

Major Projects (2016-2019)

Expansion of projects give an indication that a sector is experiencing growth. This growth usually results in improved Gross Domestic Product (GDP), as well as employment. Below are some sectors that have embarked on such projections.

Tourism

The announcement of the Karisma Group's (Azul Sensatori) intention to construct 4,000 hotel rooms between 2017 and 2019 ensures that many Jamaicans will have the opportunity to gain permanent and temporary employment. The Karisma Group is also expected to complete an expansion with 150 luxury rooms in Hanover between 2017 and 2018. The H10 Hotel Group and the Breezes group intend to add 800 and 124 rooms respectively in St James. The CHEC Engineering group also disclosed plans for the construction of 2,500 rooms in Drax Hall area of St Ann. The Royalton's future plans call for the development of 582 rooms in Negril.

Business Process Outsourcing

Job growth is expected from companies such as Xerox Commercial Services, Sutherland Global, Hinduja Global Services and Ibex Global Services.

The Port Authority of Jamaica (PAJ) plans to invest in call-centre facilities in Portmore and Montego Bay which will cost more than \$2.8 billion. The investment will include \$1.1 billion of capital expenditure on a 63,000-square foot building at the Montego Free Zone and \$1.7 billion at the Portmore Informix Centre in St Catherine.

Energy (Renewable)

Blue Mountain Renewables Jamaica has undertaken the construction of a wind farm in Malvern St Elizabeth, resulting in the employment of several temporary employees and permanent employees. WRB Energy has also started construction of a solar

energy plant.

Wholesale and Retail

Rainforest Seafood

Rainforest Seafood has invested US\$10 million and will into the expansion of its headquarters, which is expected to add 200 jobs. This investment will facilitate the processing of a wide range of local products, including lobster, crab, conch, and finfish for local consumers and export.

Manufacturing

Red Stripe

In 2014 Red Stripe began investing US\$10 million over the next five years to set up a cassava supply chain that will help to offset barley imports for beer production. In phase I the company also plans to train additional persons to work on its cassava farms, as well as invest a further US\$800,000 to equip a cassava factory for processing activities. Under phase II of the project, Red Stripe will add another 142 hectares at a cost of approximately US\$200,000. In phase III, the brewing company will develop a second cluster of farms within the parishes of St Catherine, St Ann and St Mary, which will see an additional 200 hectares and plans for further expansion to about 1,000 hectares. The final phase of the project will see the development of a third cluster in St Elizabeth, Manchester and Trelawny for another 200 hectares, with a view to expanding this to another 1,000 hectares.

Transportation and Logistics

Eastern Highway-St. Thomas

China Harbour Engineering Company (CHEC) has signed a contract with the Jamaican Government in December 2015 to undertake a major road project involving the construction of a highway running from Harbour View in St Andrew to Morant Bay in St Thomas. The highway will accommodate four lanes, 16 bridges, a flyover and subway.

Kingston Wharves

Kingston Wharves is looking to increase its cargo volumes to one million twenty-foot equivalent units per year within the next five. In 2015 the organization decided to undertake a massive expansion for the next five years. Kingston Wharves Group invested J\$2 billion in its first phase of activities, which involves the construction of a 150,000 square foot state-of-the-art logistics centre in Newport West.

The company also plans to undertake the relocation of its on-dock warehouses and the retrofitting of a recently acquired property in its first phase of expansion, which will significantly increase Kingston Wharves' container-handling and storage capacity. The company has included in its preparations to offer additional modular warehouse space to local and international business partners sized at a minimum of 10,000 square feet.