



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

ANNEX: TOR Research Consultant
Strengthening Jamaica's Resilience to Food and Water Insecurity

Position Information

Position title:	Research Consultant
Duty station:	Kingston, Jamaica
Type & duration of Contract:	Service Contract, 4 weeks
Organizational unit:	Migration, Environment and Climate Change
Starting date:	February 2023
Reporting to	National Project Officer

Introduction

Established in 1951, International Organization for Migration is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners. IOM is dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all. It does so by providing services and advice to governments and migrants.

IOM in collaboration with the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), is implementing a 6-month project under the United Nations (UN) JOINT SDG Fund through the Development Emergency Modality Programme – Response to the Global Crisis on Food, Energy, Finance titled “**Strengthening Jamaica's Resilience to Food and Water Insecurity Project**”. The joint programme will build on the United Nations' Country Implementation Plan of the Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, addressing immediate needs to assist Jamaica's response to the global food crises and socio-economic setbacks from COVID-19.

3. Project Context and Scope

The current global food crisis exacerbated by the ongoing war in Ukraine, COVID-19 pandemic, climate disruption, hydro-climatic extremes, and biodiversity erosion, comes as a shock for small island developing states (SIDS) like Jamaica. Jamaica's food system is already fragile due to climate variability, biodiversity erosion and two years of COVID-19 pandemic. New exogenous shocks, like the war in Ukraine, affect Jamaica's food-energy-water and farming systems, essentially rural, mainly due to increasing cost of fertilizers and seed scarcity concomitant to the escalating difficulty for water availability in the food production. Indeed, given the major role played by Russia, Belarus and Ukraine in the global food-water-energy system, the ongoing conflict drives price increases and volatility for fertilizers, staple grains, oil-based energy production and water distribution for agriculture as is the case for Jamaica. Jamaica is particularly vulnerable because of its dependency on imported processed food and wheat flour, with the country listed among the highest per capita consumers of flour and flour-based products in the world. The livestock sub-sector, namely the poultry industry that provides the primary source of protein to Jamaicans, is also at risk of collapsing because of the price increase of soybean and coarse grain. Additionally, these exogenous shocks have considerably inflated the cost of farming, increased food prices (FAO, 2022), and exacerbated poverty and unemployment. Agriculture accounts for 70% of annual freshwater withdrawals worldwide, making water management one of the main levers to counteract food crisis. In Jamaica, the agriculture sector accounts for 8.68% of the GDP¹ and is important for providing employment for

¹ In 2020, <https://www.statista.com/statistics/527157/share-of-economic-sectors-in-the-gdp-in-jamaica/#:~:text=In%202020%2C%20the%20share%20of,sector%20contributed%20about%2059.74%20percent>



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

up to 15.69% of the total labour force of the country², namely in the breadbasket rural areas. The main crops in Jamaica include condiments, sugar cane, bananas, coffee, cocoa, citrus and pimentos, whose production is highly dependent on fertilizers, water and energy provision in a country that imports its fuel and is lagging in terms of water management.

The most affected by this food-energy-water crisis in Jamaican society are small-scale food producers, namely rural farmers, who rely on artificial fertilizers, fuel and water for their production and trading activities. The Jamaica food production sector also displays the most significant gender gap in the Caribbean with 30 per cent of registered women farmers. That is why rural women farmers are at risk of disruption in Jamaica. Food insecurities are impacting primarily the most vulnerable populations, the poorest, including women, children, youth, populations in rural areas and minorities, who typically spend over 60% of their income on food (FAO et al. 2021). Finally, the most affected by food poverty are female-headed households, which have in Jamaica the largest share of poverty at 53.4%³ and represent up to 40% of all households. The possible collateral risks induced by a collapse of the farming system and food poverty escalation are rural-urban drift, growth of squatter settlements and an increase in the levels of crime and violence with a significant impact on the Jamaican resilience capacity vis-à-vis the current and future crisis. Experiences from previous crises have shown that higher and more volatile food prices translate into higher rates of hunger, malnutrition, non-communicable diseases, social unrest, economic migration, rural-urban drift, and poverty eruption, especially in rural communities and fragile groups like women farmers. The pressure on the Jamaica's food ecosystem is increasing rural poverty and accrued rural-urban drift. The short-term risks induced would accelerate poverty, squatter settlements, and increase crime rate impacting Jamaican society and resilience capacity.

This Joint Programme (JP) seeks to fill existing gaps in Jamaica's database and tools to inform the design of strategies and programs that assist populations affected by the food, water and financing crises, and strengthen the farming ecosystem. The JP will provide policy recommendation and identification of key interventions for rural development, integrated water management for food production, poverty and farmers' exodus mitigation. It will furnish elements to understand the socio-economic impacts of the crisis on different sectors and inform design of instruments and interventions for vulnerable groups, namely women farmers. It will enhance existing Government of Jamaica sex-disaggregated data collection, methodology, and drive financially sustainable interventions when similar shocks occur, for stronger, more integrated, equitable food systems. To deliver within the short timeframe, IOM and UNESCO will leverage existing analyses, their collective expertise on food-water nexus, rural development and shock responsive social protection, vis-a-vis rural-urban drift, and through close partnership with the Government.

The project's specific outcomes are described as follows:

- (1) Strengthened data and information base for evidence-based policy formulation and programme design to assist the most vulnerable population and groups affected by the ongoing food-energy-water crisis in Jamaica.
- (2) Improved existing instruments to support resilience, long-term sustainability and replicability of appropriate interventions at all levels of the food-energy-water ecosystem

² in 2020, according to the World Bank collection of development indicators

³ <https://bt-project.org/en/reports/country-report/JAM>



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

Within Outcome one, IOM seeks to produce an evidence-based report on socio-economic data and information on the targeted rural women communities and on the food crisis impact. The assessment will serve to further document gender-disaggregated information to understand how the global food, energy, water, and fertilizer crises are affecting vulnerable groups and sectors – including agriculture households, women, and rural communities, through **desktop review** and coordinate production of the report on the analysis of the crisis impacts and recovery solutions.

4. THE NATURE OF THE CONSULTANCY

Under the direct supervision of the National Project Officer and in coordination with the project assistants from the International Organization for Migration and UNESCO, the Research Consultant will take the lead on conducting the **desk review**. The consultant will be responsible to conduct the following assignments:

<i>Deliverable</i>	<i>Specifications</i>
Report analysis on the crises impacts and recovery solutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Assessment – based on data gathered in field research with rural women communities in Clarendon, St. Elizabeth, Northern Manchester and Southern St. Ann and desk review previously conducted by IOM Jamaica.
Report on best practices and sustainable practices	<p>At a minimum, this report must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Table of Contents• Executive summary• Introduction• Develop a repository of best practices, opportunities, and lessons learnt from rural farming in the Jamaican breadbasket, for resilience to current and future shocks, recovery strategies, and alternative livelihood practices that help diversify food-based income streams, reduce poverty, and prevent the abandon of rural agriculture for urban migration based on desk review and based on data gathered in field research with rural women communities in Clarendon, St. Elizabeth, Northern Manchester and Southern St. Ann.• The analysis will serve to inform policies and strategies, as well as designing appropriate interventions for specific vulnerable and affected rural populations.• Conclusion• References

5. TANGIBLE AND MEASURABLE OUTPUTS OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The end products expected to be delivered by the Consultant will be (in English), as follows:

- a) Report analysis on the crises impacts and recovery solutions.
- b) Report on best practices and sustainable practices

6. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR EVALUATION OF RESULTS

The quality, targeted and detailed of the work performed as established in above as well as compliance with agreed delivery dates.

- Delivering in accordance with the work plan and methodology (efficiency)
- Evidence of stakeholder inclusion/involvement



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

- Inclusion of best practices
- Concise and easy to read
- Adhering to IOM house styles and guidelines
- Adhering to IOM house styles and guidelines

7. EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, & OR SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE/EXPERIENCES REQUIRED

- A degree in Social Science, Geography, Research, or an equivalent, plus a minimum five years of experience in research projects.
- Knowledge of environment and climate change or migration issues in the English-speaking Caribbean.
- Demonstrated capacity in developing research methodologies, with proven track-record of conducting studies, surveys and delivering accurate analysis of the results.
- Experience in executing research for governmental authorities, national or international organizations and institutions.
- Excellent written communication skills.
- Fluency in English.

8. COMPETENCIES

Values

- **Inclusion and respect for diversity** respects and promotes individual and cultural differences; encourages diversity and inclusion wherever possible.
- **Integrity and transparency:** maintains high ethical standards and acts in a manner consistent with organizational principles/rules and standards of conduct.
- **Professionalism:** demonstrates ability to work in a composed, competent and committed manner and exercises careful judgment in meeting day-to-day challenges.

Core Competencies – behavioural indicators

- **Teamwork:** develops and promotes effective collaboration within and across units to achieve shared goals and optimize results.
- **Delivering results:** produces and delivers quality results in a service-oriented and timely manner; is action-oriented and committed to achieving agreed outcomes.
- **Managing and sharing knowledge:** continuously seeks to learn, share knowledge and innovate.
- **Accountability:** takes ownership for achieving the Organization's priorities and assumes responsibility for own action and delegated work.
- **Communication:** encourages and contributes to clear and open communication; explains complex matters in an informative, inspiring and motivational way.



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

9. HOW TO APPLY

Applications should be submitted via email, no later than 30 January 2023, to IOMKINGSTON@iom.int, with the subject line 'Vacancy- Research Consultant.' The application must include: Curriculum Vitae, Application letter and a link or copies of two samples of previous similar works.

Please note that applications are open to Jamaicans and Caricom nationals and residents.

We thank all applicants for your expressions of interest. However, only short-listed candidates will be contacted.