



MSP Incorporating Natural Resources Evaluation Tools into EIA Procedures

Project title	Piloting Natural Resource Valuation within Environmental Impact Assessments
Project start	September 2008
Projected finish date	September 2011
Project manager	NEPA – Triceia Clarke – Project Assistant
Problem/Need	<p>Jamaica's wetlands that once covered 2% of the island have declined significantly due to infilling for development projects and road construction. Most of Jamaica's development has focused on the coastal areas, much of that is associated with tourism development.</p> <p>The country has one national park, three marine parks and five declared protected areas, covering an area of 14,219 hectares and 13.3% of the total land area. Protected areas are impacted by unplanned development, tourism, urban spread, inappropriate agricultural practices, deforestation, poverty, unsustainable resources extraction practices and pollution from improper waste disposal (sewage, agricultural waste and garbage). Forest cover had been declining at around 0.1% per annum and this is attributed mainly to bauxite mining. No tool exists to do a comparative analysis of the value of the bauxite mined with the goods and services offered by the forest removed for access road construction and mining of bauxite ore. Maintaining these natural resource values are difficult given the national priorities of socio-economic development and Jamaica's institutional framework governing natural resource use and environmental management, which is heavily biased against protection in favour of extraction and exploitation for short-term economic gains.</p>
Project rationale	By attaching financial and economic values to ecosystem functions, EIAs would allow for a more accurate representation of the costs associated with development. Thus, the decision-making process becomes a more holistic enterprise, one that better enables environmentally sound and sustainable development.
Project objectives	The objective of the project is to develop a set of natural resources valuation tools, and incorporate these into the policies and procedures governing the preparation and use of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).
Project outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Develop a set of natural resources valuation tools, which will form part of the integral part of the implementation procedures of the Environmental Impact Assessment and the Strategic Environmental Assessments.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Pilot the incorporation of natural resource valuation tools into the EIA process. 3. Strengthen the capacities of the NEPA to use natural resource valuation within the EIA process in a cost-effective, transparent, and timely manner. 	
Proposed budget	U\$ 552,250	
Project deliverables	A Natural Resources Valuation Sourcebook, Training and sensitization on natural resource valuation, Pilot EIA using NRV tools, Preparation of Lessons Learned Material	
Order of magnitude cost estimate in U\$\$	Funding requested from GEF Co-financing total, including GEF IA/ExA Government Others Grand Total U\$\$	470,250 0 82,000 0 552,250
Project configuration management and approval requirements	All requests for change to project scope will be subject to approval from the project manager. Requests for change to project's schedule and costs will be subject to the approval of the project manager. Requests for changes to the specifications or design will be subject to approval by the project manager.	