due to changes in precipitation and temperature. Better understanding the intrinsic link between climate and health impacts is essential to improve efforts to strengthen health systems and ensure they remain resilient. As such, the Mission will incorporate climate change as a potential threat multiplier and intensifier in the initial assessment stages to identify the appropriate alignment between Global Health Security programming and the Agency Climate Strategy in Jamaica.

MISSION AND EMBASSY ENGAGEMENT & OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

Embassy Kingston has a Climate & Energy working group which meets monthly. Embassy leadership is committed to reducing the impact of Embassy operations on the environment, including reducing emissions. “Car free Friday” has been established, and use of home-work-home shuttles is free and designed to reduce the use of individual vehicles. Embassy management is exploring opportunities to purchase commercial EV trucks as well as the establishment of EV charging stations on USG owned properties.

On the technical side, State & USAID coordinate closely at Post on all aspects of climate change programming and use a “whole of government” approach to engagement with both host country government and private sector counterparts. At the most recent bilateral strategic dialogue (November 2022), climate change was included on the agenda. And under the global Taskforce on Access to Climate Finance that was established at COP26, the USG/USAID was named an “anchor partner” to support Jamaica’s (one of five pioneer countries) goals to accelerate the shift to greater use of renewable energy.

Alignment with country NDC targets

The Government of Jamaica has also prioritized climate change in its Vision 2030 development strategy¹ and is working towards developing or updating its sectoral policies to fully integrate climate risk considerations. Moreover, the government has committed to developing fiscal instruments and regulations that support the implementation of these sectoral policies, in an effort to streamline climate considerations across all sectors. As part of its updated Nationally Determined Contribution submitted in June of 2020, the Government of Jamaica aims to reduce emissions by 2030 in both the energy and the forest/land use sectors. The expected reduction will be between 25.4 percent (unconditional) and 28.5 percent (conditional on receiving international aid) relative to a business-as-usual scenario based on a 2005 baseline. The majority of the emissions reductions will come from increased use of renewable energy, including wind and solar, in the power generation sector, however the country also envisions emissions reductions from improved waste management procedures and integrated landscape and watershed management in the agricultural sector.

The government's National Energy Policy 2009-2030 set a goal of 50 percent renewable energy generation by 2030. The upcoming Integrated Resource Plan will set the roadmap to achieve the 2030 target that is expected to consider wind, hydro, and solar energy storage systems as the most viable options to achieve its renewable energy targets. No new fossil fuel plants are expected to be contemplated, though the Government of Jamaica cautions that the clean energy transition must be gradual to maintain a stable national energy grid. USAID will continue to support the government's goal of increasing the deployment of renewable energy to meet this ambitious goal through the Strengthening Energy Sector Resilience activity as well as future programming to facilitate the flow of climate finance.

As co-chair of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Partnership with the United Kingdom, Jamaica launched a Global Finance Strategy to mobilize funding for urgent climate needs. Jamaica has accessed climate financing through various sources, including \$764 million approved by the IMF under the Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF), in addition to \$68 million for projects already underway. The French Government has also provided technical assistance to strengthen Jamaica's financial sector in the face of climate change. USAID was instrumental in financing Jamaica's \$185 million catastrophe bond which will continue to protect the island from the financial shocks caused by extreme climatic events through December 2023. The Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF) has been designated as an accredited entity with the Green Climate Fund which will strengthen support for climate projects at the community level.

Jamaica was designated as one of five 'pioneer countries' under the global Taskforce on Access to Climate Finance to improve climate finance approaches following the Climate and Development Ministerial at UNFCCC COP26. As one of Jamaica's anchor countries, the U.S. Government, through USAID, agreed to support Jamaica given the Mission and government's interest in climate finance as well as ongoing and previous engagement with the government on national adaptation planning, climate

¹ [Government of Jamaica, Vision 2030 Jamaica](#)

finance, and other relevant activities. The Jamaican government also has an interest in increasing funding for climate and playing a pivotal role in influencing other Small Island Developing States. USAID will continue to support efforts under the Climate Finance Taskforce in a variety of ways including: coordinating with other climate finance providers and climate initiatives; playing a role in organizing discussions on key findings and sharing recommendations with key stakeholders; and supporting a coherent portfolio or pipeline of climate projects in support of climate-related priorities and plans identified by Jamaica in partnership with other climate finance providers. Where possible, USAID will align any future investment with country plans and actively encourage other governments to do so.

Expected contributions to Climate Strategy targets and opportunities through FY 2024

USAID/Jamaica's current and potential contributions to the Climate Strategy's targets are detailed below. Existing activities will require additional support to help implementing partners update their work plans, Activity Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Plans (AMELPs), or assign new indicators.

In FY 2023, USAID/Jamaica has one bilateral disaster risk reduction activity with total funding of approximately USD \$4 million that contributes to Climate Strategy targets. New adaptation and mitigation activities are being designed with current and prior year Disaster Readiness, GCC Adaptation and Clean Energy funding and have the potential to contribute to many of the targets in the Climate Strategy. Alignment with both USAID's Climate Strategy and Jamaica's climate priorities creates space for new approaches and innovation. Programming teams will exercise creativity to integrate climate change into all activities. The Agency's focus on climate may mean new funding is available in the near future, not limited to traditional environment and energy sectors.

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH CONTRIBUTIONS

- a. Current Contributions:
 - i. **Financed mobilized:**
 1. The Strengthening Energy Sector Resilience in Jamaica (SESR) activity seeks to mobilize up to \$1.48 million in FY 2023 from greater direct investments through its private sector partners in the Global Development Alliance (GDA).
 2. Under a Public International Organization grant, USAID used \$5 million to catalyze other donors to provide \$14.85 million to support the issuance of a catastrophe bond for natural disasters, with the Government of Jamaica providing \$350,000. The World Bank brought the catastrophe bond to market and secured \$185 million from investors that will be available to Jamaica for three years in the event of a qualifying natural disaster.
 - ii. **Adaptation:** USAID/Jamaica's development objective of strengthening Jamaica's resilience to natural disasters by promoting energy resilience and diversification of the energy market. It tracks the number of energy professionals, including installers and

inspectors who attended North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) Photovoltaic (PV) and Photovoltaic + (PV+) trainings, which bolster the skills of existing Jamaican energy professionals and expands the workforce of personnel who are knowledgeable and qualified in PV and PV+ solar technologies. These professionals are needed to adequately serve a growing market in Jamaica for clean and renewable energy solutions. USAID trained 25 persons in solar photovoltaic installation, through the NABCEP PV Installer Profession (PVIP) training course. Trainees came from the Jamaica Public Service, the Meteorological Service of Jamaica, the University of the West Indies, and several energy-related private sector firms. The activity also provided scholarships to those who demonstrated financial need, which encouraged the participation of many students.

b. Potential contributions from future activities:

- i. USAID has developed a number of financing vehicles under the Climate Finance for Development Accelerator that could help the Jamaica Mission program adaptation funding in Jamaica in the coming years to potentially cover a range of issues including adaptation financing, the water/energy nexus, and more. Future activities could build on Goal 4 of USAID’s Caribbean Vision for Climate and Disaster Resilience to “secure effective climate financing to build climate and disaster resilience capacity” by utilizing donor coordination efforts under the Climate Finance Taskforce to bolster the technical capacity of GoJ officials and channel mitigation and adaptation financing to the island.
- ii. Future programming focused on disaster reduction and resilience will build on the findings from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) assessment of Jamaica’s critical facilities to identify vulnerabilities in the event of a natural disaster. The assessment and recommendations will support the design and implementation of a distributed network of energy-resilient facilities that ensures continuity of critical community services and protects vulnerable populations. Adaptive capacity could be further bolstered by deploying renewable energy to increase access to water in remote communities and utilizing nature-based solutions to sink carbon, protect biodiversity, and increase the resilience of coastal ecosystems.

Further advancements in mainstreaming climate change adaptations strategies could include: a) Increase integration of climate change considerations into national financing mechanisms, public infrastructure, security plans, as well as sectoral enabling frameworks (policy and legislative frameworks and programs); b) Sufficient socio-economic and environmental forecast based on climate projects or modeling scenarios (crop yields, coastal inundation, energy demand, freshwater availability, forest productivity etc.)

Water is critical to every other sector; therefore the vulnerability of the sector to climate risks has far reaching implications. Several adaptation initiatives are underway, including promoting household-level storage and conservation; and building construction developers installing water saving devices. Several rainwater harvesting systems have

been installed across communities, schools and agriculture networks. Supporting these activities are improvements in the collection, storage and analysis of hydrometeorological data that informs the drought forecasting tool for the agricultural sector. Efforts to make relevant sectors resilient and the pursuit of new and innovative options for adaptation is ongoing. Selected additional activities could include: a) Technical support to implement innovative technologies such as early warning systems to protect downstream assets from flooding; b) Scaling up activities such as ODPEM’s “Building Disaster Resilient Communities (BDRC)”; c) Financial and technical support for community-based capacity development training, and planning; d) Enhance capacity of municipal councils to monitor and assess community-level adaptation interventions and their impacts; e) Funding to support the use of nature-based solutions to adapt to climate change; f) Financing to retrofit health facilities to meet climate change standards, including protection against wind, and floods, as well as increase water storage capacity during dry spells; g) Technical support to expand capacity-building efforts in CCA/DRR across institutions.

Global Health Security: As Global Health Security is a new technical area for the Mission, the Mission will be conducting initial assessments and risk mapping to understand current epidemiological context, as well as challenges and opportunities within the human, animal, and environmental health sectors. Expected funds will be used to strengthen capacity and increase multi-sectoral partnerships to prevent, detect, and respond to emerging disease threats. The Mission will consider the impacts of climate change while performing these assessments to identify opportunities to adapt and transform the health system accordingly.

OFFICE OF CITIZEN SECURITY CONTRIBUTIONS

Highlights and contributions

- c. CBSI Positive Pathways: USAID’s community violence prevention activity, Positive Pathways, focuses on services for at-risk youth and violence prevention and integrated Positive Youth Development (PYD) in all phases of its activities. The activities supported at-risk youth by providing them with vocational skills training, life skills training, mentorship and counseling. The program also places some youth in apprenticeship programs and jobs. By continuing to work with the private sector and building on the job-training work already taking place under the SESR activity, the activities under this program could broaden the focus to include vocational training, certification, and job placement in climate resilient construction, disaster risk reduction and disaster response and management. Where a qualified cohort of eligible youth are available, similar work can be done with respect to solar PV and PV+ installers on the island. Targeting at-risk youth for training and placement in these areas can simultaneously achieve the goals of the Positive Pathways program while bolstering the adaptive capacity of communities, empowering youth as change agents, and contributing to the just energy transition in Jamaica.

- d. Youth Empowerment Activity: In similar ways to the above example, the Youth Empowerment Activity through its civic participation/engagement and skills training interventions could strengthen the capacity of the target youth to build Disaster Resilient Communities including being trained as first responders in the event of natural disasters. There may also be other opportunities for suitably qualified medium and high risk youth to pursue disaster risk reduction and climate mitigation activities that are further up on the economic value chain, therefore providing them with economic opportunities while increasing the deployment of renewable energy technologies across the island.

Constraints and Support Needs

USAID/Jamaica has curtailed bilateral programming in recent years because of a reduction in funding and previous discussions of transitioning USAID presence in the country that significantly reduced the size of technical staff for the bilateral program in the Mission. While this has been alleviated somewhat, greater confidence/security regarding on-going financial and policy support is needed for more robust engagement with the Government of Jamaica and the private sector. The corollary constraint in implementing the Climate Strategy is the need for more staff to manage its existing and planned programs effectively. Staff across all offices have limited time to focus on or align with climate issues, especially for activities that do not already include climate. The Mission faces structural and administrative constraints with implementing USAID's climate strategy. Staff across offices have limited time to focus on or align with climate issues, especially for activities that do not already include climate. Other activities, such as PEPFAR, the CBSI and Global Health Security work, are bound by strict reporting requirements, independent reporting platforms, and funding earmarks that will not easily integrate to the Strategy. In the short term, staff may require additional technical support during the preparation of the Mission's Performance Plan and Report to ensure that all activities are reflected in the key issue narratives.

The Agency could support USAID/Jamaica in more fully implementing the Climate Strategy by providing training, guidance, and information sharing on climate integration across sectors to all Operating Units. Funding to support Implementing Partners to understand and implement changes to better align with the Strategy would also help speed up the implementation of the Strategy on the ground. Funding and staffing support will also play a vital role in ensuring that the Jamaica Mission can robustly implement the Climate Strategy for years to come.

Climate Risk Screening and Management Tool for Strategy Design

STRATEGY CRM TOOL OUTPUT MATRIX, PART 1: CLIMATE RISK

* = A required element, according to the Mandatory Reference

1.1: Defined or Anticipated DOs, IRs, or sectors*	1.2: Timeframe*	1.3: Geography	2: Climate Risks*	3: Adaptive Capacity*	4: Climate Risk Rating of DO or IR	5: Opportunities	6.1: Climate Risk Management Options
Disaster Readiness	0-25 years	Country-wide	Climate change will continue to make extreme events more intense, and thus more costly to prepare for and recover from. The gap in public finance expected after a disaster may grow larger over time, rendering USAID's disaster risk finance activities insufficient. Equipment installed to provide energy resilience to critical facilities, including those with cybersecurity infrastructure, may have their functional capacity exceeded.	Jamaica's Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) has good technical and human capacity to coordinate and execute. Financial capacity is low because Jamaica has experienced decades of poor economic growth. The GOJ has recently undertaken several policy reforms to strengthen the national framework for disaster preparedness, emergency management, and public financial management.	High	Disaster risk finance initiatives are an opportunity to incorporate climate risks into public financial management into GOJ planning across all sectors. Securing the energy supply for facilities that are critical to disaster response and cybersecurity is an opportunity to achieve objectives that align with Jamaican and US energy policy, including the deployment of modern energy technologies, the reduction of emissions, improvement in the regulatory framework for the energy sector, achievement of operational cost savings through energy efficiency, and stimulation of the private sector.	<p>Enhance the cost-effectiveness of coverage provided by disaster risk finance instruments by encouraging a larger participant pool to spread the risk</p> <p>Enhance the overall level of coverage provided by disaster risk finance instruments by catalysing increased investments by other parties.</p> <p>Design energy installations to accommodate future expansion/ augmentation.</p>
Governance and Peace and Security	0-10 years	Country-wide	Climate change will threaten livelihoods, particularly those dependent on ecosystems services or with exposure to weather (e.g. fishers, farmers, outdoor labourers). Communities in areas with inadequate infrastructure will see increased disruptions, whether episodic (e.g. storms) or continual (e.g. water services). These effects may increase the economic and physical vulnerability of citizens. In addition, there is the likelihood of looting during and in the immediate aftermath of a natural disaster.	The GOJ's Climate Change Division continues to build a range of capacities (information, social, human and institutional) by engaging with and training stakeholders in the public sector, private sector, and civil society. Coordination is achieved through a network of climate change focal points across governments and institutions. Financial capacity to provide governance and security services is improving due to economic reforms, fiscal reforms, policy reforms, and GOJ investments in police facilities. Public and private sector entities are able to install storm shutters and grilles to secure their buildings.	Low	Activities that enhance citizen security by building human and institutional capacity are an opportunity to build resilience	Not required.
Health	0-5 years	Country-wide	USAID health programming focuses on infectious disease prevention, detection and response. Health ministry budgets and priorities are strongly influenced by non-communicable diseases (e.g. chronic conditions and vector-borne diseases that are linked to climate change). Access to health services may be affected if facilities are not resilient.	The Government of Jamaica has limited capacity to address emerging infectious disease outbreaks -- as evidenced by the COVID response.	Low	USAID has the opportunity to partner with the GOJ and other stakeholders to address the gaps identified across the health system.	USAID will strengthen climate-sensitive disease surveillance and response.
Infrastructure, Construction and Energy	0-50 years	Country-wide	Where USAID is doing construction / equipment installation, climate change will change the design parameters that these facilities have to meet (e.g. increasing energy demand for cooling, increasing the length of energy disruption that energy resilience equipment will have to mitigate).	Jamaica has good capacity in energy-efficient design, and has been designing hurricane resilient buildings as a matter of course. Building codes are inadequate and poorly enforced, but voluntary adoption of good standards is an option.	High	New construction / renovation is an opportunity to introduce energy efficiency and disaster resilience measures	<p>Building designs should be optimised to maximise energy efficiency</p> <p>Buildings should be designed / sited to mitigate disaster risks</p>

Education, Social Services, and Marginalised Populations	0-10 years	Country-wide	Disruptions to essential services and threats to livelihood will increase the vulnerability of marginalised populations. Communities with inadequate infrastructure will experience further challenges in their built environment due to storms and floods.	The institutional and human capacity of Jamaican civil society is strong. The financial capacity of the state is improving due to economic and fiscal reforms that have resulted in budget surpluses and increase. Surveys indicate good public knowledge of climate change.	Low	Capacity building for the beneficiaries can include education about and screening for climate risks that the target populations and communities will face.	Not required.
Next step: Timeframe	Next step: Geog.	Next step: Climate Risks	Next step: Adaptive Capacity	Next step: Risk Rating	Next step: Opps.	Next step: Risk Mgmt. Options	Next step: Selected Options

Go on to OUTPUT MATRIX. PART 2 on Sheet 2 of this Spreadsheet

6.2: How Climate Risks Are Addressed in the Strategy*	7: Next Steps for Project and/or Activity Design*	8: Accepted Climate Risks*
<p>Enhance the cost-effectiveness of coverage provided by disaster risk finance instruments by encouraging a larger participant pool to spread the risk</p> <p>Enhance the overall level of coverage provided by disaster risk finance instruments by catalysing increased investments by other parties.</p> <p>Design energy installations to accommodate future expansion / augmentation.</p>	<p>Engage World Bank and Ministry of Finance and the Public Service to coordinate action</p> <p>Engage donor community to catalyse increased investment</p> <p>Conduct engineering/energy analysis of facilities</p>	<p>Not required</p>
<p>Not required</p>	<p>Identify the climate risks for communities in which USAID will be active.</p>	<p>Not required</p>
<p>Not required</p>	<p>USAID will conduct a Voluntary External Evaluation to identify disease outbreak risks and assess the level of preparedness to address outbreaks. This evaluation will inform activity designs and provide a baseline to monitor improvements in the GOJ's response.</p>	<p>Not required</p>
<p>Design for energy efficiency and disaster resilience. Energy efficiency consideration has the benefit of reducing the operational / ownership cost of facilities, and is a "no regrets" option.</p>	<p>An engineer of record will be assigned to address climate risk management</p>	<p>Not required</p>

<p>Evaluate available data on public knowledge, attitudes and practices on climate change to determine whether marginalised populations have significantly different status.</p> <p>Encourage authorities to be inclusive or marginalised populations in their public communications / outreach.</p>	<p>Not required</p>	<p>Not required</p>
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------	---------------------

Next step: Next Steps Next step: Accepted Risks Finished!