



JAMAICA SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND

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Basic Seamanship and Navigation skills training will keep 2,000

Fishermen safe.

Fishermen across fifty seven (57) beaches in eleven (11) parishes received certificates in safety on November 19th 2014. The training forms part of the Jamaica Fishermen Cooperative Enhancement of the Cold Chain Supply and Safety project which benefited 2,000 fisher folks and 400 fisher vendors.

This project falls under the Rural Economic Development Initiative, being implemented by the Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF) with funds from the GOJ and the World Bank. A total of \$18.2 million was expended under the project.

Speaking at the Graduation Scarlett Gillings Managing Director of Jamaica Social investment Fund outlined that in 2013, the project provided critical equipment through the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to provide to fish vendors such as igloos while selected fishermen were provided with Life jackets, marine flares and training in basic seamanship and navigation skills.

“For JSIF, this initiative falls under capacity building in the area of business development and poverty reduction through business opportunities and wealth creation; areas which have formed a new direction for the Fund in the last four years.”

The training was done in conjunction with ODPEM, the JDF Coast Guard and the Caribbean Maritime Institute.

JSIF, over the last 18 years has been known for helping the underserved to build schools, roads and water systems in communities as our mandate is to mobilize funds for this purpose. The REDI project was created to help small agricultural and tourism community groups. This assistance was in keeping with JSIF's mandate, to assist underserved communities to build social capital and alleviate poverty

The Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) was therefore started in 2010 with US\$15 million in funding from the World Bank to assist these small groups in obtaining knowledge of market needs, market demand and also improve product quality and production techniques.

Kristina Morgan

Communications Officer

Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF)

968-4545 WORK/446-8639