



MINISTRY PAPER NO .13/2021

**The Law Reform (Zones of Special Operations) (Special Security
and
Community Development Measures)**

**The August Town Community Zone
Social Intervention**

February 5, 2021

Office of the Prime Minister

The Law Reform (Zones of Special Operations) Special Security and Community Development Measures

Social Intervention Report

(as at February 5, 2021)

This Honourable House is being requested to note that after the enactment of the Law Reform (Zones of Special Operations) (Special Security and Community Development Measures) Act, the Prime Minister on the advice of the National Security Council, declared the August Town Community in Eastern St. Andrew as the fourth Zone of Special Operations (ZOSO) on July 8, 2020.

The Zones of Special Operations (ZOSO) combine a robust security approach led by the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) and Jamaica Defence Force (JDF), and Social Intervention Component (SIC) that coordinate and implement social development measures by the various agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the private sector. The ZOSO is built around the approach of Clear, Hold and Build, which the latter is where long term institutions are developed within the community.

The Social Intervention support, which is coordinated by the gazetted Social Intervention Committee puts in place social programmes that focus on two key strategies: Crime Prevention Through Social Development (CPTSD) and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).

A key objective of the interventions and programmes is to ensure that the community is reconnected to the key agencies of government that deliver each programme thus engendering sustainability and credibility among the citizens that their government is the legitimate provider of support services.

The Social Intervention Committee (SIC) is guided by SIC framework comprising of seven development areas:

- Physical Environment;
- Land Tenure,
- Community Safety;
- Human and Community Development and Employment;
- Business and Economic Development;
- Spiritual and Faith Based Intervention; and
- Leadership.

August Town is considered urban with a population of approximately 10,000 residents. The community is among the list of communities identified by the PIOJ Community Renewal Project given its high score with relation to its volatility and vulnerability. It is currently one of the communities under the Government of Jamaica Integrated Community Development II project which will see the community benefiting, along with a further six communities from a three-year (J1.9 billion) project that will support the following:

1. Improvement in road infrastructure
2. Rehabilitation of parks and green spaces
3. Zinc fence substitution
4. Electricity regularization
5. Safe Passages (Special programme to enhance access along major pathways to students and the disabled)
6. Livelihood and Skills Training programmes
7. Economic Development programmes
8. Governance and Capacity building
9. Community safety programmes

In addition to the ICDP II that the GOJ is implementing in the community, through the regular functions of state agencies, NGOs and the private sector, the community will receive a further suite of interventions in keeping with the seven pillar framework approved by Cabinet that is

grounded in the theoretical construct of Crime Prevention Through Social Development (CPTSD) and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).

RESULTS – December 4, 2021 to February 4, 2021

- 1. Social Intervention Committee** – Virtual sessions among the respective sub committees of the SIC, with the most recent one being held on November 26, 2020. The sessions are aimed at completing a comprehensive works plan for the build out of critical infrastructure in the community. Through the GOJs ICDP II project, the workplan for the financial year 2021/2022 has been drafted. Additionally, there is an ongoing process of discussion among the respective agencies aimed at identifying and prioritizing additional interventions. These agencies are the Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF), Ministry of Education, Youth and Information (MoEYI), Housing Opportunity Production & Employment (HOPE), National Water Commission (NWC), National Land Agency (NLA), University of Technology (Community Services & Development Department), University of the West Indies, Mona Social Services Department and the Community Development Council- August Town.
- 2. Community Capacity Building** – in collaboration with the Social Development Commission (SDC) and the Department of Cooperatives and Friendly Societies (DCFS), two (2) capacity building workshops to date has been completed. Further to these activities the CDC has will be administering grant funding awarded through the ICDP II project for community entrepreneurs. Utilizing their enhanced capacity, they are currently executing the requisite procurement, and supervision of J\$3million in business development funding.

3. Enterprise Grant

Twenty (25) micro entrepreneurs have been awarded business development grants from the community. These include enterprises in sectors including food and beauty services, garment manufacturing and car care services. The GOJ has funded the grants to the value of J\$3million, with the contracting and procurement processes at 80 per cent completion. Each entrepreneur was funded up to a maximum of J\$400, 000, towards new equipment purchase. The award function for the grant awardees was held on February 4, 2021.

4. **School Rehabilitation** - The Ministry of Education Youth and Information provided the “No Objection” for rehabilitation works to be completed on the August Town Primary and Hope Valley Experimental schools.

The estimated cost for August Town Primary is \$29M while the cost for Hope Valley Experimental is \$35M. Works will include rehabilitation of classrooms and construction of an Infant Department at August Town Primary School. The process to contract an engineering firm to do detailed formulation for each of the school is currently being finalized for tender.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITIES	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
Road Improvement Works	1.5 km of roads to be rehabilitated, including drainage	Design and Formulation activities being finalized
Zinc Fence Removal	Removal and substitution of 1,300 meters of zinc fence	Design and Formulation activities being finalized
Safe Passages	School route to be improved for students Formulation for works to be funded through the ICDP II	Design and Formulation activities being finalized

Operation Certification (civil documentation)	Provision of birth certificates and TRNs to 260 persons	Ongoing; GOJ funding of J\$2m identified and will also support August Town as one of the communities.
Training of curfew monitors	A total of 21 curfew monitors will be trained commencing on December 11, 2020	Monitors completed training and will be deployed to support the Joint Force within the community
Rehabilitation of parks and Green spaces	A total of 4 community parks are currently earmarked for rehabilitation.	Design in progress.



**Andrew Holness ON, MP
Prime Minister**

February 8, 2021