



**Cannabis
Licensing
Authority**
Jamaica

Building an Industry;
Cultivating Responsibly

Alternative Development (AD) Project

Including the Small Traditional Ganja Farmers in the Regulated Space

December 2017

| What is Jamaica's AD Project?

- ▶ After extensive consultation with key stakeholders and in keeping with the Guiding Principles of the CLA, the Authority sought to identify mechanisms that would allow for special provisions for “traditional small ganja farmers” in the legal regulated industry.
- ▶ The Cabinet of Jamaica approve the implementation of a one-year pilot Project for an Alternative Development Programme geared towards transitioning current illicit ganja farmers into the legal regulated industry.

The Objectives of the AD Project

- To ensure inclusion of the small traditional farmers who established the Jamaican brand in the global cannabis industry, and have suffered for the cause of creating a legal ganja industry, to transition from illicit cultivation of ganja to a sustainable licit avenue.
- To increase the legitimate earning potential of small **marginalized communities** that currently operates within a black market.
- To allow for a special regime that will increase the legitimate supply of ganja product for Processing and Research & Development (R&D) facilities.
- To reduce the sources of supply for illicit traffickers of ganja by demonstrating the alternative livelihood available to individuals who have traditional knowledge and expertise in ganja cultivation.
- To reduce the pressure to relax the requirements imposed by the Regulations which are designed to ensure that Jamaica not run afoul of its international obligations in respect of its cannabis industry.

The Partners in the Project

► The Community Based Representatives:

- Ganja Growers and Producers Association (GGPA)
- Hampstead Cooperatives
- National Coalition of Ganja Farmers & Producers
- Westmorland Hemp & Ganja Farmers Association
- The Maroon Community
- Rastafari Community

► The Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA)

► Industry Division – Ministry of Industry Agriculture and Fisheries (MICAFA)

► Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA)

► Ministry of Justice (Ganja Committee)

► Other Government Entities as the need arises

Where are we currently with the AD Project?

- ▶ Community Consultative committee has been established - Special AD Committee;
- ▶ Community stakeholder to decide on number of farmers and the communities for the project.
- ▶ RADA has identified possible areas of support to the project and community development associated with the project.
- ▶ Project Plan 90% completed by Industry Division & the CLA, this is to be finalized and signed off on by the Permanent Secretary of MICA.