



Republic of Trinidad & Tobago

**Social Sector  
Investment Programme  
2008**



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### List of Acronyms

ACE	Adult Continuing Education
BMCs	Borrowing Members Countries
BLING	Block Leadership Initiative for the New Generation
CACs	Community Access Centers
CAPE	Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination
CARE	Community Action for Revival and Empowerment
CARICOM	Caribbean Community and Common Market
CARIRI	Caribbean Industrial and Research Institute
CBO	Community Based Organization
CCC	Civilian Conservation Corps
CCST	Caribbean Council for Science and Technology
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
C-DAP	Chronic Disease Assistance Plan
CDC&GA	Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs
CDF	Community Development Fund
CEPEP	Community-based Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programme
CERP	Community Enhancement and Rehabilitation Programme
CETT	Caribbean Centre of Excellence for Teacher Training
CNSP	Children in Need of Special Protection
COHSOD	Council for Human and Social Development
CPA	Country Poverty Assessments
CSDP	Centre for Socially Displaced Persons
CSME	Caribbean Single Market Economy
CSO	Central Statistical Office
CVQ	Caribbean Vocational Conditions
CXC	Caribbean Examinations Council
ECLAC	Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean
ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education
EPR	Enterprise Resource Product
EU	European Programme
GAPP	Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme
GATE	Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses
GCI	Global Competitiveness Index
GCR	Global Competitiveness Report
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GoRTT	Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
HBS	Household Budgetary Survey
HDC	Housing Development Corporation
HDI	Human Development Indicator
HDR	Human Development Report

## List of Acronyms

HELP	Higher Education Loan Programme
HYPE	Helping Youth Prepare for Employment
IDB	International Development Bank
ILO	International Labour Organization
ISO	International Standard Organization
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MEG	Micro Enterprise and Training Development Grant
MICS	Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey
MILAT	Military Led Academic Training Programme
MOH	Ministry of Health
MORI	Market and Opinion Research International
MPUE	Ministry of Public Utilities and the Environment
MRF	Medical Research Foundation
MSTTE	Ministry of Science, Technology & Tertiary Education
MSYA	Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs
MuST	Multi-Sector Skills Training Programme
MYPART	Military Led Youth Programme of Apprenticeship and Re-orientation Training
NACC	National AIDS Co-ordinating Committee
NADAPP	National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme
NCSE	National Certification of Secondary Schools
NCSH	National Commission of Self Help
NEC	National Examinations Council
NEDCO	National Enterprise Development Co.
NES	National Employment Service
NFSD	National Family Services Division
NGOs	Non- Governmental Organisations
NHA	National Housing Authority
NIB	National Insurance Board
NSDP	National Social Development Programme
NSP	National HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan
NTA	National Training Agency
NYP	National Youth Policy
OAP	Old Age Pension
OECS	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
OJT	On the Job Training
OPIC	Older Persons Information Centre
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Act
PA	Public Assistance
PEPFAR	Presidents' Emergency Plans for AIDS Relief
PIRLS	Progress in International Reading Literacy Study
PISA	Progress for International Student Assessment
PMU	Programme Management Unit





## List of Acronyms

PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
PRP	Poverty Reduction Programme
PSSDDG	Poverty and Social Sector Development Donor Group
RAPP	Retirees Adolescent Partnership Programme
RCs	Regional Corporations
RHA	Regional Health Authorities
S.H.A.R.E.	Social Help and Rehabilitative Efforts
SCA-ECLAC	Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean
SEA	Secondary Entrance Assessment
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SLC	Survey of Living Conditions
SPARC	Support to Poverty Assessment and Reduction in the Caribbean
SPINE	Social Services and Prison Integrated Network
SPORTT	Sport Company of Trinidad and Tobago
SSIP	Social Sector Investment Programme
SSS	Student Support Services
SYSP	Specialized Youth and Service Programme
THA	Tobago House of Assembly
TTNPP	Trinidad and Tobago National Parenting Programme
UNECLAC	United Nations Economic Commission of Latin America and The Caribbean
UNDP	United Nation Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
URP	Unemployment Relief Programme
UTT	University of Trinidad and Tobago
UWI	University of the West Indies
VCT	Voluntary Counselling and Testing
WASA	Water and Sewage Authority
WDR	World Development Report
WTO	World Trade Organisation
WVS	World Values Survey
YAPA	Youth Apprenticeship Programme in Agriculture
YDAC	Youth Development Apprenticeship Centres Programme
YTEPP	Youth Training and Employment Partnership

## Introduction

# 1. INTRODUCTION

In fiscal 2008, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago will continue to make strides in the development of the social sector. The historical trends in investment in the sector have been maintained at approximately 24% of the national budget for fiscal 2008. As we move towards developed country status by the year 2020, the government's emphasis in the sector will be on achieving the various developmental targets in education, health, housing, poverty, youth, community, sport and gender development and income and social protection.

The social sector of Trinidad and Tobago will continue to play an integral role in the pursuit of the goal to achieve developed country status by the year 2020. The majority of the social programmes in the sector are geared toward the attainment of two of the developmental pillars for the achievement of developed country status. These two are: (i) the development of an innovative people, and (ii) the nurturing of a caring society. However, the objectives of some of the programmes do extend beyond these two pillars, a clear demonstration of the integrated nature of all the sectors.

Activities in the social sector during fiscal 2008 will centre on streamlining programmes to fulfill the targeted outcomes of the Vision 2020 Operational Plan 2007-2010. The Operational Plan presents a macro framework to facilitate the tracking of progress toward the achievement of national social development objectives. The Plan of Action emanating from the World Summit on Social Development and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) will, along with the Operational Plan, be utilized to identify areas of focus for the improvement of the quality of life of citizens of Trinidad and Tobago.

This SSIP Report is the sixth of its kind and provides a snapshot of the country's current social situation and government's investment in the social sector for the preceding fiscal year, focusing particularly on programme performance in the context of the national development goals. The strategic directions for the sector for the new fiscal year are also outlined. The first SSIP report was prepared for fiscal 2003 with successive reports up to the latest presentation prepared for fiscal 2008. The document is also intended to facilitate strategic planning, implementation and monitoring through collaborative efforts among social sector Ministries. It is expected that this document will serve as a critical tool in tracking the targets outlined in the Vision 2020 Operational Plan 2007-2010 and successive Plans.

A number of structural problems continue to plague the sector, impacting on its performance. These include lack of data collection and analysis mechanisms, inadequate and inefficient service delivery systems, weak or non-existent targeting mechanisms, insufficient coordination among Ministries which retards programme impact and results in duplication in some instances, and lack of monitoring and evaluation personnel and systems. This leads to, among other things, wastage of scarce resources, an inability to access the impact of the sector on developmental goals and objectives and dissatisfied clients.

In the new fiscal year, the Ministry of Social Development as the coordinating agency for the sector, will continue to work with the other social sector agencies and development partners to improve, strengthen and build where necessary, the structures and mechanisms required to address the weaknesses in the sector. In fiscal 2008 the commencement of activities toward the implementation of a decentralized social services

delivery system would be of particular significance. Some progress has been made thus far in some areas. A Monitoring and Evaluation Policy was developed and approved in 2005 and a core inter-ministerial team (Committee of Monitoring and Evaluation Facilitators), was subsequently established by Cabinet in January 2006 to facilitate the implementation of the Policy.

In fiscal 2007, the Committee submitted a report on the implementation of the Policy. One of the main findings of the report was that overall, the capacity to develop and implement M&E sub-systems within programmes and projects was inadequate. Recommendations were made for improvements at all levels of functioning of the programmes and for the successful implementation of the Monitoring and Evaluation Policy. This Report together with one emanating from a specially-appointed Task Force to access the operations of the programmes in the sector, which was also completed in fiscal 2007, will be the basis for commencing sector and programme reforms in fiscal 2008.

In terms of specific areas of focus for the new fiscal year, social inclusion will be pursued through investment in initiatives that help to empower and improve the lives of those persons and groups considered the most vulnerable. As such, special attention will be paid to marginalized groups such as the elderly, children in need of special protection and attention, persons with disabilities, persons living below the poverty line, ex-prisoners, deportees, and the socially displaced.

The enactment of new children's legislation, the establishment of the Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago, the continued implementation of the Policy for persons with disabilities, the establishment of new facilities for socially displaced persons, the approval of a Comprehensive Plan

for Support to Ex-Prisoners and the commencement of implementation of the recommendations of the 2005 Survey of Living Conditions (SLC) are key initiatives expected to impact these groups.

Strengthening the institution of the family and its support mechanisms will continue to receive particular attention in fiscal 2008. It is expected that the Family Policy which was developed in fiscal 2007 will be finalized and that implementation will commence. There will also be a renewed effort to assist individuals to improve their livelihood through education, training opportunities, and entrepreneurship. The intention will be to continue to promote those programmes which have proven to be successful in fiscal 2007, improving those which have been less successful while adding new programmes, where necessary.

The Trinidad and Tobago government will invest significantly in social infrastructure under the Public Sector Investment Programme as outlined in the Capital Plan in the Vision 2020 Operational Plan 2007-2011. This is expected to assist in the medium to long term achievement of social development goals. The investment process will also be supported by the implementation of social policies by social sector Ministries, and by the activities of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Community-Based Organisations (CBOs), and Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs).

# 2. THE CARIBBEAN SOCIAL SITUATION

## REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The opportunities and challenges facing Caribbean economies in the rapidly changing global environment have been the focus of most of the regional conferences and the major determinants of the region's strategic direction in the last ten years. Achieving poverty-reducing growth is contingent on the Caribbean region attaining fiscal and debt sustainability; reducing the risks of natural disasters; developing a proactive trade agenda; improving the quality and effectiveness of human resources and deepening the regional integration process.

An examination of the region's economic performance by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) for 2006 revealed that Caribbean economies generally performed well, "led by solid performances in tourism and construction, and supported by agriculture, financial services and manufacturing, there was broad-based growth in CDB's borrowing member countries (BMCs) in 2006. With the exception of Montserrat, where heightened volcanic activity led to a 3.1% decline in economic activity, indications were that all other BMCs exhibited growth in 2006, and in several instances managed to exceed the previous year's performance."<sup>1</sup>

The fastest growth rates were recorded in Trinidad and Tobago and in Antigua and Barbuda, each growing by 12% compared to 8% and 5.3% respectively, in 2005. In Trinidad and Tobago strong performances in the oil exploration and production, refining and petrochemicals sub-sectors were the main contributors to output, while in Antigua and Barbuda an increase in tourist activity promoted economic activity.

In Guyana, following the severe flood-induced contraction in 2005; agriculture rebounded in 2006 and was the main contributor to the 4.8% growth rate. Robust activity also occurred in the Cayman Islands (4.6%), St. Kitts and Nevis (4.4%), and Dominica (4.1%).<sup>2</sup>

A number of countries in the Caribbean region ranked high on the Human Development Index 2006 (Barbados-31, St.Kitts / Nevis -51, The Bahamas -52, Trinidad and Tobago -59)<sup>3</sup>, relative to other developing and emerging regional blocks. The region's average literacy rates are very high, in addition to life expectancy at birth which is an estimated 70 years. On the other hand, poverty rates in the region are abnormally high, averaging nearly 30% and income equality, while not as severe as in Latin America, is still very significant. Thus the region's main economic strategic objectives for fiscal 2007 included economic adjustment and fiscal reform measures aimed at supporting sustainable poverty-reducing growth in the Caribbean.

## Poverty Assessments

A number of national poverty reduction surveys have been conducted and poverty related policies, strategies, plans and programmes have been developed in the region, primarily with support from the UNDP, DFID and the CDB. In addition, institutional mechanisms have been established mainly to address social development at the national level. In Barbados and Saint Lucia, this has taken the form of Ministries of Social Transformation. Further, with support from the CDB, DFID, the World Bank and EU, a number of poverty-specific mechanisms have been introduced, including Poverty Reduction Funds, Basic Needs Trust Funds and Social Investment Funds.

Studies on Poverty within the Caribbean region confirm the changing multifaceted nature of poverty. While many of the causes of poverty in the region have existed for some time, there are new forces and factors that have contributed to the complexities and persistence of various forms of poverty, thereby increasing vulnerability in the region. These include:

- the growing economic disparities within countries and communities;
- the reduced capacity of the relevant Government to satisfy the aspirations of its citizens;
- changes in personal consumption patterns;
- the emergence of new health issues, especially the HIV/AIDS pandemic;

1 CDB Annual Report 2006

2 The Caribbean Economies in 2006, CDB 2006

3 Human Development Index 2006

- the growing importance of personal and community security and safety issues;
- the impacts of environmental degradation and environmental uncertainty [particularly climate change] on livelihoods; and
- the weakening of traditional institutions, in particular the extended family, and [values systems with the attendant] impacts on the most vulnerable including single-parent households, the elderly, and the disabled.<sup>4</sup>

Since the mid 1990s, the CDB has been supporting the conduct of Country Poverty Assessments (CPAs). In May 2006, the CDB approved a programme of support to CPAs for the three-year period 2006-2008. Under the new programme, assistance is being given to the Cayman Islands to conduct its first National Survey of Living Conditions and for the conduct of the second CPAs in Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis. The programme also involves the provision of consultancy services and essential data-processing equipment and software to ten BMCs to conduct CPAs and to prepare poverty reduction strategies and poverty maps.

### Poverty Reduction Strategies

Development assistance to the region has been delivered mostly through donor coordination within the islands. External agencies such as the World Bank and DFID have collaborated with various regional bodies, and have agreed to a revitalisation of poverty reduction efforts. These donors are now collectively, the Poverty and Social Sector Development Donor Group (PSSDDG). Appendix I outlines the varied donor interventions in Poverty and Human Development for Caribbean Countries.

The Support to Poverty Assessment and Reduction in the Caribbean (SPARC) has been introduced to assist governments to design and implement planning frameworks to address the specific needs of the vulnerable and disadvantaged in reducing poverty in the region. At present, there are a number of ongoing initiatives which have been targeted as donor support to SPARC including:

- IDB approved US\$ 350,000 to support SPARC to facilitate, via CDB, the strengthening of institutional

capacity in statistical offices in Caribbean countries to collect, analyse, and produce high quality statistical information required to formulate social policies and strategies and to monitor their progress.

- IDB approved a US\$3,450,000 for Guyana to improve and sustain the capacity of the country to generate social data, to undertake evidence-based policy analysis and to monitor the Poverty Reduction Strategy implementation and impact.

At the policy level, Poverty Reduction Strategy Initiatives and specific Social/Human Development Policies are a recent development in the region. Four countries in the OECS, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Dominica, Grenada and Saint Lucia with support from UNDP through the OECS have developed interim or full initiatives. However, these strategies remain weak due, in the main to the lack of recent data on many social development concerns facing countries including issues relating to the impact of economic stagnation on the vulnerable sectors of the respective Caribbean states.

### Social Protection

In 2004, the Social and Economic Research Unit of the CDB in conjunction with DFID and the European Commission for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean initiated a study on “*Social Protection and Poverty Reduction in the Caribbean – Examining Policy and Practice*”. This study identified major gaps and deficiencies existing in the social protection instruments used to assist households and communities mitigate and overcome the various risks and vulnerabilities. It pointed to the urgent need for social protection reform to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of existing programmes and ensuring that a regional approach to social protection reform be adopted under the auspices of the CARICOM.

In this regard, the Report of the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD) of October 2006 cited that a “comprehensive social protection framework was essential for the effective functioning of the labour market of the CARICOM Single Market Economy and requested that the CARICOM Secretariat engage a consultancy for the harmonization of qualifying conditions for social security

<sup>4</sup> CDB Annual Economic Review 2006

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benefits and the introduction of unemployment benefits in Member States.”<sup>5</sup> A report from the CARICOM Secretariat on the implementation of these measures would subsequently be submitted to the COHSOD in October 2007.

The Governments of the region are mindful of the nexus between unemployment, underemployment, poverty and crime and are striving to:

- increase access by the poor to basic services;
- stimulate investment, enterprise development and economic growth in order to expand employment opportunities;
- introduce accelerated skills-training programmes targeted at the unemployed and new entrants into the workforce;
- provide continuous training and retraining of displaced workers; and
- reform the education sectors to produce graduates with the skills and competencies required in an increasingly knowledge-based and competitive economy.<sup>6</sup>

The Caribbean region sees the implementation of the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME) as an essential element of any strategy to further the development of the regional economies.

### CARICOM Single Market And Economy (CSME)

The CSME seeks to overcome the limitations imposed by size and geography on its members states and is designed to enhance the bargaining position of CARICOM countries in international negotiations such as those at the level of the World Trade Organizations (WTO) and other potential regional trading arrangements. The CSME covers, inter alia, the liberalization of trade in goods and services, the free movement of labour and capital, the adoption of a harmonized investment code and the development of a regional capital market. The first phase of the model – the Caribbean Single Market, formally went into effect in the first half of 2006. The second stage – the implementation of the Single Economy now has a target date of 2009.

The implementation of the CSME would require considerable financial resources in order to finance new regional institutions, national and regional public infrastructure which ultimately would lead to the expected growth and development in the Caribbean region. However some of the social issues that may arise as a result of the way the CSME is structured include the following:

- The management of illegal migration, crime and criminal activity in each of the Caribbean states and the level of cooperation of these states with each other on matters of security across borders and throughout the Caribbean Sea. The location of the Caribbean to the United States makes these islands potential bases for terrorist activities.
- Health challenges specifically on the spread and control of HIV/AIDS in the region.
- The appropriate development and effective utilization of human skills<sup>7</sup>

The Report of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD) noted that the free movement of skills / labour was one of the key elements of the Single Market which also underpinned all other elements and that CARICOM nationals needed adequate preparation to take advantage of these opportunities. In November 2006, a Regional Conference on Research Support for Caribbean Integration /CSME was convened in order to prioritize a research agenda for the implementation of the CSME. A wide range of issues were discussed which included, technological development, education health, labour, governance and politics.

## REGIONAL SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Governments in the Caribbean region have spent considerable resources in the last decade in social and human development. A number of Caribbean Countries have outlined development plans, (in particular Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, and Saint Lucia) which they see as reflective of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) but which they also feel necessary to tailor to the specific country priorities in the context of the

<sup>5</sup> Report on the 15th Meeting of COHSOD, October 2006

<sup>6</sup> A Framework for Monitoring the MDGs and Sustainable Human Development in the CARICOM Region UNDP 2005

<sup>7</sup> Report on the 15th Meeting of COHSOD, October 2006

socio-economic conditions that they face and the development objectives towards which they are working.

In this regard a Social Development Framework for advancing the social and sustainable development of Caribbean SIDS has been developed at the High Level Ministerial Dialogue on Social Security and Sustainable Development. This framework is a strategic guide to comprehensive actions necessary in the short and medium term which would advance the achievement of the MDGs and the sustainable development of Caribbean SIDS. It sets out five priority areas for consideration by policy makers in the sector and includes:

1. Sustaining investment in human capital
2. Redesigning social integration and inclusion policies
3. Extending social protection and compensation
4. Ensuring evidence – based social protection and provisioning
5. Strengthening the enabling environment<sup>8</sup>

The proposed social development framework for the region is one that recognizes the role of economic development as an engine for growth while acknowledging the inherent vulnerabilities and the need for human and social capital for growth to be sustained. This conceptual framework builds on a vision that while social protection and poverty reduction are not interchangeable processes they should be integrated if the Caribbean is to achieve what can be termed ‘poverty avoidance’ which is equally as important as poverty reduction. It is now widely recognized that Caribbean social policy should not be only responsive to social changes, but should be proactive and should be an enabler of economic success.

This proposed social development framework would be used as a guide for Caribbean countries to adopt and to implement comprehensive national development strategies to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the MDGs.

### STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

#### Achievement of the MDGs in the Caribbean Region

When Governments of the Caribbean agreed to the Millennium Declaration in 2000, they embraced it as an integrated framework for the achievement of poverty reduction and sustainable human development in the region. Though the global targets are not always relevant to the region, they encapsulate eight (8) major areas required for sustainable human development namely:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Promote global partnerships for development

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has provided support to the conduct of research and the publication of two reports on progress with the MDGs: (i) Caribbean Regional Report on the implementation of the MDGs (2004) and (ii) the Millennium Development Goals: Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean: A Progress Report (2004).

These reports suggest that the Millennium Development Goals, while positive regarding the progress made and the likelihood of achievement also point to significant data gaps, inconsistencies and the pressing need for credible, reliable updated and gender, disaggregated data in order to facilitate planning, implementation and monitoring of programmes and initiatives which will foster and result in positive human development in the region. Appendix II highlights priority actions for poverty reduction and social development required for the achievement of the MDGs in the Caribbean Region.

While the attainment of the MDGs seems feasible for the Caribbean region, at present this is predicated upon the hope that these countries suffer no major setbacks like those resulting from natural disasters. The impact of Hurricane Ivan

<sup>8</sup> Social Integration and Sustainable Livelihoods in Caribbean SIDS, ECLAC Sub regional Headquarters for the Caribbean June 2006

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on Grenada has clearly impacted the country's capacity and the means by which to achieve their goals by 2015. It can therefore be concluded that the achievement of the MDGs is directly tied to the health and development fortunes of the Caribbean Region.

### Standardization of Social Development Indicators

In the Caribbean there is also a need for a strategic approach to the monitoring and evaluating of poverty and sustainable human development within the MDG framework. Discordant approaches and inconsistent methodologies have often served to frustrate efforts to assess the standard of social development in the region. In order to progress towards the generation of better and more comparable indicators in the region, the Fourth Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (SCA-ECLAC) took place in July 2007 in Santiago, Chile. Representatives of twenty-eight ECLAC member countries participated as well as delegations from specialised United Nations agencies, regional organizations and international bodies.

This Statistical Conference of the Americas is a subsidiary of ECLAC and the objectives of the Conference were aimed at promoting the development, and internal comparability of national statistics, taking into account the recommendations of the United Nations Statistical Commission, specialised bodies and other relevant organizations; promoting international, regional and bilateral cooperation between national statistical offices and international and regional organizations; and preparing a biannual programme of regional and international cooperation activities, which subject to the availability of resources, responds to the demands of the countries in the region.<sup>9</sup> The results of this Conference are expected to improve the region's national statistical offices in developing an appropriate information system for the monitoring of the MDGs in the region.

In addition, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), in collaboration with the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), has embarked on a project to strengthen the Region's capacity in Demographic Analysis. The Community launched the

project on June 28, 2007 at the CARICOM Secretariat, in Georgetown, Guyana. The project, facilitated through funding from CDB, is a multi-year programme of training in Demographic Analysis that seeks to address the training needs of statisticians and social policy formulators through: the hosting of a seven-week workshop each year for three years. Each annual workshop caters for 25 participants from CARICOM Member States and Regional Institutions and lecturers will be drawn from the three campuses of the University of the West Indies (UWI).

The project ultimately aims to provide a pool of skilled statistical personnel by building the capacity of statisticians and social researchers to analyse demographic data in the conduct of research and policy formulation.<sup>10</sup>

The project will be executed and managed by the CARICOM Secretariat through its Statistical Unit, while the training programme will be a collaborative effort among key regional organizations working together to improve living standards of the population of the Caribbean. An advisory committee, comprising representatives from CDB, CARICOM, UWI and the United Nations Economic Commission on Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC) will provide policy advice and will monitor the project's implementation.

## REGIONAL DIALOGUES

### Caribbean Dialogue on HIV/AIDS

Caribbean States have been cited as having the second largest incidence per capita of HIV/AIDS after Sub-Saharan Africa. In 2005 it was noted that the AIDS epidemic claimed an estimated 24,000 lives making it the leading cause of death among adults aged 15-44. As a region in development the Caribbean has had to face a scourge that has seen its economic resources dwindled with the necessary expenditures on health care that would otherwise be spent on social development programmes.

As a proactive approach to the problem the Inter-American Economic Council hosted a summit on HIV/AIDS in January

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<sup>9</sup> [www.caribank.org](http://www.caribank.org).

<sup>10</sup> [www.caricom.org](http://www.caricom.org).



2007 in St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands. The theme of the Summit was *“The Economic Impact of HIV/AIDS on the Caribbean”* and it focused on the development of new innovative strategies by bringing together leading practitioners and experts in the field of Government, Business and Civil Society, and representatives from the CARICOM Secretariat, the Organization of American States and health care providers in the region. The goal of the Summit was to educate policy makers about work that has already been done in the region and progress that needs to be made to reduce the spread of this epidemic. The Inter-American Economic Council intends to make the Caribbean HIV/AIDS summit an annual event.

Subsequently in June 2007, a high level OECS ARV Drug Supply Management Workshop was held in Castries, St. Lucia. The workshop was organized by the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Secretariat’s Pharmaceutical Procurement Service and featured a panel of health experts, including HIV/AIDS specialists from Barbados and Cuba, the World Health Organization, and the Management Sciences for Health. It was sponsored by the Pan- Caribbean Partnership against HIV/AIDS, Pan American Health Organization and OECS’ HIV/AIDS programme Unit. “The aim of the workshop was to inform pharmacists about the latest antiretroviral treatment protocols and to encourage HIV – positive persons to adhere to their treatment regimes in order to prevent the development of drug resistance.”<sup>11</sup> The outcome of the workshop was the establishment of a regional centre of reporting adverse reaction to antiretroviral drugs known as the Pharmacovigilance Centre which would be located at the Pharmaceutical Procurement Services Unit of the OECS’ Secretariat.

### Disaster Preparedness in the Caribbean

In view of the recurrence of natural disasters in the Caribbean and their devastating impact on sustainable development of Caribbean countries, the OECS Secretariat and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) have embarked on the development of a Disaster Risk Management Benchmarking Tool for the Caribbean.

In June 2007, a workshop was organized in St. Lucia by these relevant organizations to educate and provide training to senior government officials, the National Disaster Office, private sector agencies and Non- Governmental Organizations in the use of the Benchmarking Tool. “The B-Tool is a self-administered instrument which helps government and national agencies evaluate the adequacy of current disaster risk management tools; list best practice recommendations; and assess their country’s overall readiness and capability to deal with the risk of disaster.”<sup>12</sup>

The Saint Lucia workshop was the fourth in a series of workshops which were hosted by USAID and the OECS Secretariat, with the first three held in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Antigua and Barbuda and Dominica in September 2006.

It is clear that any effective strategy to contain the socio-economic and environmental impacts of natural disasters would have to involve preventative action before the disaster strikes. In line with its commitment to support Disaster Risk Reduction, in July 2007, the European Commission allocated \$4 million euros from the humanitarian aid budget to improve to improve the capacities of communities at risk in the Caribbean, so that they can better prepare for and protect themselves against natural disasters. The funds would be channelled through the Commission’s humanitarian aid department (ECHO) and this financial assistance is in keeping with the European Commission commitment to the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015.

### Conference on the Caribbean

The World Bank in collaboration with CARICOM hosted a *Conference on the Caribbean: A 2020 Vision*, in Washington in June 2007, with four primary objectives:

- i. To deepen and broaden the dialogue between the Governments and People of CARICOM and the Government and People of the United States of America;
- ii. To identify priority areas of growth and development of the Caribbean for the next 15 years;

11 [www.theglobalfund.org](http://www.theglobalfund.org), June 2007

12 [www.OECS.org](http://www.OECS.org)

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- iii. To strengthen the relationship between the USA and CARICOM by addressing these priority areas in mutually beneficial and reinforcing ways; and
- iv. To promote the Caribbean in the USA.

The primary audience at the Conference comprised policy makers from CARICOM and the United States, Donors, Members of the Caribbean Diaspora, and Government Officials. Discussions centred on Caribbean trade and tourism, encouraging competitiveness and investment and providing better and social and economic equity. The Honourable Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister of St. Kitts and Nevis praised the event as an “overwhelming success and that proposals that emerged from the meeting could be translated into positive results.”<sup>13</sup> The major initiatives from the Conference included:-

- Assistance for re-integration of deportees into life in the Caribbean ;
- The extension of the Caribbean Basin Trade Promotion Act and the 1991 Trade and Investment Framework Agreement;
- The control of the spread of HIV/AIDS by the continuance of the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR/ Emergency Plan) in the Caribbean;
- The increase of cooperation efforts in the field of education and workplace training by expanding the Caribbean Centres for Excellence;
- Ongoing efforts of cooperation in the area of disaster preparedness, mitigation and recovery;
- Continued collaboration in the fight against terrorism, illegal drugs and transnational crime; and
- The continued strengthening of the region’s security infrastructure.<sup>14</sup>

### CARICOM Heads of Government Conference

The 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM convened in Barbados in July 2007. Some of the

main issues that were discussed relevant to social development were as follows:-

1. The achievement of substantial and legally binding emission reductions in the shortest time frame and significant increase in the level of resources available to developing countries, particularly SIDS, to assist them in adapting to the adverse impacts of climate change.<sup>15</sup>
2. The preparation of a Strategic Development Plan based on the revised Norman Girvan report “Toward a Single Development Vision and the Role of the Single Economy” to be completed by June 2008.
3. The approval of draft policy guidelines for operating the CARICOM Development Fund and the Legal Framework and Rules of the Fund. Additional work was mandated concerning the structuring of the proposed Regional Development Agency to include the Fund and its strategic Functions.<sup>16</sup>
4. The request for the conduct of a Study of the movement of Skilled Persons in order to guide the future operations of the Free Movement regime and to ensure that CARICOM citizens are assured of a harmonised application of the Regime.
5. The inauguration of the award of the Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) in secondary schools. Trinidad and Tobago has implemented this award and St. Kitts and Nevis will do so in 2008. The conference urged other member states to initiate and complete the process of the award of the CVQ.
6. The meeting noted the progress made to finalize the Caribbean Cooperation in Health Initiative III Process and the governance of the regional health institutions and cited these as mechanisms for strengthening functional cooperation in health and implementing the

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13 Caribbean Press Releases June 2007

14 Ibid

15 Barbados Advocate Newspaper, July 9,2007

16 Starbroek News July 5, 2007

main recommendations of the Caribbean Commission on Health and Development.<sup>17</sup>

Countries in the region have recognized a need to specifically design policies initiatives and responses to a number of social issues, challenges and ills. In order to make these effective, a rigorous and comprehensive framework is fundamental. CARICOM countries have been working assiduously in order to design and implement such a framework for the standardization and comparability of data with international organizations, in order to track the progress of the region's social development goals.

### 3. THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

This section provides a general assessment of the social progress made in the drive to achieve developed nation status by the year 2020. The discussion gives primacy of attention to indicators relevant to the two (2) major social development priorities identified in the country's Vision 2020 National Strategic Plan (NSP), namely *developing innovative people* and *nurturing a caring society*. The assessment is largely informed by the findings of the following reports and surveys:

- Survey of Living Conditions (2005): Preliminary Results (SLCpr)<sup>18</sup>;

- Human Development Report (2006)<sup>19</sup>;
- MORI Opinion Leaders' Panel (2006)<sup>20</sup>;
- Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey (MICS) Report: Preliminary Results (2006)<sup>21</sup>;
- Global Competitiveness Report (2006-2007);
- MORI Caribbean World Values Survey: Trinidad and Tobago (2007)<sup>22</sup>; and
- World Development Report (2007)<sup>23</sup>.

The findings reveal that Trinidad and Tobago continues to maintain its position as a country with high Human Development, with a Human Development Index<sup>24</sup> value of 0.089 and a Human Development Rank of 57 when compared to 177 nations (HDR, 2006). The social services account for more than ten percent of Government Expenditure, and many positive returns have been observed from this investment. In recent times, social ills such as poverty, unemployment and the prevalence of HIV/AIDS have decreased, and high participation rates in education were maintained, with noticeable improvements observed in tertiary education levels.

Government's attention to these and other social issues is consistent with the priority areas identified by the citizenry. Figure I below summarizes the problems considered most serious by members of the public. Poverty, sanitation and infectious diseases, and education<sup>25</sup> received the highest priority in the World Values Survey (WVS) for Trinidad and Tobago.

17 Ibid

18 This report is considered preliminary until approved.

19 This is the most recent version of the Human Development Report. The survey data used is from 2004 or before. The Human Development Report (2007) will be published in November 2007. <http://hdr.undp.org/hdr2007.cfm>

20 Based on data collected between July and August 2005.

21 "The survey provides valuable information on the situation of children and women in Trinidad and Tobago, and was based, in large part, on the need to monitor progress towards goals and targets emanating from recent international agreements: the Millennium Declaration, adopted by all 191 United Nations Member States in September 2000, and the Plan of Action of A World Fit For Children, adopted by 189 Member States at the United Nations Special Session on Children in May 2002....Fieldwork began in late April, 2006 and concluded in early June, 2006." (MICS, 2006). The Report has not been finalized.

22 Presentation made to Ministers and Permanent Secretaries on 18 April 2007 based on fieldwork conducted from September 14th to November 8th 2006.

23 Findings for Trinidad and Tobago in this report are based primarily on 1992 survey data, though in some instances, data as recent as 2005 is used..

24 "The [Human Development Index] is a summary measure of human development. It measures the average achievements in a country in three basic dimensions of human development: 1) a long and healthy life, as measured by life expectancy at birth; 2) knowledge, as measured by the adult literacy rate; 3) a decent standard of living, as measured by GDP per capita in purchasing power parity (PPP) terms in US dollars". (HDR, 2006: 394).

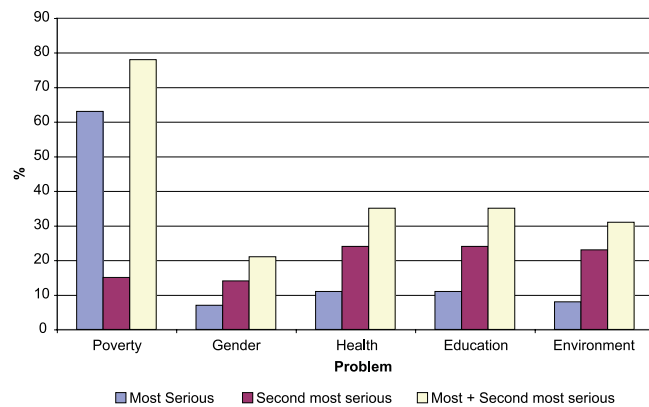
25 The question used to generate responses was "Which of these problems do you consider the most/second most serious for Trinidad and Tobago". The actual response options provided were: Poverty – People living in poverty and in need; Gender – Discrimination against girls and women; Health – poor sanitation and infectious diseases; Education – Inadequate education; Environment; Environmental pollution. The response options are derivatives of the Millennium Development Goals.

## The National Social Situation

Table I: Global Competitiveness and Human Development

Stage of Development	TRINIDAD BARBADOS JAMAICA			
	Efficiency Driven	Transition from 2 to 3		Stage 2
Income threshold for stage of development in GDP per capita (US\$)		9, 000 to 17,000		3, 000 to 9,000
GDP per capita (PPP US\$) for 2004 (Source: HDR, 2006)		15,259	15,720	4,163
<b>HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX</b>	Rank	57	31	104
	Score	0.809	0.879	0.724
<b>GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS INDEX</b>	Rank	67	31	60
	Score	4.03	4.70	4.10
<b>BASIC REQUIREMENTS (key for factor driven economies)</b>	Rank	63	32	79
	Score	4.49	5.24	4.24
1 Institutions	Rank	85	23	76
	Score	3.41	4.94	3.58
2 Infrastructure	Rank	70	28	53
	Score	3.29	4.85	3.75
3 Macroeconomy	Rank	38	61	118
	Score	4.88	4.45	3.21
4 Health & Primary Education	Rank	64	28	65
	Score	6.39	6.74	6.39
<b>EFFICIENCY ENHANCERS (key for efficiency driven economies)</b>	Rank	64	29	53
	Score	3.82	4.60	4.06
5 Higher Education & Training	Rank	65	24	67
	Score	3.97	5.23	3.94
6 Market Efficiency (Goods, Labour, Financial)	Rank	69	49	61
	Score	4.11	4.33	4.19
7 Technological Readiness	Rank	60	34	40
	Score	3.40	4.23	4.04
<b>INNOVATION &amp; SOPHISTICATION ENHANCERS (key for innovation-driven economies)</b>				
	Rank	63	54	56
	Score	3.63	3.78	3.77
8 Business Sophistication	Rank	64	58	56
	Score	4.10	4.21	4.22
9 Innovation	Rank	67	49	54
	Score	3.17	3.36	3.32

**Figure I: MDG: Problems considered most/second-most serious for Trinidad and Tobago**



Source: WVS, 2007

While these achievements cannot be overlooked, efforts must be accelerated to improve government's regional and international competitiveness ranking so as to maintain its position as a viable economy in which human resource development is the central feature of all gains. This is particularly important given Trinidad and Tobago's membership in the Caribbean Single Market Economy (CSME).

In 2006 Trinidad and Tobago received a global competitiveness index<sup>26</sup> (GCI) score of 4.03 and ranked 67 out of 125 countries on this indicator, and this despite the country's relatively high GDP per capita (*Global Competitiveness Report (GCR)(2006-2007)*). While the country's macroeconomy supersedes that of most CARICOM member states, it falls short on several developmental factors that are critical for it to sustain competitive advantage in a global economy<sup>27</sup>. This is illustrated in Table I above which presents the global

competitiveness rank and score for Trinidad and Tobago for the sub-indices and developmental pillars that comprise the global competitiveness ratings, relative to that for Barbados and Jamaica.

According to the GCR (2006-2007) Trinidad and Tobago, like Barbados is considered to be transitioning from stage 2 to stage 3 of development, since the country's GDP is between US\$9,000 and US\$17,000<sup>28</sup>. Barbados is generally described as being more developed than Trinidad and Tobago given the country's relatively higher GDP per capita and Human Development Index. Jamaica is considered to be at a lower stage of development than both countries, since its GDP per capita falls between US\$3,000 and US\$9,000 per capita, and its Human Development Index is significantly lower.

However, Trinidad and Tobago's Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) score of 4.03 (GCI rank = 67) was lower than both Barbados (GCI score = 4.70; rank = 31) and Jamaica (GCI score = 4.10; rank = 60).

While Trinidad and Tobago may be currently described as an *efficiency-driven economy*<sup>30</sup>, there are still some areas where improvement is required to meet some of the basic requirements for development as defined within the global competitiveness framework<sup>31</sup>. Public institutions (including those that are directly responsible for social service provision) are weak relative to those that exist in other countries in the region and further afield. Trinidad and Tobago ranked 85<sup>th</sup> on this Global Competitiveness indicator, which was significantly lower than that for Barbados (GCI rank = 23), and was several steps down from what obtained in Jamaica (GCI rank = 76).

26 "The Global Competitiveness Index provides a holistic overview of factors that are critical to driving productivity and competitiveness, and groups them into nine pillars: 1) Institutions; 2) Infrastructure; 3) Macroeconomy; 4) Health and primary education; 5) Higher education and training; 6) Market efficiency; 7) Technological readiness; 8) Business sophistication; 9) Innovation.

27 According to MORI (2006) 67% of the public are positive about the current state of the economy; There is also optimism about the status of the economy in the longer term – most persons believe that in five (5) years the economy will either be fairly good or very good. Most people are also fairly satisfied with their personal standard of living. However, those in the lower social classes were more likely to express dissatisfaction with their current standard of living.

28 Countries must have a GDP per capita of > US\$17,000 to be categorised at stage 3 which is the highest stage of development.

29 This is determined based on both the status of the 3 sub-index factors (i.e. basic requirements, efficiency enhancers, and innovation and sophistication enhancers), as well as the GDP per capita for the country.

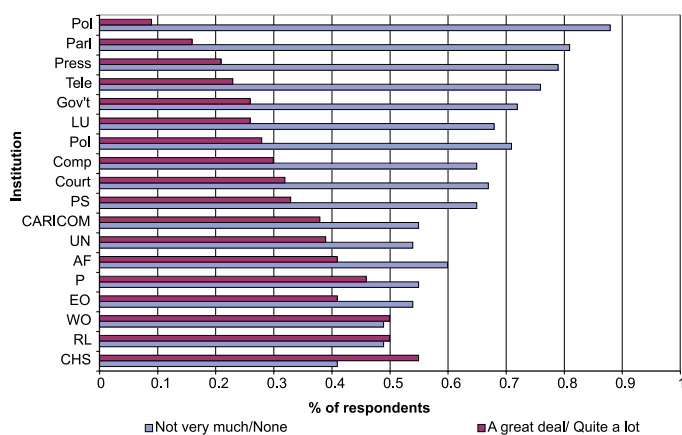
30 The Global Competitiveness Report defines an efficiency driven economy as one which focuses on developing more efficient production processes and increasing product quality. Competitiveness becomes increasingly driven by higher education and training (pillar 5), efficient markets (pillar 6), and the ability to harness the benefits of existing technologies (GCR 2006-2007: 11).

31 The 4 pillars that constitute the basic requirements for global competitiveness are listed in Table 1 above.

## The National Social Situation

Public opinion in Trinidad and Tobago also reflects this dissatisfaction with the performance of the country's institutions. The World Values Survey (2007) revealed that most of the population had very little or no confidence in the public services (65%), courts (67%) or the police (71%)<sup>32</sup> (see Fig II below).

**Figure II: Assessment of Confidence in Public Institutions in Trinidad and Tobago**



Source: World Values Survey (2007)

National development efforts must therefore seek to strengthen performance on all global competitiveness criteria that comprise this component of the index. These criteria include:

- Government inefficiency, reflected in the waste of public resources and a heavy regulatory burden and the ability to provide an environment for economic activity characterized by adequate levels of public safety;
- Ethics of government behavior and the prevalence of corruption;
- Independence of the judiciary and the extent to which the government gives the private sector freedom to operate or engages in interventionist discretionary practices (concepts captured under the heading “undue influence”);
- Respect for property rights<sup>33</sup>.

Another ‘basic requirement’ that needs some special attention is the quality of the country’s physical infrastructure<sup>34</sup>.

Trinidad and Tobago placed 70<sup>th</sup> on this developmental factor, while Barbados had a GCI rank of 28 and Jamaica was just below the first 50 (GCI rank = 53).

Improvement is also needed in the quality of health and primary education relative to other Caribbean territories. Trinidad and Tobago obtained a GCI rank of 64 which was just one step above Jamaica while Barbados took 28<sup>th</sup> place relative to the other 125 countries.

The sections below provide a more detailed assessment of these sectors. As was noted earlier, the results show varied success in the country’s success towards developed nation status. However, it is expected that as steps are taken by the various agencies to implement the VISION 2020 Operational Plan 2007 – 2010, the social status of Trinidad and Tobago both globally and regionally will substantially improve and become more aligned with its positive economic standing.

## DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE PEOPLE

### Education

The education system continues to achieve high enrollment rates at pre-school, primary and secondary levels, and has witnessed improvements in enrollment at the tertiary level.<sup>35</sup> 96.9% of children attending the first level of primary school attended a pre-school program in the previous year. The HDR (2006) reported an education index of 0.88 for the country and a combined gross enrolment ratio for primary<sup>36</sup>, secondary and tertiary schools of 67%. The net primary school enrolment ratio was 92%<sup>37</sup> while the net secondary school enrolment ratio was approximately 72%<sup>38</sup>.

32 Charitable organizations (55%), religious leaders (50%) and women’s organizations (50%) engendered the most confidence from the public.

33 GCR (2006-2007: 6).

34 A key subcomponent of this variable is the quality of a nation’s transportation system Accessibility via the transportation system is critical for the growth and welfare of any society. Other vital components identified in the Global Competitiveness Report that pertain to physical infrastructure are, energy and telecommunications.

35 Please see the section on Tertiary Education, Science, Technology and Innovation that follows.

36 According to the HDR (2006) 100% of children enrolled in primary schools reach grade 5.

37 According to preliminary results from the MICS 2006, 83.2% of children of primary school age are enrolled in the first level of primary school.

38 This figure is based on preliminary UNESCO institute for statistics estimate (2004), which may be subject to further revision (HDR, 2006: 326).

These findings were confirmed by the Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey: Preliminary Results (MICSpr) (2006). The report revealed that the majority of children of primary school age (97.6%<sup>39</sup>) attended school at the time of the survey. Primary school completion levels are also very high: 98.7% of children who enter first standard reach fifth standard.

However, while the percentage of children who transition from primary to secondary school is very high (92.6%), the percentage is slightly lower than the proportion of children who complete standard five<sup>40</sup>. The MICSpr also points to the need for improvement in attendance of males at the secondary school level, given that the net attendance ratio for males is 78.1% as opposed to 85.8% for females<sup>41</sup>.

The SLCpr revealed that the number of educationally certified nationals does not as yet reflect the “general universalizing of education across the country<sup>42</sup>”. Approximately 30.6% of the population at the time of the survey had not passed any exam above the primary level. An estimated 20% of the population had passed either the GCE or CXC (Basic or General) examinations, while only about 13% of the population was reported as passing examinations at or beyond A’Levels (see Table II). These findings may in part be explained by the attendance rate at the primary and secondary levels.

Levels of absenteeism must be kept at a minimum if students attending schools are to be successful in their examinations. The SLCpr (2005: 78) revealed that as many as 18.6% of students in primary school and 19.4% of students in secondary schools had missed at least one day at school during the five days preceding the survey, and as many as many as 7.9% of enrolled secondary school students, and 5% of enrolled primary school students in the sample population missed 5 days of school during the reference period.

39 This was the figure reported by the MICSpr for the primary school net attendance ratio.

40 (MICSpr, 2006)

41 The gender parity index confirms this finding. The MICSpr (2006) reports an index of 0.97 for primary school and 1.01 at the secondary school level. This indicates that although more boys than girls attend primary school, more girls enter secondary school. However, the difference in both parities is negligible.

42 (SLCpr, p. 88)

**Table II: Highest Examination Passed**

Highest Examination Passed	%
None	10.8
Common Entrance	9.8
SEA	6.0
School leaving	4.0
CXC Basic	2.6
CXC General / GCE	17.8
A levels	2.2
Certificate	4.7
Diploma	3.1
Associate Degree	0.6
Undergraduate Degree	1.5
Masters Degree	0.6
PhD	0.1
Other	1.0
Not Stated	35.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey of Living Conditions(pr), 2005.

The main reasons provided by students for non-attendance at school are provided in Table III below. Illness was a key factor contributing to absenteeism in schools. Financial problems also stood out as a major contributing factor relative to the others examined in the SLCpr.

**Table III: Reasons for not attending school<sup>43</sup>**

Reason	%
Illness	10.9
Truancy	0.3
Working outside home	0.5
Care for sibling	1.4
Problems at home	1.0
Financial problem	6.0
Pregnant/young mother	0.0
Apprenticeship	0.0
Transport problem	0.6
Fed up with school	1.3
Other	78.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

The preliminary survey results point to the need for a more in-depth examination of the factors contributing to non-

## The National Social Situation

attendance since as much as 78.7% of respondents selected the option ‘other’ for this indicator. The availability of school meals and distance from school are two other factors that can be considered as having a significant effect on school attendance. Preliminary survey results reveal that the Ministry of Education’s school feeding programme is effectively meeting the needs of the majority of poor and vulnerable students: 81% of poor students were able to access the programme at their school, and 71% of poor students actually took meals<sup>44</sup> (SLCpr, 2005:82). Thus, not having breakfast and lunch should not be a significant factor that militates against school attendance.

Distance from school however may be a deterrent to school attendance. For the country as a whole, as many as 25% of primary school children live four or more kilometers from school. The percentage was higher in Mayaro/Rio Claro, Penal and Tobago<sup>45</sup>. Attention must therefore be given to improving access of rural students to schools within their community: access to affordable and dependable public transport by students, and improving the quality of schools in these regions.

Only about 25% of the population received education beyond the standard primary and secondary school education (see Table IV below). These findings reinforce the need to ensure that national efforts are targeted to achieving the Vision 2020 goal of “... a seamless, self-renewing, high quality education system<sup>46</sup>”, so as to provide nationals with opportunities to continuously improve their knowledge and skill level and so better contribute to the development of the society<sup>47</sup>.

**Table IV: Highest Level of Education**

Highest Level of Education	%
Nursery/Pre-school Kindergarten	0.1
Primary	45.9
Secondary	29.0
Commercial/Secretarial/Business & Computer	4.0
Technical Institute	4.8
Adult Continuing Education (ACE)	1.2
Distance Learning	0.1
Community College	0.6
University	4.3
Special School	0.1
Other	4.0
None	0.3
Not stated	5.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey of Living Conditions (pr), 2005

## Tertiary Education, Science, Technology and Innovation

One of the strategic goals of the vision 2020 thrust is to ensure that the people of Trinidad and Tobago will be known for excellence in innovation. However, in order for the country to transition into an innovation-driven society, attention must be given to meeting international benchmarks on key indicators such as higher education and training, and technological readiness<sup>48</sup>.

The evidence suggests that efforts must be accelerated to meet these criteria. Trinidad and Tobago received a GCI rank of 65 for its higher education and training readiness<sup>49</sup> and ranked 60 for technological readiness<sup>50</sup>. The SLCpr also substantiates the need for improvements in higher education and training. According to the survey, only 11% of the population sat

<sup>43</sup> (SLCpr, 2005:80).

<sup>44</sup> 45% of the non-poor also received meals. A proportion of the vulnerable students will be included in this figure.

<sup>45</sup> Diego Martin also had a higher than average percentage of students attending primary school 4 or more kilometres from home. However, as was noted in the SLCpr, the circumstances of these relatively urban students who may commute to school via the family vehicle are considerably different to those of students in more rural communities

<sup>46</sup> Vision 2020 Operational Plan 2007-2010.

<sup>47</sup> “A major shift in the psychological frame is necessary among the vast majority of the population and more so its labour force, to develop a thirst and yearning for learning. The thirst for knowledge and information has to drive individuals to commit to life-long learning, and to seek training, and educational advancement, less in terms of the formalism and more in terms of the substance of knowledge acquisition for application and for the generation of new products and services.” (SLCpr, p. xxv)

<sup>48</sup> See table 1 for the pillars and indices of the GCR

<sup>49</sup> This is lower than the rank obtained by Barbados (GCI rank = 24) and higher than that for Jamaica (GCI rank = 67).

<sup>50</sup> Both Barbados and Jamaica received higher GCI ranks of 34 and 40 respectively.



examinations at the tertiary level for a certificate level programme or higher degree course of study (Table II). With respect to the type of institution attended, only about 5% of the population attended a community college or university (see Table IV above). However, these findings do not negate the fact that significant strides have been made to improve this situation.

Enrolment has been growing at an average annual rate of 16% at the St. Augustine campus of the University of the West Indies (UWI) since the period 2001/2002<sup>51</sup>. This has been facilitated by strategic approaches such as the Summer School Programme, Distance Education Programme and the Evening University, which provide different avenues for enrollment into the University system (SSIP, 2007).

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) which was formally opened in 2005 has been instituted to play a pivotal role in developing the national capability in science, technology and innovation (STI), and expanding access to tertiary education. A student population of 5,500 is projected to attend UTT in the 2007/2008 academic year.

The recent provision of free tuition for nationals attending the two local Universities is a positive step in this regard. However, attention must be given to ensuring that the quality of education provided at these institutions will produce positive outcomes in terms of completion of degree programmes and participation in successful research and development initiatives.

The relatively higher rank for technological readiness relative to the country's higher education and training readiness must not be overlooked, and may be reflective of the increased access and use of modern technological advances over the last decade.

51 (SEPF document of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education 2007-2009)

52 65.7% of persons in the lowest quintile had access to email.

53 According to the HDR 2006 report, in 1990 approximately 21% of the population fell below the national poverty line. 12.4% of the population earned \$ US 1 a day or less, while 39% of the population earned \$ US 2 a day.

54 The SLCpr (p.13) defines the indigent as extremely poor individuals and households who are unable to secure even the minimum quantum of food below which an individual is likely to experience ill health.

According to the Human Development Report (2006), the number of telephone mainlines increased between 1990 and 2004 from 136 per 1000 people to 247 per 1000 people. Similarly, there was a significant increase in the number of cellular subscribers from none in 1990 to 498 per 1000 people in 2004. In 2004, 123 per 1000 people were internet users. The SLCpr (2005) revealed that significant proportions of persons in the lowest income groups were able to access emails<sup>52</sup>. However, there is still need for the country to transition from being users to creators of technology.

The HDR (2006) reports that only about 0.3% of the GDP was spent on research and development (R&D), and that a mere 399 researchers were involved in R&D per million people in the population. Increased opportunities and incentives must be provided for nationals to become involved in R&D activities.

## NURTURING A CARING SOCIETY

### POVERTY REDUCTION

The SLCpr (2005) revealed that 16.7% of the population fell below the national poverty line<sup>53</sup>, and that 74.3% of the population were not vulnerable. These findings represent a decrease in the level of poverty which was reported as 24% in 1997/98. The expansion of employment in the construction and government sector is thought to have explained these positive results (SLCpr, p. xvi). The findings also showed that the level of inequality has generally remained unchanged relative to the 1997/1998 Household Budgetary Survey (HBS), as evidenced by a Gini coefficient of 0.39.

A further disaggregation of the results showed that approximately 1.2 % were indigent<sup>54</sup>, with earnings of less than \$TT 255.00 per month, 15.5 % of the population were poor but not indigent, earning less than \$TT 665.00 per month but earning TT\$ 255.00 or more per month, and 9% were vulnerable. Poorer households were more likely to be headed by women (SLCpr, P. xxii).

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High on the list of priorities for poor households in Trinidad and Tobago is food<sup>55</sup>. The poorest quintile allocated more than 40% of expenditure to food, while the richest quintile allocated only 23.7% of their total expenditure on this commodity (SLCpr, 2005).

### FULL EMPLOYMENT

Trinidad and Tobago is well on the road to attaining the vision 2020 goal of full employment. For the first time in many years, the unemployment level is within the single digit range. Despite this improvement, only 51% of the public agree that government is doing a good job creating jobs (MORI, 2006). This may in part be explained by the fact that there are a significant number of persons who may be described as working poor in the population<sup>56</sup>.

Employment is valued by most members of the populace as “*a duty toward society*”<sup>57</sup>. For most persons, the primary criterion for selecting a job is obtaining a good income so that they will be free from ‘worries’<sup>58</sup>.

Gender equity in accessing jobs is also highly valued by the majority: most persons (66%) disagreed that men should have more right to a job than a woman when jobs are scarce. However, there is an imbalance in the labour force participation rate of men relative to women. Overall, the average male participation rate is higher (67.8%) than that for females (49.1%)<sup>59</sup>. A closer examination of the data reveals that the reverse is true in Tobago where a significantly higher proportion of women are employed than men (see Table V).

Efforts must be targeted to addressing these gender imbalances. The SLCpr report underscores this as a key policy issue<sup>60</sup>.

According to the SLCpr (2005: 60), Trinidad and Tobago has a labour force participation rate of 58.3%<sup>61</sup>. The labour force participation rate when disaggregated by age shows that persons aged 25 to 44 are the primary members of the workforce, with a participation rate of 73.6% (see Table V). The 46 to 64 age group has the second highest labour force participation rate (61.9%), followed by persons aged 15 to 24 (52.6%). The participation rate for older persons (23.6%) is relatively low when compared to other age groups. The self employed comprise 18% of the labour force<sup>62</sup>.

**Table V: Labour Force Participation by Sex and Age Group (15+)**

Labour Force Participation	Total	Male	Female
<b>ALL TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO</b>			
TRINIDAD	57.9	67.8	48.4
TOBAGO	68.7	63.6	66.3
TOTAL (N)	11,314	5,564	5,749
<b>AGE GROUP</b>			
15-24	52.6	58.6	46.1
25-44	73.6	84.8	62.7
46-64	61.9	74.2	50.1
65 AND OLDER	23.6	29.6	19.0
TOTAL (N)	10,304	5,155	5,148

(Source: SLCpr, 2005: 62)

Child labour is almost non-existent in Trinidad and Tobago: only a very small percentage of children 14 years and younger

55 “The price of food has demonstrated a tendency to rise quickly, in part because of the price of energy and the heavy reliance of the country on imported food.” (SLCpr, p. 6)

56 Please see the discussion that follows on income and social protection.

57 87% of respondents agreed with this statement (WVS, 2007).

58 According to the WVS, when asked “Where would you rank each statement if you were looking for a job?” most respondents chose (64% altogether) “A good income so that you do not have any worries about money” as either their first or second choice, while 59% chose “Doing an important job that gives you a feeling of accomplishment”, 55% selected “A safe job with no risk of closing down or unemployment”, while only 21% chose “Working with people you like”.

59 (SLCpr, p.60). “The data suggest that non-participation among women is evenly distributed across age groups, with the exception of young women aged 15-19. This may be on account of high numbers of females of this age group that may be in school (Table 6.3). Indeed the data ... support this view on account of the high numbers of youth aged 15-24 that are not in the labour force by reason of being in school. A closer look at educational attainment of females not in the labour force, shows that as many as 50.4 % had attained at most primary level education.” (SLCpr, 2005:62).

60 The report notes that “[t]he continuing gender segmentation of the labour market is wasteful of the human resources of the country and is usually prejudicial to the participation of women, who, in spite of education and skills may be relegated to low wage segments of the labour market with implications for income. There will be need for concerted measures to eliminate barriers (SLCpr, p. xxv)

61 The labour force participation rate is higher in Tobago (68.7%) than Trinidad (57.9%).

62 Status report from the NIBTT Budget department to the MSD for the SSIP 2008.

are employed<sup>63</sup>. According to the MICSpr (2006) only 7% of children aged 5 to 14 years were involved in child labour, and all of these children were attending school.

### INCOME & SOCIAL PROTECTION

Labour force participation is critical to the wellbeing of households, since income from a person's primary job forms the largest source of their earnings (see Table VI). Social development efforts must therefore be geared towards curbing unemployment rates and empowering persons with the tools necessary for sustainable livelihoods.

Not surprisingly, unemployment in Trinidad and Tobago is higher among poor persons relative to persons in higher income groups. Poor household heads are more likely to be unemployed than heads of non-poor households. Higher levels of unemployment was experienced by female household heads (17.6%) than male heads (9.6%) (SLCpr, p. 65).

**Table VI: Sources of Income**

SOURCES OF INCOME	TOTAL %
Gross Monthly Income – Main Job	75.1
Gross Monthly Income – Secondary Job	1.3
Gross Monthly Income – Other Job	0.1
Public Assistance	0.6
Old Age Pension	4.6
Worker Retirement Benefit	4.5
NIS	2.0
Disability Grant	0.4
Other	2.3
Parents Abroad	1.7
Other Relative Abroad	2.4
Relatives & Friends in TT	2.1
Lottery & Other Games of Chance	0.9
Other Sources	1.9
Total	100

(Source: SLCpr, 2005:25)

Old Age pension and Worker Retirement Benefits also serves as an important source of income to a number of individuals (approximately 9% altogether). The evidence suggests that

the Public Assistance Grant is adequately targeted, with the majority of this benefit going to the poorest members of society (see Table VI). Adherence to equity rules was also reported for the social welfare programme provided to persons with disabilities (SLCpr, p. 106)<sup>64</sup>.

Remittances from family and friends living abroad is also of significant value to members of the population, accounting for about 6% of the share of income. Interestingly, contributions from relatives abroad is more prevalent among the richest members of the society.

Using taxes to address poverty and inequality is strongly supported by the public. Members of the public are also supportive of tax increases if this would lead to extensions in services such as health, education and welfare (MORI, 2006).

Strengthening and extending social protection in the face of demographic developments such as the ageing of the population, longer life expectancy and declining fertility, is a steadfast commitment of the GORTT. The National Insurance Board of Trinidad and Tobago (NIBTT) plays a key role in this regard by delivering timely benefit payments, and contributing to the country's development through its investment portfolio.

There was improved coverage of the working population by the NIBTT, which was reflected in the number of active employers and the number of insured employees. The number of active employers rose by 7.5%, from 16,618 in 2006 to 17,863 in 2007. The number of insured employees increased by 7.8%, from 465,389 in 2006 to 501,459 in 2007.

<sup>63</sup> According to the WDR (2007) only 4% of children aged 7 to 14 years, were economically active. This is significantly lower than the global grand average of 24% (WDR, 2007). The ratio of male to female children who are economically active in this age group is 5:3. About 13% of these economically active children work without attending school. Fortunately, the majority (87%) remain part of the education system. These findings are based on information obtained in 2000.

<sup>64</sup> According to the SLCpr, the number of persons receiving assistance from social programmes decreased as socio-economic status improved. Generally, the higher the quintile to which the person with disability belonged, the greater was the reliance on relatives in Trinidad and Tobago.

## The National Social Situation

Success is also gauged by the increased benefit expenditure. NIS benefits rose by 2.3%, from \$1, 014.9 million in fiscal 2006 to \$1, 038 million in 2007. These benefit payments were spread among a total of 124, 345 beneficiaries.

Through the investment of surplus funds, the NIBTT continues to contribute to the nation's future social security in a broader sense of the term. In fiscal 2007, investment in government securities amounted to \$3.6 billion, and investment in corporate bonds amounted to \$2.4 billion during the financial year, thus providing critical financing for economic expansion. Total assets reached some \$15 billion, thus contributing to the financial sustainability so important to meeting NIS commitments in the future.

Beyond the scope of its legislative mandate, the NIBTT continues to make its contribution to the formulation of wider social policy through its participation in the work of various bodies, specifically: the "Labour and Social Security Sub Committee" of Government's Vision 2020 Committee; the "Cabinet – Appointed Working Group on Pension Reform"; and the "Government – Appointed Steering Committee to Oversee the Development of a National Health System".

The major undertaking in fiscal 2007 was the continuation and culmination of work associated with the 7<sup>th</sup> Actuarial review. Such reviews are mandated to be undertaken every five years. They subject the National Insurance System (NIS) to a thoroughgoing actuarial and financial assessment so as to ensure its long-term financial viability, and ensure that it becomes a more effective and efficient mechanism for providing social insurance protection to the people of Trinidad and Tobago. Among key elements of the 7<sup>th</sup> Actuarial Review were:

- Conducting an actuarial assessment of the solvency of the NIS
- Protecting the financial condition of the NIS throughout the medium to long-term in light of probable economic, social, demographic and financial trends

- Identification of any areas which may affect the NIBTT's ability to fulfil its obligations
- Analysis of the effects of possible changes to the current structure of benefit rates, contribution rates, earnings classes, earnings ceiling and full/partial indexation
- Recommended changes to the NIS in accordance with NIBTT's social insurance policy, strategic objectives and stakeholder requirements.

Institutional capacity in the area of actuarial analysis has been strengthened through the training of personnel in the application of the actuarial review methodologies utilized by the International Labour Organization (ILO). This training was conducted by the ILO.

The Key Goals identified for the NIBTT for fiscal 2008 are as follows:

- Recommendations associated with the 7<sup>th</sup> Actuarial Review of the existing system will be implemented
- The NIS coverage will be extended to self-employed persons
- It is expected that the NIBTT will play a central role in the National Health Service<sup>65</sup>

## HEALTH CARE, WELLNESS & LIFESTYLES

The Government continues to allocate significant amounts of public funds on health care<sup>66</sup>. In fiscal 2007, 29% of the allocations made to the social sector were directed toward the Ministry of Health, the second largest allocation after the Ministry of Education. Positive returns on this investment are reflected in indicators such as the life expectancy of the population, and the availability of maternal health care. This notwithstanding, there is widespread agreement that the

<sup>65</sup> The NIBTT has been working with the Ministry of Health and other stakeholders in the planning for the introduction of a National Health Service.

<sup>66</sup> Table XI in the Overview provides the total national budget allocated to the health sector.

public health service is under-funded<sup>67</sup> and does not provide value for money (MORI, 2006)<sup>68</sup>. The quality of infant and child health is high on the list of concerns.

The life expectancy at birth is approximately 70 years for nationals (HDR, 2006)<sup>69</sup>. As in most countries, the life expectancy for females (73 years) is higher than that for males (67 years)<sup>70</sup>.

With respect to maternal health care, 99.2% of the women who gave birth in the last 2 years, received antenatal care one or more times during pregnancy. Most pregnant women (98%) had their blood sample and urine specimen taken, 98.2% had their blood pressure measured and 97.6% had their weight measured during their antenatal care visits. Approximately 96% of births were attended to by skilled health personnel (MICSpr, 2006<sup>71</sup>).

However, the data points to the need for significant improvements in the health status of infants and children. The most recent data reports an infant mortality rate of 10 per 1000 live births and an under five mortality rate of 20 per 1000 live births (HDR, 2006).

Specific attention needs to be given to improving immunization and nutrition among infants and children. There is evidence that there may be some short-fall in immunization levels. Approximately 17% of the children surveyed were not immunized for diseases such as yellow fever, measles, mumps and rubella. The probability of this occurring was slightly

higher among poor children (SLCpr, p. 100).

A renewed focus must be placed on promoting the 'breast is best' principle among mothers of newborn infants. According to the MICSpr, only 12.8% of children 0-5 months were exclusively breastfed, while a mere 27.7% of children 6-11 months received breast milk and complementary food for the minimum recommended number of times per day<sup>72</sup>. The percentage of women aged 15-49 years with a birth in the 2 years preceding the survey who breastfed their baby within one hour of birth and within one day of birth is estimated at 41.2% and 73.6% respectively.

The data also revealed a high prevalence of lifestyle diseases, namely obesity (59.3%) and diabetes (15.3%), especially among persons in the higher income groups<sup>73</sup>. Wellness promotion must continue to be a key strategy employed by the health sector as a mechanism for reducing the occurrence and effects of these diseases. Chapter VI on Sector Plans for 2008 identifies this area as a priority for fiscal 2008 and outlines a list of initiatives to be undertaken toward addressing the problem.

### HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC

Trinidad and Tobago has mounted a multi-sectoral response to the HIV epidemic within our territory. Guided by the Cabinet approved National HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan 2004 - 2008, the NACC has coordinated an increasing range of stakeholders that focus on activities in prevention, treatment, care

67 The vast majority of the public (81%) agree that the public health system should be funded by the taxpayer and be available free, at the point of use, to all citizens. In fact 54% of the public would prefer a country which has a significantly higher tax rate for ordinary taxpayers and provides a substantially better health service. 68% of the public do not think that public money should be used to subsidise private healthcare. However, while there was support for these principles, this did not equate to support for translation of these principles into policy and practice: The implications for healthcare are that, while the public recognises that there is need to address the quality and funding of healthcare, there is no consensus regarding the options for increasing healthcare funding.

68 The SLCpr reports that "[o]n the general point of satisfaction, the data show that 73.2 percent of the sample population claimed to have been satisfied with the services provided by the health care system" and concludes that "[t]he data seem to suggest that those in the higher consumption quintiles are more satisfied with health services. This may be as a result of the fact that those in the richer quintiles tend to seek private sources of health care, while those in the poorer quintiles seek medical care at public health facilities" (p.97-98). The MORI (2006) report notes that almost half of the public feel that the Government has delivered on its promise to increase the number of patients treated at hospitals and health centres.

69 HDR, 2006 reported a similar occurrence, using data obtained in 2004.

70 This is based on 2005 data (WDR, 2007). The WDR (2007) also reports that there is a 155 probability per 1000 persons that a 15 year old female will die before the age of 60. The figure for males is relatively higher at 249 per 1000 (Survey year = 2003).

71 Data obtained 1996/2004.

72 Only 42.7% of children 6-9 months were receiving breast milk and solid/mushy food. 33.8% of children 12-15 months and 22.4% of children 20-23 months were breastfed (MICSpr, 2006).

73 "This may be partly the result of differential knowledge about the disease between the poor and those in higher quintiles" (SLCpr, p. 159). A related finding is that persons in the highest quintiles were more likely to seek the services of a doctor when compared to those in the lower quintiles.

## The National Social Situation

and support, advocacy and Human Rights, surveillance and research, and Programme Management and Coordination. There have been encouraging indicators of programme with a decline in the annual mortality rate due to AIDS of 50% from 2001 to 2006, a decline in the annual reported AIDS cases of 60% since 2001, and a decline of 17% in the annual reports of new HIV infections from 2003 to 2006.

Those findings may be reflective of increasing HIV awareness and improved HIV related knowledge and attitudes among the general population. In 2006, 99.7% of women surveyed had heard of AIDS compared to 99.6% in 2003. In 2006 72.7% of women surveyed knew the three major ways of HIV transmission, compared to 37.8% in 2003 (MICSPR).

Some of the findings of the survey included, *inter alia*:

### Respondents Knowledge about HIV/AIDS<sup>75</sup>:

- 99% of respondents had heard of HIV and knew that a healthy-looking person could have HIV or AIDS;
- 69% of respondents noted that there was a difference between HIV and AIDS;
- 89.8% of the sample indicated that there was no cure for AIDS.

### Sexual Practices:

- 79.9% of the sample stated that they had had sexual intercourse;
- The median age at first intercourse for males and females was 18 years old;
- 63% of those 15-24 years old reported using a condom in the first sexual contact;
- 78.1% of respondents had 2 sexual partners in the last 12 months.

### Attitudes:

- 86% of persons said that they would be willing to care for a member of their household if that person became sick with HIV/AIDS;

- 36.5% of respondents indicated that they *would* buy food from a shopkeeper or food seller with HIV/AIDS;
- 79.1% of persons indicated that a female teacher with HIV/AIDS should continue teaching.

The findings show that generally, national tolerance for Persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) is generally high. However, work still needs to be done to reduce social exclusion among persons infected with the disease. As is noted above, a significant number of respondents were unwilling to buy food from a shopkeeper with the disease. The WVS notes that as many as 20% of the respondents interviewed mentioned that they would not like to have persons with AIDS as neighbours.

Government has remained true to the vision 2020 plan to provide care for persons infected with HIV. Between April 2002 and May 2007, 6,727 of persons infected with HIV received treatment from the health institutions listed in Table VII below.

**Table VII: HIV/AIDS Treatment Data for the period April 2002 – May 31 2007**

Institution	Clients	# of HIV / AIDS Patients in Care	# HIV/AIDS Patients on ART
Medical Research Foundation	Adults	3251	1605
San Fernando General Hospital	Adults	601	584
	Children	22	22
Tobago Health Promotion Clinic	Adults	200	180
Tobago Hospital	Children	16	15
Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex	Children	70	40
Cyril Ross Nursery	Children	67	54
<b>Total</b>		<b>4227</b>	<b>2500</b>

## GENDER DEVELOPMENT

The demographic distribution of the population revealed that while males outnumbered females in the younger five-year age groups, the opposite is true in the 5 years and older

<sup>75</sup> According to the MORI (2006) report, 70% of the public say that they would know who to contact if they had concerns regarding HIV/AIDS.

age groups, especially among persons in the 55 to 59 age group. Though Trinidad and Tobago shows great potential for achieving gender equity, gender imbalance is evident for several social indicators such as employment, wages, and levels of vulnerability.

The HDR (2006) reported a gender development index value for Trinidad and Tobago of 0.804, with the country ranking 48<sup>th</sup> on this indicator. The combined gross enrolment ratio for primary, secondary and tertiary schools remained generally the same for both males and females at 66% and 68% respectively (HDR 2006: 364). The SLCpr (p. 148) reported an improvement in gender equity in education levels. These findings are consistent with the fact that 92% of persons interviewed disagreed that ‘a university education is more important for a boy than for a girl’<sup>76</sup>.

Despite this, a significant difference was observed between the earned income of males and females, with males earning significantly more (approximately 16, 711 PPP \$US) than females (approximately 7,766 PPP \$US) (HDR 2006: 364). This notwithstanding, men were more likely than women to be below the poverty line in Trinidad. In Tobago, the reverse was true (SLCpr, p. 136).

Interestingly however, poorer households were more likely to be headed by women (SLCpr, p. xiii). Also, as was noted above<sup>77</sup>, the labour force participation rate for women is significantly lower than for men. This may in part be explained by the fact that as many as 50.4% of unemployed women had attained a primary level education at most (SLCpr, p. 62 to 63). These findings may be further explained by the high value placed on housekeeping as a job: 67% of persons interviewed agreed that “being a housewife is just as fulfilling as working for pay”<sup>78</sup>.

The country’s gender empowerment measure<sup>79</sup> is valued at 0.660. The country ranked 22<sup>nd</sup> on this measure. Women hold approximately 25% of the seats in parliament; 38% of legislators, senior officials and managers are female; 48% of all professional and technical workers are female (HDR 2006: 368). The relatively high ranking received by the country on the gender empowerment measure is indicative of the high value placed by Trinidadians and Tobagonians on the leadership abilities of women. As many as 69% of respondents disagreed that ‘on the whole, men make better political leaders than women’. Similarly, 78% disagreed that men were better business executives than women<sup>80</sup>.

On a more positive note, the WVS revealed that a high proportion of persons (81%)<sup>81</sup> disapproved of domestic violence in the form of a man beating his wife. Figures were not available on the views of the public on abuse to men.

### ACCESS TO QUALITY HOUSING

The vision 2020 thrust seeks to ensure that “all citizens will have access to adequate and affordable housing”. The most recent statistics reveal that the majority of the population has experienced this, with approximately 78% owning their own dwelling and some 68% of households living in homes constructed of brick and concrete. The majority (85%) live in a separate detached dwelling, with this trend enduring irrespective of economic status (SLCpr, 110-111). In most instances (93.3%), only one household occupied a dwelling unit<sup>82</sup> (SLCpr, p. 121). Another significant observation is that as many as 30.5% of vulnerable persons described own their home.

The GORTT has pledged to build 10,000 housing units per annum to address the housing shortage in the country and

76 WVS.

77 Please see the section on Full Employment.

78 WVS. This figure was higher than the WVS average of 61%.

79 “The gender empowerment measure captures gender inequality in three key areas: 1) political participation and decision making power, as measured by women’s and men’s percentage shares of parliamentary seats; 2) economic participation and decision making, as measured by two indicators – women’s and men’s percentage share of positions in legislators, senior officials and managers and women’s and men’s percentage shares of professional and technical positions; 3) power over economic resources, as measured by women’s and men’s estimated earned income (PPP US\$).” (HDR 2006: 398).

80 WVS.

81 This figure exceeds the WVS by 1%.

82 A ‘dwelling unit’ may be one of several types of housing structures including: separate house, private apartment, town house or even a commercial building (SLCpr, p.111).

## The National Social Situation

has already begun to make good on this promise. The SLCpr concludes that the “recent initiatives in housing have been too recent to impact on the data from the SLCpr, but the data has established the need for continuing investment in meeting the housing needs of the nation. The findings confirm that the majority of the HDC homes are effectively targeted to the lower income groups in the society (SLCpr, p. 112).

### YOUTH DEVELOPMENT, SPORT & RECREATION

The 2000 Census revealed that about 45% of the population is comprised of children and youth aged 24 and under: 25.3% were children under the age of 15 years and just under one-fifth (19.8%) of the population were youth 15-24 years old (SLCpr, p. 41). Of concern is the fact that children under 5 years are most vulnerable to experiencing poverty than any other age cohort. This was more likely the case for children living in Tobago than for those in Trinidad (SLCpr 135-6).

Given the aforementioned, it is not surprising that significant amounts of working poor (27.9%) are concentrated among youth aged 15 to 24 years. Young males aged 15-24 were more likely to be among the working poor (30.8%) than their female counterparts (23.5%). This finding is consistent with the education statistics which suggest higher rates of attainment among young females (SLCpr 72).

Youth are also particularly vulnerable to unemployment. It should be noted however that at the time of the survey, the majority (64%) were in school of some sort, which explains to a large extent the delay in labour market entry among this age group (SLCpr, p.64). Most youth aged 15 -24 years (61.5%) indicated that secondary school education was the ‘highest level of education’ they had received.

On the issue of crime and delinquency the WDR reports that Trinidad and Tobago incarcerates young people at a lower rate than the international average<sup>83</sup> (WDR: 2007: 179). The report goes on to note that young males aged 13 to 25 years were more likely (20%) to be involved in tobacco use than females (12%) (WDR, 2007:279)<sup>84</sup>, and that significant amounts of females aged 15 to 24 years (52%) did not have knowledge of HIV/AIDS prevention methods. The need to include specific health topics in the primary school curriculum on this disease, as opposed to restricting this to the secondary school curriculum was underscored<sup>85</sup>.

The vision 2020 initiative is seeking to ensure that all citizens have access to and participate in a sporting or recreational activity in keeping with its ‘Sport for All’ philosophy. Several of Trinidad and Tobago’s sporting organizations have successfully participated in regional and international tournaments, and have effectively showcased the multi-talented nature of the country’s citizens (see Table VIII below). However, significant efforts must be directed to increasing the level of participation of nationals in sports and recreation. The WVS reports that only 19% of the persons interviewed were involved in this type of activity.

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83 The standard deviation from the international average is approximately -1.

84 This finding is in part explained by the fact that in a review of 13 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean inclusive of Trinidad and Tobago, 85% of the schools included specific topics on the curriculum to treat with substance abuse (including alcohol), 62% on tobacco, 85% on nutrition, and 46% on obesity. The other countries surveyed were: Argentina, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Uruguay (WDR, 2007:134). Survey year = 2000.

85 According to the WDR (2007), though 100% of Caribbean schools include specific health topics on the secondary school curriculum on HIV/AIDS, the complete antithesis is true for primary schools: no Caribbean country includes specific health topics in the primary school curriculum on this disease.



**Table VIII: Awards and Achievements from National Sporting Organisations October 2006- July 2007**

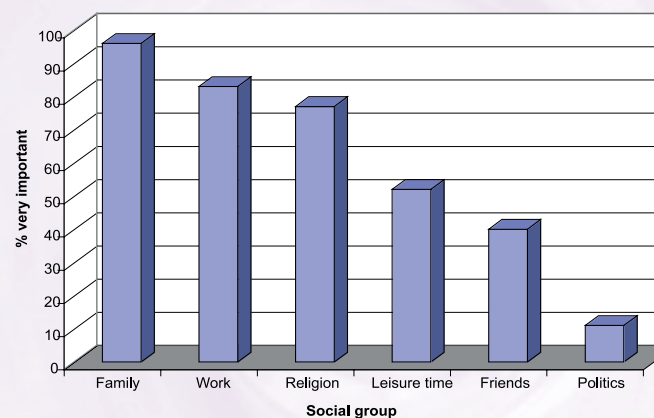
No.	Name of Sporting Organisation	Achievements/ Awards	Venue/ Period
1.	Trinidad & Tobago Golf Association	C'bbean Amateur I'tl – Junior Golf Championship – 1 <sup>st</sup> Gold Medal	Antigua - July 2007
2.	Squash Association of Trinidad & Tobago	Junior Caribbean Championships, US Virgin Islands Gold medal – Boys Junior Team Bronze Medal – Girls Junior	July 2007
3.	T&T Cricket Board of Control U- 17	National Under -17 Won the Sir Garfield Sobers tournament - Trophy	Barbados -July 2007
4.	T&T Cricket Board of Control U- 19	At Present participating in a Tournament	St Lucia - August 2007
5.	Boxing	Giselle Salandy- 7 Belts at WBC and WBA Junior Middleweight titles	March 2007
6.	T&TOC	Carifta Games – Track & Field 37 Medals - 7 Gold, 14 Silver , 16 Bronze. (Gold in 100m, 500m, 800m and Shot Put, Silver 200m)	Turks & Cacaos - 2007 April
7.	Central American & Caribbean Games	2 Gold, 5 Silver, 2 Bronze	
8.	CARIFTA	37 medals - 7 gold, 14 silver and 16 bronze	April 2007
93.	Volleyball	Caribbean Junior Volleyball Championships	Jul7 2007

## REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT & SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

### Family and Strong Communities

Strong families and strong communities are central to the success of the vision 2020 effort, given the critical role that these two entities play in the healthy functioning of the society. The vision 2020 National Strategic Plan and Operational Plan (2007-2010) have given point of place to strengthening families since this institution is considered to be the foundation upon which all other social institutions are based. Family is highly valued by members of the society with the majority (96%) identifying this unit as most important in their life (see figure III).

**Figure III: Most Important Social Groups**



Source: WVS, 2007

## The National Social Situation

Consistent with global trends over the last decade, Trinidad and Tobago has experienced a decrease in the number of marital unions. Fewer family unions were based on marriage in 2006 (26.4%) when compared to 2002 (27.5%) (see Table X). This finding correlates with the Report on the Status of the Institution of the Family in Trinidad and Tobago (2004:33) which observed a decline in the number of marriages and an increase in the number of divorces. This notwithstanding, marriage continued to be valued as a relevant institution. According to the WVS, 87% of respondents tended to disagree that marriage is an out-dated institution<sup>86</sup>.

Poor persons were more likely to be involved in common-law unions than the non-poor. Consistent with this finding, legally married women were generally found to be in better socio-economic standing than women in other types of relationships. Also, single women who were either no longer married or never had a husband or partner, had a more favourable socio-economic status than their counterparts in common-law and visiting unions (SLCpr, p.53).

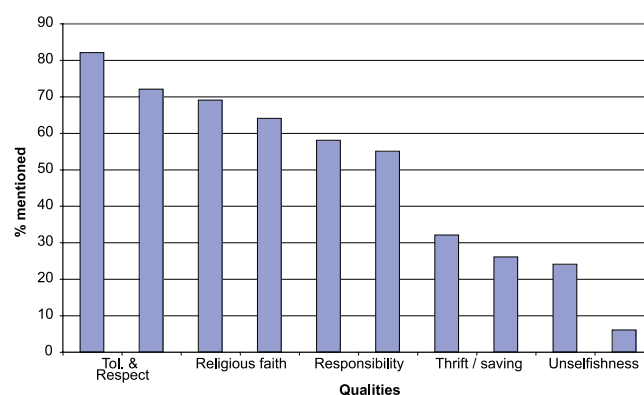
**Table IX: Marital Union Status for the period 2002 and 2006<sup>87</sup>**

MARITAL STATUS	2002	2006
Never married	30.1	31.9
Married Alone	8.1	8.4
Partner Alone	3.2	3.9
Married	27.5	26.4
Common Law	8.1	8.8
Not applicable	22.9	19.9
Not stated	0.2	0.7
<b>Total %</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

A critical function of families is the primary socialization of children. The WVS reports that most Trinidadians and Tobagonians identified tolerance and respect, obedience, religious faith, and hard work, as the key qualities that children can be

encouraged to learn at home (see Fig IV below). Most persons (78%) tended to agree that children need a home with both mother and father<sup>88</sup> to grow up happily. 65% of respondents did not approve of a woman wanting a child as a single parent but not wanting a stable relationship with a man<sup>89</sup>.

**Figure IV: Qualities that children should be encouraged to learn at home**



Source: WVS, 2007

Yet, despite the pivotal role of healthy families to successful living, families in Trinidad and Tobago are experiencing enormous challenges. The Family Court Evaluation Second Year Report (October, 2006) revealed that as many as 6,813 matters were brought to the family court, of which 4,257 were Magistrate's Court filings and 2,113 were High Court filings. 416 referrals were made to Mediation and 990 referrals to Social Services. The SLCpr (2005: 52) reports that 4.2 % of persons that were legally married, were either divorced or legally separated (see Table X below). Interestingly however, as many as 41% of persons surveyed for the WVS held the opinion that divorce was never justified, which is 20% more than the WVS average.

<sup>86</sup> This is consistent with the findings of St. Bernard's 1998 study which observed that 40.3% of unions in Trinidad and Tobago were based on marriage.

<sup>87</sup> SLCpr, p.147.

<sup>88</sup> The SLCpr reports that 67.5% of household were headed by men (p. 22).

<sup>89</sup> WVS. These findings are in part explained by the fact that the majority of the WVS respondents (40%) were married or in a common law union (11%). 35% were single while 7% were either separated or divorced.

**Table X: Distribution of Population by Marital Status<sup>90</sup>**

MARITAL STATUS	TOTAL
Never married	52.9
Married	35.3
Widowed	6.2
Legally separated	1.7
Divorced	2.5
Not stated	1.5
Total (%)	100
<b>Total (n)</b>	<b>12, 153</b>

The society is very conservative on issues such as abortion and euthanasia: as many as 63% and 56% of the population respectively, felt that these practices were never justified.

The quality of life in communities has been affected by the crime situation in Trinidad and Tobago. As many as 75% of household respondents indicated that they did not feel safe from crime. According to the SLCpr, most people are fearful of being murdered (44%) or kidnapped (14%). However, robbery, larceny and burglary were the most prevalent crimes experienced by interviewees (SLCpr, p. 125). Most persons (51%) identified the fight against crime as the most important national priority when compared with issues such as ensuring a stable economy (35%), progressing towards a less impersonal and more humane society (9%), and progressing towards a society in which ideas count more than money (6%). Concerted efforts are being made by the GORTT to improve the effectiveness of the police service and judicial system and to implement community-based approaches to crime prevention so as to ensure that Trinidad and Tobago is a safe society. Attention to improving social conditions in the country is a main preventative strategy that is being employed.

## CONCLUSION

Between 2003 and 2006 there has been an increase by 30.5% of the number of persons hearing about vision 2020. However, confidence in government's commitment to make Trinidad

and Tobago a fully developed nation by 2020 decreased by 21%. This situational assessment has shown that significant progress has been made in attaining several of the vision 2020 goals, though at present, this is more evident for some social issues more than others. The Chapters that follow will review in further detail the efforts of government to bring more balance to these results as it moves the country to a full realization of this vision in the not too distant future.

## 4. OVERVIEW OF THE SSIP FOR 2007

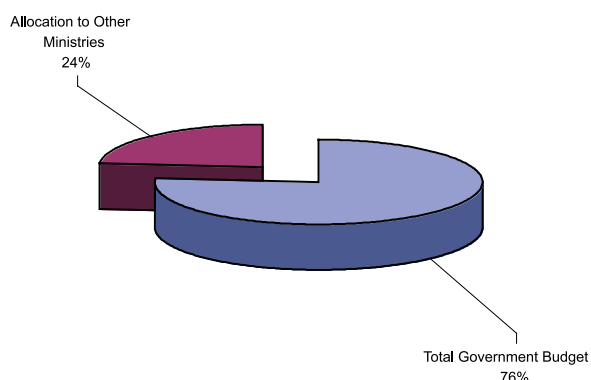
In fiscal 2007 the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago continued in its pursuit to achieve developed nation status by the year 2020 through significant investment in human capital development. Government has recognized that while it may be economically viable to invest extensively in the productive sectors, there is a degree of transformation required in all sectors of our society and particularly the social sector, to ensure sustainable development.

Trinidad and Tobago, like many developing countries, continues to experience unacceptable levels of crime, disintegration of the social fabric of the society due to a break down in social values and in recent times, rising inflation especially in respect of food prices. However, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago is committed to addressing these challenges through sound macro-economic policies, maintenance of an effective social safety net and investment in programmes and initiatives in the social sector, with particular emphasis towards empowering the vulnerable and disadvantaged in society. In fiscal 2007, the Core Social Sector Ministries including the social service Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly, received twenty-four percent (24%) of the total budget, aimed at creating opportunities for social justice and equity for all (see Figure V below).

<sup>90</sup> Figures obtained from the SLCpr, p.52.

## Overview of the SSIP for 2007

**Figure V: Percentage of the Budget allocated to the Core Social Sector Ministries for Fiscal 2006 / 2007**



Source: Ministry of Finance, Budget Estimates 2007

A total of \$10.9 billion dollars was allocated to the Core Social Sector Ministries and the Social Service Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly from the \$35.1 billion dollar national budget for both recurrent and capital expenditures (see Table XI).

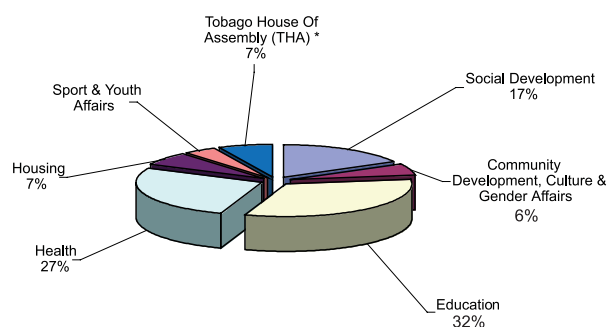
**Table XI: Budgeted Allocations for the Core Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2006 / 2007**

Core Social Sector Ministries & Tobago House of Assembly	Development Programmes	Recurrent Expenditures	Total
Social Development Community	\$ 45,050,000.00	\$ 1,803,884,296.00	<b>\$ 1,848,934,296.00</b>
Development, Culture & Gender Affairs	\$ 357,670,000.00	\$ 254,605,690.00	<b>\$ 612,275,690.00</b>
Education	\$ 436,865,000.00	\$ 3,086,155,093.00	<b>\$ 3,523,020,093.00</b>
Health	\$ 392,265,000.00	\$ 2,540,675,565.00	<b>\$ 2,932,940,565.00</b>
Housing	\$ 570,070,000.00	\$ 171,893,708.00	<b>\$ 741,963,708.00</b>
Sport & Youth Affairs	\$ 177,500,000.00	\$ 249,935,349.00	<b>\$ 427,435,349.00</b>
Tobago House of Assembly (THA)*	\$ 169,070,000.00	\$ 595,762,377.00	<b>\$ 764,832,377.00</b>
			<b>\$ 10,851,402,078.00</b>
<b>*Social Services Division of THA:</b>			
- Tourism, Transportation, Enterprise Development and Settlement		\$ 91,405,864.00	
- Education, Youth Affairs and Sports		\$ 259,809,820.00	
- Community Development and Culture		\$ 52,802,993.00	
- Health and Social Services		\$ 191,668,700.00	
- Central Administrative Services (Allocation to NGOs)		\$ 75,000.00	
- Social Infrastructure	\$ 169,070,000.00	\$ 595,762,377.00	<b>\$ 764,832,377.00</b>

## Overview of the SSIP for 2007

Priority areas for fiscal 2007, continued to be poverty alleviation, strengthening of the family, developing a seamless education system, adequate housing for all and provision of an efficient health care system. This can be demonstrated by the percentage of funds allocated towards the Ministries of Education, Health and Social Development (see Figure VI).

**Figure VI: Budgeted Allocations for the Core Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2006 / 2007**



Source: Ministry of Finance, Budget Estimates 2007 & Tobago House of Assembly Estimates 2007

The combined Budgeted allocations for Social Infrastructure<sup>91</sup> and Programming<sup>92</sup> for fiscal 2007, was higher than in previous years. In 2007, the figure increased by (26.2%) or \$1,726,259,418.00 over 2006. This is demonstrated in Table XII below. Some of the major social programmes and initiatives which are included under the PSIP, are outlined in Appendix III.

**Table XII: Budgeted Allocations for Social Infrastructure and Programming for Fiscal 2006 / 2007**

Year	Social Infrastructure	Social Programming	Total
2005	\$ 1,633,852,667.00	\$ 2,999,161,400.00	\$ 4,633,014,067.00
2006	\$ 2,475,746,875.00	\$ 4,102,084,905.00	\$ 6,577,831,780.00
2007	\$ 3,688,326,352.00	\$ 4,615,764,846.00	\$ 8,304,091,198.00

Of significance to the monitoring of progress toward VISION

<sup>91</sup> Social Infrastructure constitutes the budgeted allocations under this category in the Public Sector Investment Programme (Development Programme plus the Infrastructure Development Fund).

<sup>92</sup> The budget allocations for programming constitute the allocations made for all social sector programmes and initiatives across Ministries as outlined in Appendix IX

2020 goals is the level of investment toward social development objectives. In this regard, a further breakdown of the budgeted allocations for programming in fiscal 2007 in accordance with the Pillars outlined in the VISION 2020 Operational Plan 2007 – 2010 is instructive.

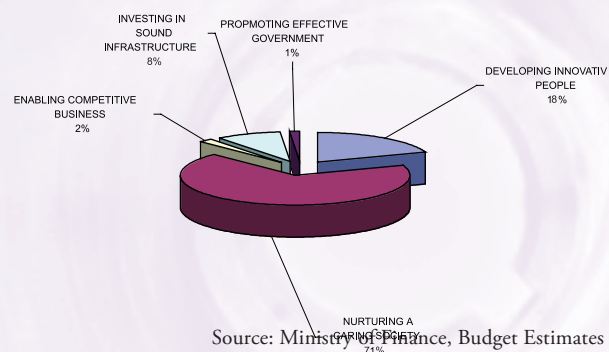
It can be seen from Table XIII and Figure VII below that Government has invested a significant amount of financial resources in the recurrent budget towards nurturing a caring society (73% of recurrent budget) and developing innovative people (16%). Appendix VIII is relevant.

**Table XIII: Budgeted Allocations for Social Programmes by Pillars for Fiscal 2007**

	Pillars	Budgeted Allocations for fiscal 2007
1	Developing Innovative People	\$ 822,292,203.00
2	Nurturing A Caring Society	\$ 3,313,688,383.00
3	Enabling Competitive Business	\$ 74,784,260.00
4	Investing In Sound Infrastructure	\$ 350,000,000.00
5	Propmoting Effective Government	\$ 55,000,000.00
	Total Budgeted Allocations	\$4,615,764,846.00

Source: Ministry of Finance, Budget Division

**Figure VII: Percentage of Budgeted Allocations for Social Programmes and Initiatives according to VISION 2020 Pillars**



Source: Ministry of Finance, Budget Estimates 2007

## NEW PROGRAMMES / PROJECTS /

## Overview of the SSIP for 2007

### INITIATIVES IMPLEMENTED IN 2007

The list in Box I, outlines the some new programmes, projects and initiatives that were implemented in fiscal 2007 in the Social Sector. The status of these initiatives are outlined further in Appendix IV.

#### Box I: New Programmes, Projects and Initiatives Proposed for Implementation in 2007

- **Programme to assist the Differently-abled in Finding Sustainable Employment**
- **Roving Care Giver Programme (Tobago)**
- **Community School for the Performing Arts (Tobago)**
- **Car Wash Programme for Recovering Addicts (Tobago)**
- **Senior Citizen Centres (Tobago)**
- **Sensitization on The National Plan Of Action For Children**
- **Public Awareness Campaign on the National Policy on Persons with Disabilities**

Policies to guide the development of programmes and services in the sector which were either developed or finalized during fiscal 2007 are outlined in Box II below.

#### Box II: POLICIES DEVELOPED OR FINALISED IN 2007

- Family Policy
- Draft National Policy on Local Government Reform;
- Policy on NGO/Government Relationships;
- The Draft National Workplace Policy on HIV/AIDS
- Draft Policy on HIV/AIDS for Schools
- Draft National Reading Policy

### OVERVIEW FOR TOBAGO FOR FISCAL 2007

The economic structure of Tobago has been transformed over the last five years, as the Tobago House of Assembly sought to lay the basis for diversification of the economy in order to generate foreign exchange earnings through Tourism, Natural Gas processing and exploration and Fisheries. The Comprehensive Economic Development Plan for Tobago (2006-2010) was set within a framework designed for guiding Tobago's efforts at addressing the country's developmental challenges, and its proposed initiatives were summarized as follows:

- Improving infrastructural development in key areas like: roads and transport, water, the telecommunication and communications infrastructure as well as social infrastructure;
- Improving health, education and other social services;
- Promoting sustainable economic growth; and
- Ensuring food security, and sustainable environmental management.

In fiscal 2007 the Tobago House of Assembly embraced the view that a nation's social development was the key to its economic growth and stability. As a result, the Assembly continued in fiscal 2007 on its path of empowering the citizens of Tobago, with the primary objective being poverty reduction and enhancing the environment.

#### Economic Achievements

The Tobago House of Assembly's estimated expenditure to facilitate the implementation of projects and programmes under the Development Programme for fiscal 2007 is \$316,656,971.00. The estimated expenditure for the same period for the Unemployment Relief Programme (URP) is \$16,000,000.00 The Estimated recurrent expenditure for fiscal 2007 increased by \$493.9 million as outlined in Table XIV below, which shows the Comparison of Recurrent Expenditure by Divisions for 2006- 2007.

Table XIV: Comparison of Recurrent Expenditure by

### Division of the Tobago House of Assembly for 2006-2007<sup>93</sup>

Division	2006 Actual Expenditure	2007 Estimated Expenditure
Assembly Legislature	5,378,493	8,831,300
Office of the Chief Secretary	20,900,534	58,091,400
Finance and Enterprise Development	28,505,409	236,624,557
Public Administration	32,323,962	46,786,202
Tourism and Transportation	60,942,815	80,429,527
Education, Youth Affairs and Sports	185,972,920	258,857,849
Community Development and Culture	33,907,518	52,802,993
Infrastructure and Public Utilities	223,482,664	291,280,100
Agriculture, Marine Affairs and the Environment	68,583,880	94,923,000
Health and Social Services	167,180,090	191,668,700
Settlements and Labour	2,303,994	3,141,999
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>829,482,279</b>	<b>1,323,437,627</b>

### Social Development

The Tobago House of Assembly continued to expand the range of social programmes for Tobagonians all geared towards poverty reduction and enhancing the welfare of the less fortunate (including the elderly and single parents) in the society. The THA collaborated with national and international agencies as well as Non-Governmental Organizations to alleviate the social problems in Tobago. New initiatives that were introduced in fiscal 2007 included:

1. A Car Wash for Recovering Addicts Programme to encourage the rehabilitation of drug addicts.
2. The establishment of a Roving Care Giver Programme which will ensure informal early childhood education and parental support, for infants from birth to three (3) years old.
3. The Establishment of a branch of the Central Statistical Office.
4. Institutional strengthening and capacity building at the

Scarborough Hospital

5. Introduction of an education programme in consultation with TUTTA, to assist students, by making DVDs of as many subjects as possible, available free of charge to students.
6. The upgrading of libraries in all primary and secondary schools.
7. Expansion of the school building improvement and expansion programme at the primary and secondary school levels
8. Continued implementation of the HIV/AIDS Programme.
9. Extension and Improvement of Early Childhood Centres.

However, in fiscal 2007 the THA encountered a few challenges in human resource development, physical infrastructure, social sector delivery, economic diversification and reforming constitutional and governance arrangements.

### Sectoral Initiatives for Fiscal 2007

The main social sector initiatives under the various divisions of the THA for the fiscal period 2006 / 2007 are represented in Table XV.

**Table XV: Major Social Sector Initiatives of the Social**

<sup>93</sup> Source- Tobago House of Assembly –Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure (p. ix) 2008

## Overview of the SSIP for 2007

### Services Divisions of the THA for the period 2006/2007

Division	Major Initiatives
<b>Community Development and Culture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The successful hosting of the Tobago Heritage Festival</li> <li>• The renovations/upgrade of 22 community centres</li> <li>• The introduction of computers and computer training in community centres</li> </ul>
<b>Education, Youth Affairs and Sport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classroom libraries were provided in fifty classrooms in the fourteen Centre of Excellence for Teacher Training (CETT) Schools</li> <li>• Four new local school boards were inaugurated at Mason Hall secondary, Good wood High, Roxborough Composite and Speyside High</li> <li>• The upgrade of various sporting playgrounds throughout the island.</li> <li>• Tertiary Education Financial Assistance was expended to approximately (184) successful applicants.</li> </ul>
<b>Health and Social Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The provision of over 6,000 patient hours of dialysis</li> <li>• The establishment of a Rheumatology Clinic</li> <li>• The establishment of a fully computerized Emergency Medical Dispatch Centre at the Emergency Health Service</li> <li>• 3,050 persons were provided with Old Age Pension</li> <li>• 460 persons were provided with Public Assistance</li> <li>• 220 persons were in receipt of Disability Assistance</li> <li>• 200 persons received support from the Emergency Cases Fund</li> <li>• Over 3000 persons benefited from the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention programme in Schools</li> </ul>
<b>Tourism, Transportation, Enterprise Development and Settlements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The construction of ramps at the Mt.Irvine Beach to facilitate the physically disabled.</li> <li>• The Hosting of Plymouth Jazz Festival and the Pro Am Golf Tournament</li> <li>• The introduction of Delta Airlines route to Tobago , in order to increase visitor arrivals to the island</li> <li>• (358) claims were processed under the Home Improvement Grant Programme and (56) claims were processed under the Home Improvement Subsidy Programme</li> </ul>



## 5. REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES FOR FISCAL 2007

The review of programmes and initiatives has been restructured to align with the Vision 2020 Operational Plan 2007-2010. This is keeping with the strategic approach to attainment of objectives through the tracking of the progress made on a yearly basis by the social sector initiatives within the context of the pillars and goals outlined in the operational plan. The goals associated with the pillars are outlined below:

Table XVI: Pillars and Goals of Vision 2020 Operational Plan 2007-2010

Pillars		Goals
1	<b>Developing Innovative People</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 The people of Trinidad and Tobago will be well known for excellence in innovation</li> <li>2 Trinidad and Tobago will have a seamless, self-renewing, high quality education system</li> <li>3 A highly-skilled, talented and knowledgeable workforce will stimulate innovation-driven growth and development</li> <li>4 The richness of our diverse culture will serve as a powerful engine to inspire innovation and creativity</li> </ol>
2	<b>Nurturing A Caring Society</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 The foundation of Trinidad and Tobago will be strong families and strong communities</li> <li>2 Poverty will be significantly reduced</li> <li>3 All citizens will have access to adequate and affordable housing</li> <li>4 All citizens will be empowered to lead long, healthy lifestyles and have adequate access to an efficient health care delivery system</li> <li>5 The HIV / AIDS Epidemic will be contained and care will be provided for those infected and affected</li> <li>6 All citizens will have access to and participate in a sporting or recreational activity in keeping with our 'Sport for All' philosophy</li> </ol>
3	<b>Enabling Competitive Business</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Macroeconomic stability will be maintained</li> <li>2 A business climate that attracts investors and encourages competitive businesses to start and grow will be created</li> <li>3 Competitive businesses will transform Trinidad and Tobago into a diversified economy with exciting growth opportunities</li> </ol>
4	<b>Investing in Sound Infrastructure and the Environment</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Our development efforts will be supported by modern physical infrastructure that embodies the highest standards of quality, aesthetics and functionality</li> <li>2 Trinidad and Tobago will be an inter-connected, technologically advanced society with modern information and communication systems driving innovation, growth and social progress</li> <li>3 The utility sector (water, sewerage and electricity) will be modern, customer oriented and technologically enabled to provide efficient, cost effective, quality services to all citizens</li> <li>4 The environment will be valued as a national asset and conserved for the benefit of future generations and the wider international community</li> </ol>
5	<b>Promoting Effective Government</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Our society and our Government will adhere to good governance principles and practices</li> <li>2 Our Public Institutions will be high performance professional entities effectively and efficiently meeting the needs of all their clients</li> <li>3 Trinidad and Tobago will have modern technologically advanced legal, regulatory and enforcement systems</li> <li>4 All citizens will be assured of fair and equal justice</li> <li>5 Trinidad and Tobago will be a safe and secure place to live, visit, do business and raise families</li> </ol>

## Review of Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2007

The Social Sector Investment Programme focuses mainly on the first two pillars “Developing Innovative People” and “Nurturing a Caring Society” as most of the programmes and projects of the sector are relevant to these two. However some programmes also have outputs and outcomes related to other pillars and these are also outlined in this section. It must be noted that some goals may not have programmes attached since they are beyond the scope of the Social Sector Investment Programme.

The Review of Social Programmes will focus on the major achievements of some of the initiatives in the sector and outputs as measured by respective budgeted allocations and estimated expenditure of programmes and initiatives. Additional details on the goals and objectives of the various programmes outlined in this section are included in Appendix V.

Whilst there is a recognition that some linkages must be made between the targeted outcomes of the Operational Plan objectives and those of the programmes and initiatives related to the objectives, in many instances this was not possible. In this regard, programme managers have been required to work toward developing adequate mechanisms to measure the outcomes and impact of these programmes. In August 2006, Cabinet agreed to the establishment of a Task Force to co-ordinate the monitoring and evaluation of social sector programmes being implemented by the Government. The Task Force was mandated:

- i) To streamline the social sector programmes to ensure that the programmes are operating in accordance with stated objectives
- ii) To minimize unnecessary overlaps between the programmes
- iii) To identify the gaps in the social services delivery system and recommend approaches for addressing such gaps

The Task Force interpreted its mandate as that of crafting a vision and a mechanism for maximizing the development impact of the social sector programmes in a manner which made the best use of the resources of the society. In other words the

Task Force was to analyze and make suggestions for effecting changes in the approach to the design and implementation of social sector programmes in Trinidad and Tobago. In its initial discussions the task force focused primarily on the seventeen (17) Critical Training Programmes as listed in Box III. The Task Force was expected to propose a mechanism for taking the social sector programmes into a new era of efficient resource use and meaningful development impact. The seventeen critical training programmes are highlighted throughout the review for emphasis and easy identification by this symbol (√) the Review.

### Box III : The Seventeen (17) Critical Training Programmes

- Community Education (Skills Development) Programme
- Export Centres Programme
- Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme (GAPP)
- Non-Traditional Skills Training for Women
- Transformation and Development Centres
- Women in Harmony
- Youth Apprenticeship Programme in Agriculture (YAPA)
- Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)
- Military-Led Academic Training Programme (MILAT)
- Military-Led Youth Programme of Apprenticeship (MYPART)
- Helping You Prepare for Employment (HYPE)
- Multi-Sector Skill Training Programme (MuST)
- On-the-Job Training Programme (OJT)
- Retraining Programme
- Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme (YTEPP)
- The Adult Education Programme
- The Patient Care Assistants Programme (PCA)

In terms of the overall performance of the core social Ministries, in keeping with past trends, most Ministries were expected to utilize the majority of their budgeted allocations for fiscal

## Review of Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2007

2007 towards programmes and initiatives. Table XVII shows a comparison of budgeted allocations and estimated expenditure for fiscal 2007, on social programmes and initiatives of key social sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly.

**Table XVII: Comparison of Budgeted Allocations and Estimated Expenditure for fiscal 2007, for Social Programmes and Interventions of Key Social Sector Delivery Ministries and Key Social Services Divisions within the Tobago House of Assembly**

Ministry	Budget Allocations 2007	Estimated Expenditure 2007	% of Budgeted Allocation Estimated to be spent
Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs	\$ 197,529,974.00	\$ 189,160,300.00	95.7
Ministry of Education	\$376,885,782.00	\$351,719,509.00	93
Ministry of Health	\$257,356,525.00	\$267,316,525.00	103.8
Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education	\$603,389,185.00	\$690,654,529.00	114
Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs	\$111,965,800.00	\$103,878,500.00	92.7
Ministry of Social Development	\$1,934,106,942.00	\$1,749,489,512.00	90
Tobago House of Assembly	\$61,557,458.00	\$61,537,458.00	99.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,542,791,666.00</b>	<b>\$3,413,756,333.00</b>	<b>96</b>

Source: Ministry of Finance (Budgets Division)

Ninety-six percent (96%) of the total budget allocation to social programmes and other initiatives in the key Social Sector Ministries and similar Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly in fiscal 2007 was expected to be utilized. The Government also allocated additional funding to the Ministries for implementation of programmes following the mid-term review. This accounts for the recording of estimated expenditure at 103.8% for Ministry of Health, and 114% for the Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education. The Ministries of Education, Sport and Youth Affairs, Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs and Social Development were poised to spend close to the entire sum of their budgeted allocation.

A comparison of the Recurrent Budgeted Allocation and Estimated Expenditure for fiscal 2007 of key social sector programmes is depicted in Table XVIII. Fourteen (14) of the Seventeen Critical Training Programmes have been highlighted in the table. Appendix V is also relevant.

Under Pillar 1 - "Developing Innovative People" six programmes had an estimated expenditure of 100%. Four (4) of the critical training programmes were among this group. Three programmes spent more than the budgeted allocation due to additional allocations. Three programmes are expected to spend 75% of the budgeted allocations for 2007 fiscal year.

## Review of Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2007

Eight of the programmes under Pillar 2-“Nurturing a Caring Society” had an estimated expenditure of 100%. Again, three (3) of the critical training programmes fell among this category. Two programmes spent more than the allocated budgeted for fiscal 2007 due to additional allocations during the year. Five programmes are expected to spend less than 90% of their budgeted allocation.

Under Pillar 3-“Enabling Competitive Business”, NEDCO spent all of its budgeted allocation for fiscal 2007, with YAPA expected to spend about 75% of the budgeted allocation. Under Pillar 4-“Investing in Sound Infrastructure and the Environment”, the National Social Development Programme spent all of its budgeted allocation, with CEPEP expected to follow the same trend.

**Table XVIII: Comparison of Recurrent Budgeted Allocations & Estimated Expenditure for Selected Social Programmes**

Programme	Budgeted Allocation 2007	Estimated Expenditure 2007	% Estimated Expenditure 2007
<b>Pillar 1: Developing Innovative People</b>			
√ Adult Education Programme	\$8,269,744	\$8,269,744	100%
Early Childhood Care and Education in Trinidad	\$20,445,000	\$22,418,727	110%
Early Childhood Care and Education in Tobago	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	100%
Student Support Services (Trinidad)	\$8,700,000	\$6,200,000	71%
Student Support Services (Tobago)	\$1,208,000	\$1,208,000	100%
Government Assistance for Tertiary Expenses (GATE)	\$250,000,000	\$350,000,000	140%
√ Helping Youth Prepare for Employment (HYPE)	\$33,608,000	\$32,000,000	95%
√ On the Job Training Programme (OJT)	\$90,000,000	\$129,000,000	143%
Terminal Malls	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	100%
√ Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme (YTEPP)	\$51,500,000	\$51,500,000	100%
√ Export Centres Programme	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000	100%
Prime Minister's Best Village Trophy Competition	\$8,301,000	\$4,827,007*	58%
Community Concerts	\$3,450,000	\$3,333,700*	97%
<b>Developing Innovative People Total</b>	<b>\$487,481,744</b>	<b>\$617,757,178</b>	<b>127%</b>
<b>Pillar 2: Nurturing a Caring Society</b>			
Community Action for Revival and Empowerment (CARE)	\$8,000,000	\$8,000,000	100%
Community Enhancement and Regeneration Programme (CERP)	\$1,550,000	\$1,000,000*	65%
√ Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme (GAPP)	\$9,978,000	\$9,900,666	99%
Unemployment Relief Programme (URP)	\$300,000,000	\$300,000,000	100%
School Nutrition Programme (Trinidad)	\$200,718,000	\$200,718,000	100%
School Feeding Programme (Tobago)	\$20,902,800	\$20,902,800	100%
Text Book Rental Programme (Primary Schools)	\$46,384,354	\$41,203,000	89%
√ Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)	\$60,000,000	\$30,000,000	50%
√ Military Led Academic Training Programme (MILAT)	\$5,000,000	\$4,270,000	85%
√ Military Led Youth Apprenticeship Reorientation Training Programme (MY PART)	\$5,000,000	\$3,000,000	60%
√ Community Education Programme	\$1,500,000	\$768,688	51%
Disability Assistance Grant	\$174,000,000	\$182,000,000	105%
√ Multi-Sector Skills Training Programme (MuST)	\$45,000,000	\$45,000,000	100%
√ Non-Traditional Skills Training for Women	\$2,500,000	\$3,800,000	152%

## Review of Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2007

Programme	Budgeted Allocation 2007	Estimated Expenditure 2007	% Estimated Expenditure 2007
√ Transformation and Development Centers	\$2,100,000	\$1,423,702	68%
Old Age Pension Programme	\$1,178,600,000	\$1,178,600,000	100%
Public Assistance Programme	\$225,000,000	\$175,000,000	78%
√ Retraining Programme	\$14,000,000	\$14,000,000	100%
<b>Nurturing a Caring Society Total</b>	<b>\$2,300,233,154</b>	<b>\$2,219,586,856</b>	<b>96%</b>
<b>Pillar 3: Enabling Competitive Business</b>			
National Enterprise Development Company (NEDCO)	\$37,242,260	\$37,242,260	100%
Youth Apprenticeship Programme in Agriculture (YAPA)	\$6,000,000	\$2,000,000	33%
<b>Enabling Competitive Business Total</b>	<b>\$43,242,260</b>	<b>\$39,242,260</b>	<b>91%</b>
<b>Pillar 4: Investing in Sound Infrastructure and the Environment</b>			
National Social Development Programme (NSDP)	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000	100%
Community Based Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programme (CEPEP)	\$350,000,000	\$290,991,000	83%
<b>Investing in Sound Infrastructure and the Environment Total</b>	<b>\$550,000,000</b>	<b>\$490,991,000</b>	<b>89%</b>

√ Critical Training Programmes

\* Estimated Expenditure to June 2007

# PILLAR 1: DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE PEOPLE

## GOALS ADDRESSED UNDER PILLAR 1

- Trinidad and Tobago will have a seamless, self-renewing, high quality education system.
- A highly-skilled, talented and knowledgeable workforce will stimulate innovation-driven growth and development.
- The richness of our diverse culture will serve as a powerful engine to inspire innovation and creativity.

### **Goal: Trinidad and Tobago will have a seamless, self-renewing, high quality education system**

The quality of the nation's human capital is a key area of focus for Vision 2020. Human Capital development would be holistic, encompassing the acquisition of knowledge and skills and entrepreneurial capabilities, the internalisation of positive and progressive attitudes, values and ethics as well as the education, training and life long learning of its citizenry. In order to change the attitude and mindset of individuals towards continuous learning, measures to inculcate a learning culture would be implemented at all levels of society. The Ministry of Education undertook the following initiatives to assist in developing a high quality education system.

### **Curriculum Development**

The Ministry, over the period under review, has focused attention on the following to ensure that the education system meets not only national, but international standards:

- Development of a new curriculum, at the ECCE level, as part of the Ministry of Education's Standards for ECCE;
- At the primary level, commencement of the process of continued modernization of the curriculum with a view to introducing Spanish (as the first foreign language) and Visual and Performing Arts.

- At the secondary level, completion of the forms 1-3 curriculum, its piloting and review.
- Inclusion of History and Moral and Values Education among the ten (10) core subjects on the curriculum.
- Continued expansion at Sixth Form Level through increased access and full implementation of the CAPE Programme in all public schools with sixth forms.
- Implementation of the Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) in fourteen (14) Secondary Schools, with students from thirteen of these schools writing examinations in June, 2007.
- Completion of the Curriculum for Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) for introduction in all Primary Schools in September, 2007.
- The drafting of a Policy Document on HIV/AIDS for introduction to all schools.

In conjunction with the above activities, the Ministry of Education has taken steps to modernise the system of assessment and testing through the development of alternative and continuous modes of assessment with:

- The conduct of National Test at Standards 1 and 3 of all public and private primary schools in Mathematics and Language Arts.
- The expansion of the National Certificate of Secondary Education (NCSE) Level I to 127 secondary schools.
- Completion of Phase III of the secondary school baseline study in 132 secondary schools.
- The conduct of international benchmarking through participation in Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) at the primary level for students nine - ten (9-10) years old, in standard III; and preparation for participation by fifteen (15) year old students in Progress for International Student Assessment (PISA).
- The continued operations of the Caribbean Centre of Excellence in Teacher Training which is engaged

## Pillar 1: Developing Innovative People

in training teachers in the teaching of reading and addressing reading among pupils from Infant level to Standard II.

- The conduct of remediation programmes in literacy and numeracy and the hosting of remediation camps to address learning deficiencies by the Literacy Remediation/Alternative Education Unit.
- The development of a draft National Reading Policy.

### Early Childhood Care & Education in Trinidad

One aspect of addressing Early Childhood Care and Education in Trinidad and Tobago is the establishment of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Centres, to ensure that all children across the country, at an early age, have access to quality education and interactive learning that lay the foundation for their later years. Of the 110 sites identified throughout the nation, six (6) centres have been completed that accommodate a total of 250 children in the following areas:

- St. Augustine South
- El. Socorro South
- Sangre Grande
- La Romain
- Santa Rosa
- San Pedro

Three (3) centres are in the final stages of completion and are listed below

- Mayaro
- Valsayn
- Tunapuna

A further 10 centres are under construction, with three (3) projects in a re-tendering phase and seven (7) others recently awarded tenders for construction.

All centres will be staffed by an Administrator/Teacher, two (2) teachers, two (2) Teacher Assistants and an Auxilliary Assistant.

Another aspect of providing quality early childhood education to the nation's children, is the creation of a National Early

Childhood Care and Education Curriculum Guide. This guide will not only serve to provide consistency of standards across all centres, both private and government, but even more importantly, ensure harmony between the pre-school and the primary school levels. A draft guide was developed in fiscal 2007 and has been made available to representatives of private ECC Centres for their input.

### Early Childhood Care & Education Programme in Tobago

Fifteen centres are proposed for establishment in Tobago. In fiscal 2007 approximately one hundred and twenty (120) children benefited from this programme. In addition, EECE providers were presented with and given the opportunity to discuss the white paper on the ECCE proposed framework in a four day workshop and forty persons benefited from a three week course for Para -Education at the ECCE level.

### ✓ Adult Education Programme

The Adult Education Programme assists in providing a self-renewing education system by providing citizens with the opportunity for lifelong learning. It delivers a range of academic, vocational and leisure programmes outside of the formal school system to persons ranging from the age of fifteen years and upwards and is conducted by a staff of 518 persons in forty-six (46) Centres throughout Trinidad and Tobago utilizing primary and secondary schools.

For the period October 2006 to March 2007 tuition was provided to approximately 3,500 students who were repeating the CXC examinations. In addition, 4,000 persons benefited from tuition leading to NEC certification and skills development. Also, enrollment levels in the areas of basic literacy and leisure activities reached 300 and 200 persons respectively.

### Student Support Services Division

The Student Support Services Programme aims to address the material, psycho-social and emotional needs of students through various components. For the first three quarters of fiscal 2007, this involved 200 staff directly interacting with students across the Private and Public school system. Specifically, 99,044 students benefited from the programme

## Pillar 1: Developing Innovative People

for the period October 2006 to June 2007. Achievements under the four main objectives of the programme are outlined below.

Academic, personal/social and career guidance sessions were provided to 14,625 students in 58 selected primary schools. These sessions exposed students to topics such as “Respect for Self and Others” and “Coping and Resilience Skills”. In addition, 59,165 secondary school students received guidance sessions.

With respect to counselling, 3,335 primary school students took part in counselling sessions for Emotional / Behavioural difficulties, while 9,260 secondary school students were involved in sessions such as Career Planning, Self Development, Substance abuse and Home and Family life. Social workers provided individual services to 3,580 students in 97 Primary schools, as well as 588 students in various group work sessions.

Not to be left out, 337 parents and 246 teachers also benefited from Information sessions specifically tailored to these two important groupings of persons in the students’ development. Children with special needs were also involved as 32 students, from the Cascade School for the Deaf and the Princess Elizabeth School, were seen by Social Workers, and 32 of their parents took part in Parent Education workshops.

In addition, 5,523 parents attended Parent Education and Information sessions at the Post-SEA Orientation Programme. All Guidance Officers and Social Workers attended this programme which benefited 430 schools and 11,157 students.

Screening for academic deficiencies was conducted on 676 primary school students. These students were also provided with services for their special educational needs. Full funding was provided for all students of eleven (11) registered Private special schools; partial funding for teacher salaries and; full payment of utility bills (Electricity and WASA).

Parent education was provided to 40% of 536 parents of children with learning disabilities in 88 specially selected primary schools.

A workshop on the Universal Rights of the child was attended by 85 (90%) of Guidance Counsellors and Social Workers. Participants were made to understand their roles as laid out by the United Nations Rights of the Child. In addition, 90% of Special Education Teachers (SSSD and Private Special School teachers) attended 2 workshops on Behavioural Assessments and Reading Assessments. Diagnostic Specialists also took part in two workshops: a Literary Conference at the University of Southern California, and a workshop on the LiPS (Lindamood Phoneme Sequencing Program).

About 400 students (Primary and Secondary) attended Interactive Educational workshops geared toward increasing awareness about Inclusive Education. The theme of the workshop was: “Inclusive Education: Breaking Barriers-Accepting Me.” These ongoing workshops have been facilitated by the staff of the Diagnostic Prescriptive/ Special Education Unit, Student Support Services Division (SSSD).

Approximately 56 Visually Impaired students identified in mainstream schools were screened during Low Vision Assessments carried out by Sight Saver International. (February, 2007).

A Bullying survey was conducted between January to March 2007. About 556 students ranging from Form 1 to Form 4 were surveyed from 10 Secondary Schools. Preliminary reports suggest that 39% of the respondents (219) have been bullied.

New projects were also implemented to assist in providing support to the school population. These projects were:

- The establishment of a Career Assessment Centre at the Chaguanas Secondary School. This initiative aims to provide students with a scientific analysis of their career interest and needs as well as assist them in exploring their career plans and actually planning their careers.



## Pillar 1: Developing Innovative People

- The establishment of a Braille Centre at the Pointe-a-Pierre Special School. The installation of equipment has commenced.
- The development of policies on HIV/AIDS, Drug prevention and No Smoking, as well as a draft policy on Inclusive Education.
- Eleven (11) camps were conducted during the July-August period with; seven (7) focusing on students with social dysfunctional issues; one (1) camp for male students considered to be at risk who will be entering secondary school in September; one (1) camp for students in the North East district, who attend secondary school and are at risk of dropping out, and; one (1) camp to expose visually impaired students to mobility and computer software training.

### Peace Promotion Programme

This programme falls under the Student Support Services Programme and primarily involves equipping individuals, particularly those involved in the school environment, with coping skills, such as anger management and conflict resolution, which should help create a peaceful environment. During the year workshops were conducted with students in government secondary schools to help reduce the incidence of suspensions arising out of violence and indiscipline in schools.

Together with this, workshops were also held with principals, teachers and community leaders to improve the classroom management skills of school staff and to train parents. Specific projects conducted under the Peace Promotion Programme were:

- Monthly workshops on Right Choice for secondary school students
- The hosting of a public awareness symposium for primary and secondary school principals in January 2007.
- Pre-carnival preparation programmes
- Peer mediation programmes for secondary schools.

- Comprehensive security for schools through provision of security personnel, equipment and infrastructural work.
- Expansion of student councils in secondary schools

### Professional Development Month (Tobago)

The annual Professional Development Month for Tobago teachers took place in July 2007. Training was provided for teachers in classroom Management, Drama and Dance, Music, Leadership through Sport, Computer Literacy, Early Childhood Education, Art and Craft, Understanding the Adolescent, Understanding and Coping with Dyslexia, Remedial English and Math and Assessment Literacy. Two Hundred and Sixty Five (265) teachers participated in this beneficial programme.

### Education for All Week (Tobago)

Education for All Week was observed during April 2007 by the Department of Education. The purpose of the week's celebration was to:

- (i) Sensitize teachers as to their unique role in the lives of students, communities and country;
- (ii) Sensitize parents and the community at large about their role of supporting teachers and providing a facilitating environment in which they can be successful; and to
- (iii) Discuss the role of teachers as trainers and role models.

The Programme is aimed at improving the relationship between teachers and parents in the community with the ultimate goal of improving the education system on the island.

### **Goal: A highly skilled, talented and knowledgeable workforce will stimulate innovation driven growth and development.**

A key focal area of the Government continues to be the development of the human resource capacity of the country by equipping citizens with appropriate tools that will enable them to adapt to the changing and dynamic environment.

## Pillar 1: Developing Innovative People

The following programmes and initiatives contribute to the attainment of this particular goal.

### √Helping You Prepare for Employment (HYPE)

This programme provides young persons between the ages of 17 – 25 with construction skills and remedial training. HYPE served a record 1,742 beneficiaries for the period October 2006 to March 2007 with most of its graduates being able to secure employment upon completion of the programme. There are currently 810 registered trainees in the programme's five centres.

### Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses (GATE)

The Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses Programme provides funding up to one hundred percent (100%) of tuition fees for individuals pursuing undergraduate programmes of study and up to fifty percent (50%) for persons pursuing post-graduate programmes at pre-approved institutions. This programme saw a one hundred and fifteen percent (115%) increase in the number of applicants since assistance was increased from fifty to one hundred percent over the past year, with a total of 77,021 students benefiting from the programme between October 2006 and June 2007.

### Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP)

The Higher Education Loan Programme is an initiative which was established in 2006. This programme provides additional funding to tertiary students through the provision of a low interest loan facility administered through local banks. Since its inception in October 2006, HELP has succeeded in arranging base interest rate loans for students through most of the local commercial banking institutions.

Financial assistance to a value of approximately \$21.4 million was granted to 1,746 individuals by the final semester of the academic year. The HELP Unit will soon be relocating to a larger premise, closer to the major Tertiary Learning Institutions.

### √Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme (YTEPP)

YTEPP provides training in career enhancement services, inclusive of numeracy and literacy skills, vocational skills training, OSHA training and entrepreneurial development and support services. The YTEPP comes under the purview of the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Tertiary Education (MSTTE). The number of persons who accessed YTEPP during the period October 2006 to March 2007 2,526 young persons between 15 to 25 years, 1,558 persons from specialized training for communities, Ministries and entrepreneurs, 92 persons from school-based programmes and 1,152 persons between 15-30 years from community based training.

In terms of achievements, the programme placed 720 trainees in job related opportunities, twenty-seven persons who received specialized micro entrepreneurship training were able to start up a business, and 498 individuals were provided specialized training to support government's fast forward initiative. YTEPP also completed construction of a day time centre in Valencia which was opened for the new cycle of training in July, 2007. Achievements related to the programme design and operations of YTEPP include the instituting of a system of continuous monitoring and evaluation of YTEPP, on the job training with the labour market, the development of a health and safety policy and the continued implementation of a quality management system.

### √On the Job Training (OJT) Programme

The On the Job Training Programme is a pre-employment training programme which offers participants an induction into the world of work. The programme focuses on the acquisition of work-based training and experience, as well as the development of life skills.

For the period October 2006 – June 2007, a total of 3,111 trainees were placed at various organizations across the nation, of these, 767 were male and 2,344 female.

The programme was also able to offer life skills training to 200 trainees in Tobago and Central Trinidad. However, this

## Pillar 1: Developing Innovative People

component of the programme was greatly constrained due to the lack of regional office space.

Three consultation sessions were held with the Unit's training providers. These were attended by approximately 750 employers involved in the training of the programme's beneficiaries. The sessions aided in addressing several misconceptions on the part of the training providers and because of their ultimate success a decision was made to undertake these sessions on an annual basis.

A new radio program was also launched to attract trainees to the programme. This will soon be followed by a campaign aimed directly at employers, to ensure that sufficient training places become available for additional trainees in the near future.

### Financial Assistance for Tertiary Education (Tobago)

Tertiary education financial assistance was provided to approximately one hundred and eighty four (184) successful applicants. A number of non-traditional awards were also provided.

### Community Development Scholarship Programme

This programme awards bursaries to young persons to undertake training or studies in traditional and non-traditional disciplines at local, regional or international institutions. This programme under the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs during the period October 2006 to June 2007 assisted two hundred and seventy-eight (278) persons. Of this number 104 were males and 174 were females.

### Goal: The richness of our diverse culture will serve as a powerful engine to inspire innovation and creativity

The diversity of our culture promotes and inspires all to develop our innovative and creative minds. The Government seeks to sustain this innovative aspect of our culture through the promotion of cultural awareness and the preservation of our cultural heritage. In fiscal 2007, budgetary allocations

in the sum of \$12,500,000.00 were made to the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs and the Divisions of the Community Development and Culture of the THA, respectively for grants to cultural organisations. Appendix X outlines a list of groups which received grants in the sum of \$972,220.00, during fiscal 2007 to pursue cultural activities from the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs. In this regard, investment was made in the following areas.

### Export Centres

The Export Centres Company is a wholly owned State Enterprise that was designed to promote employment through the revitalization of the craft industry, this programme is administered by the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs and managed by a Board of Directors. The Export Centres provides a marketable opportunity for skilled and semi-skilled persons, especially those persons who benefited from skills training provided through the Community Education Programme. During the period October 2006 to June 2007, the centres were being refurbished in an attempt to modernize the existing facilities.

### The Prime Minister's Best Village Trophy Competition and Exhibition

This initiative which is administered by the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs aims to promote the development, enhancement and preservation of the nation's diverse and indigenous cultures. During the period October 2006 to June 2007 one hundred and fifty-eight groups participated in the preliminaries of the competition with 19 groups progressing to the finals.

# PILLAR 2: NURTURING A CARING SOCIETY

## GOALS ADDRESSED UNDER PILLAR 2

- The foundation of Trinidad and Tobago will be strong families and strong communities
- Poverty will be significantly reduced
- All citizens will have access to adequate and affordable housing
- All citizens will be empowered to lead long, healthy lifestyles and have adequate access to an efficient health care delivery system
- The HIV / AIDS Epidemic will be contained and care will be provided for those infected and affected
- All citizens will have access to and participate in a sporting or recreational activity in keeping with our 'Sport for All' philosophy

**Goal: The foundation of Trinidad and Tobago will be strong families and strong communities.**

Achieving a caring society entails emphasis being placed on the most vulnerable and ensuring that each individual is given equal opportunity to contribute towards the development of our society. Functional families and strong communities are cornerstones of social development. In fiscal 2007 significant financial resources continued to be invested in programmes which focus on these two critical foundation blocks of the society. The following initiatives were pursued in an attempt to achieve this particular goal.

### Family Life Management

This programme was established to empower citizens, not only at the personal level, but also at the interpersonal and family levels. The National Family Services Division has initiated and successfully managed several Family Life Management programmes in various communities in Trinidad over the past three (3) years, covering the following thematic areas: Parenting and Family, Family Violence, Support for Parents

and Caregivers of Children 0-3 years and Life Skills for Adolescents.

In fiscal 2007, four (4) programmes in Parenting and Family were conducted in Barataria, Laventille, Arima and Sangre Grande. The Division has requests from six other areas, for the conduct of a similar programme. Four programmes in the area of "Support for Caregivers and Parents of Children 0-3 years were also conducted in Mayaro, Princes Town, Port of Spain and Couva.

### Family Life Radio Programmes

The success of the programme "It's Family Time: Let's Talk" has been indicated by written and oral responses, as well as subsequent self-referrals and requests for lectures and workshops by individuals, community groups and organizations. These responses as well as information obtained via the print and electronic media reinforce the need to continue the programme.

### Parenting and the Family

Successful outcomes of these training sessions were evidenced by participant's disclosure about the improvement in their family life. These group meetings have since evolved into support groups and there has been the transferring of information garnered through the training into the organisations to which participants belonged.

### Defining Masculine Excellence Programme

This programme under the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs conducts training programmes that equips men and boys with knowledge and skills to improve their social relationship. In terms of achievements during the period October 2006 to June 2007, 353 men and boys benefited from the programme.

### Adoption Programme

Eleven (11) males and (15) females benefited from this programme for this period. All matters were concluded

## Pillar 2: Nurturing a Caring Society

successfully in Court. Eight (8) applicants were approved as prospective adopters. Reports were submitted on adoption cases and all adoption matters were concluded. Three television interviews were done on NCC Channel 4 in December 2006 to promote the programme.

### Establishment of a Children's Authority

This Authority is designed to: have the responsibility for monitoring the operations at the different children's institutions; investigating complaints and issuing and revoking licenses of community residences and nurseries. In pursuit of its establishment, there have been numerous meetings with members of the Ministry of Social Development, the Attorney General's Office, the Ministry of Legal Affairs, the Family Court Committee and the Chief Parliamentary Counsel with respect to amendments to the package of children's legislation of 2000, including the Children's Authority. There are now eight (8) pieces of legislation, up from the previous five (5) enacted in 2000. The Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction is now a stand alone piece of legislation, and the Family Court Bill has been added.

An Advisory Committee was also appointed by Cabinet to, among other things drive the implementation process for the establishment of the Authority. The Committee held several meetings during fiscal 2007 and commenced development of a comprehensive implementation plan for the project.

### Adolescent Mothers Programme (Trinidad)

The goal of this programme is to provide an adequate support system to teenage/adolescent mothers to enable them to improve their socio-economic position, thereby increasing their capacity to become independent, productive citizens and to increase the life chances of their children. During the period October 2006 to April 2007, five (5) centres were in operation throughout Trinidad and Tobago and three community outreach sessions were conducted in primary and secondary schools. Twenty-six (26) clients benefited from the programme for this fiscal period.

### Programme for Adolescent Mothers (Tobago)

Similar to the Trinidad Programme, forty-five (45) adolescent mothers were registered in the programme and participated in basic Computer Literacy, Food and Nutrition, Hospitality Arts, Life Management, Parenting Education and Training in Care givers Courses. Twenty one (21) babies entered Day Care, (21) students participated in on the job training; and Five (5) students returned to school. The programme was relocated to a spacious building at Allfields Lowland and this provided the required infrastructure to comprehensively categorize the areas for different types of training and for the accommodation of the day care nursery.

### Assistance to Non-Governmental Organisations (Trinidad)

The delivery of particular social services in the country is carried out to a large extent by the Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) across the country. Services provided by NGOs ensure that there is a wider coverage of social services delivery to the national community. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago provides financial support to NGOs to assist them in meeting the recurrent expenditure associated with the provision of social services. The support is channeled to the NGOs from key social sector Ministries.

The key social sector Ministries through which support for NGOs is provided are: Ministries of Education, Health, Sport and Youth Affairs, Community Development and the Ministry of Social Development. The Tobago House of Assembly's Department of Health and Social Services also provides financial support to NGOs.

In fiscal 2007, Government continued to provide critical financial support to the NGO sector. Budgeted allocations to the sector rose from \$118,396,239.67 in fiscal 2006 to \$175,507,136.11 in fiscal 2007. This represents an increase of \$57,110,896.44 or 48% from the 2006 figure.

Some organizations also received substantial increases in funding from Government which enabled them to implement their social sector programmes. These were Ecclesiastical organizations which received more than a fifty percent (50%)

## Pillar 2: Nurturing a Caring Society

increase in subventions for fiscal 2007. Increases in allocations and provision of new subventions to NGOs by Government during the 2007 fiscal year were primarily to those NGOs which address issues pertaining to youth, family, children, health, ex-prisoners and persons with disabilities.

The main beneficiaries were Servol Adolescent Development Training Programme, T&T Blind Welfare Association, St. Dominic's Children's Home St. Mary's Children's Home, St. Michael's School for Boys, St. Jude's School for Girls, Family Planning Association, Petherton Trust for Girls and Young Women, Trinidad and Tobago Association for Retarded Children, Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children and Crime Stoppers of Trinidad and Tobago.

In the health sector, total subventions increased from \$15,888,699.00 to \$21,773,355.00 (36%).

In terms of youth, allocations were provided for skills training and youth development in fiscal 2007. Further details of the individual subventions and grants which were allocated for payments to Non-Governmental Organizations in fiscal 2007 are outlined in Appendices VI and X.

### Assistance to National Youth NGOs

In an effort to strengthen its service delivery capacity, the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs has adopted the strategy of utilising youth based organisations in the fight to reclaim the youth of Trinidad and Tobago by funding programmes to enhance the quality of life of the youth population. Programmes funded in fiscal 2007 at a total cost of \$7,116,363.00 were:

- Vision on Mission - \$500,000 for Youth Arise to bring an awareness of and participation in social sector programmes to the "at risk" youth population
- President's Award - \$1,465,028 + \$60,000 (annual subvention)
- Girl Guides Association - \$226,299 + \$500,000 + \$84,000 (annual subvention)
- San Fernando District Scout Council - \$297,773
- National Scouts Association - \$500,000 + \$126,000 (annual subvention)

- Other Youth Organisations - \$920,345
- Trinidad Youth Council - \$800,000 for Regional HIV/AIDS Project "Caribbean Youth Dialogue" + \$100,000 (annual subvention)
- Tobago and Trinidad Youth Councils - \$322,000 for implementation of Project "Institutional Strengthening of Youth Councils" + \$60,000 (annual subvention)

Grants have also been disbursed to the National Scouts Association in the sum of \$1,942,587.50. The Girl Guides Association also received a disbursement of \$3,100.00 towards the development of their Campsite at Salybia, Toco. The President's Award received a total of \$60,000 towards the rebuilding of their headquarters at Curepe.

### Establishment of Senior Centres

As part of the process of building strong families and strong communities, Government continued the establishment of senior centres through the Ministry of Social Development, that would address the social, emotional and health needs of older persons in the society by encouraging their personal growth and independence.

Prior to the new fiscal year, two senior centres were established in St. James and Maloney. Two additional Senior Centres were launched in November 2006 which serves approximately 120 older persons: 75 persons at the Chaguanas Senior Centre and 45 at the Rio Claro Senior Centre. In addition, the programme won acclaim for its achievements by being awarded the Prime Minister's Innovating for Service Excellence Award in the category "Making a Difference to People-Social Inclusion". A fifth centre was opened in Pleasantville in June 2007.

### International Day of Older Persons

The Division of Ageing commemorated International Day of Older Persons hosting a Sport and Recreational Day known as Senior Games which was held at the Hasley Crawford Stadium on October 21 and 22, 2006. The Ministry partnered with the Trinidad and Tobago 50+ Athletic Club to host the first Caribbean Senior Games in Trinidad. There was a 100% positive response from older persons in attendance.

## Pillar 2: Nurturing a Caring Society

### Legislation for Homes for Older Persons

The Homes for Older Persons Act, 2007 was passed in the Upper House in May 2007 and the Lower House in July 2007. Planning activities for the recruitment of Inspectors and accredited training for Caregivers commenced. Homeowners were informed on the implications of the legislation. The Act comprises of regulations pertaining to the following:

- Classes of Homes
- Admissions
- Physical requirements and Equipment
- Standards of Care
- Staff of the Homes
- Emergency Procedures

It is expected that the legislation will result in improvements in the quality of care provided for older persons.

### Older Persons Information Centre (OPIC) & Public for Older Persons

Seventy-six (76) callers gave feedback on the services offered at the centers. There was also a high patronage at all public fora hosted by the Division of Ageing in different communities. Four (4) Public Open Fora were held in Siparia, St. Augustine, Laventille and Point Cumana. Two (2) were held in Carnbee and Pembroke in Tobago on January 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Approximately 2,000 Info Page and OPIC brochures were distributed at seminars on ageing. There was increased involvement by staff of the Division of Ageing was increased at display booths of stakeholders in the private and public sectors.

### Public Education: Radio Series on 'Ageing Gratefully'

This radio series provides information on ageing and ageing issues for the general public. It also provides information on research studies on health and ageing. Its overall objectives are to promote social inclusion of older persons through the development of programmes and projects, to increase national awareness of seniors' achievements and highlight the issues on ageing, to link nationwide efforts to international initiatives on positive aspects on ageing and to further promote United Nation's principles of Dignity and Respect for older persons. There was positive feedback from radio listeners and WMJX as

well as increased requests for Info Page and related brochures on ageing.

### Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme (GAPP)

This programme is administered by the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs. GAPP sensitizes young adults to the aging process and prepares them, through training and field visitation, to develop practical skills in geriatric care. During the period 20 senior citizens and differently-able persons have benefited from GAPP's loan of medical aids. In terms of young persons who have benefited during the period, 600 trainees participated in the Advanced Training programme and 900 trainees participated in the basic training programme.

### Golden Age / Adolescents Partnership Programme and Long Term Care of the Elderly in Tobago

Similar to the GAPP in Trinidad, the Golden Age / Adolescents Partnership Programme and Long Term Care for the Elderly (Golden APPLE), falls under the aegis of the Division of Health and Social Services and collaborates with the Tobago Council of Elders for policy information. It targets persons between the ages of 17-25 years and is intended to provide care for persons convalescing, persons with a disability, and the elderly without family support.

The programme is designed to train young persons to respond to the demand for the provision of social care services for the elderly in communities and promotes an appreciation for service to the community and increases employment among single women. Among the services offered were assistance with daily living and personal hygiene. A special project, Village Outreach was implemented in order to provide social interventions for the elderly. The beneficiaries for the fiscal period 2007 were:

Home Care	-	80 households
Caregivers	-	21 persons
Nostalgic Roots –		
All Fours Competition	-	312 persons
Instrumental ensemble	-	16 persons

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There were many challenges with this programme which included more requests for services than available human resources.

### Retirees Adolescent Partnership Programme (RAPP)

This programme under the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs provides a platform for learning and mentoring. RAPP forms a link between skilled retired persons who provide support services and mentor young persons at the community level. During the October 2006 to June 2007 period 215 young persons, 20 adults, 214 children, 4 groups and 20 group leaders have benefited from this programme.

In terms of achievements, the programme has partnered with the Community Safety and Enhancement Programme in two communities. The Valencia Centre started to teach record keeping via the computer to their participants. The Couva RAPP Centre along with the CBO celebrated their two year partnership anniversary. The La Horquetta Centre has hosted several visitors/speakers including members of Youth Arise Caravan and other prominent members of the community.

### Promoting employment opportunities for persons with disabilities

The Ministry of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development (ML&S&MED) has embarked on the initiative of promoting employment opportunities for persons with disabilities. This initiative provides services to persons with disabilities seeking employment and self-employment.

The National Employment Service (NES) employed at least three (3) disabled persons per month during the period January – June 2007. These persons were employed from a register of disabled persons seeking employment with the NES.

The National Entrepreneurship Development Co. (NEDCO) and the Co-operative Division under this Ministry was involved in the launch of a public relations programme to encourage persons with disabilities to apply for loans to set up their own

businesses. They were also involved in the establishment of a co-operative for persons with disabilities.

Discussions and negotiations with employers and workers representatives were held to ensure that the work environment and conditions are conducive for persons with disabilities and that it adheres to all aspects of the Occupational Safety and Health Act.

### Disability Unit in Tobago

The Disability Unit was established to address the needs of persons with disabilities in Tobago, in particular, for their full inclusion in regular, everyday activities. A major focus of this Unit is to undertake on-going research in all areas of disabilities that impact upon the lives of persons with disabilities.

The Unit provides support to the planning of programmes, services and activities for both physically and mentally disabled. A significant achievement was attained through the approval of the Executive Council, with the establishment of an Equipment Bank whereby wheelchairs, commodes, walkers, canes and crutches were purchased to be disbursed on loan to persons. Over sixty clients benefited from direct intervention from this Unit as follows:-

- (20) clients were referred to the Social Welfare Unit for further services;
- (7) clients requested care givers and were referred to the Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme;
- (3) clients received wheelchairs donated by the Red Cross;
- (2) clients were loaned walking canes;
- (4) clients were loaned walkers; and
- (3) clients were loaned wheel chairs.

### Personal Assistants Training Programme

This programme aims at providing a group of trained attendants who would offer support services to persons with disabilities, so that they can enjoy greater autonomy and independent living. The first batch of trainees started their 3-month



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classroom training in January 2006 and completed it in March 2006 as planned. The second batch of trainees completed both the classroom and on-the-job training components of the programme in August 2006. The third batch of trainees completed classroom training in December 2006 and on the job training in March, 2007. To date thirty-two (32) trainees have benefited from the programme during this period.

### Remedial Therapy Programme

This programme is designed to be an inter-active group session that targets both probationers and their parents. The objective of this type of intervention is to enhance the rebuilding of family relationships and to instill in offenders a greater willingness to adopt accepted societal values. It also expresses the value of non-custodial sentencing. It is expected that the action of these factors would assist in effecting rehabilitation and so prevent recidivism. Forty-per cent (40%) of all probationers attended sessions in Port-of-Spain in fiscal 2007.

### Community Service Orders

The 1998 Community Service Orders Act was implemented under the auspices of the Probation Services Division in 2002. This Act provides for a viable and workable alternative to custodial sentencing. There were ninety-five (95) new cases for the period October 2006 to June 2007. Participants of the programme demonstrated a greater acceptance of parental roles by adults and young persons became much more willing to further their education or pursue training.

### Establishment of a Home for Young Female Offenders

The Remand Home for Young Female Offenders is intended to accommodate female children under 18 years who are first time offenders and on remand. During the period October 2006 to March 2007, a contract was awarded to ETech and the Enterprise Development Company Limited for the construction of the facility. Preliminary designs have been completed and accepted. The project is now at the stage of preparation of final technical drawings.

### Social Services and Prison Integrated Network (SPINE)

This project is a concerted, multifaceted effort of the Health and Social Services Division Tobago, to enhance the psychosocial functioning of individuals by addressing problems such as homelessness, unemployment and lack of job skills, and the rehabilitation of ex-convicts. The programme targets socially displaced persons resident at the Centre for Socially Displaced Persons and those referred for substance abuse rehabilitation and entails the prevention, intervention, and treatment, referral and follow-up of socially displaced persons, and persons in prison. There were challenges with this programme because of the absence of a building to be used as a temporary community shelter for clients.

However, 2,500 clients benefited from this programme. The Family Services Division gave support to this initiative by providing interventions utilizing the tools of counselling, social marketing, community outreach programmes and workshops.

### Aided Self-Help Programme

The Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs mobilises persons in communities throughout Trinidad and Tobago to improve their standard of living through self help activities through the Aided Self-Help Programme. The programme provides assistance to communities with regards to infrastructural projects- communal building facilities, roads, water, electricity, and recreational facilities. The beneficiaries for the period October 2006 to June 2007 are 82,206 persons in various communities.

### Community Action Revival and Empowerment (CARE)

CARE is administered by the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs. This programme encourages a more holistic and integrated approach to development through the coordination and partnership between communities and Ministries. During the period October 2006 to June 2007 four hundred (400) groups including Non-Governmental Organisation (NGOs), Community Based Organisations (CBOs) and Faith Based

## Pillar 2: Nurturing a Caring Society

Organisations (FBOs) were the prime beneficiaries of financial assistance. These groups developed projects ranging from social and educational activities to health, support and income generation initiatives.

### Community Enhancement and Regeneration Programme (CERP)

CERP under the Ministry of Community, Development, Culture and Gender Affairs seeks to strengthen community life and community institutions through the implementation of Programmes to provide communities with water services, electricity and multi-purpose social and recreational amenities. During October 2006 to June 2007, awareness programmes about community assets and resources through the use of community displays and interactive maps, have given individuals within respective communities the opportunity to build a strong sense of community. Community members have actively participated in and contributed to the sustainable development of their area through consultations, collaboration and representation in the decision making process. During the period projects were completed at Rock City and La Tosca.

### National Social Development Programme

This programme was introduced in March 2002 as a national social intervention strategy designed to meet the need for basic amenities in vulnerable communities throughout Trinidad and Tobago. Three agencies execute the programme on behalf of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago: (i) the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA); (ii) Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC) and (iii) the National Commission for Self Help (NCSH). The Ministry of Public Utilities and the Environment is responsible for WASA and T&TEC.

The programme of works implemented by T&TEC and WASA is designed to bring relief to deprived and underprivileged communities by providing and or improving the supplies of water and electricity to communities, residences and community facilities. The programme also seeks to encourage self help initiatives aimed at improving community centres, sporting and recreational facilities to improve the overall standard of living of the communities.

The main objective of the electrification aspect of the programme is to provide a safe and reliable supply of electricity to residences, where the cost of such an undertaking is beyond the means of low income individuals. The projects undertaken by T&TEC focus on three (3) main areas: (i) street lighting (ii) electrification of residences, and (iii) electrification of recreational facilities.

During the first half of fiscal 2007/08, 182 electrification projects and 363 house wiring projects were completed. In addition, 3 booster stations, 160 house wiring projects, and 38 electrification jobs were in progress.

The component of the programme is designed to improve the water supply to the population throughout the country by providing pipe borne water to communities that receive a water supply of less than 48 hours per week, and to areas with no water supply whatsoever. Twenty three trainees participated in the NSDP Pipelaying Training Programme in Tobago.

WASA also completed approximately 53 water projects and installed 44,000 metres of pipeline. Additionally, one well was completed and a further 11 were in progress at the following locations: Lopinot, Sangre Grande, Plum Mitan, Biche, Lower Santa Cruz, Mamoral No. 8, Matelot, El Dorado, Scott's Farm Road, and Carmichael.

### Refurbishment of Community Centres

This programme under the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs seeks to refurbish Community Centres that have been in existence over a long period and are in an advance state of disrepair. Achievements during the period October 2006 to June 2007 include refurbishment work in the following community centres- La Romaine Community Centres, Bamboo Duncan Community Centre, Basseterre Community Centre, Freeport St.Mary's Community Centre, Brooklyn Community Centre and San Rafael Community Centres.

### Updating of the Database of NGOs

Non- Governmental Organisations play a major role is providing services to the national community. Citizens need

## Pillar 2: Nurturing a Caring Society

to know how to access the range services that would enhance their quality of life. The Ministry of Social Development has recognized this need and has prepared a Directory of NGOs for publication. The research has been completed, data analysed and the publication should be available to the public by September 2007.

### Goal: Poverty will be significantly reduced

According to the 2005 Survey of Living Conditions (SLC) (preliminary results), approximately 17% of the population is now living below the poverty line. This suggests that the level of poverty has declined by approximately 18% from the last survey conducted in 1992. Government continues to assist and empower the poor through several initiatives undertaken by the social sector Ministries. These initiatives may include grants (to support education, housing, food and entrepreneurship), feeding programmes and other safety net type provisions.

One of the objectives of Government is to reduce the number of persons living below the poverty line by one percent each year. Some of the key programmes and initiatives which were in operation in fiscal 2007 and sought to contribute to achieving this target, are outlined hereunder.

### European Union Sponsored - Poverty Reduction Programme (PRP)

The programme was successful in advancing the reach of the micro-credit fund, and operationalising the decentralized strategy for poverty reduction through the networks of information and resource centres/civil society organizations and the Regional Social and Human Development Councils (RSHDCs). There was also strengthening of the technical and organizational capacities of the Programme Management Unit (PMU) of the Poverty Reduction Programme and conducting poverty audits/ inventory. The purpose of the programme is to support the Government of Trinidad and Tobago in formulating and implementing a National Poverty Reduction Strategy that is more responsive to the needs of the most vulnerable groups of the population. Achievements for the period October 2006 to July 2007 are as follows:

A total of three hundred and three (303) groups have benefited from Micro Grants to assist over 5,000 beneficiaries. One hundred and sixty-four (164) projects, targeting just over 2,000 beneficiaries, were approved at a cost of \$4,378,945 approximating to 72.98% of the Regional Micro Project Fund (RMPF) allocated for the period (6.0M). Fifteen (15) Networks of Civil Society Organizations were operational as well as fifteen (15) RSHDCs and fifteen (15) PIUs. Analysis of the 2005 SLC was completed and a final report was submitted. Thirty-six (36) Outreach sessions were conducted by the RSHDCs in the period with over 100 groups participating.

### Conditional Cash Transfer Programme (CCTP)

The Conditional Cash Transfer Programme (CCTP), through the issue of a Debit card addresses the basic food needs of vulnerable households by providing cash transfers to vulnerable members of the public for the purchase of grocery items. This initiative replaced the Social Help and Rehabilitative Efforts (SHARE) programme under the Ministry of Social Development.

Overall the project aims to target approximately 23,000 persons. In fiscal 2006 18,000 clients of the SHARE programme received debit cards. Between October 2006 and March 2007 the programme target was 800 persons of which 668 or 84% have actually received the TT card.

In terms of the reach of the programme, eight regional offices have been opened to date and approximately 5000 persons have already been screened. Recipients of the programme have also received their computerized birth certificate.

### Senior Citizens Grant

This grant provides financial assistance to senior citizens of Trinidad and Tobago who are 65 years and over and whose income does not exceed \$1000 per month. Recipients must also have been resident in Trinidad and Tobago for at least 20 years prior to their application. For the period October 2006 to August 2007, a total 67,013 persons received the Grant in Trinidad. Approximately 3,050 persons were in receipt of the grant in the sister isle during fiscal 2007.

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### Public Assistance

This Grant comprises the provision of financial transfers to citizens of Trinidad and Tobago who are unable to earn living because of illness or injury. The grant is also paid on behalf of children in cases where their fathers have died, been hospitalized, imprisoned or deserted. A total of 21,178 recipients benefited from the grant for the period October 2006 to August 2007. In Tobago, 460 persons were in receipt of public assistance for fiscal 2007.

### Disability Grant

This Grant provides financial assistance in the sum of \$800.00 monthly to citizens who have been medically certified as being disabled or are unable to earn a livelihood. A total of 16,563 recipients benefited from the grant for the period October 2006 to August 2007.

### Urgent Temporary Assistance Grant

Involves the provision of an immediate grant to national who are in dire need of urgent financial assistance. A total 699 recipients benefited from this grant facility for the period October 2006 to August 2007.

### Burial Grant

This grant seeks to assist in meeting the cost of the burial of persons who are in receipt of Social Welfare benefits or any or other needy person who has no one to pay for the burial. A total of 98 recipients received grants for the period October 2006 to August 2007.

### Bus Passes

Bus Passes were distributed to 3,126 recipients, which included Old Age Pensioners, Public Assistance recipients, Disability Assistance recipients and Senior Citizens over 65, all of which amounted to the sum of \$2,565,000.00 for the period October 2006 to August 2007.

### Emergency Cases Fund

This fund provides financial assistance to probationers to purchase books, clothing and stationary, counseling for self-development, help to get probationers readmitted to school, opportunities for training of probationers and help to rebuild

family units. For the period October 2006 to March 2007 thirty-five (35) applications were processed during this period. As a result of this programme, many probationers who access the fund are empowered to successfully completed school and some were admitted to other programmes at Youth camps, MILAT, MYPART and the Civilian Conservation Corps. Two hundred (200) applications were approved for the Emergency Cases Fund.

### Micro-Enterprise Training and Development Grant (MEG)

The Micro Enterprise Training and Development Grant under the Ministry of Social Development, has been utilized for assisting clients who are interested in starting a business or improving their skills set.

For the fiscal period 2006-2007, the Micro Enterprise Training and Development Grant was dispensed to 35 individuals, 13 males and 22 females for the procurement of goods and equipment for the development of micro businesses and for training purposes. Consequently, the grant has fostered the introduction of shop keepers, farmers, landscapers, graphic artists, writers, seamstresses, nuts vendors, beauticians, photographers, musicians, designers and caterers into Trinidad's economy.

### Realisation of Economic Achievement (REACH) in Tobago

This programme is administered by the Health and Family Services Division of the Tobago House of Assembly. This programme is essentially the administration of two grants – (a) Micro-Enterprise Grant (b) Training and Development Grant. The goal of this programme is to provide social services clients with training, education and support services to help them gain economic independence and self-sufficiency. It is also a proactive strategy to eradicate poverty among vulnerable persons in the communities. In fiscal 2007, eighty five (85) individuals throughout Tobago benefited from this programme. Of this amount 40 were males and 45 females.

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### Community Development Fund (CDF)

The Community Development Fund under the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs focuses on sustainable development through the strengthening of infrastructure for social services delivery to the poor and vulnerable. In terms of achievements the CDF is executing a new structure which was drafted in January 2007. CDF is also in the process of establishing an office in Tobago. Another achievement is that a Fundamentals and Techniques in Calypso Composition and Performance Programme was conducted between November 2006 to February 2007 with forty (40) persons attending the programme and thirty –seven (37) persons graduating. The John John Basketball Facility was completed during this period.

### Decentralisation of the Social Services Delivery

In fiscal 2005 approval was obtained for the framework for the design of a new operating system for the decentralization of the delivery of social services to communities. The framework recommended the establishment of a National Executive Agency headed by a Board of Directors and managed by an Executive Director and the establishment of fourteen (14) Regional Offices of the National Agency referred to as Social Service Delivery Centres. An important aspect of the new system would be the delivery of services at the Centres through generic social workers who will treat with the needs of individuals and families in a holistic manner.

In fiscal 2006 approval was received for the recruitment of an expert in decentralization for a period of two (2) years to develop and implement a plan for the decentralization of the delivery of social services to communities in Trinidad and Tobago and for the establishment on a temporary basis of a Support Unit in the Ministry of Social Development to provide assistance to the expert. In fiscal 2007 progress was made with the identification on a suitable candidate to undertake the exercise. It is expected that the project will start up early in fiscal 2008.

### Operation of the Facility for Older Socially Displaced Persons at Hernandez Place, Arima

This facility under the Ministry of Social Development targets older, socially displaced persons who are unable to find a place in conventional homes for the elderly. Renovations have been completed; however, the facility needs to be furnished. An NGO was identified to manage the facility.

### Rehabilitation of Socially Displaced Elderly to Homes for Older Persons

Eighteen (18) socially displaced elderly clients were relocated to Homes for the Elderly where they are receiving the quality of care required for this population. Two (2) of these clients received additional income and assumed responsibility for payment of their accommodation fee. The relocation of these clients has allowed for accommodation of other categories of socially displaced clients at the Riverside Plaza Assessment Centre.

### Establishment of Social Displacement Centres

This project involves the establishment of an Assessment Centre and Temporary Accommodation for Socially Displaced Persons at various sites across the country. The Assessment Centre will be established in Port of Spain where a building has already been purchased for such a purpose. Preliminary works commenced at the sites for the establishment of temporary accommodation at Aripo and Piparo.

### Rental Subsidy Programme

Following successful completion of the Empowerment Series Programme under the Social Displacement Unit of the Ministry of Social Development, eighteen (18) persons were relocated to independent living for whom rental subsidies in the amount of \$300 per month for a period of three (3) months were paid to landlords. The Empowerment Series programme consists of a series of lectures and discussions within an open group format. Successful participation and completion of this programme yields an added bonus to some residents who qualify for further assistance via rental assistance.

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### Institutional Strengthening for Staff of Assessment and NGO Drug Rehabilitation Centres

Twenty-five (25) persons participated in this programme and acquired skills to enhance the delivery of care to the socially displaced clientele resident at Assessment and NGO Rehabilitation Centres.

### Street Outreach Programme

A team comprising field officers of the Social Displacement Unit, Assessment and Rehabilitation Centres and formerly socially displaced persons will carry out regular street outreach visits to advise the socially displaced on social services. Of the Sixty-three (63) persons who were met and encouraged to give up living on the streets and accept accommodation at the emergency shelter, twelve (12) persons relocated to Centre for Socially Displaced Persons (CSDP) during the period October 2006 to June 2007. There is also regular interaction with the target population and increased information on clients.

### Provision of Nursing Services & Purchase of Medical Supplies for use at Assessment Centres for the Socially Displaced

This programme provides nursing services twice weekly to the resident population at Centre for Socially Displaced Persons (CSDP). A registered nurse with psychiatric training is responsible for monitoring clients, conducting assessments and providing referrals as regards the general health status of those persons resident at the Centre for Socially Displaced Persons (CSDP).

One hundred and seventeen (117) new clients were seen by the nurse. Eighty-nine (89) referrals were made to other medical institutions for further treatment and management. One hundred and eight (108) routine tests were done on clients to determine whether they were in active drug use. Medication was administered to two hundred and ninety (290) clients.

### Multi-purpose Community Based Telecentre Project

There was an increase of 16,000 persons accessing the Centres over the last five years.

Telecentres have been established in Piparo, Couva, Princes Town, and Belle Garden – Tobago. There have been continued operations and monitoring of the Telecentres, where walk-in access to the internet has been available to all clients in these regions. The telecentres offer training programmes in basic and advanced computer literacy, and walk-in general use of the facility. Data have been available for users of the various telecentres across the country as follows:

- **Couva**

There have been a total of 82 persons who accessed the training in the first three quarters of fiscal 2006/07. Of these, there were 16 were male and 66 were female. The walk-in users in the 3 quarters varied from a high of 1,645 in the second quarter to a low of 1,203 in the third quarter. The daily average for walk-in users in the first quarter was 25, in the second quarter it was 35, and 20 in the third quarter.

- **Belle Garden – Tobago**

A training camp for children was held during the Easter period where children between ages 6-9 and 10-14 were taught basic computer literacy. There were 11 children in total. Data were more easily available for walk-in use of the facility. In the first quarter there were a total of 170 users of which 90 were male and 80 were female. The total usage during the period was 1,625 with a daily average of 25 persons. In the second quarter, there were 115 male and 134 female walk-in users totaling 249 persons. In the third quarter, the walk-in male users totaled 22, and there were 31 female, amounting to 53 users during the period.

- **Princes Town**

In Princes Town, there were more data for walk-in users as well. However it was noted that in the second quarter a special training programme in computer literacy was conducted for police officers. The walk-in users in the first quarter totaled 248 persons of which 86 were male and 162 were female. The daily average for this period was 52 users. In the second quarter, there was a total of 146 users, with 48 being male and 99 female. In the third quarter, 48 persons made use of the training programmes. In addition there were 79 male walk-in users and 172 female amounting to 251 persons.

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- **Piparo**

Information was available for the first and second quarter of the fiscal period. In the first quarter, 281 persons registered to use the facility. These were disaggregated into 173 male and 168 female. The training sessions were attended by 80 male and 120 female amounting to a total of 200 persons. The daily walk-in average was noted as being 31 persons. In the second quarter, 293 persons registered to use the facility. Of these, 117 were male and 176 were female. The training programme was attended by 180 persons of which 75 were male and 105 were female. The daily walk-in average for this period was 35 persons.

### School Nutrition Programme

This programme under the Ministry of Education aims to alleviate poverty through the provision of breakfasts and lunches to deserving students. The School Nutrition Programme has supplied approximately 40,000 breakfasts and 95,000 lunches to pre and primary school level children in 818 schools across Trinidad for fiscal 2007.

Within the last fiscal year the Ministry of Education completed a base study of recipients, ensured that all staff have completed training in Servsafe, while two staff members completed training in ISO 2000.

It is hoped that this programme will increase student attendance at participating schools, assist in the cognitive development of the child and impact on the eating habits of the population through education initiatives.

For the fiscal year 2008 the National School Dietary Services Ltd. will be embarking on several Nutrition Education initiatives, conducting research activities targeting the school population, establishing laboratory facilities and developing a headquarters for its operations.

### Textbook Rental Programme

This programme under the Ministry of Education provides students from the primary and secondary level with text books relevant to the National Curriculum and approved

by the Textbook Evaluation Committee of the Ministry of Education.

The textbooks are supplied under a loan programme with no rental fees. Following completion of the school year, the books are returned to the school for loan to the next intake of students.

In the fiscal year 2007, 176,400 primary level students and 107,650 secondary students received textbooks on loan via the Textbook Rental Programme. A total of 14,393 books were also distributed to remedial students at the early childhood, primary and secondary school levels. Approximately 2816, Special Education students at both the primary and secondary levels also received books.

The Unit also successfully completed an audit of books and piloted a database in target schools. It is currently compiling requests from schools under the remedial, special education and technical vocational programmes.

### Unemployment Relief Programme (URP)

The Unemployment Relief Programme (URP) has as its objectives: (1) the provision of temporary unemployment relief, (2) the upgrade of physical infrastructure in communities, (3) the creation of entrepreneurs through the award of special projects contracts, and (4) limited in-house training and placement of persons into existing training programmes in other Ministries.

The URP has offered temporary unemployment relief, and promoted creativity of young entrepreneurs in the award of special contracts. There has also been the upgrade and maintenance of physical infrastructure particularly in disadvantaged communities. This infrastructure upgrade has mainly taken the form of road works and box drains. They also offer limited training in traditional and non-traditional skills in special programmes such as soft furnishings and ceramics.

During the first half of fiscal 2007, the URP provided temporary employment to 34,508 unemployed citizens between the

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ages of 18-65 years. This number exceeded the target for the period which had been the employment of 30,000 persons on a fortnightly basis. There was also completion of 150 construction jobs, and a total of 3,700 persons were trained.

Other achievements of the programme have been a more efficient payment disbursement system and the decentralization of the programme to major administrative centres. The payment of fortnightly wages was amended to take place over a 3 day period. This has reduced the long waiting queues for receipt of wages that have plagued the programme and frustrated its beneficiaries over the years. The programme's decentralization to more centrally located areas has also brought about increased efficiency in its operation.

The major constraints of the programme during this period have been identified as inadequate accommodation at the Head Office and Regional Offices, sub-optimal procurement and distribution of construction materials to projects and inadequate staffing in some critical areas.

The action taken to remedy this has been to enhance the building accommodation, to establish two administration units to streamline the procurement process, and to strengthen the recruitment drive.

In order to improve the delivery of services to clients, a complaints desk was established to solicit feedback from the community.

The third quarter has seen a further increase in the number of beneficiaries of the programme. The target had been the employment of 30,000 persons and this has been exceeded to the extent that 37,337 persons benefited from the programme. Eighty four (84) construction projects have been completed and two (2) contracts for special projects have been awarded. The aim for the training aspect of the programme has been to meet a target of 4,900 persons for the period and for this quarter a total of 3,300 persons have been trained.

A notable achievement of the programme during this period is the development of the debit card system which is 90%

complete as the end of June 2007. It is on target to be fully operational by October 2007.

### √Multi-Sector Skills Training Programme (MuST)

The Multi-Sector Skills Training Programme under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education is a specialized craft-training program that is designed to develop competent, certified workers in priority sectors of the national economy. The priority sectors presently identified are the Construction and Hospitality sectors. The program targets unemployed persons between the ages of 18 – 50 years both male and female.

This year saw the introduction of the 'Positively Altering Lifestyles (PALS) Program' within MuST, to address the problem of undesired test results arising from the drug testing criterion within the program.

The programme's first cycle for fiscal 2007 issued 653 certificates and unit awards through the National Training Agency (NTA). A second cycle is expected to be completed in October 2007.

### √The Retraining Programme

The Retraining Programme under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education is one of the seventeen critical training programmes. It focuses on the retooling and re-skilling of unemployed persons between the ages of 25 to 45 years to enhance their opportunities to access employment.

During the period October 2006 – March 2007 766 persons benefited from the Retraining Programme. In terms of achievements 91.6% of persons enrolled in Trinidad graduated and 82.7% of persons enrolled in Tobago graduated.

The programme has expanded in scope with respect to the geographical spread (Tobago- Patience Hill, Black Rock, Les Coteaux and in Trinidad, Ravine Sable, La Brea, Point Fortin) in order to reach a greater percentage of persons in need of training in rural communities. The programme has enhanced the variety of skills available to meet the requirements of the labour force.



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The following skills were added in cycle 13-multi-media animation, crane operations, plant propagation, camera operations and lingerie and sleepwear and for cycle 14-agro-processing, events planning and leather craft. In fiscal 2007, a rapid assessment of the retraining programme was conducted by the Monitoring and Evaluation Division of the Ministry of Social Development.

### √Patient Care Assistants Programme

The objective of this programme is to provide support to professional nursing staff on the hospital wards and in the health centres in the Regional Health Authorities by performing non-technical duties. It also provides temporary service on a 6-month basis that would assist nursing staff and alleviate some of the problems associated with a shortage.

For the period October 2006 to March 2007, a batch of 500 Patient Care Assistants from the 4 Regional Health Authorities in Trinidad was recruited for training.

### √Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)

The Civilian Conservation Corps, under the purview of the Ministry of National Security during the period October 2006 to March 2007, had a total of 1,407 beneficiaries accessing the programme. Of this 570 were male and 837 were female. The programme offered services in induction training, life skills training, and on the job training. In terms of achievements-eighty percent of trainees indicated a development of their self-esteem, eighty percent of trainees showed an improvement in deportment, conduct, dress and mannerism and fifty percent of all trainees were able to obtain a job or start their own business.

### √Military-Led Youth Programme of Apprenticeship & Reorientation Training (MYPART) and Military-Led Academic Training Programme (MILAT)

The Ministry of National Security commenced MYPART and MILAT on 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2007. The goal of the programme is to train, develop and certify to an employable standard in a quasi military environment, young persons between the ages of 14-25 years.

The first phase will be a pilot phase where the two programmes are merged. The programme targets at risk youths who are vulnerable to socially unacceptable behaviors/attitudes. Youths pursuing MILAT would undergo a two year programme, whilst MYPART is for three years. This pilot phase is being conducted at the Specialised Youth Services Programme (SYSP) academy in Mausica. The number of beneficiaries to date is 100 young persons.

### √Non-Traditional Skills Training for Women

The Non Traditional Skills Training for Women which comes under the purview of the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs aims to provide technical and vocational training to low income women. Non Traditional Skills Training for Women was conducted in twelve centres in North, South, East and West Trinidad and in Tobago. A new training programme, Kitchen Construction and Design was conducted in Point Fortin. Another achievement is that the Upholstery Programme of the Morris Marshall Centre presented the Pat and Jinelle Day Care and Nursery with a nursery suite, a demonstration of the productive partnerships which are possible in programme operations.

### √Transformation and Development Centers

This programme under the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs provides meals and appropriate training as well as services designed to improve self esteem of recipients and self reliance. The main beneficiaries are unemployed, socially displaced and persons living in poverty. During the period October 2006 to June 2007 a hundred persons benefited from lunches served during the Christmas period in four centres. The Ministry plans to establish three centres in the next fiscal period.

### √Community Education (Skills Training) Programme

This programme under the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs provides training in a variety of marketable skills geared towards training persons for home-based production of goods and services and employment generation.

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The beneficiaries of this programme include low income families, vulnerable persons and individuals 'at-risk' in our society with the primary focus being unskilled, unemployed and / or underemployed persons.

### √Women in Harmony

This programme under the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs focus on the advancement of low income women with limited or no skills between the ages of 26-45 years. It seeks to offer employable skills to disadvantaged women in communities throughout the country. During October 2006 to June 2007, five hundred and thirty four (534) women benefited from the fourteen (14) programmes conducted. In fiscal year 2008, Women in Harmony plans to train 600 people at 20 centres.

### School Crossing Guard Programme

The School Crossing Guard Programme under the Ministry of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development offers services such as:

- Safe crossing of school children
- Safe crossing of pedestrians
- Traffic management
- Road safety

These services are directed towards children, youth, men, women, older persons, and the wider community to help eliminate / reduce traffic hazards, create employment opportunities, assist school children and pedestrians to cross safely and to impart safety practices to road users. The achievements of the programme for the period January – June 2007 are highlighted in Table XX below.

**Table XIX: Achievements of the School Crossing Guard Programme January-June 2007**

Obj.	Indicator of success	Target for this period	Actual Achievements
#1	Reduction of road accidents causing serious harm of fatalities.	No road accidents	No accidents involving school children or pedestrians.
#2	Greater compliance with road safety practices.	90 % of road users utilise services.	75% of road users utilise school crossing guard service.
#3	Training programme and employment of school crossing guards	Training of twenty guards and employment of fifteen persons.	Twenty Guards were trained and seventeen employed.

While the programme generates short-term employment for seventeen (17) persons on an annual basis, one of the major constraints experienced by the programme is the inability to control errant road users. This has resulted in periodic checks by licensing officers and transit police to the community. As a result of its success and the obvious need for the programme, a recommendation for the expansion of the road crossing service to more high risk areas.

### Goal: All citizens will have access to adequate and affordable housing

In attempting to achieve the goals of Vision 2020, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago views the basic needs of all citizens as utmost priority and considers the satisfaction of these needs as critical for continued national development. One of the areas identified as integral for personal security and development is the issue of housing for all. The Ministry of Housing in collaboration with other agencies has embarked on numerous initiatives to address the housing needs of the population. Some of these are outlined below.

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### Accelerated Housing

The **Accelerated Housing Programme** provides affordable and adequate housing for low and middle income earners. In fiscal 2007, the Housing Development Corporation (HDC) continued to facilitate construction and maintenance of housing units throughout the country. This was done via initiatives such as the Joint Venture Programme, Infill Programme, Urban Renewal Programme and the temporary Relocation of Squatters.

The Infill Programme constructed 1,500 units on 35 sites in Trinidad. Construction is ongoing. At the end of March 2007 twenty (20) projects were under construction with an additional five (5) in the planning stages under the Joint Venture Programme.

### Housing grants

The Home Improvement Grant under the Ministry of Housing is geared towards improving the living conditions and quality of life of individuals whose houses are in dire need of repairs and require some measure of assistance to effect such repairs. A maximum of \$15,000.00 is granted to persons whose annual income is less than \$36,000.00 per annum.

From October 2006 to mid-July, 2007, a further 925 grants were disbursed. It is projected that for fiscal 2006-2007 1,400 grants will be disbursed in Trinidad and Tobago and in fiscal 2007-2008, 1,800 grants will be disbursed.

### Provision of Housing Subsidy

The Home Improvement Subsidy is a matching subsidy provided to improve the housing conditions of the lower/middle and low-income (income of less than \$54,000.00 per annum) households in Trinidad and Tobago. A maximum of \$20,000.00 is provided the combination of funds, materials and sweat equity. At the end of March 2007, 172 subsidies were granted in Trinidad and 19 in Tobago. It is expected that an additional 450 families will receive the subsidy by September 2007. In fiscal 2008, it is projected that 1,000 subsidies will be disbursed.

The New Housing Component consists of the Beneficiary Owned Land Subsidy and Purchase of New Home Subsidy. Under the Beneficiary Owned Land Subsidy, subsidies are granted to persons who possess land and wish to construct a home and satisfy the criteria or persons who are unable to access a mortgage. A total of 75 persons at the end of February 2007 advanced from the second stage from a total of 1829 applicants.

Persons with an annual income of less than \$65,000.00 can qualify for a maximum of \$195,000.00 in Trinidad or \$215,000.00 in Tobago to purchase a property under the **Purchase of a New Home Subsidy**.

### Goal: All citizens will be empowered to lead long, healthy lifestyles and have adequate access to an efficient health care delivery system

In the context of *'Nurturing a Caring Society'*, improvement of 'health care, wellness and lifestyles through the continuous modernisation and development of the health sector' was imperative throughout fiscal 2007. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago has remained committed to creating a health sector that is caring, efficient, effective, accessible and affordable. The following programmes under the Ministry of Health have been identified as relevant to the attainment of a health sector with the outlined characteristics.

### Adult Cardiac Surgery Programme

The objective of this initiative is to assist cardiac patients who are unable to afford the cost of Angiograms, Angioplasty procedures and Cardiac Surgery. The following table outlines the number of persons that benefited from this programme during the period October 2006 – March 2007:

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**Table XX: Adult Cardiac Surgery Programme: No. of procedures carried out during the period October 2006 – March 2007:**

	Male	Female	Total
Cardiac Surgery	79	39	118
Angiograms	207	203	410
Angioplasty	31	13	44
<b>Total</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>572</b>

There has also been an increase in the number of surgical procedures conducted from 10 per month to 20 procedures per month.

### Surgical Waiting List

The Surgical Waiting List Initiative reduces the surgical waiting list at public hospitals to bring early relief to those patients that have already been waiting for long periods. The waiting list for surgeries included hernia cases, fibroid embolisations, cataracts and joint replacement. The following table provides the surgeries undertaken until March 2007;

**Table XXI: Surgical Waiting List Programme: No. of beneficiaries for the surgical procedures carried out during the period October 2006 – March 2007**

	Male	Female	Total
Cataract	171	231	402
Fibroid	0	116	116
General	51	16	67
Urology	102	23	125
Joint Replacement	34	79	113
Plastic Surgery	23	15	38
Gynaecology	0	164	164
Prosthesis	72	58	130
<b>Total</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>1,155</b>

This programme conducts approximately 1,000 surgeries annually (500 in a 6 mth. period). As reflected in the table above, the quantity of surgeries carried out during the 6 month period exceeded the target by almost twice the amount.

The Unit also assisted public medical institutions in dealing with difficult cases. At the end of 2007, a programme review is expected to be conducted to determine whether it should be

extended or incorporated into the Regional Health Authorities (RHA).

### National Oncology Home Care and Community Support Programme

This programme began on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2007, to fill the need for care in the home and in the community for cancer patients. It aims to provide holistic care in the home and in the community, across the continuum of services such as prevention, early diagnosis and treatment of cancer. Since its inception in April, to date 1,000 persons benefited from the programme.

### Medical Aid Committee Programme

This programme seeks to bring substantial relief to necessitous citizens who are chronically ill or otherwise where the provision of treatment adds to the overall rehabilitation of the individual. It assists patients with the cost of medical care that is not available in the public health care facilities and which may be available locally at private medical institutions as well as abroad.

The table below provides a breakdown of the beneficiary details and the expenditure for the period October 2006 – March 2007;

**Table XXII: Beneficiary and Expenditure details for the Medical Aid Programme**

Category	Age Group	No. of Beneficiaries
Youth	13 - 18	18
Men / Boys	19 - 50	131
Women / Girls	19 - 50	127
Children	12 yrs and under	51
Older Persons	Over 50	497
		<b>824</b>

In the past, payments for medical care were usually paid late due to inefficiencies in the system. In fiscal 2007, the payment process was computerized which facilitated earlier payments being made.

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### Youth Health Programme

This programme is conducted by the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs and is designed to service youth at risk between ages 15-25 years of age. In an effort to reach young people in their very communities, it was felt that health information needed to be disseminated “on the block” level. Therefore, the programme involves arranging Information Caravan visits to various communities. The programme is conducted in collaboration with PAHO, CAREC, NADAPP, Rapport, Family Planning Association, Ministry of Health, UWI Physiology Centre, T&T Cancer Society, Ministry of Agriculture, NACC and other health related organisations, and Police Youth Clubs.

One of the stated objectives is to encourage healthy lifestyles and reduce the incidence of HIV/AIDS in Trinidad and Tobago. Another is to provide young people with information on health issues that affect them. Information is disseminated on HIV/AIDS and other health related issues, cancer, and family planning. Testing is also undertaken for high blood pressure, diabetes, and cholesterol levels. Another project component includes the “Identification of community groups to follow up on issues raised”. Youth Development Officers would then continue to work in the community with the respective persons subsequent to the Caravan visit.

Among the programmes’ achievements are the Youth Health Caravans held in Arima and San Fernando in celebration of World AIDS Day on December 1<sup>st</sup> 2006. There have also been Caravans in La Horquetta and Ste Madeleine. The geographical area and distance that people are required to travel have been identified as constraints towards the hosting of Caravans. This is mainly due to the fact that the desired clientele would be located largely in rural areas. Another constraint is insufficient support staff to assist Youth Officers with administrative services during the conduct of the Health Caravan at the district offices. Also, service providers are sometimes constrained to deliver on time due to the Caravan’s distance.

Changes made to the initiative during the period have been a variation in the project to include the sensitization of a

new audience – school students – through the conduct of ‘Eduvans’. Eleven ‘Eduvans’ were conducted at Junior and Senior Secondary Schools in the communities of San Fernando East, Pleasantville, La Romaine, Ste Madeleine, Barrackpore, Marabella, Princes Town, Five Rivers, and Tableland among others.

Some recommendations for the improvement of the programme have emerged from participants. These include the provision of funding and facilities for talented youths in the communities and facilities such as TV, internet cafes, computers, and a small gym for young persons who live in rural areas.

### School Health Programme

This programme under the Ministry of Health is geared towards the prevention and management of auditory and visual impairment of children in primary schools throughout Trinidad and Tobago.

The following provides information on **Hearing Screening** undertaken during the period September 2006 – June 2007 for 1<sup>st</sup> year primary school children.

**Table XXIII: Hearing Screening undertaken during the period September 2006 – June 2007**

Total Population	Screened Population of		Results of Screening		Percentage of Screened Population
	Male	Female			
18,944	15,826				
	8,109	7,717	Pass	13,982	(88.3%)
			Re-screened	1,287	(8.1%)
			Referred for further management	557	(3.6%)
				15,826	

For the Vision Screening, the school population comprised of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students attending both private and public schools. One of the service providers screened 17,290 students (80.3%) of the total 21,530 students.

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For the period April – June 2007, 8,266 students were screened. 557 students out of the total were absent at the time of the screening and 106 students were referred for further management, in the counties of St. Patrick, Victoria, Nariva / Mayaro, St. Andrew, Caroni and Tobago.

### Community Care Development Project

The main thrust of this project is to provide care to the vulnerable groups in communities such as the elderly and children with disabilities. The programme was terminated in November 2006 but was restarted in January 2007 with the re-appointment of a Coordinator. The intention is to redefine the project and to allow another Ministry to assume responsibility for one aspect of the programme. The table below shows the beneficiaries of the programme for the period October 2006 to March 2007.

**Table XXIV: Community Care Development Project: Beneficiaries during the period October 2006 – March 2007:**

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Youth</b>	2	0	<b>2</b>
<b>Men/Boys</b>	17	0	<b>17</b>
<b>Women/Girls</b>	0	17	<b>17</b>
<b>Older Persons</b>	8	10	<b>18</b>
<b>Socially Displaced Persons with Disabilities</b>	16	14	<b>30</b>
<b>Persons with Disabilities</b>	0	1	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>85</b>

In addition, 25 persons were moved to Homes in their communities.

### Chronic Disease Assistance Programme

This programme involves the provision of cost-effective and reliable medication to persons with chronic diseases. During the review period, approximately 240 private pharmacies participated, with 300,000 persons accessing the programme.

### Goal: The HIV / AIDS Epidemic will be contained and care will be provided for those infected and affected

The HIV / AIDS epidemic is a reality that we must face in Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean as a region has one of the highest incidence of HIV infections, especially among females between the ages of 15 and 24. As we seek to empower those living with HIV / AIDS and educate others about the disease, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago has engaged in several programmes and initiatives to deal with the challenges of this epidemic.

The major achievements with respect to the National Strategic Plan for HIV / AIDS, through the collaborative efforts of the National AIDS Coordinating Committee and the Ministry of Health, have already been discussed in the chapter on the National Social Situation. The achievements of specific programmes will be discussed in this section.

### Establishment of HIV / AIDS Coordinating Units

The HIV/AIDS Coordinating Units were established as a strategy towards strengthening the role of the public sector in the HIV response. To achieve this objective, full-time HIV Coordinators were hired from a range of Government Ministries to ensure its success. Coordinators have been recruited in the Ministries of Tourism; Education; Local Government; Health; Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs; Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development; Sport and Youth Affairs and National Security.

The HIV/AIDS Coordinating Unit under the Ministry of Health replaced the National AIDS Programme and Rapport, and incorporates the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission Programme. The Unit commenced operations in December 2006 and the main objectives are, to decrease the incidence of HIV / AIDS and to mitigate the negative impact of HIV / AIDS on persons infected and affected in Trinidad and Tobago. The Ministry focused on policy issues and included the development of a National HIV Testing Policy which is in the final stages, review of the current Voluntary

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Counselling and Testing (VCT) Manual and the expansion of VCT training and sites.

They also expanded their technical capacity through the employment of a Programme Director and Assistant Programme Director. The services offered under this Unit include;

- Rapport Programme
- Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission Programme
- Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT)
- Anti-retroviral Therapy
- Advocacy
- Information, Education and Communication with the Public
- Post-exposure prophylaxis

In fiscal 2007 more testing sites were opened, with more persons participating in HIV testing. CD4 machines for HIV management were obtained for Mt. Hope General Hospital, San Fernando General Hospital, Scarborough General Hospital and the Public Health Lab. A decrease in the incidence of mother to child transmission of HIV was observed, which also resulted in a decrease of babies being born with HIV.

In fiscal 2007, the Ministry of Education focused on institutional strengthening and finalization of the National HIV/AIDS Education policy. Additionally, two (2) formal presentations were made at the Caribbean Education Sector HIV and Aids Capacity Building Programme on initiatives undertaken by the Ministry of Education in its HIV response.

In collaboration with International Labour Organisation (ILO), the Ministry of Labour conducted HIV Sensitization training which focused on HIV with a workplace policy and programming. The Ministry of Labour is in the finalization process of the policy.

The Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs collaborated with stakeholders to implement a number of youth friendly initiatives with regards to HIV / AIDS. They also implemented the Peer Educators training program for Youth Officers and implemented sensitization sessions for a number of programmes attached to youth facilities.

The Ministry of Tourism focused on training initiatives through sensitization workshops aimed at reducing discrimination against HIV infected persons at locations throughout the country. The Ministry continued to engage its stakeholders in a number of programmes aimed at prevention and advocacy and human rights.

The Ministry of Local Government held a symposium for Aldermen, Councilors and Mayors which was aimed at providing policy makers with the current information on HIV globally. Another workshop is planned for women attached to the Unemployment Policy Programme.

The Ministry of Community Development and Gender Affairs conducted a Carnival Awareness and community Outreach Programme. The HIH/AIDS Information and support Service Centre in Moruga gave service to 84 persons, referring 67 persons to VCT.

### RapPort

This initiative under the Ministry of Health's HIV/AIDS Coordinating Unit promotes healthy lifestyles and encourages youth to make healthy lifestyle choices and promote safer sex practices. The services offered include;

- Dissemination of information regarding HIV/AIDS and STDs
- Self-esteem counseling and
- Distribution of information on HIV testing and referrals where needed

## Pillar 2: Nurturing a Caring Society

For the period October 2006 – March 2007, 2,697 persons benefited from the services under this programme. Two additional centres were also opened in San Fernando and Arima.

### Antiretroviral treatment

As early as 2002, even before the launch of the strategic plan, the need to provide critical anti-retroviral medication to those who were already infected with the disease was recognized. In an effort to address this need, over 30 Million dollars was spent to provide critical anti-retroviral medication to those who were already infected. An ambitious clinical program to offer quality clinical care for HIV patients was launched. This has resulted in a sustained program moving from one clinic in 2002 to seven clinics at present, three for adult care and four clinics for children born with HIV. To date, comprehensive treatment has been provided to over 4000 persons living with HIV, with over 2500 persons receiving anti-retroviral medication free of charge.

### National HIV Clinical Training Center

A National HIV Clinical Training Center based in South Trinidad was launched earlier this year. The Center was established to develop both the quality and quantity of trained professionals for improved services for the entire nation, particularly in Eastern and Central Trinidad. The Ministry of Health has also been collaborating with agencies such as the Bill Clinton Foundation and the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO) to improve the care for persons living with HIV.

### Support to Civil Society Organizations providing HIV related Care and Counseling

The GORTT provides assistance to a range of civil society organizations that provide HIV-related care and counseling. This includes the Cyril Ross Nursery and HIV support groups from all over our republic. We have found that these civil organizations are often ideally positioned for greater effectiveness in dealing with their communities. Over the past four years, with transparency and accountability, we have given over 20 million dollars to bona fide NGOs to help in the battle against AIDS.

### Draft National Workplace Policy on HIV/AIDS

The Ministry of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development in collaboration with the NACC has been working with employers groups, trade unions and the ILO to ensure that the workplace is another effective battlefield in the war against this virus. A draft National Workplace Policy on HIV/AIDS has been developed which will soon be reviewed by Cabinet.

### Surveillance and Research

Trinidad and Tobago hosted an innovative annual series of Symposia to highlight and encourage this country's contribution to HIV-related research. The University of the West Indies and other key institutions have become increasingly involved; and the National Surveillance Unit of the Ministry of Health has been receiving much needed capacity building and support. A National Information Technology Platform for the proper management and analysis of HIV-related data is currently being built.

### Programmes under the National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme (NADAPP)

The National Alcohol and Drug Prevention Programme (NADAPP) is the national agency mandated by Government to co-ordinate Drug Demand Reduction initiatives in Trinidad and Tobago. In fiscal 2007 several initiatives were undertaken by the agency, geared towards information dissemination about alcohol and drug use / abuse. Some of these included programmes / projects that focused on:

- **Community Prevention:** this included the mobilisation of communities towards greater involvement in drug prevention and treatment initiatives. Information was disseminated through lectures, workshops and displays. Approximately twenty-seven (27) community leaders benefited from workshops held during the fiscal year.
- **School Information Series:** has been utilised to strengthen the School Prevention Programme by involving Principals, Vice Principals and Administrators of the School System in workshops geared towards sensitisation and education of the School Drug Prevention Programmes. Approximately



## Pillar 2: Nurturing a Caring Society

four (4) workshops were held during fiscal 2007 in schools throughout Trinidad and Tobago.

- **The Employee Assistance Programme:** this programme aims to sensitise and educate the Human Resource sector on the issues related to drug use in the workplace and to equip them with the knowledge and skills to treat with employees who are affected by both legal and illegal substances. Two (2) workshops / seminars were held for public and private sector human resource personnel to sensitise them on an Anti-Drug Policy in the workplace.
- **Information Dissemination Campaign Special Events:** this involved the increase of anti-drug advertisements and information dissemination during the holidays and special events in Trinidad and Tobago, especially for Christmas, Carnival, Easter and Borough Day Celebrations. These campaigns are directed to the public as a whole.

### Alcohol and Drug Abuse & HIV/AIDS Prevention Programme (ADAPP)

The Alcohol, Drug Abuse and HIV/AIDS Prevention Programme (ADAPP) is the Secretariat of the Tobago Drug Council, which is affiliated to the National Drug Council, established in 2000 through Cabinet. The National Drug Council is mandated to coordinate and monitor the National Anti-Drug Strategy. This programme is under the aegis of the Department of Health and Social Services. It is a demand reduction programme, focusing on community and school prevention, preventive education, treatment and rehabilitation and research and targets substance abusers.

In this regard, in fiscal 2007, thirty-nine (39) schools were visited through the Primary School Caravan and they received substance abuse education and information. In addition over 2000 persons benefited from the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme through its sensitization Programmes and included populations that were drawn from Secondary Schools, Civilian Conservation Corps, Parent Teacher Associations and its Community Outreach Programmes. The Secretariat collaborated with the Tobago Health Promotion Clinic to enhance the quality of the treatment and

rehabilitation services through the conduct of an evaluation of the programme.

### Goal: All citizens will have access to and participate in a sporting or recreational activity in keeping with our 'Sport for All' philosophy

The 'Sport for All' philosophy embraces the strategy that sport is a key component in the promotion of healthy lifestyles. Consequently, the intention of for the Government of Trinidad and Tobago is to make sport accessible to all. Efforts will be directed towards inculcating a physical education culture among the entire population. In so doing, the goal is to address the needs of the average sporting participant, those who perform at an elite level, children, the elderly, and the differently-abled. The Sport Company of Trinidad and Tobago (SPORTT) will focus on development of ten major sports: swimming, volleyball, football, cricket, basketball, netball, track and field, cycling, boxing and hockey. The Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs will oversee development of the other sporting disciplines.

### Development of Sporting Facilities

In furtherance of the implementation of the National Sport Policy, the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs continued efforts towards the construction and refurbishment of sporting facilities and the promotion and encouragement of the national community in some form of recreation. The Sports Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited assisted the Ministry in facilitating the establishment of:

- Three (3) Sport/Youth Facilities at Arima, Sangre Grande and Diego Martin for which designs and stakeholder analyses have been conducted, sites identified and the tendering process initiated. Phase 1 of the works, inclusive of earthworks, fencing and drainage works have commenced on the Arima and Sangre Grande indoor sport facilities and works on the Diego Martin facility are to commence in July 2007.
- Five (5) Regional Recreation Facilities at Santa Cruz, Mahaica, Pleasantville, Diego Martin and Toco which are at varying stages of the design and tendering processes

## Pillar 2: Nurturing a Caring Society

- Twenty (20) Recreational Grounds across Trinidad for which pavilions, fencing, lighting, drainage and other works will be constructed and/or refurbished
- A number of Hard Courts at recreation grounds for the playing of court games
- Thirty-one (31) lighted Jogging Tracks around the perimeter of recreation grounds to encourage exercise and socialization
- Refurbishment works to the astro-turf and sprinkler system at the National Hockey Centre, Tacarigua which have been completed

The Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs, in conjunction with the Ministries of Local Government, Education and the Sport Co. Trinidad and Tobago (SPORTT) collaborated on the formulation of a holistic plan to facilitate widespread recreational activity through the development, upgrade and maintenance of recreational and sporting facilities inclusive of school sporting facilities across the country. Out of these collaborations, a Classification System for the Development of Recreation Grounds was developed and approved by Cabinet. Recreation Facilities were categorized in the following six classification levels in accordance with their usage and size:

- Play Parks
- Community Recreational Facilities (Community A & B)
- Regional Sport Facilities
- Sub-Regional Sport Facilities
- National Sport Facilities
- International Sport Facilities

In an effort to advance the sport of cycling, swimming and tennis, the Ministry has embarked on the construction of international sporting facilities to accommodate training and hosting of national and international competitions. Project brief documents have been prepared for the construction of the National Cycling Track, a National Aquatic Centre (which will house a 50m swimming pool) and National Tennis Centre. These briefs have been shared with relevant sporting associations and other interested stakeholders as part of the Ministry's participatory approach to the construction of major sporting facilities.

The implementation of other projects included completion of the Mayaro Sport Facility (Sport arm) which will soon be commissioned; continued construction of the St. James Youth Facility; and commencement of works to upgrade the Yolande Pompey Recreation Ground. Designs and tender documents for construction of the Mayaro Youth Training facility have been completed and contractors have been short listed for the construction of this arm of the Facility which will adjoin the Mayaro Sport Facility.

### Women and Girls in Sport Festival

This programme provides a forum to showcase the talent and skills of female sporting achievers. The objectives are to encourage women and girls to participate in sport consistent with the 1994 Brighton Declaration in Sport. The initiative is also intended to promote an appreciation for positive attitudes towards females' involvement in sports. The programme also provides a forum for healthy competition for the participants as well as to foster social and behavioral interaction.

In fiscal 2007 a total of 757 females benefited from the initiative. This exceeded the targeted amount of 500 participants. The main constraints identified were limited or no support staff available to assist in administration of the programme. New events were introduced into the Festival for this period. These were badminton, aerobics, and a 5K race.

### District Youth Sport Festival

This initiative offers competition between groups/individuals in various sporting disciplines. The beneficiaries for fiscal 2007 totaled 4,357 young people under age 19. The objectives of the programme include encouraging the formation of community groups and clubs, promoting keen competition and good sportsmanship, and identifying sporting talent. It is also intended to foster community bonding and building at the district level as well as providing relaxation for communities in an atmosphere of friendship and celebration at a day of fun and competition.

The main constraints identified were the timing of the festival. It took place at a time of year when students were writing exams and this affected the level of participation. Additionally,

## Pillar 2: Nurturing a Caring Society

marketing and advertising of the festival was limited due to lack of funding.

Recommendations for improvement of the programme include adding more support staff, staging the festival after the school examination period, and communicating the event with the schools' sports personnel.

### Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centres

This programme offers services in life skills training, and vocational and technical training in carpentry, hair dressing and beauty care, plumbing, computer technician and literacy, electrical work, and drapery. A total of 148 young people between ages 15-19 benefited during the period under review. The objectives include assisting young people in acquiring a skill and overcoming deficiencies in basic education. It also helps to identify and develop as far as possible, their potential in the field of sport and culture. In addition, it develops self-respect and leadership skills and encourages adventure learning, foster positive values, and assists in the social functioning of youth.

The main constraints identified were limited staffing in the positions of Camp Directors, Assistant Camp Directors, Directors, and Trade Instructors. There was also no official daily rated support staff to facilitate the maintenance of the facility. Additionally, the infrastructure is archaic, dilapidated, and in need of urgent repair. Furthermore, the Ministry of National Security's use of the El Dorado Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centre has delayed the opening of the school term for female participants.

### District Youth Services

The programme offers youth leadership courses and workshops for young group leaders. It also offers workshops on teenage pregnancy, crime and drug abuse. There are also institutional strengthening workshops to improve youth group leadership and provision of financial and technical support to youth groups. It targets young people between ages 15-25 years. The objectives include encouraging the development of attitudes and aspirations which are supportive of national development and inculcating a sense of self-reliance and self-confidence in

young people. It also provides support for the prevention or emergence of social problems leading to crime, drug abuse, teenage pregnancy, etc. and offers a forum for the youth to voice their opinions, needs, and interests so that referral arrangements can be made to the appropriate agencies.

The main constraints during the period include staff shortages which have caused limited geographic coverage of the service. The office accommodation is poor and there hasn't been sufficient adherence to accounting procedures for payment to service providers. To remedy this some temporary support staff was supplied through the On the Job Training Programme, and a new District Office location has been sourced. It was also recommended that additional Youth Officers be acquired to work with target audiences at the district level.

### Youth Facilities Development Programme

This programme offers training in electrical work, plumbing, music literacy and production, drumming, drama, aerobics, and computer technician training. The beneficiaries for fiscal 2007 were 91 persons between the ages of 15-25. These were 47 male and 44 female. The programme provides venues and activities that encourage personal development through social, cultural, physical, educational, vocational and recreational pursuits.

Major constraints identified include substandard physical infrastructure and the programme is not broad enough to supply the needs of the youths. The programme also needs more professional staff such as psychologists, Social Workers, and Night Supervisors. A preliminary proposal has been prepared and presented to the Ministry's administration to address the shortcomings in service delivery.

### Community Swimming Programme

The programme offers participants the opportunity to learn how to swim, recreational swimming, and life saving skills. It caters for all ages, however, during the first half of fiscal 2006/07 there were 4,900 participants under age 16 and 1,282 persons 16 and over. The objectives include promoting life saving as a career option, increasing the level of aquatic skills among citizens, and facilitating the development of potential

## Pillar 2: Nurturing a Caring Society

athletes. It also is intended to increase the number of persons involved in competitive type swimming by 20% in fiscal 2007, and provide instructional skills in basic swimming and water safety. Additionally, the programme aims to improve the physical health and well-being of its participants.

Some constraints identified were the long distance from to pool to schools in the area. This led to reluctance to use the facility. There is also insufficient pool management and instructional staff for nighttime, weekend, and holiday activity. The Ministry is addressing this situation.

### School and Community Coaching

This programme offers motor skills training in these specific sporting disciplines: cricket, netball, tennis, basketball, track & field, hockey, volleyball, and football. It services participants

at the school level (under 19) and the community level. It speaks to developing proficiency in fundamental sports skills to 6,000 persons at the community level and 36,000 school students by fiscal 2007.

The main constraints include getting qualified persons to administer the programme. The remuneration offered to coaches is too small to attract good coaches. It has been recommended that the remuneration be increased by 100% in order to remedy this. Some changes to the programme have been the introduction of Cuban coaches under the bi-lateral agreement between the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and the Republic of Cuba. These coaches provide technical support for the programme in the areas of track & field, and they have introduced baseball as a new sport.

## PILLAR 3: ENABLING COMPETITIVE BUSINESS

### GOALS ADDRESSED UNDER PILLAR 3

- Macroeconomic stability will be maintained.
- A business climate that attracts investors and encourages competitive businesses to start and grow will be created.
- Competitive businesses will transform Trinidad and Tobago into a diversified economy with exciting growth opportunities.

**Goal: A business climate that attracts investors and encourages competitive business to start and grow will be created**

#### National Entrepreneurship Development Company (NEDCO) Ltd

This Government funded company operates within the Ministry of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development to provide a complete package of advisory, training, mentorship and funding services to micro and small enterprises. The National Entrepreneurship Development Company Limited (NEDCO) is the primary agency to coordinate the loan and business development activities associated with the promotion of enterprise development. Under NEDCO, 558 loans were disbursed at a value of \$14,949,035.00 for the period January-June 2007.

The YES Programme is offered in San Fernando and Port of Spain and targets both male and female youths ages 17-30. The overall goal of the programme is to expose participants to the option of self employment by imparting the rudimentary characteristics of successful entrepreneurs. It is anticipated that the programme would produce participants for NEDCO's loan service, effect a change in the mindset of the beneficiaries with respect to personal development and lifestyle and translate knowledge into viable business activities.

Within the last fiscal \$176,000.00 was expended on exposing participants to core business planning techniques, teaching lifestyle management techniques such as goal setting and equipping participants with the necessary skills and support to enable them to launch their own business.

The Laventille Initiative was established in July 2007 under NEDCO. This programme combines financial and social training / development support to residents of the Laventille area via entrepreneurship.

The overall goal is to provide an opportunity to wealth creation, self-empowerment and socio-economic regeneration for the Laventille Community and environs. It also seeks to:

- Provide financial and business support services to entrepreneurs
- Assist NGOs and CBOs in their efforts to empower communities and individuals
- Provide training and development opportunities for entrepreneurship

The following table, provides information on the achievements for July 2007.

**Table XXV: List of Achievements for the Laventille Initiative for July 2007**

Obj.	Indicator of success	Target for this period	Actual Achievements
#1	Number of loan clients on a monthly basis	20 per month	10 per month
#2	Number of CBOs within the programme	1 per month	5

The major constraints during this period included the lack of human resources for the implementation of the programme.

## Pillar 3: Enabling Competitive Business

### Enterprise Development Division

The Ministry of Labour, Small and Micro Enterprise Development has been given the responsibility through the Enterprise Development Division to be the advocate for the Small and Micro Enterprise Sector. In November 2006, the Division hosted an international conference on “Enabling the Enterprise Revolution: Developing and Encouraging Women’s Enterprise and Entrepreneurship”. This conference was seen as an effective mechanism for bringing to the fore relevant issues and facilitating the development of strategies and action plans directed at encouraging female entrepreneurship at the national, regional and international levels.

### Goal: Competitive business will transform Trinidad and Tobago into a diversified economy with exciting growth opportunities

#### √Youth Apprenticeship Programme in Agriculture (YAPA)

On stream since 2002, the YAPA Programme under the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources exposes its participants ages 18-25 to 6-8 weeks of theoretical and practical training on public and private farms throughout

Trinidad and Tobago. The primary objective of this programme is to demonstrate agriculture as a viable business option to youths. Participants are therefore able to gain knowledge and experience in Crop Production, Livestock Production, and Ornamental Horticulture which will assist them in becoming agri-business entrepreneurs and consequently increase food production in the country.

The programme is conducted in two phases. Graduates from YAPA Phase I can continue into the Phase II which involves 9 months of continued practical training in agriculture.

During Fiscal 2007, Phase I of the YAPA programme was introduced to 317 persons, 148 males and 169 females who have cultivated short term crops and benefited from their harvest.

For the same period 70 Phase I graduates enrolled into the Phase II component of the programme and were exposed to 100 training sessions as well as one session on business management principles. All participants, 31 males and 39 females demonstrated teamwork and increased self esteem and expressed a willingness to continue farming.

## PILLAR 4: INVESTING IN SOUND INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### GOALS ADDRESSED UNDER PILLAR 4

- Trinidad and Tobago will be an inter-connected, technologically advanced society with modern information and communication systems driving innovation, growth and social progress
- The environment will be valued as a national asset and conserved for the benefit of future generations and the wider international community.

**Goal: Trinidad and Tobago will be an inter-connected, technologically advanced society with modern information and communication systems driving innovation, growth and social progress**

#### Implementation of the ICT Plan

The government of Trinidad and Tobago recognizes the importance of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) as integral to economic and social development. Our goal is the formation of an interconnected society that embraces modern information and communication systems to fuel innovation, economic growth and social progress.

In 2003, the government developed a National Information and Communication Technology Plan (*fastforward*). The Plan speaks to addressing some of the major challenges that we face with respect to the creation of a society with a level of ICT that would classify us among the world's developed nations. Among these challenges are access and affordability of ICT, the promotion of education and skills development, the creation of a robust competitive business environment, and the establishment of an appropriate legal and regulatory framework to guide the activities of the sector.

In line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) there is emphasis on accelerating e-Government which is expected

to transform social service delivery to the population. Among the projects to achieve this objective are the **Government Communications Backbone Project**, the **e-Government Portal**, and the **Community Connection Programme**.

- **Government Communications Backbone**

This is an advanced communications network, Wide Area Network (WAN), intended to be a central platform for communication and collaboration between all ministries and public sector agencies. Greater information sharing between ministries will result, leading to less duplication of effort and information as well as improvements in Government's overall efficiency, transparency and responsiveness. To date, twenty (20) ministries have been successfully connected to the Backbone.

- **E-Government Portal**

This refers to a new channel for accessing Government information and services from anywhere in the world via the Internet in which information and services are organized with the searcher's needs in mind. As at the end of fiscal 2007, information on over 350 Government services has been placed online via the Portal.

- **Telecommunications Liberalization**

In order to achieve greater choice and price competitiveness, better coverage and more robust telecoms infrastructure, a legal and regulatory framework for the smooth transition from a monopolistic telecommunications environment to a competitive one has begun and is still being implemented.

- **National Broadband Action Plan**

As part of the plan to make reliable, high-speed Internet access available to the entire country, at internationally competitive rates and to provide citizens and businesses with more affordable, high-speed Internet access the first of multiple planned international submarine cables has been landed in Macqueripe Bay.

## Pillar 4: Investing in Sound Infrastructure and the Environment

- **Online SME B2B Marketplace (EnterpriseNeTT)**

This involves an “online”, virtual marketplace for Business-to-Business (B2B) interaction, arranged around opportunity matching. It is expected that the “opportunity matching” approach will lead to new business opportunities, both domestic and international, beyond traditional means and will also allow businesses to be notified (via email or mobile text message) of a new opportunity. So far, the EnterpriseNeTT pilot has been completed, with over 1500 companies currently registered.

- **Community Access Centres**

Providing residents of urban, rural and remote communities with affordable access to computers, the Internet, and relevant training is an important aspect of creating an interconnected society with internet access to all citizens. This will ensure that everyone, regardless of location, economic status, physical abilities or gender will have an opportunity to acquire new knowledge and skills. The establishment of Community Access Centres (CACs) throughout the country represents a major stride towards reducing the “digital divide”. By the end

of fiscal 2007 over thirty five (35) CACs would be operational, in addition, all national libraries would be outfitted with computers and Internet access.

- **Computer Refurbishment Programme**

Another aspect of widening the access of citizens to computer technology involves the development and implementation of a national system for collecting, upgrading, repairing and replacing computers for use in schools and communities across Trinidad and Tobago directly addresses the low penetration of ICT in Trinidad and Tobago. This should result in an expansion of the pool of citizens with the capacity to effectively utilize ICTs and increased employment opportunities for the increased numbers of citizens with those ICT skills that are in high demand in the workplace. In addition, this programme addresses some of the environmental issues associated with the disposal of used computer equipment. Discussions are currently taking place with the Commonwealth Secretariat to establish a pilot refurbishment facility.



## PILLAR 5: PROMOTING EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT

### GOALS ADDRESSED UNDER PILLAR 5

- Our society and our Government will adhere to good governance principles and practices.
- Our Public Institutions will be high performance professional entities effectively and efficiently meeting the needs of all their clients.
- All citizens will be assured of fair and equal justice.
- Trinidad and Tobago will be a safe and secure place to live, visit, do business and raise families.

### Goal: Our society and our Government will adhere to good governance principles and practices

Governance for the promotion of human rights also includes policies and programmes to strengthen the capacity to deliver services, alone or in conjunction with the private sector, in a participatory and transparent way. The role of the public sector as service provider or regulator of the private provision of services is crucial for the realization of all human rights, in particular social and economic human rights as contained in the principles of good governance. This is outlined in Table XXVI below.

Table XXVI: Principles of Good Governance<sup>94</sup>

PRINCIPLES OF GOOD GOVERNANCE	INSTRUMENTS	GOALS OF GOOD GOVERNANCE
Democracy	Public Works	Government for the citizens
Transparency	Public resources	Quality of the Public Sector
Human Rights	Promotion of Good Governance	Democratic and developed society
Rule of Law Accountability Equality Public Interest	Public Development	The promotion of Social and Economic development

<sup>94</sup> Adapted from Good Governance- A Schematic Approach ; Dr. Jorge Enrique, University of Utrecht, Feb 2000

The social initiatives of goal 1 are to develop capacities that are needed to realize development that gives priority to the vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in society, empowers youth, sustains the environment and creates needed opportunities for employment and other livelihood. Government institutions must employ strategies for empowering the people they are intended to serve: providing equitable opportunities and ensuring social, economic and political inclusion. In this regard and in keeping with the listed principles of good governance, particularly, the promotion of equality and social inclusion of vulnerable groups such as youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, the following policy initiatives were pursued.

### Implementation of a National Youth Policy

- The National Youth Policy articulates 3 policy goals:
  - Empowered young persons who can make informed choices
  - An enabling environment that will facilitate youth development
  - Support for institutions and systems, which strengthen and sustain youth development.

The National Youth Policy (NYP) was officially launched in September 2006. The Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs has developed the “*I Stand*” campaign as a communication strategy to advocate the many strategic activities being implemented in keeping with the NYP’s three-year Strategic Implementation Plan. In April 2007, the ‘*I Stand*’ campaign was launched as part of the implementation of a course of activities aimed at showcasing positive young persons and encouraging constructive attitudes and focused approaches among young people. This Campaign comprises:

- a Communications Launch – to create a public awareness of the “I Stand” campaign, which seeks to limit negative stereotypes associated with youth and publicly highlight productive youth activities.

## Pillar 5: Promoting Effective Government

- two Youth Television Series – one to provide a public forum for young people to discuss issues which affect them and another to provide a national focus on positive young people who are making significant contributions to the society.
- a Website –to highlight all the activities arising from the “*I Stand*” communications campaign, [www.istandevents.com](http://www.istandevents.com)
- a Youth Mainstream Workshop – to increase interagency co-ordination and collaboration to discuss particular concerns surrounding youth development.

In May 2007, a database for the National Youth Organisations was developed and presented online. In addition, a Youth Exposition was held as part of the course of actions, to promote youth activities in different districts. Another National Youth Exposition was held on July 29<sup>th</sup> at Skinner’s Park, San Fernando. Other Youth Expositions were planned for Arima, the Jean Pierre Complex and the Ato Boldon Stadium, Couva, to showcase positive activities that young persons engage in: a cook-out, car shows, freestyle biking and skateboarding, street style dancing and singing. In August 2007, the National Youth Awards were held and a number of young people in various spheres of influence were honoured for their contributions.

### The National Policy on Persons with Disabilities

The Government continued to provide support for persons with disabilities through various programmes. These included the promotion of policy guidelines to enable them to lead a normal life. The Ministry of Social Development is responsible for the implementation of the National Policy on Persons with Disabilities which articulates a holistic framework for achieving the goals of social inclusion and equality of opportunity for all citizens with disabilities in Trinidad and Tobago.

The primary objective of this policy is to create a social and physical environment favouring accessibility, integration and full participation of persons with disabilities. In order to promote the creation of an accessible environment, the Ministry of Social Development launched a Public Awareness and Sensitization Campaign through its Newsletter “Access”, the purpose of which is to educate the general public on the

varying types of disabilities, and to highlight the potential of persons with disabilities and their ability to contribute to society.

The Ministry of Social Development also conducted workshops on the National Policy on Persons with Disabilities. The first and second workshops were held in 2006 on physical access, public infrastructure, accessible public information and communication. In fiscal 2007, two additional workshops were held on the areas of access to education, training, and employment and legislation. Stakeholder workshops were held with the Ministries of Education, Health, Planning and Development (Town and Country Planning) Public Administration and Information and Housing. The purpose of the meetings was to encourage Ministries to commit to implementation of actions outlined in the National Policy relevant to their mandate. The Disability Affairs Unit of the Ministry of Social Development also held two (2) Public Consultations for the Standardization of Sign Language within Trinidad and Tobago in November 2006.

### Institutional strengthening of Trinidad and Tobago’s Youth Councils

This Programme under the purview of the Ministry of Social Development aims to build the capacity within the Youth Councils in areas such as advocacy and leadership and to provide assistance at supervision of the youth in society, in order to minimize the extent of delinquency and truancy in young adults.

### Policy on Ageing

This policy document was approved in fiscal 2007. Developed by a special committee under the aegis of the Ministry of Social Development, the Policy seeks to create an environment which would facilitate the meaningful participation and involvement of older persons in society. The Policy is consistent with the priority areas identified in the United Nations Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (2002). These priority areas are with respect to older persons and development, advancing health and Well Being into Old Age and Ensuring Enabling and Supportive Environments.

## Pillar 5: Promoting Effective Government

### Local Government Reform

A Draft White Paper on Local Government Reform was completed and published. As an integral component of local reform, the Ministry of Local Government in May 2007, through the United Nations Development Programme, engaged the services of a consultant to advise on the functional and legal frameworks for modernizing local government in Trinidad and Tobago. Over the period May –July 2007 the consultants conducted research and held consultations with key stakeholders on the document.

The Ministry of Local Government also conducted a Stakeholder Workshop Consultation over the period 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> August at which the findings of the consultants were presented to institutional stakeholders, including representatives from Municipal Corporations, Ministries, the business sector and civil society.

### Goal: Our Public Institutions will be high performance professional entities effectively and efficiently meeting the needs of all their clients

During fiscal 2007 concerted efforts were undertaken by the Government to enhance the delivery of public services to customers and stakeholders. In addition to on-going efforts to strengthen service delivery through quality assurance the Government introduced a wide range of initiatives to upgrade the delivery of public services in supporting national competitiveness and meeting the requirements of customers and stakeholders. The scope of efforts to enhance the public sector delivery system encompassed land administration, services of local authorities, investment facilitation and quality.

### Implementation of a Monitoring and Evaluation Policy for the Social Sector

The Ministry of Social Development developed a Monitoring and Evaluation Policy in 2005, with an overall goal of establishing common structures and standards that would govern the application of effective monitoring and evaluation

systems in the social sector, thereby facilitating the attainment of maximum benefits from social interventions.

The Ministry of Social Development has conducted training of Monitoring and Evaluation Facilitators in key social sector Ministries (Education, Health, National Security, Sport and the Tobago House of Assembly) to implement the Policy. A Draft Report on the MEF has been prepared and is being amended based on the comments of the different Ministries.

### Computerization of the Social Welfare Division

The project for computerization of the Social Welfare Division has been revised to the Introduction of an Integrated Social Enterprise Management System for the Social Welfare Division and other divisions within the Ministry of Social Development. The purpose of the project is to implement an integrated information system to meet the requirements of the social services divisions of the Ministry. This project will be implemented on a phased basis as follows:

- (i) *An Enterprise Resource Product (ERP)*
- (ii) *A Document Management System*
- (iii) *Implementation Services*
- (iv) *A Data Centre*

In fiscal 2007 the following activities were completed:

- The Supply & Installation Network Cabling at Sangre Grande, Chaguanas and Barataria Local.
- The procurement and installation of PBX Systems at eight (8) Local Boards.
- Wireless links were installed at eight (8) local boards and eleven (11) servers were procured.

### An Integrated Social Enterprise Management System (ISEM)

The Integrated Social Enterprise Management System is a strategic information technology (IT) approach for the management of a complex array of social services programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Social Development, which include; Social Welfare, Probation, Family Services, Adoption, Division of Ageing, Mediation Services, and the Criminal Injuries Board. This new approach is intended to

## Pillar 5: Promoting Effective Government

provide the Ministry with new automated tools to support the implementation of significant social services processes, and is geared towards improving the quality of delivered services to the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago.

The ISEM project consists of the acquisition and implementation of an Enterprise resources process (ERP) Solution for Social Enterprise Management comprising the following modules:

- Intake and Assessment Module providing A Common Platform supportive of the “No Wrong Door” Philosophy
- Biometric Data Capture Module capable of supporting a Smart Card system
- Integrated Eligibility Determination Module
- Integrated Case Management Module
- Evidence Collection, Management and reassessment Module
- Caseworker Management Module
- Monitoring and Evaluation Module capable of providing real time management and evaluation reports; and the
- Ability to Interoperate with other government agencies.

The major outcomes for the implementation of an ISEM are to:

- Increase the availability and accessibility of information and data;
- Improve the accuracy of data/information received and processed;
- Promote effective monitoring, evaluation and reporting of social programmes and projects;
- Maintain confidentiality, integrity and availability of client’s data;
- Increase client satisfaction by moving from a programme – centred to amore client –centred approach
- Facilitate shared data, resulting in holistic case management, accountability and informed planning; and to
- Provide direct linkages with other key stakeholders and agencies for holistic case management.

The ISEM Project will transform the current regime of social services delivery from being operationally overburdened, to that of a world class, high performance social enterprise system. It will also position this nation’s social service delivery system as the most efficient and technology-driven in the English-speaking Caribbean; and fast track the achievement of the development objectives of Vision 2020. The Ministry of Social Development is working toward the establishment of a project office and a specialised Social Enterprise Management Unit.

### Goal: All citizens will be assured of fair and equal justice

This pillar promotes a justice system that facilitates equality and fairness and focuses on the improvements on both the civil justice and criminal justice system. The main goal of this pillar for Vision 2020 is “ *to develop an accountable, timely and efficient court system that operates on the basis of integrity, fairness equality and accessibility and has public trust and confidence.*”

Individual and families will benefit from an efficient and effective court system which would address dispute resolution, family conflict without the use of violence and coercive methods. One of the essential initiatives under this Pillar is the Family Court which has been designed and resolves familial issues.

#### The Family Court

The Family Court plays an integral role in the peaceful settlement of disputes, assists in creating harmonious relationships among family and community members and also ensures that families receive proper legal redress, in the thrust towards a caring society. The Family Court was established in March 2003 by a Cabinet decision, the first phase of which took the form of a pilot project in the St. George West District for 2 years and which began in May 2004. Phases two and three of the project involve documenting a design, and a full scale implementation plan, for a model Family Court as well as establishing the court in other locations. As part of this strategy Cabinet agreed to extend the pilot for an additional

## Pillar 5: Promoting Effective Government

year in 2006, and, in fiscal 2007 a decision was taken to establish the court in San Fernando and Tobago.

An evaluation report of the first year of operation of the court has been prepared and has resulted in adjustments to improve the management structure and increase the social services staff complement.

The concept behind the Family Court is to provide a “one stop shop” for dealing with family disputes, and to move away from the traditional adversarial ways of resolving family disputes, to a less hostile and more conciliatory atmosphere, where greater emphasis will be placed on mediation, counseling and the utilization of other social services. The court deals with matters such as divorces, child custody, child support, visitation, alimony, runaways, children beyond control, foster care and adoption.

### **Goal: Trinidad and Tobago will be a safe and secure place to live, visit, do business and raise families**

The social initiatives of Goal 5 are aimed at promoting a peaceful environment which has been widely recognized by the Government in the planning process for a developed country nation by the year 2020. The Government plans to promote the development of communities which would facilitate citizen participation in all aspects of social, economic and political life in an effort to sustain a peaceful environment. The promotion of an effective government also calls for the establishment of the “rule of law” and the setting up of formal institutions, polices and processes that provide effective responses for the enjoyment of human rights by all human beings under the jurisdiction of the State, including the most marginalized and excluded. The following initiatives serve to promote the attainment of the above objectives.

### **Preparation of a National Disaster Management Policy**

Natural disasters of a significant magnitude have both a direct and indirect impact on the overall economic performance

of a country. As such the Government has promoted the development of a National Disaster Management Policy. The goal of the Policy is to ensure a coordinated and efficient multi-sectoral approach to the management of an incident of disaster. This will be done through a coordinated approach, assistance and inputs from other relevant stakeholders namely, the protective services, the Ministries of Works and Transport, Social Development and Health, which have also drafted disaster sub-plans to be incorporated into the National Disaster Management Policy document. The Policy is expected to be completed by the end of fiscal 2007.

### **Community Safety and Enhancement Programme**

The Community Safety and Enhancement Programme is under the aegis of the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs and is designed to promote community safety and security through the establishment of crime prevention structures and the implementation of projects and programmes, with resource support from internal and external sources. All communities, especially those with a high incidence of criminal activity benefit from this programme. Persons throughout the country have been sensitized to safety and crime prevention strategies.

During the fiscal year 2006/2007, twenty (20) safety and enhancement groups were established in different areas. These groups organized notable projects as follows:

- Crime Prevention Art, Poetry and Calypso Competition.
- Safety and Enhancement Netball Competition.
- Community Enhancement Health Project.
- Safety and Career Guidance Summer Camp.
- Art and Cultural Competition.

Illiteracy was also addressed through literacy classes in St. Barb's and Laventille. Thirty gang members benefited from these classes. The public was sensitized to safety and crime prevention strategies through exposition in Port-of-Spain and relations in high crime communities were strengthened through sport, namely netball.

## Pillar 5: Promoting Effective Government

### Community Mediation Programme

The Community Mediation Services Division under the Ministry of Social Development facilitates the empowerment of individuals, groups and communities by resolving disputes through mediation, in a non – threatening environment. The focus is on providing fora for the resolution of conflict through mediation and positively impacting on behavioural and attitudinal responses to conflict. For the period 1<sup>st</sup> May 2006 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2007, the Community Mediation Services Division served one thousand six hundred and seven (1,607)

clients, of which 740 were male and 867 were female. From May 2006 to June 2007, one hundred and six matters were mediated of which eighty - one matters were settled with full agreement, three with partial agreement, and nineteen with no agreement.

The Division has also successfully engaged more than 125 community partners through community outreach sessions to create awareness of the programme and to solicit support to enable referrals of clients to the centres.

## 6. SECTOR PLANS FOR 2008

This section deals with the strategic directions of the social sector for fiscal 2008 and associated activities. They are discussed within the context of the relevant Pillars and related Goals of Vision 2020 and, because of their nature, focus heavily, though not exclusively, on the Pillars “Developing Innovative People” and “Nurturing a Caring Society”. Of particular importance will be strengthening of the systems and structures for the alleviation of poverty and the implementation of the Monitoring and Evaluation indicators for the Sector. New programmes planned for the coming fiscal year are also included. The specific goals and objectives for each programme are outlined in more detail in Appendix VII.

In fiscal 2008, Government’s investment in the sector for social infrastructure, Programming and other social initiatives is \$11,659,887,507.00 an increase of approximately 44% from the previous year. The budgeted allocation for social infrastructure under the Development Programme in the areas of the delivery of social services, health care, education, housing, community services and human resource development is \$ 6 billion, whilst allocations towards social type projects is \$2.1 billion which is stated under the Infrastructure Development Fund.

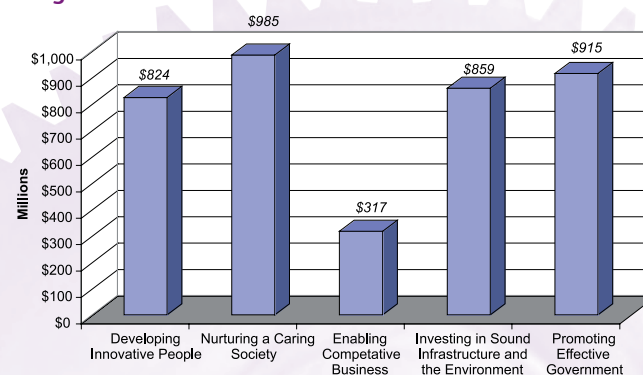
The sum of \$5,657,887,507.00 has been allocated towards programmes and projects under policy development, research and institutional initiatives under recurrent expenditure. This indicates an increase of 29% toward programming over the 2007 fiscal year. (This information is outlined below in Table XXVII)

Table XXVII: Comparison of Budgeted Allocations For Social Infrastructure & Programming – 2007/2008

SECTOR COMPONENT	BUDGETED ALLOCATION (\$ ) 2007	BUDGETED ALLOCATION (\$ ) 2008
<b>Social Infrastructure</b>	3,688,326,352.00	6,002,000,000.00
Development Programme	1,600,549,000.00	3,900,000,000.00
Infrastructure Development Fund	2,087,777,352.00	2,102,000,000.00
Social Programming	4,383,701,343.00	\$5,657,887,507.00
<b>TOTAL ALLOCATION</b>	<b>8,072,027,695.00</b>	<b>\$11,659,887,507.00</b>

A further breakdown of the allocation for the Development Programme according to the VISION 2020 Pillars is illustrated in the Bar Chart below. The chart reflects government’s continuing commitment to people-centred approach to development as the greater portion of investment is toward the pillar Nurturing a Caring Society.

Figure VIII: Budget Allocations for Development Programme for fiscal 2008



### DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE PEOPLE

#### A SEAMLESS, SELF-RENEWING, HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION SYSTEM

Development of an innovative people cannot be realised without an exposure to quality education that not only greatly enhances current skills, but also teaches new, relevant skills using modern methods that are capable of reaching everyone,

## Sector Plans for 2008

irregardless of their mode of learning or inherent challenges. Concomitant with this is an environment that facilitates learning and provides the necessary support systems to all: teacher, student and parent alike, from the foundation years onward.

In fiscal 2008 curriculum development will continue to be a high priority agenda item for the Ministry of Education. As the lynchpin of ensuring that all students are exposed to material that will equip them to excel in any area and attain the highest standard of education, the programme for the new fiscal year will include initiatives such as:

- Implementation of curriculum delivery at ECCE Centres based on the Curriculum guide developed for ECCE.
- Continued modernization of the primary school curriculum with a focus on Spanish and Visual and Performing Arts.
- Full implementation of forms I to III Curriculum.
- Integration of ICT into the curriculum.
- Completion of the forms IV - V curriculum and its testing, commencing in October, 2007.
- Full introduction of Health and Family Life Education in all primary schools.
- Development of Health and Family Life Education for Secondary Schools, commencing October, 2007.
- Expansion of National Tests to include students of Standards 2 and 4 in the two (2) additional subjects - Science and Social Studies.
- Completion of the survey report on Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) and distribution to schools and stakeholders by December, 2007.
- Continuation of preparatory work for the implementation of the Progress for International Student Assessment (PISA) study in 2009. This would include attendance at international meetings which is viewed as an aspect of training.
- Implementation of the National Certificate of Secondary Education in all public and private schools.
- Drafting of the Action Plan for HIV/AIDS Policy to

serve as a tool for policy implementation.

- The development of a reading policy and its implementation.
- The production of teaching manuals for remedial teachers.

The Ministry, in its thrust to provide quality education has as a major focus the infusion of ICT in the curriculum. The main objective of this programme is to prepare students to live in a knowledge society. Key to achieving this is the establishment of effective and efficient systems and processes. To this end, the following activities are planned for 2007/2008

- Completion of the computerization of the remaining one hundred and ninety-five (195) primary schools and ten (10) special schools.
- The computerization of thirty-three (33) schools in Tobago.
- The provision of computers and networking for one hundred and thirty-three (133) Secondary Schools in Trinidad and Tobago.
- Secondary School ICT Project (Phase II) - this includes purchase of educational software (reference and research, book titles and periodicals), provision of classroom collaborative solutions, interactive boards and multimedia projectors.
- The placement of two (2) ICT Technicians in each of the seven (7) Educational Districts to provide support for the schools within the district.
- Contractual arrangements with Microsoft Corporation to provide Microsoft Office tools. This software will be installed on all computers at the schools. At least two (2) teachers from each Primary School will be trained to use these tools; these teachers will be the first line of support at each school. Student Encarta, which is an electronic encyclopedia, will also be installed in Computer Labs in Primary schools and Libraries in Secondary Schools.
- Ministry of Education Website Development - Phase II
- Free internet access for all primary and secondary schools.
- The procurement and phased implementation of an



Education Management Information System (EMIS) to provide the ICT infrastructure that will support the achievement of this Ministry's strategic priorities

- Continued Training of primary and secondary school teachers in the use of Information Communication Technologies.
- The procurement/development and phased implementation of a Registry System through the provision of three (3) registry functions – file tracking, file management and document management.
- The procurement of multi-media curriculum content and clearing Administration system software
- The implementation of the ICTs required to provide networked access to education software and databases

In order to support the empowerment of schools through School Based Management and the decentralization of the Ministry's services to the regional level, the need was identified for the creation of new organizational levels and job descriptions as well as support mechanisms.

For 2007/2008 - The following established posts will be filled:

- 570 Heads of Department at Secondary Schools
- 233 Heads of Department at Primary Schools
- 350 Senior Teachers
- 550 Deans in Secondary Schools

Other activities which will be pursued in fiscal 2008 include:-

- The introduction of Substitute Teacher Management System
- The placement of two (2) ICT Technicians in the seven regional districts.
- The completion of staffing under the restructured and decentralized structure at Central Administration and in the districts.
- The completion of staffing of the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Division as an important aspect of the restructuring and reorganization of the

ECCE sub sector of the education system, which is estimated to cost overall fifty million, six hundred and seventy-one thousand, two hundred dollars (\$50,671,200.00) for contracting five hundred and forty (540) officers.

- The establishment of a Quality Management Unit and an inspectorate for monitoring, evaluation and auditing of the education system.
- Establishment of an administrative structure for managing Teacher Education particularly in light of Pre-Service Teacher Education being relocated to the tertiary level. In-service teacher training will be the focus of this Unit.
- Continued professional training of staff at all levels - the Early Childhood, Primary and Secondary School levels, district and central administration levels.
- Continued implementation of the scholarships programme for teachers in order to address the present and projected shortfall in several subject areas.
- Operationalization of ECCE Centres.
- Implementation of the Deshifting and conversion plan at Junior Secondary and Senior Comprehensive Schools.
- Establishment of Local School Boards in Primary Schools..
- Establishment of support teams at ECCE Centres.

The Ministry of Education recognizes the key role of teachers in the delivery of quality education and based on activities initiated in 2006/2007, will continue these activities which must be sustained in 2007/2008 and beyond:

- Development and Implementation of professional development programmes for teachers through Universities and other

## Sector Plans for 2008

- tertiary level providers.
- Continuation of scholarships for pre-service teacher education.
- Establishment of a Teacher Certification Board.
- Implementation, through continuous collaboration with Trinidad and Tobago Unified Teachers' Association (TTUTA), of Performance Management and Appraisal Programme for all teachers.
- Implementation of the Substitute Teacher System.
- Implementation of a system of Learning Support Assistants on Teacher's Aides.
- Establishment of an asset management register and a computerized maintenance management system for schools and Ministry of Education facilities.

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago in its effort to improve quality, equity and access throughout the education sector is committed to creating a "Seamless Education System". This project was recently launched and is expected to continue apace in 2008.

In 2007/2008, consultations will inform the setting of quality indicators and standards for schools, district offices and central administration, as well as the development and implementation of curriculum.

The Ministry recognizes the importance of stakeholder involvement. As such the Local School Boards Unit will engage in the following activities for the coming year:

- Local School Boards will be established at twenty (20) (Phase I) government primary schools in Trinidad by November and at thirteen (13) in Tobago by September.
- Joint training of boards will be conducted in November by the Local School Boards Unit and the Restructuring and Decentralization Action Unit.

- Twenty (20) additional Boards (Phase II) will be inaugurated later in the new year.
- Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) support teams will be established.

### A HIGHLY SKILLED, TALENTED AND KNOWLEDGE-ABLE WORKFORCE

A workforce that is diverse, highly skilled and knowledge driven will inevitably lead to an innovative people. The existence of a range of training opportunities, together with the financial assistance given to persons in need who desire to pursue their education, will ensure the development of a multi talented workforce that can meet and exceed international standards. The following initiatives are to be undertaken in the upcoming fiscal year by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education:

#### YTEPP

- Construction of YTEPP Training Centre (Tobago)
- YTEPP will conduct Vocational Skills, Career Enhancement and Micro Entrepreneurship training in twenty-seven (27) Training Centres and fifty (50) Community Training facilities.
- The establishment of three (3) new training centres, one in Point Fortin, one in Valencia and one between Curepe and Maloney.
- Level II courses in Skills for the Automated Office, Graphic Design, Culinary Arts, Beauty Culture, Garment Construction, and Building Electrician Assistant will be introduced.
- Two new courses – Interior Decorating and Customer Service - will be introduced.
- All trainees entering a YTEPP programme will be exposed to a basic Computer Literacy course.

### Multi- Sector Skills Training (MuST)

- Three (3) cycles of Agricultural Sector training are planned to be executed in fiscal year 2007/2008.
- Skilled agricultural workers will be recruited and trained to perform in the role of Technology Instructor/Assessor – Agriculture.
- The trained Technology Instructors/Assessors will provide training services to seven hundred and sixty eight (768) trainees in Agricultural Sector occupations to National Occupational Standards and the award of the Trinidad and Tobago National Vocational Qualification (TTNVQ).

### Metal Industries Company

- The establishment of a new MIC/HYPE/NSDP Technology Centre at Diego Martin
- The construction of a Chaguaramas Technology Centre
- The purchase of existing property at Tunapuna/Macoya Centre and do expansion to house additional classrooms, workshops and labs
- The establishment a TVET Teacher/Instructor Training facility at Macoya and train approx. 75-100 teachers/instructors per year
- The construction a facility at Sangre Grande as their lease has ended in the First Born Assembly Miracle Centre and they were told to purchase or leave
- The construction of a new centre in Point Fortin to merge with the Point Fortin Vocational Centre
- The construction of a HYPE Administration and Technology Centre at Macoya. There are plans to move from the existing leased property and go to a parcel of land with an existing building
- MIC plans to expand the Factory Training Concept to include all tertiary level engineering institutions (e.g. UWI, UTT, NIHERST)

### COSTAATT

This programme will focus on the following areas:

#### 1. Diversification of Programme Offerings

Development and launching of four (4) new certificate programmes. These include:

- Introduction to Computer Art
- Pharmacy Assistant
- AAS – Court Reporting
- AAS – Health Information

Implementation of Bachelor Degree Programmes in:

- Water Resources Management and Technology
- Radiological Sciences and Radiation Therapy

#### 2. Improvement to Post Graduate Employment Rates

Strengthen Workplace Orientation

- Introduction of an internship requirement to the programmes of Telecommunications, Journalism, PR and Library and Information Studies.
- Establish career guidance and job placement services
- Programme Quality Assurance
- Completion of the self-study process as step 1 for accreditation by at least six departments.

### Eastern Caribbean Institute of Agriculture and Forestry (ECIAF)

- Establishment of a new science laboratory for 25 students
- A Forestry Lab Complex
- Construction of classrooms and a design studio
- Construction of an information centre (library)

### National Energy Skills Centre (NESC)

Establishment of Technology Centres at:

- Pt Lisas
- Point Fortin
- Mayaro

## Sector Plans for 2008

- Ste Madeleine
- La Brea (phase 2)

Development of new programmes specifically for the Tobago House of Assembly

### University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT)

- Relocation of John S. Donaldson technical Institute to Chaguaramas and construction of a new building
- Establish a UTT Centre for Sports – Central Sporting Complex at O’Meara
- Undertake Phase 2 construction of the Maritime Campus at Chaguaramas
- construction of Tobago Campus to start in October 2007 and end in September 2010

### Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago

- Establish the ACTT Headquarters – acquire the site, prepare design, and construct
- Establish an ACTT Office in Tobago

### T&T Hospitality Institute

Phase 5 of construction – laying down additional seating and dormitory accommodation

### University of West Indies (UWI)

- Construct a multi storey complex of buildings for student halls of residence at St John Rd
- Construct a building for campus security, human resources, and a centre for gender and Development studies
- A running track on Sir Frank Worrell Field
- Construction of Recreational Facility at Mt Hope

## RICHNESS OF DIVERSE CULTURE INSPIRES INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY

The encouragement of the expression of our many diverse cultures in all their forms will serve as outlets for our creativity and innovation. Through the celebration of our uniqueness

as a society national pride will grow, and home-grown technologies and new products will abound.

The Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs (CDC & GA), through its cultural programmes and projects, proposes to assist in the attainment of the above objectives.

Properly developed museum facilities and programmes are indispensable avenues for filling the historical void that leaves our youth lacking in pride, confidence and the vision needed to derive the nation forward. A well developed national system of museums can be key to the transmission of positive values to the country at large.

The CDC & GA therefore intends to implement a programme for the redevelopment and expansion of the museum service. This involves the following new projects.

### The Steelpan Museum

This museum will: collect, preserve and exhibit material evidence of the history of steelpan; document history and developments in the steelpan and; reinforce this country’s claim as the birthplace of the steelpan. The museum will be developed in collaboration with PANTRINBAGO and will be housed at the organization’s new headquarters. Among the acquisitions for the museum will be the first collection of a new steelpan called the “G” pan.

### Carnival Museum of the Americas

This is one of the projects accepted at the IX meeting of Culture Ministers of Latin America and the Caribbean. Its aim is the preservation of carnival arts and artifacts for posterity and to highlight the importance of “Trinidad Carnival” in the making of other similar festivals in Latin America and the Caribbean. A feasibility study will be done for this project in fiscal 2008.

### Upgrade of the Chaguaramas Military History and Aerospace Museum

This museum, which highlights important aspects of the nation’s history, is badly in need of repair and upgrade. To this end, the construction of a small military library is planned,

together with the laying of a medieval pathway and restoration of a chapel. To help preserve the site from erosion, walls and buttresses will be constructed and there will be minor land reclamation near a single remaining slipway.

### Establishment of a Virtual Museum

In order to ensure the widest possible access to our historical artefacts a virtual museum will be established. This will be done through the digitizing of collections at the National Museum and will facilitate Trinidad and Tobago's participation in a virtual museum of Latin America and the Caribbean. Worldwide access to the National Museum's collections will therefore be achieved.

## NURTURING A CARING SOCIETY

### STRONG FAMILIES AND STRONG COMMUNITIES

The family is the basic unit of society. It is through the family that we are first socialized and prepared for life. The community serves to support the family. In recent years the extended family has become less prevalent. As such, the strengthening of the family and developing strong community ties is paramount to achieving a society that cares for its own and provides an environment that is nurturing, not only to the young, but also to the elderly; those who have given most of their lives to society.

The Ministry of Social Development will be a key player in coordinating efforts to place greater emphasis on programmes which address healthy family functioning, having recently submitted to Cabinet the National Policy on the Family. As a result, for 2008, some new projects are planned to augment what has already been initiated for the family; these are as follows.

- Marriage Preparation: Beyond the Vows/ Commitment
- A Television /Community Series-Parenting and the Family
- Financial Support for Individuals and Families in Need

- Establishment of Child Care Facilities for Staff at the Ministry of Social Development

The following specific activities will also be undertaken.

- Establishment of the Children's Authority
- Continuation of the Family Life Management Programme
- Introduction of the T&T National Parenting Programme
- Establishment of Senior Citizens Centres
- Implementation of an Expanded and Integrated Counselling and Other Intervention Programme for T&T
- Operation of a facility for Older Socially Displaced Persons at Hernandez Place, Arima
- Completion of the Personal Assistants Training Programme
- Expansion and Strengthening of the Adolescents Mothers Programme
- Continuation of the Family Life Radio Programme

## SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE POVERTY

The Ministry of Social Development as the government agency with responsibility for poverty alleviation, will continue to focus on the healthy functioning of the social fabric of Trinidad and Tobago for fiscal 2008, by providing an enabling environment and policy framework that will facilitate the continuous improvement in the social well being of the population, with particular focus on vulnerable persons and groups. This will be achieved through the provision of a network of accessible, integrated and effective social programmes and services and would include activities which are closely linked to the developmental priorities for the achievement of vision 2020.

Particular focus will be given to the delivery of services within a decentralized framework to eliminate duplication of services and to foster effective and efficient targeting of developmental efforts. Some of the major new activities which will be undertaken include:

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- Refinement and implementation of a framework for decentralization of the social services delivery system by a decentralization expert and supporting staff who will be recruited for this purpose;
- The utilization of cutting edge information systems to drive and support the core processes of the Ministry and to improve data collection mechanisms, track clients progress and to eliminate abuse within the system;
- The Conduct of research and needs assessment pertaining to vulnerable and at-risk groups (including, persons addicted to drugs and other substances, older persons, socially displaced persons and at risk children. Of particular importance would be the commencement of planning activities for the conduct of the next Survey of Living Conditions 2008 to ensure that this Survey is institutionalised and remains relevant. The last Survey was conducted in 2005;
- Conduct, in collaboration with key development partners, of a social safety net assessment (SSN) to provide a comprehensive review of the country's SSN to determine its adequacy and a public social expenditure review to analyse the capacity of the public social expenditure management system;
- Establishing through policy and programme initiatives, a structured approach to the provision of social services by civil society organisations and the private sector;
- Building the capacity of the Ministry of Social Development to deliver its mandate through institutional strengthening activities;
- Conduct of rapid assessments and social evaluations of specific social programmes to determine programme relevance and impact.

### ACCESS TO ADEQUATE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Ministry of Housing will continue the various initiatives and programmes undertaken in fiscal 2007 with the aim of fulfilling Vision 2020 goals and objectives. In fulfilment of its policy objective to provide affordable and adequate housing, the Ministry of Housing, through the Housing Development

Corporation (HDC), will continue the implementation of its Accelerated Housing Programme, via the Infill Lots, the Joint Venture and the Urban Renewal Programmes. The goal of Accelerated Housing Programme is the production of approximately 100,000 housing units over the ten (10) year period to meet the housing demand. It is expected that 8,000 housing solutions would be constructed during 2008/2009.

The Ministry also plans to advocate the implementation of a new fiscal measure, viz, the amendment of the relevant provisions contained in Section 43 of the Income Tax Act, Chapter 75:01 to reflect an increase in the approved construction cost limit from \$250,000 to \$400,000 for the purposes of tax exemption.

For fiscal 2007-2008, the Ministry of Housing proposes the following fiscal measures:

1. Continuation of the Approved Mortgage Companies Programme in which preferential mortgage rates are provided by registered mortgage companies to first time purchasers whose houses cost up to a maximum of \$450,000. Under this Programme, income or profits derived from the grant of such mortgages are exempt from tax as provided in the 5th Schedule to the Corporation Tax Ch.75:02 (1980 Revised). The preferential rates are detailed below:

Price of House	Interest Rate
• Up to \$200,000	6%
• 200,001 – 250,000	6.5%
• 250,000 – 300,000	7%
• 300,000 – 350,000	7.5%
• 350,000 – 450,000	8%

2. Continuation of the fiscal measure passed in the 2007 Budget, viz:
  - Reduction of mortgage interest rates from 6% to 2%
  - Reduction of mortgage down-payment from 5% to 0%
  - Increase in the ceiling for the Exemption of Stamp Duty for residential properties from \$350,000 to \$450,000

- Persons in the \$1,440 - \$8,000 income bracket will be given the option to increase the amount of their mortgage to assist in the purchase of household appliances up to a maximum of \$15,000
- Transferable mortgages- where in the event of the death of a mortgagor liability would transfer to his or her estate
- Continuation of Rent to Own Programme in which persons who are financially unable to service a mortgage will be allowed to enter an agreement to rent for a period of five years with the option to purchase. At the end of the five years, two thirds of rental payment will be applied towards the purchase of the property and the rental tenancy will be converted into a mortgage. If the tenant is still unable to qualify for a mortgage after five (5) years the option will be extended for a further three years.

3. A recommendation to amend the provisions contained in Section 43 of the Income Tax Act, Chapter 75:01 to reflect an increase in the approved construction cost limit from \$250,000 to \$400,000 for the purposes of tax exemption. A Cabinet Note was prepared in February 2006 and is awaiting comments of the Ministry of Finance. It has since been proposed that the cost limit be increased to \$500,000.

**ALL CITIZENS WILL BE EMPOWERED TO LEAD, LONG, HEALTHY LIFESTYLES AND HAVE ADEQUATE ACCESS TO AN EFFICIENT HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SYSTEM.**

For fiscal 2008 the Ministry of Health has identified three main goals for the health sector. These include:

1. improvement in the health status of the population
2. improvement in the performance of health care delivery systems and
3. creation of a client-centered health care environment.

As the Ministry strives to accomplish its first goal to effect improvements in the health status of the population, it has noted that the epidemiological profile of Trinidad and Tobago is becoming increasingly similar to that of the developed countries. The implication of this is that the Ministry of Health has embraced health promotion as one of its key strategies to effect behavioural changes in the population that lead to healthy lifestyles.

The MOH has also recognized that the attainment of goals 2 and 3 are highly dependant on the performance of its workforce. In this regard the MOH has developed a comprehensive human resource development plan that addresses HR needs at every level of the Ministry and the implementation of change management strategies as well.

### Work Plan for 2007/2008

Over the fiscal period 2007/08, the MOH will intensify its programmes as it seeks to strengthen its institutional capacity and further develop its skills and knowledge base. An important initiative is the transfer of staff from the Ministry of Health to the Regional Health Authorities through the offer of Voluntary Separation and Employment Package (VSEP).

The core medicinal areas to be addressed during this period are:- Clinical Haematology; Laboratory Haematology; Obstetrics and Gynaecology; Cardiology; Psychiatry; Neurosurgery; Medical Microbiology; Pathology; Nutrition and Dietetics; Oncology; Paediatric Oncology; Radiation Therapy; Nephrology; Neurology; Anaesthesiology; Epidemiology; Public Health; Occupational; Health; Environmental Health; Neonatology; Endocrinology; Genitourinary Medicine; Dermatology; Interventional Radiology; Infectious Disease; Medical Microbiology; and Gerontology.

Training for allied health professionals will also be addressed. These include: Pharmacy Studies; Nursing; Physiotherapy; Biomedical Technology; Speech Therapy; Laboratory Technology; Audiology; Optometry; Ultrasonography; Radiography; Medical Physics; Health Service Administration; Hospital

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Administration; Counselling; Biostatistics; and Health Planning.

During the period 2007 – 2008, emphasis will also be placed on improving operational efficiency, succession planning and strengthening administrative capabilities at all levels of the Ministry of Health. The areas to be addressed are: Strategic Planning; Project Management; Strategic Human Resource Management; Upgrades in information technology; Financial Management; Performance Management; and Customer Service/Image.

### Non Communicable Diseases

The Ministry will over the next fiscal period enhance the prevention, treatment and control of non-communicable diseases. This country's epidemiological shift towards a predominance of Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases (CNCD) would be notably reflected in:

- Increased CNCDs
- Increased Disability from CNCDs
- Increased Deaths from CNCDs

Indeed, in the Caribbean, deaths from CNCDs are expected to double by 2020. In view of this, certain strategies to respond to the 'Epidemic' are to be put in place:

- Efficient systems to estimate CNCD burden and secular trends;
- Estimation of risk factors for CNCD;
- Identification of the determinants of health behaviours;
- Development of a health policy to address population-based approaches to diseases; and
- Ensuring efficient treatment approaches to those already afflicted.

### Chronic Disease Assistance Plan (C-DAP)

The Chronic Disease Assistance Programme (CDAP) will continue to focus on its expansion to provide universal coverage to persons suffering from eleven (11) chronic diseases and in need of drugs. Another aim of the CDAPP Programme would be to reduce the cost of health care for those persons who are unable to pay for private health services. It is anticipated that all pharmacies in fiscal 2008 will be computerized in order to ensure timely management of claims, distribution and inventory control in the programme.

### Organ Tissue Transplant Programme

The National Organ Transplant Unit (NOTU) was established in January 2006. The role of the Unit is to allow for the transplantation of Organs and Tissue to patients suffering from organ failure. Over the fiscal period 2007-2008 there are plans for:

1. A functioning Eye Bank and Corneal transplants being performed using local grafts. The aim is to supply as demand warrants.
2. One hundred percent (100%) improvement in sensitization of public and medical personnel about Organ Donation through media, lectures at work places and small group sessions. Implementation of donor cards, alongside their National ID cards/ Driving Permits. These practices are geared to delivering at least five (5) donors per million populations per year.
3. Thirty-six (36) Live Related / Unrelated kidney transplants; fifty percent (50%) increase of the previous year.
4. To establish a 24/7 Tissue Transplant Laboratory

### HIV/AIDS

Significant strides have been made in addressing HIV/AIDS over the last five years, particularly as the Anti-retroviral (ARV) treatment has been made more accessible to the population as a whole. Between 2001 and 2006, there has been a **69% decline** in the number of AIDS cases. Despite this significant decline in the number of AIDS deaths, AIDS is the leading



cause of death in the 15-44 age group. The Ministry of Health has implemented strategies to address the disease, particularly expanding access to anti-retroviral and anti-fungal drugs for persons living with Hiv/Aids. By 2008, the Ministry plans to have 6,000 patients on anti-retroviral treatment and 12,000 in care. Laboratory testing, as well as a programme for voluntary counselling and testing for HIV are being expanded. Other strategies include:

- increase in the prevention initiatives, spreading information and education particularly in those areas and communities that have been lagging behind;
- The development of a stronger marketing campaign for HIV testing and focusing on young adults;
- The strengthening of the surveillance systems regarding the status of the epidemic, and how it is evolving into the future;
- Improving the overall health services in the country to ensure access to quality care for all citizens; and
- Increasing the bed-space available for the in-patient treatment of AIDS cases and work even harder to ensure that resources reach the individuals and groups that need them most;

### National Health System (NHS)

In keeping with Government's overall objective to reform the Health sector and improve the delivery of care to the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago, Cabinet has agreed to the establishment of a National Health Service (NHS). Under the NHS the State will maintain financial responsibility for the provision of an essential basket of services to all citizens and residents of Trinidad and Tobago, and every citizen will be able to exercise choice of provider.

In addition a comprehensive approach is being developed to cover the costs of services excluded from the essential basket. Systems to be developed may include modified capitation of primary care services, global budget for secondary care facilities, and fee for service for specialist services. In this regard a possibly greater role for private health insurance is also being considered.

### Infrastructure Upgrade

In the next fiscal year, the Ministry of Health will intensify its efforts to decentralize service delivery and management to the Regional Health Authorities and will further expand the range of health services and improve on the overall quality of the services available at the nations Health Centres and Outreach Centres. Tenders for additional machines are in various stages of processing and are to be commissioned over the period 2007-2008, including equipment for health centres and district health facilities and the National Oncology Centre.

### ALL CITIZENS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO AND PARTICIPATE IN SPORTING AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY

The objectives of the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs for Sport Development include: *'increasing the levels of participation and quality of training in sport and physical recreation, as well as maintaining and providing the infrastructure for participation'*. The Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, through its Division of Sports, operates five (5) swimming pools in which it conducts its 'Learn to swim' and 'Recreational Swim' programmes.

In fiscal 2008, this Ministry proposes an upgrade of its swimming facilities. The upgrading of the Ministry's pools is therefore in keeping with the thrust to maintain the infrastructure as well as responding to increased participation in the programmes conducted by the Ministry. In addition to the above, maintenance of the facilities at this level will lead to a reduction in operational cost.

Works are scheduled for implementation in fiscal 2008 at the following centres:

Sangre Grande

- La Horquetta
- Diego Martin
- Couva
- Siparia

## Sector Plans for 2008

As part of its Youth Development thrust, the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs has sought to develop programmes that offer positive alternatives to anti-social behaviour through sport, physical recreation and social education. Sport is one of the vehicles being used for youth development.

At the infrastructural level, the Sport/Youth Multi-Purpose Facilities are designed to empower our youth clientele through the fusion of sporting, physical recreation and social education programmes. These proposed facilities differ from the Indoor Arenas in that they offer a more varied usage of the auditorium area. This type of facility would cater for youth assemblies, rallies, convention, seminars, workshops as well as recreation and also serve to integrate the Sport and Youth delivery at the district level. It is expected that construction of the Mayaro Youth/Sport Facility will begin in 2008.

### Access T&T—A guide to Recreational Services and Facilities for Persons with Disabilities

Social exclusion is a major concern for persons with disabilities. It is believed that many of them are not aware of available and accessible facilities, and hence do not participate fully in recreational activities to the same extent as the rest of the population.

A guide that provides information on all accessible recreational and sporting facilities in Trinidad and Tobago will be extremely beneficial to the disabled and will increase their participation in entertainment and recreational activities. The Ministry of Social Development will be undertaking this initiative in fiscal 2008. Categories such as beaches, sports, nightlife and entertainment and nature and adventure will be highlighted in the booklet. The publication will be available in regular text, Braille and electronic format.

It is expected that the guide will not only be useful to the local community but also to visitors to our shores and it is hoped that it will encourage other organizations and facilities to meet standards for providing access to persons with disabilities.

The project will involve a partnership with the Tourism Development Company, the Ministry of Community Development, the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs and other relevant organizations.

## SECTOR PLANS FOR TOBAGO FOR 2008

The Budget Statement for financial year 2008 for the Tobago House of Assembly was presented on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2007. The theme of the presentation was “...Building on the Development Momentum” and it brings attention to the environment of continuous change that Tobago is experiencing. The developmental goals for fiscal 2008 includes:-

- Enriching the Human Resources;
- Improving the Physical Infrastructure;
- Enhancing the Social Sector Delivery and Support Systems;
- Deepening Economic Transformation and Diversification; and
- Reforming Constitutional and Governance Arrangements

These goals are directly related to the following objectives:

- To build on the achievements of the past
- To improve on the economic and social circumstances of all Tobagonians
- To expand the future prospects of all Tobagonians

The Tobago House of Assembly has proposed several important initiatives for fiscal 2008 consistent with enriching and expanding the development momentum over the coming fiscal year. These include:<sup>95</sup>

- The operation of the *Financial Literacy Secretariat* which works in collaboration with the Central Bank, in order to continue the former Financial Outreach Programme efforts of the Division of Finance to educate Tobagonians in the basics of personal economic and finance;

- The launch of a *Business Plan Competition*, where the best independently judged new business plans submitted to the Business Development Unit will be offered a first prize grant of \$100,00 to commence those businesses;
- The establishment of a regulatory and Legal Framework for the Tourism Industry, to allow for better product standards throughout the entire tourism industry;
- The hosting of a *Tobago Economic and Business Outlook Conference* to sensitize Tobagonians on the opportunities, challenges and prospects for business development on the island and to offer assistance;
- Expansion and improvement of the Agriculture Incentive Programme with a doubling of the incentive resources for farmers;
- An expanded School Feeding Programme

### Development Programmes

The Development Programme initiatives that are proposed for fiscal 2008 focus on “*consolidating the gains of the past, on implementing on-going projects; and on embarking on new initiatives that are consistent with the development agenda for Tobago.*”<sup>96</sup>.

The said development priorities that have been established in the *Comprehensive Development Plan for Tobago (2006-2010)* include:

- The completion of the infrastructural works on the New Cove Eco- Industrial Business Park;
- Increased access to the Tertiary Education Financial Assistance Programme;
- Creation of an entrepreneurial facility, for aspiring Tobago entrepreneurs;
- The installation of 30 new aesthetically pleasing and environmentally safe bus shelters all over Tobago;
- Construction of a Beach Facility at Buccoo;
- Construction of the Roxborough District Health facility; and the
- Construction of a technical Vocational centre for Persons with Disabilities.

In fiscal 2008, the Tobago House of Assembly proposes to streamline the social sector delivery capabilities in order to ensure that they reach the target population. In this regard programmes would be rationalized, prioritized in the context of changing social needs, while retaining the slogan for Tobago as ***the Capital of paradise: Clean, Green Safe, Serene.***





Republic of Trinidad & Tobago

## Appendices

**APPENDIX I: VARIED DONOR INTERVENTIONS IN POVERTY AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT FOR CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES**

Intervention and Donor	Regional/Country	PRS & Indicators	Local Inst Strengthening	Census related	Income Consumption SLC	Qualitative Assessments	Annual Monitoring
<b>CDB</b>							
Social Analysis Training	Regional		X				
PRAPS	SKN & Anguilla	X					
Poverty Mapping	Dominica	X		X	X	X	X
Basic Needs Trust Fund	10 BMCs	X					
<b>DFID</b>							
SD Assist. To CDB	10 BMCs		X				
PR and Gender/CS Dev	BRB, SVG, GUY, JAM, & T&T		X				
<b>EU</b>							
Social Data Capture	SLU	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>UNDP</b>							
Capacity Building for Social Data etc	Regional		X				
SD for Poverty Erad.	Grenada	X					
Social Stats and Indicators	Regional	X	X	X	X		
Prep. Asst - Poverty Erad. In OECS	Regional	X				X	
Poverty TTF	BAR & OECS, T&T, JAM & GUY	X					X
SD & Poverty - Harmonization*	Regional	X					
<b>UNIFEM</b>							
Women, Gender & Poverty in WIs	Grenada & SLU		X				
Gender & Budgets	Belize	X	X				
Gender Analysis Training	BAR & OECS, T&T, JAM, GUY		X				
Gender & PRSPs*	OECS Sub-region	X					
Gender and RBA*	OECS Sub-region	X	X				
<b>WB</b>							
Mimi-mecovi	OECS	X	X				
<b>IDB</b>							
SPARC	Regional		X				
Social Data	Guyana	X	X			X	X

## **APPENDIX II: IDENTIFICATION OF PRIORITY ACTIONS FOR POVERTY REDUCTION AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CARIBBEAN REGION**

### **1. Create employment by promoting entrepreneurship through:**

- (i) The education system
- (ii) Access to technology
- (iii) Provision of business development and support services
- (iv) Expansion of access to financing

### **2. Improve access to, and utilization of quality education and training in the following ways:**

- (i) Establishment of Early Childhood centres towards universal access
- (ii) Primary education
- (iii) Secondary education
- (iv) Programmes to address special education
- (v) Remedial education
- (vi) Post-secondary/tertiary education

In developing activities around this action, calls were made for attention to be paid to issues of standards and curricular; relevance and quality, including issues of vocational and technical training and the establishment of competency levels for occupational classifications; teacher training; physical plant improvements, with an eye to expansion of capacity; and school attendance enforcement programmes.

### **3. Environmental management and hazard mitigation through:**

- (i) Enforcement of building codes and other environmental legislation
- (ii) Public education on environmental protection
- (iii) Expansion of emergency management funds – national and regional
- (iv) Addressing insurance/re-insurance issues
- (v) Coastal water and resources management
- (vi) Watershed management
- (vii) Solid waste management
- (viii) Reduction of CO<sup>2</sup> emissions

### **4. Improve health through wellness programmes and implementation of the following activities:**

- (i) HIV/AIDS Public Education Programme targeted especially to adolescents
- (ii) Review of the Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) strategy

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- (iii) Accelerate programmes to reduce mother to child transmission of HIV
- (iv) Counselling, care and treatment programmes for HIV/AIDS victims
- (v) Legal reform to address issues of HIV/AIDS stigmatization and discrimination
- (vi) Improve access to contraceptives
- (vii) Programmes to reduce chronic and lifestyle disease including hypertension, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and HIV/AIDS
- (viii) Training in midwifery
- (ix) Violence prevention programmes



**APPENDIX III:  
KEY SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND STRUCTURAL/INSTITUTIONAL INITIATIVES FUNDED BY THE  
PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME (PSIP) 2007**

<b>Programmes &amp; Initiatives</b>	<b>Budgeted Allocation 2007</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	
Community Outreach Programmes	\$1,000,000
Computerisation of the Social Welfare Division	\$1,000,000
Construction of a Meal Centre and Day Nursery	\$635,000
Construction of La Brea Senior Citizens Home	\$1,000,000
Establishment of a Remand Home for Young Female Offenders	\$6,000,000
Establishment of Halfway House for Ex-prisoners	\$1,000,000
Establishment of Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Facility at Piparo	\$200,000
Establishment of a Community-Based Micro Credit Programme (Micro Enterprise Loan (MEL) Facility)	\$1,500,000
Establishment of a Data Centre and Storage Area Network	\$1,000,000
Establishment of Social Displacement Centres	\$11,000,000
Establishment of Social Services Centre in Point Fortin	\$1,000,000
Establishment of Social Services Centre in Rio Claro	\$1,000,000
Establishment of the Children's Authority	\$1,000,000
European Union Sponsored Poverty Reduction Programme	\$7,000,000
Implementation of a Community Telecentres Project	\$2,000,000
Institutional Strengthening - Social Services Delivery	\$2,365,000
Modernisation of the St Michael's School for Boys	\$1,500,000
Reconstruction of St Dominic's Home	\$1,000,000
Reconstruction of St. Dominic's Home for Children	\$1,000,000
Refurbishment of St. Jude's Home for Girls - Mt. Carmel Girl's Hostel	\$500,000
Renovation of Salvation Army Hostel- Josephine Shaw House for Women	\$1,000,000
Scholarship Programme for Children in Children's Homes	\$350,000
Support to Mediation Services	\$2,000,000
<b>Ministry of Social Development Total</b>	<b>\$46,050,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, CULTURE &amp; GENDER AFFAIRS</b>	
Aided Self Help Programme- Implementation of Community-Based Projects	\$10,000,000
Refurbishment of Export Centres	\$5,000,000
<b>Ministry of Community Development, Culture &amp; Gender Affairs Total</b>	<b>\$15,000,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF HOUSING</b>	
Accelerated High Density Housing Programme	\$131,000,000
Construction of Decanting Centre at Picton Road, Laventille	\$5,000,000
Emergency Shelter Relief Fund	\$300,000
Housing Grants	\$10,000,000
Housing Opportunity Programme	\$68,100,000
Regularisation and Regeneration of Communities - Greater Port of Spain Region	\$2,000,000
Shelter Construction Financing Facility	\$500,000
Squatter Regularisation	\$15,170,000
<b>Ministry of Housing Total</b>	<b>\$232,070,000</b>

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<b>MINISTRY OF SPORT &amp; YOUTH AFFAIRS</b>	
Assistance to National Youth NGOs	\$3,000,000
Establishment of a National Youth Council	\$250,000
Implementation of a National Youth Policy - Establishment of a PIU	\$4,000,000
Refurbishment of National Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centres	\$7,000,000
Refurbishment of Youth Training Facilities	\$5,000,000
Save the Youth of Marginalized Communities	\$2,800,000
Youth Health Programme	\$4,000,000
<b>Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs Total</b>	<b>\$26,050,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT</b>	
Development of a Local Government Policy and Programme of Action for Recreational Facilities	\$1,000,000
<b>Ministry of Local Government Total</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF HEALTH</b>	
Community Outreach Family Medicine Programme	\$1,200,000
Establishment of Facilities for the Socially Displaced	\$1,000,000
National Community Care Programme	\$3,000,000
Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children - Refurbishment Works	\$500,000
Special Programme - Chronic Diseases	\$6,000,000
Special Programme - HIV/AIDS	\$10,000,000
Special Programme - Renal Dialysis	\$16,000,000
Special Programme - Treatment of Adult Cardiac Disease	\$16,000,000
Support to World Bank Funded - Loan for HIV/AIDS	\$5,500,000
Tissue Transplant	\$5,000,000
Waiting List for Surgery	\$16,000,000
<b>Ministry of Health Total</b>	<b>\$80,200,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY &amp; TERTIARY EDUCATION</b>	
COSTAATT Financial Aid Programme	\$5,000,000
Development of a National Innovation System (Young Innovators and Inventors Award)	\$3,800,000
Development of Master Plan for COSTAATT	\$6,300,000
Establishment of a National Accreditation Council	\$2,000,000
Establishment of a National Community College	\$10,000,000
Establishment of Diego Martin HYPE Centre	\$2,000,000
Establishment of UTT	\$80,000,000
MIC Training Subsidy	\$6,000,000
National Skills Development Programme	\$20,000,000
President's Award for Excellence in Science, Teaching, Research and Development	\$1,500,000
Research and Development Foresighting	\$1,500,000
Sangre Grande MIC/HYPE Centre	\$4,500,000
Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme Ltd (YTEPP)	\$3,000,000
YTEPP Ltd.- Construction of Tobago Training Centre	\$5,000,000
<b>Ministry of Science, Technology &amp; Tertiary Education Total</b>	<b>\$150,600,000</b>
<b>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER</b>	
National HIV/AIDS Co-ordinating Unit	\$30,000,000
Support to HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan	\$10,535,000
<b>Office of the Prime Minister Total</b>	<b>\$40,535,000</b>

<b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</b>	
Curriculum Development	\$2,000,000
Teaching and Learning Strategies	\$50,365,000
Early Childhood Care Education	\$75,000,000
Provision of Library and Textbooks - Fourth Basic Education programme	\$6,000,000
School Intervention Strategies	\$2,500,000
<b>Ministry of Education Total</b>	<b>\$83,500,000</b>
<b>Ministries in Trinidad Sub Total</b>	<b>\$675,005,000</b>
<b>TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY</b>	
Community Mediation	\$100,000
Construction of Wellness/Fitness Centre	\$100,000
Construction of Community Swimming Pools	\$200,000
Establishment of Childhood Centres	\$500,000
Extension and Improvement to Existing Childhood Centres	\$500,000
Establishment of a Halfway House	\$100,000
Establishment of Early Childhood Care and Education Unit	\$200,000
Establishment of School Health Programme	\$100,000
Establishment of Probation Hostels	\$400,000
Golden Apple Adolescent Partnership Programme (GAAPP)	\$500,000
Health Needs Assessment for Tobago	\$300,000
Introduction to Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Schools	\$100,000
Performing for Arts Centre	\$200,000
Programme for Adolescent Mothers	\$500,000
Project for the Realisation of Economic Achievement (REACH)	\$600,000
Roving Caregivers Programme	\$50,000
Social Services and Prison Integrated Network (SPINE)	\$250,000
Tobago Drug Council and Alcohol Abuse & HIV/AIDS Prevention Programme	\$13,000,000
Tobago Elderly Housing and Rehabilitative Centre	\$550,000
Vocation Centre for Persons with Mental Retardation	\$300,000
Young Scholars Programme	\$1,000,000
<b>Tobago House of Assembly Total</b>	<b>\$19,550,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$694,555,000</b>

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### APPENDIX IV: STATUS OF NEW PROGRAMMES, POLICIES AND INITIATIVES THAT WERE PLANNED FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN FISCAL 2007

PROGRAMME/ POLICY/ STRUCTURAL INITIATIVE	MINISTRY	STATUS
Operation of a facility for Older Persons at Hernandez Place in Arima	MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	The centre was renovated and an NGO to manage the facility was identified.
Youth Resources for Implementing Successful Enterprises (Youth RISE)	MINISTRY OF SPORT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS	Not yet implemented
National Counseling Programme	MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	Cabinet requested additional information on the programme.
Sensitization of The National Plan of Action for Children in Trinidad & Tobago	MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	The National Plan of Action was launched in April 2007. A Post Launch Workshop was held for three days in June 2007 with key stakeholders to encourage national ownership and facilitate implementation.
A Nationwide Survey on Child Victimization in Trinidad & Tobago	MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	Not yet implemented
Public Awareness Campaign on the National Policy on Persons with Disabilities	MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	Publication of the first edition of the "Access" newsletter, to educate the general public on the varying types of disabilities, and to highlight the ability of persons with disabilities to contribute to society. Stakeholder workshops were conducted with Ministries and four workshops for key stakeholders
Criminal Injuries Compensation Unit	MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	The Board was established.
Public Education Campaign on Social Displacement	MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	Not yet implemented
New Community Mediation Programme	MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	Centres were established and outreach activities undertaken in communities.
Programme to assist the Differently-abled in finding Sustainable Employment	MINISTRY OF LABOUR & SMALL AND MICRO-ENTERPRISES	The National Employment Service (NES) employed on average three (3) disabled persons per month for the year.
The National Steel Symphony	MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, CULTURE AND GENDER AFFAIRS	Not yet implemented
National Policy on the Development of Tertiary Education, Training and Distance and Lifelong Learning	MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TERTIARY EDUCATION	The Green Paper was published as planned and public consultations will be conducted in fiscal 2007.
Establishment of a National Council for Science, Technology and Innovation Policy on Biotechnology (NCOSTI)	MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TERTIARY EDUCATION	An interim Council is proposed for establishment in fiscal 2007.
The Block Leadership Initiative for the New Generation (BLING)	MINISTRY OF SPORT & YOUTH AFFAIRS	Not yet implemented
Project - Voice of the Youth	MINISTRY OF SPORT & YOUTH AFFAIRS	Not yet implemented
Roving Care Giver Programme	TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY	Established
Boyz II Men	TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY	Not yet implemented
Community School for the Performing Arts	TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY	Not yet implemented
Car Wash Programme for Recovering Addicts	TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY	Established
Senior Citizen Centres	TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY	Not yet implemented
Steel Pan for Primary Schools	TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY	Not yet implemented

**APPENDIX V:  
DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAMMES, POLICIES AND INSTITUTIONAL/STRUCTURAL INITIATIVES FOR  
FISCAL 2007**

Programme	Description	Beneficiary
<b>Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources</b>		
<b>Youth Apprenticeship Programme in Agriculture (YAPA)</b>	Established in Sept 2002, YAPA was designed to expose participants to 6-8 weeks of theoretical and practical on-farm aspects of agriculture on successful public and private farms in Trinidad and Tobago demonstrating that agriculture can be pursued as a successful business. Participants are trained in Crop Production, Livestock Production, and Ornamental Horticulture. During the period participants cultivate and harvest short-term crops, and also realize profits from the sale of their produce. Graduates from YAPA Phase I can continue into the Phase II which involves 9 months of continued practical training in agriculture.	Young people between the ages of 18-25
<b>Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs</b>		
<b>Aided Self-Help Programme</b>	The Programme engages in the mobilization of the people of Trinidad and Tobago to improve their standard of living through self help activities. It provides poor communities with building materials and other assistance to undertake infrastructural project communal building facilities, roads, water, electricity, recreational facilities. Additionally, Minor Repairs/Reconstruction Grant is also offered.	Community Groups, Social Groups, Poor and Destitute individuals.
<b>Community Action for Revival and Empowerment (CARE)</b>	CARE was established to encourage a more holistic and integrated approach to development and to simultaneously promote co-ordination and partnerships between communities and Ministries. The programme facilitates expeditious and timely developmental interventions as needed in communities.	Communities and Community Organizations.
<b>Refurbishment of Community Centres</b>	This Programme seeks to refurbish Community Centres that have been in existence over a long period of time and in advanced state of disrepair, and/or whose accommodation facilities do not now fulfil expanded present-day community needs.	Communities in which no Centres exist.
<b>Community Concerts</b>	This programme is designed to unearth and give exposure to latent talent in the performing arts, build confidence for stage performance and presentation and promote stage production as a viable economic venture. The Programme aims to sustain interest in the performing arts, during periods outside of the Prime Minister's Best Village Competition and Exhibitions and to promote stage production as a viable economic venture.	Communities: Skilled persons in the cultural art forms who need exposure on the national stage.
<b>Community Development Fund (CDF)</b>	Focused on contributing to sustainable development primarily through the development of infrastructure for social services delivery to the poor and vulnerable. The CDF seeks to foster a self-reliant entrepreneurial spirit within communities; to implement comprehensive strategies to eradicate poverty through the facilitation of job creation in rural areas.	Communities: Social and Community Groups, Village Councils etc.
<b>Community Development Scholarship Programme</b>	This Programme is a national platform for the Award of Bursaries to young persons to undertake Programmes of training and/or studies in traditional and non-traditional disciplines at local, regional and other institutions.	Youth: Young persons aged 18 years and over who are seeking to further studies in the technical, vocational and academic areas.
<b>Community Education Programme (CEP)</b>	The Community Education Programme is one of the critical training programmes, it provides training in a variety of marketable skills geared towards training persons for home-based production of goods and services and employment generation. Services offered to beneficiaries were training through the Community Sensitization and Awareness (acts as a mechanism for Ministry to interface with stakeholders to jointly develop projects; empower communities and strengthen links with community partners), Group Leadership Development, Community Skills Bank and the Micro Enterprise Development Management Programme.	Unemployed: Unskilled, unemployed persons aged 17 years and over.
<b>Community Enhancement and Regeneration Programme (CERP)</b>	This Programme seeks to strengthen community life and community institutions through the implementation of Programmes to provide communities with water services, electricity and multi-purpose social and recreational amenities.	Communities would be selected for attention on the basis of conventional poverty indicators and visible signs of physical neglect.
<b>Community Safety and Enhancement Programme (CSEP)</b>	The Community Safety and Enhancement Programme is designed to promote community safety and security through the establishment of crime prevention structures and the implementation of projects and programmes with resource support from internal and external sources.	Communities: All communities, especially those where there is a high incidence of criminal activity.
<b>Domestic Violence Programme</b>	This programme includes the Domestic Violence Hotline, Community Based Drop-in Centres and Public Awareness initiatives. It was designed to address the complex and sensitive issue of domestic violence in the society.	Communities: Victims and perpetrators of domestic violence.

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<b>Male Support Programme</b>	This Programme is designed to address social and other issues that affect the vulnerability of local men and boys. The platform is intended to seek solutions that would bring about change in the thinking and behaviour of males in our society.	Men/Boys: Males in Parent/Teachers Associations, CBOs, NGOs, Religious Organisations and the T&T Defense Force.
<b>Export Centers Programme</b>	The Export Centers is a wholly owned State Enterprise that was designed to promote employment through the revitalization of the handicraft industry in Trinidad and Tobago. Located in terminal malls, they create affordable marketing opportunities, particularly for those persons who benefited from skills training provided through the Community Education Programme. The Export Centres is a critical training programme.	Unemployed: Unskilled women and youth, single mothers between 25-50 years, voluntary community based organizations.
<b>Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme (GAPP)</b>	Designed to sensitize young adults to the aging process and to prepare them, through training and field visitation, to develop practical skills in geriatric care. The programme offers a stipend of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per day for five days per week to all participants.	Older Persons: Youth 17-25; Older Persons in need of affordable care; Managers of Homes for Older Persons.
<b>Non-Traditional Skills Training for Women</b>	This programme is a critical training programme which provides technical and vocational education and training to low income women. The programme provides a total of 320 hours of training on a six month part time basis and comprises three components: training, job placement and program promotion. The focus of the training is in the areas of Domestic Appliance Repair and Maintenance, Small Engine Repair and Maintenance, Electrical Installation, Masonry/Bricklaying/Tiling, Upholstery.	Women/Girls: Unemployed and underemployed women or low income females between 18 – 50 with little or no qualifications or skills. Applicants must not possess more than 4 CXC O'level subjects to qualify for this Programme.
<b>Prime Minister's Best Village Trophy Competition</b>	This programme is designed to promote the development, enhancement and preservation of the nation's diverse and indigenous cultures. It exposes the nation's cultural and other art forms on the national stage to allow people in the communities to develop a greater awareness and appreciation for the customs, rituals, folklore, oral traditions and other heritage of their neighbors. It is a major vehicle for community development through the processes of cohesion, integration and empowerment.	Communities: Communities; Non Governmental Organizations; Persons operating small businesses; and Community leaders.
<b>Retirees/Adolescent Partnership Programme (RAPP)</b>	The RAPP Programme provides a platform for learning and mentoring. It is geared towards helping young adults appreciate their classroom experiences by providing enabling environments for positive social interaction. RAPP utilizes the expertise of skilled retired persons to provide support services at the community level to students. The Programme incorporates two modules - Learning Enrichment and Mentoring.	Youth: Young persons between the ages of 11-16 in difficult circumstances; Students identified by their schools as most likely to benefit from the program; Young persons identified by community organizations and the community police; Retirees.
<b>Terminal Malls</b>	The Terminal Malls were established to serve as a small / micro business incubators where small scale entrepreneurs would receive well appointed facilities in high traffic areas on a temporary basis at minimal rental with the expectation that these facilities are temporary in the expectation that with sufficient growth and development of entrepreneurial skills, the tenants would move on thus paving the way for new businesses to benefit from the experience and opportunities.	Communities: Micro and Small scale producers as well as aspiring small scale entrepreneurs at the village/community level.
<b>Transformation and Development Centers</b>	Provision of meals and appropriate training as well as services designed to improve self esteem and self reliance of recipients. The Gov't partners with NGOs/FBOs to provide this service.	Persons/Households Living in Poverty: Unemployed, homeless, dispossessed persons and single parents.
<b>Women in Harmony</b>	This is a critical training programme. The aim is to equip participants with a marketable skill which can be utilized to enhance their economic choices and livelihood options and to enhance participants' capacity to cope with the challenges of their particular circumstances via exposure to modules on self-development and lifestyle.	Women/Girls: Women with limited or no skills; single women/ head of households, living in poverty, in abusive situations; and, between 26 and 45 years

<b>Ministry of Education</b>		
<b>Adult Education Programme</b>	This programme is a critical training programme, it contributes to the development of the nation's human resources through the provision of basic education involving literacy and numeracy, certified technical vocational training at the National Examinations Council (NEC) Level 1 and CXC and GCE certified courses. Leisure time courses are also available in floral arrangement, ceramics, book binding, handicraft, and drapery design. The programme is conducted in 46 Lifelong Learning Centers located in various communities throughout Trinidad and Tobago.	Other: Persons 15 years and over.
<b>Guidance and Counselling</b>	The National Guidance Programme is a planned and comprehensive school guidance and counselling Programme that delivers prevention as well as intervention services to all students. The Programme is research-based and outcome driven. The services delivered include: classroom guidance, counselling (individual and group), consultation, assessment, referral and parent education.	Youth: Students ages 5-19.
<b>Project Peace</b>	The programme aims to reduce violence and indiscipline in the schools of the nation. It is co-ordinated by the School Intervention Strategies Unit of the Ministry and includes several initiatives directed essentially to the four main stakeholders in education students, teachers, parents, and the community.	Communities: Students, teachers, parents, the community.
<b>School Book Grant Programme</b>	A policy adopted by the Ministry to provide relief to parents of students by the provision of a book grant of \$1,000.	Children: Students attending Private and Public secondary schools being promoted to Form 4 and Lower 6.
<b>School Intervention Strategies</b>	The programme includes Mediation/Conflict resolution workshops; Home Work Centres; Anger and Stress management training for secondary school teachers; Parenting Education; Alternative skills based education and Driver responsibility training for young drivers	Youth: Secondary school teachers and students.
<b>School Nutrition Programme</b>	Formerly known as the School Feeding Programme, the School Nutrition programme provides breakfasts, lunches and milk drinks to children in schools throughout Trinidad and Tobago.	Children: Children aged 3-18 identified by Principals as being in underprivileged socio-economic circumstances
<b>School Transportation</b>	The provision of dedicated school services with Maxi Taxis and PTSC Buses for children attending Secondary Schools and some Primary Schools which are located in remote areas.	Children: Secondary and Primary school students.
<b>Student Support Services Social Work Component</b>	Social Work is a planned intervention programme that delivers both preventive and remedial services with special emphasis on enhancing the home to school connection to advance the learning of adults.	Children: Primary and secondary school students.
<b>Textbook Rental/Loan Programme (Primary &amp; Secondary Schools)</b>	This programme was established in the academic year 2003/2004 based on the introduction of the National Curriculum into all schools and provides students with some basic learning materials required for their development. The programme utilizes textbooks for primary and secondary schools, which have been evaluated by a Textbook Committee and approved by the Ministry of Education. The textbooks will be supplied under a loan programme, no rental fees will be charged. The books are to be returned to the school at the end of the academic year for loan to the next intake of students.	Children: Primary and secondary school students.
<b>School Health Programme</b>	This a collaborative programme between the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health. Students enrolled in government and assisted primary schools are screened for early detection of hearing and visual impairment.	Children: Primary school students.
<b>Ministry of Health</b>		
<b>Adult Cardiac Surgery</b>	The programme offers a reduction in the price to adult cardiac patients who cannot afford the current price of treatment at the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex. The services offered to needy patients include angiograms, angioplasty and open heart surgery.	Other: Adult cardiac patients at EWMSC who are unable to afford the cost of care.
<b>Anti-Retroviral Treatment Programme</b>	The provision of free anti-retroviral therapy at a number of public facilities for HIV/AIDS patients, including children.	Persons Living with HIV/AIDS
<b>Community Care Programme</b>	The Community Care programme has two overall objectives in the first phase of the programme; i) the de-institutionalization of patients from public health institutions and ii) to work with residential care facility owners to bring homes to minimum operating standards.	Other: patients at public medical facilities.
<b>Chronic Disease Assistance Plan (C-DAP)</b>	C-DAP provides free prescription drugs via public health facilities and participating private pharmacies to all citizens of Trinidad and Tobago who suffer with the chronic diseases of diabetes, hypertension, glaucoma, depression, asthma, arthritis, prostate cancer, benign prostate hyperplasia and some cardiac related diseases. Persons meeting the criteria are issued prescriptions by participating physicians. Prescriptions are accepted at private pharmacies from medical practitioners in the public and private sectors.	Other: All citizens who suffer from the aforementioned disorders.

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<b>Financial Assistance to Necessitous Patients (Medical Aids Committee)</b>	To recommend aid for medical diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of persons in need and who are unable to access such care at public institutions. The main responsibility of the Committee is to assess cases and submit recommendations to the Minister of Health in accordance with the approved guidelines for the grant of financial assistance to patients. To be eligible, persons must be citizens of this country, and be referred by a Specialist Medical Officer or equivalent. In addition, the person must be assessed by the relevant Social Worker.	Persons/Households Living in Poverty: Persons who are unable to access the services at public institutions.
<b>Patient Care Assistants (PCAs)</b>	The Patient Care Assistants Programme is a critical training programme. It was approved in June 2003 and entails the employment on contract of 2000 Patient Care Assistants by the Regional Health Authorities over a period of two (2) years in batches of 500 every six (6) months. This programme was established to meet the immediate needs for patient care on the wards and clinics as these medical facilities continue to face the growing shortage of nursing personnel.	Other: Patients at public medical facilities.
<b>Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV Programme</b>	Pregnant women who seek antenatal care at public sector health facilities are offered voluntary testing and counselling for HIV/AIDS. All HIV positive pregnant women are then offered anti-retroviral drugs prior to and during delivery. In addition, the programme provides for the continuation of therapy for a prescribed period to the babies born to HIV positive mothers and referrals of mothers, partners and infected infants for HIV treatment and care.	Pregnant women
<b>RapPort</b>	RapPort is the youth arm of the National AIDS Programme. RapPort is a Youth Information Center and Community Outreach Project which promotes healthy lifestyles among adolescents, by creating a supportive environment which would engender information flow, education, communication, counseling and referral services	Youth: Young persons aged 13-25 years.- Applications accepted from NGOs, CBOs, Schools, Churches and any organization working in the interest of the youth.
<b>Surgical Waiting list Initiative</b>	The Surgical Waiting List Initiative was developed to reduce the waiting list at public hospitals for surgeries and to bring early relief to patients that have already been waiting for long periods. The waiting list for surgeries includes hernia cases, fibroid embolizations, cataracts and joint replacements.	Other: Patients at public medical facilities
<b>Ministry of Housing</b>		
<b>Accelerated Housing Programme</b>	The Government seeks to provide housing to alleviate the living conditions of low and middle income households. The Accelerated Housing Programme is administered through the Housing Development Corporation (HDC) via the Infill Lots, the Joint Venture and Urban renewal programmes. The goal of the Accelerated Housing Programme is the production of approximately 100,000 housing units over a ten (10) year period to meet the housing demand.	Other: low and middle income households
<b>Home Improvement Grant</b>	The Housing Improvement Grant seeks to assist qualifying families earning an annual household income limit of 36,000 with needed home improvement up to a maximum of TT\$15,000.	Persons/Households Living in Poverty Low Income Citizens
<b>Housing Improvement Subsidy</b>	The Home Improvement Programme involves the provision of a matching grant to assist qualifying families earning an annual household income limit of 54,000 with needed home improvement up to a maximum of TT\$20,000.	Persons/Households Living in Poverty: Low Income Citizens
<b>Housing Subsidy System for New Housing</b>	The Housing Subsidy Programme makes available a subsidy of \$35,000 and \$50,400 to beneficiaries (owners of land) whose annual incomes are between \$24,000 to \$55,000 to assist them to construct a home.	Persons/Households Living in Poverty: This programme targets low income citizens in need of housing.
<b>Squatter Regularisation Programme</b>	The Squatter Regularisation Programme seeks to improve living conditions and increase the security of tenure for families living on State Lands.	Persons/Households Living in Poverty: Persons who are squatting.
<b>Ministry of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development</b>		
<b>National Entrepreneurship Development Company (NEDCO) Ltd.</b>	NEDCO is the primary agency to interface with prospective clients and to coordinate the loan and business development activities associated with the promotion of enterprise development. The services provided by NEDCO include the technical assistance in business ventures, access to start up capital and micro-finance facilities, training on aspects of business operations and marketing support.	Other: The disenfranchised segment of the population, including youth and single mothers, who cannot access capital/support for entrepreneurial activity. Individuals must be T&T nationals 18 years and over desirous of starting their business



<b>School Crossing Guard Programme</b>	Training to perform crossing guard duties at points near to primary schools and to provide employment opportunities on a rotational basis	Women/Girls: Women between the ages 18-50.
<b>Ministry of Legal Affairs</b>		
<b>Free Computer Generated Birth Certificate</b>	The Free Computer Generated Birth Certificate Programme is a social sector programme designed to ensure that each natural born citizen of Trinidad and Tobago receives a personal identification number or 'PIN' through a population registration system.	Other: All citizens born in Trinidad and Tobago.
<b>Ministry of Local Government</b>		
<b>Unemployment Relief Programme (URP)</b>	The Unemployment Relief Programme provides short-term unemployment relief while enhancing the skills of individuals in the community and developing, maintaining and improving the physical and social infrastructure. The programme is decentralised to 12 regions in Trinidad. URP consists of the Core Programme, the Women's Programme, Special Projects and the Job Skills Training Component.	Unemployed: All unemployed citizens of Trinidad and Tobago with a valid ID card. The Women's Programme targets single parents/guardians of households
<b>Ministry of National Security</b>		
<b>Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)</b>	The Programme provides attitudinal and skill development training to young adults. Focus is placed on entrepreneurship, self discipline, care for the environment as well as the involvement of family and community with a view to provide post training job placement assistance for participants.	Youth: Medically fit young adults between the ages 18-25 yrs., who are not academically or technically skilled and are unemployed or unemployable. 1364 were successfully employed.
<b>Military Led Academic Training Programme (MILAT)</b>	The programme focuses on youths who exhibit certain characteristics evidenced by social exclusion, absence of respect for authority, lack of a moral sense of direction and distraction/disinterest in education and training. It is aimed at altering the attitudes and responses of young persons to the values of instruction and accepting personal responsibility in a quasi- military environment.	Youth: At risk youth between ages of 14-18
<b>Military Led Youth Apprenticeship Reorientation Training Programme (MYPART)</b>	This programme focuses on the provision and development of craft and artisan skills for youth at risk.	Youth: Young persons 14-25 years of age
<b>Ministry of Public Utilities and the Environment</b>		
<b>Community Based Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programme (CEPEP)</b>	This Programme operates within communities and provides employment for semi and unskilled persons in environmental protection and beautification.	Unemployed: Unemployed, semi or unskilled individuals aged 18 years or over; At the Group level - CBOs, NGOs, Managers.
<b>Community Environmental Improvement Initiative (CEII) Programme</b>	The CEII was designed to empower communities to identify areas within the community that require intervention and to develop programmes that would ensure continuity over the long term.	Communities: Communities and Schools.
<b>Hardship Relief Programme</b>	The Hardship Relief Programme provides a rebate on water rates to old age pensioners and recipients of Public Assistance, who own one residential property in Class A2, A3, and A4 only. Customers must be in good financial standing with WASA in order to benefit from the Programme. WASA credits the beneficiaries accounts at the end of the year. Rebate :A2- \$70, A3- \$100, A4-\$100.	Persons/Households Living in Poverty: Old Age Pensioners and Public Assistance recipients. This person should be the owner of one residential property and be a WASA customer in Class A2-A4.
<b>National Social Development Programme (NSDP)</b>	Established to bring relief to deprived communities by providing or upgrading basic amenities and multi-purpose social and recreational facilities.	Communities: Low income communities and/or deprived communities- Individuals, community leaders and managers of CBOs are eligible to apply.

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<b>Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education</b>		
<b>Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses (GATE)</b>	GATE was introduced in September 2004 (replacing the Dollar for Dollar Education Plan). GATE provides financial assistance for tuition to citizens of Trinidad and Tobago who are pursuing programmes at local and regional public institutions as well as approved private local institutions. It is applicable for programmes of study leading to a recognised tertiary level qualification.	Youth: Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago age 18 years and over, pursuing or wishing to pursue tertiary education.
<b>Helping You Prepare for Employment (HYPE)</b>	The Programme provides skills training to persons who have left the secondary school system and have been unable to find employment because they do not possess the necessary level of academic achievement or technical skills which can make them marketable.	Youth: Youth between the ages of 17-25 who did not complete or were unsuccessful in their secondary education.
<b>Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP)</b>	HELP was launched in June 2006, it is a funding mechanism which provides financial assistance to students, in addition to that being provided by GATE. It is expected to replace the Students' Revolving Loan Fund (SRLF) and the University Students' Guarantee Loan Fund (USGLF).	Other: Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago pursuing tertiary education.
<b>Multi-sector Skills Training Programme (MuST)</b>	The Multi-Sector Skills Training Programme (MuST) is a specialized craft-training programme that is designed to develop competent, certified workers in priority sectors of the national economy. Based on labour market surveys conducted by the National Training Agency (NTA), three sectors have been identified as having shortages of skilled labour: the Construction Sector, the Hospitality and Tourism Sector, and the Agriculture Sector. The programme aims to train five thousand (5,000) unemployed nationals per cycle of training, over two (2) cycles of training per year. It is structured in terms of a work-based, day-release model of training that provides occupational skills, life skills and functional literacy and numeracy training. On successful completion of the programme trainees are provided with the Trinidad and Tobago National Vocational Qualification (TTNVQ). A stipend of \$60.00 per day is paid to trainees	Unemployed: 19-50 years of age in the following categories: Economically disadvantaged; Academically challenged; Unemployed; Displaced Workers; Differently-abled; Re-entrants into productive society.
<b>National Energy Skills Center (NESC)</b>	A non-profit foundation established in 1997 as a partnership between the GOTT and industry to address the training and human development needs of the energy and industrial sectors.	Other: Persons interested in technical/technological skills training for a career in the energy and industrial sectors
<b>On the Job Training (OJT)</b>	A pre-employment training Programme that offers participants an induction into the world of work and focuses on the acquisition of educational and occupational skills. A Life Skills Component incorporates the psychological and social aspects of the trainees' development. Trainees are remunerated based upon their educational level.	Youth: Persons between the ages of 16-30 graduated from secondary schools, technical/vocational institutes and tertiary institutions.
<b>Rehabilitating Inmates through Training and Retraining</b>	This programme is a strategy that prepares both male and female prisoners for their eventual release, so that they leave the prison system in a state of preparedness for coping with life on the outside. The programme will provide training to the incarcerated with the intent of reducing re-offending and recidivism and thereby contributing to national efforts for crime reduction	Prisoners who are currently incarcerated with about 1 year to serve on their sentence.
<b>Retraining Programme</b>	A skills training Programme designed to retool retrenched and displaced workers for reentry into the job market. It comprises 4 components - Skills Training, Life Skills Seminars, Internship and Mentorship. It focuses on competencies being developed in areas related to Heavy Industrial Skills; Automotive Care; Building Construction Technology; Information Technology; Entertainment; Hospitality and related areas	Unemployed: Persons in Conflict with the Law: Retrenched or displaced workers within the age group 30-45 years.
<b>Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme (YTEPP)</b>	YTEPP provides training opportunities to young people in the following broad categories: Career enhancement through numeracy and literacy skills; Vocational Skills Training; Entrepreneurial Development; Life Skills Training and Support services which is a component that teaches about micro-entrepreneurship for operating a business	Youth: Out of school and unemployed youths between the ages of 15-25 years.
<b>Ministry of Social Development</b>		
<b>Adolescent Mothers Programme</b>	A collaborative effort between the MSD and Child Welfare League involving the establishment of Intervention Centers for the provision of remedial and development services for pregnant teenagers, adolescent mothers and their infants. The Programme components are: personal development; health and family life education; individual and group counseling; skills training; remedial/development training; outreach to primary school; outreach to out of school youth in selected communities; sessions for parents and partners of participants and outreach to young men. The overall objective is to decrease the number and frequency of teenage pregnancy in communities and to break the cycle of inter-generational poverty related to teenage pregnancy.	Women/Girls: Pre and post natal teenagers/adolescents and their young children

<b>Adoption of Children</b>	This programme meets the need of several categories of clients including persons who are unable to take care of their children and are seeking assistance to offer their babies for adoption, persons who wish to extend their family via adoption, those who already have a child/ children in their home and wish to legalize that arrangement and the children adopted.	Children 1) Persons (prospective parents) 25 years and older and at least 21 years older than child to be adopted; 2) Persons 18 years and under (prospective adoptee); 3) Birth parent seeking to give up a child for adoption.
<b>Child Rights Activities</b>	This project attempts to sensitize the population including children on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. It will inform and educate the national community on the CRC. Information and education will be placed in the context of the responsibility of each person to further the best interests of children, thereby insuring their healthy future	Children
<b>Children in Need of Special Protection</b>	Establishment of a computerized, relational database to serve as a central registry for data on abused children, neglected children, children with disabilities and children in conflict with the law.	Children: Children who are abused, neglected, in conflict with the law or have disabilities. Agencies providing services related to children in need of special protection.
<b>Community Assistance Programme-Project Proposal Writing</b>	The Project would involve the conduct of workshops in Proposal Writing targeting members of CBO/NGOs in the Couva/Tabaquite/Talparo region, with a view to building their capacity to produce quality project proposals for financial assistance. The project will seek the assistance of a suitable training provider in this regard.	NGOs and Public Sector Agencies: NGO/CBOs
<b>Community Based Family Life Meetings &amp; Training for Parenting</b>	This Programme seeks to promote and strengthen healthy functioning families. It involves a series of seminars to educate and inform participants about the importance of responsible parenting practices and the development of positive life skills. The Programme further echoes the need for investments in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) as best practice for positive self-development and for a solid foundation for future generations.	Communities: Communities throughout Trinidad and Tobago.
<b>Community Interface Programme</b>	This Programme seeks to meet with members of the public in their own community to discuss matters relating to adoption in Trinidad and Tobago. With the assistance of the Community Development Officers, the NGOs and the CBOs, planned community meetings are to be held throughout the entire country commencing September 2003 and continuing until all communities have been reached.	Communities: Communities throughout Trinidad and Tobago.
<b>Community Mediation Programme</b>	The Community Mediation Programme is based on the restorative justice philosophy. It is a method of resolving disputes between parties with the assistance and facilitation of a third party or mediator. The mission of the Community Mediation Centres is to empower individuals, groups and communities to resolve disputes by talking it out in a non-threatening environment.	Communities: Parties to certain non-serious civil, criminal and family law matters.
<b>Community Prevention Programme (NADAPP)</b>	This programme seeks to mobilize and empower communities to undertake effective drug prevention and reduction activities.	Substance Abusers
<b>Community Service Orders</b>	Community Service is an alternative to custodial sentencing which the court may choose to exercise when it has reached a verdict that an offence is serious and warrants that line. Offenders make suitable amends by constructive unpaid work in the community. Community service would/should be both physically and emotionally demanding of the offender with particular regard to curtailing liberty. It should require immense self discipline and a respect for other people and property and should engage the offender in tasks of situation that challenges his or her outlook, experience and ability and not necessarily match the offenders skills/profession with the tasks determined or approved by the Court.	Persons in Conflict with the Law: Probationers
<b>Conditional Cash Transfer Programme (CCTP)</b>	The Conditional Cash Transfer programme is intended to provide social protection by promoting nutritional and social security to vulnerable households. It is intended to enhance the security and the dignity of these households and reduce the incidence of poverty.	Persons/ households living in poverty
<b>Criminal Injuries Compensation Programme</b>	Grant of compensation to victims of certain violent crimes under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Act	Other: Victims of certain violent crimes.
<b>Disability Assistance Fund</b>	The project involves the establishment of a Disability Assistance Fund to provide support for persons with disabilities or organizations catering for the disabled community. The support could be either financial assistance, to purchase aids and equipment or stipends for personal assistants.	Persons with Disabilities: Disabled population and NGOs for and of persons with disabilities.

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<b>Disability Assistance Grant/Programme</b>	This Programme involves the provision of financial assistance to citizens of Trinidad and Tobago who have been medically certified as being permanently disabled from earning a livelihood. The amount payable per client is \$800. per month.	Persons with Disabilities: Persons 18-65 years old who have been resident in Trinidad and Tobago for at least 3 years prior to date of application for the grant, whose income does not exceed \$3600 per annum and who have been certified permanently disabled from earning.
<b>Emergency Assistance for Families</b>	This Programme was developed to provide immediate relief to individuals and families who were traumatized and rendered needy as a result of disasters such as fires, floods and landslides. The Programme facilitates the establishment of a cash grant facility and a system to readily access goods from operational businesses.	Persons/Households Living in Poverty: Individuals and families in Trinidad and Tobago who have been affected by natural/ other disasters.
<b>Emergency Cases Fund</b>	This Programme involves the provision of a grant to nationals who are in dire need of temporary assistance (e.g. in cases of fire, natural disasters, death of household's bread winner, school transportation expenses for children with special needs, school uniforms for dependant child/children). Such persons also receive counseling and guidance to assist them to arrive at some measure of self-sufficiency.	Persons/Households Living in Poverty: Recipients of welfare grants and to other needy persons/families.
<b>Senior Centres</b>	This initiative aims to provide the necessary physical, social and mental stimulation and support mechanisms to enable older persons to remain healthy and active via the establishment of "Senior Centres". The Centres serve as focal points where older persons can come together in a home like setting to interact with their peers for services and activities that enhance their self worth and dignity, support their independence and encourage their involvement in and with the community. The Centres also serve to encourage and promote education and public awareness on issues related to older persons and targets persons 60 years and older.	Other: Senior citizens
<b>Empowerment Series for Residents of the Centre for Socially Displaced</b>	The Empowerment Series for Residents of the Centre for Socially Displaced consists of sessions targeted toward the re-introduction of the basic skills needed for independent living, as well as empowering participants to take responsibility for their own lives. Participants will be able to obtain credits from participating and when they are at the stage to transition to independent living, these accumulated credits will be redeemed for groceries, rental assistance or clothing.	Socially Displaced: All mentally stable, non substance abusing, employed or employable residents of the Centre for Socially Displaced Persons.
<b>Establishment of a Children's Authority of T&amp;T</b>	The Children's Authority Act 2000 required that a Body Corporate, the Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago be established, to act as a guardian of the Children of Trinidad and Tobago. The Authority will be managed by an eleven (11) member Board of Management appointed by the President of the Republic. The Authority will contain a Coordinating Unit, an Administrative Unit, Technical Unit, a Research Unit and any other Unit that may be deemed necessary for its effective functioning to promote and provide the best interest of children in T&T.	Children: All children
<b>Establishment of a Halfway House at Hernandez Place, Arima</b>	Through this initiative, a property will be acquired for the establishment of a short term (6-9 months) living accommodation strictly for homeless persons.	Socially Displaced: Socially Displaced Persons between the ages of 18 and 60 years who are strictly homeless, employed and have participated/graduated from the Social Displacement Unit's Empowerment
<b>European Union sponsored Poverty Reduction Programme</b>	Support the Government in formulating and implementing a National Poverty Reduction Strategy and in the implementation of the decentralization of the delivery system for social services	NGOs and Public Sector Agencies: Members of Ministries, NGOs and the private sector

<p><b>Family Life Management Workshops</b></p>	<p>This Programme seeks to address group approaches to managing cases. Training is offered in the following areas: Parenting training, Violence and the family and Life skills development comprise eight modules (50 hrs) which runs for a duration of eight weeks. The programme further echoes the need for investment in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) as best practice for self-development and for a solid foundation for future generations. Cycles are expected to be repeated quarterly. The methodology employed comprises of media presentations and workshops.</p>	<p>Other: Adult, teen parents, adolescents and parents/ Caregivers of children 0-3 years exhibiting antisocial behaviours.</p>
<p><b>Family Media Programme</b></p>	<p>This Project is a multi Media campaign, utilising posters, newspapers and electronic ads, television and radio clips to identify and highlight images of selected areas of healthy family functioning. This project attempts to transmit to stakeholders, the place and role of the family at all levels- personal, communal, and national, and in all spheres of development. The activities in the programme are all designed to bring attention to the status of the family in Trinidad and Tobago, and to provide a means to enable its healthy development.</p>	<p>Other: The general public with special emphasis on young parents and prospective parents.</p>
<p><b>Family Remedial Therapy Programme</b></p>	<p>This Programme was developed to foster good, healthy relationships between probationers and their parents through lecture/group therapy sessions on a monthly basis. Lecture topics are chosen based on their relevance to the needs and problems of participants. The Programme has also extended to "Walk-in" clients/parents and their children who may not have yet come through the Court system, but are in need of counseling and will benefit from this type of intervention.</p>	<p>Youth: Probationers and their parents; problem children.</p>
<p><b>Halfway House for Male Ex Prisoners</b></p>	<p>This programme is the responsibility of the Ministry of Social Development, but will be undertaken in collaboration with Non-Governmental Organisations. At the halfway house, residents will be exposed to life skills training, counseling and referrals as necessary. The programme will involve a combination of twelve (12) weekly client group sessions and up to six (6) fortnightly supportive individual counseling contacts with participants during a three (3) month period. The facility would accommodate approximately fifteen (15) male ex-prisoners. The length of stay will be from three (3) months to a year depending on the individual's ability to adjust to independent living. The programme will also facilitate job placement.</p>	<p>Persons in Conflict with the Law: Ex Prisoners</p>
<p><b>Institutional Strengthening of the Centre for Socially Displaced Persons: Court Shamrock</b></p>	<p>A training programme which will seek to provide identified staff with foundational skills and knowledge pertinent to the delivery of quality care to the socially displaced.</p>	<p>NGOs and Public Sector Agencies: Staff at the Centres for Socially Displaced at POS and San Fernando.</p>
<p><b>International Day of Families</b></p>	<p>This Project attempts to promote awareness of issues relating to family life, to educate and inform on paths to healthy family functioning. Subject matters will be related to all aspects of the theme selected by the United Nations.</p>	<p>Other: Families throughout Trinidad and Tobago and other stakeholders in the nation building process.</p>
<p><b>International Day of Older Persons</b></p>	<p>International Day of Older Persons is celebrated on October 1st of each year. Over the years, celebrations generally involved the hosting of cultural functions, luncheons and special activities at the local and national level. The Department of Social Services and Gender Affairs of the Tobago House of Assembly also commemorates International Day of Older Persons.</p>	<p>Older Persons: Older persons attending the event.</p>
<p><b>Literacy Programme for Socially Displaced Residents</b></p>	<p>On site delivery of adult literacy classes by an organisation with a proven track record in this area. The programme will be monitored by the Social Work Specialist of the Social Displacement Unit.</p>	<p>Socially Displaced: Socially displaced persons resident at Assessment and Drug Rehabilitation Centres.</p>
<p><b>Mass Media Campaign (NADAPP)</b></p>	<p>This is a public education programme (mainly through the electronic media) aimed at increasing public awareness and mobilizing greater community participation and sustenance of anti-drug activities.</p>	<p>Communities: National Community.</p>
<p><b>Micro Enterprise Training and Development Grant (MEG)</b></p>	<p>This Grant seeks to assist needy clients of the respective Divisions of the Ministry of Social Development who are capable and willing to undertake a small business venture or engage in skills training.</p>	<p>Persons/Households Living in Poverty: Victims of domestic violence, Probationers, Welfare recipients and other persons 18 years and over in receipt of benefits from MSD.</p>

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<b>Micro-Enterprise Loan (MEL) Facility</b>	The Programme is a community empowerment and poverty reduction initiative, which equips Community Based Organizations to actively engage in promoting sustainable livelihoods among the poor through the provision of micro loans and to support micro entrepreneurs. MEL provides borrowers with (1) Community based business loan; (2) Business training for all interested persons; (3) After-loan services and business support.	Communities: Entrepreneurs; CBOs; those in receipt of Public Assistance; earning at substance level or at the minimum wage; Unemployed persons who live in impoverished conditions.
<b>Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS)</b>	MICS 2006 was conducted throughout T&T with a sample of 6,000 households to provide adequate estimates at the national level on issues such as child nutrition, child rights, immunization and reproductive health. The overall goal is to fill data gaps for monitoring human development in general and the situation of children and women in particular.	Children: Children and Women
<b>Multipurpose Community Based Telecentre Project</b>	The project sets up computer based centres in the region which will provide access to computers, the internet and a social sector portal providing information on Government Programmes and Services for the benefit of community based users. The centres will also provide business services as well as a range of computer software and hardware training packages. Additionally, a facility for meetings, lectures and other activities of Community Based Organisations will also be available.	Communities: Community based residents who wish to obtain information on Government/NGO/CBO programmes and services; Persons interested in becoming computer literate; Persons interested in improving their knowledge of computers and its applications.
<b>Old Age Pension Programme (now Senior Citizens Grant)</b>	This Programme involves the provision of financial assistance to senior citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. The quantum of the grant varies between \$ 150.00 minimum or \$ 1,350.00 maximum, depending on the income of the claimant.	Older Persons: Senior citizens 65 years and over whose income does not exceed \$25,800 per annum and who must be resident in Trinidad and Tobago for at least 20 years, prior to their application.
<b>Older Persons Information Centre (OPIC)</b>	A help desk providing information to older persons	Older Persons: Older Persons and persons seeking information on their behalf.
<b>Petheron Trust Home for Girls with Behavioural Problems</b>	The Petheron Trust is a non-profit organization which constructed a Home to provide residential care for 15 girls between the ages of 14 - 16 years from Moruga and the surrounding districts, who had severe behavioural problems. The Project would be monitored through the combined efforts of the National Family Services Division and the Child Guidance Unit.	Youth: Girls between the ages of 14 - 16 years who exhibit severe behavioural problems.
<b>Piparo Empowerment Center</b>	The Piparo Empowerment Center provides residential treatment and rehabilitation services for male drug addicts, using the Therapeutic Community Model based on the principle of man helping man to help themselves. The programme has a capacity for fifty residents with an initial time frame of nine months to one year. Currently, the Center is staffed with fourteen persons and functions in close collaboration with the Social Displacement Unit and NADAPP. Their activities include maintenance of a citrus estate and a small garden, as they are located on arable lands with an existing estate.	Substance Abusers: Physically healthy male citizens 18 years and over who are socially displaced/chronic substance abusers.
<b>Provision of Medical and Psychiatric services at the Centre for Socially Displaced Persons</b>	This project entails the provision of on site medical screening, evaluations, advice and referrals for residents of the Centre for Socially Displaced Persons. Medicals are also completed for Socially Displaced Substance Abusers who have been referred for drug rehabilitation.	Socially Displaced: Socially Displaced Persons resident at the Centre for Socially Displaced Persons and those referred for substance abuse rehabilitation.
<b>Public Assistance Programme</b>	The Public Assistance Programme comprises the provision of grants to citizens of Trinidad and Tobago who are unable to earn a living because of illness or injury. The grants are also paid on behalf of children in cases where their fathers have died, been hospitalized, imprisoned or deserted. The grants are subjected to review with a view to establishing further need.	Persons/Households Living in Poverty: Persons between the ages 18-65 and necessitous children.
<b>Public Education Campaign on Social Displacement</b>	Publication of a brochure on the Social Displacement Unit and the preparation of a documentary on the Social Displacement in Trinidad and Tobago.	NGOs and Public Sector Agencies: The general public and stakeholders

<b>Public Information and Dissemination Campaign (NADAPP)</b>	This campaign seeks to sensitize and educate the national community, specifically vulnerable groups, on the dangers of the use and misuse/abuse of illicit as well as licit substances. This campaign consists of initiatives such as:- The Alcohol and Drug Awareness week, The International Day Against Drug Abuse and illicit trafficking, Special festivals/celebrations such as the Point Fortin Borough Day Celebrations, Carnival and Christmas Programmes where anti-drug messages are disseminated through printed jerseys, song, print and electronic media; Production and distribution of anti-drug posters and brochures throughout the year.	Substance Abusers
<b>Rehabilitation of Child Labourers</b>	The Rehabilitation of Child Labourers Programme was developed to address the phenomenon of children scavenging in landfill sites and will be implemented in conjunction with the ILO. Its goal is to withdraw and prevent children from working in the Forres Park and Beetham dumpsites. The Programme focuses on the provision of education and training of children and on finding economic alternatives for the families and adolescents. It will seek to provide children with health and other social services and includes activities that would encourage them to remain in school. It will also assist children from the very poor communities surrounding the dumpsite to avoid turning to scavenging.	Children: Children working at dump sites, children at risk of being drawn into child labour, and families living at dump sites.
<b>Rehabilitation of Socially Displaced Substance Abusers</b>	This programme entails residential rehabilitation services, referral and follow-up of socially displaced substance abusers at drug rehabilitation centers. These treatment centers are expected to involve the client's family \ relatives in the rehabilitation process. The Centers are: Rescue Mission, Rebirth House, Serenity Place and Piparo Empowerment Center. Clients are required to have an assessment by the Social Displacement Officer of the Social Displacement Unit, physical examination\ psychiatric evaluation, TB screening, HIV screening and assessment by personnel of the Treatment Center.	Socially Displaced: Socially Displaced Substance Abusers.
<b>Relocation of Socially Displaced Elderly Persons to homes for older persons to Homes for Older Persons</b>	The relocation of elderly persons to suitable homes for older persons. To be jointly funded by the Ministry and personal funds of the elderly person.	Older Persons: Persons age 60 years and over who are in receipt of an income e.g. Disability Assistance Grant, Old Age Pension, N.I.S. or other pensions.
<b>Research into the Pre-disposing Factors related to incest</b>	A triangulated research strategy will be developed to obtain quantitative and qualitative information on incest in Trinidad and Tobago. The strategy will include the use of focus groups, surveys and research of secondary data , undertaken in collaboration with the University of the West Indies.	Other: Perpetrators and Victims of Incest
<b>School Prevention Programme (NADAPP)</b>	To equip students of both primary and secondary schools, and tertiary institutions with the knowledge and skills to resist the temptations to use drugs. Educating Principals, Teachers and Parents on drug prevention strategies.	Children
<b>Senior Centres</b>	Day Care Centres have been established to provide the necessary physical, social and mental stimulation and support mechanisms to enable older persons to remain healthy and active. The Centres will be the focal points where older persons can come together for services and activities that enhance their dignity, support their independence and encourage their involvement in and with the community. The Centres will provide older persons with a home setting where they can interact with their peers and be involved in activities in which they have an interest. It is proposed that Day Care Centres be established to provide the necessary physical, social and mental stimulation and support mechanisms to enable older persons to remain healthy and active. The Centres will be the focal points where older persons can come together for services and activities that enhance their dignity, support their independence and encourage their involvement in and with the community.	Older Persons: Persons 60 years and older
<b>Training of Personal Assistants for Persons with Disabilities</b>	The project seeks to establish partnerships with already established training programmes such as GAPP and YTEPP with the aim of expanding the existing curriculum to include attendant care for persons with disabilities. The Disability Affairs Unit would act as the facilitating agency, but the training and advisory services would be provided by Servol with the required capacity to do so. The overall goal is to facilitate independence among persons with disabilities	Youth: Training would be offered to young persons between the ages of 18 and 35 years.
<b>Treatment and Rehabilitation (NADAPP)</b>	This seeks to facilitate the effective operations of the national treatment and rehabilitation system, inclusive of the adherence to acceptable standards of care for persons in treatment and rehabilitation. This includes research and evaluation studies of specific populations.	Substance Abusers
<b>Urgent Temporary Assistance</b>	This Programme involves the provision of an immediate grant to nationals who are in dire need of urgent financial assistance.	Persons/Households Living in Poverty
<b>Coach Education</b>	This programme, which is normally conducted on a needs basis exposes coaches to modern scientific principles, methods and practices in order to upgrade their technical, administrative and organizational knowledge and coaching abilities.	Athletes: Coaches of various sporting disciplines who have been exposed to varying levels of training.
<b>Community Sport Administration</b>	This Programme provides information and offers periodic sessions on Club Development, Fund Raising, Conducting Meetings, Organisation of Competitions, Family Days and Sport Days.	Communities: Community Clubs and Groups

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<b>Community Swimming Programme</b>	There are five (5) Community Swimming Pools strategically located throughout the country. Four (4) programmes are offered at these locations: Siparia, Diego Martin, La Horquetta, Sangre Grande and Couva. The programmes are divided into four categories: Training, Recreation, Competitive and Exercise. The aim of this programme is to encourage recreation and / or competitive swimming among potential athletes and the general public.	Athletes: Persons in communities and schools interested in the sport of swimming.
<b>District Youth Services</b>	This programme offers an amalgam of interventional activities for young people in their communities and involves the use of diverse media. Activities are developed based on observations of social trends made by youth officers. They service groups in their districts through provision of training and conduct of social education programmes to help young people take responsibility and control of their lives.	Youth: High risk youth 15-25
<b>District Youth Sport Festival</b>	Young people assemble at decentralized venues to participate in popular sporting events of the area/district.	Youth: High risk youth 15-29 years of age.
<b>Elite Athletes Programme</b>	The Ministry provides financial assistance to high performance athletes towards the preparation for and participation in international competition.	Athletes: Elite athletes
<b>Information made Available through Technology (imaT) Centers</b>	The imaT project is designed to attract and be of interest to the various client populations of the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs by focusing on the delivery of information and training through technology via the establishment of IMAT Centers at the Ministry's satellite facilities.	Other: Students, mature citizens, women, youth and sport enthusiasts.
<b>National Youth Sport Festival Programme</b>	This programme facilitates meaningful activities among the nation's youth through the medium of sport. The Festival is the culmination of district youth sport festivals held in Caroni, St George West and Mayaro. The winners of these festivals compete in C147 tournaments at a central venue in the following disciplines: Netball, Basketball, Football, Cricket, Hockey, Volleyball, Road racing, Cycling and Tagby. The day's activities also include live entertainment and dance.	Youth: Young Men & Women under 20 years of age.
<b>Rural District Coaching</b>	The Rural District Coaching Programme is conducted mainly on weekends and seeks to promote training for athletes, sporting administrators and coaches in rural districts. This is done through a partnership approach with the target community providing accommodation for the staff.	Athletes: Athletes 13-19 years, sporting administrators and coaches in rural districts
<b>Save the Youth in Marginalized Communities</b>	This youth development project was initiated in three communities in 1998 and is now being extended to other communities. It focuses on construction activities, social education, sporting and recreational Programmes and social action.	Youth: Young persons 12-29 years in marginalised communities
<b>School and Community Coaching</b>	The School and Community Coaching programme provides coaches in different sporting disciplines for schools and communities that have requested coaching services from the Ministry.	Communities: Persons within communities who require coaching.
<b>Sport School Programme</b>	This is an annual two-week programme for talented athletes aspiring towards sporting excellence. The programme is conducted in 5-6 disciplines on a national basis. It also promotes the psychosocial development of participants.	Athletes: Talented athletes 15-19 years of age.
<b>STEP – Sport Training and Enhancement Programme</b>	This is essentially a 'talent identification' Programme that targets young persons 8-14 years from districts nationwide. The programme is conducted over a three week period in the month of July.	Youth: Young Persons 8-14 years
<b>Women and Girls in Sport</b>	The Women and Girls in Sport Festival aims to develop a sporting culture that enables and values the full involvement of women in every aspect of sport.	Women/Girls: Women and Girls interested in Sport.
<b>Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centers (YDAC)</b>	This is a residential 2-year Programme offered at 3 centers: Chatham, El Dorado and Persto Praesto. The group is exposed to personal development skills, basic literacy and numeracy, occupational skills, computer literacy, sport, culture and agriculture. This programme of training leads to Level I & II certification by the National Training Board.	Youth: High risk youths between the ages 15-18 in a residential setting and females 15-25 years of age in a non residential setting.
<b>Youth Development Programme</b>	This programme offers opportunities of training for young people within their communities at Woodbrook, Basilon St., Laventille, Malick, California and Los Bajos. Training offered include Personal Development, Craft Skills, Leadership Training, Remedial Education, Computer Literacy, Peer Counseling, Drug Abuse Education and Prevention.	Youth: Young persons between the ages of 15-29 years.
<b>Youth Facilities Development Programme</b>	These community based facilities are located in the areas of: Woodbrook, Basilon Street, Laventille, Malick, California and Los Bajos. They provide services which vary according to community demands and include personal development training, remedial education, occupational skills, computer literacy, peer counseling, drug abuse education and prevention, creative arts- music, dance, drama, sport and recreation. Relevant occupational skills training is provided up to Level 1 competency of the National Training Board. The Programme aims to produce socially mature and holistically developed	Youth: High risk youths 15-29 years of age.
<b>Youth Health Project</b>	This project is centered on the provision of adolescent friendly health services and information in youth facilities; the conduct of Youth Health Caravans and provision of a peer education programme on the prevention of HIV/AIDS and STI's.	Youth: Young persons 15-29 years



<b>The Family Court Pilot Project</b>	A pilot project involving a dedicated Family Court environment in a building which is distinct from the present Courts and which has not only Courts, but meeting rooms and accommodation for probation, social services and mediators. This pilot project will encompass the Port of Spain Court and the St. George West Magistrate's Court (excluding the Juvenile Court).	Other: Families in crisis/ Children
<b>Tobago House of Assembly</b>		
<b>Assistance to Community Organizations</b>	This programme provides for the training, promotion of activities and the purchase of small equipment to enhance the economic and social growth of community groups registered with the Division of Community Development and Culture, Village councils, NGO's and other voluntary organizations	Communities: Community groups, village councils NGOs and other voluntary organizations
<b>Assistance to Cultural Organizations</b>	This programme is intended to assist members of various cultural groups - steel bands, dance, choirs, etc to purchase musical instruments and to pay stipends to tutors.	Other: Cultural groups
<b>Community Residence and Ambulatory Services for Children and Adolescents at Risk</b>	The programme is a unique integration of prevention/intervention strategies in a faith based residential setting, geared toward instilling discipline and reducing violence against self, the family, the school and the community. The programme aims to implement behaviour modification strategies in children and youth; to strengthen positive values and attitudes to life; and to instill an increased sense of responsibility and accountability.	Children: Children and youth between 6-18 years and their parents, teachers, families, communities and schools.
<b>Battered Women's Shelter and Services</b>	The Department of Social services and Gender Affairs awards grants to TOWERS Shelter for Battered women, Syl Phil home in Love and Jesus Cares Family Cottage for Children and Youth for i) the provision of shelter services to victims of family violence and their dependents ii) related services, for children and youths such as alcohol and substance abuse prevention iii) family and violence prevention counseling.	Victims of Domestic Violence: All persons affected by domestic violence
<b>Domestic Violence Programme (Tobago)</b>	This Programme is designed to coordinate and address the complex and sensitive issue of domestic violence in Tobago. The Programme offers positive alternatives to youths, protects women and children from violence, addresses Elder abuse, helps alleviate conditions that may lead to crime and violence and promotes a better understanding of violence.	Victims of Domestic Violence: All persons affected by domestic violence
<b>Emergency Cases Fund (Tobago)</b>	The Emergency Cases Fund is designed as an emergency measure towards alleviating the unfortunate situation of the poor. Its approach is developmental and encompasses satisfying the basic biological and physical needs of food and shelter.	Persons/Households Living in Poverty: The target group consists of persons 18-65 years of age representing households in receipt of total household income of \$1,000.00 and less.
<b>Family First Foundation Nurturing Centre</b>	This initiative provides short term (6-9 months) living accommodation for nurturing family relationships and the healing process for persons who survived sexual abuse in the home.	Victims of Domestic Violence: Displaced families as a result of sexual abuse within the home.
<b>Family Surveillance- "Walk the Walk, Door to Door" Programme</b>	The Programme is a conduit for providing support services and social services at community based, home and school sites. It facilitates meeting with members of the public in their homes and communities to market, monitor and evaluate the Social Services delivery system, conduct social needs assessment, and to discuss matters relating to social development	Communities: Communities throughout Tobago.
<b>Foster Care/Kinship Care, Adoption</b>	The Programme is intended to facilitate permanency planning for children whose parents are dying from terminal illness including HIV/AIDS and provide children with homes where they could be loved, nurtured and encouraged and also to provide assistance for children whose parents are dying from terminal illness including HIV/AIDS and provide children with homes where they could be loved, nurtured and encouraged and also to provide assistance for mothers who do not wish to give up their babies for adoption, but need financial assistance and kinship/network support.	Other: Persons who are unable to care for their children, persons who wish to extend their families via adoption, persons who have children in their care and wish to legalise the arrangement.
<b>Gender Mainstreaming</b>	This Programme informs Gender policy in Tobago, establishes male and female support groups throughout Tobago, assists male and female oriented non-governmental agencies and community-based voluntary organisations through training, strategic development and the transfer of technology, provides gender sensitization training for males and females in various target groups and provides a forum for males and females to articulate gender issues affecting them and stimulate public education and action to effect fundamental and attitudinal changes.	Other: The programme targets men, women, children and youth.
<b>Golden Age/ Adolescents Partnership Programme and Long term care for the elderly (Golden Apple)</b>	The programme is designed to train young persons to respond to the demand for the provision of social care services for the elderly in our communities. This programme promotes an appreciation for service to the community, increases employment among single women and facilitates the care of the elderly.	Youth: Persons between the age of 17-25 years.

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<b>Grants to Necessitous Persons Fund</b>	The programme is designed as a rehabilitative and poverty alleviation measure to address the unfortunate situation of the chronic and absolute poor. Its approach is remedial and after assessment utilize the preventative, developmental and rehabilitative method for enhancing the social functioning of clients. This programme adheres to the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action. Support to NGOs is a component of this programme	Persons/Households Living in Poverty: Persons of all ages who are vulnerable and disadvantaged
<b>Grow for Harmony</b>	A training facility in agriculture and back yard gardening.	Women/Girls: Single women and low income families between the ages of 26-45 years.
<b>Life After School Programme</b>	A Programme geared toward helping students to appreciate their classroom experiences by providing daily enabling environments to re-enforce and apply the knowledge gained at school.	Children: 800 participants with 40 peer educators
<b>On De Block Programme</b>	The goal of this programme is to infiltrate and engage young people on the block in social and economic projects to provide means of reducing "at risk" behaviors.	Youth: high risk youth
<b>Reach Programme</b>	This programme aims to provide social services consumers with a small business grant, training, education, and social support services to help them gain economic independence and self-sufficiency and thereby wean them off from reliance on the social services. The Department provides a complete package of advisory, training, mentorship and funding services to micro and small business enterprises. BAGO Market is a component of this programme <b>What does this Programme hope to achieve?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To build human capacity within communities as well as improve and develop families as viable and sustainable units for social development.</li> <li>• To use entrepreneurship as a means of developing the individuals in our communities.</li> <li>• To provide the support and resources necessary to serve the clients' legitimate needs of small and micro industries.</li> </ul>	Other: Youth, single mothers and men who cannot access capital or support for entrepreneurial activity.
<b>Social Services and Prison Integrated Network (SPINE)</b>	The SPINE programme entails the prevention, intervention, treatment, referral and follow-up of socially displaced persons and persons in prison. The treatment centre is expected to involve the client's family/relatives in the rehabilitation process.	Socially Displaced: Socially displaced, substance abusers, persons at risk, homeless and ex-prisoners.
<b>Small Grants Programme</b>	This programme is intended to assist and encourage unemployed persons and talented persons/groups in the communities to embark on small business projects. Successful projects create self-sufficiency among low income earners, improve self-esteem and lead to improve standards of living.	
<b>Tobago Drug Council and Alcohol Drug Abuse &amp; HIV/AIDS Prevention Programme (NADAPP)</b>	A demand reduction programme, focusing on community and school prevention, preventative education, treatment and rehabilitation and research.	Substance Abusers: Substance abusers and support staff.
<b>Tobago Health Promotion Clinic Programme</b>	This Programme seeks to offer Prevention, Awareness, Social Marketing for Substance Abuse and HIV/AIDS, Community Adherence and Treatment including free anti-retroviral therapy for HIV/AIDS and other chronic diseases.	Persons Living with HIV/AIDS: Adults, Youths and children
<b>Tobago School Feeding Programme</b>	The Tobago School Feeding Programme is responsible for providing nutritious meals for children from low income homes.	Children: Children from low income households who attend primary and secondary schools on the island.
<b>Tobago Social Investment Fund Programme (TSIF)</b>	Established to bring relief to deprived families and communities by providing or upgrading basic amenities, housing and multi-purpose social and recreational facilities. The programme is designed to provide expeditious and timely intervention in those developmental situations where constraints, financial and otherwise, are more likely to make them potentially unattainable and, in so doing, ensures adherence to and perpetuation of the Social Development philosophy of self-help and volunteerism. Assistance is provided in the form of grants for the purchase of material and services, and technical support.	Other: Low income families and communities.
<b>CARE - Tobago</b>	CARE was established to encourage a more holistic and integrated approach to development and to simultaneously promote co-ordination and partnerships between communities and Ministries. The programme facilitates expeditious and timely developmental intervention as needed in communities.	Persons/Households Living in Poverty: Persons in need of welfare assistance.

**APPENDIX VI:  
LIST OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING GOVERNMENT SUBVENTIONS  
2006 & 2007**

Organization	Subventions Payable at 2006	Subventions Payable at 2007	Difference in Subventions Payable in 2006 to 2007
<b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</b>			
Servol Adolescent Development Training Programme	\$9,702,000.00	\$16,404,038.00	\$6,702,038.00
Servol Junior Life Centre	\$1,350,000.00	\$1,404,000.00	\$54,000.00
Trinidad & Tobago National Council of Parent/ Teachers Association	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Ministry of Education's Total Subventions</b>	<b>\$11,202,000.00</b>	<b>\$17,958,038.00</b>	<b>\$6,756,038.00</b>
<b>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER</b>			
Ecclesiastical Grants			
Anglican Church of Trinidad & Tobago	\$51,576.00	\$103,041.00	\$51,465.00
Association of Jehovah Witnesses	\$4,808.00	\$9,068.00	\$4,260.00
Baptist (Orthodox)	\$16,940.00	\$33,797.00	\$16,857.00
Church of God	\$3,225.00	\$6,430.00	\$3,205.00
Divine Life Society	\$2,132.00	\$4,204.00	\$2,072.00
Ethiopian Orthodox Church	\$488.00	\$907.00	\$419.00
<b>Hindu Religious Bodies:</b>	\$71,109.00	\$141,785.00	\$70,676.00
Sanatan Dharma Maha Sabha	\$ -	\$ -	
Vishwa Hindu Parishad	\$ -	\$ -	
Kabir Panth Association	\$ -	\$ -	
Arya Pratinidhi Sabha	\$ -	\$ -	
Shiva Dharma Sabha	\$ -	\$ -	
Independent Baptist Missionary Union	\$4,418.00	\$8,243.00	\$3,825.00
Methodist Church of Trinidad & Tobago	\$10,148.00	\$19,784.00	\$9,636.00
Moravian Church of Trinidad & Tobago	\$3,589.00	\$7,172.00	\$3,583.00
<b>Muslim Religious Bodies:</b>	\$40,328.00	\$79,960.00	\$39,632.00
Trustees Muslim League Incorporated	\$ -	\$ -	
Anjuman Sunnatul Jamaat Association	\$ -	\$ -	
Tackveeyatul Islamic Association	\$ -	\$ -	
National Evangelical Spiritual Baptist	\$13,246.00	\$26,379.00	\$13,133.00
Pentecostal Assemblies of the West Indies	\$25,080.00	\$49,459.00	\$24,379.00
Presbyterian Church of Trinidad & Tobago	\$26,440.00	\$52,757.00	\$26,317.00
Roman Catholic Church	\$115,724.00	\$230,812.00	\$115,088.00
South Caribbean Conference Seventh Day Adventist	\$17,608.00	\$34,622.00	\$17,014.00
Stewards Christian Brethren Ltd.	\$896.00	\$1,649.00	\$753.00
West Indies Spiritual Sacred Order	\$4,410.00	\$8,243.00	\$3,833.00
<b>Office of the Prime Minister's Total Subventions</b>	<b>\$412,165.00</b>	<b>\$842,000.00</b>	<b>\$429,835.00</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT</b>			
<b>Services for Persons with Disabilities</b>			
Cheshire Foundation Home	\$600,000.00	\$600,000.00	\$0.00
Goodwill Industries	\$450,000.00	\$450,000.00	\$0.00
National Centre for Persons with Disabilities	\$799,360.00	\$799,360.00	\$0.00

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Organization	Subventions Payable at 2006	Subventions Payable at 2007	Difference in Subventions Payable in 2006 to 2007
Swantson Home for Blind Lads	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
T&T Association for Hearing Impaired	\$4,316,000.00	\$5,183,660.00	\$867,660.00
T&T Blind Welfare Association	\$9,114,000.00	\$10,563,282.00	\$1,449,282.00
Trinidad & Tobago Chapter of Disabled People International	\$133,200.00	\$133,200.00	\$0.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$15,413,060.00</b>	<b>\$17,730,002.00</b>	<b>\$2,316,942.00</b>
<b>Children's Homes</b>			
Ark of the Covenant Children's Home	\$85,612.00	\$85,612.00	\$0.00
Credo Aylward House	\$150,018.48	\$363,069.00	\$213,050.52
Credo Drop In Centre	\$391,123.00	\$391,123.00	\$0.00
Ferndean's Place Children's Home	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$0.00
Islamic Home for Children	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$0.00
Jaya Lakshmi Home	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
Rainbow Rescue	\$242,252.40	\$242,252.40	\$0.00
Sophia House	\$192,855.00	\$192,855.00	\$0.00
St. Dominic's Children's Home	\$8,500,000.00	\$9,000,000.00	\$500,000.00
St. Mary's Children's Home	\$9,000,000.00	\$9,500,000.00	\$500,000.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$18,656,860.88</b>	<b>\$19,869,911.40</b>	<b>\$1,213,050.52</b>
<b>Industrial Schools</b>			
St. Michael's School for Boys	\$6,500,000.00	\$7,500,000.00	\$1,000,000.00
St. Jude's School for Girls	\$4,500,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	\$500,000.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$11,000,000.00</b>	<b>\$12,500,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,500,000.00</b>
<b>Socially Displaced</b>			
Audrey Mollineau Halfway House	\$210,312.00	\$210,312.00	\$0.00
Court Shamrock Centre for the Socially Displaced	\$255,596.00	\$255,596.00	\$0.00
Halfway House for Psychiatric Females	\$363,069.00	\$363,069.00	\$0.00
St Vincent De Paul Society for Riverside Plaza Assessment Centre	\$1,590,100.00	\$1,590,100.00	\$0.00
St Vincent De Paul Society Nazareth Halfway House	\$147,600.00	\$147,600.00	\$0.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$2,566,677.00</b>	<b>\$2,566,677.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Family Life and Counseling Service</b>			
Child Welfare League of Trinidad and Tobago	\$593,584.00	\$593,584.00	\$0.00
Families in Action	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$0.00
Family Planning Association	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00
Lifeline	\$46,000.00	\$46,000.00	\$0.00
Petheron Trust for Girls & Young Women	\$1,380,071.00	\$1,380,071.00	\$0.00
Rape Crisis Centre	\$66,000.00	\$66,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$3,145,655.00</b>	<b>\$3,145,655.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>General</b>			
International Committee for Red Cross	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
Nursery Association	\$66,000.00	\$66,000.00	\$0.00
Social Establishment for the Welfare of All (SEWA)	\$17,500.00	\$17,500.00	\$0.00
Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$0.00
St. John's Council	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00

Organization	Subventions Payable at 2006	Subventions Payable at 2007	Difference in Subventions Payable in 2006 to 2007
T&T Legion of British Commonwealth Services	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
T&T Red Cross Society Emergency	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
Vision on a Mission	\$526,357.56	\$526,357.56	\$0.00
Young Men's Christian Association	\$81,600.00	\$81,600.00	\$0.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$791,457.56</b>	<b>\$791,457.56</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Centres</b>			
HEAL	\$45,246.00	\$45,246.00	\$0.00
Hope Centre	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$0.00
Rebirth House	\$78,800.00	\$78,800.00	\$0.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$149,046.00</b>	<b>\$149,046.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Homes for Senior Citizens</b>			
Chaguanas Senior Citizens Home	\$19,567.00	\$19,567.00	\$0.00
Couva Home for the Aged	\$19,764.00	\$19,764.00	\$0.00
J C Mc Donald Home for the Aged	\$27,336.00	\$27,336.00	\$0.00
La Brea Senior Citizens Home	\$19,828.00	\$19,828.00	\$0.00
Mayaro Home for the Aged	\$15,394.00	\$15,394.00	\$0.00
Point Fortin Senior Citizens Association	\$22,440.00	\$22,440.00	\$0.00
Sangre Grande Home for the Aged	\$21,144.00	\$21,144.00	\$0.00
Siparia Home for the Aged	\$21,292.00	\$21,292.00	\$0.00
Toco Home for Senior Citizens	\$16,544.00	\$16,544.00	\$0.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$183,309.00</b>	<b>\$183,309.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

<b>Hostels/Halfway Houses</b>			
Business and Professional Women's Club	\$65,000.00	\$65,000.00	\$0.00
Salvation Army Geddes Grant Hostel	\$30,840.00	\$30,840.00	\$0.00
Shelter for Women and Children	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$185,840.00</b>	<b>\$185,840.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

<b>Medical Services</b>			
Chest and Heart Association	\$12,300.00	\$12,300.00	\$0.00
International Organisation for Health Care & Human Development	\$115,000.00	\$115,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$127,300.00</b>	<b>\$127,300.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

<b>Educational and Employment Services</b>			
Servol	\$37,700.00	\$37,700.00	\$0.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$37,700.00</b>	<b>\$37,700.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

<b>Ministry of Social Development's Total Subventions</b>	<b>\$52,256,905.44</b>	<b>\$57,286,897.96</b>	<b>\$5,029,992.52</b>
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<b>MINISTRY OF HEALTH</b>			
Aidslines - National AIDS Hotline	\$181,830.00	\$181,830.00	\$0.00
Catholic Marriage Advisory Council	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
Cheshire Homes	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
Christ Child Convalescent Home	\$613,000.00	\$613,000.00	\$0.00
Diabetes Association of Trinidad and Tobago	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$0.00

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Organization	Subventions Payable at 2006	Subventions Payable at 2007	Difference in Subventions Payable in 2006 to 2007
Friends of the Blood Bank	\$100,000.00	\$320,000.00	\$220,000.00
Informative Breast Feeding Service	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
John Hayes Memorial Kidney Foundation	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
Living Water Community	\$480,000.00	\$780,000.00	\$300,000.00
Lupus Society of Trinidad and Tobago	\$10,500.00	\$10,500.00	\$0.00
New Life Ministries	\$590,000.00	\$590,000.00	\$0.00
Pharmacy of Medical Sciences Department	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children Association	\$5,892,569.00	\$7,456,100.00	\$1,563,531.00
Society for Inherited Severe Blood Disorder	\$0.00	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
South Cancer Support Society	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$0.00
T&T National Association for Down's Syndrome	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
Trinidad and Tobago Association for Retarded Children	\$7,339,300.00	\$10,660,425.00	\$3,321,125.00
Trinidad and Tobago Association of Mental Health	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
Trinidad and Tobago Cancer Society	\$158,500.00	\$158,500.00	\$0.00
Trinidad and Tobago Heart Foundation	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Trinidad and Tobago National Council on Alcoholism	\$0.00	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
Trinidad and Tobago Leprosy Relief Association	\$180,000.00	\$195,000.00	\$15,000.00
UWI Telehealth Programme	\$0.00	\$180,000.00	\$180,000.00
<b>Ministry of Health's Total Subventions</b>	<b>\$15,888,699.00</b>	<b>\$21,773,355.00</b>	<b>\$5,884,656.00</b>

<b>MINISTRY OF SPORT &amp; YOUTH AFFAIRS</b>			
All Fours Association	\$1,035.00	\$0.00	(\$1,035.00)
All Sport Promotion	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	(\$75,000.00)
Amateur Swimming Association of Trinidad and Tobago	\$10,398.94	\$0.00	(\$10,398.94)
Black Hawks (Martial Arts)	\$0.00	\$90,103.82	\$90,103.82
CAC Games	\$0.00	\$11,500.00	\$11,500.00
Cue Sporting Foundation	\$0.00	\$301,700.00	\$301,700.00
CWC West Indies	\$0.00	\$22,246.40	\$22,246.40
Disabled Swimmers	\$6,576.00	\$0.00	(\$6,576.00)
Elite Athletes Programme	\$1,500,000.00	\$5,473,350.00	\$3,973,350.00
Girl Guides Association of Trinidad and Tobago	\$84,000.00	\$84,000.00	\$0.00
International Defensive Pistol Association of T&T	\$0.00	\$164,698.00	\$164,698.00
International Federation of Bodybuilding	\$10,206.00	\$0.00	(\$10,206.00)
Junior Karate	\$8,250.00	\$0.00	(\$8,250.00)
Martial Arts	\$0.00	\$45,892.00	\$45,892.00
Masters Athletics Association	\$139,027.70	\$0.00	(\$139,027.70)
Model Car Association of Trinidad and Tobago	\$27,878.41	\$0.00	(\$27,878.41)
National Amateur Athletic Association of Trinidad & Tobago	\$1,543,286.90	\$81,975.83	(\$1,461,311.07)
National Basketball Federation of Trinidad and Tobago	\$28,472.00	\$0.00	(\$28,472.00)
National Kickboxing Council of Trinidad and Tobago	\$53,042.80	\$9,749.08	(\$43,293.72)
Northern Football Association Rugby Players Club	\$4,109.00	\$0.00	(\$4,109.00)
Pigeon Racing	\$0.00	\$84,500.00	\$84,500.00
Presidents Award Scheme of Trinidad and Tobago	\$60,000.00	\$0.00	(\$60,000.00)
Scouts Association of Trinidad and Tobago	\$126,000.00	\$0.00	(\$126,000.00)
Senior Men's Cricket Association	\$475,000.00	\$0.00	(\$475,000.00)
Shaolin Temple of Trinidad and Tobago	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	(\$20,000.00)
Shotokan Karate Do International Federation	\$135,487.72	\$0.00	(\$135,487.72)

Organization	Subventions Payable at 2006	Subventions Payable at 2007	Difference in Subventions Payable in 2006 to 2007
Special Olympics of Trinidad and Tobago	\$20,000.00	\$160,789.00	\$140,789.00
Speed O Rammons	\$3,959.10	\$0.00	(\$3,959.10)
Spiritual Shouter Baptist Faith of T&T - 5K	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	(\$10,000.00)
Sport Company of Trinidad and Tobago (SPORTT)	\$50,000,000.00	\$0.00	(\$50,000,000.00)
Stern John Skill Awards Programme	\$0.00	\$280,000.00	\$280,000.00
Surfing Association of Trinidad & Tobago	\$0.00	\$9,450.00	\$9,450.00
Tennis Umpire Association of Trinidad and Tobago	\$14,402.00	\$0.00	(\$14,402.00)
Tobago Falcons Athletic Club	\$27,827.75	\$0.00	(\$27,827.75)
Tobago Youth Council	\$60,000.00	\$0.00	(\$60,000.00)
Triathlon	\$1,890.00	\$0.00	(\$1,890.00)
Trinidad and Tobago Amateur Boxing Association	\$161,032.50	\$142,570.00	(\$18,462.50)
Trinidad and Tobago Amateur Gymnastic Association	\$57,092.77	\$142,570.00	\$85,477.23
Trinidad and Tobago Association of Masters Athletics	\$0.00	\$5,600.00	\$5,600.00
Trinidad and Tobago Automobile Association	\$36,093.33	\$140,431.78	\$104,338.45
Trinidad and Tobago Badminton Association	\$256,838.00	\$62,900.00	(\$193,938.00)
Trinidad and Tobago Basketball Association	\$0.00	\$96,936.00	\$96,936.00
Trinidad and Tobago Blind Cricket Association	\$12,933.00	\$550,360.00	\$537,427.00
Trinidad and Tobago Bodybuilders Federation	\$72,052.57	\$361,863.00	\$289,810.43
Trinidad and Tobago Boxing Board of Control	\$56,942.00	\$77,320.00	\$20,378.00
Trinidad and Tobago Chess Association	\$89,360.31	\$259,746.00	\$170,385.69
Trinidad and Tobago Contract Bridge Association	\$159,000.24	\$272,845.00	\$113,844.76
Trinidad and Tobago Cricket Board of Control	\$594,311.65	\$542,260.00	(\$52,051.65)
Trinidad and Tobago Cycling Federation	\$3,300.00	\$67,490.00	\$64,190.00
Trinidad and Tobago Darts Association	\$72,204.30	\$0.00	-72,204.30
Trinidad and Tobago Drag Racing	\$0.00	\$9,755.80	\$9,755.80
Trinidad and Tobago Draughts and Checkers Association	\$90,216.00	\$194,307.40	\$104,091.40
Trinidad and Tobago Equestrian Association	\$0.00	\$182,991.97	\$182,991.97
Trinidad and Tobago Football Federation	\$2,856,690.78	\$0.00	(\$2,856,690.78)
Trinidad and Tobago Game Fishing Association	\$68,185.80	\$127,683.00	\$59,497.20
Trinidad and Tobago Golf Association	\$522,249.03	\$178,552.51	(\$343,696.52)
Trinidad and Tobago Gymnastics Association	\$76,534.77	\$0.00	(\$76,534.77)
Trinidad and Tobago Heroes Foundation	\$0.00	\$420,000.00	\$420,000.00
Trinidad and Tobago Hockey Board	\$11,214.00	\$0.00	(\$11,214.00)
Trinidad and Tobago Judo Association	\$41,620.93	\$204,426.00	\$162,805.07
Trinidad and Tobago Karate Union	\$18,938.40	\$169,744.44	\$150,806.04
Trinidad and Tobago Men Cricket Team	\$0.00	\$163,538.00	\$163,538.00
Trinidad and Tobago Netball Association	\$3,600.00	\$0.00	(\$3,600.00)
Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee	\$1,000,000.00	\$500,000.00	(\$500,000.00)
Trinidad and Tobago Optimist Dinghy Association	\$975,962.00	\$381,500.00	(\$594,462.00)
Trinidad and Tobago Power Boats Association	\$0.00	\$259,690.00	\$259,690.00
Trinidad and Tobago Pro League	\$2,500,000.00	\$3,930,000.00	\$1,430,000.00
Trinidad and Tobago Rifle Association	\$20,224.71	\$235,788.40	\$215,563.69
Trinidad and Tobago Rugby Football Association	\$45,159.60	\$420,240.00	\$375,080.40
Trinidad and Tobago Scrabble Association	\$0.00	\$39,000.00	\$39,000.00
Trinidad and Tobago Shouter Baptist – Council of Elders	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	(\$10,000.00)
Trinidad and Tobago Softball Association	\$7,995.00	\$0.00	(\$7,995.00)
Trinidad and Tobago Squash Association	\$0.00	\$179,032.00	\$179,032.00

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Organization	Subventions Payable at 2006	Subventions Payable at 2007	Difference in Subventions Payable in 2006 to 2007
Trinidad and Tobago Surfing Association	\$34,941.62	\$255,805.96	\$220,864.34
Trinidad and Tobago Table Tennis Association	\$445,216.75	\$480,000.00	\$34,783.25
Trinidad and Tobago Target Archery Federation	\$34,402.00	\$360,612.55	\$326,210.55
Trinidad and Tobago Tennis Association	\$29,621.40	\$0.00	(\$29,621.40)
Trinidad and Tobago Trap & Skeete Association	\$371,916.92	\$241,920.00	(\$129,996.92)
Trinidad and Tobago Triathlon Association	\$0.00	\$211,031.00	\$211,031.00
Trinidad and Tobago Umpire Association	\$850.00	\$0.00	(\$850.00)
Trinidad and Tobago Unified Football Associat'n	\$1,124.26	\$0.00	(\$1,124.26)
Trinidad and Tobago Volleyball Association	\$0.00	\$350,000.00	\$350,000.00
Trinidad and Tobago Windball Cricket Association	\$400,000.00	\$181,688.00	(\$218,312.00)
Trinidad and Tobago Women Cricket Team	\$0.00	\$998,350.00	\$998,350.00
Trinidad and Tobago Youth Sailing Association	\$0.00	\$126,709.75	\$126,709.75
Trinidad Youth Council	\$100,000.00	\$68,281.31	(\$31,718.69)
United Promotions Boxing Association	\$0.00	\$183,130.00	\$183,130.00
WADA	\$34,955.49	\$35,760.00	\$804.51
Weightlifting Federation	\$0.00	\$35,477.00	\$35,477.00
West Indies Players' Association	\$0.00	\$630,000.00	\$630,000.00
Wushu Association of Trinidad & Tobago	\$85,232.50	\$52,400.68	(\$32,831.82)
Young Men's Christian Association	\$36,000.00	\$36,000.00	\$0.00
Young Women's Christian Association	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs Total Subventions</b>	<b>\$14,622,558.04</b>	<b>\$65,873,873.95</b>	<b>\$51,251,313.91</b>
<b>TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY</b>			
Family First Foundation Group	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
Fundamentals Cultural Group	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$0.00
Jesus Cares Family Cottage	\$144,000.00	\$144,000.00	\$0.00
School for the Deaf	\$694,000.00	\$694,000.00	\$0.00
St. Vincent De Paul Home For the Aged	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$0.00
Sunset Home for the Aged	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
Syl Phil Home in Love	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
Tobago Council for Handicapped Children	\$879,000.00	\$879,000.00	\$0.00
Tobago Council of Elders	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
TOWERS	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Tobago House of Assembly's Total Subventions</b>	<b>\$1,843,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,843,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</b>			
Trinidad and Tobago Association of Village Councils	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$0.00
Trinidad and Tobago Federation of Women's Institute	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Ministry of Community Development's Total Subventions</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY</b>			
Crime Stoppers of Trinidad and Tobago	\$4,000,000.00	\$4,000,000.00	\$0.00
Police Youth Clubs	\$500,000.00	\$500,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Ministry of National Security's Total Subventions</b>	<b>\$4,500,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,500,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$118,396,239.67</b>	<b>\$175,507,136.11</b>	<b>\$57,110,896.44</b>



**APPENDIX VII:  
DESCRIPTION OF NEW PROGRAMMES, POLICIES AND INSTITUTIONAL/STRUCTURAL INITIATIVES  
FOR FISCAL 2008**

**A Teacher Professional Development Institute (Tobago)**

A Teacher Professional Development Institute was established in fiscal 2007 and was charged with the responsibility for addressing teacher education reform, individual teacher education programmes, and programmes for educators as well as the development of teacher / learning material to meet the needs of our learners. Recruitment and selection of teachers indication programmes, teachers certification and continuing professional development.

**School Breakfast Initiative (Tobago)**

The School Breakfast Initiative which has been introduced as a pilot project to thirty percent of the Primary School population. This programme is intended to remain at the primary school level, in which two thousand five hundred and one (2501) students received breakfast daily and 11,827 school lunches were served per day at a cost of \$19.m in fiscal 2007.

**AutoSkill Programme for Literacy and Numeracy (Tobago)**

In fiscal 2007, this programme was purchased at a cost of US \$44,000.00 and placed as a pilot in the four most recently established secondary schools - Mason Hall Government, Goodwood High, Pentecostal Light and Life High and Speyside High School. Three workshops were held to ensure that teachers in all schools were comfortable with delivering the programme to secondary school students to improve literacy and numeracy skills. The programme aims to provide an environment where recovering addicts are engaged in activities geared towards their self sufficiency, and where the marketing of services is possible to the extent of employment creation and reintegration back into society. It will also guarantee treatment and rehabilitation services and facilities to meet the diverse needs of individuals.

**Marriage Preparation: Beyond the Vows/Commitment**

The need for training workshops for persons contemplating marriage is seen in the high percentage of relationship issues

referred to the National Family Services, together with an increasing divorce rate. This project involves the conduct of ten (10) workshops in various communities with themes such as Financial Planning, Marriage Enrichment, Sexual Intimacy, Parenthood and Conflict Management and Communication. Couples preparing for marriage or contemplating a common-law union are targeted by this project which is expected to be executed by selected Non Governmental Organizations in partnership with the Ministry of Social Development.

**Television /Community Series-Parenting and the Family**

Improved parenting skills should significantly reduce the rate of escalating social problems that hinder the healthy development of the nation. In tandem with the already established training workshops on parenting a second approach will be instituted involving television lectures that will reach a wider cross section of the national community and will highlight key issues raised in the workshops. The methodology to be used involves the airing of twelve (12) one hour television programmes, the topics for which will be determined at pre-programme workshops where stakeholders will discuss and arrive at the critical issues to be addressed. Following the airing of the programme groups of up to 30 persons will be mobilized to meet for three (3) hour workshops in at least seven (7) of the fourteen (14) Regional Corporations and will be facilitated by Social Work/Counselling professionals. It is expected that this initiative will result in a reduction in the caseload at the various social service agencies as a consequence of improved parenting skills and communication among family members.

**Support for Individuals and Families in Need**

This project targets individuals in need who for one reason or another are ineligible for current programmes under the Ministry of Social Development. The needs of these persons include transport assistance, toileteries, nutritional supplies etc. In emergency situations especially, current services are

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sometimes inadequate to meet the assessed needs. Specific objectives include:

- To make available immediate assistance to clients
- To increase efficiencies in the delivery of social services to vulnerable persons
- To reduce stress levels in individuals and families
- To facilitate supportive and rehabilitative work with clients
- To maximize efficiency and effectiveness of the Ministry of Social Development

The National Family Services will administer the project in collaboration with other social services departments within the government.

### **Establishment of Child Care Facilities for Staff at the Ministry of Social Development**

The provision of child care facilities for members of staff at any organization will serve to reduce stress levels of those who regularly need assistance in providing supervision for their children while at work. In addition this service will result in reducing incidents of absenteeism and tardiness due to staff

needing to remain at home to care for their children when no one else is available. The caring environment created by this initiative will increase staff motivation and enable employees to more fully focus on their activities in the workplace secure in the knowledge that their children are being professionally looked after. The Child Care Facilities are intended to not only provide Day Care services but also serve as an After School Care Facility. In addition, vacation care would be available and will include outings and excursions to stimulate the minds of the children.

### **Client Assessment of the Ministry and Services (M&E)**

This project aims to determine the level of client satisfaction of persons using the services of the Ministry of Social Development, as well as to identify opportunities for improvement in service delivery. The Divisions targeted are:

- Social Welfare Division
- Adoption Board
- Social Displacement Unit
- National Family Services Division
- Piparo Empowerment Centre
- Probation Services Division

**APPENDIX VIII:  
RECURRENT ALLOCATIONS AND ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE ON SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES FOR FISCAL 2007 AND ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2006 UNDER THE PILLARS OF VISION 2020 OPERATIONAL PLAN**

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	2006 ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	2007 BUDGETED ALLOCATION	2007 ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE
<b>Pillar 1: Developing Innovative People</b>			
Adult Education Extension Services (Tobago)	-	\$1,048,000	\$1,048,000
Adult Education/Lifelong Learning Unit (Trinidad)	\$6,270,707	\$8,269,744	\$8,269,744
Assistance to Cultural Organisations	\$12,877,035	\$12,500,000	\$13,800,000
Assistance to Cultural Groups (Tobago)	\$1,491,794	\$1,940,000	\$1,940,000
Community Concerts	-	\$3,450,000	\$3,337,000
Testing and Assessment and Evaluation (SEMP)	-	\$3,200,000	\$3,200,000
Early Childhood Care and Education	\$22,022,526	\$20,445,000	\$22,418,727
Early Childhood Care and Education (Tobago)	-	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
Export Centres	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000
Export Centres (Tobago)	\$494,280	\$1,800,000	\$1,800,000
Government Assistance for Tertiary Expenses (GATE)	\$250,000,000	\$250,000,000	\$350,000,000
Help Youth Prepare for Employment Programme (HYPE)	\$30,000,000	\$33,608,000	\$32,000,000
Higher Education Loan Programme	\$20,121,128	\$95,600,000	\$45,473,344
Life Skills Unit	\$0	\$737,320	\$737,320
Metal Industries Co Ltd (National Skills Development Prog)	-	\$18,000,000	\$18,000,000
Multi-Sector Skill Training Programme (MuST)	\$33,319,707	\$45,000,000	\$45,000,000
On the Job Training Programme	\$78,062,365	\$90,000,000	\$129,000,000
Prime Minister's Best Village Trophy Competition	-	\$8,301,000	\$4,827,007
Proficiency Awards - Pre-tertiary Education	\$114,553	\$399,000	\$399,000
Retraining Programme for Displaced Workers	\$12,595,187	\$14,000,000	\$14,000,000
School Discipline Initiative	\$16,925	\$800,000	\$35,800
School Transportation Services	-	\$48,846,000	\$48,846,000
Servol Hi-Tech & Advanced Skills Training Programme	\$4,943,864	\$4,943,865	\$4,943,865
Student Support Services	\$7,547,933	\$8,700,000	\$6,200,000
Student Support Services (Tobago)		\$1,208,000	\$1,208,000
Terminal Malls	\$1,399,330	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme Ltd (YTEPP)	-	\$51,500,000	\$51,500,000
Transfers to Statutory Boards		\$85,996,274	\$85,996,274
<b>Developing Innovative People Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$488,277,334</b>	<b>\$822,295,203</b>	<b>\$905,980,081</b>
<b>Pillar 2: Nurturing a Caring Society</b>			
Adoption Board	\$54,993	\$100,000	\$50,000
Assistance to Community Organisations (Tobago)	\$594,945	\$750,000	\$750,000
Assistance to National Heroes	\$1,296,039	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000
Assistance to Sporting Organisations (Tobago)	\$1,486,799	\$1,800,000	\$1,800,000
Assistance to the Home for the Aged (Tobago)	-	\$1,212,000	\$1,212,000
Assistance to Youth Organisations (Tobago)	\$322,721	\$500,000	\$500,000
Books for Children of Deceased Public Officers	\$21,436	\$55,000	\$55,000

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HEAD/SUB ITEMS	2006 ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	2007 BUDGETED ALLOCATION	2007 ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE
Community Action for Revival and Empowerment (CARE)	\$7,090,400	\$8,000,000	\$8,000,000
CARE Programme (Tobago)	\$2,639,599	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000
Children's Authority (Tobago)	\$39,247	\$500,000	\$500,000
Citizen's Initiative Fund	\$507,920	\$1,500,000	\$1,107,000
Civilian Conservation Corps	\$23,876,767	\$60,000,000	\$30,000,000
Commonwealth Ex-Services League	\$430,078	\$100,000	\$100,000
Commonwealth Youth Programme	-	\$241,000	-
Community Environment Improvement Initiative (CEII)	\$3,486,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
Conditional Cash Transfer Programme	\$24,000,000	\$250,000,000	\$120,000,000
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions (Central Administrative Services Tobago)	\$74,920	\$75,000	\$55,000
Disability Assistance Grant	\$149,977,970	\$174,000,000	\$182,000,000
Drugs (Ministry of Health)	\$213,200,000	\$225,000,000	\$225,000,000
Emergency Cases Fund (Probation Services)	\$45,994	\$74,000	\$74,000
Emergency Cases Fund (Tobago)	\$231,899	\$400,000	\$400,000
Foster Care Expenses	\$440,028	\$1,018,000	\$500,000
Foster Care Services (Tobago)	\$282,170	\$500,000	\$500,000
Grants for Students - Conferences/Seminars/Competitions	\$2,178,873	\$2,092,000	\$2,092,000
Grants to Necessitous Patients	\$0	\$40,000	\$0
Grants to Necessitous Patients (Tobago)	-	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
Grants to Necessitous Students Attending Public Schools (Tobago)	\$35,482	\$100,000	\$100,000
Hardship Relief Programme - Rebate in Water Rates	\$985,270	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000
Indoor Sporting Arenas/ Hockey Facility	\$8,013,046	\$11,973,700	\$10,803,700
Medical Treatment of Nationals in Institutions	\$16,745,313	\$10,000,000	\$20,000,000
Military-Led Academic Training (MILAT)	\$4,535,088	\$5,000,000	\$4,270,000
Military-Led Youth Programme of Apprenticeship and Re-Orientation (MYPART)	\$3,021,454	\$5,000,000	\$3,000,000
National Commission for Self Help	\$4,030,200	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000
National Days and Festivals (Tobago)	\$484,766	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
National Service (GAPP)	\$8,376,981	\$9,978,000	9,900,666
National Service (Tobago)	\$1,166,535	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
National Social Development Programme (NSDP)	\$202,624,110	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000
National Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centres	\$16,797,716	\$21,735,900	\$21,735,900
National Youth Service	\$1,989,640	\$2,500,000	\$1,575,130
Non Profit Institutions (Ministry of Labour)	\$956,215	\$1,107,220	\$1,107,220
Non-Profit Institutions (Ministry of Sport & Youth Affairs)	\$23,279,073	\$23,183,000	\$35,661,600
Non-Profit Institutions (Gender Affairs)	\$46,504,643	\$40,032,000	\$40,013,670
Non-Profit Institutions (Ministry of Health)	\$3,572,830	\$4,200,000	\$4,200,000
Non-Profit Institutions (Ministry of Social Development)	\$4,348,372	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000
Non-Profit Institutions (SSD)	\$15,483,763	\$26,000,000	\$25,999,570
Non-Profit Institutions (Tobago Community Dev & Culture)	\$4,320,124	\$6,690,000	\$6,690,000
Non-Profit Institutions- Ecclesiastical Bodies	\$401,205	\$842,000	\$542,000
Non-Traditional Skills Training for Women	-	\$2,500,000	\$3,800,000
Other Non-Profit Institutions	\$12,562,524	\$11,272,700	\$12,149,690
Payment of Fees for the Registration of Unregistered Births	\$0	\$50,000	\$1,000
Payments to Registrars of Births and Deaths	\$5,323	\$18,000	\$18,000
Police Youth Clubs	\$178,888	\$500,000	\$450,000

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	2006 ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	2007 BUDGETED ALLOCATION	2007 ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE
Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children	\$5,892,569	\$7,456,100	\$7,456,100
Regional Complexes (Tobago)	\$993,912	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
Rehabilitation Programme	\$304,702	\$500,000	\$500,000
Response to HIV/AIDS (formerly National AIDS Coordinating Committee)	\$187,852	\$1,000,000	\$377,000
Rural Women Producers Network	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
S.H.A.R.E. (formerly Feeding Program for the Needy)	\$32,231,225	\$15,000,000	\$5,000,000
School Book Grants Programme	\$4,878,640	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000
School Feeding Programme (Tobago)	\$19,046,757	\$20,902,800	\$20,902,800
School for the Deaf (Tobago)	\$356,539	\$1,632,749	\$1,632,749
School Nutrition Programme	\$200,000,000	\$200,718,000	\$200,718,000
Senior Citizens' Grant (formerly Old Age Pension Program)	\$917,239,600	\$1,178,600,000	\$1,178,600,000
Servol Adolescent Development Training Programme	\$9,702,000	\$16,404,038	\$16,404,038
Servol Junior Life Centres	\$1,144,800	\$1,404,000	\$5,764,000
Small Grants (Tobago)	\$304,003	\$300,000	\$300,000
Social Assistance/Public Assistance Grant	\$170,497,244	\$225,000,000	\$175,000,000
Special Community Programme (Tobago)	\$450,704	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Special Education Resources Programme	\$30,951,634	\$15,000,000	\$2,000,000
Special Education Resources Programme (Tobago)	-	\$300,000	\$300,000.00
Special Social Programmes (Tobago)	\$697,381	\$950,000	\$950,000
St Dominic's Children's Home	\$8,500,000	\$9,000,000	\$9,000,000
St Jude's Home for Girls	\$4,500,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
St Mary's Children's Home	\$9,000,000	\$9,500,000	\$9,500,000
St Michael's School for Boys	\$6,499,000	\$7,500,000	\$7,500,000
T'dad & T'go Association for Retarded Children (Lady Hochoy Home)	\$7,339,300	\$10,660,425	\$10,660,425
T'dad & T'go Blind Welfare Association	\$6,193,466	\$10,563,282	\$10,563,282
T'dad Association for the Hearing Impaired	\$4,044,910	\$5,183,660	\$5,183,660
Textbook Rental/ Loan Programme (Primary Schools)	\$46,384,354	\$41,203,000	\$25,203,000
The Sport Company of Trinidad & Tobago	\$49,699,478	\$65,046,900	\$65,046,900
Tobago Council for Handicapped Children (Happy Haven)	\$957,093	\$2,063,909	\$2,063,909
Trinidad & Tobago National Council of Parent/Teachers Associations	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
Unemployment Relief Programme	\$298,379,607	\$300,000,000	\$300,000,000
Urgent Temporary Assistance	\$9,398,189	\$8,000,000	\$7,000,000
Youth Development Programme (Tobago)	-	\$1,985,000	\$1,985,000
Youth Training	\$2,624,152	\$2,000,000	\$3,170,000
<b><i>Nurturing a Caring Society Sub-Total</i></b>	<b>\$2,661,271,470</b>	<b>\$3,313,688,383</b>	<b>\$3,093,910,009</b>
<b>Pillar 3: Enabling Competitive Business</b>			
National Entrepreneurship Development Company (NEDCO)	\$31,945,085	\$37,242,260	\$37,242,260
Youth Apprenticeship Programme in Agriculture (YAPA)	\$4,551,206	\$6,000,000	\$2,000,000
Agricultural Incentive Programme	\$20,029,214	\$29,542,000	\$29,542,000
Agricultural Incentive Programme (Tobago)	-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
<b><i>Enabling Competitive Business Sub-Total</i></b>	<b>\$56,525,505</b>	<b>\$74,784,260</b>	<b>\$70,784,260</b>

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HEAD/SUB ITEMS	2006 ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	2007 BUDGETED ALLOCATION	2007 ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE
<b>Pillar 4: Investing in Sound Infrastructure and the Environment</b>			
Community-based Environmental Protection & Enhancement Programme (CEPEP)	\$273,376,860	\$350,000,000	\$290,991,000
<b><i>Investing in Sound Infrastructure and the Environment Sub-Total</i></b>	<b>\$273,376,860</b>	<b>\$350,000,000</b>	<b>\$290,991,000.00</b>
<b>Pillar 5: Promoting Effective Government</b>			
Crime Stoppers Trinidad & Tobago Limited	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000
National Drug Council	\$1,159,620	\$1,000,000	\$1,200,000
Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management	\$3,185,148	\$50,000,000	\$25,000,000
<b><i>Promoting Effective Government Sub-Total</i></b>	<b>\$8,344,768</b>	<b>\$55,000,000</b>	<b>\$30,200,000</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$3,478,795,937.00</b>	<b>\$4,615,764,846.00</b>	<b>\$4,391,865,350.00</b>

**APPENDIX IX:  
ALLOCATIONS AND EXPENDITURE ON SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES FOR FISCAL 2007,  
BUDGETED ALLOCATIONS FOR 2008 AND ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2006 UNDER RECUR-  
RENT EXPENDITURE BY MINISTRIES**

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	2006 ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	2007 BUDGETED ALLOCATION	2007 ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE	2008 BUDGETED ALLOCATION
<i>Ministry of Local Government</i>				
Debit Card System for URP Employees	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,338,000
Unemployment Relief Programme	\$298,379,607	\$300,000,000	\$300,000,000	\$336,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$298,379,607</b>	<b>\$300,000,000</b>	<b>\$300,000,000</b>	<b>\$337,338,000</b>
<i>Ministry of Social Development</i>				
Non-Profit Institutions	\$4,348,372	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000
Non-Profit Institutions (SSD)	\$15,483,763	\$26,000,000	\$25,999,570	\$36,000,000
Orphanages:				
St Dominic's Children's Home	\$8,500,000	\$9,000,000	\$9,000,000	\$9,500,000
St Jude's Home for Girls	\$4,500,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,500,000
St Mary's Children's Home	\$9,000,000	\$9,500,000	\$9,500,000	\$10,000,000
St Michael's School for Boys	\$6,499,000	\$7,500,000	\$7,500,000	\$8,000,000
<b>Transfers:</b>				
Adoption Board	\$54,993	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$100,000
Assistance to National Heroes	\$1,296,039	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,500,000
Conditional Cash Transfer Programme	\$24,000,000	\$250,000,000	\$120,000,000	\$295,000,000
Disability Assistance Grant	\$149,977,970	\$174,000,000	\$182,000,000	\$245,000,000
Emergency Cases Fund (Probation Services)	\$45,994	\$74,000	\$74,000	\$74,000
Foster Care Expenses	\$440,028	\$1,018,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000
Payment of Fees for the Registration of Unregistered Births	\$0	\$50,000	\$1,000	\$50,000
Payments to Registrars of Births and Deaths	\$5,323	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$18,000
Rehabilitation Programme	\$304,702	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
S.H.A.R.E. (formerly Feeding Program for the Needy)	\$32,231,225	\$15,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
Senior Citizens' Grant (formerly Old Age Pension Program)	\$917,239,600	\$1,178,600,000	\$1,178,600,000	\$1,395,000,000
Social Assistance/Public Assistance Grant	\$170,497,244	\$225,000,000	\$175,000,000	\$203,000,000
T'dad & T'go Blind Welfare Association	\$6,193,466	\$10,563,282	\$10,563,282	\$9,253,668
T'dad Association for the Hearing Impaired	\$4,044,910	\$5,183,660	\$5,183,660	\$5,980,470
Urgent Temporary Assistance	\$9,398,189	\$8,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$8,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,364,060,818</b>	<b>\$1,934,106,942</b>	<b>\$1,749,489,512</b>	<b>\$2,245,476,138</b>
<i>Office of the Prime Minister</i>				
Citizen's Initiative Fund	\$507,920	\$1,500,000	\$1,107,000	\$1,500,000
Commonwealth Ex-Services League	\$430,078	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
Non-Profit Institutions- Ecclesiastical Bodies	\$401,205	\$842,000	\$542,000	\$421,000
Response to HIV/AIDS (formerly National AIDS Coordinating Committee)	\$187,852	\$1,000,000	\$377,000	\$1,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,527,055</b>	<b>\$3,442,000</b>	<b>\$2,126,000</b>	<b>\$3,021,000</b>
<i>Tobago House of Assembly</i>				
Adult Education Extension Services	-	\$1,048,000	\$1,048,000	\$1,874,100
Agricultural Incentive Programme	-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,500,000
Assistance to Cultural Groups	\$1,491,794	\$1,940,000	\$1,940,000	\$2,300,000

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Assistance to Community Organisations	\$594,945	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$900,000
Assistance to the Home for the Aged	-	\$1,212,000	\$1,212,000	\$378,000
Assistance to Sporting Organisations	\$1,486,799	\$1,800,000	\$1,800,000	\$2,600,000
Assistance to Youth Organisations	\$322,721	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$700,000
CARE Programme (Tobago)	\$2,639,599	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000
Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago	\$39,247	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions	\$74,920	\$75,000	\$55,000	\$100,000
Early Childhood Care and Education	-	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
Emergency Cases Fund	\$231,899	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$2,000,000
Export Centres	\$494,280	\$1,800,000	\$1,800,000	\$1,800,000
Foster Care Services	\$282,170	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
Grants to Necessitous Patients	-	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$4,000,000
Grants to Necessitous Students Attending Public Schools	\$35,482	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
National Days and Festivals	\$484,766	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
National Service	\$1,166,535	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
Non-Profit Institutions (Community Dev & Culture)	\$4,320,124	\$6,690,000	\$6,690,000	\$100,000
Regional Complexes	\$993,912	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,700,000
School Feeding Programme	\$19,046,757	\$20,902,800	\$20,902,800	\$25,000,000
School for the Deaf	\$356,539	\$1,632,749	\$1,632,749	\$1,747,028
Small Grants	\$304,003	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$400,000
Special Community Programme	\$450,704	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,059,400
Special Education Resources Programme	-	\$300,000	\$300,000.00	\$650,000
Special Social Programmes	\$697,381	\$950,000	\$950,000	\$3,425,000
Student Support Services		\$1,208,000	\$1,208,000	\$1,500,000
Tobago Council for Handicapped Children (Happy Haven)	\$957,093	\$2,063,909	\$2,063,909	\$1,925,290
Youth Development Programme	-	\$1,985,000	\$1,985,000	\$2,200,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$36,471,670</b>	<b>\$61,557,458</b>	<b>\$61,537,458.00</b>	<b>\$69,858,818</b>
<i>Ministry of National Security</i>				
Civilian Conservation Corps	\$23,876,767	\$60,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$13,000,000
Crime Stoppers Trinidad & Tobago Limited	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000
Military-Led Academic Training (MILAT)	\$4,535,088	\$5,000,000	\$4,270,000	\$8,000,000
Military-Led Youth Programme of Apprenticeship and Re-Orientation (MYPART)	\$3,021,454	\$5,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$8,000,000
National Drug Council	\$1,159,620	\$1,000,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,500,000
National Youth Service	\$1,989,640	\$2,500,000	\$1,575,130	\$2,500,000
Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management	\$3,185,148	\$50,000,000	\$25,000,000	\$30,000,000
Police Youth Clubs	\$178,888	\$500,000	\$450,000	\$500,000
School Discipline Initiative	\$16,925	\$800,000	\$35,800	\$3,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$41,963,530</b>	<b>\$128,800,000</b>	<b>\$69,530,930</b>	<b>\$70,500,000</b>
<i>Ministry of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development</i>				
Non Profit Institutions	\$956,215	\$1,107,220	\$1,107,220	\$1,591,340
National Entrepreneurship Development Company (NEDCO)	\$31,945,085	\$37,242,260	\$37,242,260	\$26,502,250
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$32,901,300</b>	<b>\$38,349,480</b>	<b>\$38,349,480</b>	<b>\$28,093,590</b>
<i>Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources</i>				
<b>Subsidies:</b>				
Agricultural Incentive Programme	\$20,029,214	\$29,542,000	\$29,542,000	\$20,502,000
4H Young Farmers Club	0	0	0	\$600,000
Rural Women Producers Network	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000



Youth Apprenticeship Programme in Agriculture (YAPA)	\$4,551,206	\$6,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$6,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24,605,420</b>	<b>\$35,567,000</b>	<b>\$31,567,000</b>	<b>\$27,127,000</b>
<b>Ministry of Education</b>				
<b>Transfers:</b>				
Adult Education/Lifelong Learning Unit	\$6,270,707	\$8,269,744	\$8,269,744	\$8,500,000
Books for Children of Deceased Public Officers	\$21,436	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000
Early Childhood Care and Education	\$22,022,526	\$20,445,000	\$22,418,727	\$25,137,000
Grants for Students - Conferences/Seminars/Competitions	\$2,178,873	\$2,092,000	\$2,092,000	\$2,092,000
Proficiency Awards - Pre-tertiary Education	\$114,553	\$399,000	\$399,000	\$300,000
School Book Grants Programme	\$4,878,640	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000
School Nutrition Programme	\$200,000,000	\$200,718,000	\$200,718,000	\$215,000,000
School Transportation Services	-	\$48,846,000	\$48,846,000	\$50,000,000
Servol Adolescent Development Training Programme	\$9,702,000	\$16,404,038	\$16,404,038	\$16,404,000
Servol Junior Life Centres	\$1,144,800	\$1,404,000	\$5,764,000	\$2,314,000
Special Education Resources Programme	\$30,951,634	\$15,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$15,000,000
Student Support Services Programme	\$7,547,933	\$8,700,000	\$6,200,000	\$9,000,000
Testing and Assessment and Evaluation (SEMP)	-	\$3,200,000	\$3,200,000	\$1,000,000
Textbook Rental/ Loan Programme (Primary Schools)	\$46,384,354	\$41,203,000	\$25,203,000	\$25,927,000
Textbook Rental/ Loan Program - Secondary Schools	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000,000
Trinidad & Tobago National Council of Parent/Teachers Associations	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$331,367,456</b>	<b>\$376,885,782</b>	<b>\$351,719,509</b>	<b>\$405,879,000</b>
<b>Ministry of Health</b>				
Drugs	\$213,200,000	\$225,000,000	\$225,000,000	\$225,000,000
<b>Transfers:</b>				
Grants to Necessitous Patients	\$0	\$40,000	\$0	\$0
Medical Treatment of Nationals in Institutions	\$16,745,313	\$10,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$15,000,000
Non-Profit Institutions	\$3,572,830	\$4,200,000	\$4,200,000	\$4,200,000
Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children	\$5,892,569	\$7,456,100	\$7,456,100	\$6,298,115
T'dad & T'go Association for Retarded Children (Lady Hochoy Home)	\$7,339,300	\$10,660,425	\$10,660,425	\$9,529,662
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$246,750,012</b>	<b>\$257,356,525</b>	<b>\$267,316,525</b>	<b>\$260,027,777</b>
<b>Ministry of Public Utilities and the Environment</b>				
Community Environment Improvement Initiative (CEII)	\$3,486,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,800,000
Community-based Environmental Protection & Enhancement Programme (CEPEP)	\$273,376,860	\$350,000,000	\$290,991,000	\$328,000,000
Hardship Relief Programme - Rebate in Water Rates	\$985,270	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000
National Social Development Programme (NSDP)	\$202,624,110	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$480,472,240</b>	<b>\$554,600,000</b>	<b>\$495,591,000</b>	<b>\$532,900,000</b>
<b>Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education</b>				
Government Assistance for Tertiary Expenses (GATE)	\$250,000,000	\$250,000,000	\$350,000,000	\$450,000,000
Higher Education Loan Programme	\$20,121,128	\$95,600,000	\$45,473,344	\$50,171,000
Help Youth Prepare for Employment Programme (HYPE)	\$30,000,000	\$33,608,000	\$32,000,000	\$35,000,000
Life Skills Unit	\$0	\$737,320	\$737,320	\$1,000,000
MIC Craft Programmes	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,000,000
Metal Industries Co Ltd (National Skills Development Prog)	-	\$18,000,000	\$18,000,000	\$11,000,000
Multi-Sector Skill Training Programme (MuST)	\$33,319,707	\$45,000,000	\$45,000,000	\$70,000,000
On the Job Training Programme	\$78,062,365	\$90,000,000	\$129,000,000	\$175,000,000
Servol Hi-Tech & Advanced Skills Training Programme	\$4,943,864	\$4,943,865	\$4,943,865	\$5,000,000

## Appendices

Retraining Programme for Displaced Workers	\$12,595,187	\$14,000,000	\$14,000,000	\$17,000,000
University of Southern Caribbean	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,000,000
Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme Ltd (YTEPP)	-	\$51,500,000	\$51,500,000	\$55,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$429,042,251</b>	<b>\$603,389,185</b>	<b>\$690,654,529</b>	<b>\$905,171,000</b>
<i>Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs</i>				
<b>Transfers:</b>				
Community Action for Revival and Empowerment (CARE)	\$7,090,400	\$8,000,000	\$8,000,000	\$9,600,000
Export Centres	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$8,400,000
National Commission for Self Help	\$4,030,200	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$7,200,000
National Service (GAPP)	\$8,376,981	\$9,978,000	9,900,666	\$16,450,000
Non-Profit Institutions (Gender Affairs)	\$46,504,643	\$40,032,000	\$40,013,670	\$15,500,000
Non-Profit Institutions (Culture)	\$12,877,035	\$12,500,000	\$13,800,000	\$15,560,000
Non-Traditional Skills Training for Women	-	\$2,500,000	\$3,800,000	\$3,800,000
Other Non-Profit Institutions	\$12,562,524	\$23,023,700	\$12,149,690	\$46,521,500
Terminal Malls	\$1,399,330	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$3,000,000
Transfers to Statutory Boards	-	\$85,996,274	\$85,996,274	\$97,667,266
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$99,841,113</b>	<b>\$197,529,974</b>	<b>\$189,160,300</b>	<b>\$223,698,766</b>
<i>Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs</i>				
Commonwealth Youth Programme	-	\$241,000	\$241,000	\$301,250
Indoor Sporting Arenas/ Hockey Facility	\$8,013,046	\$11,973,700	\$10,803,700	\$13,511,500
Non-Profit Institutions	\$23,279,073	\$23,183,000	\$35,661,600	\$32,920,000
National Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centres	\$16,797,716	\$21,735,900	\$21,735,900	\$29,063,668
The Sport Company of Trinidad & Tobago	\$49,699,478	\$65,046,900	\$65,046,900	\$70,000,000
Youth Training	\$2,624,152	\$2,000,000	\$3,170,000	\$3,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$100,413,465</b>	<b>\$124,180,500</b>	<b>\$136,659,100</b>	<b>\$148,796,418</b>
<i>Ministry of Housing</i>				
Support for the Acquisition of Housing	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$400,000,000
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$400,000,000</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$3,487,795,937</b>	<b>\$4,615,764,846</b>	<b>\$4,391,865,350</b>	<b>\$5,657,887,507</b>

**APPENDIX X:  
LIST OF GRANTS TO NON-GOVERNMENTAL AND COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATIONS  
FOR FISCAL 2007**

GROUP	AMOUNT
<b>Ministry of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs</b>	
National Council of Indian Culture	\$150,000.00
Sanatan Dharma Maha Sabha	\$500,000.00
Talparo Village Council	\$10,000.00
Buccoo Village Council	\$1,500.00
St. David Cultural Committee	\$2,500.00
Maraj Hill Village Council	\$2,500.00
Palo Seco Village Council	\$3,500.00
Pleasantville Community Council	\$3,600.00
Strange V'ge Village Council	\$3,800.00
Reflex Action Group	\$2,200.00
Vega De Oropouche Cultural Organisation	\$2,400.00
Lothians Road Village Council	\$4,100.00
Vistabella Community Council	\$3,500.00
Balmain Village Council	\$2,300.00
Chandernagore Village Community Council	\$2,200.00
Indian Walk Village Council	\$2,400.00
Aranguez Community Group	\$7,500.00
Beucarro Village Council	\$5,000.00
Belmont Community Council	\$5,000.00
Black Water Village Council	\$2,500.00
Caparo Village Council	\$5,000.00
Cedar Hill Community Council	\$5,000.00
Gasparillo Community Council	\$12,500.00
Guaico Village Council	\$2,500.00
John Elie Road Community Council	\$12,500.00
Las Cuevas Community Group	\$5,000.00
Libertville Community Council	\$10,000.00
Macaulay Hermitage Village Council	\$5,000.00
Railway/Five Rivers Community Council	\$5,000.00
Rock River Community Improvement Group	\$2,500.00
Shende Street Community Council	\$5,000.00
Siparia Community Council	\$5,000.00
South Diego Martin Community Council	\$5,000.00
Cashew Gardens Community Council	\$5,000.00
Cumana Village Council	\$3,600.00
St. Madeline Community Group	\$7,500.00
The Santa Rosa Carib Community	\$31,369.51
Penal Rock Carnival Improvement Committee	\$12,000.00
Marabella Concerned Citizens Committee	\$10,000.00
Oropouche Improvement Committee	\$3,000.00
Lower Brothers Rd. Community Council	\$3,000.00
East Dry River Committee	\$8,000.00

## Appendices

<b>GROUP</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Matura Cultural Committee	\$25,000.00
St. Helena Village Council	\$5,000.00
Sennon Village & Coora Rd Community Council	\$7,000.00
Plaisance Village Council	\$5,000.00
Brickfield Village Council	\$6,000.00
Vance River Community Council	\$5,000.00
Atma Gyan Mandir	\$10,500.00
Bartaria West/Caledonia Community Village Council	\$5,000.00
Victoria Branch Assoc. of V'ge & Comm. Council	\$15,000.00
Tunapuna Environ. Community Group	\$3,750.00
Fyzabad Development & Cultural Committee	\$5,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$972,219.51</b>