



MINISTRY PAPER NO .22/2021

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

**The August Town Community Zone
Social Intervention**

April 8, 2021

Office of the Prime Minister

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

Social Intervention Report

(as at April 8, 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 was 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 the community is reconnected to the key agencies of government that deliver each programme thus engendering sustainability and credibility among the citizen 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. Zinc fence substitution
3. Electricity regularization
4. Safe Passages (Special programme to enhance access along major pathways to students and the disabled)
5. Livelihood and Skills Training programmes
6. Economic Development programmes
7. Governance and Capacity building
8. 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**).

UPDATE – February 4, 2021 - April 8, 2021

1. **Social Intervention Committee** – The August Town ZOSO convened a virtual Social Intervention Committee (SIC) meeting on February 11, 2021. This meeting saw an update on the various activities under development, including the overall workplan for the community being shared among the stakeholders. The Deputy Chairman also gave instructions related to the composition of the respective subcommittees that will convene to further develop the respective development areas. Among the stakeholders that presented update on activities included the Housing Agency of Jamaica that is working on titling, the National Works Agency, in order to identify the road improvement needs, and the JSIF that is spearheading the Integrated Community Development II Project (ICDP II)
2. **Community Capacity Building** – As part of further strengthening the CDC as a major driver of community development, the JSIF is utilizing the Community Based Contracting (CBC) methodology, whereby the August Town CDC is currently doing all procurement related to the implementation of over J\$18 million in development projects within the space. This method ensures community ownership and importantly community employment.
3. **Enterprise Grant**

Twenty (25) micro entrepreneurs commenced business development training. The GOJ funded ICDP II project provided equipment grants valued at J\$3 million, to support 25 entrepreneurs from August Town. Each entrepreneur was funded up to a maximum of J\$400,000 towards new equipment purchase. As a component of the support each recipient commenced online training in entrepreneurship in March 2021. This element is geared at building their capacity, and overall project sustainability.
4. **School Rehabilitation** – As was noted previously 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.

Detailed design works have commenced and should result in an appropriate design in place by June 2021, following which the other elements of the procurement for construction will follow.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITIES	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
Road Improvement Works	1.5 km of roads to be rehabilitated, including drainage	Design and Formulation activities ongoing, with a tentative June 2021 completion.
Zinc Fence Removal	Removal and substitution of 1,300 meters of zinc fence	Design and Formulation activities being finalized, with June 2021 as the estimated timeline.
Safe Passages	School route to be improved for students Formulation for works to be funded through the ICDP II	Design and Formulation activities ongoing and should be completed within the next three months.
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 deployed.	Monitors engaged and are actively supporting the JCF with ongoing activities in the space.
Environmental wardens	Deployment of eleven (11) environmental wardens deployed in the community	JSIF has provided training and up to thirty wardens have been employed and will assist the NSWMA and the community with solid waste management and other mitigation activities in the community.

ACTIVITIES	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
Parks and Green Spaces	Through the ICDP II project, the community will benefit from Parks and Green Spaces.	A community implemented contract has been signed with the August Town CDC following their capacity development training. The value of the contract is J\$16.5 million.

NEXT STEPS

The build out of interventions in the community continue to have further momentum, with the continued focus amidst the impact of the COVID-19 measures on social development interventions such as the entrepreneurship and capacity development. The major infrastructure related activity, that of the Parks and Green Spaces will see works in full momentum within the first quarter of the financial year.



Andrew Holness ON, MP
Prime Minister

April 12, 2021