

# Implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation in Jamaica



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# How is the GSPC addressed in Jamaica?

- Plant Conservation Strategy for Jamaica (2014-2019)
- NBSAP (2016-2021)
- Existing Policy and Legislation for e.g.
  - ✓ Orchid Policy for Jamaica (2014)
  - ✓ Forest Policy for Jamaica (2017)



# National Flora and Plant Red Lists (Targets 1&2)

- No centralized location/database with overall flora list
- Working database with known threatened floral species is housed at the National Environment and Planning Agency (guided by the IUCN Red List for Threatened Species)
- Floral Assessments are ongoing to confirm presence/absence of threatened plant species.



# Information Gaps

- Taxonomic reference material are aged and require updating.
- Limited data on plants (National Ecological Gap Assessment)



# Threatened Plants in Conservation Programmes (Targets 5, 7 & 8)

- Figures are not readily available
- Orchid conservation programme
  - 3 species being propagated using tissue culture for re-introduction into the wild
- Conservation programmes planned for *Tunera campaniflora*, *Picrasma excels* (Bitterwood) and *Cinnamodendron corticosum* (Mountain Cinnamon)
- Not all threatened plants are located in protected areas



# Threatened Plants in Conservation Programmes (Targets 5, 7 & 8) (cont'd)

- The Scientific Research Council continues to maintain an in vitro gene bank that hosts plants of economical, medicinal and cultural importance, and those endemic to Jamaica.
- Conservation greenhouses established at the Mason River Reserve and at the Hope Botanical Gardens.



# National Inventory of Protected Areas (Target 4)

- A national inventory of protected areas exists in the Protected Areas System Master Plan but this needs to be updated.



# Crop Wild Relative Species (Target 9)

Crop Wild Relative Species have been identified  
examples are listed below:

<b>Bromeliad-Pinguin</b>	<i>Bromelia pinguin</i> L.
<b>Orchid -Vanilla orchid (green wiss)</b>	<i>Vanilla</i> spp. <i>Vanilla planifolia</i>
<b>Wild yam</b>	<i>Dioscorea</i> spp. <i>Dioscorea villosa</i>
<b>Wild guava</b>	<i>Psidium montanum</i> Sw.
<b>Sea grapes</b>	<i>Coccoloba uvifera</i> (L.) L.
<b>Wild cherries</b>	<i>Malpighia</i> spp.
<b>Pursley, pussley</b>	<i>Portulaca oleracea</i> L. subsp. <i>oleracea</i>





# Monitoring and Control of Invasive Alien Species (Target 10)

- Establishment of intergovernmental Invasive Alien Species Working Group
- National Invasive Alien Species Strategy and Action Plan
- Border control personnel included in IASWG and programmes for monitoring
- Training of personnel including Customs Agency, Plant Quarantine, environmental agencies, national park managers
- Public awareness activities



# Sustainable Use of Plant Resources (Targets 11&12)

- Annual export quota for orchids
- Research Permits



# Implementation of FAO Global Plans of Action (Targets 6 & 16)

- FAO Global Plan of Action on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture is being implemented; however, the limiting factor is funding
- The Protection of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Act, 2013



# Indigenous knowledge on plants (Target 13)

- Indigenous knowledge is being documented through the work of the African Caribbean Institute of Jamaica/Jamaica Memory Bank, Biotechnology Centre, the Natural Products Institute, the Scientific Research Council and other entities involved in the nutraceutical industry.



# Education and Public Awareness Programmes (Target 14)

- NEPA has a dedicated branch responsible for Public Education and Awareness
- In addition, other entities including the Forestry Department, Institute of Jamaica, Academic Institutions and ENGOs also carry out public awareness and education activities.
- Information is incorporated through the use of traditional media and social media



# National Capacity (Target 16)

- Inadequate legislation, outdated laws
- More public awareness and education needed
- Policy makers faced with the challenge balancing environmental needs with economic and social considerations
- Lack of focus on conservation actions that directly impact biodiversity such as threat abatement and enforcement



# National Capacity (cont'd)

- Inadequate financial and human resources
- Multi-agency management with a lack of a harmonized approach
- Erosion of traditional values and attitudes that uphold nature
- Lack of proper documentation and networking as it relates to the management of biodiversity for food and agriculture



# Monitoring Progress

- No mechanism is in place to monitor implementation of the National Strategy
- National targets related to plant conservation are included in the NBSAP





# Progress against targets

	Objective 1 - Knowledge			Objective 2 - Conservation				
	Target 1	Target 2	Target 3	Target 4	Target 5	Target 6	Target 7	Target 8
Progress								
	Objective 2 - Conservation		Objective 3 – Sustainable use			Objective 4 Education	Objective 5 Capacity	
	Target 9	Target 10	Target 11	Target 12	Target 13	Target 14	Target 15	Target 16
Progress								

