
FOREST CONSERVATION FUND (FCF)

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

*DEVELOPMENT OF AN INFORMATION SHARING
WEBSITE FOR NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANISATIONS, COMMUNITY BASED
ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER ENTITIES INVOLVED
IN FOREST CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT IN
JAMAICA*

REF # FCF/EX/09/02/002

August 2009

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Forest Conservation Fund (FCF) was created in Jamaica in September 2004 after the signing of three (3) agreements/contracts between the Government of Jamaica (GOJ), the Government of the United States of America (USG), The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the Jamaica Protected Areas Trust (JPAT) respectively.

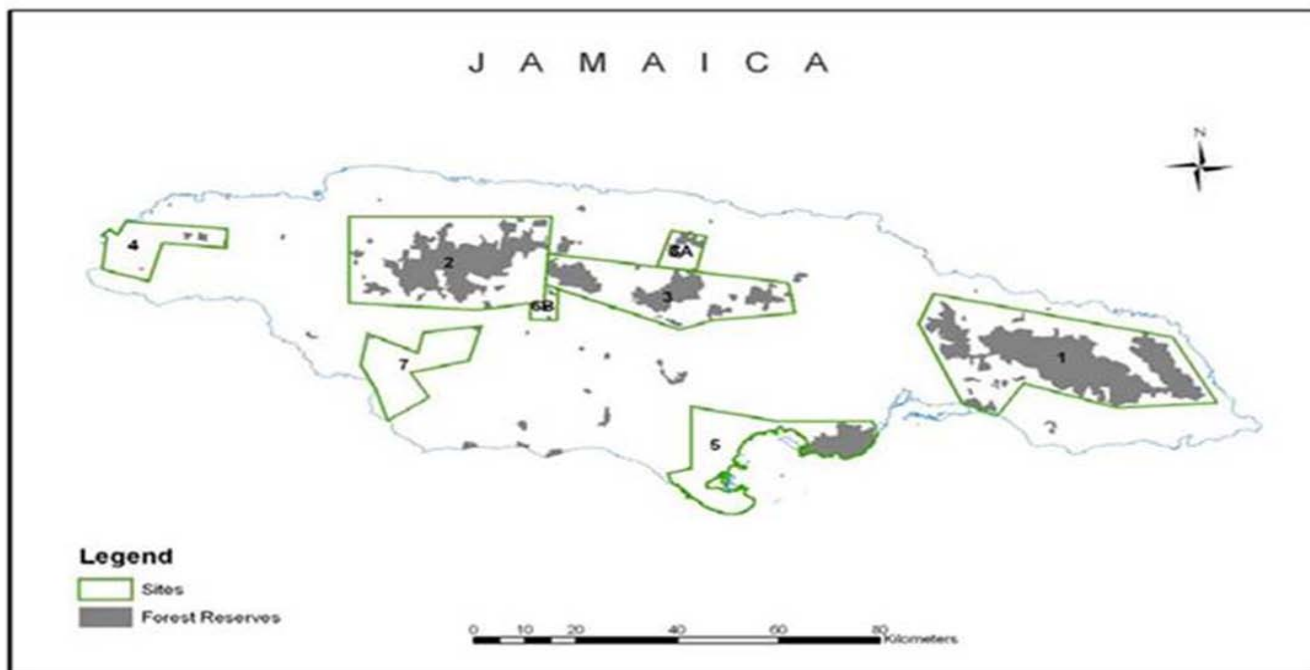
The central vision of the Fund is to achieve measurable reforestation of target areas within the seven selected priority sites as shown in *Map 1* below. The key objectives of the Fund are:

1. Promote reforestation activities in denuded areas in the priority sites;
2. Promote the protection, conservation and maintenance of parks, protected areas and reserves;
3. Develop a program that has a long-term orientation and focuses on sustainability;
4. Develop and support the livelihoods of persons living in or near a tropical forest in a manner that is consistent with protecting such areas;
5. Establish partnerships with stakeholders both at the governmental and local levels in efforts for environmental conservation and protection;
6. Promote the development and implementation of scientifically sound systems of management including land and ecosystems management;
7. Strengthen the capacity of organizations at the national and local levels for managing natural resources and those involved in conservation activities;
8. Develop and implement an effective information and communication system that reaches the wider stakeholder population.

The seven (7) priority sites of the Forest Conservation Fund include:

1. Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park (Blue Mountain Forest Reserve);
2. Cockpit Country Forest Reserve, plus outlying Forest Reserves;
3. Litchfield Matheson's Run and Stepheney-John's Vale Forest Reserves;
4. Inland portion of Negril Protected Area, plus the forested area in and around Dolphin Head Mountains;
5. Portland Bight Protected Area;
6. Other forest reserves and Crown lands managed by the Forestry Department;
7. Spring Vale and Bogue Forest Reserves plus the Upper and Lower Black River Morasses.

Please see **Map 1** below.

Map 1: Map showing the Seven Priority Sites designated by the Forest Conservation Fund

The Oversight Committee (OC) of the Forest Conservation Fund (FCF) is inviting interested local or regional Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Community Based Organizations (CBOs), and non-profit organizations involved in environmental, forestry or conservation activities in Jamaica to submit Expressions of Interest for grant funding for a project to develop an information sharing portal for Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and other entities involved in the forest conservation and management in Jamaica.

2.0 BACKGROUND

Civil society organisations including NGOs, CBOs and non-profit organisations have a vital role to play in the development process of Jamaica. One of the main functions of these groups is to collect and disseminate information among the civil society sector, as well as to the general public. It has been recognised by local NGOs and CBOs that the portals available to these groups for information sharing and exchange in the area of forest conservation and management is somewhat limited, and that the lack of this platform has reduced the abilities of these groups to share information effectively and efficiently among the civil society sector and its stakeholders. A platform therefore needs to be developed in an effort to facilitate and gain from the synergy of greater collaboration, information and resource sharing and knowledge exchange amongst these groups.

3.0 EXPECTED OUTPUT(S)

The main output of the project/programme is to develop a dedicated website for NGOs and CBOs active in forest conservation and management in Jamaica. This website should include, but will not be limited to:

- Portal which allows for the exchange of information (research material, best practices, reports etc.) between organisations;

- Database including the skill sets within NGOs and CBOs;
- Portal for exchange of information between the CBOs, NGOs and the public;
- Portal for the posting of links to websites of CBOs, NGOs and other pertinent organisations.

Partnerships between Organisations are encouraged.

Counterpart funding is desired.

4.0 ELIGIBILITY

Eligible entities include:

- Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs);
- Community Based Organizations (CBOs);
- Local or regional entities active in Jamaica; and
- Individuals through a NGO, CBO or other similar group.

5.0 REQUIRED INFORMATION AND APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Interested entities are required to submit an Expression of Interest for a project /programme which will not be limited to, but should include the following:

- Background information on your organisation including an indication of the organisation's capacity and experience which would allow the organisation to undertake the project/programme proposed
- Problem Identification and Justification
- Proposed methodology for addressing problem identified
- Proposed Outputs
- Work plan
- Detailed Budget

Expressions of Interests **must not** be more than ten single-sided, letter-sized pages in length.

Please note that a cover page **must** be included with the Expression of Interest and should outline the following information:

- Organisation's Name
- Organisation's Address/Mailing Address
- Organisation's Telephone/Fax contact
- Organisation's Email address
- Name and Title of Contact Person

Expressions of Interest must be submitted no later than **3:00 p.m. on Friday, September 25, 2009** to:

Forest Conservation Fund
Suite 201, 72 B Hope Rd.
Kingston 6

Fax: (876) 978-9080

Email: fcf@infochan.com OR forestconservationfund@gmail.com

Enquiries may be made by email to fcf@infochan.com or forestconservationfund@gmail.com.