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Social Impact of Bauxite Mining in Jamaica

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Jamaica Bauxite Institute

Bauxite Deposits





Proximity to Communities





Stages of bauxite mining: stripping, mining, restoration



Mined out areas must be restored within 3 years









Bauxite Community Development Programme - BCDP

- Mining takes place within close proximity to communities.
- BCDP formed in 1996 to foster a better working environment.
 among bauxite companies & the communities in which they work.
- Bauxite Community Councils in all areas impacted by mining.
- Councils meet monthly to discuss issues and propose projects.

BCDP Objectives

- 1. To reinvest earnings from the bauxite/alumina industry by implementing long-term sustainable projects in communities affected by bauxite mining and alumina operations.
- 2. To promote improvements in standards of living in the affected communities and to ensure that there is "Life after Bauxite".

Rainwater Harvesting Ponds & Greenhouses



- Farmers were clustered in groups of 20, each operating a 3,000 square foot greenhouse.
- Clusters registered as Benevolent Societies and operate as a single commercial entity which purchase inputs and market produce through their Cluster Management Committee.
- To date, 8 clusters were established at a cost of USD 20M with assistance from the World Bank.
- Sustainability is built into the programme, whereby the Management Committee retains 30% of all revenue to take care of overheads and inputs for the next farming cycle.
- Many female farmers, doing exceptionally well.

Inside the Greenhouses



Mined out bauxite lands transformed into catchment reservoirs with capacities of up to 3 million gallons of water to facilitate agriculture utilizing greenhouses.

Farmer reaping tomatoes & sweet peppers



Using solar energy, the water is pumped from the reservoirs into holding tanks at higher elevations and gravity-fed to the greenhouses for irrigation purposes.

Infrastructure Projects



Skills Training



Motor Mechanics

Peanut Processing Factory





All Bauxite Mining done by Local Contractors



Apart from the many direct jobs in the bauxite/alumina industry, it also provides jobs for local truckers, plus all the spin offs from this employment for the local communities