



PROJECT LOCATION:  
**JAMAICA**

PROJECT START DATE:  
**OCTOBER 2013**

PROJECT END DATE:  
**OCTOBER 2015**

GRANT FUNDS APPROVED:  
**US \$500,000**

ENVELOPE:  
**BUSINESS CLIMATE REFORM  
AND COMPETITIVENESS  
ENHANCEMENT**

## IMPLEMENTATION OF BUSINESS CLIMATE REFORMS IN JAMAICA

### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

#### THE PROJECT:

To spur growth in Jamaica, there is an urgent need to further improve the nation's overall competitiveness and stimulate private sector growth. As such, this TC will undertake three specific reform activities that will have national impacts and contribute to a business and investment climate that better facilitates business in Jamaica.

Specifically, through this TC, Jamaica will seek to bolster its institutional support structure for lending through the establishment of a movable assets registry. It will also facilitate the update of current legislation to develop insolvency legislation that will allow for the orderly reorganization of debtors to avert the consequences of liquidation and to establish an orderly liquidation process for situations in which reorganization is not possible. Moreover, the TC will also facilitate the design and operationalization of a business superform to streamline the activities related to the registration of a business in Jamaica.

#### OBJECTIVE:

To strengthen the legislative framework to improve access to finance and streamline the business registration and bankruptcy process in Jamaica in order to improve the business climate.

#### HOW DONOR FUNDS ARE BEING USED:

- The operationalisation of a modern, notice-based collateral registry for moveable assets.
- Training and capacity building in the use and application of the new secured transactions law (SIPP Act).
- The development of Insolvency legislation to reflect current international developments regarding the reorganisation of debtors.
- Stakeholder consultations and awareness building activities to support the reform process

#### ACHIEVEMENTS THUS FAR:

- 1) One fully operationalised movable assets collateral registry with over 150,000 notices lodged. This achievement contributed to a 113 place improvement in the Doing Business indicator for Getting Credit in the DB2015 report.
- 2) Capacity transfer and training for financial institutions and Judges in the use and application of the secured transactions legislation (SIPP Act).
- 3) One business registration superform created and operationalised. This resulted in a 14 place improvement in the Doing Business Starting a Business indicator in the DB2015 report.
- 4) Updated Insolvency legislation that reflects current international developments regarding the reorganisation of debtors passed by parliament. This should be reflected in the Doing Business 2016 report.
- 5) One national communications campaign surrounding the benefits and use of all the business climate reforms under the TC.
- 6) One diagnostic assessment of the current status of SME financing in Jamaica viz the capacity of SME's to access finance; the availability and structure of financial instruments and institutions; and an assessment of policy and institutional interventions needed to fuel SME growth and development.