PYXERA Global, with private sector sponsorship from Jamaican agribusinesses and matching funds from USAID's Global Development Alliance, developed the Jamaica Farmers Access to Regional Markets (FARMS) program to improve the competitiveness of the Jamaican agricultural sector. Under the first phase of the program, PYXERA Global focused on building the capacity of businesses through direct technical assistance on production agriculture and business strategy, as well as through facilitation of innovative business relationships that strengthened linkages along the value chain. PYXERA Global also connected small growers and marketers through fixed-price contracts and facilitated the transfer of new production and business technologies from marketers to growers.

In phase two of the program, also funded by USAID, PYXERA Global sought to promote protected agriculture as a viable component of a competitive agricultural industry. PYXERA Global addressed unsustainable agricultural practices and environmental degradation through innovative greenhouse technologies which incorporated the best intensive production methods through affordable, scalable structures. The adoption of these technologies improved food security by minimizing the risk associated with outdoor crop production and mitigated the effects of global climate change by reducing soil erosion and limiting slash-and-burn agriculture.

Phase two also included the development of a Market Information System with the Ministry of Agriculture, leveraging the power of technology to collect and disseminate pricing information to all stakeholders throughout the value chain and improve access to end-market opportunities. The three-tier system - coined JAMIS (Jamaica Agriculture Market Information System) - incorporates the latest mobile data capturing warehousing technology and features a fully functional companion website which provides for access to the general public.
About PYXERA Global

PYXERA Global pioneers ways to bring together diverse groups and leverage their abilities, interests, and resources to generate shared value and benefits. We have more than two decades’ experience enhancing the capabilities of local companies to successful become suppliers to larger corporations. We work with promising enterprises and individuals, including small-holding farmers, to meet the procurement demands of corporate buyers, including wholesalers, retailers and value-added processors. Our programs serve to strengthen supply chains for our corporate partners, while providing good jobs, enhanced incomes and increased economic opportunity for local communities.

To learn more about PYXERA Global visit
www.pyxeraglobal.org

Key Program Outputs:

- **555% increase** in contract income over pre-project levels for growers
- **50% increase** in revenue, and expanded markets for sponsoring agribusiness
- **574 people** identified as having increased economic benefits as a result of USG assistance
- **3016.6 hectares** of land placed under improved management
- **650 growers**, extension officers, and students trained in protected agriculture practices and technologies
- **300 people** trained in natural resources management and biodiversity conservation
- **50 greenhouses** or exclusion cages constructed