

Jamaican Timber: Pricing and Market Situation

Work session: 2

December 08, 2022

09:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Abstract: The presentation has two components:

1. **Key findings from 2021 lumberyard survey** conducted by Forestry Department and NIRAS A/S . The survey collected prices from 45 lumberyards across 14 Parishes

Jamaican statistics on imported lumber (mainly softwood for construction) are solid. Data on the domestic timber harvest (mainly hardwood) however, is lacking, both with regards to harvested volumes, species, and prices.

The findings of the 2021 lumberyard survey are presented, and it is proposed that they can be used as a starting point to estimate prices of lumber and standing timber.

It is recommended to strengthen the dialogue between producers and consumers of timber to develop a dynamic price-setting mechanism, to benefit from market opportunities and create the needed transparency in the value chains. In addition, timber legality assurance systems are recommended to secure sustainable flows of timber for the domestic processing.

2. **Key findings from 2022 consultations with small scale wood-based enterprises** conducted by NIRAS A/S.

49 charcoal producers, lumber yards, sawmillers and forest product-based enterprises were engaged in November. The presentation highlights the challenges experienced by the small-scale value chain actors:

- Rising input and production costs
- Limited access to affordable financing
- Limited capacity in business and financial management, marketing, and leadership
- Aging industry with limited skilled youths

PRESENTERS' PROFILE



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