## About the EFJ

The Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ) began operations in 1993 under the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative (EAI) Debt Reduction Agreement between the Governments of Jamaica and the United States of America. The Foundation was established to provide assistance to civic organizations trying to make a meaningful contribution to the environment and child welfare and development.

The principal objectives of the Foundation are:

- To promote and implement activities designed to conserve and manage the natural resources and environment of Jamaica
- To encourage the improvement of child survival and child development in Jamaica



Reforested Area in Dunn's River Watershed

The EFJ achieves its objectives through grants to eligible non-government institutions.

Between 1993 and 2008 the Foundation has spent over JA \$1.8 billion on over 1100 projects in communities all around urban and rural Jamaica.



1B Norwood Avenue, Kingston 5 Jamaica W.I.

grants@efj.org.jm www.efj.org.jm

Tel: 876-960-7125

876-960-6744

Fax: 876-920-8999



# Environmental Foundation of Jamaica



Royal Palm Reserve, Westmoreland

Serving Jamaica for over 15 years

Preserving the Future... Today!

### EFJ around Jamaica

The core business of the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica is to use the mechanism of grant-making in creative ways, both responsive and proactive, to assist civil society to find solutions to problems, and exploit opportunities in the environment and child development. These funds are expected to provide sustainable responses which together contribute to sustainable national development.

There are various sub themes under our two main themes that are considered for grant awards. *Environmental Management and Natural Resources Conservation (PL480)* and *Child Survival and Development (AID).* 

Each year the Board of Directors approves a budget providing resources to the Secretariat for work in the following areas:

#### Grantmaking

Response to requests/proposals from the community in areas of the mandate.

#### **Programmes**

Initiating action to address issues of national importance in the areas of the mandate. EFJ collaborates with several stakeholders to plan and implement these programmes.

#### Members

The EFJ provides support to members in areas of their own development as institutions and in those areas in which their work reflects the mandate of the EFJ.

#### Fundraising

The EFJ recognizes the need to raise funds in order to continue support to the environment and child sectors in Jamaica beyond the life of the current agreement.

### EFJ Environment Projects

The EFJ has targeted the following focus areas for its Environmental Activities.

- Ecosystems Management (Upper watershed Reforestation and Sustainable Livelihood practices)
- Waste and Water Management (Collection and processing of non-degradable waste and Public Education and Prevention programmes in support of waste management.)
- Water harvesting Systems (Rehabilitation of small water systems in isolated communities)
- Alternative Energy (Solar Energy, Wind Energy, and Hybrid systems



Child petting rabbit at Hope Zoo.

We are particularly proud of the following activities:

- The Jeffrey Town Farmers' Association. Over 50 farmers now in Vermi-composting, Soil Conservation and Watershed Reforestation. The group was recognized nationally winning the Michael Manley Foundation Environmental Award for Community Self-Reliance.
- University of the West Indies Chemistry Department.
  Removal of asbestos from over 500 households in Succaba Pen, a low income community in central Jamaica after 30 years.
- College of Agriculture Science and Education (CASE). They now supplement power from the national grid from an EFJ-sponsored wind turbine. Further assistance was provided for bio-fuel which powers a refrigerator and lamps for both light and heating for farm activities, independent of the municipal supply.

### EFJ Child Projects

The Foundation is also mandated to effect change in the Child Sector. Areas of focus are:

- Early Childhood (0-8 years) Interventions (Early stimulation and training of caregivers; early detection of special needs)
- Children (0—18 years) in Challenging circumstances (Institutionalized Children, Adolescents at Risk, Children with special needs and disabilities)



Harvest Temple Basic School, Portmore.

We are pleased to have been sponsors and partners in the following Child Development initiatives in Jamaica:

- Support to activities for the Early Childhood Commission (ECC). Through the EFJ, over 85 basic schools or over 2,000 children from over 30 communities have benefited.
- The Jamaica Downs Syndrome Association. The EFJ supported the launch of this new support group with over 150 families already registered.
- The Special Training and Empowerment (STEP) Programme and Centre. Six (6) workshops were held with a total of 130 attendees to disseminate therapy and intervention techniques and raise awareness amongst professionals. The Centre is now better equipped and continues to enrol children with disabilities.