

Institution name: Jeffrey Town Farmers Association

Address of Headquarters: JTFA Building, Top Road,
Jeffrey Town, Guy's Hill PO St. Mary, Jamaica.

Date of Creation: 1991

Main fields of activity: Agriculture and Environment

Size: 8 members

Organisation Structure: 1 President, 3 Vice President (one supporting the President, the other two with individual responsibility for Agriculture and Education)

Annual budget and sources of income: JM\$500,000 – 600,000 annually: Fund raising, volunteerism and membership dues, donations, prizes and grants

Name and title of chief executive officer: Mr. Wordsworth Gordon, President

Nominator's name: Ms. Hyacinth Douglas

Address: 1-3 Lady Musgrave Road, Kingston 5, Jamaica

Email: hyacinthd@unops.org

Present position: National Coordinator

Previous posts and functions: ***Executive Assistant/Programme/Quality Assistant***: developing the Institute's policy manual, acquiring Accredited Training Organisation (ATO) status and ISO certification. Conducted Facility Audit, coordinated BSC degree programmes, supported the implementation & monitoring of quality assurance standards at the Institute, contributed significantly to the preparation of the Institute's annual report, organised special events/workshop with schools, government officials and communities, administrative duties, speech editing, aspects of human resources, among other duties

Office Manager/Project Assistant: Executed administrative details resulted from various responsibilities undertaken by the Technical Advisor (TA); Assisted in identifying and developing weekly objectives and targets for efficient time management of the TA; Supported implementation of all activities, functions and tasks as requested; Liaised with officials in various Government Ministries for representational functions, permits, waivers, documents and advice concerning the purchase and importation of equipment and supplies; Ensured the pre-clearance from Customs official for various shipments; Office Administration; monitor project developments, HR duties: recruiting and selection of employees, staff benefits, staff training among others.

Please fill out this section *only* if you are nominating an *institution*

Institution name Jeffrey Town Farmers Association (JFTA)

Address of headquarters JFTA Building, Top Road, Guy's Hill P.O. St Mary

Address of nominated institution if different from headquarters _____

Date of creation 1991 Main fields of activity Agriculture & Environment

Size 8 member Executive Organization structure See document attached

Annual budget and sources of income JMD 500,000 - 600,000 annually, fund raising, volunteerism & membership dues, donations, prizes & grants

Name and title of chief executive officer Mr Woodward Gordon, President

For those submitting nominations, please provide your details

Nominator's name Hyacinth Douglas

Address 1-3 Lady Musgrave Road, Kingston 5

Email hyacinth@nops.org

Present position National Coordinator

Previous posts and functions See attached document

The Jeffrey Town Farmers Association (JFTA) situated in mountainous and disaster-prone area, between two of the country's major watersheds, has been nothing but outstanding in all aspects of community initiatives, gaining the support of local citizens, groups, individuals from all sectors. The group has been a beneficiary of the GEF Small Grants Programme, their recently completed project entitled "*Integrated Environmental Management in Jeffrey Town*" was completed on time and was one of several projects (SGP Jamaica) for which a case study was developed by our Headquarters.

One notable initiative is, this group was among the first community groups to develop a *Community Disaster Risk Management Plan*. With such a plan in place the group has caught the attention and support of several donors, private sector and Government agencies. Because of the group's outstanding community initiatives with national and global impact, they won the prestigious *Equator Prize Award* for 2014 - the first winner for Jamaica. Through dedication and self-motivation, the group has completed a vast array of disaster risk reduction activities across their community to substantially improve the quality of the lives of their residents. The group has been taking the ideal and relevant steps (in a strategic manner) to redress landslides that stretched across over thirty acres of land incorporating measures such as reforestation, gabion walls, check dams, terracing as well as clearing gullies and draining pond.

Concerted efforts are now geared towards better access to water, improved food security, incorporating alternative energy and mobilizing a disaster team for preparedness and post disaster activities. The group was able to train themselves and then the wider community through face to face sessions. With their award-winning radio programme aired on the community radio the group was able to share their community initiatives to highlight and underpin best practices. The group is renown in the Caribbean as a shining example of community driven initiative to redress climate related problems. Their voice is sought for inspiration and replication at forums related to ICT, meteorology, distance learning, climate change and community development.

Documentaries have been aired on national television and articles published on the group. The group's successes, of urban planning, development and public policy have been studied by under and post graduate students from our own universities and abroad. GOJ/ EU/ UNEP Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Project study is perhaps the most telling study as this was used to formulate national policy. This group is shaping the future by planning ahead for all eventualities, replacing roofs, adding hurricane straps, water harvesting, green house technology and crop diversification; clearly forging the way forward and scaling up their disaster risk reduction activities with a grant of US\$600,000 from the Caribbean Development Bank.

In less than 100 words, please describe how the nominee's work is funded.

~~See attached document attached.~~

This group has achieved these staggering results: with a series of seven small grants over the last seven years averaging US\$58,000 each with an in-kind contribution in excess of 40% and only two of these interventions have supported members of the organisation with stipends. The secretariat/ executive runs the organisation on a completely voluntary basis and overheads are met by the use of alternative energy, fund raising activities, membership dues, road advertising, income from the sale of value-added products and prize money plus intermittent donations.