

## **REPORT ON THE NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATA AND INFORMATION ENTRY WORKSHOP**

**Suzanne Davis, Ph.D., Jamaica Clearing-House Mechanism, Natural History Museum of  
Jamaica, Institute of Jamaica**

The first National Invasive Species Data and Information Entry Workshop was held at the Department of Life Sciences, University of the West Indies, Mona Campus on Wednesday June 24 – Thursday June 25, 2015. This workshop is an activity under the CHM Component of the *National Biodiversity Planning to Support the Implementation of the CBD 2011 – 2020 Strategic Plan Project* which is funded by the Global Environment Facility-United Nations Development Programme (GEF-UNDP). The objectives of the Workshop were:

- Update Jamaica Invasive Species Database (JISD) with data and information
- Train personnel for maintaining content of JISD
- Reinforce the national IAS information network based on IASWG entities

Dr. Suzanne Davis, Co-facilitator for the Workshop, welcomed the Trainer and other Co-facilitator (Dr. Michele de Sá Dechoum), guests, workshop trainees and the Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM) Project Assistant. Guests included Mr. Tarik Dixon who represented the National Spatial Data Management Division, Ms. Dionne Chambers (Technical Project Manager for the *National Biodiversity Planning to Support the Implementation of the CBD 2011 – 2020 Strategic Plan Project*), and Mrs. Dionne Newell (Chair, national Invasive Alien Species Working Group).

Background information was provided on the Jamaica Invasive Species Database (JISD) and its development by the invasive species network of the Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN). The invasive species networking arrangements between Jamaican entities were also outlined. In keeping with the Agenda (see enclosed), a joint PowerPoint presentation was provided by Dr. Dechoum and Dr. Davis. The presentation was later circulated via email by Dr. Dechoum to Workshop participants at the Opening Session. Dr. Dechoum also provided a demonstration of the Brazil database which is based on the same database template as the JISD.

Dr. Dechoum provided a total of 14 Database Training Manuals for the Workshop as well as a document emailed to trainees on Database Standards for the JISD. She instructed trainees on how to navigate the JISD and input data, and was assisted by Dr. Davis. Workshop participants were issued user names and passwords (one per entity), a notebook, and a Jamaica CHM brochure. Trainees were asked to select 5 species each to enter into the database in order to meet the minimum target of 40 species entered into the JISD.

The last session of the Workshop included a review and proposed revisions to the *Protocol for Sharing National Invasive Species Data and Information through the Jamaica Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM)*. A workshop Evaluation and Participant Questionnaire was distributed to

trainees (see enclosed). All three workshop objectives were met. There was a presentation of a certificate of appreciation to Dr. Dechoum and an expression of gratitude for the interest and participation of the trainees.