
FOREST CONSERVATION FUND (FCF)

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

FOREST ESTABLISHMENT,
CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION

REF # FCF/EX/09/02/001

August 2009

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

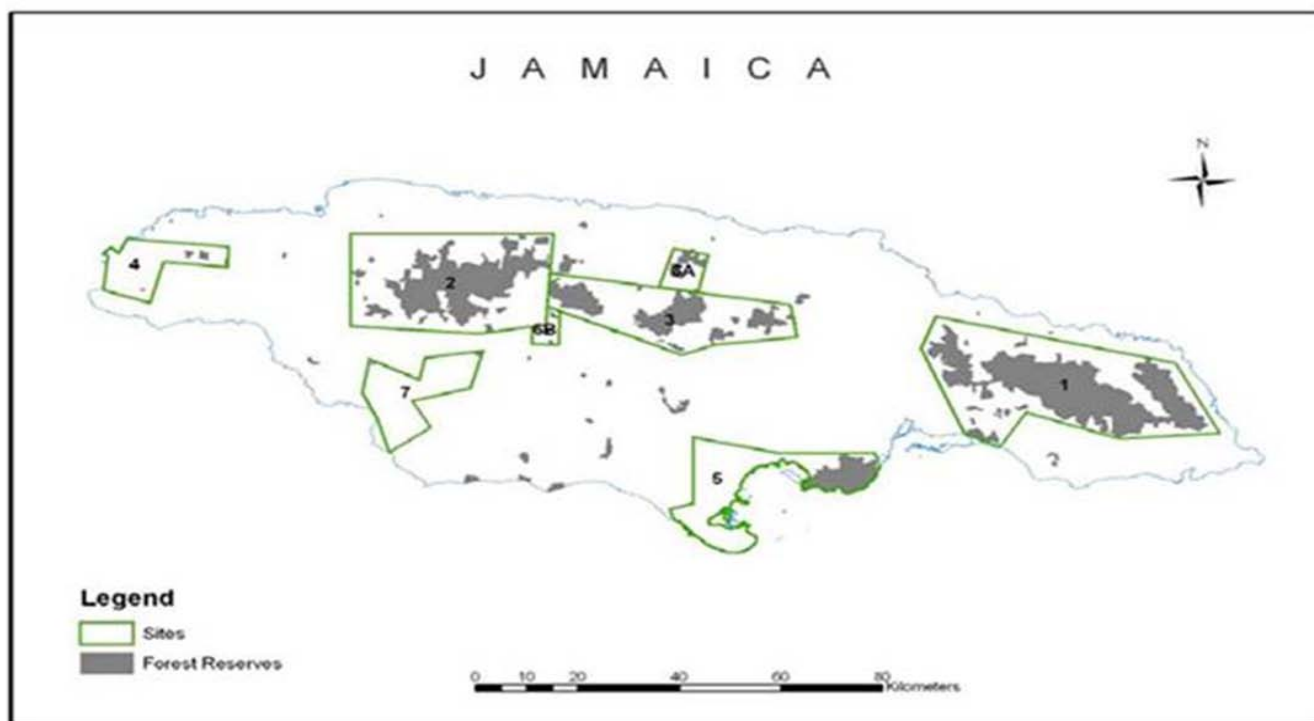
The Forest Conservation Fund (FCF) was created in Jamaica in September 2004 after the signing of three (3) agreements/contracts between the Government of Jamaica (GOJ), the Government of the United States of America (USG), The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the Jamaica Protected Areas Trust (JPAT) respectively.

The central vision of the Fund is to achieve measurable reforestation of target areas within the seven (7) selected priority sites as shown in *Map 1* below. The key objectives of the Fund are:

1. Promote reforestation activities in denuded areas within 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 (please see ***Map 1*** below):

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.

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 programmes/projects geared towards the establishment, restoration and conservation of forests island-wide.

2.0 BACKGROUND

Approximately 30% (333,000 hectares) of the island of Jamaica remains classified as forest of which eight percent (8%) remains as natural forests *i.e.* they are relatively unaffected by anthropogenic influences. These forested areas play a very important role by providing a number of ecosystem services including the provision of quality water, biologically diverse habitats, food production, timber for construction and fuel, controlling flooding, protecting our coastal areas/zones, helping to abate soil erosion and mitigating against climate change and its effects.

Jamaica's forests are however being threatened by several factors namely illegal and non-sustainable harvesting of timber or fuel wood, illegal/legal cultivation on unsuitable sites, illegal or excessive grazing by livestock, illegal settlements, fire and other uses of land such as mining and illegal settlement. Estimates show that the current deforestation rate is approximately 0.1% per annum, although the rate at which forest cover and biodiversity is being degraded as a result of disturbance is unknown¹.

¹ Evelyn O.B. and Camirand, R. (2003), *Forest cover and deforestation in Jamaica: An analysis of forest cover estimates over time*. International Forestry Review 5 (4)

It is therefore critical that a reforestation, rehabilitation and conservation programme/project be implemented to prevent further degradation of these important forest resources.

3.0 EXPECTED OUTPUT(S)

The main output of the project/programme is to achieve establishment, restoration and conservation of Jamaica's remaining forests within any of the seven Priority Areas by undertaking activities such as:

- Reforestation through the establishment of forest plantations on areas previously under forest cover;
- Restoration and enrichment of degraded forested areas; and
- Afforestation through the establishment of new forested areas.

✚ *Projects/programmes must ideally be long-term i.e. greater than three years in duration.*

✚ *Partnerships between eligible 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 organization including an indication of the organization's capacity and experience which would allow the organization to undertake the proposed project/programme
- 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.