

THIRD SUBSTANTIVE REPORT

UNTFHS PROJECT: RESTORING LIVELIHOODS IN GRENADA AFTER HURRICANES IVAN AND EMILY

Prepared by the UNDP Barbados and the OECS Poverty Reduction Team

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Third Report on UNTFHS Restoring Livelihoods in Grenada after Hurricanes Ivan and Emily

This is the THIRD progress report summarizing the activities, achievements, challenges and opportunities, and progress towards objectives and outputs under the multi- agency UNTFHS project which is managed by UNDP and jointly executed by UNIFEM, FAO and UNICEF, in collaboration with the Government of Grenada.

The Report was drafted by the Project Implementation Team (PIT) in Grenada and finalized by the UNDP Barbados and OECS Office. It builds on / summarizes and evaluates the progress achieved since project inception in March 2008 up to December, 2009.

SECTION 1: BASIC DATA/SUMMARY

Date of submission:	January, 2010
Benefiting country:	GRENADA
Location of the project:	The Parishes of St. George's, St Andrew's, St. Patrick's, St John's and St David's in the island of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique
Title of Project	Restoring Livelihoods in Grenada after Hurricanes Ivan & Emily
Duration of the project:	18 months
UN organization responsible for management of the project:	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Office for Barbados and the OECS, Christ Church, Barbados
UN executing partners:	FAO, UNICEF, UNIFEM
Non-UN executing partners:	Local NGOs/ agencies: ART,GRENED,GRENCODA,GRCS,GNCD, NaDMA, NDF, GCCU,NAD, LACC, GRENCASE, GRENSAVE
Total project cost:	US \$998,741.00
Reporting period:	March, 2008 to December, 2009
Type of report:	3 rd Progress Report

1.0

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report gives an overview of the progress of activities and outcomes of the UNTFHS project since the disbursement of resources in March 2008 up to December, 2009. In response to the devastation caused by Hurricanes Ivan and Emily during 2004-2005 in Grenada, the project aimed at mitigating the social impacts of the disaster by providing concrete and sustainable benefits to people and communities threatened in their survival, livelihood, and dignity.

By the end of December, 2009, the project had largely met its objective *to restore livelihood options for those groups and individuals most affected by the passage of the two hurricanes.*

Of the 5000 persons projected to be beneficiaries, the project reached 95% achievement by year end, and a 79% achievement of direct beneficiaries to date (Cf Summary table below).

The initial challenges faced by the project such as delays in financial disbursements, changes in leadership in NGOs, new and emerging needs of some communities, capacity constraints by the implementing agencies were largely overcome during the year. As stated in two previous reports, these challenges required a re-investment of time, some re-assessment in terms of briefing and re-engagement with Ministries and the NGOs themselves. Other operational problems were sorted out as they occurred.

Since then, the project experienced steady upward movement towards achieving its outputs and targets. The baseline study, which was completed in May '09, provides a consolidated picture of the state of activities, challenges and perceptions in the project component areas and targeted communities. The findings of the study informed implementation and will also serve as a solid foundation for monitoring and evaluating the outputs and impacts of the project.

In 2009, the Livelihoods component of the project progressed satisfactorily, after its initial slow start up. Three of the 4 subcomponents namely Agriculture and land clearing, agro-processing and trail development are virtually complete. Of the 100 acres of land to be cleared, approximately 139 acres have actually been completed, a 139% achievement. Two hundred and fifty farmers (250) directly benefited as a result.

The two tourist trails are also completed. One is the forest trail in the remote village community of Morne Lounge, and the other- a spice trail in Laura community of the devastated parish of St David's. The processing facilities of over 30 mainly small agro- processors have been audited, and approximately 52 persons benefited from a number of capacity building training and input support programs.

Under the business development and micro finance component, activities have advanced in a number of areas. The 12 participants, who received initial training in batik garment making and sewing classes, also benefited from business development training. It is the intention of the project that the students will now be able to start up their own production units. Overall, 44 persons benefited from training in business skills in 2009.

The market assessment for Batik and Garment Making was also completed in the year.

The Grenada Flower Growers Association trained flower growers in marketing and flower packaging which will enhance the skills of flower growers in marketing and presentation of their products.



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Other significant achievements entailed the procurement of 10,000 anthurium plantlets which distributed to the growers, and the establishment of revolving fund specifically to purchase future supplies and plants.

This will ensure some measure of sustainability, as well as in meeting one of the findings of the Study which was undertaken to identify market opportunities for cut flowers. The market study concluded that there is an approximately 5% unsatisfied demand for cut flowers, and that there is a strong need to assist the farmers to boost production.

Another important achievement is an assessment of the enabling environment for microfinance in Grenada in support of micro and small businesses, followed by a study on the operational guidelines for the establishment of the Micro credit Fund. The Fund is now set up using two MFIs –National Development Foundation (NDF) and the Grenville Cooperative Credit Union (GCCU) - as fund managers.

As reported earlier, the rate of progress in the disaster risk reduction (DRR) component had slowed down slightly at the beginning of the year, mainly because of the capacity constraints of some of the implementing NGOs, such as GNCD and NADMA. As a result, four major activities initially earmarked for implementation by these 2 agencies were carried out by local consultants thus ensuring some capacity development of the NADMA and GNCD.

The information needs of Persons with Disabilities (PWD) have also been addressed through the training of over 158 persons in sign language, focusing largely on disaster situations.



Training in Braille was delivered to 18 persons who work in the area of disaster risk reduction. This is an important aspect of the project to ensure that vulnerable populations are properly cared for in times of disasters or emergencies, and that their human security is enhanced.

The Mapping survey and the disaster preparedness plan for Persons with disabilities (PWDs) are done and are now subject to final review. The survey identified the composition of this group in Grenada and their specific needs and challenges in emergency/humanitarian contexts.

To date, a total of 774 persons with disabilities were entered into the creation of a national database. It is the first time such a comprehensive survey of this group was done, and will go a long way towards enhancing capacity and improving the human security of these vulnerable groups of persons. (*Mapping Survey of Persons with Disabilities - WendyCrawford-Daniel¹*).

A review of the VCAs for each of the 5 target communities (Corinth, Mt Craven, Mt Horne, La Poterie and Hillsborough) has been undertaken, and the VCAs are now completed. The VCAs

formed the basis for the preparation of community disaster preparedness plans, and to some extent, helped in identifying the hazards of a physical or environmental nature from which relevant micro projects in the communities were implemented. The VCA approach enhances the capacity of vulnerable communities to identify and sustainably address their own hazards and risks. Five Community Disaster Preparedness Plans (CDPPs) were completed for these communities (*Annex 2*), and a model Damage and Needs (DANA) Manual was developed to suit specific human conditions and situations normally found after a disaster. (*Damage and Needs Assessment in the first 24 hours – Grenada Red Cross Society*).²

A specific innovative feature of the project is the focus on mainstreaming disaster risk reduction, and in particular, to mainstream HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment into disaster risk reduction strategies. Significant training has taken place in these areas thus strengthening local capacities to address the need of Persons living with and affected by HIV/AIDS (PLHIV) in times of emergencies/natural disasters and to strengthen Prevention during these situations. One hundred HIV kits were handed over to the Ministry of Health to be distributed to such persons as well in case a disaster was imminent.

Furthermore, the Disaster Preparedness Response Plan (DPRP) for PLHIV has now been completed with a Manual to give operational guidance to the disaster management personnel.

The Psycho-social and Counseling component, through the Legal Aid and Counseling Clinic (LACC) achieved most of its objectives as set out in the project namely expanding the availability of counseling services for post-disaster trauma through training of some 140 persons in counseling skills, provision of outreach counseling services to rural communities such as St. Patrick's and Carriacou, and support to trained personnel such as the police and media workers. Overall, over three hundred (300) persons benefitted from this intervention. Meanwhile, work was begun by the Ministry of Social Development to develop a plan for the establishment of a permanent counseling service. This is expected to be completed in 2010.

Finally, the gender mainstreaming activity, which saw a midterm slowdown in the first half of the year, made remarkable progress in the second half of 2009. Three gender sensitization workshops were held covering stakeholders in the Livelihoods (farmers and agro processors), Disaster Risk Reduction, and for the staff of 2 Micro finance institutions. In this respect, some 293 persons directly benefitted from these interventions.

In general therefore, even with challenges arising from weak institutional capacity at the NGO level, the project continued to extend its impact particularly during the current economic crisis. Up to the end of 2009, the project has already benefited **some 1575** persons directly (79% of target), including farmers, villagers, small business entrepreneurs, the district shelter managers, members of the police service, youths, and vulnerable groups such as PLHIV and PWDs.

It is estimated that another **4725 persons** or more have also benefitted indirectly, bringing the potential impact of the project **95% of** the targeted 5000 persons. By the time the project is completed in 2010, this figure will be surpassed.

The table below summarizes the direct project beneficiaries to date, by activity:

Activity	Livelihoods	Business Development	Disaster Risk Reduction	Psycho social & Counseling	Gender Mainstreaming	Total
Direct	496	81	312	317	369	1575

As the project winds down over the next 3 to 4 months into 2010, virtually all project outputs (with some specific exceptions) are expected to be realized with the implementation of capacity building initiatives such as the business skills training programs for the agro-processors and flower growers, the DANA training finalization of the community disaster preparedness plans, and the mapping survey of PWDs, which are planned in the first half of the year.

The current recession and downturn in the world economy has placed this project in a unique situation of helping the vulnerable communities of Grenada. There is no doubt that human security has improved as a result of the UNTFHS project. More still needs to be done in this area as the Poverty survey has shown increasing trends in the rural communities.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AA	Administrative Agent
ART	Agency for Rural Transformation
CDPP	Community Disaster Preparedness Plan
DANA	Damage and Needs Assessment
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EOC	Emergency Operating Centre
GCIC	Grenada Chamber of Industry and Commerce (GCIC)
GCCU	Grenada Cooperative Credit Union
GIDC	Grenada Industrial Development Corporation
GNCD	Grenada National Council of the Disabled
GRCS	Grenada Red Cross Society
GRENCASE	Grenada Citizen Advice and Small Business Agency
GRENCODA	Grenada Community Development Agency
GRENEP	Grenada Educational and Development Program
GRENOP	Grenada Rural Producers Organization
GRENSAVE	Grenada Save the Children Fund
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
LACC	Legal Aid and Counseling Clinic
LPSC	Local Project Steering Committee
NAD	National AIDS Directorate
NaDMA	National Disaster Management Agency
NDFG	National Development Foundation of Grenada
NIDCU	National Infectious Disease Control Unit
OVI	Observable Verifiable Indicators
PLHIV	Persons Living with HIV/AIDS
PIT	Project Implementation Team
PWD	Persons Living with Disability
TOR	Terms of Reference
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNIFEM	United Nations Children Fund
UNTFHS	United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security Project
VCA	Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment

SECTION II: PURPOSE

2.0 INTRODUCTION

Grenada is a tri-island state in the Eastern Caribbean with a population of 102,000, of which 9,000 live on the offshore islands of Carriacou and Petite Martinique. On 7 September 2004, Hurricane Ivan devastated Grenada, inflicting severe damage in the social and economic sectors, and to its environmental health. In its aftermath, 90% of the country's 31,122 houses were damaged or destroyed, leaving over 30,000 people or one-third of the population, homeless or living in desperate circumstances. The private sector suffered enormous losses of buildings, equipment and stock; and agriculture and tourism, the main earners of foreign exchange, were brought to a halt. There was also unimaginable damage to public infrastructure and to the institutions and systems of governance; and widespread loss of livelihoods. The island was further devastated by another hurricane 10 months later.

2.1 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

In response to the devastation caused by these 2 Hurricanes (Ivan and Emily during 2004-2005), this project seeks to mitigate the social impacts of the disaster by providing concrete and sustainable benefits to people and communities threatened in their survival, livelihood, and dignity. The overall aim is *to restore livelihood options for those groups and individuals most affected by the passage of the two hurricanes.*

The main objectives of project as approved are as follows:

Table 1: Project Objectives

Immediate Objectives	Sub- components	Outputs
1.0 Livelihoods: Facilitate the improvement of increased livelihoods options and opportunities for farmer and rural households	1.1 Agriculture/ land clearing:	-Livelihoods of 576 farmers restored -100 acres of land cleared - Input packages distributed to selected farmers involved in crop and livestock production - Provision of Labour for a % of farms over a 3-6 month Period
	1.2 Forest based enterprises and environment restored	-344 persons trained in carpentry and community based tourism and tour guiding -2 eco-tourism trails developed in rural communities - Market study completed to

		identify opportunities for marketing wood craft products
	1.3 Agro-processing capacity and employment opportunities restored	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 178 persons trained on quality and standards, management and marketing, product processing, packaging and labelling - New agro-processing ventures established and operational
2.0 Business development and micro finance: improved access to microfinance and business opportunities	2.1 Business development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50 persons trained in business development and management techniques -50 craft persons trained - 30 persons trained for new businesses - 50 persons trained in cut flower - 100 persons trained in marketing and capacity building support - NGOs structure enhanced to provide long-term marketing and capacity-building -100 trained in business management, accounting and marketing
	2.2 Microfinance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creation of revolving funds for two microfinance institutions - Microfinance institutions' staff trained – 15 persons in project appraisal and mentoring -At least 40 new or ongoing businesses supported
3.0 Resilience and capacity to manage and respond to disasters increased in 5 communities	3.1 Strengthen Disaster Preparedness Committee and adapt district Preparedness model Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50 persons trained in rapid damage and needs assessment methodology. • Guidance documents available in rapid damage and needs assessment for community EOCs • 50 persons across 5 communities trained in DP

		plan development • 10 communities receive funding for physical works for disaster mitigation • Disaster management plans in place for 5 communities
Immediate Objectives	Sub- components	Outputs
4.0 National Counseling expanded		-80 persons trained in counseling - Nutmeg workers counseled - 40% of persons in target communities receive counseling
5.0 Gender considerations mainstreamed in disaster risk reduction and livelihoods		- All shelter staff, District Officers and EOC staff receive gender sensitivity training • Gender mainstreamed in VCA and rapid assessment methodologies • Microfinance staff of NDFG received training in ensuring that MF is gender neutral • Police & administration of justice personnel trained in gender-responsive approaches to GBV

2.2 REFERENCE TO HOW THE PROJECT AIMS TO ATTAIN THE HUMAN SECURITY OBJECTIVE

The human security goal continues to be the improvement human security (physical, social, and economic security in particular) in Grenada by improving livelihoods on a sustainable basis for women, youth and poor households. The project has as its human security objective the rebuilding of the lives, dignity and security of the most vulnerable population of Grenadians affected by the two hurricanes. Specifically, the target population involves farmers, persons with disabilities (PWD), women and children, unemployed youth, and small scale agro-producers.

One way of doing this is through the multi-sectoral approach adopted in recognition that disasters often affect people in multi-dimensional ways. Thus, the project is targeted to impact on the economic, the psychological, social and individual situations of the beneficiaries. For example, the economic security of the beneficiaries will be enhanced through the clearing and cultivation of 100 acres land, facilitation/encouragement of farm-work cooperatives managed by youth to address the impact of farm labour shortages on small farm productivity. Community

tourism, small business development and a strengthened small agro-processing industry will enhance the income generating opportunities of project beneficiaries.

The physical security of the beneficiaries will come about through the execution of the disaster risk reduction strategies such as shelter management training, vulnerability capability assessments and implementation of eight (8) environmental micro projects in the targeted communities which will greatly mitigate vulnerability and reduce hazards to lives and livelihoods of community inhabitants generally.

The general wellbeing of the beneficiaries will be effected through the psychosocial and counseling interventions which will take place in the form of training of additional counselors in the communities, extension of psycho-social and counseling services to 3 rural communities in the parishes of St Johns, St Patrick’s and St David’s respectively. This will mitigate the long term negative impacts and concerns arising from the devastation of the two hurricanes. It will also support the rebuilding process by bolstering the capacity of beneficiaries and service personnel to cope more effectively during future hurricane seasons.

Finally, by ensuring that the project activities are delivered through a consultative and community¹- led approach, facilitating capacity development and empowerment, the human security objectives of the UNTFHS project are more likely be sustained.

2.3 IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

As shown in Table 2, the main implementing partners comprise the following UN agencies and partner NGOs according to the approved components:

Table 2: Implementing Partners

Approved Components	UN Implementing Agencies	Local Partner Agencies
1. Livelihoods	FAO	Grenada Community Development Agency (GRENCODA), Agency for Rural Transformation (ART), Grenada Education and Development Programme (GRENEDE), and Grenada Rural Producers (GRENROP)
2. Business development & micro-finance	UNDP	Grenada Citizen Advice and Small Business Agency (GRENCASE), GRENEDE, Grenada Save the Children Fund (GRENSAVE), National Development Foundation of Grenada (NDF), Grenada Cooperative Credit Union (GCCU)
3. Disaster Risk Reduction	UNDP	Grenada Red Cross Society (GRCS), Grenada National Council of the Disabled (GCND),

¹ Community, in this context, goes beyond geographic communities but also reflects groups such as Persons Living with Disabilities and PLHIV which have specific needs and challenges and need to be empowered more significantly to ensure that their needs are met and also that they can influence both policy and decision-making on matters which will affect them.

		National AIDS Directorate (NAD), National Disaster Management Agency (NaDMA), ART, Legal Aid and Counseling Clinic (LACC)
4. National Psycho-social Counseling	UNICEF	
5. Gender mainstreaming	UNIFEM	GRENEED

SECTION III: RESULTS

3.0 MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

This section of the report outlines the key activities undertaken to achieve the stated project objectives.

3.1 Project Management and monitoring

- *The Local Project Steering Committee (LPSC):* The LPSC, as one of the main governance units of the project, continued to provide overall project oversight at its quarterly meetings. The Director of the Technical and Economic Cooperation department of the Ministry of Finance chairs the meeting. The last meeting was held in October, 2009.

- *Meetings of project sub-committees:* The five (5) sub-committees namely livelihoods, business, counseling, disaster risk reduction, and gender mainstreaming which were set up to monitor and evaluate progress of the main project components, have continued to meet regularly, with each one having at least 3 meetings during the year.

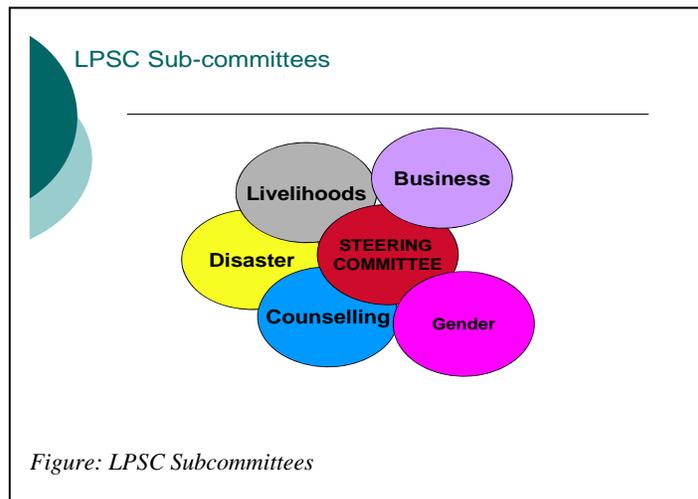


Figure: LPSC Subcommittees

- *The Inter-Agency Steering Committee:-* three meetings were held since the first report – one in January, 2009, the others in May and November, 2009 respectively. The meetings reviewed project progress and made recommendations for improved delivery including coordination. The January meeting considered some of the problems relating to slow delivery of the Livelihoods project, and gender training plans in light of the departure of the gender trainer in December 2008. The May meeting agreed on the need to make formal request to extend the project in light

of the late start up and current status of activities, as well as identify cross-sectoral linkages between the various components, such as mainstreaming mentoring and counseling in the other areas.

- *Project Implementation Team (PIT)*: The year began with the two members of the PIT, the Project Coordinator (PC) and Disaster Risk Reduction specialist continuing in place until April, 2009, when the latter's assignment to the project was completed. Both officers participated in the capacity building- results based management- training at the beginning of the year, for all UNDP staff and for the Poverty Reduction Team specifically. The Project administrative assistant (PAA) then joined the team and provides support specifically on DRR and public awareness. On completion of the microfinance study, a micro finance specialist was hired in September to support that specific component over the next 6 or more months. The Specialist/Officer coordinated the establishment and currently supervises the operations of the Micro finance fund, and follow-up on the recommendations of the micro-finance study; as well as the recently completed Operational guidelines of the Micro Credit fund.
- *Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)*: The overall Baseline Study, which was referred to in the first substantive report, was completed in May 2009. Surveys and interviews were conducted in fifteen (15) communities, targeted by implementing and counterpart partners. Findings from these communities provide the core information for analysis and conclusions in the report. Together with the study's review of legislation and policies, institutions, services and service providers and resources, the report entails comprehensive, multi-sector, information that can be used well beyond the UNTFHS project. (For the Executive Summary of the Baseline Report, CF *Annex 2 of the Second Substantive Report*).
- Through the meetings of the LPSC and various subcommittees, the activities and outputs continue to be monitored on an on-going basis. To date, 15 meetings have taken place amongst the various subcommittees and three for the Steering committee.

The sections which follow elaborate further on the specific initiatives that were taken in each of the five (5) project components.

3.1.1: Component 1: Livelihoods

In 2009, the livelihoods component was greatly ramped up. After approval all 3 sub-components under livelihoods, namely agriculture and land clearing, agro processing, forest based enterprises and community tourism, Agreements with the four implementing agencies (GRENCODA, GRENROP, GRENED, ART and TA Marryshow Community College (TAMCC)) were signed in March 2009, and disbursements made shortly thereafter. Communities in the targeted areas were mobilized, beneficiary surveys completed, and training needs identified in all the subcomponents. Hereunder is a status report of activities to date:

1.1: Agriculture/land Clearing: this area of activity has now seen substantial improvements from the 1st and 2nd Substantive reports in January and June '09 respectively.

As of November 2009, the following achievements were realized. To date, over 100 acres of land have been cleared in the targeted areas of Chambord/River Sallee, Grand Roy, Clozier, and Florida and representing some 100% of the target of acres ploughed, while seeds have been distributed to some 40 farmers. In the other targeted areas such as Laura, Mt Agnes, Vincennes in St David's, the lands for 35 farmers have been cleared. The UNTFHS project however, through the implementing NGO, ART, cleared and replanted 35 of the planned 50 acres of land in spices, such as cloves, cinnamon, and nutmegs. Spice farming is an integral aspect of the farming culture of Grenada, and, in particular, the people of St David's, many of whose lives have now been restored.

The other main area of assistance came in the form of training and provision of inputs for 25 small farmers' households in the rural community of Mt Tranquil in St David's, using their own plots. The beneficiaries comprise largely single headed households (84%) of which 44% are headed by women and 40% by men, and impacting generally on over 100 persons in the community. The villagers were also trained in basic agriculture, land management, in order to build capacity to feed themselves and their families, and improve their income opportunities.

In doing this, the livelihoods of over 250 farmers and their families have been improved, and income opportunities expanded; and a further 146 persons benefited through employment in land clearing.

1.2: Agro-processing:

As stated in the previous reports an audit of beneficiary agro-processors was done. The audit evaluated the various processing sites, identified packaging and marketing needs and training requirements of the processors. Since then, there have been substantial capacity building initiatives in the form of 6 training workshops for the 66 processors in areas such as preparation

of sauces, home made wine, cocoa balls, local juices, pepper mash and dried fruits. (*CF Annex 4 of 2nd Substantive Report for Audit Report*)

It is planned for the 1st quarter of 2010 to train these small processors in business planning, financial management and record keeping. This will then make the human security arrangements of these small entrepreneurs much more effective and sustainable.

1.3: Forest based Enterprises: this largely involves trail development and wood craft training. Under this area, one major forest trail was opened up in the poor, mountainous and secluded village of Morne Longue in St Andrews. Over 39 persons, comprising 21 men and 18 women respectively, have benefited from direct employment in the clearing of the trail. A further 8 young persons were also trained in tour guiding, thus creating substantial benefits for the rural village.

See link to the press release on this work here: <http://www.bb.undp.org/index.php?mact=News,cntnt01,detail,0&cntnt01articleid=90&cntnt01igid=15&cntnt01returnid=89>.

Also, the village of Laura, in the hard-hit parish of St David's, saw the development of the 2nd trail. The trail, known as the Spice Trail, is of great benefit to a large proportion of the seven thousand people of that parish, as it is now developed into a tourist attraction, according of the standards set by the Ministry of Tourism.

Wood craft training, delivered by the TA Marryshow Community College (TAMCC) for 30 young persons, began in August 09 in three separate locations – St Patrick's, St George's and in Carriacou.

This activity recorded severe challenges in the delivery as many students dropped out. Although 36 students registered for the training, only 19 actually completed the course. Many, largely the unemployed single mothers, dropped off because of temporary employment that they received during the training.

In Carriacou, the students reportedly stayed away from classes as they did not receive a stipend during attendance like their counterparts in Grenada. For 2010, it has been decided that TAMCC will reopen the training and seek a stipend under the Government Youth Empowerment program.

3.1.2 Component 2: Business Development & Micro-finance:

The local implementing agencies - GRENSAVE, GRENCASE, Grenada Flower Growers Association, and NDF have continued with their various activities into 2009. A range of activities such as batik and garment manufacturing, Market study of Cut Flowers in Grenada, cut flower production and market training were completed. Additional activities in this area that were completed related to the sewing classes for the batik trainees, and the procurement of planting material for flower growers.

Garment making – Batik training, Part II

Part Two of the Batik Training Program was conducted from 9-20 February, 2009, building on what was already achieved in 2008. The Part Two program focused on the size and placement of designs so that trainees could start thinking about the type of garments or eventual end use of the batik fabric.

The program also included sewing of garments and lasted for 3 months. Now that it is completed, trainees may start up their own businesses, be attached to a more permanent business, or work together in a cooperative to enhance their livelihood opportunities.

The preliminary report of the market research on batik, referred to in the First Substantive Report, has been reviewed and finalized. As highlighted in the Market Research and stated in the first project report, batik material will be produced for sale in the short term. This will produce bridging income and help keep trainees motivated.

Personal Development was one area of training that incorporated into the program for all trainees, to help address issues connected with team work as stated above and to help develop confidence and self-esteem.

One of the issues which emerged from this program was concern about not reaching the required standard of sewing and hence not being in a position to produce and earn income. Whilst participants initially expressed interest in forming a co-op, it became apparent that most of them were unaware of what this would involve.

The Personal Development sessions have helped to put the training and expectations of the trainees into perspective. The direct beneficiaries of the program, approximately 10 persons, are mainly young women with families and one young man. This program will have a positive impact on approximately 50 persons overall.

However, in addition to family commitments, the economic realities of unemployment, underemployment, temporary employment and insecure employment pose constant challenges to this group of trainees. This often means that most of them are particularly challenged when faced with short term employment opportunities during periods of training. This kind of challenge was similarly experienced by wood craft trainees as well.

Expansion of Cut-flower Industry

Capacity building through training continued apace, and was completed in February 2009, by the Grenada Flower Growers Association (GFGA), the main implementing partner. Practical and hands -on demonstration of propagation focused upon building on the theoretical training which was done in 2008. At this session, all 26 participants were given the tools to practice the skills of budding, grafting and layering.

Capacity building also took the form of training in marketing. The basics of promotion and marketing skills development and showcasing were presented over 2 sessions. The first session looked at the basics of marketing and promotion and the second looked specifically at the local Cut Flower Industry and the potential for development. The Grenada Chelsea Flower Show (a major international flower show) Committee also took the opportunity at the final session to demonstrate proper packaging and handling techniques to participants. Based on the evaluation of the training, the response of the participants' reaction was very favourable.

One of the biggest constraints faced by flower growers is for planting material which reduces the capacity of growers to meet market demand. According to the recent market study on cut flowers referred to below), the shortfall can be as much as 5% below market needs. As a result,

the Association requested that additional resources should be channeled into procurement of planting material, thus enabling better economies of scale, in that the larger the amount of planting material ordered, the lower the price. A total of EC\$50,000 was allocated to this activity, thus enabling the Association to procure and distribute 10,000 anthurium plants to flower growers.

Also completed in early 2009 is the Report on the Cut Flower Market in Grenada by the NGO, GRENCASE. (*CF: Annex 5 of the 2nd Substantive Report*). Notwithstanding, the recommendations of the report are being highlighted below for emphasis:

1. Formalize the functioning of the Grenada Flower Growers Association.
2. Negotiate with the Grenada Development Bank and other micro finance institutions for a credit window for the cut flower industry. Construct a formal proposal aimed at soliciting financing from donor agencies to assist with capital investment required for the expansion of production.
4. Enhance and consolidate the quality of existing product lines (through quality standard workshops) followed by the gradual introduction of eye-catching varieties.
5. Lobby the Government to have assistance to the cut flower industry included in the package of assistance granted to Grenada by the People's Republic of China.
6. Seek to establish collaborative relations with cut flower growers in Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados.
7. The Grenada Flower Growers Association, together with the Ministry of Agriculture and the University of the West Indies should draw up and conduct a programme of training for cut flower growers.
8. Establish formal connection with funeral agencies.
9. Training for growers in basic business practices.
10. Through the Grenada Flower Growers Association establish a central purchasing agency for essential inputs of all growers.
11. Establish a structured relationship with floralists.
12. The Growers' Association should play a lesser role with respect to price setting and allow growers to go through the process of price discovery using market mechanisms.
13. Attempt to formalize a relationship for the supply of cut flowers to hoteliers using the Grenada Tourist Board, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Grenada Hotel Association.
14. Government should identify lands (e.g. in the Belvedere area of St. Andrew) with climatic conditions suitable for cut flower production and implement an incentive package aimed at encouraging interested growers to cultivate cut flowers on such lands.
15. Adopt the Jamaican Standard for Anthuriums as the basis for assessing the quality of cut flowers in Grenada

The Flower Growers Association has one final activity to be conducted – the purchase of promotional and packaging materials – which flower growers will utilize to enhance the presentation and marketing of their products in the local and regional markets. This will be undertaken in the 1st quarter of 2010, thus completing all activities of this subcomponent.

Expanded access to Microfinance

This subcomponent is considered one of the most important and critical in ensuring long term sustainability of the project as well as ensuring that the human security objectives are met. By the third quarter of 2009, the enabling conditions and preparatory activities were done, such as background studies, capacity building interventions, and legal requirements for the setting up of a micro credit fund to assist small businesses. For example, the study of the enabling environment of micro finance was done and submitted in May 2009. The study examined, inter alia, the current operating conditions of the main microfinance institutions (MFIs), the governance conditions, and capacities of the sector, and in particular, the establishment and operation of a revolving fund for small businesses (*CF. Annex 6 of the 2nd Substantive Report for full report*).

Some of the main conclusions and recommendations include, inter alia, the following:

- The need to provide a regulatory framework for MFIs that is more sensitive to their needs;
- Recognize the significant role being played by MSEs in income generation and employment creation, by giving specific incentive in the Investment Code that is currently being drafted; and
- Use the micro business fund to partner and strengthen a specific micro credit institution and build absorptive capacity.

In particular, the report recommended as follows:

- *At least 50% of the UNDP funds should be dedicated to a Guarantee Fund largely invested in higher yield accounts (fixed deposits, treasury bills) but designed to back the unsecured amounts of screened borrowers and to reimburse the lender MFI in the event of losses deemed unavoidable – once the MFI meets the set performance standards;*

Additional activities included the hiring of the micro finance officer in September (to assist in ensuring that the recommendations of the study were implemented swiftly and in a sustainable manner), the Study on Operational Guidelines for the Micro Credit fund, Oct/Nov 09, selection of partner MFIs to be fund managers, and capacity building training programs in November.

Two main conclusions of the Study are highlighted in this report:

- Choice of National Development Foundation (NDF) and Grenville Cooperative Credit Union GCCU) as fund managers;
- The withdrawal of the Guarantee Fund as this mechanism, though well established, did not meet UNDP's guidelines for micro finance.

Agreements were then signed with the two Fund Managers detailing the interest rates, the criteria for lending, reporting guidelines etc. The 1st tranche of funds were received by the NDF and GCCU in early December, 2009. By the end of the project, it is expected that around 30 to 40 small businesses will be financed by this Fund. .

In the first quarter of 2010, the 2nd and final tranches will be given for on-lending to small businesses and project beneficiaries. Although it was necessary to undertake these preparatory studies and seek professional guidance, it took up extra time, thus lessening the time frame for the implementation and disbursement of loans.

3.1.3 Component 3: Disaster Risk Reduction

This section highlights the progress achieved under each of the four project sub-components of the disaster risk reduction (DRR) component of the project. These are listed below as follows:

- Strengthening district and community disaster preparedness committees;
- Rehabilitation and improvement of shelter and emergency operating centers;
- Rapid damage and needs assessment (DANA) training at the community level; and
- Mainstreaming DRR in HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment [a new/expanded section on enhanced awareness at the community level].

Strengthening District and Community Disaster Preparedness Committees

As previously stated, strengthening district and community disaster preparedness represented a central focus of the DRR framework. This activity has largely been addressed to date.

In 2008, approximately 70% (48 of 67 persons) of the targeted audience was reached through the training activities implemented by the GRCS in collaboration with the NaDMA. Disaster management personnel including shelter managers were trained in dealing with vulnerable groups, particularly, people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV), children and young people.

In 2009, this activity continued as the National Aids Directorate (NAD) trained another 18 disaster management stakeholders at the national and district levels in HIV/AIDS response and prevention in a disaster setting. Furthermore, thirty (30) PLWHIV, approximately 10% of the total population, were trained in disaster risk mitigation techniques and strategies, thus strengthening the resilience of this vulnerable group to cope with disasters. Given the need for strict confidentiality and protection, new and innovative ways of reaching the majority of persons in this group will be looked at in the next 6 months.

The rest of 2009 saw continued capacity building in disaster mitigation as disaster personnel in 5 targeted rural communities (Mt Craven, Corinth, La Poterie, Mt Horne and Hillsborough in Carriacou) were trained in Community Disaster Preparedness Plans (CDPPs). Over 50 persons have been trained including, members of the national disaster management agency (NADMA). This will enable the skills and knowledge to be passed on to other rural disaster preparedness committees ensuring long term sustainability and a more national impact.

VCA reports: VCAs have been carried out in the five (5) selected communities, namely Corinth, Mt. Horne, La Poterie, Mt. Craven and Hillsborough in Carriacou. By September '09, these reports were finalized, after extensive reviews by the PIT and the Program Manager. The VCAs formed the basis of the 5 Community Disaster Preparedness Plans referred to above, and which were submitted in December 09. (**Draft CDPP for Mt Craven. – Paul Saunders³**). The CDPPs are expected to be finalized in early 2010.

In addition, with the exception of Mt Craven, four out of the five disaster preparedness Committees are now in place. The GRCS, working in conjunction with NaDMA, is continuing its meetings with the community and the Mt Craven committee is expected to be in place by end of June 2009.

Enhanced Capacity to prepare and respond to disasters augmented among PWD

The UNTFHS objective, to strengthen the capacity of persons with disability (PWD) to better prepare for and respond to natural disasters, was originally to be coordinated by the Grenada National Council for the Disabled (GNCD). But given the severe capacity constraints of the GNCD which lead to prolonged delays in implementation, two of its approved activities were undertaken by consultants.

The activities placed for consultancy services were the following:

- Administration of a survey to identify PWD generally;
- Development of a disaster preparedness and response plan specific to the needs of PWD;²

During the year the survey was conducted and a draft disaster plan was prepared for PWDs. (See Annex for draft report & plan).

At the completion of the study, a total of 774 persons with disabilities were entered into the creation of a national database.

Some of the conclusions of the study included:

- There is need for continued updating of the data base by the GNCD
- PWDs generally are not well prepared for disasters; don't have emergency plans; don't know where the nearest shelters are located; will need evacuation and other help during a disaster and are generally willing to use a shelter in the event of a disaster.

Meantime, the Council concentrated its efforts on the remaining activities such as training, website development, and development of public awareness materials, as listed below:

- Development of disaster preparedness and response information, education and communication (IEC) materials and program targeting PWD – however, the lack of a braille embosser has to some extent affected the implementation of this activity. Other options are currently being looked at by the Council.

Training of relevant stakeholders (i.e. disaster management stakeholders in sign language, and training of adult blind and visually impaired persons in braille);³ By May, 2009, over 158 persons from within the Police Force, Hospital Laboratory, Prison Dept. Schools, among other institutions, as well as members of the public, participated in the Sign Language Training Program for Emergency Workers. Another 18 stakeholders were also trained in Braille thus greatly strengthening the capacities of the relevant disaster management agencies.

² Plan to be appended to the National Disaster Plan.

³ The NaDMA will partner with the GNCD to procure a brail embosser to support training and public awareness of PWD. To facilitate procurement, GNCD is expected to provide 3 quotations of the equipment to allow for drafting of a proposal by the DRR consultant. Funding for this initiative would be sought from local and/or regional partners.

This training is considered by the GNCD to be very timely, since vital information with regards to a disaster or a crisis will be disseminated to the hearing impaired, as this was never done in the past. It is also expected that graduates of this course will give voluntary service to the Council and assist in signing at the local TV stations, thus enabling lives to be improved.

- Website design: Work continued on this area of activity throughout 2009. This output will further build the capacity of the Grenada National Council of the Disabled (GNCD), particularly in strengthening its advocacy, information and communication function on emergencies and disasters. The website is considered a work in progress and will now be operational in early 2010.

Rehabilitation and Improvement of Shelter and Emergency Operating Centers

Rehabilitating and improving community shelters especially in vulnerable and hard to reach communities were prioritized as one strategy to protect the dignity and livelihoods of people and communities threatened in a crisis situation.

Originally, three (3) community shelters are targeted for improvement and/or upgrades under this component of the project. After site inspections were made it was agreed that given the budget limitations, and the scope of works to be done, only 2 Centers would be done – namely New Hampshire and St David's RC School.

The implementing agency, ART, coordinated the project in collaboration with the engineering department of the Ministry of Works, and NaDMA. All aspects of the works were completed, including the installation of shutters, repair to the plumbing system and supply of additional water storage facilities, thus offering greater security to the community population in the event of a disaster. In the end, NaDMA declared the New Hampshire to be a fully certified Emergency Shelter. Ultimately, these centers are expected to service a population comprising some 4000 persons covering over 13 vulnerable communities.

Rapid damage and needs assessment training at the community level

This activity was partially fulfilled in 2009. The GRCS reviewed a number of DANA manuals from a number of sources to better inform the consolidation process and to define a common methodology and framework for use in Grenada. The GRCS worked closely with NADMA in this area, and delivered a model manual in October, 2009. However, no training was done, but it is expected that a number of stakeholders would be trained in the use of the new form in early 2010.

Mainstreaming DRR in HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care and Treatment

The first and second reports gave substantial details on efforts that were being undertaken to mainstream DRR in HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment in DRR strategies. This is a new and innovative feature of the project with respect to the expanded multi-stakeholder response to HIV/AIDs in Grenada during a disaster.

Listed below are the activities that had been earmarked for this aspect of the project, and their current status:

- Development of a strategic disaster preparedness and response plan that addresses HIV/AIDS prevention, and care and treatment of PLHIV;⁴ - This activity is now virtually complete as the Plan and a Manual have been received, and are going through the final reviews. (Annex 7 show Draft final Plan & Manual). Final approval is expected in early 2010.
- Training (i.e. disaster management stakeholders in HIV/AIDS issues, and policy makers and implementers involved in HIV/AIDS management in key disaster management concepts and practices); - the training of the district disaster coordinators was completed as planned, and were attended by 18 persons which met 72% of the original target. Thirteen (13) policy makers, representing the NAD, NIDCU and NAC, involved in HIV/AIDS management have been trained in disaster management. Also trained were 10 members of the Hopepals network, representing a small group of PLWHIV, in disaster management.
- Development of information, education and communication (IEC) materials to address HIV/AIDS prevention, and the needs of PLHIV during and after crisis situations; - this activity is progressing as planned. As soon as the approval is given 500 IEC materials will be printed by end of June.
- Procurement of one hundred (100) basic disaster preparedness kits specific to the needs of PLHIV- this activity was completed in October 2009 when the kits were officially handed over to the Ministry of Health. NaDMA has agreed to take responsibility for the storage of the kits, but the actual distribution will be done by the Ministry of Health who is in direct contact with the affected persons. This will ensure that the required discretion for this vulnerable group is maintained. A list of the contents of the kit can be seen in the box below.

Box 1: Contents of basic disaster preparedness kit for PLHIV

- 5 pairs of vinyl gloves
- Prepak gauze
- 1 pack prepak cotton balls
- 1 pack band aid
- 1 roll bandage
- 1 8 oz bottle of hydrogen peroxide
- 1 small tube of antibiotic ointment
- 1 small bottle of insect repellent
- 1 pack of alcohol preps
- 1 1-litre or larger bottle of water (secured through an MOU with Glenelg Spring Water inc.)
- Sturdy plastic container for storing medicine
- Sturdy plastic container to carry all items

⁴ Plan to be appended to the National Disaster Plan.

3.1.4 Psycho-social Counseling

Activities under this component continued well during the year. Beginning February 2009, eight (8) men participated in the Man To Man psycho-educational program for men who batter women. Under the Basic Life Skills program for young persons aged 13-17 years, another 34 persons have been trained in the Coast Guard community in the parish of St Marks, which, according to the most recent Poverty survey, is considered then the poorest in the country. This brings to 80 persons who have benefited under this program to date. There is a growing need for this program particularly for the young males, and training of new facilitators which took place in will now enable quick expansion into the parishes of St John and St Marks.

As part of the objective of bringing counseling services to the rural community, the implementing NGO, LACC, started its “Changes” program for survivors/victims of domestic violence to the rural community of Mt Craven in St Patrick’s, now reported to be the poorest of the parishes in Grenada. Approximately, 10 women received such training.

The LACC also assessed the counseling needs for Carriacou and developed an intervention in the sister isle, which fulfilled the objective of expanding the program into as many rural communities as possible. Some 17 persons were trained in counseling in this period.

Over 30 media workers were sensitized by the Legal Aid and Counseling Clinic (LACC), in conjunction with the Ministry of Social Development, on the need for more humanistic reporting of cases of domestic violence, suicide and sexual abuse. Finally, another 40 police officers were trained in the handling of cases of domestic violence, which is approximately 4.5% of the total Police force.

The demand for counseling and psycho-social interventions has become so great that the LACC has now decided to institutionalize the CHANGES program, and a manual has been done for this purpose. The LACC also created a number of public awareness promotional program against child abuse and domestic violence which is to be aired publicly.

Overall, some 317 persons benefited under the psycho-social component of the UNTFHS project.

3.1.5 Gender Mainstreaming

The year 2009 began with a marked slowdown in this activity which was the direct result of the departure of the Gender specialist, at the end of 2008. No training was undertaken as the Implementing Agency – UNIFEM – worked on alternative arrangements to deliver this training and coordinated by GRENEED.

As a result, Gender training restarted in August, 2009. Three training programs were done as follows:

- Livelihoods- the rural Gender Specialist.
- DRR staff at the community level during the 3rd Quarter of the year,
- And Business development and micro finance stakeholders

By the end of the year, another 293 persons were gender mainstreamed.

3.2 PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVEMENT OF OUTPUTS

In the period, January to December 2009, progress on the achievement of outputs has greatly improved, especially in some areas such as the Livelihoods component and gender mainstreaming.

Under the livelihoods and agriculture component, over 139 acres of land have now been cleared to date, representing approximately 139 % of the project target, nursery operators have been trained thus improving capacity, and provision of seedling implemented giving more income opportunity to farmers. Two hundred and fifty (250) farmers have benefited directly from these interventions, 65% men and 35%, women. This has the potential of impacting over 875 persons in the farming communities of River Sallee, Chambord, Clozier, and Rose Hill, Vincennes, Mt Agnes, Laura and Mt Tranquil. In addition, another 146 persons have gained direct, active employment in land clearing and preparation, impacting another 511 persons overall.

At the end of the year, some 1,386 persons would have received beneficial impact under the land clearing sub-component alone.

In the area of Forest-based Enterprises, the community of Morne Longue has also begun to feel the direct benefits of the project, with 39 persons (21M; 18 F) directly employed in the clearing of the forest trail, and impacting some 135 persons in the community overall. A second trail- the Spice trail - has now been completed at Laura in St David's.

In DRR, the Vulnerability Community Assessment (VCA) reports for the 5 targeted communities – Corinth, La Poterie, Mt Horne, Mt. Craven and Hillsborough Carriacou – have been reviewed and upgraded.

Under the Psycho social & counseling component, interventions increased during the period. In addition to the 240 persons already trained in counseling in 2008, a third rural community received counseling service, and an additional 34 young people benefited, bringing to 60 the number of persons who benefited in life skills training. Furthermore, the 2 additional rural communities- Mt Craven and Hillsborough, Carriacou, have benefited from additional interventions, adding another 27 persons who directly benefited from the counselling component.

The Gender mainstreaming component made good progress in the latter half of 2009. The implementation of specific mainstreaming approaches for key sectors such as disaster risk reduction, microfinance and business development, rural livelihoods, made a substantial difference to the outcome. Thus by end of 2009, an additional 293 persons were sensitized, bringing the total beneficiaries to 369 persons, the majority of which were women.

It was reported in the 1st Report that where specific outputs were not yet achieved, preparatory activities, including terms of reference, and consultant identification, had been finalized (*or were in the process of finalization*).

In large measure these activities are now completed and can be listed hereunder as follows:

- Livelihoods community baseline studies on marketing, agriculture & land clearing, agro-processing, and trail development were modified to sectoral scans by the implementing NGOs
- The market study on cut flowers entitled, “Examination of the local cut flower Industry in Grenada” completed in March, 2009
- 2 of the 3 shelters identified for repairs, viz St David’s R C Primary school, and New Hampshire Community Centre, have been repaired in April, 2009. The third shelter was not repaired due to budget constraints.
- The micro finance study entitled,” A study to evaluate the enabling environment and current capacities of the micro credit sector in Grenada” May, 2009
- The Operational Guidelines of the Micro Credit and loan Guarantee Scheme, November, 2009
- The Disaster Preparedness Response Plan (DPRP) for persons living with HIV/AIDS has been completed, May,2009;
- Mapping Survey of People Living with Disabilities (PWDs), and Disaster Prepared Response Plan for PWDs, November, 2009.

Table 3 (next page) summarizes the progress attained towards achievement of outputs.

Table 3: Progress towards achievement of outputs

Outputs	OVI	Progress	I
Livelihoods – land clearing, agro-processing & forest based enterprises			
Livelihoods of 576 farmers restored 100 acres cleared and labour provided to farms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increased land in production by 20% ○ Number of farmers trained ○ Acreages of land cleared and under production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 250 farmers directly assisted, and over 139 acres of land cleared or 139% achievement re acreage. ○ All Land clearing `completed ○ Over 396 persons directly impacted or 68.7% achievement ○ Over 146 persons have been employed on farms or benefited from direct employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ○ ○ ○
344 persons trained in community tourism Market study on wood craft Two trails developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Two community trails developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Training in tour guiding in Morne Longue completed.8 persons benefited. ○ 44 community persons directly employed in tourist trail development ○ Morne Longue forest trail is cleared, and the 2nd trail at Laura, St David’s is now completed; or 100% achievement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ○ ○
178 persons trained in agro processing and woodcraft Agro processing ventures established	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Agro processing enhanced by 15% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Training of 66 agro-processors completed ○ A number of ongoing agro processing upgraded, and equipped ○ TAMCC delivered wood craft training to 19 youths in St Georges, St Patrick’s. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ○ ○
Business development and microfinance			
50 persons trained in craft and cut flower 30 persons trained in new businesses 100 trained in marketing & business skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Access to business development and micro finance opportunities improved by 30% ○ Increased access to credit by a minimum of 15% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 12 persons trained in batik production ○ Ten (10) persons trained in garment design and seven(7) in sewing; ○ 30 young persons being trained in woodcraft ○ Twenty five (25) persons trained in flower propagation, or 74 % of targeted output ○ 35 flower growers completed training in marketing; ○ 24 persons trained in business skills including marketing, bringing the project to almost 60% of the overall target 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Outputs	OVI	Progress	I
Creation of revolving credit fund Training in project appraisal and mentoring	Same as above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Study on Enabling Environment of Microfinance is completed, with recommendations for support of businesses/SMEs including a guarantee fund. ○ Credit Fund launched on October, 2009; ○ Design of micro credit Fund completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ○

40 businesses supported		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 MFIs (NDF & GCCU) targeted for direct lending have agreed to be Fund Managers of the micro credit fund ○ Consultant has identified a number of areas for training at the institutional level ○ Brochure on the Micro Credit fund completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ○ ○ ○
Disaster management			
<p>Community disaster preparedness plans (CDPP) and committees in place in five (5) communities</p> <p>Five (5) functioning and trained community disaster committees in place with the capacity to prepare and deploy resources in post disaster situations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Seventeen (17) district disaster coordinators &/or officials trained ○ Vulnerability and capacity assessment carried out in five (5) communities ○ Community disaster preparedness committees established in five (5) communities ○ Community disaster preparedness plan(CDPP) implemented in five (5) communities ○ CDPP endorsed by Cabinet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Through a number of training (5) workshops the capacity of 34 disaster district officials and decision makers were enhanced ○ 5 VCA reports on Corinth, Mt Craven, Mt Horne, Carriacou & La Poterie in St Andrews completed; 12 persons VCA trained. ○ Community disaster preparedness committees are now established in 4 out of 5 communities: Corinth, Mt Horne, La Poterie & Carriacou ○ Work completed to adapt National Disaster Preparedness plan into Community Disaster Preparedness plan (CDPPs). Five draft plans completed and under review. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Capacity to prepare and respond to disaster augmented among the community of PWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Database of PWD developed and circulated ○ Thirty (30) disaster management stakeholders trained in sign language ○ At least 6 braille trainers trained and 18 visually blind trained in braille 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Data base for PWDs completed. ○ Action taken include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Consultant hired. Mapping survey is completed. Over 570 persons surveyed. ✓ Braille training started in September for 14 disaster management personnel ✓ Approximately 158 persons undertake sign language training and now have basic signing capacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ○ ○
Outputs	OVI	Progress	I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 500 materials printed & sign language incorporated in disaster preparedness PSA ○ Disaster preparedness and response plan approved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Design of a flyer to support PA campaign ✓ Arrangements made with NaDMA and GIS to incorporate sign language in disaster preparedness Public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ○

	100 special needs kits available for PLHIV	completion by end November 2009.	
Eight (8) micro-projects to reduce environmental and physical hazards implemented		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A committee comprising NaDMA ART and the PIT visited communities. ○ Implementation of micro finance began in October, 2009. ○ To date 6 projects are completed (2 in Corinth and 2 in La Poterie, Mt Craven & Mt Horne) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 72 persons directly employed by Dec 2009 	○ ○
Outputs	OVI	Progress	I
Psycho-social counseling			
50 persons trained in counseling Provision of counseling services to rural parishes. Nutmeg workers counseled 40% beneficiaries receive counseling	National counseling services increased by 15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Counseling is ongoing and some 140 persons already trained ○ Service expanded to 4 rural communities. An additional 27 persons counseled in communities ○ 35 Police men trained in counseling of abused victims ○ Sixty (60 young people have benefitted in basic life skills program in St. David's and St. John's, and St Marks. 	○ ○
Gender mainstreaming			
Gender sensitivity training to shelter staff Mainstream gender in VCA and rapid needs assessment Mainstream gender to micro finance staff Police and justice administration trained in gender –responsive approaches to GBV	Gender biased violence (GBV) reduced by 10%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shelter managers gender trained ○ VCA technicians trained in gender sensitivity ○ Business and micro finance leaders trained ○ Twenty eight (28) police men and women trained in gender sensitivity ○ In July to November 2009, DRR and livelihoods, MFI, and business development stakeholders and beneficiaries gender trained. ○ Another 293 trained during this period. 	○

3.3 ACHIEVEMENT AS MEASURED AGAINST STATED OBJECTIVES

Table 4: Achievements as measured against objectives

Objectives/purpose	OVIs	Progress	Recommendations or comments
Facilitate the improvement of increased livelihood options and opportunities for farmers and rural households	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increased land in production by 20% ○ Number of farmers trained; ○ Acreages of land cleared and under production; ○ Agro processing enhanced by 15% ○ Two (2) community trails developed 	<p>Substantial progress has been made in 2009. Land cleared has already reached 139 % of target. Livelihoods and income opportunities have been enhanced for 496 persons in farming, agro processing, youths.</p> <p>Two community trails completed or 100% achievement.</p>	The acreages projected to be under production have been surpassed by the implementing agencies. Business skills training for agro processors to begin in January 2010..
2. Access to microfinance and business development opportunities improved.	<p>Access to business development and micro finance opportunities improved by 30%</p> <p>Increased access to credit by a minimum of 15%</p>	<p>Capacity has greatly increased for persons in sewing and batik sector. Four training courses in business development. Access to micro finance was improved when two Micro finance agencies NDF & GCCU to manage the micro credit fund. A micro finance officer is now hired to assist the process. The study of the enabling environment on Microfinance</p>	<p>The Implementing NGO is assisting to engender interest in the formation of a cooperative.</p> <p>The micro finance Consultant is likely to be further engaged to oversee implementation of recommendations.</p>
Resilience and capacity to respond and manage disasters increased in five (5) communities by 2008 (through planning, training, assessments, awareness raising, shelter management, and reduction of	Improved human security at the community level through improved preparedness and response frameworks and planning with a gender lens (awareness increased by 20%)	A number community persons are trained in disaster preparedness plans which will improve resilience in all 5 communities. Human and environmental security has improved as a result of implementation of 6	NaDMA to put mechanisms in place to ensure transfer of skills to other communities

Objectives/purpose	OVI	Progress	Recommendations or comments
physical hazards)		micro projects, and strengthening of 2 shelters	
National Counseling Expanded.	National counseling services increased by 15%	This component has progressed well. Four rural communities, including Carriacou, have received counseling services thus widening the impact of this much needed service. Over 300 persons benefited.	Ministry of Social Development to advance preparatory work to establish a permanent Counseling service.
Gender considerations mainstreamed in disaster risk reduction, livelihoods approaches, and state responses to ending gender-based violence (GBV) strengthened.	-Gender biased violence (GBV) reduced by 10%	During 2009, many persons (circa 293) were gender-sensitized in the area of livelihoods, disaster risk reduction and microfinance.	Undertake a gender awareness campaign nationally to buttress the outreach & impact of the gender training.

3.4 IMPLEMENTATION CONSTRAINTS (including plans for addressing them)

In the first substantive report, there were three issues which were considered to have negatively affected implementation as follows: Change of Government; changed project environment; scarcity of trained personnel. However, during the first half of 2009, a fourth and more glaring factor can be added. This refers to weak institutional capacities of at least 3 of the implementing NGOs/ agencies viz GNCD, NaDMA, and GRCS. The lack of adequate human resource has resulted in delays and slow implementation in areas such as the adaptation of community plans, writing up of VCA reports, the mapping survey of PWDs and website development. Also, the closure of the National Aids Directorate (NAD) in June, 2009 disrupted the decision making process, and to a large extent, affected the smooth delivery of the IEC materials.

In the micro finance component, in NDF for example, uncertainty concerning the management of the institution slowed down somewhat the actual operation of the microcredit fund. There was some uncertainty which developed as well over the commitment of Microfin, as a potential fund Manager, to the project based on its nonattendance to subcommittee meetings.

Some operational difficulties also were experienced during training workshops when some students, (namely single mothers in the sewing class) were drawn away because of gaining temporary employment; while some persons dropped out of classes in Carriacou (eg in the wood work training), because of lack of a stipend.

However, as a result of making certain operational changes and focused engagement by the members of the PIT, most of these activities were largely completed, by year end. In the first quarter of 2010, it is planned to have all these activities fully completed.

Table 5 (below) summarizes key implementation constraints which have been specific to implementation of the DRR component of the project but could affect other multi-partner components such as Component 1.

Table 5: Implementation constraints and plans for resolving

Implementation constraint	Plan to address constraint
Weak institutional Capacity	o Decision taken to sub-contract 2 key activities from GNCD and NaDMA
Lack of Support stipends during training	o Get Implementing agency(NGO) to negotiate stipend under Government Youth Empowerment programs
Long delay in setting up Account at NaDMA	o Moved 2 key activities- adaptation of national disaster preparedness plan to community plans, and benchmarking preparedness in the communities,- to consultancies
Closure of the NAD affecting approval of IEC designs	o Meeting with MOH to sort out transition and coordination problems which arose in terms of agreed designs and specific roll out issues.
Uncertainty about Manager of NDF	o Frequent meeting with Senior project Officer
Microfin's withdrawal from the project	o Replaced with GCCU based on Recommendation from Microfinance Study

Project Evaluation:

As stated in the first report, evaluation instruments will be undertaken for the project, at an estimated cost of US \$15,000 over the life of the project. It is expected that the main evaluation will be done in the first quarter (April) of 2010.

Progress of the project continued to be monitored by the following structures built into the project- the LPSC, project sub-committees, and the PIT. So far the project has had 4 quarterly oversight meetings of the Local Project Steering Committee (LPSC), the last being in October 2009; while the Joint Inter Agency Committee has met at least 3 times in 2009. The project sub-committees also hold regular meetings to monitor and chart progress of the various components. The livelihoods and the business development subcommittees have had 12 meetings between them. All other subcommittees have held at least two or three meetings during the year.

3.5 LESSONS LEARNT

The main lessons learnt remain basically the same as the first and second reports, and are reiterated under the following headings:

(a) Working with partners

- Expectations must be continuously communicated to all partners prior to and during implementation.
- Identification of potential challenges and/or institutional weaknesses should be ongoing with the view to putting mechanisms in place to address them as they arise.
- Partners need to share information early on areas which may impact on the project but may not be known by the implementing units.
- Partners should share schedules or periods of prolonged absences which may slowdown follow-up action on deliverables.

(b) Good practices/innovation

- Periodic meetings between the project team and implementing agencies on reporting obligations, especially at project start up, have proven critical for sustained and effective implementation.
- The active involvement of the funding agency in project implementation at the local level is critical.
- The establishment of sub-committees to support the work of implementing agencies can bolster and assist those implementing partners which are constrained by limited human resource capacities
- The recruitment of technical experts can be critical in the support to project implementation particularly in bolstering the existing capacity of NGOs.
- Continuous dialogue and outreach particularly through email has helped to advance project activities.

(c) Application of human security concept

- Reinforcement of the HS concept - ensuring that all stakeholders are clear of the meaning of the concept, and its application in project implementation is critical.
- Sustainability of the project efforts and strategies would be strengthened by a program to develop a national consciousness on the concept of human security at various levels of society.

(d) Project management

- The main issue here is the lack of timely response from implementing partners, and the continued weak implementation capacity in some NGOs to carry out different aspects of the work plan. The need for a public awareness program as part of project design is critical.
- Capacity Constraints: there should be full capacity reviews of implementing NGOs prior to project start up

- A well developed monitoring and evaluation plan must be continuously communicated to all implementing agencies and M&E tools and approaches need to be regularly reinforced during implementation particularly during the early stages.
- Implementing agencies must be supported in enhancing public awareness activities in their work plans
- Early establishment of the project office and the strong leadership of the lead Ministry is important for effective project communication, visibility of the project and effective monitoring and evaluation.

3.6 OTHER HIGHLIGHTS AND CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

The current recession and downturn in the world economy has, more than ever, placed this project in a unique situation of helping the vulnerable communities of Grenada – PWDS, HIV/AIDS, the unemployed and under employed, women and children and persons who suffer from different types of abuses, such as domestic and gender abuse. There is a great sense that without this project, the human security conditions of these persons would have been worse.

This comes against the background where the most recent poverty survey shows that the poverty level has increased by 5% over the last 10 years, moving from 32% in 1999 to 37% in 2008.

SECTION IV: FORTHCOMING (Jan to April, 2010) WORKPLAN

This section highlights major milestones to be achieved in the next six months of the year. Also attached is the 2010 work plan.

Plan overview: The major objectives, milestones, and planned activities are highlighted as follows:

1.0 Livelihoods- Agricultural development support, agro- processing development, forestry products:

1.1 Land clearing

- **January 2010** - Spice & fruit propagation training workshops
- **January, 2010** - Procurement & distribution of inputs
- **February 2010** - Establish Farmers' market (ART)
- **February 2010** – Irrigation system , herb garden, Laura

1.2 Agro processing

- **Nov/Dec 2009** – implement marketing program for agro-processors
- **January, 2010** – business skills training

- **January, 2010** - Marketing program for agro processors

1.3 Forestry enterprises:

- **January 2010** – completion of woodwork training in **Carriacou**
- **January 2010** – Certification ceremony for woodcraft trainees
- **February 2010** – Launch of refurbished Laura Spice trail

2.0 Business development and micro finance:

- **Jan, 2010** - 2 training workshops in marketing, business skills
- **January 2010** - 14 business loans to small businesses
- **February 2010** – MFI training programs
- **April 2010** – Another 14 businesses loans disbursed

3.0 Community – level disaster mitigation:

3.1 Strengthening of district and community disaster preparedness committee 2010

- January,2010 – 5 Disaster Preparedness Plans completed
- January, 2010 – Certification ceremony for Braille and sign language trainees
- January, 2010 - GNCD Website operational
- February, 2010 – Completion of Strategic disaster preparedness Response Plan for PWDs
- February, 2010 – Final 2 Micro projects completed

3.2 Rehabilitation and improvement of community shelters and Emergency Operating Centers

- **Jan to March,2010**– Provision of equipment and basic supplies to 3 most in need shelters (*subject to availability of finance*)

3.3 Rapid DANA training at the community level

- **February/ March, 2010** - DANA training workshop (*subject to availability of funds*)

3.4 Mainstream DRR in HIV/AIDS management and HIV/AIDS in DRR strategies

- February/ March, 2010 – All IEC materials HIV etc completed & delivered

4.0 Psycho-social and counseling:

- January/ February, 2010 – Airing of public awareness Adverts
- February, 2010 – Proposal for establishment of Permanent counseling Service

5.0 Gender mainstreaming:

2010:

- Feb/March, 2010 - Public awareness campaign on gender

6.0 M&E:

- Feb 2010 - LP SC meeting
- April, 2010 – UNTFHS Evaluation study

Major adjustments to project:

There was one major adjustment to the project during the reporting period. The b-tool activity was dropped given the extended delays in getting approval from OECS and the subsequent knowledge that the tool was meant for national, and not for community assessments.

There were also some adjustment made of an operational nature in which some activities were removed from the responsibility of 2 implementing partners – GNCD & NaDMA – as a result of the severe capacity constraints these organizations faced, resulting in their inability to execute activities in a timely manner. Most of these activities have now been implemented by consultants.

Estimated budget:

The total budget, excluding project support and operating expenses, (Table 6) for 2010 is estimated at \$229,875.17 United States dollars. Of this amount, the business development and microfinance component is expected to spend more than 74% of projected expenditure, which will focus mainly on the disbursements of funds to the two micro credit funds, and training of the staff of the MFIs.

Estimated expenditure

The projected expenditure is broken down as shown in Table 8 below.

Table 6: Breakdown of budgeted expenditure, Jan –March 2010

Component:	2010 Budget US\$	Expenditure Jan - Dec 2009
a) Livelihood support: agricultural development, agro processing	88,697.00	142,393.00
b) Business development & micro finance	100,433.62	102,242.00
c) Community disaster mitigation	32,243.20	92,859.64
d) Psycho-social & counseling	Na	22,853.22
e) Gender mainstreaming	8,501.35	7,000.00
Total US\$	229,875.17	367,347.86

SECTION V: RESOURCES AND FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

- (a) The table below (Table 7) outlines the approved budget by Agencies, and the resources available to the project as a whole into 2010.

All disbursements to UN agencies were guided by the project document and the approved allocation of resources.

Of the total programmable costs of \$926,593 available to be spent, \$688,572.46, representing almost 75% of the overall allocation, has been expended to date. This is over 100% better than was achieved in at the end of 2008, largely because of the impact of improved livelihoods performance.

There are also significant commitments which support continued implementation of project activities. These commitments will ensure that final activities can be accomplished in 2010. Total commitments, excluding operational expenses, based on signed agreements with NGOs for 2009 so far, are approximately **USD 135,504.00**. UNIFEM has commitments of approximately USD 5000; FAO has USD 37,000, while the UNDP has committed \$93,397. UNICEF has now completed all its activities as of Dec 31st, 2009.

Budgetary utilization rates for UNIFEM and UNICEF continued to be good, with the former achieving 80% and the latter, 99% respectively. However, as a whole all other activities have shown improvements in financial performance, as shown in Table 7 below.

Table 7: Total approved budget and summary of resources available to the project

Items	Amount (US\$)				
	Current period (B) 1st April,2008 to 31 December 2009				
	UNDP	UNICEF	UNIFEM	FAO	TOTAL
Total approved programme costs (I)	580,393.00	61,500.00	39,500.00	245,200.00	926,593.00
<i>Programme costs received to date (II)</i>	580,393.00	61,500.00	39,500.00	245,200.00	926,593.00
Total approved PSC (III)	40,627.51	4,305.00	2,695.00	24,520.00	72,147.51
<i>PSC received to date (IV)</i>	40,627.51	4,305.00	2,695.00	24,520.00	72,147.51
Total funds received to date (V)	621,020.51	65,805.00	42,195.00	269,720.00	998,740.51
Total approved budget (VI = I+III)	621,020.51	65,805.00	42,195.00	269,720.00	998,740.51
Estimated total expenditure (VII)	442,316.36	61,561.85	33,695.00	156,632.00	697,517.28
Balance (VIII = V-VI)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Expenditure vs. funds received (IX = VI/V)	72%	99%	80%	58%	70%

(a) Financial Implementation Status

Table (8) below describes the status of financial implementation of the project, by Objectives.

Table 8: Approved Budget and expenditure to date, by objectives (US\$)

Project objectives	Budgetary allocation	Actual Expenditure 1 April 2008 to 31 December 2009
Objective 1. Facilitate the improvement of increased livelihood options	245,200.00	142,393.00
Objective 2. Access to micro-finance and business opportunities	255,500.00	144,325.33
Objective 3. Resilience and capacity to manage disasters increased in 5 communities	180,863.00	140,638.79
Objective 4. National counseling expanded	61,500.00	60,630.98
Objective 5. Mainstreaming gender	39,500.00	31,000.00
Objective 6. Project Implementation activities	23,000.00	11,971.25
Project Support & Operating Expenses	121,030.00	116,444.30
Recovery Cost	72,147.51	50,113.63
Total	998,740.51	697,517.28

A total of \$697,517.28 has been spent so far, representing virtually 70 % of the total approved budget. Expenditure under the Livelihoods component has shown vast improvement over the 2008 report, moving from 0% to 59% of its allocation by year end, 2009, while Expenditure for national counseling has been 100% completed. A further USD 135,504 is already committed by implementing agencies to ongoing activities for the remaining months of the project, much of which is for capacity building and procurement purposes.

It is expected that the next 3 to 4 months in 2010 will see faster implementation as the project ends with an evaluation in April, 2010.

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3. Grenada Damage and Needs Assesment for First24 hours – Terry Charles, GRCS
4. Final Report on Microfinance Fund – Melvin Edwards, Dec 2009