Project Summary

Project Background
The partnership between the Republic of Jamaica and the EU has passed from a wide sectoral dispersion to a concentration on a reduced number of priority areas, namely macroeconomic reforms, private sector development and road maintenance as focal sectors of concentration and community-based initiatives focusing on poverty alleviation and institutional strengthening of the office of the NAO as non-focal areas. Untargeted budgetary support was required for emergency assistance following the devastation caused by Hurricane Ivan in 2004 and also a re-allocation of funds for road maintenance was recommended.

Evaluation Objectives
The evaluation had as its objective “to provide the Government of Jamaica, the relevant external cooperation services of the EC and the wider public with an overall independent evaluation of the Commission’s past and current assistance to Jamaica”, including lessons learnt and an overall general judgement on the contribution of EC assistance toward the country development objectives.

Evaluation Activities
- Desk research: analysis of policy papers, programming documents and project documentation. Development of evaluation questions and criteria for the field research; desk-phase report.
- Field research: Interviews with beneficiaries, implementation partners and private sector institutions on the basis of evaluation questions determined in the desk-phase.
- Key cross-cutting issues analysed were: gender, environment, human rights and conflict prevention.
- Preparation of the Final Report incorporating findings from desk and field research. The report used the standard EC evaluation criteria and also assessed the coherence of actions.
- Conclusions and recommendations were included in the Final Report.

Implementation Features
- Focus on private sector development, infrastructure (road transport and water supply, poverty alleviation, macroeconomic reform and institutional strengthening of the NAO. Further aspects were regional integration, economic integration and trade, and the so-called 3 Cs of EC cooperation (coordination, coherence and complementarity).
- Development of the evaluation methodology (criteria, hypotheses etc.) during desk research in order to focus the field-phase on crucial issues.
- De-briefing session, including an in-country seminar and other interaction on the findings, prior to submission of the Final Report.

Services Provided
- Intensive preparation and desk research: intervention logic, evaluation, questions & criteria, desk phase report
- Methodological inputs
- Extensive field research and discussions, de-briefing with EC Delegation and the NAO
- Presentation of preliminary findings
- Feed-back, recommendations, Final Report