



# National Environmental Education Committee Climate Change Forum



November 8 2007  
Hilton Hotel  
Kingston

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# OUTLINE



- **INTRODUCTION TO:**
  - The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
  - The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
  - The Kyoto Protocol (KP)
- The roles of the Meteorological Service as National Focal Point to the UNFCCC
  - Some Climate Change activities to date
- Civil Societies participation into the process.





# The IPCC

- The IPCC was established in 1988 by UNEP and WMO when it was recognized that Climate Change poses a serious challenge.
- What is the IPCC?
- Who are the members of the IPCC?
- What are some of the accomplishments/ findings of the IPCC?



# THE UNFCCC

The UNFCCC was adopted in 1992 and entered into force in March 1994.

- The Ultimate objective of the Convention:
  - To stabilize atmospheric greenhouse gases at levels that would prevent “dangerous” human interference with the climate system. Such levels, should be achieved within a timeframe sufficient to allow the ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food security & production is not threatened and to enable development to proceed in a sustainable manner.





**Jamaica became a signature to the UNFCCC in April 1995.**

**Thus we are guided by the Convention and are expected to full-fill all the obligations.**

**➤ We participate fully in all the conferences/sessions of the UNFCCC a its Subsidiary Bodies.**

**➤ We are expected to report to the international communities through the UNFCCC on our national circumstances and on steps taken by Jamaica on the implementation of all aspects of the Convention.**



# THE KYOTO PROTOCOL

The Kyoto Protocol (KP) was adopted 1997 and entered into force in 2005 .

- The Major objective of the KP:  
Is that industrialized countries will reduce their combined greenhouse gas emissions by at least 5% compared to the 1990 levels by the (first) commitment period 2008-2012.
- The targets ranged from 8% below 1990 levels for some, to 10% above 1990 levels for others.
- There are no targets for developing countries.





**Jamaica became a signature to the KP in April 1999.  
As a developing country, however, we have no targets.**

**Through one of the Mechanisms of the KP (CDM)  
we are benefiting.**

**ie: The Wigton Wind Farm is a registered CDM project  
and is generating CER's.**

**We have the potential for more CDM Projects in  
Jamaica.**

# **THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NCCFP**



- To collect and provide information to Decision Makers, Policy Makers other Officials and concerned Government Ministries, and Agencies/Sectors on Climate Change activities that address the current and anticipated adverse effects, including extreme events and their impacts on sustainable development programmes
- To highlight key problems arising from the interaction of Climate Change and Sustainable Development so that they may be taken on board in the coordination & integration of national Climate policies with Sustainable Development policies.





- To undertake national awareness raising and to develop the capacity in relevant Government Ministries, Agencies/ Sectors (NGO's, CBO's ect.) both at the national and local levels in order to reduce the threats from climate change, thus creating a better management and coordination of climate change activities in the country and integrating policies on climate change into socio-economic and sustainable development programmes/plans at national and local levels.
- Coordinate all Climate Change activities locally with the various stakeholders: Government Ministries, Agencies/ Sectors (NGO's, CBO's ect.) and provide technical advise to these stakeholders on climate related issues, including CDM concerns.



- Collaborate with various institutions locally, regionally and internationally (the UWI Climate Studies Group, CCCCC, Cuban institute of Meteorology, CIMH, NHC, NOAA, Hadley Centre ...) with respect to the development of Climate Change scenarios.
- Attends the UNFCCC conferences and Subsidiary Bodies sessions (COP, COP/MOP, SBSTA and SBI) and to ensure that Jamaica's positions on Climate Change are articulated in our best interest. (Jamaica has held various positions in the UNFCCC: Member of the COP Bureau, Alternate member on the CDM Executive Board, co-chair of one of the UNFCCC contact group ...)





- Report to the international communities through the UNFCCC on our national circumstances and on steps taken by Jamaica on the implementation of all aspects of the Convention.
  - We completed our first/initial National Communications which was submitted to the UNFCCC in 2000
  - Work is now ongoing in the preparation of the Second National Communications to be completed by the end of 2008.

# Initial National Communication V&A Assessment



- **Coastal Zones:** The need for comprehensive management of the island's ecosystem, including strategic planning and an assessment of the needs for modification and implementation of identified land-use strategies and guidelines.
- **Water Resources:** Adaptation options for the Water Resources sector will revolve around an improved distribution network incorporating water conservation techniques.
- **Agriculture:** Changes in the climate will obviously affect agricultural production and output, thus the need to examine alternatives is quite clear.



# Second National Communication V&A Assessments



- What are our current vulnerabilities?
- What are our future vulnerabilities?
- What are the adaptive responses to reduce these vulnerabilities?
- What are the implications for sustainable development?  
(Policy recommendations)

# Second National Communication V&A Assessments



- Sectors/zones
  - Generation of Climate Scenarios & an integrated assessment of the impacts on Jamaica's Human Health Sector
  - Integrated assessment of the impacts of CC on Jamaica's Coastal Resources & selected Human Settlements
  - Integrated assessment of the impacts of CC on Jamaica's Water Resources & the Agricultural Sector
  - The comprehensive socio-economic impacts of CC on Jamaica's economy.





## Some CC activities over the years

- **CPACC:** To support Caribbean countries in preparing to cope with the adverse effects of CC, particularly sea level rise, in coastal and marine areas.

**Pilot Components which included Jamaica:**

- **Coral Reef Monitoring for Climate Change**
- **ACCC:** CIDA funded project- Capacity building (post graduate studies).
- **MACC:** Regional projects and pilots projects

# Involvement of Civil Societies in the UNFCCC Process



- Through the national and local level awareness raising and capacity building/development processes.
- Through the various consultation processes which take place from time to time.
- Through the coordination of Climate Change activities nationally and locally.
- Directly at UNFCCC conferences/sessions: Through various NGOs, CBOs and other groupings.
- Can also participate through side events at the UNFCCC conferences/sessions.





# **CONCLUSION**

- For Jamaica to respond to many of the vulnerability concerns, constructive Adaptation/Mitigation policies will have to be developed and implemented so that many of the potential impacts of a changing climate may be avoided or mitigated.
- Work now ongoing in the preparation of Ja's SNC's to the UNFCCC should go a far way to addressing these concerns