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Message from our Board Chair, Lisa Grant

It is my honour to address you in our 2022 annual report, our second such publication. The year was an exceptional one for the National Conservation Trust Fund of Jamaica (NCTFJ) as we embarked on our 3rd year of grant making. As Jamaica sought to return to normality, the NCTFJ showed its support by issuing grants to entities located in and/or operating in protected areas, which were negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The projects were aimed at improving sanitation and livelihood protection within four fishing communities. We were also gratified by the successful culmination of several projects for which grants were made in 2021.

During the period, we strengthened our institutional capacity, both through the employment of a project officer and by the establishment of sub-committees. These sub-committees harness technical expertise within and without the board of directors and offer critical support to the secretariat. This year the focus was on human resources and sustainable finance.

I had the privilege of attending the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund's (CBF) 10th annual meeting in September 2022. We can now boast of being part of a network of eleven Caribbean National Conservation Trust Funds which have partnered with the CBF in environmental conservation. We look forward to exploring the opportunities that this formidable group will be able to leverage in coming years.

It was a year filled with remarkable achievements and promising developments in our mission to conserve the biodiversity of Jamaica as well as to preserve our built heritage. As we reflect on the achievements of 2022, we are reminded of the challenges that lie ahead. Climate change, habitat loss, and biodiversity decline continue to threaten our natural world. We thank our staff, directors, and major funding partners the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund and the Inter-American Fund for their dedication and support. With your unwavering support and our collective determination, I am confident that we can overcome these challenges and secure a brighter, more sustainable future for Jamaica and its unique ecosystems.

lisa Grant



Message from our Manager, **Danellia Aitcheson**

I have taken great pride in being a part of the NCTFJ team for the last five years. Primarily, because of the dedication and passion of the NCTFJ's team towards achieving positive impacts for biodiversity conservation in Jamaica. The organisation has remained committed to preserving Jamaica's protected areas, even through challenging times. NCTFJ continues to deliver on its mandate and reiterates its commitment to responding to the needs of the protected areas system. NCTFJ recognizes the importance of strengthening the capacity of civil society organisations to successfully implement awarded projects and programmes that will safeguard biodiversity and ecosystem services for Jamaicans. In this regard, NCTFJ continues to provide outreach activities to catalyse and facilitate enhanced support to key stakeholders. In 2022 NCTFJ took actions that strengthened its own institutional and technical capacity, enabling the company to successfully deliver its annual operational plan. I have seen the positive impacts of our partnerships with donors and grantees in sensitizing communities on the importance of protected areas management, strengthening the capacities of civil society organisations and financing protected areas. As we increase the level of support to our stakeholders, we anticipate clear I synergies that will scale the impacts of our work to provide long-term results in our protected areas. I thank our Board of Directors, Secretariat, donors and grantees for their unwavering commitment to the Trust Fund.

Danellia Aitcheson





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The NCTFJ has an active multi-stakeholder Board of Directors which serves as a fiduciary body. The Board of Directors comprises eleven members, including representatives from the Government of Jamaica, academia, the private sector and civil society.

The Government entities are represented by one member each from the Ministry with responsibility for the Environment, the Ministry with responsibility for Finance, the Planning Institute of Jamaica and the Tourism Enhancement Fund. Academia has one representative from a tertiary institution. The private sector and civil society representatives include two non-government organizations involved in protected areas management, one representative each from the tourism and financial sectors, and two citizens-at-large, (one being an attorney-at-law). The Chair of the Board is selected from those representing non-government agencies.



Lisa Grant is an attorney-at-law with over twenty years of experience at the Jamaican bar. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Politics from the University of the West Indies and a Master of Laws degree in Comparative Law from McGill University, where she studied International Trade Law and Intellectual Property Law.

She has also studied Ocean Governance: law, policy and regulation at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Canada and received a Diploma from the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in Hamburg, Germany. She has served as Counsel to Technological Solutions Limited since 2019. Lisa has been the Chair of the NCTFJ since July 2021.



Matthew Wallace is the owner of Matthew's Restaurant in Negril, Jamaica. He attended Florida International University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management. He is the co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of Scotch Boyz Jamaica Ltd. Matthew has held the post of Vice Chair of the NCTFJ since July 2021.



Donna Blake leads the Jamaica Programme of The Nature Conservancy. She has a Masters' Degree in Governance and Public Policy gained in 2004 from the University of the West Indies. Donna has held the post of Company Secretary for the NCTFJ since July 2022.



Diane Brown-Allen has over twenty years' experience as a finance practitioner. She is an ACCA certified accountant and has a Masters' Degree in Business Administration. She is currently responsible for revenue and treasury management functions at the Tourism Enhancement Fund. Diane has held the post of Treasurer for the NCTFJ since September 2016.



Joni Jackson is an environmental management and sustainability professional. She is currently employed to the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation as Director, Natural Resources in the Environment and Risk Management Branch. A supporter of the arts, she is co-founder of the Drawing Room Project.



Rose Lemonius-Stewart has over twenty-five years of experience in the public service. She is currently the Senior Director with responsibility for the International Programme Management Branch at the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service.

Mrs. Lemonius-Stewart attained a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Administration from the University of the West Indies, Mona campus and a Master of Business Administration degree in Finance (Merit) from Manchester Business School, UK, as well as a Post Graduate Diploma in Project Management (Distinction) from the University of Bradford, UK.



Nickeshia Lindsay comes to the NCTFJ as a built environment professional and a trained Urban and Regional Planner. She possesses over eight years of project management and coordination experience in the areas of Disaster Risk Management, Climate Change, Youth Development, Social and Community Development.



Susan Otuokon has over thirty years of work experience, mainly in the natural resources management field in the NGO sector and as an environmental consultant. Susan was awarded her Ph.D. in 2010 by the University of the West Indies. She is currently the Executive Director of the Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust (JCDT).



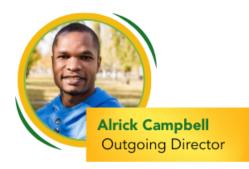
Suzanne Shaw is a Consultant in Sustainable Energy and Climate Change, as well as Director and Impact Investment Lead at The Leap Co. Dr. Shaw has fifteen years of international experience in energy and environmental economics and finance.



Christine O'Sullivan is a Senior Lecturer in the Environmental Studies Division at the University of Technology, Jamaica. Christine has a Master's degrees in Natural Resource Management and Marine Mammal Science from the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus and the University of St. Andrews in Scotland, respectively.



Claire Bernard is a graduate of the University of the West Indies with an MBA in Public Management. She is the Deputy Director General, Sustainable Development and Social Planning at the Planning Institute of Jamaica.



Dr. Alrick Campbell is a Lecturer in the Department of Economics at the University of the West Indies (Mona). For over ten years, Alrick has taught several courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Alrick held the post of Director of the NCTFJ from July 2021 to July 2022.



COMMITTEES OF THE NCTFJ

Since being established, the Trust Fund has benefitted from the appointment of several individuals across a wide range of expertise who provide guidance to operational activities. The established committees are discussed below.

Grant Selection Committee

The Grant Selection Committee (GSC) is an advisory committee appointed by the NCTFJ Board of Directors. The purpose of the GSC is to provide scientific, technical, and programmatic reviews and evaluations of grant proposals received from groups responding to our Call for Proposals. The GSC makes recommendations on proposals for funding to the Board of Directors for their approval. The Committee members are:

- Ms. Joni Jackson, Environmental Scientist
- Mr. Matthew Wallace, Entrepreneur (hospitality industry)
- 聄 Dr. Dayne Buddo, Marine Ecologist
- Ms. Michelle McNaught, Environmental Consultant
- Mr. Dorrick Gray, Consultant Archaeologist
- Ms. Andrea Donaldson, Environmental Professional
- 隊 Ms. Rhian Holder, Project Manager

Sustainable Finance Mechanism Committee

The Sustainable Finance Mechanism Committee (SFMC) is an advisory committee appointed by the NCTFJ Board of Directors. The purpose of the SFMC is to provide guidance to the NCTFJ Board on sustainable finance mechanisms and provide assistance in creating and/ or identifying opportunities with the aim of creating sustainable funding for the NCTFJ to carry out its mandate. The Committee members are:

- Ms. Donna Blake, Policy Analyst
- Mrs. Diane Brown-Allen, Chartered Accountant
- Dr. Suzanne Shaw, Sustainable Energy and Climate Change Consultant
- Ms. Heidi Clarke, Executive Director
- Mr. Terron Francis, Fiscal Economist

Technical Advisory Committee

The Protected Areas Committee (PAC) serves as the NCTFJ Technical Advisory Committee. The PAC shares information with the NCTFJ regarding the priorities of the National Protected Area System of Jamaica. The information shared provides the NCTFJ with programmatic direction and serves as a guide to the Board in developing annual Calls for Proposals that support eligible organisations working in protected areas in Jamaica. The PAC members are from the following Agencies:

- National Environment and Planning Agency
- Forestry Department
- Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries
- The Nature Conservancy
- Jamaica National Heritage Trust
- Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation
- CITES Scientific Authority

GRANT MAKING PROGRAMME

Since 2020, NCTFJ has funded 12 projects across the protected areas system and a strategic investment initiative for Marine Managed Areas (MMAs) benefiting 18 MMAs. Total project budgets have amounted to \$50,096,560, with \$31,113,560 being allocated by the NCTFJ thus far.



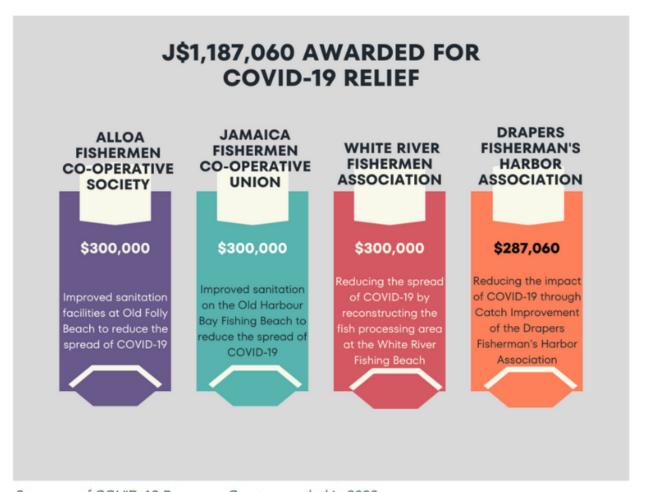


GRANT MAKING PROGRAMME

COVID-19 Response Grant

NCTFJ launched its COVID-19 Response Grant on August 19, 2022. Through partnership with IAF, grants were awarded to successful applicants located in and/or operating in protected areas, who have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. NCTFJ provided support through grants up to J\$300,000 to each successful applicant for recovery activities.

Four community groups were successfully awarded with the total funding valued at \$1,187,060. The grant targeted CBOs operating within Discovery Bay, East Portland Fish Sanctuary, Oracabessa Fish sanctuary, Palisadoes-Port Royal protected area and the Portland Bight protected area.



Summary of COVID-19 Response Grants awarded in 2022

The projects are aimed at improving sanitation and livelihood protection within four communities. The geographical areas that benefited from this funding include the Discovery Bay Fish Sanctuary, White River Fish Sanctuary, Portland Bight Protected Area and East Portland Special Fishery Conservation Area. Photo highlights are given below:



Figure 1: Fish vendors use the only pipe available at the Old Harbour Bay Fish Village.



Figure 3: Representatives of the White River Marine Fisherman Association symbolically accept funding to conduct COVID relief activities



Figure 2: Newly installed handwashing station at the Old Harbour Bay Fishing Village



Figure 4: Representatives of the ALLOA Fisherman Cooperative symbolically accept funding to conduct COVID relief activities.

PROJECT UPDATES

THEME

Nature-Based Solutions for management and protection of protected areas

Grantee	Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation (CCAM)
Project Objective:	To establish one operational standard at the Portland Bight Discovery Centre to satisfy regulatory authorities by 2022.
Project Period:	December 6, 2021 to June 6, 2022
Grant awarded:	J\$1,200,000
Achievements	 ✓ Kitchenette retrofitted and Discovery Centre enhanced to accommodate visitors to the Portland Bight Discovery Centre ✓ 34 safety signs and awareness signed installed, which is a requirement prior to operating tours ✓ 5 fire extinguishers within the Discovery Centre serviced ✓ Website established



Figure 5: During a visit in December 2022, the almost completed kitchenette area, and installed fire safety signs were observed



Figure 6: Outside view of the kitchenette

Grantee	The University of the West Indies- Centre for Marine Sciences - Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory
Project Objectives:	To build the capacity of seven (7) Special Fisheries Conservation Area (SFCA) communities (SFCA staff, community members and business operators) to identify and determine possible water pollution point sources by March 2022.
	To develop the capacity of 14 persons (2 from each SFCA: 7 SFCA staff and 7 youths) in marine water sampling and testing for the following parameters between 2021 and 2023: nitrate, phosphate, faecal coliform, biological oxygen demand, pH, temperature, conductivity, and salinity.
	To establish a system for monthly field sampling and laboratory analyses of the following parameters from each SFCA between 2021 and 2023 to be read at the UWI-DBML, water quality lab: nitrate, phosphate, fecal coliform, biological oxygen demand, pH, temperature, conductivity and salinity.
Project Period:	December 6, 2021 to December 6, 2023
Grant awarded:	J\$5,000,000
Achievements	 ✓ Pollution perception survey conducted with 14 persons trained in water testing parameters of nitrate, phosphate, faecal coliform, biological oxygen demand, ph, temperature, conductivity and salinity. ✓ Monthly field sampling conducted



Figure 7: Trainee testing water samples that have been collected

Grantee	Negril Area Environmental Protection Trust
Project Objectives:	To install 30 demarcation buoys in the Orange Bay Special Fishery Conservation Area over a period of 6 months. To expand FAD Fishing Programme in the Negril and Orange Bay fishing grounds over a period of 7 months. To design and implement a citizen science programme for FAD Fishing monitoring over a period of 12 months.
Project Period:	December 6, 2021 to December 6, 2023 (1 year extension)
Grant awarded:	J\$4,800,000
Achievements	 ✓ Workshop conducted with 23 fishermen on FAD monitoring ✓ Prototype FADs designed, and buoys constructed ✓ Questionnaire designed and tested with fishermen and schoolchildren



Figure 8: Prototype of a Fish Aggregating Device (left) & Buoys constructed for deployment (right) within the Orange Bay Special Fisheries Conservation Area

Grantee	Oracabessa Marine Trust
Project Objectives:	To increase the awareness of 250 community members on the importance of marine conservation and fisheries best practices over a 36-month period To deter illegal fishing within the boundaries of the Oracabessa Bay Fish Sanctuary by increasing the efficiency of the fish sanctuary patrolling operation through the provision of efficient and environmentally friendly patrolling equipment by December 2022. To improve the natural resources and create livelihood opportunities in the Oracabessa Bay Fish Sanctuary by planting 2,000 corals through a community-based coral gardening program over a 36-month period.
Project Period:	December 6, 2021 to December 6, 2024
Grant awarded:	J\$3,900,000
Achievements	 ✓ 4 stroke engine purchased and installed on patrol boat ✓ Three coral trees constructed and anchored within the sanctuary ✓ Marine pests are removed from the coral trees periodically



Figure 9: A warden of the Oracabessa Marine Trust demonstrates the pollution free, quiet operation of the newly installed 4-stroke engine on the sanctuary's patrol boat

Grantee	ALLOA Fisherman's Co-operative Society Ltd
Project Objective:	To train ten (10) individuals as tour guides with skills to educate individuals on the importance of marine ecosystems by November 2022.
Project Period:	December 6, 2021 to December 6, 2023
Grant awarded:	J\$2,276,000
Achievements	 ✓ Workshops conducted in the areas of ecology and SCUBA gear safety ✓ Two bi-monthly meetings held with fishermen cooperative members



Figure 10: Participants listen to a presentation on the importance of mangroves in the Discovery Bay Area

THEME Restoration and Rehabilitation of Ecosystems

Grantee	White River Marine Association
Project Objectives:	To create and maintain two coral nursery sites within the White River Fish Sanctuary, by seeding and growing 2,000 Acroporid corals (Acropora cervicornis and Acropora palmata) over a period of 7 months.
	To outplant and maintain a minimum 80% (1600) of nursery grown Acroporid coral on to degraded reefs within the WRFS between months 8 - 12 and 20-23 and of the project To host 8 workshops to train interested community members and volunteers/interns in coral gardening by 2023.
Project Period:	December 6, 2021 – December 6, 2023
Grant awarded:	J\$2,811,500
Achievements	✓ 1,000 pieces of coral outplanted



Figure 11: Reanne McKenzie, Project Manager at WRFS shows underwater footage of the project area, during a monitoring visit

STRATEGIC INVESTMENT



In April 2020, the Marine Managed Areas action plan was developed by a team comprised of ten Marine Managed Area Managers, the National Environment & Planning Agency, the Fisheries Department and the NCTFJ. The goal of the action plan is to identify and secure diverse funding for Marine Managed Areas (MMA) towards sustainability by demonstrating the value of effective MMA management. The first action of this plan was to engage a Communication Specialist to prepare a communication strategy for the MMAs. On February 23, 2022, the NCTFJ engaged Ms. Suwannee Caine, a Communication Specialist Consultant, to prepare the communication strategy. The Strategy included a work plan, templates, talking points and social media guidelines that can be used by the Marine Manage Area Managers. A consultant will be engaged in 2023 to implement the communication strategy.

INSTITUTIONAL AND TECHNICAL CAPACITY STRENGTHENING

Civil Society Organizations Coalition For Forests

The NCTFJ is a member of the Civil Society Organisations Coalition For Forests. We have attended and participated in a number of workshops, including:

- Participatory budgeting and financial management for the forest sector in Jamaica workshop in September;
- Capacity Building Strategy Session in November; and,
- Introduction to Budget Process and Analysis in December.

United Nations Environment Programme/ The Nature Conservancy - City Adapt Project in Jamaica

The Nature Conservancy, in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) CityAdapt project, is implementing initiatives designed to create an enabling environment for mainstreaming Ecosystem-Based Adaptation (EbA) into medium- and long-term urban development planning through strengthening the technical capacity of government stakeholders in urban development and natural resource management ministries and agencies to integrate EbA into planning, policies and regulations. In an effort to get the perspectives and recommendations from civil society, non-government experts and community representatives, TNC invited the NCTFJ to participate in a focus group consultation session on July 28, 2022.



Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA) Risk Resilience and Risk Financing in the Greater Caribbean Project

On April 25, 2022, the NCTFJ signed an agreement with the CBF to participate in the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA) Risk Resilience and Risk Financing in the Greater Caribbean project implemented with lead organisation the Mesoamerican Reef Fund. The objective of the project is to build the capacity of local communities, governments, the private sector, and environmental funds to increase coastal resilience using innovative financing mechanisms, such as parametric reef insurance. NCTFJ received US\$5, 000 to undertake research activities with potential beneficiaries to support the project implementation.

INSTITUTIONAL AND TECHNICAL CAPACITY STRENGTHENING



Network of Latin American and Caribbean Environmental Funds (RedLAC) 2022 Congress

The NCTFJ attended the RedLAC 2022 Congress which was held October 23-27, 2022. – The congress is an annual event organized by RedLac that brings together unique opportunities for participation and learning among member funds, strategic alliances and donors. This year's event highlighted sustainable financing for environmental funds, taxonomy, management models and roles of environmental funds in attracting private investments for Conservation Goals.



CBF 10th Anniversary Meeting

In September 2022 NCTFJ Chair, Ms. Lisa Grant attended the CBF 10th Annual Meeting in the Bahamas. The meeting brought together 11 CBF member countries to share their experiences and to learn about other funding opportunities that will become available for CBF member countries.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

The NCTFJ prides itself on financial prudence. As such, we engage the services of professionals, and maintain transparency in our expenditures and income streams.

Service Providers



Accountant

PAGBO Limited 9 Devon Road, Kingston 10



External Auditor

Boldeck Jamaica Limited 3A Haughton Avenue, Kingston 10



Commercial Bankers

National Commercial Bank Jamaica Limited

JMMB Bank (Jamaica) Limited

Donors

NCTFJ is linked to and receives funding support from the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF), a US\$42M endowment facility, with subaccounts for eleven countries in the Caribbean, including Jamaica. The NCTFJ signed a Partnership Agreement with the CBF on World Environment Day, June 5th, 2019. This relationship has provided funds that are used to assist the National Protected Areas System (NPAS), including the Government of Jamaica, that manage protected areas.

On August 13, 2021, the NCTFJ signed a three-year Grant Agreement with the Inter-American Foundation (IAF). Under this Agreement the NCTFJ will receive a total of US\$340,445 to provide funding to eligible community groups and NGOs. With these resources, hawse have funded environmentally based, community development projects that strengthen community organizations and encourage private social investment in Jamaica. Additionally, the project will assist NCTFJ in strengthening its communications and fundraising capacity.

NCTFJ received in-kind support valued at US\$8,388 from It's Pixel Perfect (IPP) for the year 2022. IPP provides website maintenance, website security, website backup, technical support, hosting services and website performance reports for conservejamaica.org, NCTFJ's website.



2022

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Revenue

Program Income by donor

Caribbean Biodiversity Fund J\$26,999,914

Inter-American Foundation J\$8,471,662

Interest income

Caribbean Biodiversity Fund J\$11,681

Inter-American Foundation J\$80,070

J\$35,563,327

Deferred Income - Grant funding (by donor) to be used for future projects

Caribbean Biodiversity Fund J\$29,888,072

• Inter American Foundation J\$12,392,379

J\$42,280,451

Expenditure

Administrative expenses by donor

Caribbean Biodiversity Fund J\$6,504,833
 Inter-American Foundation J\$8,103,739

Grants distributed to projects by donor

Caribbean Biodiversity Fund J\$16,497,670
 Inter-American Foundation J\$450,000

Expenses related to grant-making by donor

Caribbean Biodiversity Fund J\$4,007,085

J\$35,563,327



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