



Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries & Mining

THE NEW
F.A.C.E.
OF **FOOD**

F.A.C.E. **FORWARD** 2024/2025 INITIATIVES



**HARVESTING HOPE,
MINING POSSIBILITIES,
AND
CREATING A BETTER
FUTURE FOR ALL.**





**Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries & Mining**

ABOUT MOAFM

VISION

By 2030, MoAFM has innovative, inclusive, sustainable, and internationally competitive industries in agriculture, fisheries and minerals sectors.

MISSION STATEMENT

To grow and sustain the Agriculture, Fisheries and Minerals sectors by creating a safe and enabling environment while fostering social inclusion in all policies programmes and projects.

MANDATE

The Ministry shall facilitate the sustainable growth and development of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining sectors while regulating and promoting best practices in these essential industries.



Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries & Mining

FORWARD THINKING



Hon. Floyd Green, MP
Minister

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Mining is excited to present our **'New Initiatives'** for the 2024/2025 financial year for the agriculture, fisheries and mineral sectors, showcasing the range of programmes and projects aimed at fostering a sustainable future. Our strategic vision focuses on **Harvesting Hope, Mining Possibilities, and Creating a Better Future For All.**

In support of our vision, we are introducing a series of new initiatives that are poised to sustain and continue the growth in the agriculture, fisheries and minerals sectors and propel us towards even greater heights of success. The cornerstone of these initiatives lies in our commitment to grow the sectors and they embody our vision for the future.

Through these initiatives, supporting youth, women, persons with disabilities, and rural communities, we intend to continue the growth and progress in the sectors.

In our ever evolving landscape, we conceptualize and will implement the new strategies to address specific challenges, capitalize on emerging opportunities and enhance our overall performance.

Our main objective is to establish Jamaica as self-sufficient in food production and to maximize the utilization of our local resources.

We appreciate your continuous support and dedication to advancing the agriculture, fisheries, and mining sectors of our nation. Let us move forward boldly, knowing that **our present initiatives are shaping a more sustainable future for tomorrow.**

THE NEW
F.A.C.E.
OF **FOOD**



**Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries & Mining**

WELCOME MESSAGE



Hon. Franklin Witter, MP, JP
Minister of State

At the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Mining, our steadfast dedication to our diverse stakeholders across the three sectors remains unwavering. This commitment, combined with the ever-changing global landscape, propels us to continuously evolve and implement new, innovative and engaging initiatives, projects and programmes.

Currently, these sectors encounter numerous challenges, including climate change and access to essential resources. In response, the Ministry's strategic approach, embodied in our strategic vision to Harvest Hope, Mine Possibilities, and Creating a Better Future For All, aims to create opportunities and will positively impact the growth of the sectors.

Our commitment to enhancing these sectors is exemplified through initiatives including but not limited to expanding cold storage facilities, implementing microfinancing programmes, providing clean water for consumption and irrigation, and revitalizing fishing infrastructure to support local fishing communities. These endeavors represent a strategic investment in our future.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to our strategic vision and goals. We recognize the need for continuous innovation, adaptation, and improvement to stay competitive in an over-evolving environment. By leveraging our strengths, addressing areas of improvement, and capitalizing on emerging opportunities, we are confident in our ability to achieve even greater success in the coming years.

Hence, we remain focus and driven in our duty to ensure the sustainable development of our country through strengthening our key sectors.

Your ongoing support is crucial as we strive to develop and implement innovative solutions through practical and impactful initiatives.

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**Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries & Mining**

AGRICULTURE INITIATIVES

YEAR 2024/2025

THE AGRICULTURAL WARDENS PROGRAMME (AWP)

The Ministry has created a framework document to implement the AWP and support the Jamaica Constabulary Force's initiatives.

In the programme's first stage, Agricultural Wardens will be selected, trained, and deployed in high-incidence parishes.



AGRO-INVEST CORPORATION'S AGRI-FINANCING

The Agro-Investment Corporation (Agro-Invest), a key driver in managing Jamaica's Agro Parks and Production Zones, will be expanding into microfinance, launching services tailored specifically to the needs of Jamaica's agricultural sector.

This strategic initiative aims to **bolster economic growth** by **providing accessible financing options** to **small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)** within the **farming community**.

A **Matching Grant Scheme** will also be implemented in partnership with the UKCIF and CDB for the Southern Plains Agricultural Development Project (SPADP) area.

PROJECT F.E.E.D

FEEDING THE ECONOMY THROUGH EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (YOUTH & WOMEN INITIATIVE)

A comprehensive Agricultural Development Programme for youth, women and persons with disabilities.

25%

of all new agro park lands
to be assigned to women,
youth and persons with
disabilities.

\$390 MILLION RESERVED FOR YOUTH FARMERS

Under the Production Incentive Programme, youth farmers will be provided with direct support for specific crop lines.

YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE GREENHOUSE CERTIFICATION PROGRAMME

This initiative will allow youths trained and certified in greenhouse operation and management by HEART NSTA/Trust & the Jamaica 4-H to benefit from an infrastructure grant to establish their own commercial enterprise.



\$100 MILLION TERTIARY SCHOLARSHIP

This will be a public private partnership managed by the Jamaica 4-H. The scholarship will be for careers in Genetics, Agricultural Engineering, Precision Agriculture and Soil Science.

FREE TRACTOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE TRAINING

This will be in partnership with HEART/NSTA Trust, NCTVET and the Jamaica 4-H Clubs.

SMALL RUMINANT DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMME

The Ministry, through Jamaica 4-H, will train and certify youth and women in livestock production. Graduates will be granted animals as input to start their own commercial operation.

DAIRY COTTAGE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT (WOMEN AND YOUTH)

The Jamaica Dairy Development Board through strategic partnerships with the Jamaica Network of Rural Women Producers (JNRWP), will be expanding its effort in developing cottage industries in goat milk and its by-products including cheese, yoghurt, soap, jam, jellies, pickles and syrups.

Goat milk producers will be provided with supplements such as milk boosters, milk replacer and mineral blocks, pasture development and fencing.

JAMAICA 4-H LEADS FOR THE REGIONAL 'YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE STRATEGY'

The Jamaica 4-H Clubs will implement a 4-H International Exchange Programme, under the CARICOM Regional Youth in Agriculture Strategy, to facilitate cultural and agricultural exchanges for youth farmers across the region.

4-H Mentorship Programme to provide guidance and support to clubites and youth farmers.



THE SUGAR INDUSTRY AUTHORITY TRAINING INSTITUTE

The objective of this training facility is to **enhance competence in sugar processing and cane farming** as well as **management best practices**.

This is anticipated to increase the productivity of those working in the industry, and result in improved performance by the factory and field operations.





GLUTEN-FREE FLOUR PRODUCTION

This is a partnership between SCJH, U.W.I./SODECO and JFM which will lease approximately 725 acres of lands owned by SCJH in Vere District, Southern Clarendon, to produce gluten-free flour for both the domestic market and for export.

The agricultural lands are slated to produce crops such as breadfruit, cassava and sweet potato and other byproducts, which will be used to produce the gluten-free flour.



**\$6.4 BILLION FOR
FURTHER
REHABILITATION OF 5
RESEARCH STATIONS
(OVER 5 YEARS)**

- 1. MONTPELIER**
- 2. ORANGE RIVER**
- 3. HOUNSLOW**
- 4. TOP MOUNTAIN**
- 5. BODLES**

STATE OF THE ART PIGGERY FACILITY AT BODLES

Construction of a **\$443 Million** Piggery Unit at the Bodles Research Station in Old Harbour, St. Catherine under the Rehabilitation of Research Centres Project Phase 2.

This initiative will facilitate the provision of high-quality genetic stocks for expansion and further development of the pig industry.



NATIONAL FODDER PROGRAMME

In collaboration with Small Ruminant Association of Jamaica, assistance will be provided for pasture preparation and establishment, as well as forage harvesting and distribution.

THE JAMAICA HOPE REHABILITATION PROJECT

The project's overarching goal is to restore Jamaica Hope Breed's functional capacity by implementing a genetic evaluation system that will increase the frequency of desirable genes in animals, and improve milk yield, fertility, and environmental adaptability.



SEED TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

A cutting-edge seed processing facility aimed at optimizing the swift extraction, treatment, and drying of seeds.

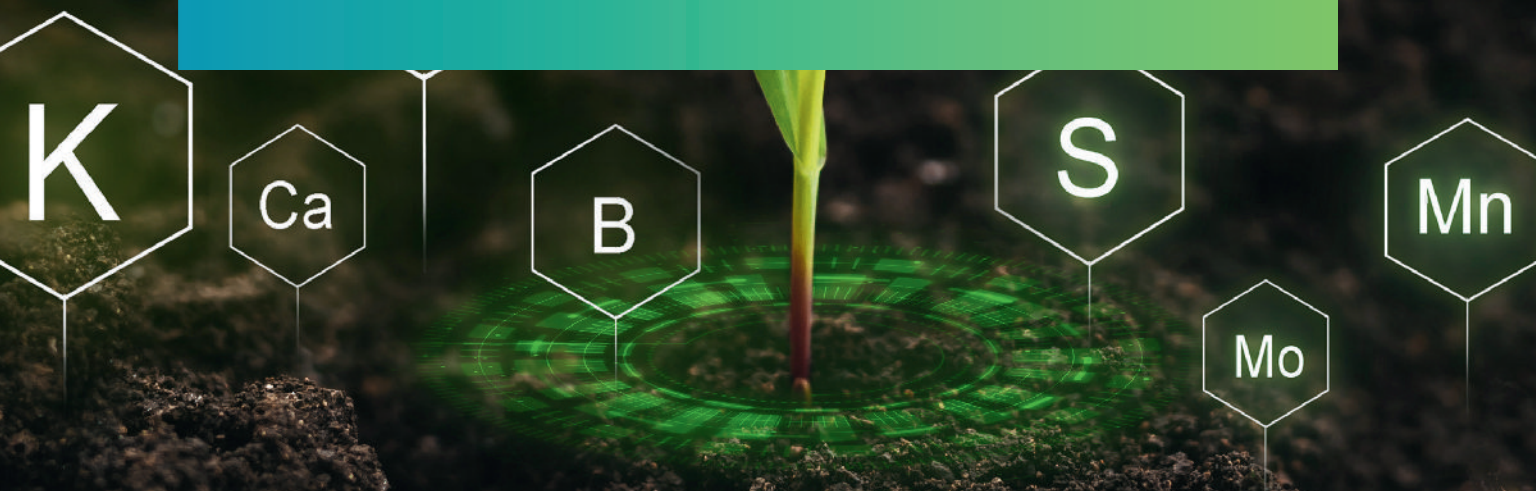
A SEED AND NURSERY CERTIFICATION (SNC) UNIT

The SNC unit will stand as the driver for regulating the seed and nursery sector, thus ensuring that Jamaican farmers obtain clean (pest free), quality and true to type seeds for production and productivity.

SOIL REGENERATION FERTILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Ministry has partnered with Jamaica Organic Agriculture Movement (JOAM) for the implementation of the Jamaica Soil Regeneration Fertility Improvement project.

This project targets **enhancing soil health and fertility levels** by utilizing methods such as compost, biochar, and effective microorganisms.



SOIL HEALTH AND FERTILITY TRAINING

- **300** individuals will receive training on **soil and water management techniques**.
- The ministry's laboratory services will be enhanced through equipment acquisition, leading to a notable enhancement in soil diagnostics and testing capabilities.

The background of the page features a close-up of a green snake with dark markings on its body, positioned in the upper right. Below the snake, a green soil testing device is visible, with a digital display showing '1000' and 'LIGHT' indicators. The device is inserted into dark, rich soil. In the foreground, there are small green plants and a metal rod. The overall scene is set in a natural, agricultural environment.

100 SOIL TESTING KITS FOR FARMERS

100 farmers will be supplied with soil testing kits and training on how to use them effectively. This initiative aims to encourage farmers to adopt a data-driven farming approach.




A NEW PUBLIC BOTANICAL GARDEN

AT THE MONTPELIER RESEARCH STATION

This initiative aims to enhance plant biodiversity, promote passive recreation, boost ecotourism, and improve health and wellness. The focus is on supporting climate-smart technologies to minimize carbon emissions and footprint.

AGRICULTURAL CANINE UNIT



The PQPI Branch in partnership with the Jamaica Constabulary Force to ensure the detection and prevention of exotic pests and diseases at our ports.



URBAN HARVEST PROGRAMME

This programme is design to initiate and incentivize the production of vegetable crops and small stock in urban centres across Jamaica (to supplement household food security and income preservation needs).

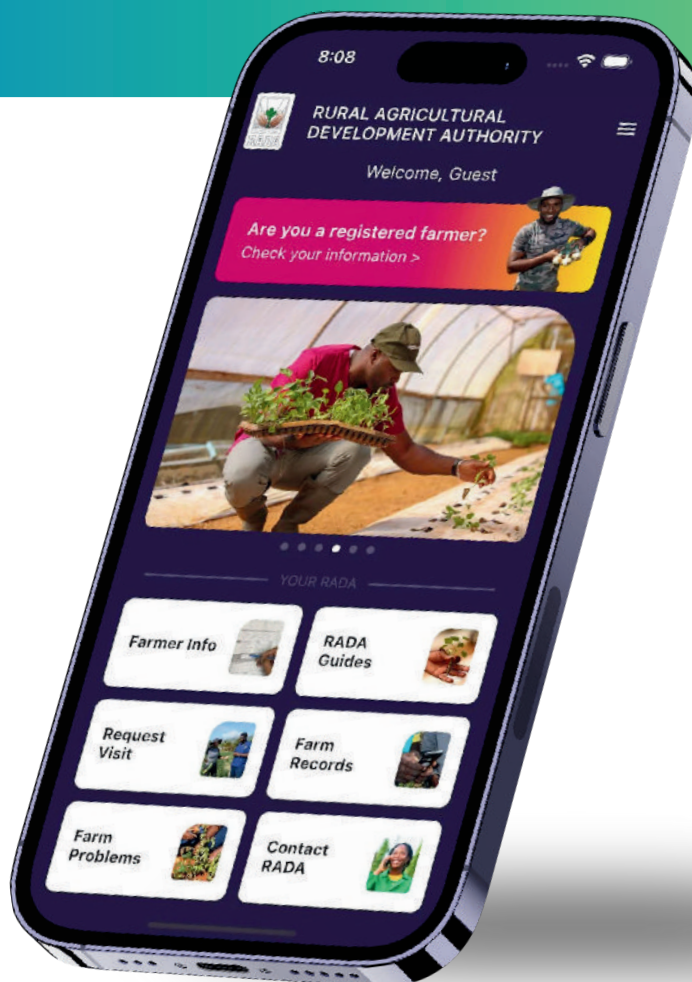
It will involve the:

- distribution of the backyard kits,
- encouragement of hydroponic farming and
- participation of ministries, NGO, churches and other groups.

NATIONAL FOOD RESERVE (NFR)

To design and implement a national food reserve strategy under which an emergency food reserve framework is to be established to ensure that Jamaica is food secured.

RADA TO PILOT **ONLINE APPLICATION** FOR YOUTH FARMERS TO ACCESS **PRODUCTION INCENTIVE BENEFITS**



TO PROVIDE EASE OF ACCESS TO THE PROGRAMMES OFFERED BY THE MINISTRY

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=gov.jm.rada&pcampaignid=web_share



DOWNLOAD 

NETWORK OF MOBILE COLD STORAGE UNITS

This initiative seeks to provide **cold storage solutions** to farmers and other key stakeholders for perishable agricultural crops at strategic locations at a **reasonable cost** within key production areas.

The aim is to minimize food loss and manage glut situations.



IRRIGATION KITS PROJECT

In an effort to mitigate the impact of climate change, the Ministry will distribute an additional **2,500** irrigation kits to farmers across the island.

A photograph of a smiling man with a grey beard and mustache, wearing a plaid shirt, holding a large woven basket filled with bright red coffee cherries. He is standing in a coffee plantation with green leaves and branches visible in the background. The image is partially obscured by a green text box on the left side.

J\$5B COFFEE ROAD REHABILITATION PROGRAMME (CRRP)

The CRRP is to ‘breathe life’ back into those coffee-producing communities where farmers have had their livelihoods affected by damaged roadways.

This programme will be geared towards rehabilitating approximately **144 Km of roadways** leading to coffee farms across **St Andrew, Portland and St Thomas**.

CROP RESTORATION AND ESTABLISHMENT PROGRAMME (CREP)

The CREP is a revitalization and expansion plan for select regulated commodities (coffee, cocoa and the spices) over a 4-year period.

The core components of the CREP will focus on training, “clean” planting material, quality assessment and certification, value-addition and use of new technologies (such as germplasm base, clonal propagation and rainwater harvesting system). This will support over 15,000 farmers and their families.

The CREP plan will be implemented through Public-Private Partnership valued at **J\$3.58 billion**.

THE DAIRY LIVESTOCK INNOVATION AND NUTRITION KNOWLEDGE PROGRAMME (D-LINK)

- Introduce solar powered cooling systems
- Purchase and distribute 15 new mobile milkers across our dairy farming clusters and schools
- Install 7 energy milk cooling tanks
- Establish a technology center and equipment lease programme
- Facilitate the importation of live cattle embryos and semen of adaptable international breeds

SOLAR POWERED DAIRY OPERATIONS

It aims to create sustainable dairy operations powered by solar energy, which will reduce the dependence of local dairy farmers on non-renewable forms of energy, and reduce overhead utility costs.

NEW DAIRY TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

The Ministry plans to establish a technology centre to support dairy operations by offering equipment such as mobile milking machines, silo packer, and hay baler for lease to dairy farmers through the Equipment Lease Programme.



NATIONAL LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT BOARD

The Board will ensure a cohesive and comprehensive national framework for livestock development.

The Ministry will establish a Steering Committee to transition the Dairy Development Board into the National Livestock Development Board.



CASE TO ACHIEVE UNIVERSITY STATUS

Upgrade the College of Agriculture Science and Education (CASE) to university status to become the leading institution in research and development in agricultural science.



**Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries & Mining**

FISHERIES INITIATIVES

YEAR 2024/25

J\$20 MILLION BEACH REHABILITATION PROGRAMME

Aimed at improving/upgrading the infrastructure of three (3) fishing beaches in:

1. St. Mary
2. Clarendon
3. St. Elizabeth

BLUE ECONOMY INCENTIVE PROGRAMME

This initiative seeks to provide incentives in the form of inputs, which includes safety equipment for offshore fishing as well as communication and navigation equipment (safety jackets, marine VHF radios and GPS devices).

Key **beneficiaries** include off-shore fishers exploring opportunities in the Blue Economy especially those in **Pedro and Morant Bay**.

'YOUTH IN FISHERIES' BOAT SUPPORT PROGRAMME

*Twenty (20) boats and engines
for youths to kickstart fishing
ventures.*



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT FOR FISHING INDUSTRIES

This initiative will provide grants and equipment to promote business development in the fisheries sector. Fifty (50) women and youths will receive grants valued at J\$120,000 each. Fishing gears valued at J\$12 million will be provided to approximately 600 fishers.

BOAT RETOOLING PROGRAMME

To provide communication devices and assist fisherfolks with replacement of boat parts such as engines.



ORNAMENTAL FISH FARMING REVITALISATION PROJECT

This project is valued at US\$105,000 and is aimed at revitalizing ornamental fish production for local and export markets.

It will facilitate the development of a clearing house for the export of ornamental fish, providing ornamental fish farmers with broodstock and facilitate improved organization of the ornamental industry.



AQUACULTURE AGRO-PARK

**FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF
INLAND FISHERIES IN THE
AMITY HALL AND MITCHELL
TOWN AREA.**

**FRESH WATER PRAWN
HATCHERY PRODUCTION**

ALTERNATIVE CLIMATE RESILIENT FISHERIES PRODUCTION



—

This initiative is geared towards piloting 8 demonstration projects, collectively valued at over US\$400,000.

These demonstration projects will focus on exploring alternative profitable and sustainable fisheries industries outside of finfishing. These include pelagic fishing; ecotourism in fish sanctuaries; oyster production; sea moss production, local fish feed production, revitalising freshwater fishing and a Bio-secure, climate resilient Recirculating Aquaculture System (RAS) Hatchery.



**Ministry of Agriculture,
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TRADE EXPANSION INITIATIVES

YEAR 2024/25



NEW TRADE AND MARKET INTELLIGENCE PORTAL

This will be the Ministry's gateway to trade information including opportunities, market entry standards, permits/licensing requirements, productivity indicators, production prices and research studies.



NEW

MARKET LINKAGES IN:

-  AFRICA (SOUTH AFRICA)
-  MIDDLE EAST (UAE)
-  THE CARIBBEAN (CAYMAN AND
TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS)

Expanding Jamaica's access to preferential rates and opportunities in international markets.

ISLANDWIDE EXPORT EXPANSION CLINICS



The Ministry will host targeted, practical workshops and consultations to build the capacity of suppliers and producers to penetrate regional and global markets.





DIASPORA EXPORT EXPANSION PROGRAMME

Targeted, strategic partnerships with the Jamaican diaspora to drive investment, value chain development and export of Jamaican products to every corner of the globe.

TRADE TRACEABILITY POLICY



A robust policy framework to ensure compliance with international traceability requirements and overcome trade barriers.



**Ministry of Agriculture,
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MINERALS INITIATIVES

YEAR 2024/25



BAUXITE LAND LEASE PROGRAMME

The programme will create an efficient and affordable channel for farmers in bauxite areas to access lands for agricultural purposes at below-market-rate lease values.

The lands to be used in this initiative fall under the Midlands properties managed by the JBI on behalf of the NLA.



OPERATION PIPE WATER

Potable and irrigation water for productivity and empowerment in bauxite mining communities



J\$100 MILLION GREENHOUSE CLUSTER PROJECT

ACROSS FIVE (5) PARISHES

This project will benefit over **340 small farmers** directly and indirectly, improving the lives and livelihoods of thousands more in these areas.

PORT DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION PROJECT (PDEP)

The Ministry has been collaborating with the Port Authority of Jamaica, the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service, the Bauxite and Alumina companies and Caribbean Cement Company to gain access to bulk port facilities to allow for the exportation of increased quantities of industrial minerals.

The PDEP, will include an upgrade and expansion to the Reynolds Pier in St. Ann. It will be using blue and green next-generation technologies and solutions to expand the loading capacity to 8 million metric tons a year. This new expanded Pier will be a multi-faceted Port, that can dually berth Panamax vessels that exports Industrial material and berths the new large Cruise vessels.



J\$7M

**MANCHESTER
CITRUS
REVITALIZATION
PROJECT**

TO RESTORE CITRUS
PRODUCTION IN BAUXITE
COMMUNITIES

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

—
**VALUED AT
J\$5M**

BAUXITE COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



THE MINERALS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

This is a merger of the Geological Survey functions of the Mines and Geology Division, the Jamaica Bauxite Institute, and the Earthquake Unit. This new entity will focus on managing the country's mineral resources, developing new mineral products, and executing seismic research.

The MRDI will also play a significant role in assisting the country to treat with some of the impacts of ongoing climate change and ensuring that we pay greater attention to preparing for and minimizing the impacts of earthquakes. The entity will have no regulatory functions.



NEW AGRO-PARK IN ST. ANN

AGRO-INVEST AND JAMAICA BAUXITE MINING LTD

Agro-Invest and Jamaica Bauxite Mining Limited (JBML) are collaborating for the development of a new Agro-Park in St. Ann, Jamaica. This collaboration leverages JBM's expertise with Agro-Invest specialized agricultural services to foster sustainable agricultural development and empower local communities.

EXPANSION OF SEISMIC NETWORK

- UPGRADE MONITORING SYSTEMS FOR SEISMIC ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE ISLAND
- CONDUCT NOISE PROFILE STUDIES AT SEISMIC STATIONS TO IMPROVE DATA QUALITY

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