



This project is funded by the European Union

HEART Trust/NTA
Banana Sector Retraining Project

Update #2

Training Activities – Pre-Vocational, Skills Training and ICT Enabled Remedial Programmes

Quota - Because some parishes have not reached their expected number of trainees for the pre-vocational and vocational training programmes, HEART is now revisiting application forms of beneficiaries that did not show up for the HEART diagnostic testing to meet the project quota of 320 beneficiaries. Venues for pre-vocational and the ICT remedial programme are now being finalized in each parish.

Transportation - An issue was raised about transportation, where some beneficiaries are far from training centres. Efforts are being made to have pre-vocational and vocational training locations be located as close as possible to the beneficiaries. Another solution is to invite beneficiaries who qualify for direct entry into the National Vocational Qualification programme in Crop Production Level 1 to get their training at the Ebony Park facility, which offers accommodation. Applicants from all parishes who have qualified for this level of training have already been given this option.

Change of plans – The expected April start of the project’s training segment has been moved back to May to deal with the two issues mentioned above.

Training Needs Assessment and Project Evaluation - Both of these are currently underway, with UWI Consulting providing services for the former, and Westminster Consulting Group, the latter.

In the Media

- *Jamaica Information Service, February 4, 2009* – Ayanna Samuels interviewed.
- *Breakfast Club, News Talk (93 FM) April 14, 2009* - Elizabeth Terry, Ayanna Samuels and Glendon McKenzie, Acting Deputy Manager of HEART’s Ebony Park, were interviewed.
- *Sunday Gleaner April 19* – Article on project was cover of Careers section

BSRP Quick Facts

Who?	Banana/Plantain farmers, labourers, port workers, immediate family members and members of targeted communities
Where?	Clarendon, Portland, St. Catherine, St. James, St. Mary and St. Thomas
What?	Career counselling workshops, skills and pre-vocational training
When?	October 2008 to December 2009
Why?	Change in preferential treatment from the European Union and anticipated loss of income in the banana/plantain industry

Banana Sector Retraining Project Photostream

Click the link below to view our photos taken from the Career Counselling Workshop in St. James and Clarendon. You can also email this link to others.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/eubananasectorretrainingproject/>



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