



December 15, 2020

Ms. Jeanette A. Calder
Executive Director
Jamaica Accountability Meter Portal
Suite 3
7 Lady Musgrave Road
Kingston 5

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Dear Ms. Calder,

Access to Information Request- Improving Climate Data Project

Reference is made to your Access to Information application dated **November 16, 2020** regarding the Improving Climate Data and Information Management Project (ICDIMP), arising from the Auditor General's Report for the 2018/19 Financial Year (FY).

On a quantitative basis, the report accurately reflects the number of targets achieved (8 of 20) for the FY. However, the report did not reflect the status of progress made towards achieving the other eight (8) targets, nor did it state the justifications for the non-commencement of the four remaining (4) activities during the period. Please find below an overview of the project's performance and updates on the specific targets mentioned in your request.

As at November 2020, the ICDIMP has achieved **68% (21 of 31)** of all planned deliverables since inception in November 2015. These deliverables have already begun to have positive impacts on improving the quality and use of climate related data and information in Jamaica. The list of deliverables achieved includes:

- Procurement and installation of 35 Automatic Weather Stations for the Meteorological Service Jamaica (MSJ)
- Renovation of the MSJ Weather Radar Station
- Development of a Real Time Water Monitoring System, for the Water Resources Authority (WRA)
- Procurement, installation and upgrading of 55 Hydro-met stations for the WRA
- Procurement and installation of sea level tide gauge at the Montego Bay Pier; the only such equipment on the North Coast which bridges a critical data gap in the country's hazard information. The data from the gauge feeds directly into the Caribbean tsunami warning system.
- Installation of a Situation Room and Monitoring Centre at the WRA. This allows for remote and real time monitoring of specific rivers

- Installation of soil moisture probes across the island and the training of extension and other personnel in the use and analysis of data from the probes
- Training of over 200 GOJ officers and industry associates in Hydro-met related disciplines
- Production of the 2015 State of the Jamaican Climate Report and other analytical works. The SOJC contains projection of key climatic parameters up to 2100 and is important to aid decision making
- Completion of a Vulnerability Assessment of the Health Sector (15 facilities) and the preparation of indicative cost to redress critical deficiencies
- Implementation of a Public Education Campaign under the Slogan “Smart and Steady get Climate Ready”

In terms of financial performance, as at October 2020, the project has committed 83% of the overall budget of US\$6.8M, of which 44% or USD 2.99M has already been expended. The project’s rate of expenditure will improve significantly once the installation of the Weather Radar for the MSJ is completed. This contract is valued at US\$2.449M or 35% of the project’s overall budget. It is on target for completion by March 2021. Note that this activity was among those directly impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic as constituent parts for its manufacture had to be sourced from Wuhan, China and Italy.

Notwithstanding the delays during the 2018/19 FY, the independent mid-term review of the project completed in October 2018 and subsequent performance reviews by the World Bank (latest conducted in June 2020) have all rated the project as **moderately satisfactory** having achieved significant deliverables since inception in November 2015. There is every indication that with completion of the installation of the Weather Radar this rating should improve to **satisfactory** by the end of the 2020/21 FY.

During implementation, the project realized cost savings of approximately US\$700,000 (mainly derived from the cost of the Radar). In this regard, the project was granted a 1 year extension by the World Bank (from April 2021 to April 2022) to utilize the cost savings to implement **additional** activities including:

- Procurement and installation of 15 Automatic Weather Stations for the MSJ
- Procurement and installation of a solar power system at the MSJ Radar Station
- Procurement and installation of 2 additional sea level tide gauges for the MSJ
- Implementing recommendations within 15 Health facilities as outlined in the 2020 Vulnerability Assessment Report on the Health Sector (additional water tanks, standby generators etc.)

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The attached tables present a detailed response regarding those targets not met during the 2018/19FY, as mentioned in the AUGD's report. Please cut/copy and paste the links to view the supporting documentation.

Sincerely,

Name: Odean Cole Phoenix
Responsible Officer

O Phoenix
(Signature)

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Table 1. Status of eight Targets that were and in progress during the 2018/19 FY

Target -18/19 FY	Status as at November 2020	Comments	Means of Verification
1. Contract Awarded for Weather Radar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract Awarded in June 2019 in the sum of US \$2,449,000 Installation of Radar tower ongoing Assembly of the Weather Radar components completed in the USA. Shipping scheduled for December 2, 2020, ETA December 5, 2020 	<p>Was initially on target.</p> <p>Supplier's procurement of components impacted by the COVID 19. Source countries China and Italy.</p>	<p>https://jis.gov.jm/jam-aica-to-get-new-s-band-doppler-weather-radar/</p> <p>https://jis.gov.jm/installation-of-doppler-weather-radar-to-be-completed-by-end-of-2020-21/</p>
2. Contract Project officer for ODPEM to lead the implementation of 3 activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract Awarded in April 2019 	Officer assigned to the ODPEM	
3. Execution of 2 Community/school concerts under Voices for Climate change initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All concerts executed between April and August 2019 6 concerts executed within 4 target communities This contract was executed on time and within budget 	<p>The Voices for Climate Change Education Initiative was one of three separate but coordinated activities implemented under the Information, Education and Communications Campaign.</p> <p>Concerts were held at Lionel Town-Clarendon, Red Bank-St Elizabeth and White River- St Ann</p>	<p>https://www.dropbox.com/sh/2ck1wjdu4tkdimm/AAAc3aA1R1q3KldZSr28TMtga?dl=0</p>
4. Data Infilling Activity completed including quality assurance training for MSJ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract signed Completed in March 2020 	<p>Delays in signing of contract resulted from consultant's late submission of Tax Compliance Certificate</p> <p>Internal capacity built at MSJ to address the gap- 17 MSJ Officers introduced to the data Infilling methodology</p>	<p>Final report and sample of the infilled data set.</p> <p>https://www.dropbox.com/sh/bcg8x0xvswldgng/AACUa7UQABWCQCRT0H2-az_fa?dl=0</p>

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Target -18/19 FY	Status as at November 2020	Comments	Means of Verification
		Monthly rainfall data set infilled between 1971-2010	
5. Automatic Weather Station Real Time Data Platform developed and installed for MSJ- 40 AWS reporting in real time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract signed in February 2020 Real time platform and software developed and being tested. Hardware ordered 	The development of the real time system was directly impacted by COVID-19 as constituent parts for the system development were to be sourced from China. The extended period of the pandemic therefore resulted in delays in sourcing the hardware, as alternative sources had to be found	Real time system demo platform. https://www.dropbox.com/sh/g26l8yzbgjp0juc/AAB8vleGRitBay8of31IKpfUa?dl=0
6. 20 Soil Moisture Probes Installed by MSJ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation completed in June 2020 Installation video completed 	Scheduled to be completed in March 2020 but was delayed due to onset of COVID-19	Video outlining the installation process. https://www.dropbox.com/s/66syyycehzjkmY/Final%20Documentary.mp4?dl=0
7. Contract awarded for Health Sector Vulnerability Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract signed in April 2019. Assignment completed in August 2020 	Assignment delayed due to a change in key experts on consultancy team. Further delays occasioned by late feedback from the technical implementing agency, MOHW, whose staff were engaged in responding to a Dengue outbreak and subsequently to the COVID 19 pandemic	Extract of the final VA report. https://www.dropbox.com/sh/6387oj8mpmhnx1k/AAAnjqIV8oCNjzVujPmvTWwoa?dl=0
8. Gap assessment and design of DR/CC platform completed	Completed. All hardware and software procured and provided to the National Spatial Data Management Division -Physical hardware infrastructure completed in November 2018 -Added bandwidth procured in January 2019	Several changes in design and specifications of the system led to delays in completing procurement	

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Target -18/19 FY	Status as at November 2020	Comments	Means of Verification

Table 2. Status of the Four Targets that were not started during the 2018/19 FY

Target -18/19 FY	Status as at November 2020	Comments	Means of Verification
1. Training in the use of soil moisture probes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed in February 2020 28 Officers from 5 Government Agencies trained in Soil moisture probe operations 3 Theory and 2 practical Training sessions held Training Manual produced 	Delays in signing of contract resulted from consultant's late submission of Tax Compliance Certificate	<p>Final report on the Soil moisture probe training.</p> <p>https://www.dropbox.com/s/nwhjj77tlvfjtdp/%28Final%20Report%29%20Soil%20Moisture%20Probes%20Training.pdf?dl=0</p>
2. Community Risk profile Completed for ODPEM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract signed in March 2020 Scheduled to end June 2021 	Progress impacted by onset of COVID-19 -border closure affected consultants coming into the island and restricted travel for local consultants	<p>Two deliverables completed thus far under this activity.</p> <p>https://www.dropbox.com/sh/snazsutg938d3e4/AAA3Twp00YYndve7X0ueKdVja?dl=0</p>
3. Early Warning Messages developed for dissemination ODPEM	Consultant identified and procurement process is being completed	Contract will be signed by mid to late December 2020 (concerns remain regarding the lingering impacts of COVID 19)	
4. Contract Awarded for National Level Vulnerability Assessment at ODPEM	"No objection" received from the World Bank to re-scope activity. Procurement process to commence in December 2020 with aim of commencement in February 2021	Activity re-scoped to reduce potential duplication of another related project	

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