



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Social Sector Investment Programme 2019

“TURNAROUND”



CONTENTS

Executive Summary	8
Introduction	16
Chapter 1: THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION	20
1.1. Socio-Economic Outlook	20
1.1.1. Global Competitiveness	21
1.1.2. Global Gender Gap	21
1.1.3. Human Development	22
1.1.4. Poverty	22
1.1.5. Health and Wellness	22
1.1.6. Human Security	23
1.1.7. The Environment	24
1.1.8. Corruption	24
Chapter 2: THE CARIBBEAN SOCIAL SITUATION	28
2.1. Regional Economic Development	28
2.1.1. Economic Growth	28
2.2. Regional Integration	28
2.2.1. CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME)	28
2.3. Regional Social Development	29
2.3.1. Human Capital Development	29
2.3.2. Social Security	30
2.3.3. Employment	31
2.3.4. Sustainable Development Goals	32
2.3.5. An Ageing Caribbean	32
2.3.6. Crime and Security	32
2.3.7. Cyber Security	33
2.3.8. Human Trafficking	33
2.3.9. Gender Mainstreaming	33
2.3.10. Health – Communicable/Non-Communicable Diseases	34
2.3.11. Disaster Management – Environmental Stability	35
2.4. Regional Dialogue	35
2.5. Outlook for 2019	36



Chapter 3: TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO IN THE CONTEXT OF THE CARIBBEAN	38
3.1. Global Competitiveness	38
3.2. Global Gender Gap	41
3.3. Human Development	41
3.4. World Happiness	42
3.5. Global Peace Index	42
3.6. Corruption	42
Chapter 4: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION	46
4.1. Introduction	46
4.2. Theme I: Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset	46
4.2.1. Goal 2: Social services delivery will be improved to better serve the needs of vulnerable groups	47
4.2.2. Goal 3: Citizens will have access to adequate, affordable housing	51
4.2.3. Goal 4: The healthcare system will be sustainable and modern and deliver higher standards of healthcare	52
4.2.4. Goal 7: A modern, relevant and accessible education and training system	53
4.3. Theme II: Good Governance and Service Excellence	54
4.3.1. Goal 3: Public service delivery will be customer focused	56
4.3.2. Goal 4: A modern, legal, regulatory and law enforcement system	56
Chapter 5: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR FOR 2018	62
5.1 Budgeted Allocations to the Social Sector	62
Review of Tobago	65
5.2. New Programmes and Projects Developed/Implemented in Fiscal 2018	65
5.3. Social Policies Developed in Fiscal 2018	65
5.3.1. The Inter-Ministerial Social Policy Committee (I-MSPC)	65
5.4. Research Conducted in Fiscal 2018	67
5.5. Evaluations Conducted in Fiscal 2018	67
5.5.1. The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services	67
5.5.2. Office of the Prime Minister	68
Chapter 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018	70
Review of Social Programmes	73
Chapter 7: SOCIAL SECTOR PLANS FOR 2019	122
7.1 Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts	123
7.2. Ministry of Education	124
7.3. Ministry of Health	125
7.4. Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development	126
7.5. Ministry of National Security	127
7.6. Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government	128
7.7. Ministry of Social Development and Family Services	129
7.9. Office of the Prime Minister – Gender and Child Affairs	132
7.10. Tobago House of Assembly	133

2019 Social Sector Investment Programme 2019

APPENDICES	137
Appendix I: Key Social Programmes and Structural / Institutional Initiatives Funded by the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) 2017-2019	138
Appendix II: Allocations and Expenditure for Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2018 and 2019 and Actual Expenditure for Fiscal 2017 under Recurrent Expenditure by Ministry	143
Appendix III: List of Non-Governmental Organisations Receiving Government Subventions for Fiscal 2017 & 2018	151
LIST OF ACRONYMS	157



LIST OF TABLES

Table I:	Key Initiatives to be Implemented in the 2018/2019 Fiscal Year	13
Table 1.I:	World Economic Outlook Projections for 2019	20
Table 1.II:	Global Competitive Index 2017-2018	21
Table 1.III:	Countries Perceived to be Least Corrupt According to the Corruption Perceptions Index 2017 6	25
Table 3.1:	Top 3 Problematic Factors of Doing Business in Selected Caribbean Countries	41
Table 3.II:	CPI Ranks and Scores for Selected Caribbean Countries for the Period 2013-201723	43
Table 4.I:	A Snapshot of the Family Court over the 2017-2018 Law Term	49
Table 4.II:	Number of Persons Identified in Retrenchment Notices submitted to the Minister of Labour and Small Enterprise Development by Industry	49
Table 4.III:	Medical Assistance through the External Patient Care Initiative for the Period October 2017-March 2018	52
Table 4.IV:	Implementation of the Children’s Life Fund for the Period October 2017 to July 2018	52
Table 4.V:	Total Serious Crimes Reported and Detected by Month for 2017 and 2018	57
Table 4.VI:	Crime Statistics by Offence for October 2017 – September 2018	57
Table 4.VII:	A snapshot of the Children Court over the 2017-2018 Law Term	59
Table 5.I:	Budgeted Allocations for the Key Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2017/2018	62
Table 5.II:	Budgeted Allocations for the Key Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly and Gross Domestic Product for 2014-2018	64
Table 5.III:	Budgeted Allocations for Social Infrastructure and Programming for Fiscal Period 2013-2017	64
Table 5.IV:	Percentage of Social Infrastructure & Programming Allocated to Social Sector Ministries and the THA	65
Table 6.I:	National Development Themes and Goals Relevant to the Initiatives Outlined in this Section	70
Table 6.II:	Comparison of Estimates of Expenditure and Revised Estimates of Expenditure for Recurrent Social Programmes for Fiscal 2018, Key Social Sector Ministries and Key Social Services Divisions within the Tobago House of Assembly	71
Table 6.III:	Actual Expenditure for Selected Programmes for the Years 2013 -2017 and Revised Estimates of Expenditure for 2018	72
Table 7.I:	Comparison of Budgeted Allocations for Social Infrastructure & Programming – 2018-2019	122
Table 7.II:	Research/Policy Initiatives under the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services for Fiscal 2018/2019	131

LIST OF BOXES

Box 5.I:	New Programmes and Projects /Initiatives Developed/Implemented in Fiscal 2018	65
Box 5.II:	Policies Developed and/or Implemented in Fiscal 2018	66
Box 5.III:	Research Conducted and/or Finalised in Fiscal 2018	67
Box 6.I:	Ministries/Divisions Highlighted in this Chapter	73
Box 7.1:	Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts for Fiscal 2018/19	124
Box 7.2:	Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Education for Fiscal 2018/19	125
Box 7.3:	Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development for Fiscal 2018/19	127
Box 7.4:	Policy and Research Initiatives of the Office of the Prime Minister: Gender and Child Affairs for Fiscal 2018/19	132



LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.I:	Multidimensional Poverty Index 2016-2017	22
Figure 3.I:	Global Competitiveness Rankings for Selected Caribbean Countries for the Period 2016 -2018	38
Figure 3.II:	Trinidad and Tobago’s Sub-Indices for the Period 2016–2018	39
Figure 3.III:	Basic Requirements Sub-Index	39
Figure 3.IV:	Efficiency Enhancers Sub-Index for the Period 2016–2018	40
Figure 3.V:	Innovation & Sophistication Factors Sub-Index (2016–2018)	40
Figure 3.VI:	Trinidad and Tobago’s Sub-Indices Pillars for the Period 2016–2018	40
Figure 3.VII:	Trinidad and Tobago Corruption Index	43
Figure 4.1:	Alignment of Chapter to VISION 2030 Themes and Goals	46
Figure 5.I:	Budget Allocations for Key Social Sector Ministries and Social Sector Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2017/2018	63
Figure 5.II:	Budget Allocations for Key Social Sector Ministries and Social Sector Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2017/2018 in Relation to Total national estimates of Expenditure	63
Figure 5.III:	Percentage of Budgeted Allocations to the Key Social Sector Ministries in Trinidad and the Social Services Divisions of the THA for the Period 2014-2018	63
Figure 5.IV:	Percentage Allocation to the Key Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the THA in Relation to GDP (2013-2017)	64

Executive Summary

The Social Sector Investment Programme (SSIP) 2019, provides an overview of the international, Caribbean and national social situations; examines existing and new social sector initiatives and the investment made by government towards social development during the 2018 fiscal year; and social sector plans for the 2019 fiscal year.

The document comprises seven chapters, synopses of which are as follows:

Chapter One – The International Situation, provides a scan of the International Situation with a view to comparing the performance of developed and developing countries using various indices as the basis of the analysis. Several indices are utilised including the Global Competitiveness Index, Gender Development Index, Human Development Index, Global Food Security Index, Education Index, Environmental Performance Index and the Corruption Perceptions Index. The chapter also highlights comparative performances in several critical areas including poverty, health and wellness, the environment and human security.

Global economic activity in 2017 ended positively with growth in the last two quarters at above 4 percent, which surpassed the October 2017 World Economic Outlook forecasts for the Euro Area, Japan, the United States and China. Additionally, that global growth rate for 2018 is projected at 3.9%, compared to 3.8% in 2017, and that a growth rate of 3.9% was also projected for 2019, according to the World Economic Outlook Update.

With respect to Global Competitiveness, the top five countries namely, Switzerland, United States, Singapore, Netherlands and Germany, have maintained their positions, some with a slightly higher average than the previous year. Switzerland continues to occupy 1st place on the Global Competitiveness Index (GCI).

On the issue of the Gender Gap, on the global level the gaps between women and men on economic participation and political empowerment remained wide, and the top spots continued to be held by smaller Western European countries, particularly the Nordic countries.

In the area of Human Development, based on regional categorisation, Europe ranked the highest with Norway, Switzerland, Australia, Ireland and Germany leading, while Niger, the Central African Republic, South Sudan, Chad and Burundi have the lowest scores in the HDI's measurement of national achievements in health, education and income.

With regard to poverty, two notable highlights were that: Nearly half of the world population of poor people are destitute (approximately 706 million experience extreme deprivation); and in Latin American and the Caribbean, the Arab States, and in Europe and Central Asia, the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) rates are relatively very low, compared to South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa.

On Health and Wellness, there were several critical areas for greater global focus including nutrition policies and programmes for infants and young children, containment of poliovirus materials in secure facilities to prevent accidental release, development of a global strategy for developing and making greater use of digital technologies in healthcare, improving snakebite prevention and health worker training, promotion of physical activity to prevent and mitigate Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), and improving access to assistive technology for persons with disabilities.

On Human Security, the chapter notes that, across the globe, the current global environment is considered to be very insecure on account of threats on many fronts: Protracted crises, violent conflicts, natural disasters, persistent poverty, epidemics and economic fluctuations.



Environmentally, Switzerland continues to lead in the 2018 ranking, with an EPI score of 87.42 in overall environmental performance. France (83.95), Denmark (81.60), Malta (80.9), and Sweden (80.51) joins Switzerland as the top five countries on the 2018 EPI ranking. Trinidad and Tobago, which ranks 35th overall, with a score of 67.36, is ranked 1st in the Caribbean as it relates to efforts towards environmental protection.

In the area of Corruption, New Zealand and Denmark rank highest with scores of 89 and 88, respectively. Syria, South Sudan and Somalia rank lowest with scores of 14, 12 and 9, respectively. The best performing region is Western Europe, with an average score of 66. The worst performing regions are Sub-Saharan Africa, with an average score of 32 and Eastern Europe and Central Asia, with an average score of 34.

Chapter Two – The Caribbean Social Situation, highlights some of the major socioeconomic developments and initiatives within the Caribbean region during the 2018 fiscal year.

The chapter notes that the Caribbean region continued to experience economic challenges, which were further exacerbated by the devastating effects of the active hurricane season. Fiscal conditions worsened and public debt remained high. The median fiscal deficit as a percentage of GDP worsened, it increased from 0.7% of GDP in 2016 to 1.6% in 2017. The major challenges to social development and cohesion in the region are the high levels of poverty, inequality, crime, population ageing and weak systems for supporting persons with disabilities.

With respect to youth unemployment, the chapter notes that, the Caribbean has an acute unemployment problem, particularly among the youth. Not only is youth unemployment high relative to global levels, it is also significantly higher than adult unemployment. Youth unemployment is as high as 40% in some jurisdictions.

On the issue of population ageing, most countries in the region are expected to experience declining working-age (25-64) populations by 2050, which is anticipated to be accompanied by a doubling of the elderly population (65+), rendering that age cohort a larger percentage of the population than youth (15-24). Even those countries

not forecasted to experience an outstripping of the youth population by the elderly, nor a fall in the working age population by this time, would see a doubling of the elderly (65+) cohort over the same period.

Cyber security has been identified as a critical security issue. Accordingly, there were concerns and a focus on guidelines for ICT in Disaster Risk Reduction Management, against the backdrop of intensified natural disasters that continued to negatively impact CARICOM Member States, and the communication disruption that usually occurs.

The chapter also highlights that, the Region’s healthcare systems and the public health infrastructure are in urgent need of attention and should be better financed and more cost effective, and that greater investment is urgently needed especially in cost-effective health promotion, disease prevention and population health measures.

Regional dialogue is key to further development in the Caribbean. At the Thirty-Ninth Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), which took place in Montego Bay, Jamaica on the 4–6 July 2018, a number of recommendations including strengthening the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas to better serve disadvantaged countries, regions and sectors; improvement in functional cooperation, foreign policy coordination, security arrangements and trade activities of the Single Market; restructuring of the CARICOM Secretariat and improvements in air and sea transportation, were discussed.

With respect to CARICOM’s preparation and readiness for the future, it was observed that, the region’s exposure to global risks are high, but there are also the known risks associated with natural disasters and other weather-related events. The increasing frequency and intensity of these events occasioned the need to improve resilience. By increasing resilience, Caribbean Countries can put themselves in a position to ensure that vulnerabilities are reduced, so that growth is sustainable and inclusive.

Chapter Three – Trinidad and Tobago in the Context of the Caribbean, analyses Trinidad and Tobago’s socio-economic performance in comparison with other

selected Caribbean countries over the three-year period, 2016 – 2018. The analysis utilises the following: Global Competiveness Report, Global Gender Gap Report, Human Development Report, World Happiness Report, the Global Peace Index and the Corruption Perceptions Index.

The key highlights of the chapter are as follows:

In terms of Global Competitiveness, Trinidad and Tobago's overall ranking showed fluctuations during the 3-year period under review. The country was able to score 3.94 in 2016, which gave a ranking at 89th among 140 countries. This ranking then fell in 2017 to 94th out of 138 countries, with a score of 3.93. There was an improvement in 2018 however, where the country advanced 11 places up the index to be ranked at 83rd out of 137 countries, with a score of 4.09.

With respect to the Global Gender Gap Index, Barbados continued to occupy the top rank among Caribbean countries in the GGGR 2017 ranking. However, Nicaragua, with a rank of 6 and a score of 0.814 is the best performer among the countries of the LAC; according to the report it "remains the best-performing country in the region for the sixth year in a row". Barbados is ranked 23, with a score of 0.750, followed by Cuba, with a rank of 25 and a score of 0.745, Bahamas, with rank of 27 and a score of 0.743, Jamaica, with a rank of 51 and a score of 0.717 and the Dominican Republic, with a score of 0.697.

According to the World Happiness Report 2018 Trinidad and Tobago ranked 38 out of 156 countries; Jamaica ranked 56; and the Dominican Republic ranked 83.

With respect to performance on the Global Peace Index, Trinidad and Tobago ranked 84 out of 163 countries, which was an improvement on its 97th ranking out of 163 countries in the 2017 Peace Index; Jamaica ranked 90, compared to 92 in 2017; Guyana ranked 82 compared to 81 in 2017; and the Dominican Republic a ranking of 91.

On treating with corruption, over the last few years, Latin America and the Caribbean made great strides in the fight against corruption. Laws and systems exist to curb corruption, and citizen anti-corruption movements are growing in many countries across the region. However, according to the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2017, the region continues to score poorly on corruption.

According to the 2017 CPI, Barbados scored 68 with a ranking of 25, while St. Vincent & the Grenadines, St Lucia and Jamaica scored 58, 55 and 44 and ranked 40, 48 and 68 respectively. Trinidad and Tobago improved in its ranking, moving from 101 in 2016, to 77 in 2017.

According to the 2018 Human Development Index (HDI) Ranking, Trinidad and Tobago attained a ranking of 69 out of 189 countries, with a score of 0.784; between 1990 and 2017, Trinidad and Tobago's HDI score increased from 0.672 to 0.784, an increase of 16.7 percent. Bahamas ranked 54 (with a score of 0.807), Barbados ranked 58 (with a score of 0.800) and Jamaica ranked 97 (with a score of 0.732). Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago improved their ranking from the 2016 levels of 58 and 69, respectively. Barbados and Jamaica regressed, compared to their 2016 rankings of 54 and 94, respectively.

Chapter Four – The National Social Situation, focuses on advancements made in Trinidad and Tobago's social sector during fiscal 2017/2018 towards the achievement of the agenda of the National Development Strategy (Vision 2030) and meeting the commitments of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The social sector initiatives outlined in the chapter are aligned to VISION 2030; in particular Themes I and II. Theme I: Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset and Theme II: Good Governance and Service Excellence.

'Putting people first' requires that all relevant services and products across the social sector, that are necessary for sustainable human and social development, are available and delivered, utilising systems and processes that would facilitate the most effective outcomes for individuals and families. Under Theme I, the key highlights of the chapter are as follows: The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS) completed several critical prerequisites for successful implementation of the National Social Mitigation Plan (NSMP) including introduction of a Standard Means Test to improve targeting of clients, commencement of a review of the Social Transformation and Empowerment Programme – Uplifting People (STEP-UP), commencement of a review of the systems and processes of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services and drafting of a Resilience Framework. The



MSDFS also implemented Direct Deposit, which allows for direct payment of Senior Citizens Pension, Disability Assistance Grant and Public Assistance into the bank accounts of recipients and removed the Life Certificate requirement for recipients of Senior Citizens Pension. The Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development commenced amendments to approximately twelve (12) pieces of legislation designed to enhance the level of protection for employers and employees in all sectors, which is targeted to be completed by 2020. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development executed a contract for the construction of one hundred and twenty (120) three-bedroom apartments and forty (40) two-bedroom apartments at Mt. Hope, Trinidad; the Land Settlement Agency granted holders of Certificate of Comfort residing in Sangre Grande, Brazil and Wallerfield, statutory leases for a period of 30 years by the Land Settlement Agency. The Ministry of Health implemented a robust Influenza Vaccination Drive for the 2018 Flu Season (October 2017 to July 2018). As a result, there was in excess of a 70% reduction in the number of confirmed Influenza cases in the 2018 Flu season. A total of 19,208 students registered for the 2018 Secondary Entrance Assessment (SEA) Examination; nine thousand seven hundred and forty-one (9,741) males and nine thousand four hundred and sixty-seven (9,467) females. With respect to performance in specific subject areas, in Maths, 58.8 per cent of the students scored above 50 per cent, in English Language 57.9 per cent scored above 50 per cent, and in creative writing 55.5 per cent scored above 50 per cent. The Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government intensified the process towards Local Government Reform; the ministry engaged with key stakeholders on preparation of the municipalities to assume new responsibilities.

Adherence to ‘**Good Governance and Service Excellence**’ would engender confidence in public institutions and delivery of public services. Under Theme II, the key highlights are as follows: The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services, in response to complaints from clients who interface with frontline staff at some of its district offices across the country, implemented a Premium Client Care Initiative, in March 2017, focusing on quality customer service. A total of 660 staff members participated in these training sessions. The Ministry of Rural Development and Local

Government intensified the process towards Local Government Reform; the ministry engaged with key stakeholders on preparation of the municipalities to assume new responsibilities. The Ministry of Public Administration launched a customer service training initiative that targeted training 10,000 public officer over a 12-month period. The goal of the training is to enhance the customer service experience across the public service. The National Crime Prevention Programme (NCPP) was launched in July 2018. The NCPP is proactive initiative intended to limit future instances of crime and criminality. In July 2018, the Automated Border Control System was launched by the Ministry of National Security at the Piarco International Airport. The Children Court commenced operations on 28th February, 2018 with the proclamation of the Family and Children Division Act, 2016. In March 2018, the Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago launched the opening of two new Children Courts in Port of Spain and Fyzabad. The majority of matters bought before the courts were determined within two (2) months of filing.

Chapter Five – Overview of the Social Sector for Fiscal 2018, focuses on the budgetary allocations made by Government towards social sector development. It also highlights the performance of selected economic indicators during the 2018 fiscal year and identifies policies developed and research and evaluations undertaken during the fiscal year.

In fiscal 2018, the largest budgetary allocations were made to three key social sector ministries: The Ministry of Education (30%), the Ministry of Health (28%), and the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (24%). These are the ministries with portfolio responsibilities that are directly related to critical socio-economic issues with implications for national development including human capital development, health and wellness, poverty, social inequality and social exclusion.

The combined budgeted allocation for Social Infrastructure and Social Programming decreased from TT\$10.9 billion in 2017 to TT\$10.1 billion in 2018.

The total budgetary allocation to the Tobago House of Assembly amounted to \$2.18 billion, of which \$1.86 billion was allocated for Recurrent Expenditure and \$315.7 million for Development Programme Expenditure.

The overall budgetary allocation in fiscal 2018 declined by 6.7%. A new strategic plan for CEPEP was developed, while URP formulated a new policy framework to guide its operations for the period, 2018-2020. Both programmes were restructured to concentrate on skills training and enabling employees to gain certification for competencies acquired. The restructuring also took into consideration increasing revenue generating activities, as well as support for the agricultural sector.

A number of new programmes and projects were developed by ministries and agencies as follows:

- National Crime Prevention Programme (MNS)
- Automated Border Control System (MNS)
- Removal of the Life Certificate Requirement for Senior Citizens Pension (MSDFS)
- Implementation of a Standard Means Test for Social Programmes (MSDFS)
- Barbershop Initiative (OPM-GCA)
- Operationalization of the National Transition Home –Male (OPM-GCA).

There were also policy development and research initiatives as follows:

Policies developed and/or implemented in fiscal 2018:

- Postal Sector Policy (MPU)
- Trinidad and Tobago National Sport Policy (MSYA)
- National Policy on Culture and Arts (MCDCA)
- Policy Guidelines for the Provision of Support to the Museum Sector in Trinidad and Tobago
- Draft Education Policy Paper 2017-2022 (MOE)
- National Parenting Policy (MSDFS)
- Draft National Workplace Policy on Sexual Harassment (MLSED)
- National Health Card Policy (MoH)
- National Policy on Persons with Disabilities (MSDFS)
- National Child Policy (OPM)
- National Policy on Gender and Development (OPM)
- Policy on the Establishment of the Office of the Children's Commissioner (OPM)

- Interim Policy and Guidelines for the Administration of Grants in the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts (MCDCA)
- National Policy for Sustainable Community Development (MCDCA)
- Policy for a System of Recognition and Rewards for Outstanding Sport Performances.

Research conducted and/or finalised in fiscal 2018:

- Position Paper on the Industrial Relations Act (MLSED)
- Position Paper on the Retrenchment and Severance Benefit Act (MLSED)
- An Investigation into the Barriers, Enablers, Costs and Nutritional Quality of Lunches Consumed by Children Attending Schools in Trinidad (MoE)
- The Burden of Obstructive Lung Disease in Trinidad and Tobago (MoH)
- Baseline Study on Public Perceptions on Child Protection Issues in Trinidad and Tobago (OPM-GCA).

Additionally, evaluations of the Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme (GAPP) and the Centre for Socially Displaced Persons (CSDP) were initiated by the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services; and the Office of the Prime Minister – Gender and Child Affairs completed and evaluation of the New Life Ministries Women's Rehabilitation Centre.

Chapter Six – Review of Social Programmes and Initiatives for fiscal 2018, examines the initiatives undertaken by the key social sector Ministries for fiscal 2018. The chapter outlines major achievements and activities of critical social programmes under the purview of the key social sector ministries, whose primary function is to address a range of social issues, as well as to foster sustainable human and social development.

Initiatives outlined in Chapter 6 focuses on social issues relating to: community development; education and training; health; gender and child affairs; housing; labour and employment; social services; public utilities and national security among others.



Chapter Seven – The Social Sector Plans for fiscal 2019 are outlined in this chapter. The chapter identifies critical initiatives the Ministries in the social sector and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly plan to implement in the 2019 fiscal year. Some key initiatives to be implemented in fiscal 2018/2019 are outlined in Table I below:

Table I: Key initiatives to be implemented in the 2018/2019 Fiscal Year

	Area of Focus	Sector Plans for 2018/2019 Fiscal Year
1.	Community Development, Culture and Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy Development: Finalisation of the National Policy on Culture and the Arts, the National Policy on Sustainable Community Development and the Policy Guidelines for the Museum Sector; Revision of the Interim Policy Guidelines for the Administration of Grants. Museum Development and Upgrade: Upgrade of the National Museum building and exhibits, establishment of the Sugar Museum and restoration and upgrade of the Museum of the City of Port of Spain. Construction of new Community Centres and refurbishment of existing Centres throughout the country. Hosting ten (10) community festivals to showcase the culinary, cultural, craft and heritage development opportunities.
2.	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of the Seamless Transition from Early Childhood Care and Education to Primary School Project. Improvement of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Laptop Initiative. Implementation of the Financial Assistance (Studies) Programme to provide assistance to students who cannot sufficiently meet the cost of Post-Secondary/Undergraduate Education, despite assistance from existing programmes. Optimisation of a School-Based Programme for Slower Learners. Production of an Electronic Directory of Occupations for Trinidad and Tobago.
3.	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of the Arima Hospital and the Point Fortin Hospital. Re-Development of the Port of Spain Hospital. Construction of the Diego Martin Health Centre.
4.	Labour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislation: Amendment/review of: Workmen’s Compensation Act; Retrenchment and Severance Benefits Act; The Industrial Relations Act; Cipriani College of Labour and Co-operative Studies Act; Basic Terms and Conditions of Work; Friendly Societies Act; Co-operative Societies Act; Employment Exchange Act; Recruitment of Workers Act; and Foreign Labour Contract Act. Development of a Modernised Labour Market Information System. Policy and Research Initiatives: Development of an Implementation Plan for the National Policy on Co-operatives; Hosting of stakeholder consultations on and drafting of the National Policy for the Prevention of Child Labour in Trinidad and Tobago; Drafting of the Labour Migration Policy for Trinidad and Tobago; and conduct of a National Baseline Survey on Knowledge, Attitude, Belief and Practice on HIV in the Workplace. Continue Implementation of the Ten-Point Plan on Unemployment.

	Area of Focus	Sector Plans for 2018/2019 Fiscal Year
5.	National Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immigration and Border Protection: Implementation of an expanded Automated Fingerprint Identification System; Establishment of a Joint Border Patrol Taskforce; Establishment of a Border Patrol Agency; and Physical Upgrade of the Immigration Detention Centre. • Development of a Disaster Risk Management Policy. • Completion of construction of Police Stations at Old Grange and Roxborough in Tobago. • Establishment of Juvenile Booking Stations at selected Police Stations for processing Juvenile offenders. • Implementation of the National Crime Prevention Programme.
6.	Rural Development and Local Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancement of Disaster Management Capacity. • Automation of Construction Permitting. • Implementation of the National Roads/Street Signage Programme. • Implementation of the centralisation of the Municipal Spatial Data Management System to provide quality spatial data for mapping,
7.	Social Development and Family Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue implementation of the Direct Deposit System to facilitate the deposit of Senior Citizens Pension, Public Assistance Grant and Disability Assistance Grant into the bank accounts of recipients. • Implementation of a Data Sharing Arrangement between the MADFS and the NIBTT that would serve to shorten the processing time for the grants. • Implementation of a new debit card system for the Food Support Programme. • Introduction of a system of Remote Application/Registration for the Ministry's Grants. • Introduction of a new Life Certification System that would not require visits to the Ministry's Offices to prove that they are alive. • Continued roll-out of the Standard Means Test. • Continue implementation of the National Social Mitigation Plan for Trinidad and Tobago. • Policy Initiatives: Finalisation/review, as necessary/commence implementation of: The National Family Policy; The National Parenting Policy; The National Policy on Persons with Disabilities; and the Policy on Older Persons.
8.	Sport and Youth Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue review to the National Youth Policy. • Construction of a Multi-Purpose Facility at Moruga. • Upgrade, rehabilitation and improvement and existing infrastructure including Community Swimming Pools, Indoor Sporting Facilities, Stadia, and Community and Regional Recreations Grounds. • Research: Conduct of a National Sport and Recreation Census.



	Area of Focus	Sector Plans for 2018/2019 Fiscal Year
9.	Office of the Prime Minister – Gender and Child Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Protection: The conduct of early screening to avoid the risk of children developing disabilities that could result in poor academic achievement among other negative effects. • Completion of the National Child Policy. • Distribution of the Child Protection Workbook to religious boards and faith-based organisations. • Children’s Homes/Institutions: Modernisation of the St. Mary’s Home for Children; Relocation of the St. Jude’s Home for Girls to a more conducive location; and reconstruction of the Josephine Shaw House.
10.	Tobago	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of a Tourism Accommodation Upgrade Programme (TAUP). • Implementation of an Eat Local Campaign. • Establishment of a Tobago Science Research Project. • Establishment of Early Childhood Care Centres. • The provision of auditory and visual examination for first year students of primary schools. • Establishment of Visual Arts and Performance Theatres (VAPT) in Primary Schools. • Construction of the School for the Deaf, and Speech and Language-Impaired. • Participation in the Caribbean Youth Summit. • Development of a Community Literacy Improvement Plan (CLIP).

The document also contains four appendices as follows:

- **Appendix I:** Key social programmes and structural/ institutional initiatives funded by the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP).
- **Appendix II:** Allocations and Expenditure for Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2018 and 2019 and Actual Expenditure for Fiscal 2017 under Recurrent Expenditure by Ministry.
- **Appendix III:** A List of Non-Governmental Organisations receiving Government Subventions for Fiscal 2018 and fiscal 2019;

Introduction

In fiscal 2018, the development agenda in Trinidad and Tobago continued to be guided by the National Development Strategy 2016-2030 (Vision 2030). Vision 2030 not only provides a framework for achieving Trinidad and Tobago's national developmental goals, but also the relevant targets under the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Key to Trinidad and Tobago's realization of Vision 2030 and the SDGs, would be performance of the country's social protection system. Investment in and overall performance of the Social Sector is critical in this regard.

The Social Sector Investment Programme (SSIP) 2019 provides details on the extent of investment made by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago in the social sector in fiscal 2018 and what is planned for fiscal 2019. It reviews the major initiatives implemented by the key Social Sector Ministries in fiscal 2018 and the progress made. Details on the social sector plans for fiscal 2019 are also provided.

Theme 1 - Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset, and Theme 2 - Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence, were the relevant Vision 2030 Pillars to which the investments made in the social sector were aligned. The quantum of investment, and the range of programmes and projects implemented in fiscal 2018, and proposed for fiscal 2019 are reflective of the Government's commitment to sustainable human and social development. Projects and programmes have been implemented in fiscal 2018, and are planned for implementation in fiscal 2019, in a multiplicity of critical areas with significant developmental implications including ageing, community development and the arts, child protection, culture, disability affairs, education, skills development, employment and entrepreneurship, environmental protection, family support, gender issues, health care, housing, information technology, literacy and poverty alleviation.

Of particular concern to the Government is the need to reduce levels of poverty and deprivation among important vulnerable groups such as women and children, older persons, persons with disabilities, and individuals and families in communities with socio-economic challenges. The response to effectively confront this challenge is a concerted and collaborative effort by social sector ministries and agencies, implementing a broad spectrum of strategic interventions. This is what the approach in the social sector programmes implemented in fiscal 2018 represented, and would continue in fiscal 2019. The intent of the strategy is to foster an environment that promotes social inclusion and empowerment of the vulnerable, and provides the mechanisms for building resilience.

During the 2018 fiscal year, ministries and agencies across the social sector implemented/commenced major initiatives in this regard. Notable among these were the National Social Mitigation Plan by the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services; the Adversity to Opportunity Programme by the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development; Local Government Reform by the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government; and the National Crime Prevention Programme by the Ministry of National Security.

Social sector investment in fiscal 2019 will continue to be focused on interventions that seek, inter alia, to protect and empower the vulnerable and to build resilience in all members of society. Significant attention will also be directed towards the critical area of service delivery and improved customer service. Several ministries including the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services, all of which have extensive direct contact with the general public, are currently reengineering their systems and processes to ensure greater efficiency and effectiveness. It is



anticipated that by the end of fiscal 2019, as a result of the transformative initiatives embarked upon by the various Ministries in the way they conduct business with the public and how they manage their internal processes, we would be well on our way to radically enhancing quality of life in Trinidad and Tobago.

2019

Social Sector
Investment Programme 2019

THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

1



COMMONWEALTH
HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING
LONDON 2018

Chapter 1:**THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION**

This Chapter provides a scan of the International Situation with a view to comparing the performance of developed and developing countries using various indices as the basis of the analysis.

1.1. Socio-Economic Outlook

According to the World Economic Outlook (WEO), global economic activity in 2017 ended positively with growth in the last two quarters at above 4 percent. This is purported to be the strongest growth performance since 2010. Results surpassed the October 2017 World

Economic Outlook forecasts for the Euro Area, Japan, the United States and China. Table 1.1 outlines the World Economic Outlook growth projections for 2019.

The WEO reported that, a 3.8 percent global growth in 2017 was 0.5 percentage point faster than in 2016, and the strongest since 2011. The preliminary outcome for global growth in 2017 was 0.2 percentage point stronger than forecasted in the October 2017 World Economic Outlook (WEO), with upside that exceeded expectations for the second half of 2017, in advanced as well as emerging markets and developing economies. Global growth rate for 2018 is projected at 3.9%, compared to 3.8% in 2017. A growth rate of 3.9% was also projected for 2019 according to the World Economic Outlook Update.

Table 1.1: World Economic Outlook Projections for 2019

	Projections			Difference from January 2018		Q4 over Q4 Projections October 2017	
	2017	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
World Output	3.8	3.9	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2
Advanced Economies	2.3	2.5	2.2	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.4
• United States of America	2.3	2.9	2.7	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.8
• Euro Area	2.3	2.4	2.0	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.3
• Japan	1.7	1.2	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.1
• United Kingdom	1.8	1.6	1.5	0.1	0.0	0.1	-0.1
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	4.8	4.9	5.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
Emerging and Developing Asia:	6.5	6.5	6.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
• China	6.9	6.6	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
• India	6.7	7.4	7.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sub-Saharan Africa	2.8	3.4	3.7	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.3
Latin America and the Caribbean	1.3	2.0	2.8	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.4
Low-Income Developing Countries	4.7	5.0	5.3	-0.2	0.0	-0.2	0.1



1.1.1. Global Competitiveness

The Global Competitiveness Report (GCR) is utilised in the analysis contained in this section. The GCR is an annual report published by the World Economic Forum analyses and compares competitiveness among countries. Since 2004, the GCR ranked countries based on the Global Competitiveness Index (GCI). The GCI scores and rankings for selected developed countries for 2017-2018 are provided in Table 1.II. According to the Global Competitiveness Index 2017-2018 Report, Switzerland, Singapore and the United States remain the three world’s most competitive economies.

Table 1.II: Global Competitive Index 2017-2018

Country/Economy	GCI 2017-2018 Rank (out of 137)	Score (1-7)	GCI 2016-2017 Rank (out of 138)
Switzerland	1	5.86	1
United States	2	5.85	3
Singapore	3	5.71	2
Netherlands	4	5.66	4
Germany	5	5.65	5

The top five countries have maintained their positions, some with a slightly higher average than the previous year. Switzerland continues to occupy 1st place on the GCI, with strong results across areas such as public health, primary education, and a comparatively solid macroeconomic environment. Its economy has a high level of flexibility, with its labour markets being ranked as the best-functioning globally, with absorptive capacity for new technologies, business sector sophistication and innovation.

The United States improved to 2nd place overall, displaying a consistent improvement since 2010. The strength of the United States comes from its performance in efficiency enhancers and innovation and sophistication factors. The United States continues to demonstrate macroeconomic stability engendered by its performance in innovation, business sophistication and its market size. Compared with other top-ranked

countries, the United States performed relatively less satisfactorily in health and primary education. Successfully meeting institutional challenges relating to both public and private institutions, improving the macroeconomic environment, and investing in human capital - particularly in the areas of health and primary education, would be critical if the United States is to maintain its position near the top of the competitiveness rankings.

Singapore ranks 3rd place and continued to lead the higher education and training pillar and the goods market efficiency pillar. In particular, Singapore ranks 1st globally, for public sector performance, one of the categories of the institutions pillar, where it also excelled. Singapore also possesses superior transport infrastructure, its labour market is extremely efficient, and its financial sector is well developed, stable, and trustworthy. There is, however, room for some improvement in the areas of innovation and business sophistication factors.¹

1.1.2. Global Gender Gap

The Gender Gap Report (GGR) 2017, highlighted that “no country in the world had fully closed the gender gap. However, all five of the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden) have closed more than 80% of the Gap.” According to the Report, the global gender gap currently stands at 68%, with an average of 32% still to be addressed in an effort to achieve universal gender parity.

It was noted that the gaps between women and men on economic participation and political empowerment remain wide: only 58% of the economic participation gap has been closed. There have been no new entrants in the top ten ranking in the Global Gender Gap Index, but there have been notable rank changes. The top spots continue to be held by smaller Western European countries, particularly the Nordics, which occupy the top three positions, with two countries from the East Asia and the Pacific region, one country from the Sub-Saharan Africa region, one country from the Latin America and the Caribbean region, and one country from the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region are also represented.

¹ <http://www3.weforum.org/docs/GCR2017-2018/05FullReport/TheGlobalCompetitivenessReport2017%E2%80%932018.pdf>

1.1.3 Human Development

According to the latest 2018 Human Development Index Ranking, under very high human development, Norway continues to record the highest ranking with a score of 0.953, Switzerland maintaining 2nd place with a score of 0.944 and Australia in 3rd place with a score of 0.939. Ireland and Germany in 4th and 5th place respectively with scores of 0.938 and 0.936².

1.1.4 Poverty

The World Bank Group is among the international development agencies committed to fighting poverty in all its dimensions. In June 2017, the analysis of global multidimensional poverty spanned a number of topics including destitution, regional and sub-national variations in poverty, the composition of poverty. The key findings of the study were as follows:

- A total of 1.45 billion people from 103 countries were poor.
- 48% of the poor people live in South Asia, and 36% in Sub-Saharan Africa. See Table (1. III)
- Most poor people (72%) live in middle income countries.
- Half of the poor (48%) are children aged 0-17 years.
- Nearly half of the world population of poor people are destitute; 706 million experience extreme deprivations.
- In Latin American and the Caribbean, the Arab States, and in Europe and Central Asia, the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) rates are relatively very low, compared to South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa (see Figure 1.I).

Figure 1.I: Multidimensional Poverty Index 2016-2017



1.1.5 Health and Wellness

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, frames health and well-being as both outcomes and foundations of social inclusion, poverty reduction and environmental protection. The Agenda emphasizes the need for monitoring to go beyond the measurement of aggregate performance to ensure that no one is left behind. This means that data for health-related SDG targets should be disaggregated for key disadvantaged subgroups within countries and health inequality measures calculated accordingly.

In this context, according to the World Health Statistics 2017, health inequalities within and between countries can be substantial; and that it is vitally important to reinforce and reform national health information systems to ensure that they have the capacity to collect, analyse and report equity-relevant data, and to support the systematic integration and use of such data in decision-making and in ongoing national and subnational planning, programming, monitoring evaluation and review³.

At the 71st Session of the World Health Assembly (WHA71) which took place in Geneva during 21-26 May, 2018, member States discussed a wide range of health issues relevant to various SDGs, including sexual and

² 2018 Human Development Index Ranking

³ World Health Statistics 2017, Monitoring Health for the SDGs, Trends in Health Inequality p.13.



reproductive health, maternal and child nutrition, early childhood development and the Global Vaccine Action Plan. A five-year strategic plan to advance all health-related targets under the SDGs, especially under SDG 3 on good health and wellbeing, was adopted at the meeting. The following three targets to be achieved by 2023, were identified:

- i. extending universal health coverage to one billion more people;
- ii. ensuring better protection from health emergencies for one billion more people; and
- iii. promoting better health and wellbeing for one billion more people.

At the Assembly, it was also noted that efforts to reduce non-communicable diseases (NCDs) were not on track to achieve SDG 3.4⁴, and called on heads of state and governments to participate in the Third UN General Assembly (UNGA) High-level Meeting on the Prevention and Control of NCDs, which will convene in New York, US, on 27 September 2018.

The Assembly also:

- urged cholera-affected countries to implement a roadmap to reducing cholera deaths by 90% by 2030; and
- requested that the WHO develop a five-year roadmap to improve access to medicines and vaccines which is to be present at the 2019 session (WHA 72).

Additionally, the Assembly also agreed to: scale up nutrition policies and programmes for infants and young children; ensure containment of poliovirus materials in secure facilities to prevent accidental release; develop a global strategy for developing and making greater use of digital technologies in healthcare; improve snakebite prevention and health worker training; promote physical activity to prevent and mitigate NCDs; improve access to assistive technology for persons with disabilities; and launch a coordinated global response to rheumatic heart disease⁵.

1.1.6 Human Security

For many across the globe, the current global environment is considered to be very insecure on account of threats on many fronts. Protracted crises, violent conflicts, natural disasters, persistent poverty, epidemics and economic fluctuations impose hardships and undercut prospects for peace, stability, and sustainable development. Prevention is the core objective of human security. It addresses the root causes of vulnerabilities, focuses attention on emerging risks and emphasizes early action. It strengthens local capacities to build resilience, and promotes solutions that enhance social cohesion and advances respect for human rights and dignity.

According to the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, human security is the protection of fundamental freedoms and involves protecting people from critical and pervasive threats and situations. The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) highlights that, ‘one in seven’ persons are on the move fleeing civil unrest, war, terrorism, genocide, famine and natural disasters. With the increase in refugees and asylum seekers globally, there are mixed reactions from citizens of destination countries. This has caused many countries to review existing legislation and policies on migration and refugees.

As it pertains to terrorism, the Global Terrorism Index, provides a comprehensive summary of global trends in terrorism since 2000. In 2017, the average country score within the index deteriorated by 4% which reflects the increasing spread of terrorism. Seventy-Seven (77) countries experienced deaths from terrorism, which indicates a 16% increase from the previous year. Two-thirds of all countries experienced a terrorist attack in 2016.

4 Target 3.4: By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being.

5 <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/world-health-assembly-adopts-five-year-plan-for-advancing-sdgs/>

1.1.7 The Environment

The world's growing population, with its desire for economic growth and a better quality of life, continues to increase the demand for energy. By far the most common way to satisfy the need for energy in modern economies is to burn fossil fuels, such as coal, oil and natural gas. Although the share of energy production from alternative, cleaner sources has increased slightly since 1970, fossil fuels supplied about 81 percent of the world's energy production in 2014, and continues to be relatively very high. The burning of fossil fuels, which results in greenhouse gas emissions, is the primary human activity affecting the amount and rate of climate change. Producing the energy needed for growth while mitigating its effects on the world's climate continues to be a global challenge. Air quality remains the leading environmental threat to public health and is especially acute in rapidly urbanizing and industrializing nations such as India and China.

Notwithstanding this, according to the Environmental Performance Index Report 2018, most countries improved Green House Gas (GHG) emissions intensity over the past ten years. Three-fifths of countries, according to the Environmental Performance Index (EPI) have declining CO₂ intensities, while 85–90% of countries have declining intensities for methane, nitrous oxide, and black carbon. These trends are promising, yet must be accelerated to meet the targets of the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement.

In keeping with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement, countries must integrate environmental performance metrics across a range of pollution control and natural resources targets. The 2018 Environmental

Performance Index (EPI) ranks 180 countries on 24 performance indicators across ten issue categories covering environmental health and ecosystem vitality.

Switzerland continues to lead the world in the 2018 EPI, with a score of 87.42 in overall environmental performance. Switzerland's top ranking reflects a strong performance across several critical issues, especially Climate & Energy and Air Pollution. France (83.95), Denmark (81.60), Malta (80.9), and Sweden (80.51) joins Switzerland as the top five countries on the 2018 EPI ranking.

Trinidad and Tobago, which ranks 35th overall, with a score of 67.36, is ranked 1st in the Caribbean on the 2018 EPI ranking as it relates to efforts towards environmental protection.

1.1.8. Corruption

The Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) ranks countries and territories based on how corrupt their public sector is perceived to be. A country's or territory's score indicates the perceived level of public sector corruption on a scale of 0 (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean). Countries that prioritise anti-corruption and create national policy through consensus and public and political participation are better positioned to make a significant qualitative progress. Conversely, those countries that do not prioritise corruption issues tend to regress from year to year.

In 2017, the index found that more than two-thirds of countries scored below 50, with an average score of 43. Table 1.III outlines countries perceived to be least corrupt according to the 2017 CPI over the last five years.



Table 1.III: Countries Perceived to be Least Corrupt According to the Corruption Perceptions Index 2017 ⁶

2017 Rank	Country	2017 Score	2016 Score	2015 Score	2014 Score	2013 Score
1	New Zealand	89	90	91	91	91
2	Denmark	88	90	91	92	91
3	Finland	85	89	90	89	89
3	Norway	85	85	88	86	86
3	Switzerland	85	86	86	86	85
6	Singapore	84	84	85	84	86
6	Sweden	84	88	89	87	89

New Zealand and Denmark rank highest with scores of 89 and 88 respectively. Syria, South Sudan and Somalia rank lowest with scores of 14, 12 and 9 respectively. The best performing region is Western Europe with an average score of 66. The worst performing regions are Sub-Saharan Africa (average score 32) and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (average score 34).

Further analysis of the results indicates that countries with the least protection for press and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) also tend to have the worst rates of corruption. As such, Transparency International has called upon the global community to take the following actions to curb corruption⁷:

- Governments and businesses must do more to encourage free speech, independent media, political dissent and an open and engaged civil society.
- Governments should minimise regulations on media, including traditional and new media, and ensure that journalists can work without fear of repression or violence. In addition, international donors should consider press freedom relevant to development aid or access to international organisations.

- Civil society and governments should promote laws that focus on access to information. This access helps enhance transparency and accountability while reducing opportunities for corruption. It is important, however, for governments to not only invest in an appropriate legal framework for such laws, but also commit to their implementation.
- Activists and governments should take advantage of the momentum generated by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to advocate and push for reforms at the national and global level. Specifically, governments must ensure access to information and the protection of fundamental freedoms and align these to international agreements and best practices.
- Governments and businesses should proactively disclose relevant public interest information in open data formats. Proactive disclosure of relevant data, including government budgets, company ownership, public procurement and political party finances allows journalists, civil society and affected communities to identify patterns of corrupt conduct more efficiently.

⁶ https://www.transparency.org/news/feature/corruption_perceptions_index_2017

⁷ Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2017

2019

Social Sector
Investment Programme 2019

THE CARIBBEAN SOCIAL SITUATION

2



Chapter 2:

THE CARIBBEAN SOCIAL SITUATION

This chapter highlights some of the major socioeconomic developments and initiatives within the Caribbean region during fiscal 2017/2018.

2.1. Regional Economic Development

2.1.1 Economic Growth

In 2017, the Caribbean region continued to experience economic challenges which were further exacerbated by the devastating effects of the active hurricane season. Fiscal conditions in the Region worsened and public debt remained high. The median fiscal deficit as a percentage of GDP worsened, it increased from 0.7% of GDP in 2016 to 1.6% in 2017. This was reflective of several negative factors including sluggishness in the commodity markets, underperformance of investment programmes, and unchecked public expenditure. Barbados, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago received credit rating downgrades, as the ratings agencies expressed concerns about the levels of deficit and debt, as well as weaknesses in the economic fundamentals. In response, these three states exercised greater fiscal discipline by rationalising public expenditure and introducing revenue-enhancing measures.⁸

In Trinidad and Tobago, the government continued its fiscal consolidation efforts in 2017 as tax revenue continued to fall. Despite a slight increase in energy revenue, the budget deficit was estimated to increase to 8.4% of GDP. Net public debt increased to 62.6% of GDP by September, 2017. The external current account balance recorded a surplus in the first quarter of 2017, on account of higher energy prices.

2.2. Regional Integration

2.2.1. CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME)

In 2017, the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) completed the implementation of 28 projects under the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) and the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) Standby Facilities. Total disbursements in 2017 was US\$1.4mn. Across eleven (11) CARICOM countries, individuals and businesses in the creative arts, manufacturing and public sector, and small and medium sized enterprises benefitted from the development of policy, drafting of legislation, outfitting of equipment for testing laboratories, training and workshops. The CDB also provided grant funding to the Regional Security System (RSS), which coordinates a collective response to security threats impacting the stability of the Region. The funds were used to finance an organisational and strategic review, as well as to develop a risk management system, and a policy on corruption, fraud and bribery.⁹

The Caribbean Development Bank also provided Emergency Relief Grants totalling US\$800,000 to Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas and British Virgin Islands following the passage of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Four Immediate Response Loans totalling US\$2.8mn. were approved to assist with immediate hurricane recovery efforts in Antigua and Barbuda, and the British Virgin Islands. At the end of December 2017, four additional community-based disaster risk management projects were approved under the Caribbean Development Relief Fund (CDRRF). Eight

8 CDB Report 2017

9 CDB Report 2018



CHAPTER 2: THE CARIBBEAN SOCIAL SITUATION

projects are now under implementation in Belize, British Virgin Islands, Jamaica, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.¹⁰

In 2017, the Bank advanced implementation of its Public Policy Analysis and Management and Project Cycle Management Training Programme. One hundred and eighty-six civil servants in Barbados and Grenada benefitted from the training. The Programme blended online and face-to-face courses in public policy analysis and management, results-based management, risk management, procurement management and train-the-trainer techniques. Overall, 98% of respondents to the post-training survey reported that they had improved their skills and knowledge.

Caribbean Governors of the Washington-based Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) met in Jamaica in June 2018, with a focus on helping the Caribbean embrace strategically, the reality of the digital revolution. The seventh (7th) annual Caribbean Governors’ Meeting from February 26-27, 2018, was held under the theme “Jump Caribbean”; the aim of this meeting was to solve problems, improve productivity, generate employment and advance development. The meeting included a series of bilateral and plenary sessions and is intended to prepare the Caribbean Governors and the IDB’s management for the substantive deliberations on the future direction of the institution that are anticipated at the IDB’s annual general meeting to be held in Argentina on March 22-25, 2019.

In June 2018, the Barbados Government indicated that it is prepared to implement “tough decisions” to revitalize its ailing economy, as it recently announced a fiscal reform programme buttressed by a series of new revenue measures. Among the revenue measures announced were the introduction of a new upper income tax band of 40 per cent, an increase in corporate income tax to 30 percent, the imposition of the value added tax (VAT) on online transactions and a range of new taxes and increases in existing imposts on the tourism industry. The Government also announced a tax amnesty and signalled its intent to engage in a process of comprehensive tax reform in the near future. These initiatives, however, are part of an overall fiscal consolidation programme which

is geared to reduce the debt-to-GDP ratio from 175% to 80% over a 10-year period and would necessitate the maintenance of a primary surplus of 6% of GDP over the medium term.¹¹

2.3. Regional Social Development

2.3.1. Human Capital Development

Major challenges to social development and cohesion in the region are the high levels of poverty, inequality, crime, population ageing and weak systems for supporting persons with disabilities. Studies of living conditions and of poverty in the region point to continuing poverty levels in excess of 25 percent, even though the incidence of indigence seems to have fallen, and is now negligible in most countries. The Caribbean’s poor and marginalised are most severely affected by economic and natural shocks. External shocks also affect the most vulnerable due to shrinking public budgets and reduced social services. Responding to these shocks will require a multi-dimensional approach to poverty reduction and building social resilience. Policy measures targeted at the most vulnerable in society are critical.

The Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD) met from the 2–4 May, 2018. The main focus of the meeting was implementation of the Human Resource Development (HRD) 2030 Strategy. The Strategy was endorsed by the Conference of Heads of Government at its Thirty-Eighth Regular Meeting in Grenada in July 2017, based on prior consideration and approval by COHSOD XXXII in March of the same year.

The COHSOD also focussed on the discussion and approval of a Regional Action Plan (2018 – 2020) for the Strategy, and agreement on arrangements for monitoring and evaluation at both regional and national levels of implementation. Specific attention was given to the imperative of inter-sectoral action in the context of approved strategies in the areas of social, economic, environmental and technological resilience, as articulated

10 CDB Report 2017

11 Nation newspaper June 2018

CHAPTER 2: THE CARIBBEAN SOCIAL SITUATION

in the Caribbean Community Strategic Plan (2015 – 2019). Some of the topics included early childhood education, tertiary and secondary development, developing youth who were already out of school and training of managers.

Accordingly, to develop knowledge workers for 2030, the Caribbean needs to give priority to increasing the number of students undertaking science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) programmes at universities and technical institutes. Moreover, these broad skills would provide the flexibility that is required for workers to adapt to changes in sectors and activities in a knowledge-driven economy. There is also the need to reduce youth unemployment with entry-level and second-chance programmes that improve their capacity to find meaningful employment. Priority should also be given to institutionalising a system of continuous learning to encourage workers to upgrade their skills with support from Governments and private sector.

The CDB also made critical interventions in education, which emphasised the promotion of sustainable sector outcomes, which would have significant implications for human capital development. This was achieved primarily through a focus on quality and the enhancement of education systems. Three major activities included: the finalisation and approval of the Bank's Education and Training Policy and Strategy (ETPS); the launch of a Framework for the Advancement of Mathematics Education (FAME); and provision of training designed to enhance the capacity of teachers and school administrators in instructional effectiveness and leadership. The Bank approved a grant to strengthen the capacity of the Caribbean Examinations Council to implement and assess the Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (CAPE) in Environmental Studies. It will also enhance the skills of 240 Environmental Science teachers to deliver the CAPE Environmental Science curriculum. This support is expected to improve the performance of 5,000 students by 2021 and increase public awareness of issues related to climate change, natural disasters and energy conservation.

Critical to human capital development is the leveraging of information and communication technology (ICT) to facilitate those in school and those who wish to study from their homes. ICT should be used to deliver creative training programmes both for youths and adults in their

communities to enable them to keep abreast of new developments in their fields. In this regard, the region needs to develop a more active ICT policy to reduce the 'digital divide' both within and among countries in the region. Governments must also encourage local content provision to build local programming for local and international consumption through government media platforms.

Human capital development can also be supported by encouraging members of the diaspora to return to the Caribbean to share their skills and technical capabilities. This can be complemented by online training and mentorship programmes to guide and encourage youths to set up their own businesses. Governments would need to focus on the ease of doing business to create an environment to help nationals living abroad, who have a business interest, to return home. Many of these persons may bring to the country specialised skills and experience to benefit the local economy. Improving administrative systems for reintegrating them in the society and helping them to quickly set up businesses can improve their contribution to the society. Free movement under the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) should be fully implemented to enhance the human capital base, especially of countries with deficits in certain skills and expertise.

2.3.2. Social Security

In the area of Social Security, delegates from across the Caribbean Region met at the St. Kitts Marriott Resort, 6-9 June, 2018, for the 29th CARICOM Heads of Social Security Meeting. This meeting held discussions on Strengthening Implementation of the CARICOM Agreement on Social Security; Submission of Data on the CARICOM Agreement; Proposed Social Security Intervention Under the Eleventh European Development Fund; Advancing Social Security in the Caribbean Community; Social Security Training Programmes and International Social Security Matters.

The meeting also focused on three key areas for the sustainability of Social Security systems:

- i. The adoption of a fiscal resilience framework by Regional Governments to help safeguard the sustainability of Social Security schemes;



CHAPTER 2: THE CARIBBEAN SOCIAL SITUATION

- ii. Governments and Social Security Boards ought to adopt a sense of urgency about implementation of key reforms and
- iii. Collective action, as a region, was essential to manage risks and seize opportunities that confront Social Security schemes.¹²

One of the critical recommendations suggested was the pursuance of a more functional cooperation among Social Security schemes in areas such as corporate governance, research and development and investment.

2.3.3. Employment

The Meeting of ILO Directors was held in Port of Spain, Trinidad from 19 to 20 February, 2018. Directors of Offices in Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, Cuba, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago and the Inter-American Centre for Knowledge Development on Vocational Training (CINTERFOR) in Uruguay met in Trinidad and Tobago for the first time. The Directors reviewed the main insights from the 2017 Labour Overview report which was launched earlier in the year. They discussed advancements in ILO’s work in the region and plans for 2018, including Country Implementation Plans along the three regional priorities:

1. Productive development policies for inclusive growth and more and better jobs;
2. Transition to formality; and
3. Respect for and application of international labour standards and legislation.¹³

In Trinidad and Tobago, the Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC) launched its guidelines on Sexual Harassment on the occasion of International Women’s Day 9 March 2018, during a panel discussion hosted at the Offices of the Attorney General, Government Campus, Port-of-Spain. The guidelines aimed to assist employers and managers in better understanding the application of law while providing them with a legal framework for understanding the need to demonstrate leadership in the workplace in order to create a culture of zero tolerance for sexual harassment.

12 CARICOM News 2018

13 ILO. Org 2018

On 7 March 2018, members of the Caribbean Employers’ Confederation (CEC) and the Caribbean Congress of Labour (CCL) Working Group met in Port of Spain, Trinidad, to implement decisions adopted at the Regional Bipartite meeting held in September 2017. The working group meeting facilitated by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) addressed three pertinent regional issues: (i) Contingent rights; (ii) Minimum labour standards; and (iii) Social Protection. On social protection, the working group acknowledged efforts in implementing the CARICOM Agreement on Social Security (CASS) and noted that more work was required regarding its administration by social security institutions. Additionally, a call to ensure the financial sustainability of the social security schemes in the region was reiterated and the need for each jurisdiction to build a complete and coherent social protection floor was addressed. The working group also supported the development of a CARICOM strategy on social protection¹⁴.

The Caribbean has an acute unemployment problem, particularly among the youth. Not only is youth unemployment high relative to global levels, it is also significantly higher than adult unemployment. Youth unemployment is as high as 40% in some jurisdictions.

Implementation of interventions to address youth unemployment in the Region would require the support and involvement of several stakeholders. In this regard, the UN and the ILO are key institutions in the action agenda in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Decent Work Agenda respectively. Other relevant international agencies operating in the area of youth in the Caribbean include: United States Agency for International Development (USAID); the Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and the United Kingdom (UK) Department for International Development (DfID). All of these agencies present opportunities for financing and technical assistance..

At a regional level, the key agencies would be: CARICOM and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Secretariat, the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC), the Caribbean Association of National Training Associations (CANTA), and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). Given the importance of human resource

14 ILO.org

development to the implementation of the overall action agenda, the CARICOM Commission on Human Resource Development continues to comprehensively review the educational and human resource development systems in the Region to ultimately align them with '21st Century competencies, competitiveness and sustainability'.¹⁵

2.3.4. Sustainable Development Goals

The Caribbean is faced with a dual challenge: to boost inclusive economic growth, and to build multidimensional progress which contributes to eradicating poverty in all its forms, tackling vulnerability at the state, household, and individual levels, and ensuring sustainability.

According to the Caribbean Human Development Report 2016, the holistic and multidimensional nature of the SDG agenda require an integrated approach capable of moving beyond narrow bureaucratic mandates to encourage coordination and efforts to achieve strategic goals specific to each country. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent an opportunity to adopt a new way of building resilience and integrating economic, social and environmental dimensions worldwide, including peace and justice. In the Caribbean sub-region, Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) mainstreaming has chiefly been done by aligning the SDGs with national development plans.

2.3.5. An Ageing Caribbean

Fertility rates have been continuously declining and the median age of the population has been steadily on the rise and now stands at about 30 years old. While the region continues to experience net out-migration, there are a few countries where net migration levels are close to zero, for example in Trinidad and Tobago, St. Lucia and Barbados.¹⁶ The result has been that for many Caribbean countries, population sizes are expected to plateau and subsequently fall within the next 20 years, occurring much sooner for countries experiencing ageing at faster rates. Concomitantly, most countries are expected to

experience declining working-age (25-64) populations by 2050.

It is anticipated that this will be accompanied by a more than doubling of the elderly population (65+), which would then constitute a larger percentage of the population than youth (15-24). Even those countries not forecasted to experience an outstripping of the youth population by the elderly, nor a fall in the working age population by this time, would see a doubling of the elderly (65+) cohort over the same period.¹⁷

Population ageing may be one possible explanation for high current youth unemployment rates, as well as high ratios of youth to total unemployment in the region. In a phenomenon described as "clogging", Caribbean youths enter, and will continue to enter for the next several decades, a labour market in which the working age population comprises large and growing cohorts of older workers as the population ages. The result of this dynamic is that jobs take longer to be vacated for young people to move into, leading to higher youth unemployment and underemployment rates in the future if left unaddressed.

2.3.6. Crime and Security

In June 2018, Grenada became the sixth country in the Eastern and Southern Caribbean to establish a national task force to drive implementation of the United States government-supported CariSECURE project. Since 2016, CariSECURE, which is being implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has been promoting the use of evidence-based decision-making and fosters a reliance on valid, reliable, and comparable citizen security data. Using this approach, Grenada would be in a better position to identify trends; assess crime and violence conditions; evaluate policies; and design effective crime prevention strategies targeting youth.¹⁸ The CariSECURE Project would provide public institutions in Grenada with necessary tools, including the Caribbean Citizen Security Toolkit, as well as the capacity-building and guidance they need to make evidence-informed

¹⁵ ECLAC Report 2017

¹⁶ ILO.org

¹⁷ ILO.org

¹⁸ Caribbean News Now 2018



CHAPTER 2: THE CARIBBEAN SOCIAL SITUATION

decisions, and design policies to address the underlying causes of violence and crime.

2.3.7. Cyber Security

Progress on the development of the Single ICT space in the Caribbean region and cyber security, were among the main areas that ICT officials discussed on June 7, 2018. Discussions on the Single ICT space covered matters such as the digital citizenship, and sectoral linkages. The officials also focussed on guidelines for ICT in Disaster Risk Reduction Management. Those deliberations were made against the background of intensified natural disasters that continued to negatively impact CARICOM Member States, and the communication disruption that occurs. The meeting also addressed global issues that would have an impact on the region’s ICT agenda. As global discussions were being held on the European Union General Data Protection Regulation, the Senior ICT Officials also focussed on how this could affect the Data Privacy and Protection laws in the Region, and the impact on citizens and various industries and sectors.

2.3.8. Human Trafficking

This social problem has intensified in the Caribbean region on an annual basis, especially in the state of Guyana. According to the Stabroek News of Guyana, which used the figures released by the Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs, “in the year 2016: 21,165 Cubans arrived and 19,225 left Guyana, a disparity of around 2,000. In 2017, there was an increase, 44,747 Cubans arrived and only 37,492 departed, with approximately 7,000 unaccounted for. For 2018, the trend continued, as up to April, 22,520 Cubans had arrived but only 16,350 had been reported as having departed”.

On a more positive note in April 2018, nearly 350 potential victims of sexual exploitation and forced labour have been rescued in an INTERPOL-coordinated operation targeting human trafficking in the Caribbean, Central and South America. More than 500 police officers in 13 countries also arrested 22 individuals during Operation Libertad (3–9 April, 2018), held under the INTERPOL Project to Combat Human Trafficking in the Caribbean. The operation was the culmination of the two-and-a-half year project funded by the government of Canada,

which provided specialized training to investigators and immigration officers in order to enhance operational expertise and regional coordination to combat human trafficking.¹⁹

2.3.9. Gender Mainstreaming

Significantly reducing poverty in Caribbean societies and ensuring that the economy operates at or near to full potential, will require gender-mainstreamed policies, particularly where they relate to the labour market. Available data indicate that the majority of households living in poverty are headed by women. This usually arises as a result of unequal pay for women in the labour market, and labour market time opportunity costs associated with childcare. CARICOM therefore advocates that all policies be gender-assessed and marked to assess how the policy will affect both men and women, and to ensure as far as possible that there is equal treatment under the policy for all genders.

In this regard, the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) increased its focus on reducing gender-based violence (GBV), a persistent and pervasive issue, which threatens resilience and severely damages the human capital base of the region. The Bank, in collaboration with UN Women, provided support to enhance technical capacity at the regional level to collect systematic, harmonised and comparable data on GBV which could be used to inform evidence-based decision-making. The Bank also continued to support the Legal Aid and Counselling Clinic in Grenada in providing psychosocial and psycho-educational interventions to victims and perpetrators of GBV.

Regarding gender and violence, a Regional Workshop on Intra-family and Domestic Violence was held during 20–22 June, 2018 at the CARICOM Secretariat in Georgetown, Guyana. The Regional Workshop, targeted statisticians and gender experts from all CARICOM Member States, as well as policy makers, law enforcement officers and shelter managers who work with victims/perpetrators of domestic/family violence. The workshop identified gaps in the present system and fostered a culture of cooperation among statisticians and technical

¹⁹ Caribbean News now 2019

experts working on the issues and how best to decipher the indicators, as well as to introduce participants to data gathering software. The workshop also sought to advance initiatives that were already in progress in the areas of gender, crime and violence relative to the CARICOM core list of global indicators from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as approved by the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD) in May 2018.²⁰

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago presented the National Policy on Gender and Development for adoption in 2018 as Government's official policy on Gender and Development. While there have been significant strides in gender equality and the status of women in recent years, this National Policy can be the catalyst "for the achievement of full equality between men and women, and their equitable participation on in political, economic, social, cultural and family life. The ILO was among numerous stakeholders consulted during the development and drafting of the Policy. The Policy also reflects robust research and a thorough analysis of the current development status of Trinidad and Tobago in order to identify the needs and priorities of men and women, boys and girls, as well as the inequalities faced in accessing opportunities and resulting outcomes.

2.3.10. Health – Communicable/ Non-Communicable Diseases

The Region's healthcare systems and the public health infrastructure are in urgent need of attention and should be better financed and more cost effective. Strengthening health systems has been identified as a priority area for the Caribbean from as early as 1984 and has remained so due in part to an upward spiral in health cost and finite resources. Greater investment is urgently needed especially in cost effective health promotion, disease prevention and population health measures.

The Pan-Caribbean Partnership against HIV and AIDS (PANCAP), the mechanism that provides a structured and unified approach to the Caribbean's response to the HIV epidemic, held the Second Regional Meeting of Youth Leaders on Sexual and Reproductive Health and

HIV and AIDS on 18 May 2018 in Port-of-Spain, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.²¹ The priority areas included:

1. the dissonance between the age of sexual consent (16 years), and the age for independent access to health care (18 years), and
2. the implementation of Comprehensive Sexuality Education in all schools in the Caribbean and (3) Gender inclusive laws that protect victims of sexual exploitation.

The Meeting reached agreements on innovative and practical actions for advancing the key priority areas identified in the Caribbean Regional Youth Advocacy Framework (CRYAF) on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, as well as on key issues for advocacy within the respective countries. The meeting focused on creating effective methods to advocate for the aforementioned key issues, which have a direct impact on the quality of life of young people, especially young key populations: young gay men, men who have sex with men (MSM), and transgender-persons, who have the highest HIV prevalence in the region.

The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO) signed an agreement to enhance capacity for mental health and psychosocial support in disaster management in the Caribbean. The project aims to build capacity for mental health and psychosocial support within the health sector through regional and in-country training within the sector, as well as with agencies outside the sector, and the broader community. In addition, the project is expected to lead to the establishment of a roster of mental health professionals in the Caribbean, who can be mobilised to assist affected countries in the event of an emergency.

Other project components include strengthening countries' competencies to conduct mental health and psychosocial support needs assessments and create action plans for mental health care and psychosocial support in disaster management. A communications campaign will also be developed for roll-out during the Atlantic Hurricane Season, to increase awareness and acceptance of the need for mental health services in

20 CARICOM.org - June 2018

21 CARICOM Press Release May 2018



the aftermath of a disaster. Special attention will be paid to emphasising the different needs of various groups that are often at greater risk during a disaster situation, such as children and adolescents; women; the elderly; indigenous people; those with pre-existing mental disorders; migrants; persons with disabilities; homeless persons; and those living in shelters.

2.3.11. Disaster Management – Environmental Stability

Approximately 50 delegates from the Region attended a CARICOM workshop held in Guyana, 14-15 June, 2018, to continue the development of a CARICOM Biodiversity Strategy (CBS). The Strategy will serve as the framework for support to CARICOM Member States, Cuba and the Dominican Republic, to implement the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity’s Strategic Plan 2011-2020. The CBS is an output under the Caribbean Hub sub-component of Phase II of the Programme for Capacity-Building related to Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. The programme is supported by the European Union (EU) and UN Environment. The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) is facilitating the development of the CBS for the CARICOM Secretariat

The Guyana workshop hosted representatives from CARICOM Member States, regional and national Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), academia, international organisations and the private sector. Delegates were expected to review and add to previously articulated stakeholder priorities from national and regional consultations and online surveys.

With an additional budget of €40M, the EU would also be providing support to 12 of its ‘overseas territories’ through a regional programme for the Caribbean. Climate Change has been identified as a “burning priority” of the EU for which it is using 20 per cent of the funds from the contributors by 2020 for projects and programmes related to Climate Change or Disaster Risk Reduction.

2.4. Regional Dialogue

The Thirty-Ninth Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) took place at the Montego Bay Convention Centre, Montego Bay, Jamaica on the 4–6 July 2018, under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister of Jamaica, Hon. Andrew Holness.

Heads of Government met in Plenary and Caucus on 5–6 July, 2018, to deliberate on matters of importance to the Caribbean Community, including measures impacting the implementation of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME), Crime and Security in the Region and emerging geo-political developments which can have an impact on the Region’s growth prospects.

A number of recommendations including strengthening the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas to better serve disadvantaged countries, regions and sectors; improvement in functional cooperation, foreign policy coordination, security arrangements and trade activities of the Single Market; restructuring of the CARICOM Secretariat and improvements in air and sea transportation were discussed. Some of the significant outcomes of the meeting were as follows:

- **CSME:** Heads agreed that, the Lead Head of Government with responsibility for CSME and/or the Secretary General should convene, at least on an annual basis, stakeholder consultations on the CSME.
- **Security Issues:** Member states were advised to urgently update all legal instruments required to combat crime and enhance regional security.
- **Marijuana Reclassification:** Heads agreed that action should be taken at the national level by relevant authorities to review marijuana’s current status, with a view to reclassification taking into account all international obligations.
- **Non-Communicable Diseases:** Heads endorsed six (6) priorities on the CARICOM Region should advocate at the Third United Nations High-Level Meeting on Non-Communicable Diseases: (1) Establishing and maintaining a smoke-free status for the Region; (2) Implementing policies geared to preventing childhood obesity, including

health-promoting school environment and Front of Packaging (FOP) labelling; (3) Promoting the elimination of cancer of the cervix; Support for mitigation of post-disaster vulnerabilities related to NCDs in particular: nutrition, treatment and care; Increasing international financing and technical support; and Strengthening accountability through national coordinating mechanisms.

- **External Trade and Economic Relations:** With respect to negotiations for African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP)/European Union (EU) successor agreement to the Cotonou Partnership Agreement, Heads reiterated that, any new agreement should maintain the core geographic and geopolitical character of the ACP Group and that CARICOM would continue to remain actively involved in the negotiations.
- **Border Issues:** Belize-Guatemala Relations - Heads underscored their unwavering support for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of Belize. Guyana-Venezuela Relations – Heads reiterated their firm and unswerving support for the maintenance and preservation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana.
- **Legal Instruments signed:** Multilateral Air Service Agreement; CARICOM Arrest Warrant Treaty; Revised Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Examination Council (CXC); Protocol Amending the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas to Incorporate the Council for National Security and Law Enforcement (CONSLE) as an Organ of the CARICOM IMPACS as an Institution of the Community; Protocol on Contingent Rights.

CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME):

At the Special Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development COTED held on 14 June, 2018, in Georgetown, Guyana, decisions were taken on Article 164 of the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas, and progress on matters related to the Caribbean. A specific area of concern was the establishment of a Working Group or Task Force to look at the creation of a Regional Development Strategy and Roadmap. The open-ended body will have as one of its mandates, the promotion of cross-border sharing of information and best practices to identify the optimal benefits of assistance from

International Development Partners (IDPs). The decision came against the background of discussions on shaping the Region's economic development thrust in the current environment, as more persons were becoming more aware of the global realities, and consequently the need to make the CSME more functional and beneficial to the Caribbean people.

In this context, CARICOM held discussions on the outcome of the Stakeholder Consultation on the CSME which was held in Georgetown 8-9 June, 2018. Among the key areas participants identified at the Consultation for attention were, governance of the CSME; identification of the benefits of the programme; the role of the private sector in policy development; simplification of the processes associated with the CSME and the necessity for a data- and results-driven approach.

2.5. Outlook for 2019

Looking ahead, the Region is expected to grow by 2% in 2018, benefiting from a projected increase in global economic growth, but there are still risks that could militate against growth potential. Mitigating these risks will require improved resilience on many levels. Macroeconomic stability, increased competitiveness, improved human development, and environmental preparedness are all necessary conditions to improve resilience, and ensure sustainable, inclusive growth and development.

The IMF is forecasting that global growth will increase in both 2018 and 2019 to 3.9%, from 3.7% in 2017, reflecting existing growth momentum and tax policy changes in the United States. However, the IMF warns against complacency, citing medium-term downside risks, such as a correction in financial markets; inward-looking policies; geopolitical tensions; and political uncertainty in some countries.

At the regional level, exposure to global risks are high, but there are also the known risks associated with natural disasters and other weather-related events. The increasing frequency and intensity of these events highlight the need to improve resilience. By increasing their resilience, Caribbean Countries can put themselves in a position to ensure that vulnerabilities are reduced, so that growth is sustained and inclusive.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO IN THE CONTEXT OF THE CARIBBEAN

3



Chapter 3:**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO IN THE
CONTEXT OF THE CARIBBEAN**

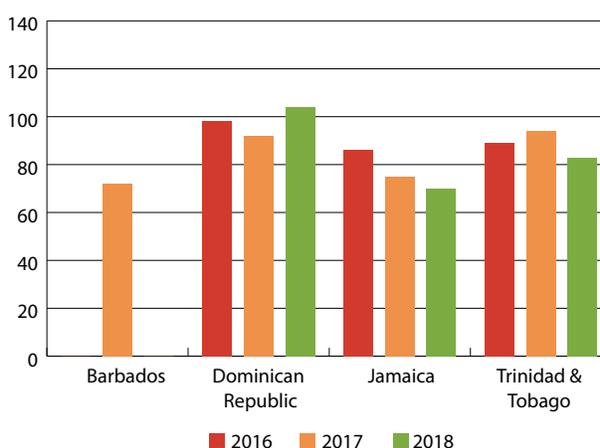
This chapter analyses Trinidad and Tobago's socio-economic performance in comparison with other selected Caribbean countries over the three-year period, 2016 – 2018. The analysis utilises the following: Global Competitiveness Report, Global Gender Gap Report, Human Development Index, World Happiness Report, Global Peace Index and the Corruption Perceptions Index.

**3.1. Global
Competitiveness**

As in 2015-2016, Barbados was excluded from the 2017-2018 GCR. The 2017-2018 edition of the Global Competitiveness Report assesses 137 economies.

In the face of economic challenges within the Caribbean region, Jamaica continued to show improvement in the GCR (see figure 3.I). There was improvement over the period 2016-2018; its ranking rose from 86th in 2016 (with a score of 3.97), to 75th in 2017 (with a score of 4.13), and to 70th in 2018 (with a score of 4.25). The Dominican Republic's performance on the GCR fluctuated over the period. In 2016, it was ranked 98th with a score of 3.86. There was improvement in 2017; it was ranked 92nd with a score of 3.94. The country's ranking then fell to 104th with a score of 3.87.

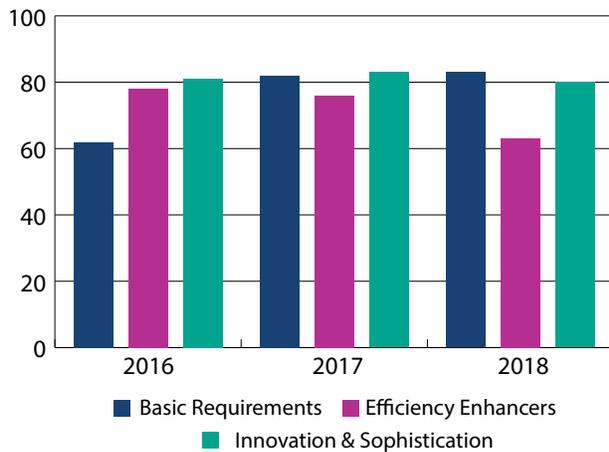
Figure 3.I Global Competitiveness Rankings for Selected Caribbean Countries for the Period 2016 -2018



Trinidad and Tobago's overall GCR fluctuated during the 3-year period under review. The country scored 3.94 in 2016 and ranked at 89th out of 140 countries. This ranking fell in 2017 to 94th out of 138 countries, with a score of 3.93. There was, however, an improvement in 2018 when the country advanced 11 places up the index to a ranking of 83rd out of 137 countries, with a score of 4.09. Trinidad and Tobago was able to show marginal improvement in the sub-indices Basic Requirements and Innovation and Sophistication factors. However, the most improvement was seen in Efficiency Enhancers, where there was an increase in score from 4.03 in 2017 to 4.24 in 2018 (see figure 3.II).



Figure 3.II: Trinidad and Tobago’s Sub-Indices for the Period 2016–2018



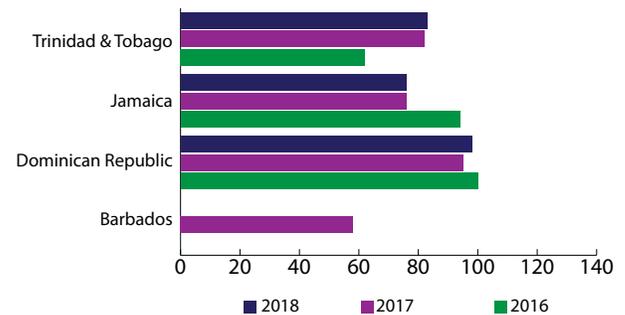
Trinidad and Tobago’s performance under sub-index Basic Requirements continued to decline over the reference period (see figure 3.III). The ranking fell from 62nd in 2016, to 82nd in 2017, to 83rd in 2018. Innovation and Sophistication factors fluctuated during this period with rankings of 81st, 83rd and 80th, respectively. Consistent improvement was shown under the sub-index Efficiency Enhancers during the period under review. Its ranking increased gradually from 78th in 2016, to 76th in 2017 and to 63rd in 2018.

There was fluctuation in performance under the pillars within each sub-index throughout the 3-year period (see figure 3.VI). Under the sub-index Basic Requirements, the pillar “institutions” showed gradual improvement while the ranking under “infrastructure” declined. “Health and primary education” remained relatively stable while “macroeconomic environment” showed marginal improvement in 2018 after a significant drop in ranking in 2017. There were improvements in rankings in each pillar under sub-index Efficiency Enhancers from year 2017 to 2018. Most notably, “higher education and training” showed an upward movement of 41 places from its 74th ranking in 2017 to 33rd in 2018.

Under sub-index Basic Requirements, Jamaica was able to maintain its ranking of 76 in year 2018 while both Trinidad and Tobago’s and the Dominican Republic’s rankings declined marginally to 83rd and 98th respectively. Barbados, which was not represented in the GCR 2017-2018, was ranked 58th under Basic

Requirements in 2016-2017. Within this sub-index, Trinidad and Tobago recorded its best performance under pillars “infrastructure” (59th) and “health and primary education” (60th) while Dominican Republic continued its best performance under “macroeconomic environment” (49th). Jamaica’s best rankings for 2018 under basic requirements were under “institutions” (63rd) and “health and primary education” (46th).

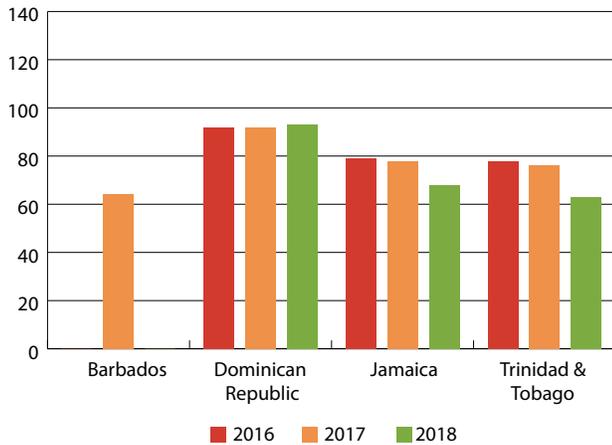
Figure 3.III: Basic Requirements Sub-Index



Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica made significant improvement under efficiency enhancers sub-index. Trinidad and Tobago advanced from 76th to 63rd in the rankings, while Jamaica moved from 78th to 68th (see figure 3.IV). Dominican Republic, however, declined marginally over the period, from 92nd in 2016 and 2017 to 93rd in 2018. Barbados, excluded from the GCR 2018, ranked 64th in 2017.

Trinidad and Tobago’s rise in the rankings under Efficiency Enhancers was mainly attributed to improvements made in pillars “higher education and training” where it moved from 74th in 2017 to 33rd in 2018, and “financial market development” where it moved from 61st to 51st. Jamaica showed its greatest improvements under pillars “higher education and training” (90th to 72nd) and “labour market efficiency” (60th to 46th). The Dominican Republic’s marginal decline under efficiency enhancers was mainly due to its performances in “goods market efficiency”, “labour market efficiency”, “financial market development” and “technological readiness”. In particular, this country fell in position from 87th to 99th under “financial market development” and from 106th to 115th under “goods market efficiency”.

Figure 3.IV: Efficiency Enhancers Sub-Index for the Period 2016–2018



Under the sub-index “innovation and sophistication factors”, Trinidad and Tobago advanced 3 places in 2018 to 80th and Jamaica advanced 7 places to 54th (see figure 3.V). Dominican Republic, however, continued to decline under this sub-index, moving from 99th in 2017 to 105th place in 2018. Barbados was ranked at 51st under this sub-index in 2017.

Trinidad and Tobago’s improvement was seen in its performance under the pillar “business sophistication” where it advanced from 67th to 65th, and under “innovation” where it improved from 105th to 102nd. Jamaica improved under “business sophistication” from 57th to 51st and under “innovation” from 70th to 64th. Dominican Republic’s decline under this sub-index was seen in its fall from position 77th to 85th in “business sophistication” and 114th to 120th under “innovation”.

Figure 3.V: Innovation & Sophistication Factors Sub-Index (2016–2018)

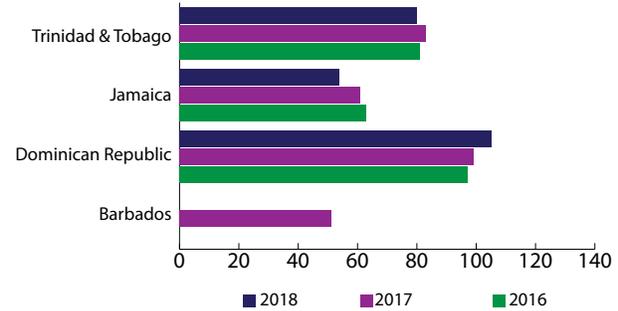
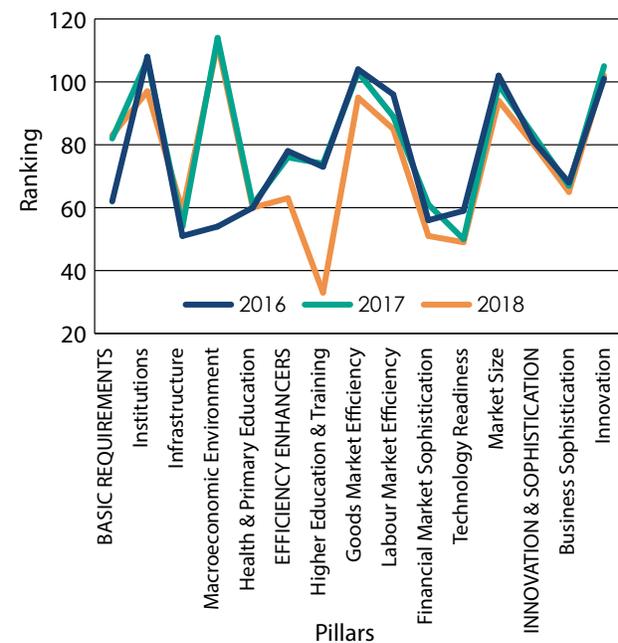


Figure 3.VI: Trinidad and Tobago’s Sub-Indices Pillars for the Period 2016–2018



According to the GCR 2017, each country was surveyed on the most problematic factors of doing business. (See Table 3.1, which highlights the Top 3 problematic factors of doing business in selected Caribbean countries).



Table 3.1: Top 3 Problematic Factors of Doing Business in Selected Caribbean Countries

RANK	BARBADOS	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	JAMAICA	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
1	Poor work ethic in national labour force	Corruption	Crime and theft	Poor work ethic in national labour force
2	Inefficient government bureaucracy	Tax rates	Inefficient government bureaucracy	Corruption
3	Tax rates	Inefficient government bureaucracy	Tax rates	Inefficient government bureaucracy

3.2. Global Gender Gap

According to the Global Gender Gap Report (GGGR) 2017, no country in the world has fully closed the gender gap. Only one country from the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Region, Nicaragua, has been able to close more than 80 percent of its gender gap. Barbados has been able to close approximately 75 percent; Bahamas 72 percent of the gender gap. Brazil, Belize, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Honduras, Colombia and Jamaica all ranged between 68 percent and 72 percent.

As in the GGGR 2016, Barbados continued to occupy the top rank among Caribbean countries in the GGGR 2017 ranking. However, Nicaragua, with a rank of 6 and a score of 0.814, is the best performer among the countries of the LAC. According to the report, Nicaragua “remains the best-performing country in the region for the sixth year in a row”. Barbados is ranked 23rd with a score of 0.750, followed by Cuba with a rank of 25 and a score of 0.745, Bahamas with a rank of 27 and a score of 0.743, Jamaica with a rank of 51 and a score of 0.717 and the Dominican Republic with a score of 0.697. Barbados had improved from its ranking of 28 in the GGGR 2016 ranking, so has the Bahamas, which ranked 37th in the GGGR 2016 ranking. Barbados was among the best-performing in the region and globally on closing the Economic Participation and Opportunity gender gap, achieving parity at the level of female legislators, senior officials and managers; a similar profile is shared by the Bahamas. Jamaica made progress in the areas of political empowerment, healthy life expectancy and wage equality for similar work. While Cuba ranked among the lowest countries in the region in

the Economic Participation and Opportunity sub-index, it fully closed the gender gap in Educational Attainment for the second consecutive year. Trinidad and Tobago was not included on the GGGR 2017 ranking.²²

3.3. Human Development

Human development is measured by the Human Development Index, which is reflective of human well-being and is therefore perceived as a relatively more sensitive measurement or indices of development that incorporates variables beyond the Gross National Product (GNP) that was created to emphasize human choices and welfare. The Human Development Report (HDR), produced by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), is an annual document that has been published since 1990.

According to the 2018 Human Development Index (HDI) Ranking, Trinidad and Tobago HDI attained a ranking of 69 out of 189 countries, with a score of 0.784; between 1990 and 2017, Trinidad and Tobago’s HDI score increased from 0.672 to 0.784, an increase of 16.7 percent. Bahamas ranked 54 (with a score of 0.807), Barbados ranked 58 (with a score of 0.800) and Jamaica ranked 97 (with a score of 0.732). Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago improved their ranking from the 2016 levels of 58 and 69, respectively. Barbados and Jamaica regressed, compared to their 2016 rankings of 54 and 94, respectively.

22 Global Gender Report 2017

The scores for Bahamas, Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago are all above the average of 0.757 for countries in the high human development group, and above the average of 0.758 for countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

3.4. World Happiness

The World Happiness Report measures the level of happiness of countries. Happiness is considered as a measure of social progress. The index is calculated based on six factors: levels of GDP, life expectancy, generosity, social support, freedom and corruption. According to the World Happiness Report 2018 Trinidad and Tobago ranked 38 out of 156 countries; Jamaica ranked 56; and the Dominican Republic ranked 83. Compared to the ranking in the World Happiness Report 2017, Trinidad and Tobago's ranking remained constant, ranking 38 out of 155 countries. Jamaica and the Dominican Republic recorded improvements on their preceding rankings of 76 and 86, respectively.

3.5. Global Peace Index

The Global Peace Index (GPI) ranks independent states and territories according to their level of peacefulness and is the world's leading measure of global peacefulness. This index is generated by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP). The report presents the most comprehensive data driven analysis to date on trends in peace, its economic value, and how to develop peaceful societies. This index is also measured by the level of societal safety and security, the

extent of ongoing domestic and international conflict and the degree of militarisation. According to the 2018 Global Peace Index (GPI), the greatest challenge to peace in Central America and the Caribbean is crime and corruption, that for the last eight years, the region had the worse scores in the index for homicides rates, violent crime, and perceptions of criminality. Central to the region's problem is that of organised crime from transnational narco-trafficking in Central and South America and parts of the Caribbean and gang activities. In the 2018 report, Trinidad and Tobago ranked 84 out of 163 countries, which was an improvement on its 97 ranking out of 163 countries in the 2017 Peace Index; Jamaica ranked 90, compared to 92 in 2017; Guyana ranked 82 compared to 81 in 2017; and the Dominican Republic had a ranking of 91, which was a significant improvement on its ranking of 99 in 2017.

3.6. Corruption

As outlined in Chapter 1, the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) scores countries on how corrupt their governments are perceived to be. It is published by Transparency International, an organisation that seeks to stop bribery and other forms of public corruption.

In the last few years, Latin America and the Caribbean made great strides in the fight against corruption. Laws and systems exist to curb corruption, and citizen anti-corruption movements are growing in many countries across the region. However, according to the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2017, the region continues to score poorly for corruption. Table 3.II outlines the CPI ranks and scores for selected Caribbean countries for the period 2013-2017.



CHAPTER 3: TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO IN THE CONTEXT OF THE CARIBBEAN

Table 3.II: CPI Ranks and Scores for Selected Caribbean Countries for the Period 2013-2017²³

2017 Rank	Country	2017 Score	2016 Score	2015 Score	2014 Score	2013 Score
25	Barbados	68	61	n/a	74	75
28	Bahamas	65	66	n/a	71	71
40	St. Vincent & the Grenadines	58	60	n/a	62	62
42	Dominica	57	59	n/a	58	58
48	St Lucia	55	60	n/a	71	71
68	Jamaica	44	39	41	38	38
77	Trinidad & Tobago	41	35	39	38	38
77	Suriname	41	45	36	36	36

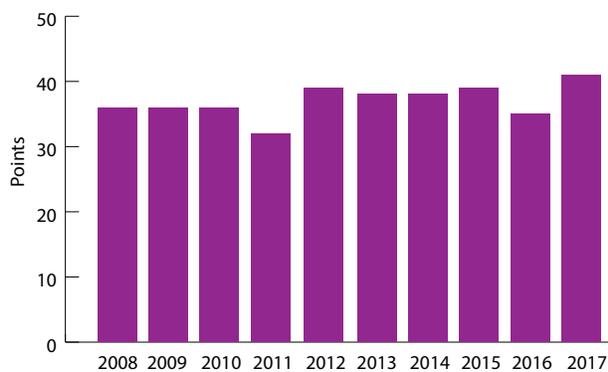
According to the 2017 CPI, Barbados scored 68 with a ranking of 25, while St. Vincent & the Grenadines, St Lucia and Jamaica scored 58, 55 and 44 and ranked 40, 48 and 68 respectively. Trinidad and Tobago improved in its ranking, moving from 101 in 2016, to 77 in 2017.

Trinidad and Tobago scored 41 and averaged 39.06 Points from 2001 until 2017, reaching an all-time high of 53 Points in 2001 and a record low of 32 Points in 2006.

In the Caribbean, the Bahamas recently passed a law on access to public information and Guyana created transparent mechanisms for public procurement. In addition, in Jamaica, a consolidated anti-corruption agency was formed to conduct investigations.

While progress has been made to combat corruption in several countries, there are still no overarching policies in place to address the historic and structural causes of corruption throughout the region.

Figure 3.VII: Trinidad and Tobago Corruption Index²⁴



23 https://www.transparency.org/news/feature/corruption_perceptions_index_2017

24 Tradingeconomics.com/Transparency International

2019

Social Sector
Investment Programme 2019

THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

4

“Supporting Families
as the Bedrock of Society”



Chapter 4:

THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

This Chapter focuses on advancements made in Trinidad and Tobago's social sector during fiscal 2017/2018 towards achievement of the National Development Strategy (Vision 2030) and meeting the commitments of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

4.1. Introduction

During 2017/2018, the Trinidad and Tobago economy experienced slowdown on account of contractions in the energy sector and minimal growth in the non-energy sector²⁵. However, there was some indication of recovery towards the second half of the fiscal year.

Despite the ensuing challenges for revenue generation, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago maintained its support for the social sector, so as to stay on course towards realisation of the Vision 2030 agenda and Trinidad and Tobago's commitments to the Sustainable Developmental Goals (SDGs). The social sector initiatives outlined in the following sections are aligned to the Vision 2030 themes (see Figure 4.1) that are directly relevant to the social sector.

Figure 4.1: Alignment of Chapter to VISION 2030 Themes and Goals

4.2. Theme I: Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset

- 4.2.1. Goal 2: Social services delivery will be improved to better serve the needs of vulnerable groups
- 4.2.2. Goal 3: Citizens will have access to adequate and affordable housing
- 4.2.3. Goal 4: The healthcare system of Trinidad and Tobago will be sustainable and modern and deliver higher standards of healthcare
- 4.2.4. Goal 7: Trinidad and Tobago will have a modern, relevant education and training system

4.3. Theme II: Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence

- 4.3.1. Goal 3: Public service delivery will be customer focused
- 4.3.2. Goal 4: A modern, legal, regulatory and law enforcement system

4.2. Theme I: Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset

'Putting people first' requires that all relevant services and products across the social sector, that are necessary for sustainable human and social development, are available and delivered, utilising systems and processes that would facilitate the most effective outcomes for individuals and families. Goals 2, 3 and 4 of the National Development Strategy, are relevant in this regard.

²⁵Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, Summary Economic Indicators, June 2018.



4.2.1. Goal 2: Social services delivery will be improved to better serve the needs of vulnerable groups

The following sections outline key initiatives implemented during fiscal 2018, which were geared towards improving social services delivery:

A. National Social Mitigation Plan

The National Social Mitigation Plan for Trinidad and Tobago was developed as a response to the potential psychosocial, social and economic effects associated with the economic downturn, as it was evident that persons were already being affected in a myriad of ways. The NSMP outlines the strategies and actions to cushion the effects of the economic downturn on vulnerable groups and create opportunities for them to cope and recover in the short-term and to build the resilience of the citizenry in the long-term.²⁶

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services completed several critical prerequisites for successful implementation of the National Social Mitigation Plan (NSMP). These include:

- Introduction of a Standard Means Test to improve targeting of clients.
- Commencement of a review of the Social Transformation and Empowerment Programme – Uplifting People (STEP-UP). STEP-UP is a social work Model, which aims to create opportunities and provide resources to allow families living in poverty, to recover, or realise to their own capacity to resolve issues in their personal and family life.
- Commencement of a review of the systems and processes of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services.

A draft Resilience Framework, a key component of the NSMP, was also completed during fiscal 2018. Essentially, the Framework facilitates the identification of vulnerable, marginalised populations in a given

CHAPTER 4: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

context, for the population to be ultimately impacted by social sector programming; analysis of the systems in which those individuals, households and communities are embedded; and the constraints and development challenges within those systems and how they can be effectively addressed.

B. Removal of Life Certificate Requirement

The removal of the Life Certificate Requirement would greatly enhance the service experience of the recipients of Senior Citizens Pension, as they would no longer be required to present themselves in person to determine proof of life. Rather, an automated information sharing system would allow the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services to determine whether or not the pension recipient is alive. An MOU was signed with the Registrar General Department to share information on births and deaths. The MSDFS began receiving information from the Registrar General at the end of May 2018. A similar MOU will be signed with the Immigration Division to share travel information of persons 65 years and over. These arrangements would facilitate the removal of the life certificate requirement by the end of the fiscal year.

C. Implementation of a Standard Means Test

A Standard Means Test (SMT) facilitates the administering of a common eligibility criteria for selected grants of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services and is expected to result in more effective targeting of beneficiaries. Grants for which the SMT is administered are: Public Assistance, Food Support, assistance under the National Social Development Programme, Sowing Empowerment through Entrepreneurial Development and selected grants under the General Assistance Grants. The Ministry commenced roll-out of the Standard Means Test across satellite offices in March 2018. There is also an arrangement for continuous monitoring of the initiative to address any implementation challenges.

D. Implementation of Direct Deposit

Direct Deposit allows for direct payment of Senior Citizens Pension, Disability Assistance Grant and Public

²⁶<http://www.social.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/National-Social-Mitigation-Plan-e-copy-website.pdf>

Assistance into the bank accounts of recipients. This new arrangement treats with the issue of lost and stolen cheques and also engenders greater privacy and confidentiality. As at September 2018, 76,057 clients were added to direct deposit initiative.

E. National Poverty Reduction Strategy

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services, in collaboration with UNDP and UNICEF, commenced critical preparatory work for the development of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy (NPRS). The NPRS would be based on a multi-dimensional definition of poverty. A multi-dimensional definition is critical to ensure that the most inclusive anti-poverty approaches to addressing poverty are developed and implemented. In this connection, during fiscal 2018 the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services continued to collaborate with UNDP and UNICEF on a research project to gather data to be used in determining the meaning and definition of poverty. Focus Group discussions were concluded in the fourteen (14) Municipal Regions in Trinidad and in Tobago. The results of the Focus Group discussions would be utilised as input to the development of the NPRS. The NPRS is expected to be completed in fiscal 2019.

F. National Symposium on the Family and Launch of the VABs Campaign

In collaboration with the Division of Gender and Child Affairs, Office of the Prime Minister, the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services hosted the *Inaugural National Symposium on the Family* from June 27th – 28th, 2018. The theme for the Symposium was, "Supporting Families as the Bedrock of our Society". The overall objective of the Symposium was to stimulate a national discourse on issues relevant to healthy family functioning in Trinidad and Tobago. The contributions made by stakeholders would be critical to the development of a National Policy on the Family. The National Values Attitudes and Behaviours (VABs) Campaign was also launched. The VABs Campaign is intended to inculcate positive family values in the society.

CHAPTER 4: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

G. Street Dwellers Coordinating and Monitoring Committee

The Street Dwellers Coordinating and Monitoring Committee (SDCMC) was established in July 2018, for a period of eighteen (18) months, following a recommendation from the Report of the Street Dwellers Working Committee (SDWC) in June 2016. The SDCMC includes representation from private sector, as well as, technical officers of various Ministries. The Committee is charged with the responsibility of, inter alia:

- Examining the Street Dwelling Working Committee (SDWC) Report and other outcome documents of the JSC relating to Street Dwelling;
- Identifying the priority initiatives to be undertaken and preparing implementation plans for those initiatives;
- Developing an action plan for all recommendations contained in the Report produced by the SDWC as well as the JSC;
- Working with Ministries/Agencies to ensure the implementation of priority initiatives; and
- Identifying barriers to implementation of the initiatives and working with Ministries/Agencies to overcome these barriers.

To date the SDCM has convened three (3) meetings and is working with various stakeholder Ministries and agencies to obtain relevant work plans. Two (2) subcommittees have also been established, which are as follows:

1. **Emergency Response:** to identify a response to crisis situations on the streets that involve street dwellers;
2. **Viable Alternatives:** to identify accommodation alternatives for street dwellers

H. National Policy on Persons with Disabilities

In August 2018, Cabinet agreed to a revised National Policy on Persons with Disabilities and an accompanying Action plan. The Policy was developed and revised by the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services, in collaboration with key stakeholders. It is intended to provide a foundation for the development of required legislation, as well as, a comprehensive framework for



CHAPTER 4: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

4.2.1.1. Labour

achieving social inclusion and equality for persons with disabilities. The Policy was laid in Parliament as a Green Paper and will be presented for public comment.

I. The Family Court²⁷

The Family Court is a system, which adopts a holistic approach to resolving family disputes, as it embraces legal, psychological and social issues in its deliberations. It is the intent of the Court to administer justice in family matters in a manner that is less adversarial and more conciliatory. The purpose is to provide families with support while they seek solutions. This includes counselling, with mediation as an option, where applicable. The focus is placed on finding solutions and minimising conflicts. Table 4.I (below) provides a snapshot of the types of matters that were brought before the Family Court during the 2017-2018 Law Term.

Labour figures at the end of the 3rd quarter of 2017, indicated an unemployment rate of 5.1%, a slight decrease from the previous quarter, which stood at 5.3%. The unemployment rate for the corresponding period of 2016 was 4.0% Q3 and 4.5% Q2.

Retrenchment notices submitted to the Minister of Labour and Small Enterprise Development for the period October 2017- September 2018 totalled 1,050, as compared to 1,277 for the period October 2016– September 2017. Table 4.II (below) provides a breakdown of retrenchment notices for fiscals 2017 and 2018 by Industry.

Despite the above, labour related issues continued to be the focus of the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development and during 2018. Several major initiatives were implemented and in some cases continued from previous efforts.

27 <http://www.ttlawcourts.org/index.php/family-court-41/overview>

Table 4.I: A Snapshot of the Family Court over the 2017-2018 Law Term

	Types of Matters						
	Property	Divorce	Children’s Authority	Maintenance	Custody	Other Matters	Protection Orders
Matters Filed (#)	9	2623	35	1342	565	880	192
Matters Determined (#)	9	2704	45	1752	515	584	104
Clearance Rate (%)	100%	103%	128%	130%	91%	66%	54%

Source: 2017-2018 Annual Report - Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago

Table 4.II: Number of Persons Identified in Retrenchment Notices Submitted to the Minister of Labour and Small Enterprise Development by Industry

Period	Total All Industry	Industry								
		Agriculture, Forestry, Hunting and Fishing	Petroleum & Gas incl. Production, Refining & Service Contractors	Manufacturing	Electricity & Water	Construction	Wholesale & Retail Trade, Restaurants & Hotels	Transport, Storage & Communication	Financing, Insurance, Real Estate & Business Services	Community, Social & Personal Services
Oct 2016 - Sept 2017	1,277	22	348	267	0	16	150	191	217	66
Oct 2017 – Sept 20, 2018	1,050	0	257	217	0	18	91	76	298	93

Source: Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development. Figures for Fiscal 2018 were provided as at September 20, 2018.

A. Promoting Decent Work

The Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development (MOLSED) plays a critical role in promoting decent work in Trinidad and Tobago and is working towards realisation of the Decent Work Agenda. One of the Ministry's six strategic objectives is the promotion of the principles of decent work in the workplace, inclusive of fostering decent working conditions. Specific activities continued to be undertaken to this end including the strengthening of the Labour Inspectorate, modernisation of labour legislation, development of policies to address HIV/AIDS and the promotion of social dialogue through the establishment of tripartite Committees.

In keeping with the Ministry's Strategic Plan, which articulates a Vision of "Decent Work, Industrial Peace and Opportunity for ALL", the MOLSED, with the assistance of the ILO's Sub-Regional Office for the Caribbean, intends to commence the process of formulation of Trinidad and Tobago's Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP), in consultation with social partners, in the new fiscal year.

B. Legislation

Work is progressing on amendments to various pieces of legislation designed to enhance the level of protection for employers and employees in all sectors. Accordingly, priority is being placed on the following: The Industrial Relations Act, Chapter 88:01; the Retrenchment and Severance Benefits Act, Chapter 88:13; the Workmen's Compensation Act, Chapter 88:05; the Occupational Safety and Health Act, Chapter 88:08; the Cipriani College of Labour and Co-operative Studies Act, Chapter 39:51; the Friendly Societies Act, Chapter 32:05; the Co-operative Societies Act, Chapter 81:03; Legislation in respect of the Private Security Sector; Legislation aimed at the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour, and Legislation outlining Basic Terms and Conditions of Work.

These legislative priorities are key towards prescribing and protecting the rights and duties of workers and employers. It is anticipated that by 2020 the amendment process will be completed.

C. Draft National Policy on Sexual Harassment

The MOLSED considers Sexual Harassment in the workplace, in all its forms, to be a very worrying issue. The Draft National Policy on Sexual Harassment is designed to prevent, prohibit and address sexual harassment at all levels in the workplace. The Policy would aim, inter alia, to:

- Establish workplace policies to address sexual harassment issues;
- Develop a clear framework and guidelines for resolving sexual harassment issues; and
- Develop legislation which renders sexual harassment within the workplace illegal and provides for complaints of sexual harassment to be treated as industrial relations disputes.

D. Inter-Ministerial Committee for the Development of a Labour Migration Policy for Trinidad and Tobago²⁸

In July 2018, the Minister of Labour and Small Enterprise Development presented Letters of Appointment to Members of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for the Development of a Labour Migration Policy for Trinidad and Tobago. Development of the Labour Migration Policy would contribute to efforts aimed at meeting labour migration targets set by the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and satisfying commitments related to ratification of the International Labour Organisation Convention No. 97 - Migration for Employment, which contains provisions for matters such as remuneration, hours of work, overtime arrangements, membership of trade unions and social security.

The Committee was established to provide input into the development of a Labour Migration Policy for Trinidad and Tobago. Additionally, the Committee would facilitate the work of the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development towards achieving the following outcomes:

- i. improved timeframe for policy development, approval and publication;

²⁸<http://www.news.gov.tt/content/labour-migration-policy-inter-ministerial-committee-appointed#.W6ErzmhKiUk>



CHAPTER 4: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

- ii. consolidation of the Government’s position on the Labour Migration Policy;
- iii. enhanced policy coherence and co-ordination;
- iv. provision of structure and consistency to the policy development across all Government policies and programmes;
- v. adequate preparation for external stakeholder consultations; and
- vi. co-ordinated plan for communication of policy to stakeholders.

4.2.2. Goal 3: Citizens will have access to adequate, affordable housing

The Government, through the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and its agencies, is committed to providing well-designed, affordable housing solutions on serviceable, tenured lots in widely dispersed (suburban and rural) areas for qualifying persons from low and lower-middle income groups. Government subsidies constitute an essential component of the housing policy and programmes, as they make shelter much more affordable for the target population.²⁹

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development has a mandate to develop the urban centres and to undertake urban renewal, and to ensure that town and cities become modernised and sustainable. In this context, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development continued to pursue the regeneration of East Port of Spain in fiscal 2018. Critical to urban development are advancements that have already been made in key sectors to introduce and integrate smart solutions into our urban and peri-urban spaces to facilitate greater connectivity, seamless transfer of e-government services, more energy efficient use of utilities, better road and traffic management, as well as safety and security measures.

With specific reference to residential accommodation, in March 2018, the Housing Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago (HDC) executed a contract with NH International (Caribbean) Limited for the construction of one hundred and twenty (120) three-bedroom

apartments and forty (40) two- bedroom apartments at Mt. Hope, Trinidad.

The Housing Construction Incentive Programme, first announced in the 2018 budget and executed on January 1, 2018, provides grants of up to TT\$100,000, or plots of land in lieu of payment, to developers who construct government-approved housing units to make available for sale to persons on the waiting list of the Housing Development Corporation (HDC).

The programme targets the development of projects in the middle and upper-middle price range of the housing market. The income derived from the sale of housing units under the programme would be exempt from tax. In order to qualify, contractors must follow design, specification and price guidelines set by the government.

In July 2018, holders of Certificate of Comfort were granted statutory leases for a period of 30 years by the Land Settlement Agency. The beneficiaries reside in several communities in Sangre Grande, Brazil and Wallerfield. The decision to provide title for the occupied lands was in keeping with Government policy and the Ministry’s mandate to facilitate homeownership for the most vulnerable. In so doing, beneficiaries would be considered to be legitimate landowners with all the attendant rights and benefits.

In Tobago, during the fiscal year, support also was provided under government’s housing initiatives to facilitate home ownership, as well as improving the housing stock on the island. In this regard, approximately two hundred (200) grants, at a total value of TT\$1.5M, were distributed to beneficiaries under the Home Improvement Grant Programme and the Home Construction Subsidy. Approximately fifty (50) persons received financial assistance, totalling just under TT\$1M, to assist in the construction of their homes.

²⁹ www.housing.gov.tt

4.2.3. Goal 4: The healthcare system will be sustainable and modern and deliver higher standards of healthcare

The Ministry of Health establishes national priorities for health and ensures an enabling environment for the delivery of a broad range of high quality, people-centred services from a mix of public and private providers. The health initiatives implemented in fiscal 2018 were as follows:

A. The Ministry of Health implemented a robust **Influenza Vaccination Drive** for the 2018 Flu Season (October 2017 to July 2018). As a result, there was a reduction of more than 70% in the number of confirmed Influenza cases in the 2018 Flu season, when compared to the previous season (based on surveillance information up to June 2018). Over 60,000 citizens throughout Trinidad and Tobago received influenza vaccinations during the 2018 Flu season.

B. Provision of Medical Assistance through the External Patient Care Initiative. This initiative commenced in June 2014 and has continued in two phases. For the period October 2017 – March 2018, the services provided are outlined in Table 4.III:

Table 4.III: Medical Assistance through the External Patient Care Initiative for the Period October 2017-March 2018

Surgery	Male	Female	Total
Cataract Surgery	52	83	135
CT/MRI	56	86	142
Joint Replacement	7	12	19
Angiograms	327	227	554
Angioplasty	91	34	125
CABG	101	79	180
EPI	18	30	48
Other	78	58	136

CHAPTER 4: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

C. The Children's Life Fund was established by Act of No. 12 of 2010. Implementation of the Fund for the period October 2017 to March 2018 is outlined in the table below:

Table 4.IV: Implementation of the Children's Life Fund for the Period October 2017 to July 2018

Period	Male	Female	Total
October 2017	3	-	3
November 2017	2	-	2
December 2017	-	1	1
January 2018	-	-	-
February 2018	1	-	1
March 2018	-	1	1
April 2018	4	3	7
May 2018	1	3	4
June 2018	-	1	1
July 2018	1	3	4

In **Tobago**, the provision of quality health care and the protection of vulnerable groups in society were of high priority. Since completion of the Scarborough General Hospital, there has been continuous expansion in the range of healthcare services provided to the people of Tobago. The introduction of cardiology services has benefited more than 700 persons annually.

In keeping with the Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) Plan 2017-2020, the strategic focus was on improved data management, as well as enhanced public awareness and early screening and detection with respect to these diseases. In addition, during the fiscal year, approximately 1,700 cataract surgeries were performed through the Comprehensive Integrated Eye-Care Programme, significantly reducing the number of persons listed and awaiting surgery. Moreover, to combat lifestyle diseases in Tobago, a number of programmes such as the integrated Primary Healthcare Programme, the Healthy Home Programme and the Healthy Family Programme have been implemented.



4.2.4. Goal 7: A modern, relevant and accessible education and training system

The goals of the Ministry of Education are to:

- Design and develop a quality education system;
- Transform the organisation into a modern and high performing agency; and
- Engage stakeholders in the transformation process.

The main objectives are to:

- Preserve and expand where necessary the institution of free education at all levels;
- Establish new and improved school infrastructure;
- Update the current school curriculum; and
- Develop and encourage best administrative practices in the educational system.

The key initiatives of the the Ministry of Education for fiscal 2018, in keeping with its goals and objectives included the following:

A. The Secondary Entrance Assessment (SEA) Framework

In September 2017, the Ministry of Education launched the Assessment Framework for the Secondary Entrance Assessment (SEA) 2019-2023. The Secondary Entrance Assessment facilitates the transition from primary to secondary school. The Assessment Framework for SEA 2019 - 2023 is intended to assist teachers and all those involved in the preparation of students for secondary school. It is anticipated that the specifications for each paper would allow teachers to better assist students in understanding the format and requirements of the Secondary Entrance Assessment.

The main components of the Assessment Framework are as follows:

- The reduction in the number of items in the Mathematics and English Language Arts papers;
- The introduction of explicit levels of thinking for the objectives that are assessed for Reading Comprehension and Mathematics;
- An assessment of spelling, punctuation, capitalisation and grammar in context (short passages);

CHAPTER 4: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

- The incorporation of money as a component under the number strand in Mathematics; and
- The use of prose/fictional passages as part of the comprehension and an increased emphasis on Reading Comprehension.³⁰

B. 2018 Secondary Entrance Assessment (SEA) Examination

A total of nineteen thousand two hundred and eight (19,208) students registered for the 2018 Secondary Entrance Assessment (SEA) Examination. This number included approximately three hundred and twenty-five (325) special needs students. There were nine thousand seven hundred and forty-one (9,741) males and nine thousand four hundred and sixty-seven (9,467) females. With respect to performance in specific subject areas, in Maths, 58.8 per cent of the students scored above 50 per cent, in English Language 57.9 per cent scored above 50 per cent, and in creative writing 55.5 per cent scored above 50 per cent.

C. Cabinet Appointed Committee: Holistic Review of the ECCE and Primary School Curricula

During fiscal year 2018, the recommendations of the Cabinet Appointed Curriculum Committee on the Holistic Review of the ECCE and Primary School Curricula were implemented.

D. Accreditation of Post-Secondary and Tertiary Institutions and Programmes

In fiscal 2018, the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago (ACTT) awarded continuous Institutional Accreditations for a period of seven (7) years to the following four (4) institutions: The University of the West Indies (UWI) St. Augustine Campus, Cipriani College of Labour and Co-operative Studies (CCLCS), College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT) and the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT).

³⁰ Assessment Framework MOE, 2019-2023.

This brought the total amount of Accredited Institutions to thirteen (13) as follows: The University of the West Indies (UWI) St Augustine Campus, the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT), College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT), Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business (ALJGSB), University of the Southern Caribbean (USC), Cipriani College of Labour and Co-operative Studies (CCLCS), Caribbean Nazarene College (CNC), St Andrew's Theological College (SATC), Trinidad and Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute (THTI), Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute (THTI), MIC Institute of Technology (MIC-IT), West Indies School of Theology (WIST) and UWI School of Business and Applied Studies Limited (UWI-ROYTEC).

E. Research, Development and Innovation Strategy

The Office of Research Development and Knowledge Transfer (ORDKT) of the Ministry of Education is intended to support and expand research, development and innovation at tertiary institutions.

In fiscal 2017/2018, through the leveraging of Intellectual Property agreements, two (2) research patents were awarded. Further, the Innovation and Technology Transfer Fund was launched and fifteen (15) applicants have submitted proposals for consideration. These applications will now be supported through the provision of guidance and technical support from the conceptualisation stage straight to investment.

In addition, there were conference presentations on the state of Research and Innovation in the Higher Education Landscape, and grant funding from the European Development Fund for the Human Rights Clinic was negotiated. Proposals were submitted to the Green Fund Advisory Committee, and to NGC on the Reforestation on Carbon Sequestering and Caribbean Development Bank on the Rehabilitation and Redevelopment of Barbuda following Hurricane Irma.

The Division of Education, Innovation and Energy in Tobago undertook a number of initiatives aimed at developing human capital at all levels of the education system. In 2018, Primary and Secondary school teachers on the island were exposed to several capacity building training programmes, inclusive of leadership and

school management, professional discipline, financial management and curriculum development and implementation. The Division of Education, Innovation and Energy also employed twelve (12) instructional coaches in literacy and numeracy to provide instructional and educational support to principals, teachers and students at the primary level.

In addition, all primary and secondary schools on the island were upgraded and repaired as part of the Annual School Repair Programme, at a total cost of approximately TT\$13M. As it relates to post-secondary education, the Roxborough Trade Centre was upgraded and a Construction Skills Training Programme for persons between eighteen (18) and sixty (60) years was introduced. The programme was specially designed to increase the number of skilled tradesmen certified by the National Examinations Council (NEC) for employment in the construction sector. Over the next fiscal year, the THA would continue to work to improve the quality of education at all levels on the island.

4.3. Theme II: Good Governance and Service Excellence

Adherence to good governance and service excellence would engender confidence in public institutions and delivery of public services. During fiscal 2018, several initiatives were implemented under Goals 3 and 4, the goal of which was to bolster public trust and confidence, excellence in client experience and public safety. Two major initiatives undertaken were:

1. Establishment of a Cabinet–Appointed Committee to provide recommendations for the creation of the Office of the Head of the Public Services

Cabinet agreed to the establishment of a Committee that would make recommendations for the creation of the Office of the Head of the Public Service. The Committee created a policy framework that would establish this office as well as a draft job description and action plan for



CHAPTER 4: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

the operationalisation of the office. The Policy established the office of Permanent Secretary to the Prime Minister, who would also be the Head of the Public Service from among public officers having the requisite qualifications. The Policy also formally establishes the Board of Permanent Secretaries and Heads of Departments, which shall coordinate the management functions of the Public Service. A Comparative Study on similar jurisdictions was completed, and submitted to cabinet for approval along with a Final Report and an Action Plan.

2. Local Government Reform³¹

The Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government has re-energised a platform for Local Government Reform, which has been introduced with an objective to create a modern, efficient and properly-resourced Local Government system. The Pillars of Local Government Reform are as follows:

- **Security of Funding** – The Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government is currently implementing this initiative on a phased basis, by which local bodies can collect and retain certain taxes and revenues for development of their municipality.
- **Executive Authority** – The expansion of authorities in order to give a level of autonomy similar to the Tobago House of Assembly (THA). This practice would be fully established subsequent to the completion of legislative amendments.
- **New Roles and Responsibilities** – Providing Municipal Corporations with increased responsibility which include the maintenance of schools and specified public buildings, social welfare services, sporting programmes, agricultural and local tourism and spatial planning.

Meetings have been conducted by the Task Force with the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Development, and Social Development and Family Services in order to discuss the implementation of expanded responsibilities by the municipal corporations. The following outlines the progress with respect to some measures in

implementation of the Local Government Reform Policy which was approved by Cabinet:

- **Repairs to Schools and Public Buildings** – In July, 2018 Cabinet agreed to the involvement of the Municipal Corporations in executing certain Works under the School Repair/Refurbishment Programme of the Ministry of Education for July/August 2018. The Municipal Corporations would provide the labour to execute the works but the Education Facilities Company Limited (EFCL) would retain its role as project managers of the Programme;
- **Social Welfare Services** – the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government also met with the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services to discuss the way forward regarding the transfer of the delivery of social welfare services to the Municipalities and the creation of a “one-stop shop” for service delivery to the public at the local government level. In keeping with efforts to build capacity at the local government level, a training session was held on June 20, 2018 for all Disaster Management Units (DMUs) and first responders, on the proper completion of the Damage Assessment Forms for accessing the General Assistance and Disaster Relief Grants. This is intended to improve the response mechanism at the local level.
- **Disaster Management** – The main aim is to improve the disaster management response organisation and capability at the local government level. Disaster Management Unit 24/7 Hotlines have been established to encourage faster report intakes and responses. Additionally, the Disaster Management Units have consistently been engaging with the public for first response, incident command and basic first aid training sessions as part of the Disaster Management Programme. Additionally, the hurricane straps programme has been initiated. This initiative provides support to secure roofs of houses vulnerable to the impact of storms and hurricanes.

The next steps on the agenda for Local Government Reform would entail Legislative Amendments for certain aspects of reform to be implemented.

³¹ Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government contributions for the 2018/2019 National Budget Contributions for the 2018/2019 National Budget

CHAPTER 4: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

4.3.1. Goal 3: Public service delivery will be customer focused

Improving service delivery within the Public Service fosters a general feeling of public well-being as it is a critical quality of life issue. In fiscal 2018 government continued to implement initiatives in key areas of the public services that were necessary in inculcating a customer-focused culture.

A. Premium Customer Service

In response to complaints from clients who interface with frontline staff at some of its district offices across the country, the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services implemented a Premium Client Care Initiative, in March 2017, focusing on quality customer service. A total of 660 staff members participated in these training sessions. Continuous monitoring and evaluation continued in 2018 to determine the effectiveness of the training and address any emerging gaps that may hinder quality customer service.

During the period July 20-24, 2018, forty-nine (49) front line staff, including Client Care Representatives, Business Operations Assistants and other staff of the MSDFS, participated in a CSR Training Workshop aimed at providing persons with the necessary tools and training to provide excellent customer service. This training was a continuation of the Premium Client Care Initiative.

B. Public Information, Education Sensitisation Series (PIES)

One of the most significant feedback from stakeholders during the national consultations hosted by the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services towards the development of the National Social Mitigation Plan, was the lack of knowledge of the Ministry's suite of social programmes and services available to vulnerable citizens. In this regard, a Public Information, Education and Sensitisation Series (PIES) was conducted throughout the country to address the situation. Since 2017, approximately forty-three (43) sessions were held. During October 2017-January 2018, information sessions were held with the following RHAs:

- South West Regional Health Authority- October 30th 2017
- Eastern Regional Health Authority- November 24th 2017
- North West Regional Health Authority- November 29th 2017
- North Central Regional Health Authority- January 22, 2018

The MSDFS also participated at eighteen (18) outreach sessions at various locations in Trinidad, during the period June – August 2018. At these sessions, the MSDFS provided information on the Ministry's grants and services, as well as, created networks with various Civil Society Organisations and individuals in communities.

C. Ministry of Public Administration Customer Service Training

The Ministry of Public Administration launched a customer service training initiative that targeted training 10,000 public officers over a 12-month period. The goal of the training is to enhance the customer service experience across the public service for the general public.

4.3.2. Goal 4: A modern, legal, regulatory and law enforcement system

Law enforcement and national security continued to be an area of major focus in fiscal 2018. The Ministry of National Security received a budgetary allocation of TT\$6.2371 billion³² towards crime prevention and crime fighting initiatives given the nation's crime statistics. Total reported serious crimes for fiscal 2018 was 12,421, with 4,085 being detected, resulting in a detection rate of 33%.³³ The detection rate for reported serious crimes in fiscal 2017 was 30%. Tables 4.V and 4.VI (opposite) refer.

³² Budget Statement 2018- Ministry of Finance

³³ Statistics for fiscal 2018 are as 15th September, 2018.



CHAPTER 4: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

Table 4.V: Total Serious Crimes Reported and Detected by Month for 2017 and 2018

Month	Total Oct 2016-Sept 2017			Total Oct 2017-Sept 2018*		
	Reported	Detected	Detection %	Reported	Detected	Detection %
Oct	884	196	22	1133	328	29
Nov	792	153	19	1051	285	27
Dec	780	200	26	870	229	26
Jan	1137	396	35	1056	399	38
Feb	1030	331	32	1171	444	38
Mar	1124	388	35	1184	428	36
Apr	1059	316	30	1277	481	38
May	1125	314	28	1154	429	37
Jun	1042	355	34	1007	338	34
Jul	1162	368	32	1133	335	30
Aug	1236	430	35	1100	331	30
Sept	1144	351	31	285	58	20
Total	12,515	3,798	30	12,421	4,085	33

Source: Statistics supplied by the Ministry of National Security, the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, Crime and Problem Analysis [CAPA] Branch Provisional figures as at 15th September 2018

Table 4.VI: Crime Statistics by Offence for October 2017 – September 2018*

Offence	October 2017 –September 2018	
	Reported	Detected
Murders	506	81
Woundings and Shootings	692	205
Rapes, Incest and Sexual Offences	634	167
Serious Indecency	30	17
Kidnapping	121	62
Kidnapping for Ransom	9	1
Burglaries and Breakings	1890	340
Robberies	2996	583
Fraud Offences	425	120
General Larceny	1967	326
Larceny Motor Vehicles	555	37
Larceny Dwelling House	179	34
Narcotics Offences	470	470
Possession of Firearms and Ammunition	1202	1202
Other Serious Crimes	745	440
Total	12,421	4,085

Source: The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, Crime and Problem Analysis [CAPA] Branch Provisional figures as at 15th September 2018.

CHAPTER 4: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

Among the key initiatives implemented in the fiscal year were:

A. The National Crime Prevention Programme

The National Crime Prevention Programme (NCP) was launched in July 2018. The NCP is a proactive initiative intended to limit future instances of crime and criminality. Implementation of the initiative would be based on the Whole-of-Government Approach to treat with National Security and Public Safety, among other important crime-related issues. The Ministry of National Security will engage in collaborative partnerships with other Ministries, as well as, public and private sector stakeholders to execute this programme.

The NCP would facilitate empowering communities by providing an avenue to access Government services in response to their specific needs. The Programme is also structured to provide feedback to communities, to ensure that they are kept informed of the status of progress in response to their needs. It is also expected to impact crime prevention by engaging communities as strategic partners to create social change. This will be done through the efficient management of resources that will address the challenges confronting the citizenry in terms of the fear of crime, criminality and social disorder across the country.³⁴

The NCP would be initiated through fifteen (15) Community Crime Prevention Councils representing the 14 Municipalities in Trinidad and the Tobago House of Assembly. These Councils would interface directly with their respective communities to determine their needs, in order to respond appropriately. Phase 1 of the Programme would be implemented in Diego Martin, Chaguanas and Tobago.

B. Automated Border Control System

On July 16, 2018, the Automated Border Control System was launched by the Ministry of National Security at the Piarco International Airport. There are twelve (12) Automated Border Control System kiosks. The new system scans passenger passports, utilises facial

recognition software and captures users' fingerprints for identity verification. Passengers using the kiosks will receive a printed receipt indicating whether they have been successfully processed or if they require further processing. This receipt is then presented to an Immigration Officer.³⁵

Implementation of the Automated Border Control System – a collaborative initiative of the Ministry of National Security's Immigration Division and the Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago – is aimed at strengthening border security and reducing passenger wait-time, leading to an enhanced customer experience. The system will be implemented at the ANR Robinson International Airport in Tobago in fiscal 2019.

C. Human Trafficking

The Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago continues to demonstrate increasing efforts in the fight against human trafficking. Trinidad and Tobago has maintained its Tier 2 ranking as published in the United States Department of State Trafficking in Persons (TiPs) Report 2018. The annual report acknowledged the strides made through measures taken by Government, including:

- Expanding authorities to collect intelligence on trafficking crimes.
- Creating new task forces on intelligence gathering and prosecution to increase law enforcement's ability to investigate and prosecute trafficking cases.
- Government's collaboration with INTERPOL on investigations of four potential trafficking cases.
- Increased anti-trafficking training for public officials.

The Counter Trafficking Unit (CTU) of the Ministry of National Security continued to educate persons on the crime of Trafficking in Persons. Sensitisation workshops were conducted for students of primary and secondary schools, school safety officers, school supervisors, officials employed in the hospitality and tourism industry as well as law enforcement officers.

³⁴ Ministry of National Security website 2018

³⁵ ibid 1



Table 4.VII: A Snapshot of the Children Court over the 2017-2018 Law Term

Children Court	Types of Matters				
	Children's Authority Application	Private Application	CHINS	Criminal Indictable	Criminal Summary
Matters Filed (#)	69	18	396	290	207
Matters Determined (#)	4	6	73	63	40
Clearance Rate (%)	6%	33%	18%	21%	20%

Source: 2017-2018 Annual Report - Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago

D. Penal Reform and Transformation

In fiscal 2018 the Penal Reform and Transformation Unit (PRTU) made significant strides in strengthening the Rehabilitation Intervention Programme within the Prison Service. The PRTU engaged service providers and volunteers to facilitate implementation of a series of rehabilitative and positive mind-shaping programmes for offenders, including: “Making a Difference”; “Changing Lives” and “Crafting for Life”. The PRTU also facilitated the conduct of Monitoring and Evaluation Training for Prison Officers, as part of its ongoing capacity building and professional development programme for officers of the Service. Consistent with its mandate, the Unit also actively engaged in public outreach initiatives and has sponsored school supplies for the Prison Youth Club, as well as laptops for the Youth Training Centre (YTC) all part of the effort to cultivate an environment of learning and encourage the academic development of our nation’s at-risk youths.³⁶

E. Establishment of the Children Courts

The Children Court commenced operations on 28th February, 2018 with the proclamation of the Family and Children Division Act, 2016. In March 2018, the Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago launched the opening of two new Children Courts in Port of Spain and Fyzabad. The Courts were established through the Trinidad and Tobago Juvenile Court Project (JCP), a joint initiative of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago, with technical support provided by the U.S.-based National Center for State Courts.³⁷

³⁶ ibid 11

³⁷ <https://tt.usembassy.gov/usaidd-judiciary-open-children-courts-north-south-trinidad/>

The Courts handle matters involving persons under the age of 18 years, except those matters in which a child is charged jointly with an adult. The Children Courts provide all the appropriate mechanisms and supporting social services to ensure speedy and efficient resolution of cases and access to intervention programmes for children and families. Table 4.VII provides a snapshot of the workload and performance of the Children Court-Port of Spain and Fyzabad- combined, since its opening.

The majority of matters brought before the courts were determined within two (2) months of filing. It must be noted that unlike adult criminal matters, which are disposed of at sentencing, children matters can stay in the system beyond sentencing, in keeping with the philosophy of the Court which advocates rehabilitation of children with the aim of reducing recidivism and therefore provides a system for monitoring the child’s progress.³⁸

F. Legislative Agenda for the Social Sector in Fiscal 2018

The following pieces of legislation, which would have an impact on the social sector, were introduced in Parliament in Fiscal 2018:

- The Anti-Gang Bill, 2018: Introduced in the Parliament on March 9th 2018 and Proclaimed on May 28th 2018.
- The Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Bill, 2018: Introduced on January 26th 2018 and Assented to on July 23rd 2018.

³⁸ 2017-2018 Annual Report - Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago

- The Miscellaneous Provisions (Supreme Court of Judicature and Children) Bill, 2018: Introduced on March 16th 2018, 2nd Reading on 2nd July 2018.
- The Property Tax Amendment Bill 2018 introduced on February 2, 2018 and Assented to on June 8, 2018.

OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR FOR 2018

5



Chapter 5: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR FOR 2018

This chapter focuses on the budgetary allocations made by Government towards social sector development. It also highlights the performance of selected economic indicators during the 2018 fiscal year and identifies policies developed and research and evaluations undertaken during the fiscal year.

5.1 Budgeted Allocations to the Social Sector

In the 2017/2018 National Budget Statement, social sector allocations focused on education, health and healthcare, housing, community development, sport and the social safety net.³⁹ Table 5.I provides a breakdown of the allocations to each Social Sector Ministry and Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly (THA) for fiscal 2018, which amounted to TT\$19.9 billion.

Table 5.I: Budgeted Allocations for the Key Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2017/2018

Key Social Sector Ministries	Development Programmes TTD	Recurrent Expenditures TTD	Total TTD
Social Development and Family Services	27,500,000.00	4,701,745,300.00	4,729,245,300
Community Development, Culture and the Arts	92,995,000.00	350,522,900.00	443,517,900
Education	842,887,000.00	5,151,772,967.00	5,994,659,967
Health	485,000,000.00	5,105,488,890.00	5,590,488,890
Housing and Urban Development	282,587,000.00	1,409,013,504.00	1,691,600,504
Sport and Youth Affairs	57,000,000.00	281,407,827.00	338,407,827
Tobago House of Assembly (THA)*	134,400,000.00	955,964,300	1,090,364,300
		Total	19,878,284,688
*Social Services Divisions of the THA:			
Health, Wellness and Family Development		471,353,500.00	
Community Development, Enterprise Development and Labour		49,440,000.00	
Education, Innovation and Energy		362,460,900.00	
Sport and Youth Affairs		56,961,200.00	
Settlement, Urban Renewal and Public Utilities		15,748,700.00	
Social Infrastructure	134,400,000.00	955,964,300.00	1,090,364,300.00

Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2018

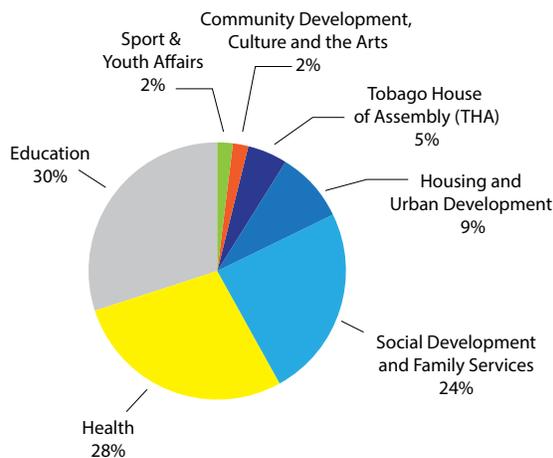
³⁹ Ministry of Finance, Budget Statement 2018



CHAPTER 5: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR FOR 2018

Figure 5.I shows the percentages apportioned to each Social Sector Ministry and Social Services Divisions of the THA. Of significance, is the Ministries receiving the largest locations, the Ministry of Education (30%), the Ministry of Health (28%), and the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (24%). These are the ministries with portfolio responsibilities that are directly related to critical socio-economic issues with implications for national development including human capital development, health and wellness, poverty, social inequality and social exclusion.

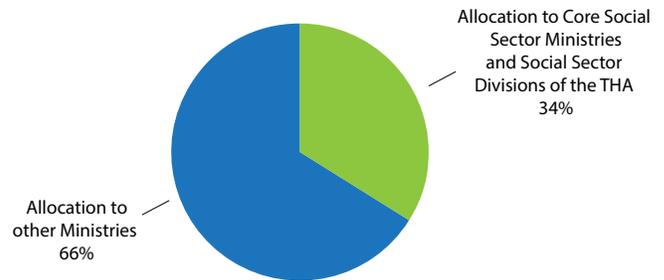
Figure 5.I: Budget Allocations for Key Social Sector Ministries and Social Sector Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2017/2018



Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure for fiscal 2018

As illustrated in Figure 5.II, a total of thirty-four percent (34%) of Government’s expenditure was allocated to the key Social Sector Ministries and Social Services Divisions of the THA in fiscal 2018. This represents an aggregate of TT\$19.9 billion from the overall national expenditure of TT\$57.630 billion.⁴⁰

Figure 5.II: Budget Allocations for Key Social Sector Ministries and Social Sector Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2017/2018 in Relation to Total National Estimates of Expenditure



Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure for fiscal 2018

Figure 5.III illustrates the percentage of Government’s investment in the Social Sector for the period 2014 to 2018, financing within the Social Sector ranged between 37% and 34% of the National Budget.

Figure 5.III Percentage of Budgeted Allocations to the Key Social Sector Ministries in Trinidad and the Social Services Divisions of the THA for the Period 2014-2018

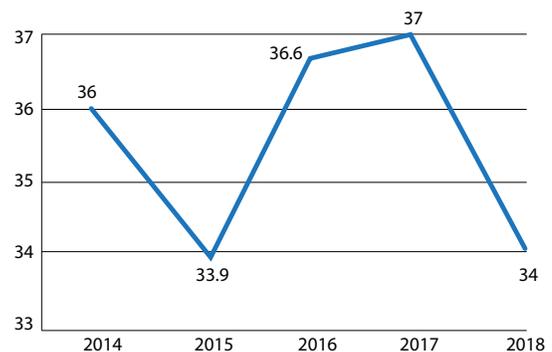


Table 5.II and Figure 5.IV highlight allocations to key Social Sector Ministries and Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly (THA) in relation to GDP for the period 2013-2017. Throughout the period under consideration, allocations to the sector have been relatively constant, ranging between 13% and 14% of GDP.

40 Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure and Development Programme for 2018

It should be noted that in 2017, the Central Statistical Office (CSO) undertook a rebase (Non-benchmark Rebase) of its GDP estimates for Trinidad and Tobago, which updates the reference base year from 2000 to 2012, i.e., GDP estimates at constant prices are now based on 2012 market prices and input/output ratios. GDP estimates have also transitioned from the Trinidad and Tobago System of National Accounts (TTSNA) to the International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities, Revision 4 (ISIC. Rev 4). Accordingly, Table 5.II and Figure 5.IV take these revisions into consideration.

Table 5.II: Budgeted Allocations for the Key Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly and Gross Domestic Product for 2014-2018.

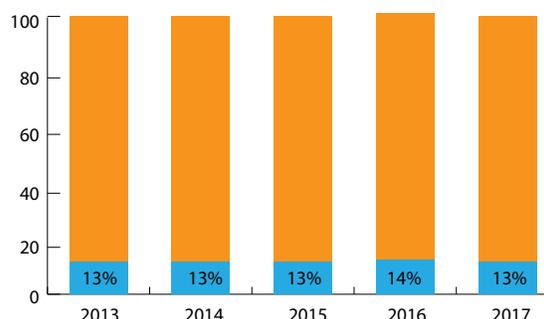
Year	Social Sector Allocation ³ (TT\$ Billion)	GDP ⁴ (TT\$ Billion)
2014	21.1	167.4 ^r
2015	21.96	170.3 ^r
2016	22.95	159.3 ^r
2017	19.69	156.3 ^r
2018	19.88	159.2 ^p

r-revised; p-provisional

3 Publications of the Social Sector Investment Programme 2014-2018

4 Central Statistical Office (CSO) 2018. These figures reflect GDP estimates based on 2012 constant prices and the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Revision 4.

Figure 5.IV: Percentage Allocation to the Key Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the THA in Relation to GDP (2013-2017)



In fiscal 2018, the combined budgeted allocation for Social Infrastructure and Social Programming decreased from TT\$10.9 billion in 2017 to TT\$10.1 billion in 2018. Table 5.III details the Budgeted Allocation for Social Infrastructure and Programming from 2014 to 2018.

Table 5.III: Budgeted Allocations for Social Infrastructure and Programming for Fiscal Period 2013-2017

Year	Social Infrastructure ⁵ TTD	Social Programming ⁶ TTD	Total
2014	3,395,467,000	7,945,008,757	11,340,475,757
2015	3,585,377,000	8,997,769,044	12,583,146,044
2016	2,369,145,000	9,891,660,141	12,260,805,141
2017	2,250,180,000	8,402,608,762	10,652,788,762
2018	2,008,378,000	8,482,864,400	10,491,242,400

5 Draft Estimates of Expenditure of Development Programme 2018

6 Estimate of Expenditure

The percentage of the overall Social Sector budget allocated towards Social Infrastructure and Programming allocated to the THA is illustrated in Table 5. IV.



Table 5.IV: Percentage of Social Infrastructure & Programming Allocated to Social Sector Ministries and the THA

Year	Budgeted Allocation to Key Social Sector Ministries and the THA TTD	Budgeted Allocations for Social Infrastructure and Social Programming TTD	Percentage of Social Infrastructure & Programming to Allocations to Social Sector Ministries and the THA %
2014	21,133,241,942	11,340,475,757	53.66
2015	21,961,339,938	12,583,146,044	57.30
2016	22,949,829,626	12,260,805,141	53.42
2017	19,693,718,474	10,911,117,562	55.40
2018	19,878,284,688	10,125,433,000	50.94

REVIEW OF TOBAGO

In fiscal 2018, the total budgetary allocation to the Tobago House of Assembly amounted to \$2.18B, of which \$1.86B was allocated for Recurrent Expenditure and \$315.7M for Development Programme Expenditure. The overall budgetary allocation in fiscal 2018 declined by 6.7 per cent. A new strategic plan for CEPEP was developed, while URP formulated a new policy framework to guide its operations for the period, 2018-2020. Both programmes were restructured to concentrate on skills training and enabling employees to gain certification for competencies acquired. The restructuring also took into consideration increasing revenue generating activities, as well as support for the agricultural sector.

Box 5.I: New Programmes and Projects/Initiatives Developed/Implemented in Fiscal 2018

- National Crime Prevention Programme (MNS)
- Automated Border Control System (MNS)
- Removal of the Life Certificate Requirement for Senior Citizens Pension (MSDFS)
- Implementation of a Standard Means Test for Social Programmes (MSDFS)
- Barbershop Initiative (OPM-GCA)
- Operationalisation of the National Transition Home – Male (OPM-GCA)

5.2. New Programmes and Projects Developed/Implemented in Fiscal 2018

The new programmes and projects developed by ministries and agencies in fiscal 2018 were in keeping with corresponding responsibilities to achieve the developmental objectives of the National Development Strategy (Vision 2030). Box 5.I highlights the new programmes and projects developed/implemented during fiscal 2018.

5.3. Social Policies Developed in Fiscal 2018

5.3.1. The Inter-Ministerial Social Policy Committee (I-MSPC)

On 25th January, 2018, the Inter-Ministerial Social Policy Committee, under the stewardship of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services, hosted a meeting of Policy Practitioners to:

1. Address the current monitoring and evaluation challenges in policy development;

2. Create and foster a mechanism for policy practitioners to function in harmony and improve synergy across the Social Sector; and
3. Strengthen the network of professionals in the field of policy development, implementation and evaluation to enable policy coherence across the public sector.

There were representations from core social sector ministries, as well as from the wider public sector and the Tobago House of Assembly. The meeting engendered wide-ranging discussions in the area of policy development and practice and proffered recommendations/solutions geared towards:

- Fostering greater synergy among policy practitioners in the public service; and
- Addressing the unavailability of data to inform policy development and the need for more research activities.

The I-MSPC was reconstituted in August 2016 for a two-year term and its term ended in July 2018. The process to extend the term of the I-MSPC was initiated.

During fiscal 2018, Ministries pursued development of key policy initiatives to guide its operations, some of which are highlighted in Box 5. II.

Box 5.II: Policies Developed and/or Implemented in Fiscal 2018

- Postal Sector Policy (MPU)
- Trinidad and Tobago National Sport Policy (MSYA)
- National Policy on Culture and Arts (MCDCA)
- Policy Guidelines for the Provision of Support to the Museum Sector in Trinidad and Tobago
- Draft Education Policy Paper 2017-2022 (MOE)
- National Parenting Policy (MSDFS)
- Draft National Workplace Policy on Sexual Harassment (MLSED)
- National Health Card Policy (MoH)
- National Policy on Persons with Disabilities (MSDFS)
- National Child Policy (OPM)
- National Policy on Gender and Development (OPM)
- Policy on the Establishment of the Office of the Children's Commissioner (OPM)
- Interim Policy and Guidelines for the Administration of Grants in the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts (MCDCA)
- National Policy for Sustainable Community Development (MCDCA)
- Policy for a System of Recognition and Rewards for Outstanding Sport Performances



5.4. Research Conducted in Fiscal 2018

Research is critical given its role in facilitating evidence-based social policy and programme planning and development. In fiscal 2018, the Inter-Ministerial Research Council for the Social Sector, under the purview of the MSDFS, was reconstituted for an additional period of three (3) years. The Inter Ministerial Research Council (IMRC) was officially launched on May 2nd 2018 and is mainly responsible for coordinating the National Research Agenda for the Social Sector. The following eleven (11) agencies are represented on the Council:

- Children’s Authority
- Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Housing and Urban Development
- Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development
- Ministry of Planning and Development
- Ministry of Social Development and Family Services
- Office of the Prime Minister - Gender and Child Affairs
- The University of the West Indies (St. Augustine)
- Tobago House of Assembly

The first official meeting was held on May 23, 2018, followed by meetings on June 13, and July 25, 2018. At these meetings, members provided a status on the research activities of their agency and suggestions were obtained for the development of the IMRC’s work plan. The database on social sector research publications was updated given the information received from members. An all day working session is carded to take place before the end of the fiscal year, for which the main objective is finalisation of the Council’s work plan.

Key research activities conducted by social sector ministries during fiscal 2018 are highlighted at Box 5.III.

Box 5.III: Research Conducted and/or Finalised in Fiscal 2018

- Position Paper on the Industrial Relations Act (MLSED)
- Position Paper on the Retrenchment and Severance Benefit Act (MLSED)
- An Investigation into the Barriers, Enablers, Costs and Nutritional Quality of Lunches Consumed by Children Attending Schools in Trinidad (MoE)
- The Burden of Obstructive Lung Disease in Trinidad and Tobago (MoH)
- Baseline Study on Public Perceptions on Child Protection Issues in Trinidad and Tobago (OPM-GCA)

5.5. Evaluations Conducted in Fiscal 2018

Monitoring and evaluation of programmes and projects is a critical function, especially, in an environment where there are resource challenges, as has been the case during a significant portion of fiscal 2018. It was necessary to ensure that the manner in which resources were being utilised would have impact and outcomes that were consistent with sustainable human and social development.

5.5.1. The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services

Evaluation of the Geriatric Adolescence Partnership Programme (GAPP) and the Centre for Socially Displaced Persons (CSDP)

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services commenced evaluations of the Geriatric Adolescence Partnership Programme (GAPP) and the Centre for Socially Displaced Persons (CSDP) during fiscal 2018. Interviews were conducted with key stakeholders in the 2nd and 3rd quarters of fiscal 2018 and it is expected that these evaluations would be completed in fiscal 2019.

5.5.2. Office of the Prime Minister

Evaluation of the New Life Ministries' Women's Rehabilitation Centre

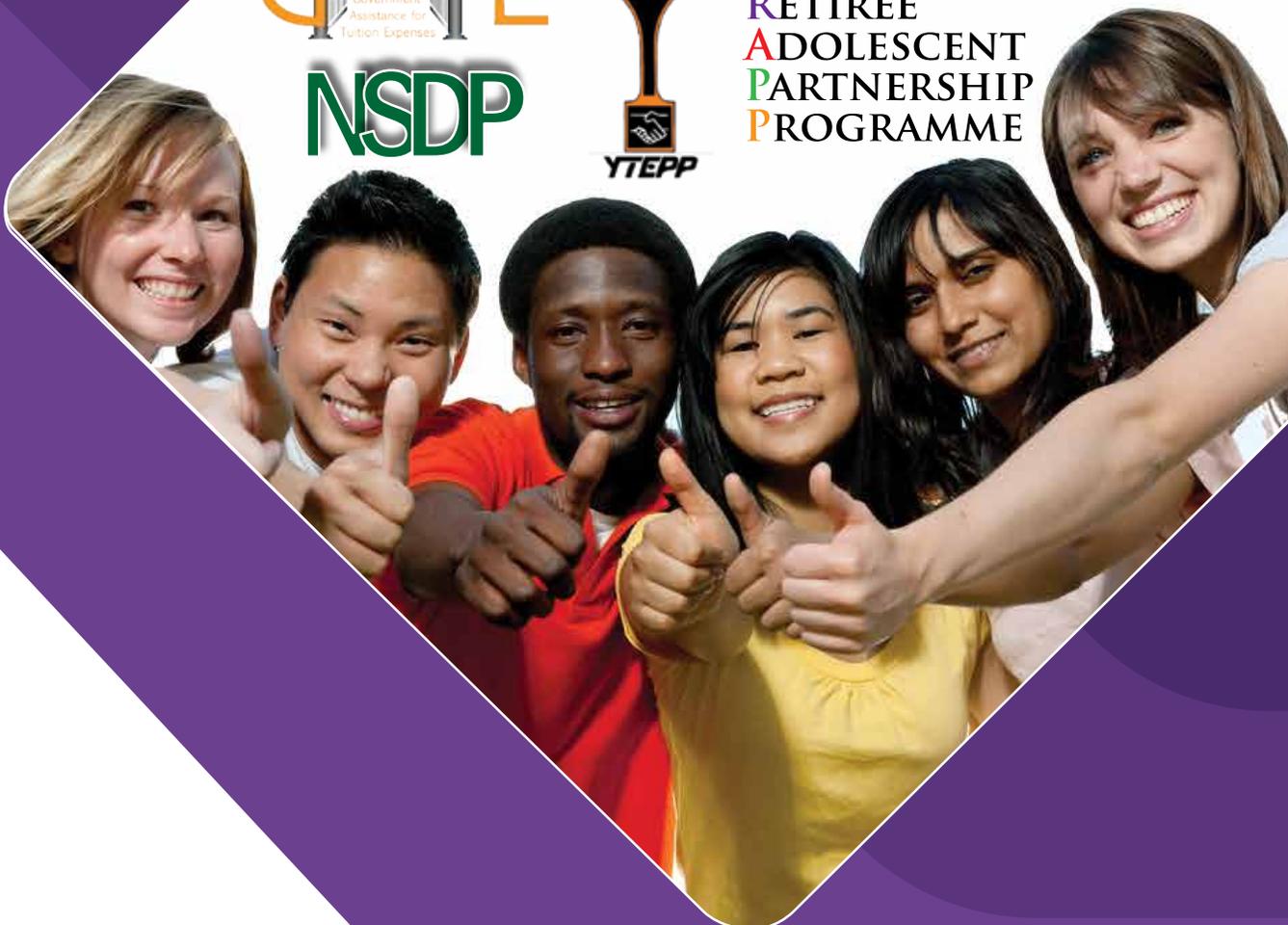
This programme receives a subvention from the Office of the Prime Minister – Gender and Child Affairs. As a measure of due diligence the Ministry sought to conduct evaluations on funded programmes to ascertain their continued relevance, effectiveness and impact. The purpose of the evaluation was to assess efficiency and effectiveness, the programmatic impact and outcomes, so as to inform the continuation of subventions to the programme. The Ministry completed qualitative data analysis and an initial report was submitted.

REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

6



RETIREE
ADOLESCENT
PARTNERSHIP
PROGRAMME



Chapter 6:**REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES
AND INITIATIVES 2018**

This chapter examines the initiatives undertaken by key social sector Ministries for fiscal 2018. The chapter outlines major achievements and activities of some of the critical social programmes under the purview of sector ministries, whose primary function is to address a range of social issues, as well as to foster sustainable human and social development.

Table 6.1 lists the National Development Themes and Goals as outlined in the National Development Strategy 2016-2030 (Vision 2030) that are relevant to the programmes reported on in this chapter.

Table 6.1: National Development Themes and Goals Relevant to the Initiatives Outlined in this Section

National Development Themes	
Theme I: Putting People First : Nurturing our Greatest Asset	
Goal 1	Our Society will be grounded in the principles of social justice
Goal 2	Social Services Delivery will be improved to better serve the needs of vulnerable groups
Goal 3	Citizens will have access to adequate and affordable housing
Goal 4	The Healthcare System of Trinidad and Tobago will be sustainable and modern and deliver higher standards of healthcare
Goal 5	The people of Trinidad and Tobago will be empowered to lead healthy lifestyles
Goal 6	The family will be protected and supported
Goal 7	Trinidad and Tobago will have a modern, relevant education and training system
Theme II: Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence	
Goal 1	Our governance approach will be based on principles of participation and inclusion
Goal 3	Public Service Delivery will be customer-focused
Theme III: Improving Productivity Through Quality Infrastructure and Transport	
Goal 2	Our public utility system will be better managed with improved access for all
Goal 4	Trinidad and Tobago will have a modern and well-maintained ICT system
Theme IV: Building Globally Competitive Businesses	
Goal 2	A business environment that is conducive to entrepreneurship

In fiscal 2018, key social sector Ministries expended, in several cases, approximately 100% or more of their budgeted allocations. Table 6.11 shows a comparison of estimates of expenditure and revised estimates of expenditure (i.e. recurrent expenditure) on social programmes and initiatives of key social sector Ministries and the Social Services Division of the Tobago House of Assembly for fiscal 2018. Appendix II also refers.



Table 6.II: Comparison of Estimates of Expenditure and Revised Estimates of Expenditure for Recurrent Social Programmes for Fiscal 2018, Key Social Sector Ministries and Key Social Services Divisions within the Tobago House of Assembly

MINISTRY	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	% OF ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE	
			2018	2017
Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts	235,650,300	164,601,100	69	92
Ministry of Education	421,070,000	410,209,200	97	113
Ministry of Health	724,498,600	591,200,000	82	98
Ministry of Housing & Urban Development	672,100,000	672,100,100	100	180
Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs	92,450,000	71,461,000	77	79
Ministry of Social Development and Family Services	4,540,191,200	4,575,751,000	101	99
Tobago House of Assembly	79,112,900	79,112,900	100	86
TOTAL	6,765,073,000	6,564,435,300		

SOURCE: Figures supplied by the Budget Division, Ministry of Finance, September, 2018

Over the period 2013 to 2018, Government’s expenditure on major social safety net programmes averaged TT\$6 billion annually. Table 6.III outlines expenditure on these programmes over the 6-year period. The 2018 total estimated expenditure on these programmes represented approximately 73.4% of total estimates for recurrent expenditure on social programmes for the fiscal, which totalled approximately TT\$8.4 billion.⁴¹

The Senior Citizens’ Pension recorded the highest expenditure during the period under review, with totals ranging from TT\$2.6 billion in 2013 to TT\$3.6 billion in 2018. The Government Assistance for Tertiary Expenses (GATE) Programme, recorded the second highest expenditure with figures ranging between TT\$726 million and TT\$434 million over the period. The Community-based Environment Protection and Enhancement Programme (CEPEP) recorded the third highest expenditure, ranging between TT\$584 million in 2013 and TT\$450 million in 2018.

⁴¹ Please see Appendix II for Total Allocations and Expenditures for Recurrent Social Programmes for Fiscal 2018

Table 6.III: Actual Expenditure for Selected Programmes for the Years 2013 -2017 and Revised Estimates of Expenditure for 2018

PROGRAMME	Actual Expenditure 2013	Actual Expenditure 2014	Actual Expenditure 2015	Actual Expenditure 2016	Actual Expenditure 2017	Revised Estimates of Expenditure 2018
Community-based Environment Protection & Enhancement Programme (CEPEP)	584,039,642	532,557,459	606,200,000	531,587,765	450,000,000	448,000,000
Disability Assistance Grant (DAG)	397,135,500	371,682,763	379,506,550	516,847,841	523,754,942	520,000,000
Government Assistance for Tertiary Expenses (GATE)	726,130,316	635,678,144	712,000,000	650,000,000	504,940,251	434,300,000
National Schools Dietary Services Limited (Trinidad) (formerly School Nutrition Programme)	252,855,000	258,660,000	250,000,000	235,500,000	200,000,000	156,700,000
On the Job Training (OJT) Programme	260,000,000	307,025,030	308,000,000	347,820,000	228,083,000	184,517,200
Public Assistance Grant (PAG)	307,188,440	288,743,006	409,500,000	463,991,114	404,253,153	400,000,000
Senior Citizens' Pension (SCP)	2,583,476,945	2,434,803,838	2,861,470,500	3,688,326,325	3,506,374,482	3,562,000,000
Food Support Programme (formerly Targeted Conditional Cash Transfer Programme)	224,059,758	270,486,521	294,000,000	260,000,000	158,103,630	192,000,000
Unemployment Relief Programme (URP)	406,976,868	572,518,625	717,500,000	349,840,805	299,901,474	287,841,940
TOTAL	5,741,862,469	5,672,155,386	6,538,177,050	7,043,913,850	6,275,410,932	6,185,359,140



Review of Social Programmes

This section provides a review of the social programmes implemented in fiscal 2018. The initiatives outlined are reflective of ongoing and new social sector programmes to address a wide range of critical socio-economic, cultural and other pertinent issues including: ageing; community development and the arts; child protection; culture; disability affairs; education; employment and entrepreneurship; environmental protection; family support; gender issues; health care and services; housing; information technology; literacy; poverty reduction; skills development; social protection; and substance abuse and how they impact on sustainable human development.

Box 6.I: Ministries/Divisions Highlighted in this Chapter

- Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts (MCDCA)
- Ministry of Education (MoE)
- Office of the Prime Minister (Gender and Child Affairs) (OPM)
- Ministry of Health (MoH)
- Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MoHUD)
- Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development (MLSED)
- Ministry of National Security
- Ministry of Public Utilities (MPU)
- Ministry of Public Administration
- Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government (MRDLG)
- Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS)

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CULTURE AND THE ARTS	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
	<p>COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND SENSITISATION PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme provides a platform for the dissemination of information on social, economic and other issues and developments that impact upon the day to day lives of people in local communities. This programme serves to assist individuals and groups, in particular, in making the choices that improve their lives and by extension their communities.</p>	<p>Children (17 years and under) and youth (18 – 25 years)</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018, 139 programmes were conducted, training a total of 4,886 persons.</p>	<p>A more diversified, knowledge-intensive economy</p>
	<p>COMMUNITY MEDIATION SERVICES</p> <p>The initiatives implemented by the Community Mediation Services Division are intended to encourage the adoption of behaviours that are consistent with the underpinning philosophy of mediation, restoration and peace building. These initiatives include peer mediation, conflict management training, leadership skills development, anger management, communication and interpersonal skills. These are among other programmes which are specially designed according to the needs of the particular organisation or community. These initiatives are supported by the practices of mediation, social work and other therapeutic interventions as well as the facilitation of difficult conversations in communities and special interest groups.</p>	<p>Families, communities, individuals</p>	<p>The following sub-initiatives were undertaken as part of the programme and the following was achieved:</p>	<p>Sustainable social transformation and social justice</p>



INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p style="text-align: center;">MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CULTURE AND THE ARTS</p> <p>COMMUNITY MEDIATION SERVICES (ctd.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parental Support Groups Membership in the Parental Support is voluntary. Members comprise clients, for mediation and social work interventions, referrals from other ministries and agencies, and members of the public. These groups provide therapy as members are allowed a secure space to enhance their parenting skills, seek out support, information and supportive relationships to cope and better manage domestic situations. • Under this initiative parents and grandparents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are equipped with information and skills to improve their confidence and competence in parenting; • access support and develop coping skills and mechanisms in a non-threatening and supportive environment; • experience enhanced quality of family life in their communities. 	<p>Families/ communities</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 600 persons attended meetings. • 50 Parental Support Group Meetings were held. <p>The topics discussed included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time Management • Anger Management • Effective Communication • Domestic Violence • Gambling • Money Management • Self-care • Women’s Health • Stress Management • Sexuality • Financial Management • Love Languages • Goal Setting • Dealing with change • Bullying • Discipline • Suicide <p>Additionally, all Parental Support Groups were brought together for two workshops to address critical issues which affected parenting effectiveness.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Education and Sensitisation The public awareness and education activities are designed to facilitate effective interaction with communities across the country and engage with various stakeholders in discussions to understand their peculiar needs, so that the Programme would remain relevant and realistic. <p>These initiatives also inform and educate the public of the benefits of the mediation process in general and the services offered through the Community Mediation Centres and how they can be accessed.</p>	<p>Youth (between 18 and 27 years)</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 8,000 brochures, pamphlets and booklets on bullying, abuse, family violence, community violence, school violence, and parenting were distributed. • Forty-three (43) Workshops/ Seminars were delivered at a number of institutions nationwide (inclusive of Secondary Schools). • Twenty-nine (29) Outreach Sessions related to Peer Mediation and Parenting were conducted benefiting approximately 1,000 participants. 	

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CULTURE AND THE ARTS</p> <p>COMMUNITY MEDIATION SERVICES (ctd.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer Mediation Programme This initiative contributes to the following social policy areas: Youth Development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage Youth to become Leaders in their communities by exposing them to training in Civic Responsibility • Promote and encourage the participation of the youth in all aspects of sustainable development of Trinidad and Tobago. National Security: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confront the causes of youth crime by addressing risks factors for crime and violence e.g. at the personal, parenting, family and neighbourhood levels. 	<p>Youth (between 18 and 27 years)</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eighteen (18) Institutional Readiness Assessment instruments were completed and can successfully support the peer mediation programme in 13 selected schools. • Eight (8) residents of St. Jude's entered the Peer Mediation programme. Six (6) completed the Curriculum and four (4) installed as Peer Mediators. • Forty (40) students completed the Curriculum at the Cunupia Government High School and thirty (30) students were installed as Peer Mediators. • Thirty-seven (37) students completed the Curriculum at the Toco Government Secondary School and thirty (30) students were installed as Peer Mediators. • One hundred and thirty-two (132) students entered the Curriculum at the following schools: Valencia Government Secondary School (31); Pleasantville Government Secondary School (39); Sangre Grande Government Secondary School (43); and Tranquility Government Secondary School (19). • Peer mediation has been implemented in six (6) institutions, whilst the initiation process has been initiated in seven (7) institutions. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mediation and Social Work Intervention Cases Programme This programme offers mediation and social work services to clients presented at mediation centres through self-referrals or Court-referrals in matters classified as civil or family. 	<p>Families, communities, individuals</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018 the following achievements were recorded under the Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,737 clients were served at the various Centres as follows: (2,147 males) and 2,590 females; • 1,059 clients received counselling; • 888 Civil and Family cases were managed (253 Civil and 635 Family cases); • 431 cases were mediated. 	<p>Self-reliant and sustainable communities</p>
<p>COMMUNITY EDUCATION (SHORT SKILLS TRAINING) PROGRAMME</p> <p>This Programme provides training in a variety of marketable skills geared towards home based production of goods and services and employment generation. Training is conducted at both the basic and advanced levels. This programme usually starts in March/April and continues for a duration of six months until August/ September annually. The overall objectives of the programme are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Generate self and wage employment opportunities. 2. Provide domestic support. 3. Allow for more effective use of scarce financial resources. 	<p>Communities</p>	<p>As at June 2018, two hundred and sixty-three (264) programmes were conducted in communities throughout the country, approximately 6,913 persons benefitted.</p>	



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>GOOD GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME</p> <p>This initiative provides a training platform to address the competencies of voluntary community leaders. It aims to reinforce the essential elements of group leadership and group management, while at the same time bringing to the fore new knowledge and experiences that promote growth and development.</p>	<p>Community-based organisations</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018, 257 programmes were implemented in 257 communities across the country. Approximately 3,219 persons benefitted from the programme.</p>	<p>Improved community leadership</p>
<p>NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SELF HELP</p> <p>The National Commission for Self Help Limited (NCSHL) is a state-owned enterprise that addresses poverty alleviation and community empowerment through the distribution of Minor Repairs and Reconstruction Grants (MRRG), Emergency Repair and Reconstruction Assistance Grants (ERRAG) and Infrastructure Development Projects.</p> <p>Objectives of the grant funding are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve the living conditions for socially challenged individuals; 2. Uplift the standards of living of low-income families and senior citizens 3. Provide urgent assistance to restore the homes of victims of fire and natural disasters by responding within a seven (7) day period. 	<p>Vulnerable families and communities</p>	<p>As at June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial and technical assistance were provided for the completion of forty-two (42) projects to improve the living conditions of individuals and to improve the standard of living of low income families and senior citizens. This benefitted a total number of 1,605 persons. • Financial and technical assistance were also provided to four (4) applicants to restore the homes of victims of fire and natural disasters. 	
<p>NATIONAL REGISTRY OF ARTISTS AND CULTURAL WORKERS</p> <p>The National Registry of Artists and Cultural Workers was established and supported by the government of Trinidad and Tobago, as a requirement of CARICOM countries that are signatories to the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the European Union. (EU). This programme supports the professional development of nationals of Trinidad and Tobago within the Creative and Cultural Industries. Its expanding searchable database featuring creativity in a variety of fields, is a useful resource and tool of the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts. Other public and private sector stakeholders, locally, regionally and internationally also benefit from public access to the database.</p>	<p>Cultural groups and organisations, creative and artistic individuals</p>	<p>For the period April to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thirty-nine (39) applicants were approved (10 females, 8 males, 5 cultural groups/ organisations and 16 creative/artistic works). 	<p>Development of the Creative and Cultural Industries</p>

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CULTURE AND THE ARTS

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p align="center">MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CULTURE AND THE ARTS</p>	<p>MENTORING BY THE MASTERS The Mentoring by the Masters programme is the flagship project of the National Registry of Artists and Cultural Workers. This mentorship workshop series aims to honour the contributions of cultural icons as they pass on their knowledge and expertise to upcoming professionals in the Creative and Cultural Industries. The project serves as a strategy for succession planning, as well as heritage preservation.</p>	<p>Men and women</p>	<p>As at June 2018, a total of eighty-eight (88) persons were shortlisted to participate in the developmental workshops.</p>	
	<p>PRIME MINISTER'S BEST VILLAGE TROPHY COMPETITION (PMBVTC) The Prime Minister's Best Village Trophy Competition is designed to partner with communities; so as to identify, promote and implement programmes and projects, whilst the Traditional Folk Art is preserved through competition amongst communities.</p>	<p>Children, youth and communities</p>	<p>For the fiscal period the following was achieved under the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sixty-nine (69) community groups received awards and cash prizes totalling \$915,100.00; • Four hundred and thirty-three (433) tutors (in the areas of dance, drumming, drama and music) gained part-time employment. • Four hundred and thirty-three (433) training classes were conducted for communities participating in folk presentations/theatre in the preliminaries of Finals in approximately one hundred and eighty-seven (187) communities. 	<p>Self-reliant and sustainable communities</p>
	<p>TRANSFORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT CENTRES (TDCs) The Transformation and Development Centres (TDCs) formerly called Relief Centres, were established in October 1995, as part of Government's social safety net to address the continued fallout of its structural adjustment initiative at that time. The objective of the TDCs was to address hunger, homelessness, unemployment and the absence of marketable skills among vulnerable citizens of the nation. Currently, the focus of the Programme is on addressing the issue of hunger through the provision of approximately one hundred and eighty-four (184) meals daily to destitute persons. During the pilot phase of the Programme, three (3) Centres were established and have since remained in operation as follows: South Port of Spain Centre, Spree Simon Centre and Cocorite Centre. The Centres are operated by Non-Governmental Organisations.</p>	<p>NGOs and vulnerable persons within the community</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to March 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One hundred and eighty-four (184) meals per day were served at the three Centres. As a result, approximately 33,120 meals were distributed during the period. • A rapid assessment report on the programme was completed. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable, as well as improved access to social protection</p>



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</p> <p>FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (STUDIES) PROGRAMME (FASP)</p> <p>The Financial Assistance (Studies) Programme is designed to aid those students whose resources are not sufficient to meet the costs of Post-Secondary/ Undergraduate level education. It supports disadvantaged students who are experiencing challenges in meeting the costs associated with the pursuit of academic studies and/or encounter financial difficulties during their programme of study. The Programme was specifically established to provide supplementary financial support in circumstances of need and was not intended to be the student's main source of funding.</p>	<p>Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>Currently, four (4) students are benefitting from the Programme and payments were extended to three (3) students in the sum of \$34,300.00 over the fiscal year.</p>	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens</p>
<p>GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE FOR TUITION EXPENSES (GATE)</p> <p>The Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses Programme (GATE) is managed by the Funding and Grants Administration Division (FGAD) of the Ministry of Education.</p> <p>The Programme seeks to provide financial assistance, to cover the cost of tuition fees, to all qualified citizens of Trinidad and Tobago pursuing approved tertiary level programmes at local and regional public and private institutions. On completion of their studies, persons benefitting from the programme are required to complete a period of national service commensurate with the value of the grant.</p> <p>The implementation of a Means Test is now in effect to determine access to the GATE Programme.</p> <p>Undergraduate students are to be funded as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> where the household income is \$10,000 per month or less, students will be eligible for 100% funding; where the household income is above \$10,000 per month but less than \$30,000, students will be required to pay 25% of their tuition fees; where the household income is \$30,000 per month or more, students will be required to pay 50% of tuition fees. <p>Postgraduate students are to be funded as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> persons who qualify and their household income is \$30,000 per month or more, will receive 25% of tuition fees; persons who qualify and their household income is less than \$30,000 per month, will receive 50% of tuition fees. 	<p>Students of undergraduate and postgraduate level programmes at public, pre-approved private and regional Tertiary Level Institutions (TLIs)</p>	<p>For the fiscal period 2017/2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17,924 students benefitted from the GATE programme; The FGAD Division recovered a total of \$2,238,278.64 from non-compliant students, whilst \$911,991.04 was recovered from non-compliant institutions. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens</p>

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>HIGHER EDUCATION LOAN PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP) was established with the aim of providing financial assistance to citizens of Trinidad and Tobago desirous of pursuing tertiary education, by expanding equitable access to tertiary education and consequently increasing the national participatory rate in tertiary education. The programme offers a low interest loan facility, accessible at local commercial banking institutions to qualifying students. The programme covers tertiary expenses such as tuition accommodation, airfare/transportation costs and books.</p> <p>LAVENTILLE/MORVANT SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (LMSIP)</p> <p>The project targets 25 schools (20 primary and 5 secondary), in the Laventille/Morvant area which are considered to be at-risk due to factors such as continuous poor performance, high drop-out rates and high community crime rates. The project is broken down into 5 components and involves implementation of activities geared to fostering a safe environment; increasing the completion rate of students; increasing the literacy and numeracy of students; improving overall academic performance; reduce the violence and indiscipline and increase parental and community involvements in the schools.</p> <p>NATIONAL SCHOOL DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED: (SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMME)</p> <p>The School Nutrition Programme provides deserving students throughout Trinidad and Tobago with breakfast and lunch to ensure that they achieve a head start in their quest for academic excellence. The provision of school meals contributes to 1/4 and 1/3 of the child's recommended dietary allowances for breakfast and lunch, respectively. The programme seeks to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve the nutritional status of the needy child thereby enhancing the child's ability to learn; and 2. Further stimulate the agricultural sector by utilising local produce wherever possible in the meal plan. 	<p>Qualifying students of undergraduate and postgraduate level programmes at tertiary level institutions</p> <p>Primary and secondary school students and their parents</p> <p>Primary and secondary school students</p>	<p>For the 2017/2018 fiscal period, three hundred and ninety-five (395) loans were disbursed to students.</p> <p>For fiscal 2017/2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fourteen (14) Laventille Collage books were printed, containing pictures and stories of students from the LMSIP; • Twenty-eight (28) teachers from 19 of the 20 Primary schools in the LMSIP were trained in Numeracy; • Forty-eight (48) teachers of Infants I and II from 17 primary schools; • Fifty-one (51) teachers of Standards 1, 2 and 3 and twenty-seven (27) teachers of Standards 4 and 5, from sixteen primary schools were trained in Literacy in Mathematics and Fundamentals in Fractions <p>Additionally, the Implementation Plan for academic year 2017/2018 was developed and the Stakeholder Management Plan and Risk Management Plan for Numeracy were prepared for the LMSIP.</p> <p>For the Fiscal 2017/2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 4.3 million breakfast meals and 6.4 million lunches were served. This amounted to over ten million (10 million) safe and nutritious meals being prepared for the period. <p>Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to increased availability, the use of local produce was increased in the Programme • Meal samples continued to be randomly selected and tested to be microbiologically safe. • The Supplier's Inspection Team continued its inspections to ensure that the products and raw materials entering the caterer's facilities were of the highest food safety standards. • Ongoing training for caterers conducted in areas such as food safety and quantity food production (171 persons from 27 kitchens participated). • 1,453 pupils (779 males and 674 females) participated in a Breakfast survey that was conducted from February 2018 to March 2018. 	<p>Students of undergraduate and postgraduate level programmes</p> <p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens</p> <p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens</p>
<p>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</p>			



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)	<p>THE BARBERSHOP INITIATIVE</p> <p>The Barbershop Initiative programme, which commenced in April 2018, aims to create a setting for male-to-male discussions about behaviours, attitudes and negative gender stereotypes. The programme also identifies organisations that provide support and other services for men and boys.</p> <p>Objectives include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To increase awareness of gender inequality and negative gender stereotypes; 2. To encourage men to make a proactive commitment to gender equality at an individual level; 3. To create awareness of existing cultural/social gender norms which prevent women's empowerment. 	<p>Males aged 14 years and older</p>	<p>For the period April to June 2018, a total of five hundred and thirty-seven (537) men and boys participated in three (3) Barbershop Initiative workshops and nine (9) sessions in the Los Bajos, Sobó Village, Malabar and Five Rivers communities.</p>	
	<p>CARING FOR CHILDREN IN INSTITUTIONAL RESIDENCES – COHORT II</p> <p>The Trinidad and Tobago Registered Nurses Association (TRRNA) was contracted by the OPM to train a pool of persons as caregivers to promote the growth and development of children in community residences. It aims to ensure the availability of adequately trained providers to care for children, in a sustainable manner. The programme covers both theoretical and practical sessions, with training in the final weeks being conducted at community residences.</p>	<p>Children in community residences</p>	<p>As at March 2018: Seventeen (17) persons were enrolled in the Caregivers' Training Programme.</p>	<p>Holistic development of children in community residences</p>

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p align="center">OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)</p> <p>CENTRAL REGISTRY ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE</p> <p>The Central Registry on Domestic Violence aims to provide a centralised location to capture reports on domestic violence from relevant agencies. Its objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a more efficient and effective method of monitoring domestic violence in Trinidad and Tobago; • Reduce duplication of service delivery and costs by informing practitioners of all agencies involved with a case study; • Enable the early identification of needs, timely responses and effective holistic intervention strategies through the review of historical data, trend analyses and other statistical reporting tools; • Enhance effective evidenced-based policy and programme development; and • Improve communication/collaboration among practitioners, by providing access to historical data/information from a trusted source. 	<p>Victims of domestic violence</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018, a total of 1,144 client reports were captured.</p>	<p>Reduction in the levels of domestic violence</p>
<p>CHILD RIGHTS AMBASSADORS PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Child Rights Ambassadors (CRA) Programme seeks to provide a platform upon which children are ambassadors for their rights in keeping with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).</p> <p>Objectives include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To educate children on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and its relevance to their lives; 2. To equip children with creative arts skills that can be used to educate their peers and adults about child rights; 3. To empower students with a platform to speak out on issues that affect them that may be used to inform policy; and 4. To increase public awareness on the role and function of the Child Affairs arm of the Office of The Prime Minister. 	<p>Children and members of the public</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to March 2018: A total of forty-seven (47) children received training in children's rights. The training, would have prepared the children to educate their peers and members of the public on child rights.</p>	



INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE</p> <p>The Domestic Violence Unit works to reduce the incidence of gender-based violence through public education and the National Domestic Violence Hotline 800-SAVE. Its objectives are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce the incidence of violent acts related to domestic violence; 2. Provide support for victims and perpetrators of violence; 3. Provide a facility for anyone to access help in a situation of crisis; and 4. Facilitate the collection of data which can be analysed for informing the development of policies, programmes and projects to deal with issues. 	<p>All victims of domestic violence</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately two hundred and sixty (260) persons reported domestic violence incidents as follows: (7 children, 37 young persons, 187 women, 7 men and 22 older persons.) Additionally, six hundred and sixty (660) persons requested information and 1,190 client calls were followed up during the period; • An evaluation was conducted for the period 2014 to 2017; • The Hotline's database system was appraised and a monitoring and evaluation framework and communication strategy was developed. 	<p>Reduction in acts of domestic violence</p>
<p>FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITY RESIDENCES – (PAYMENT PER CHILD SYSTEM)</p> <p>This System involves the GoRTT providing financial assistance to meet the direct and a certain percentage of the indirect needs of children living in Community Residences (CRs) and State Residences. The direct needs are food, clothing, schooling, medical care and transportation, whilst the indirect needs being met are psychosocial care, administration, utilities, building and fixtures. Payments are based on the various age brackets into which the children fall with a different upkeep cost applicable to each bracket.</p> <p>Objectives of the initiative are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To enhance the quality of care provided to children at Community Residences 2. To aid in the attainment of licenced status of CRs. 	<p>Children up to 18 years living in community residences</p>	<p>As at June 2018, a total of eight hundred and sixty-five (865) children were residing in Community and State Residences benefitted from this initiative. Of this total, 690 were 14 years and under whilst 175 children were between the ages of 15 to 18 years.</p> <p>Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Monitoring and Evaluation framework was developed and a telephone survey was administered to all 24 community residences. 	
<p>GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES</p> <p>The Gender Affairs Division (GAD) of the Office of the Prime Minister (GCA) is mandated to ensure that gender mainstreaming is effected throughout government ministries and state agencies. This will require continued application of gender analytical tools, via training workshops. In this regard, Gender Focal Points were established in twenty-one (21) Ministries and fourteen (14) State Agencies to serve as gender advocates within their Ministries, Departments and Organisations/State Agencies. This programme commenced in February 2018.</p>	<p>State Agencies/ Ministries/ Organisations</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sixty-five (65) gender focal points in Ministries, Organisations and State Agencies received training at capacity building workshops on gender advocacy and the promotion of gender equality and equity. Roles and functions for the gender focal points were developed and disseminated to them for their guidance and implementation. <p>Additionally,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the implementation phase, a monitoring and evaluation component will be included to determine the effectiveness of the initiative. 	

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)</p>	<p>INTERNATIONAL COMMEMORATIONS International Commemorations are held annually to promote gender equity and equality in Trinidad and Tobago and to increase gender awareness amongst the population of Trinidad and Tobago.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Women's Day (IWD) International Women's Day seeks to celebrate advances in addressing, and raising awareness of, women's issues. IWD is celebrated annually on March 8. 	<p>General public</p> <p>Women</p>	<p>During the period October 2017 to June 2018, the following observances were commemorated:</p> <p>A number of activities were held to commemorate International Women's Day (IWD) as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media appearances: On March 5, 2018 there were media interviews by The Minister of State in the Office of the Prime Minister and Technical Officer of the Office of the Prime Minister (Gender and Child Affairs) discussing critical issues pertinent to women. Also, on March 6, 2018, The Honourable Minister brought greetings to the nation via video presentation and discussed women's achievements in Trinidad and Tobago. • A Panel Discussion on the Promotion of Gender Equality through the Adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals was held on March 6, 2018. Panellists included Professor Rhoda Reddock, who spoke on "Why Gender Matters"; Professor Patricia Mohammed, 'Ageing Women in the 21st Century' and Ms. Gaiety Pargass, 'Closing the Gap: Enactment and Implementation of Laws Safeguarding the Rights of Women and Girls in Trinidad and Tobago.'



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)</p>	<p>Women</p>	<p>This Day was commemorated on November 25, 2017. The following events were held to commemorate IDEVAW and the 16 days of Activism from November 25 to December 10, 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of the Minister’s Message in two daily newspapers as well as on the OPM (GCA’s) website and Facebook page; • Hosting of Public Education and Information Fair at City Gate, Port of Spain - November 24th, 2017 • Signature Campaign - The Honourable Minister along with the UNDP Resident Coordinator, led a signature campaign where persons were invited to sign messages and comment on the issue of gender-based violence. A total of 161 signatures were collected. • A sensitisation workshop on Gender and Health with emphasis on Gender Based Violence was hosted for nursing students of the UWI School of Nursing • Movie Feature - The movie “In the time of the Butterfly” was shown for staff of the OPM and Trainees of the Male Caregivers Programme. A Q&A segment on gender-based violence and related issues followed. • Literature, educational items and related memorabilia were also distributed throughout the 16 Days of Activism. 	<p>The OPM (GCA) in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, hosted a 5K walk/run around the Queen’s Park Savannah in commemoration with the IDAWH on May 26, 2018. The overall objective of the event was to increase awareness about gender, health and wellness in our society. Approximately 800 persons were in attendance.</p>
<p>INTERNATIONAL COMMEMORATIONS (ctd.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women <p>The observance of International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (IDEVAW) is significant as it highlights the activism and advocacy efforts aimed at stemming the scourge of gender based violence. Through this initiative it is envisaged that all sectors of the society will be informed of the issues involved in violence against women and that non-violent forms of conflict resolution are promoted. The observance is followed by ‘16 Days of Activism’, which ran from November 25 to December 10, 2017.</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Day of Action for Women’s Health (IDAWH) <p>The International Day of Action for Women’s Health is celebrated every year on May 28. The day focuses on a variety of topics concerning the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) of women. The goal of the International Day of Action for Women’s Health is to ensure every woman is provided the necessary support to live healthy and make her own decisions without violence and discrimination.</p>			

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>INTERNATIONAL COMMEMORATIONS (ctd.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Men's Day International Men's Day (IMD) is an occasion for men to celebrate their achievements and contributions, in particular their contributions to community, family, marriage, and child care while highlighting the discrimination against them. It is celebrated on November 19 each year. 	Men and boys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Men's Seminar was held at the University of Trinidad and Tobago, Valsayn Campus. • On November 17, 2017 A Men's Health Caravan was held at Harris Promenade, San Fernando and a Round Table discussion was held at NALIS. Both events were hosted in collaboration with London South Bank University (LSBU), the University of the West Indies' School of Nursing and the Institute of Gender and Development. • A message from the Prime Minister was also published on the Ministry's electronic platforms. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Rights Day Commemorated on December 10 each year, the objectives of this observance are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create an awareness of the issues related to human rights; • Sensitise citizens on universal human rights and responsibilities; • Encourage national dialogue and stimulate public action towards adhering to human rights. 	All citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A movie on human rights-related issues "Home Again" was shown to staff of the OPM and other Ministries located in Towers D and C at the International Waterfront Complex. The movie was followed by a question and answer segment. • The Gender Affairs Division, in collaboration with the International Law and Human Rights Unit, Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs, hosted an interactive presentation on Human Rights in Focus for the staff of the OPM and the gender focal points of other Government Ministries 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Aids Day World AIDS Day is observed annually on December 1. The Day provides an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV, to show support for people living with HIV, and to commemorate those who have died from an AIDS-related illness. 	All citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In commemoration of World AIDS Day, the Staff of the Gender Affairs Division, other Divisions/Units of the OPM, staff of other Government Ministries as well as the National AIDS Coordinating Committee, formed a Human Ribbon on the Waterfront on Friday December 1, 2017; • A Public Education Fair entitled "My Health, My Rights" was also hosted by the NACC on the Brian Lara Promenade on World AIDS Day. The Gender Affairs Division gave support through the provision of literature at the event. 	
<p>PARENT SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAMME (PSTP) This Programme aims to provide caregivers of children with developmental disorders or delays with strategies to support their children's development by engaging them in everyday activities and applying strategies to support communication skills and reduce challenging behaviours.</p>	Children and parents	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops were conducted with three (3) groups at the Child Development and Behaviour Unit, Mount Hope and the National Centre for Persons with Disabilities, San Fernando. Beneficiaries included twenty-eight (28) children with developmental disabilities and autism; sixty (60) parents; nine (9) staff members from NGOs that provide service to children with autism and twelve (12) Master Trainers; • Session topics included: Getting Children Engaged; Keeping Children Engaged and Engagement in Play and Home Routines; • Additionally, one (1) home visit was made for each group. 	Holistic development of children with developmental needs

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)</p> <p>UNITED AGAINST CHILD ABUSE STRATEGY This is a holistic programme that aims to create an awareness of child abuse (Physical, emotional, verbal, sexual) and neglect. The initiative aims to strengthen capacity of members of society in child protection and engage them in doing their part to prevent abuse. Once fulfilled, it is expected that a significant number of children and adults will be sensitised on child protection. A social and behaviour change communication approach is used to promote change in individuals. The project consists of training workshops, a media campaign and a child abuse symposium/fair held during the month of April, Child Abuse Awareness Month. The UNICEF provides a significant amount of funding for this project.</p> <p>U-REPORT PLATFORM UNICEF's U-Report is a platform where youth between the ages of 13 – 29 can voice their opinions on various issues affecting their lives including health, education, hygiene, youth unemployment and HIV/AIDS. Those registered for the U-Report would be sent a text or online post with a question seeking their input on one or more of the social issues. Youth can then respond anonymously and can also communicate and create discussions via the online portal and mobile app using an alias to ensure anonymity. Key stakeholders may then receive information about young persons' views on various issues that are affecting their lives.</p>	<p>Youth aged 13 - 17</p> <p>Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>During the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Train-the-Trainer workshop was conducted in October 2017 for social workers and guidance officers at the Ministry of Education; A media campaign, which targeted the general population was executed. To this end, bulk SMS messages were sent out to the general population and multimedia ads placed on print and social media platforms; A national child abuse symposium and information fair was held. Three hundred and fifty (350) students and one hundred and fifty (150) parents/adults attended. <p>As at June 2018, the Office of the Prime Minister (Gender and Child Affairs), in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the organisation Createfuturegood, hosted a U-Report Training in May 2018. Twenty-eight (28) Child Rights Ambassadors were trained.</p>	<p>Efficient and quality healthcare system</p>
<p>MINISTRY OF HEALTH</p> <p>CARDIAC PROGRAMME In addition to cardiac care provided at public sector hospitals, the Ministry of Health through its Adult Cardiac Programme also procure cardiac services from private health care providers on behalf of citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. These services include Angiograms, Angioplasties, Transoesophageal Echocardiograms and Open Heart Surgeries.</p>	<p>Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to July 2018: A total of 1,551 patients (male and female) of the public health care system accessed medical procedures from private institutions through the Ministry of Health. 1,236 patients were approved for cardiac procedures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Angiograms Angioplasty procedures Coronary Artery Bypass Grafts Electrophysiology procedures;and Other cardiac procedures 	<p>Efficient and quality healthcare system</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF HEALTH	<p>CHRONIC DISEASE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (CDAP)</p> <p>The objectives of this programme are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To offer patients afflicted with a chronic disease, convenient, faster and improved access to medication. To reduce the burden on public dispensaries and patient waiting time by providing additional private dispensing facilities across the country. To reduce the cost of healthcare to patients. 	Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago	<p>For the period April to August 2018, a total of 100,390 patients were served under the programme.</p> <p>Additionally,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two hundred and ninety-two (292) pharmacies participated in the programme. A total of forty-nine (49) medications were available to treat eleven (11) chronic diseases 	
	<p>CHILDREN'S LIFE FUND AUTHORITY</p> <p>The Children's Life Fund Authority (CLFA) is the body bestowed with the responsibility to operate, manage and administer the Children's Life Fund. The vision of the CLFA is to provide the most vulnerable in our society with access to life-saving medical treatments not available locally. The CLFA facilitates this provision by ensuring that all eligible applicants to the Fund are carefully assessed by a team of highly Specialised Doctors and Medical Social Workers to ensure that the best care plan is determined and carefully executed. The CLFA's priority is the well-being of the children and their families.</p>	Children 15 years and under	<p>For the period April to July 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of sixteen (16) children from new-born to ten (10) years of age received specialised medical treatment abroad for life threatening illnesses. 44% of applicants to the Fund qualified for funding with a 100% survival rate recorded for the period. 	
	<p>EXTERNAL PATIENT PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme is aimed at ensuring that quality and timely healthcare is delivered to all citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. It aims to meet the demands of the public health care system by providing an efficient service to patients whilst reducing the patient waiting list at public health institutions. Surgical services are provided in the areas of Cataract removal, Joint Replacements, CT/MRI Scans and Histology services with the Regional Health Authorities.</p> <p>Applicants must be registered patients of a public health facility for a minimum of three (3) months awaiting the service requested.</p>	All citizens	<p>During the period October 2017 to August 2018:</p> <p>Approximately five hundred and thirty-nine (539) requests for assistance were received; ninety-nine (99) patients were facilitated during the period April to August 2018. The following medical procedures were executed for patients of the Public Health Care System as indicated hereunder:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 112 Cataract removal surgeries; (44 males; 68 females) 20 CT/MRI scans; (8 males; 12 females) 6 Joint Replacements; (1 male; 5 females) 35 Other procedures (21 males; 14 female) deemed urgent and necessary. 	Efficient and quality healthcare system
	<p>HIV COUNSELLING AND TESTING PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Programme offers HIV Counselling and Testing via Public Health Facilities and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) that have a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Health to provide the service. The overall objective of this initiative is to increase the percentage of the population that has received an HIV test and know the results.</p>	Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago	<p>As at March 2018, approximately 29,197 persons (male and female) received HIV testing and counselling and thereby became aware of their status. Of this total:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 388 were (14 years and under); 5,978 were between (15 and 25 years); 22,406 were between (25 to 59 years); and 1,909 were older persons (60 years and over). 	Efficient and quality healthcare system



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MEDICAL AID PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme aims to provide medical financial assistance to patients through the public-patient initiative.</p> <p>Its objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the demands of the public health care system; and • Provide an efficient system to patients of the public health care system. 	<p>All citizens</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four hundred and forty-three (443) patient applications were received and processed to render assistance for and sent to institutions for dialysis treatments. External Radiation Treatment Co-payments, External Radiation Treatment (Non-Insurance Patients). • Two hundred and sixty-five (265) patients applied for financial assistance through this programme for: Eye Surgeries, Prosthesis, and Other Services deemed urgent and necessary. <p>Constraints: Applications with incomplete documentation together with the late release of funds led to approval backlogs.</p>	<p>Efficient and quality healthcare system</p>
<p>NATIONAL DRUG ABUSE AND PREVENTION PROGRAMME (NADAPP)</p> <p>The National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme (NADAPP) is the central coordinating agency with responsibility for Drug Demand Reduction in Trinidad and Tobago. NADAPP liaises with State agencies as well as the NGO and private sectors, to develop programmes geared towards reducing the use and abuse of licit and illicit drugs, through treatment and rehabilitation.</p>	<p>General population of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>The following sub-initiatives were undertaken during the period October 2017 to July 2018:</p>	<p>An efficient and effective social system for the poor and vulnerable</p>
<p>• National Primary and Secondary School Drug Prevention Initiatives</p> <p>This Initiative facilitates outreach activities which are designed to share information on the use and abuse of drugs, with a view to preventing and reducing risk among primary and secondary school students.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevent and/or reduce the negative impact of alcohol, drug abuse and HIV on the lives of students and youth by utilising a wide range of media 2. Educate and equip all primary and secondary school students with the necessary knowledge and skills to resist the temptation to use/abuse drugs. 3. Encourage participants to take responsibility for their health. 	<p>Students of Primary and Secondary Schools and Tertiary Level Institutions</p>	<p>Approximately seven thousand, five hundred and fifty-four (7,554) students benefitted from the thirty-five (35) outreach programmes conducted throughout Trinidad.</p>	<p>An efficient and effective social system for the poor and vulnerable</p>

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>NATIONAL DRUG ABUSE AND PREVENTION PROGRAMME (NADAPP) (ctd.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-School Prevention Initiative <p>Through this initiative, NADAPP aims to provide public education materials (toys, puppets, DVDs, puzzles and workbooks (Levels 1-3) for use by children, teachers and parents.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To sensitise the nation's preschool stakeholders (Parents, teachers and students) of the adverse effects of alcohol and other drugs; To equip the teaching staff of preschools with the basic knowledge to detect pupils who are exposed to licit and illicit substances To fulfil NADAPP's policy mandate of the implementation of a School Prevention Programme as a pivotal component of its Drug Reduction Strategy. 	<p>Pre-schoolers ages 2 – 5 years</p>	<p>For the period April to July 2018, workshops were conducted for preschool managers, principals and teachers to develop their knowledge.</p>	<p>An efficient and effective social system for the poor and vulnerable</p>
<p>Treatment and Rehabilitation</p> <p>The objectives of this initiative include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring continuous access, by drug dependent individuals, to treatment, rehabilitation and social re-insertion services Minimising the adverse health, social and economic impact of drug dependency on the population. Ensuring minimum standards of care to the national population. 	<p>Adults 18 years and over</p>	<p>During the period April to July 2018, a national work team was established to pilot the CARICOM Standards of Care documents in treatment centres in Trinidad and Tobago.</p>	<p>An efficient and effective social system for the poor and vulnerable</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Education and Information Campaign <p>The overall objective of this initiative is to sensitise and educate the national community, specifically vulnerable groups, on the dangers of the use and misuse of licit and illicit substances.</p>	<p>National population</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One hundred and thirty-nine (139) persons, which included teachers and students of Primary and Secondary school attended an open house to mark the World No Tobacco Day observance. Over 2,700 brochures were distributed on the harmful effects of licit and illicit drugs. 	<p>An efficient and effective social system for the poor and vulnerable</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workplace Education and Institutional Strengthening <p>This initiative seeks to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the development of a drug-free culture in the workplace through education and technical assistance Facilitate, through training, the effective and efficient operations of the therapeutic and care-giving community to ensure acceptable standards of care for persons in treatment and rehabilitation programmes. 	<p>National population</p>	<p>Thirty-eight (38) persons benefitted from a workshop conducted to sensitise participants about the dangers associated with drug use and abuse</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective social system for the poor and vulnerable</p>

MINISTRY OF HEALTH



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>RENAL DIALYSIS PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme is a component of the External Patient Programme which is aimed at ensuring that quality and timely healthcare is delivered to all citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. It provides medical financial assistance through the Public Patient Initiative and aims to meet the demands of the public health care system by providing an efficient service to patients whilst reducing the patient waiting list at public health institutions.</p>	<p>All citizens</p>	<p>During the period October 2017 to July 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,203 total patients were currently receiving dialysis services with 357 of this total being new patients accessing dialysis services; • Eighty-three (83) patients received approval and were sent to institutions. 	
<p>SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAMME</p> <p>This initiative provides screening of all 1st Year Entrants of all Primary Schools for hearing and vision, and screening of all School Leavers (Std. 4-5 students) for vision. Any student found with a problem or potential problem is referred to a health centre to be seen by the medical officer, then for possible evaluation and follow-up.</p>	<p>Children 14 years and under</p>	<p>For the period April to June 2018:</p> <p>Out of an estimated 19,245 1st year entrants (aged 5-7 years) to all public and private schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,254 students (22.1%) (2,157 males and 2,097 females) received auditory screening. Of this screened population, 157 students (3.7%) were referred to Health Centres to be seen by a medical officer. Of the students referred to the Health Centres, 139 were scheduled for hearing testing at DRETCHI. Of this total, 67 students were tested (46 males and 21 females). Four (4) students were fitted for hearing aids. • 4,298 students (22.3%) (2,235 males and 2,063 females) received Vision screening. Fifty-three (53) students (1.2% of the screened population) were referred to Health Centres to be seen by medical officers. <p>Of an estimated target population of 18,271 school leavers (Standards. 4-5):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,633 students (19.9%) (1,884 males and 1,749 females) received vision screening. • 218 students of the screened population were referred to Health Centres to see a medical officer, whilst 65 students were recommended for eyeglasses by optometrists. 	<p>An efficient and effective social system</p>

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
	<p>SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRAMME FOR EAST PORT OF SPAIN</p> <p>The Social and Economic Programme for East Port of Spain seeks to design and implement social and economic programmes throughout East Port of Spain in partnership with key stakeholders including the community, to improve the quality of life of its residents and to celebrate its cultural heritage and achievements in accordance with the Draft Strategic Development Plan for East Port of Spain.</p>	<p>At-risk/vulnerable communities and unemployed youth</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to March 2018 the following achievements were recorded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seventy-five (75) Persons were trained and certified in various construction skills and graduated in March 2018. The Programme commenced at three (3) new Community Impact Centres (CICs) Chinapoo, Never Dirty and Trou Macque following their commissioning in January 2018. All classes are held weekly for a 15-week period and accommodate between 30-40 participants. • The following Programmes are ongoing at the CICs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Boxing programme at Beetham (3 participants) and Basilon Street (5 participants). - Homework Programme at Beetham Gardens (10 primary school students). 	
	<p>EMERGENCY SHELTER RELIEF FUND</p> <p>This programme's overall objective is to provide property restoration grants of up to fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to persons whose homes have been damaged or to assist with the rebuilding of homes that have been destroyed by unforeseen disasters.</p> <p>EMERGENCY HOUSING PROGRAMME</p> <p>This initiative is primarily to respond to national Emergency housing needs as posed by unforeseen circumstances, where persons find themselves in emergency situations.</p> <p>The programme aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide physical and psychological relief in crisis situations through counselling, referrals and housing allocation. 2. Investigate emergency housing requests and assess applicants' eligibility. 	<p>Families</p> <p>Citizens in crisis</p>	<p>As at March 2018, a total of thirteen (13) homes were repaired.</p> <p>As at March 2018, two hundred and forty-five (245) persons in crisis situations received social assistance through increased awareness and relief.</p>	<p>Access to adequate and affordable housing</p> <p>Access to adequate and affordable housing</p>
	<p>HOME IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme is delivered by the Housing Policy Facilitation and Implementation Unit. The main objective is to improve the existing housing stock through the provision of grants to low income families and persons with disabilities (up to a maximum of \$15,000) to undertake improvement works on their homes. Clients must show proof of legal land tenure or permission to occupy with their gross monthly household income not exceeding \$5,000.</p>	<p>Families and physically challenged persons</p>	<p>During the period October 2017 to March 2018, five hundred and forty-six (546) households benefitted from Home Improvement Grants.</p>	<p>Access to adequate and affordable housing</p>



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>LAND SETTLEMENT AGENCY - GOVERNMENT AIDED-SELF-HELP HOUSING PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Government Aided Self-Help Housing Programme (GASHHP) is being administered under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and its Agencies, as part of an affordable, and high quality housing initiative. Citizens will benefit from fully developed lots at subsidised prices (30% of the market value) supported by subsidised mortgage loans from the Trinidad and Tobago Mortgage Finance Company Limited as well as pre-approved house plans, technical assistance and oversight for the construction of affordable, high quality homes. The actual construction of the houses will be achieved through a combination of self-help and the engagement of small contractors</p>	<p>Low-income citizens</p>	<p>As at March 2018, 700 applicants were selected by a random draw process in respect of the First Phase of the GASHHP.</p>	<p>Access to adequate and affordable housing</p>
<p>MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>BUSINESS ADVISORY SERVICES</p> <p>This initiative provides advice on each business sector to both clients and non-clients of the National Entrepreneurship Development Company (NEDCO) Ltd, and also supports entrepreneurs in business structure, planning and growth.</p>	<p>Persons 17 years and over</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of forty-eight (48) clients accessed Business Advisory Services from the NEDCO in approximately twenty-five (25) communities across the country including, Cascade, Couva, Cunupia, D'Abadie, Piarco, Santa Cruz, Tunapuna, Mt. Hope, Morvant and St. Augustine. <p>Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately five hundred and sixty-four (564) persons received information on the NEDCO's services via outreaches conducted during the period at various locations including, Barataria Police Youth Club, ASJA College, Providence Girls Catholic School, Trinidad and Tobago Hospitality Institute, US Embassy Retirees' Fair and the Laventille community. • The Minding Your Own Business (MYOB) Radio Programme highlighted NEDCO Success Stories of persons between the ages of 18 and 35. The programme featured a 30-minute segment on 195.5FM every Thursday during the month of November 2017. Six (6) clients were featured in the areas of Manufacturing, Sound Engineering, Retail and Services. 	

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>COMMONWEALTH/CARIBBEAN SEASON AGRICULTURAL WORKERS' PROGRAMME (CCSAWP)</p> <p>Established under a Memorandum of Understanding between the Governments of Canada and Commonwealth Caribbean countries to supply agricultural workers to Canadian Farmers, since 1967, Trinidad and Tobago has provided workers to the farmers of the provinces of Ontario and Alberta. The main feature of the CCSAWP is the organised movement of foreign workers to meet the temporary seasonal needs of Canadian agricultural producers during peak harvesting and planting periods. Persons are recruited for periods ranging from six weeks to eight months and all work permits expire on December 15th of the employment year.</p>	<p>Unemployed persons aged 21-45 years</p>	<p>For the period, October 2017 to March 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sixty-eight (68) Canadian farmers submitted vacancy orders during the reporting period. As a result, five hundred and forty-five (545) workers (506 men and 39 women) received employment on the programme for the reporting period. 	
<p>COMMUNITY BASED BUSINESS INCUBATOR (CBBi) formerly NATIONAL INTEGRATED BUSINESS INCUBATOR SYSTEM (IBIS)</p> <p>CBBi is a programme developed with the goal of assisting budding entrepreneurs develop and nurture innovative business ideas into successful small and micro enterprises, by providing the necessary training and access to a range of supportive services. The CBBi prepares persons who have the desire, interest and attitude to be entrepreneurs by getting them started and supporting them along their business journey. The NEDCO assumed full responsibility of the Community Based Business Incubator which it has been operating for the past five years with the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development providing supervision and oversight.</p>	<p>Adults aged 25 and over</p>	<p>During the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of nineteen (19) clients had businesses generating sales revenue; Sixteen (16) persons were employed by IBIS client businesses during the period. <p>Additionally,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding, external mentorship and the pre-incubation training components were discontinued from the programme. <p>Constraints:</p> <p>Company restructuring in addition to reduced funding resulted in operational, logistical and administrative challenges during the period.</p>	<p>MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT</p>
<p>ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS TRAINING</p> <p>Entrepreneurial Training is designed to equip entrepreneurs within the Small and Micro enterprise to be successful within each business segment. To provide training that will equip existing and upcoming entrepreneurs in key areas such as introducing entrepreneurship, steps to starting your business, recordkeeping and cash management, savings and investments and costing and pricing.</p>	<p>Persons 15 years and over</p>	<p>Over the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of fifty-seven (57) clients (24 men and 33 women) received skills training. Additionally, due to a significant decline in registration for scheduled courses, the period to access the reduced training fee of \$250.00 was extended from March 2017 to December 2017. The fee was formerly \$500.00. 	



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>HIV WORKPLACE ADVOCACY</p> <p>The HIV Workplace Advocacy Unit (formerly known as the National Workplace Advocacy and Sustainability Centre (HIASC)) was established in 2009 under the Ministry of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development to implement the National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS.</p> <p>Overall objectives of the Initiative are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> eliminate discrimination in the workplace against Persons Living with or Affected by HIV/AIDS; implement the National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> sensitising workplaces (public sector, private sector and the informal sector) and the general public about the National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS; and advocating for and assisting with the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of workplace policies and programmes on HIV/AIDS. 	<p>General public</p>	<p>During the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The HIV Workplace Advocacy Unit worked with approximately forty (40), ministries and agencies including Massy Stores, TECU Credit Union, the National Insurance Property Development Company Limited, Ministry of Community Development Culture and the Arts and the Division of Education, Culture and Community Services; Library Services Tobago, to provide technical support in the implementation of the National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS. Workplaces engaged were as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Sector, 13 - Private Sector, 24 - Civil Society 3 	<p>The Elimination of Stigma and Discrimination against Persons Living with or Affected by HIV/AIDS.</p>	
<p>O'LEVEL PROGRAMME</p> <p>This initiative seeks to address staffing issues at various Ministries arising out of changes in departmental procedures or provision of services. Staff is sourced from secondary school graduates or persons trained in particular skilled areas. This programme is geared toward assisting persons with a passing grade in at least one (1) O'Level subject. Employment under this programme is for a period not exceeding three (3) months. Staff is provided from the National Employment Service's (NES) database of registrants and candidates are referred to clerical, secretarial and manipulative positions in Government offices for a period of employment not exceeding three (3) months.</p>	<p>Young persons aged 17 years and over</p>	<p>During the period October 2017 to March 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two hundred and sixty-seven (267) persons were employed under this programme and represent 100% placements. (ALL requests received from the public sector were filled by referrals of persons from the NES). 		

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROGRAMME The On-the-Job Training Programme (OJTP) is a pre-employment programme which offers participants between the ages of 16-35, an induction into the world of work, and focuses on the acquisition of occupational skills via placement in the Public and Private sectors. Through the Programme, participants acquire the requisite competencies that are relevant, recognised and certified via structured work-based (on-the-job) training. The Programme is now under the aegis of the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development with effect from September, 2015.</p>	<p>Trainees between the ages of 16 and 35</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One thousand, one hundred and seventy-five (1,775) persons (463 males and 1,312 females) received placements in the private and public sectors under the OJT programme. • All trainees placed on the programme are now required to attend a four (4) day mandatory Trainee Development Programme prior to assuming duties at the providers' location. • Assessment of the current training experience is also being undertaken with the view to implement quality improvements. To date thirteen (13) cohorts have been trained and assigned. The Training and Development Team is now in a position to make post-placement evaluations of these trainees. <p>Constraints: Inadequate office accommodation resulted in the staff having to work shorter hours.</p>	
<p>SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD PROGRAMME The Programme addresses community road safety concerns for children attending schools situated near major roads in East Dry River and environs. Candidates who live within the East Dry River community are employed on a rotational basis for one year. Training is conducted by the Traffic Management Branch of the Ministry of Works and Transport.</p>	<p>Unemployed females aged 17 years and over</p>	<p>For the period October, 2017 to March, 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twelve (12) persons (10 School Crossing Guards and 2 Supervisors) were employed on a rotational basis. • Additionally, an assessment of the programme is planned in the near future. 	
<p>SHORT TERM EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME The programme supplies staff to Ministries in Professional, Administrative Managerial, Clerical, Secretarial and Manipulative classes for periods of three (3) to six (6) months in a financial year</p>	<p>Young persons aged 17 and over</p>	<p>During the period October, 2017 to March, 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One hundred and ninety-two (192) persons (46 males and 146 females) were employed under the programme. This represents a 100% placement level. (ALL requests received from Ministries were filled by referrals of persons from the NES.) 	



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>CITIZEN SECURITY PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme involves three (3) components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community-based programming that will address risk factors for crime and violence in 32 selected partner communities. Provision of support to the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service including: psycho-social support for victims and officers and training in Information Technology. Institutional strengthening of the Ministry of National Security (MNS) including data analysis, surveys and media campaigns to influence national attitudes and behaviours. <p>Its overall objectives are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the levels of homicides, robberies and woundings in partner communities; Increase the perception of safety in partner communities; Reduce the incidence of crimes related to (i) firearms, (ii) child maltreatment, (iii) domestic violence and (iv) youth violence in partner communities; and Increase the collective efficacy of partner communities to prevent and treat with violence. 	<p>Communities deemed to be high risk</p>	<p>For the period April to June 2018, Community engagement continued in 32 partner communities. This involved the provision of support for crime victims, mobilisation of community members to develop and implement community projects and provision of support to Community Action Councils.</p>	<p>Reduction in crime against property and person</p>
<p>CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS (CCC)</p> <p>The CCC, which operates through the Ministry of National Security, offers introductory training, life skills development and on-the-job training to at-risk youth.</p> <p>The programme aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Raise the self-esteem of young persons deemed to be at-risk; Initiate interventions that would assist in fostering socially desirable behaviours among youth; Train and develop unemployed/unemployable persons in the target group to prepare them for employment; Foster a sense of national pride in participants; Provide temporary employment for unemployed young persons. 	<p>Young persons between the ages of 16-35 years</p>	<p>For the period April to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 743 at-risk youth (406 males and 347 females) between the ages of 16 to 24 received training under the programme; 87 Graduate trainees (18 males and 69 females) were employed as Assistant Team Commanders, and Team Supervisors under the programme; Seven (7) older persons were provided with weekly meals (Monday to Friday). Students also continued to maintain twelve (12) kitchen gardens at several Homes for the Aged; and fifteen (15) hampers were distributed to needy families; Twenty (20) persons (particularly socially displaced and victims of domestic violence) received assistance with house repair, food items, furniture, clothing, school supplies and baby items. 100 communities benefitted from community enhancement projects which involved Painting, Repairs and General Maintenance projects. 	<p>Innovation, entrepreneurship and partnership</p>

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY</p> <p>MILITARY- LED ACADEMIC TRAINING (MILAT) PROGRAMME</p> <p>This two-year residential programme seeks to ensure the holistic development of young at-risk males and allow them the opportunity to qualify themselves academically and become productive citizens by providing a safe structured and regulated setting.</p> <p>The objectives of the programme are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce the loss of potentially productive human capital from the national skills base; 2. Create a rehabilitative intervention that strengthens the success capacity of the education system; 3. Transform the attitudes and behaviours of at-risk youth between the ages of 15-24, in a routine, military led programme. <p>Trainees may be socially excluded and have an absence of effective parental/guardian influence but display an interest in receiving training and obtaining marketable skills and relevant job experience.</p>	<p>Young persons at-risk between the ages of 15 - 24 years</p>	<p>As at August 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 252 young persons (male) were enrolled in the programme. • Additionally, a total of 27 persons (8 males and 19 females) were employed under the programme as Graduate Trainees, Assistant Team Commanders and Junior Team Commanders. • The programme recorded a 78% retention rate of its cadet population (252 out of its 2016 -2018 intakes of 324 cadets). • 64% of the cadets from the 2017 programme intake (approx. 71 persons) were registered to sit CSEC examinations. 36% (approx. 40 persons) attained 5 -6 subjects; 28% (approx. 31 persons) attained 3-4 subjects and 34% (approx. 38 persons) attained 1-2 subjects. • Approximately (91%) were recorded as displaying good behaviour towards teachers and instructors; whilst 92% displayed high levels of discipline, deportment and conduct. Drug use amongst 85% of the students was reduced and 86% of cadets displayed high levels of discipline, deportment and conduct. <p>Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MILAT Policy and Procedure manual was revised. • A policy manual for former Cadets who did not complete their initial two (2) year stay and wished to return to the Programm2e was developed. • A Cadet Policy Manual was developed. • An internship programme for graduating Cadets was created with the Water and Sewerage Authority of Trinidad and Tobago. 	<p>Economic growth, job creation, competitiveness and innovation</p>



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>POLICE YOUTH CLUBS</p> <p>The Police Youth Club (PYC) is an initiative of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS). The initiative is designed to positively engage youths between the age 5 - 29 years in activities that guide them away from crime and criminal activities. The initiative is founded on the premise that early intervention in shaping the minds of the youth would ultimately lead to a productive lifestyle that would be beneficial to themselves, their families, the communities and ultimately the country.</p> <p>Objectives of the PYC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting a feeling of nationalism amongst the youth of the nation; • Encouraging the nation's youth to participate fully in physical, cultural, sporting, educational and spiritual activities; • Preparing youths for a positive role in the nation's development; • Providing an effective machinery through which the youths would be appreciative of the value of good discipline, self-respect, and respect for others; and • Preparing youths for the responsibilities of adulthood. 	<p>Youth between the ages of 5-29 years</p>	<p>During the period April to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 10,500 young persons were active in 104 Police Youth Clubs nationwide. <p>Activities undertaken included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosting of seven (7) Easter Vacation Camps; • Academic and Vocational training for the members, charitable works, training in performing and fine arts, environmental conservation, and a variety of sporting events (netball, football, basketball cricket, and badminton). • The participation of the Whiteland PYC in the President's Medal Programme, while Tableland PYC and St. Mary's PYC participated in the Prime Minister's Best Village Trophy Competition in the Drumology and Draughts categories. <p>Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Police Youth Club Policy was drafted to effectively guide the operation of the Clubs. 	<p>Economic growth, job creation, competitiveness and innovation</p>
<p>THINKING FOR A CHANGE</p> <p>The programme, administered by the Probation Services Division, was developed to address a wide-range of offender groups. It has been used with juvenile and adult offenders. It has been implemented in all phases of the juvenile and adult criminal justice systems including pre-incarceration (Probation), in prisons and jails, as well as in community (Aftercare and Parole). The programme, "Thinking for a Change" is designed so that sessions are accessible and meaningful for offenders of varying social, emotional and intellectual/academic abilities.</p> <p>The objectives of the initiative are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build self-esteem in young persons; 2. Prevent and reduce the risk of recidivism; 3. Bridge the gap between youth and parents; and 4. Motivate youth to aspire and achieve. 	<p>Young first time offenders</p>	<p>For the period April to June 2018, a total of twenty-four (24) persons benefitted from the Initiative.</p>	

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY</p> <p>VICTIM AND WITNESS SUPPORT UNIT</p> <p>The Victim and Witness Support Unit initiative, a civilian unit, was developed in 2008 as part of the transformation of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS). It aims to bridge the gap between the Police Service and the victims and witnesses of crime. Its efforts also focus on improving the relationship between the Police Service and communities thereby raising the levels of trust and public confidence.</p> <p>The objectives of the initiative are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate clients and other stakeholders with the intention of minimising the risks of secondary victimisation; • Collaborate with other agencies with the aim of enhancing the Unit's policies and programmes; • Develop a network system to harmonise governmental and non-governmental initiatives which promote victim and witness support; and • Assist in promoting respect for the human dignity of victims through their interaction with all elements of the Police Service and by extension the Criminal Justice System. 	<p>Victims and witnesses of crime</p>	<p>For the period April to June 2018, 1,220 clients (adults and minors) received services to treat with various cases including assault, alcoholism, domestic violence, family disputes, homicides, kidnapping, suicides, bullying, anger management, child abuse matters and sexual offences.</p> <p>Therapeutic interventions employed included: Grief and Narrative Therapy, Crisis Intervention, Trauma Focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy and Solution Focus and Family Systems Therapy.</p>	
<p>MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES</p> <p>RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (REAP)</p> <p>The Programme is targeted to low income households and is aimed at improving their social and economic welfare. It also seeks to accelerate residential access to an adequate supply of electricity in a safe and reliable manner, by providing house wiring assistance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home owners whose homes have never been wired; • Home owners whose homes are at a risk of electrical fires and are in urgent need of rewiring as a pre-requisite to accessing electricity. 	<p>Low income home-owners</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to May 2018, REAP provided assistance in the form of residential electricity to 34 households (approximately 80 persons).</p>	<p>Efficient and accessible social system</p>



INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES</p> <p>UTILITIES ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (UAP)</p> <p>The UAP is a social intervention, introduced by the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in 2010, which provides financial assistance to eligible citizens to ensure their continued access to basic utilities such as water and electricity.</p> <p>The major components of the Programme are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bill Assistance Programme: provides financial assistance through the provision of a subsidy to low income customers of the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) and the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC) to ensure that they have continued access to these basic utilities; Solar Panel Assistance: which is aimed at providing solar panels to low-income households in remote communities that are unable to access the electricity grid; and Water Tank Assistance: which provides a water tank and fittings to low-income households and community-based facilities to ensure access to safely stored water. 	<p>Low-income customers of WASA and T&TEC who are also recipients of Senior Citizens Pension, Disability and other specific grants</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to May 2018:</p> <p>The UAP provided assistance to 13,648 beneficiaries at a cost of \$3,110,070.44. The benefits extended under the programme components were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utility Bill Assistance to 13,648 beneficiaries comprising of 1,301 for T&TEC and 12,347 for WASA, at a cost of \$3,016,198.04 Water Tank assistance to 15 households and 1 community facility at a cost of \$24,014.27, which reduced the number of households that store water in unsuitable containers such as open barrels. Solar Panel assistance was provided to 2 households at a cost of \$69,858.13. 	<p>Efficient and accessible social protection system</p>
<p>MINISTRY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND COMMUNICATIONS</p> <p>HOME BOUND LIBRARY SERVICE</p> <p>This Initiative delivers library services to home-bound, citizens unable to visit and utilise public library services, with the intention of continuing their mental stimulation through reading. The Initiative caters particularly to senior citizens in homes for the aged.</p> <p>IMPLEMENTATION OF A NATIONAL BROADBAND NETWORK</p> <p>FREE PUBLIC WI-FI (TT Wi-Fi)</p> <p>The Free Public Wi-Fi Initiative aims to provide access to a free, island-wide, public broadband wireless network (starting with free public hotspots) in popular areas. The overall objectives of the initiative is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deploy a secure, reliable, high speed Wi-Fi network for the provision of free broadband internet services to the public. 	<p>Older persons 60 years and over</p> <p>General Public</p>	<p>For the period: October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 127 older persons residing at Homes for Older Persons were visited and trained in the use of new technology. Thirty-eight (38) sessions were conducted by staff. <p>As at June, 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 public sites were Wi-Fi accessible. 8 buses currently operational with access to free WiFi. 	<p>Older persons trained in the use of new technology</p> <p>Access to free Wi-Fi in public spaces</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p align="center">MINISTRY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND COMMUNICATIONS</p>	<p>STAR:TT COMMUNITY-BASED ICT ACCESS CENTRES</p> <p>The Star:TT Access Centres were established to provide access to ICT and related services (most notably high-speed or broadband Internet) in select communities in predominantly unserved and underserved areas throughout Trinidad and Tobago.</p> <p>The overall objectives of the Centres are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enable closing of the digital gap in these communities; 2. Act as a front end channel for government e-services; 3. Foster a collaborative approach between communities and the corporate sector; 4. Encourage corporate citizens to undertake socially responsible projects in the ICT sector, a conduit for social transformation. 	<p>Underserved communities</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICT access was provided to approximately 6,021 persons in the following communities: Penal, Curmana, Marac and Guayaguayare; • Training in ICT was provided to approximately 708 persons. This training focused on the use of ICT and how to access the TT-Connect facility and other online government services 	<p>Reduction in crime against property and person</p>
	<p>SERVICES TO VISUALLY IMPAIRED PERSONS USING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY</p> <p>This Initiative, delivered through the National Library and Information System Authority (NALIS) is designed to equip visually impaired persons with skills to assist them to become independent. The major objective of the initiative is to offer services and technological access to information for the visually impaired.</p>	<p>Visually impaired citizens</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 212 visually-impaired persons (inclusive of students of the School for the Blind) accessed information services provided via this initiative. • Participants benefitted from a total of 59 sessions, each approximately one and a half hours long. 	<p>Social inclusion of services to the blind and visually impaired</p>
	<p>YOUTH LITERACY PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Youth Literacy Programme was designed to impact the literacy level of young persons between the ages of 12 and 15 years with reading and writing challenges.</p> <p>The main objective of the Programme is to improve the literacy rate in Trinidad and Tobago through the design and delivery of a programme of effective instruction.</p>	<p>Young Persons 12 to 15 years in need of improved literacy skills</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018, a total of 100 students completed and graduated the programme. Classes were conducted at the Arima, Chaguana, Maloney, Mayaro, Point Fortin, Port of Spain, Princes Town, St. Helena, St. James, and Sangre Grande Public Libraries.</p>	<p>Reduction in crime against property and person</p>



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND COMMUNICATIONS</p> <p>ONE BOOK ONE REHABILITATIVE COMMUNITY PROJECT (OBORC)</p> <p>The OBORC provides safe forums for reading and positive discussion of books which address the information seeing needs and behaviours of clients in the Women’s Prison, Youth Training Centre, the Maximum Security Prison and the St. Jude’s Home for Girls.</p> <p>The overall objectives of the Initiative are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To meet the information needs of the clients towards reducing the rate of recidivism To encourage and support the reading habits and lifelong learning of all clients in the institutions 	<p>Incarcerated, remanded, convicted adults and youth in rehabilitation centres</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Book club cycles have been conducted at the Women’s Prison (30), Youth Training Centres (12) and Men’s Maximum Security Prison (12). The resident populations of Women’s Prison, Maximum Security Prison and Youth Training Centres participated in dramatisation/reading programmes in September 2018. 250 participants from Seven (7) Prisons benefitted from an Annual Laugh Festival- Anti-Recidivism Literacy Project. 113 children including the St. Jude’s Home for Girls engaged in interactive dialogue sessions about modern slavery; Human Trafficking. They were informed on the topic and were provided with prevention tips and coping skills. 	<p>Increased literacy</p>
<p>CIVIC COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMMES</p> <p>Under the Community Engagement Programme, NALLIS delivers a variety of literacy outreach programmes to primary school aged children including infants as well as outreach to Police Youth Club Registration Drive targeting at risk youth.</p> <p>The overall objective of this initiative is to stimulate a love for reading and creative expressions and lifelong learning through increase library usage.</p>	<p>Primary school aged students, at risk youth</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 85 students from 5 Primary schools participated in the Annual Themed Poetry Competition. Approximately 1,412 infants 1 and 2 from 35 Primary Schools across Trinidad and Tobago were showcased for their Reading Achievements. This was a part of the Leading for Literacy Phase IV initiative of NALLIS. Registration and active membership of the Police Youth Club memberships were conducted at the Couva (115 interactions, 30 registrations) and Maloney (20 registrations) Public Libraries. 	<p>Increased reading and literacy levels among students</p>
<p>ONE BOOK, MANY SCHOOLS LITERACY PROJECT</p> <p>This initiative is a reading and discussion programme where the school community reads the same book over the same period of time. This initiative was launched in October 2017 and the book chosen was, “<i>Boy Days: Short stories about Trini Men</i>” by Lyndon Baptiste. The aim of this programme is to assist with increasing reading levels and literacy levels among students through the introduction of the work of local authors.</p>	<p>Youth in need of literacy training</p>	<p>For the period April 2018 to June 2018, students participated in 27 literacy based activities including spelling bees, crosswords, book competitions, as well as art and drama activities; 8 activities were held in April, 10 activities held in the month of May and 9 activities were held in June.</p>	<p>Increased reading and literacy levels among students</p>

MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>COMMUNITY-BASED ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME (CEPEP) COMPANY LIMITED</p> <p>The CEPEP Company Limited, an Agency of the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government, is one of the main pillars in the National Strategy for Development of the Green Economy of Trinidad and Tobago. It is responsible for managing the Community-Based Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programme (CEPEP) and provides specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Clean-up, Beautification and Maintenance, • Waste Removal, Dead Animal Removal (DART) • CEPEP Marine (Wetlands, Inland Waterways and Marine Space Maintenance) • Coastal Maintenance • Eco-Sites Management • Disaster and Emergency Response (DERT) 	<p>Communities</p>	<p>As at March 2018:</p> <p>A total of nine thousand, and twenty-seven (9,027) persons were employed on the programme as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three thousand, seven hundred and ninety-two (3,792) men. • Four thousand, seven hundred and sixty (4,760) women. • Four hundred and seventy-five (475) young persons aged 15 – 24 years. 	<p>Resilient communities in the area of disaster management</p>	
<p>SOCIAL OUTREACH PROGRAMMES</p> <p>The Social Outreach initiative commenced in August 2017 and its main purpose is to create resilient communities through the Disaster Management Cycle Mitigation and Preparedness Phases through training and outreach.</p>	<p>Communities, children, youth</p>	<p>As at June 2018:</p> <p>A total of over 5000 persons benefitted from the programme as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over two thousand (2000) children at the primary school level. • Over two thousand (2000) youth at the secondary school level. • Over one thousand (1000) citizens at the community level. <p>During the period, data was also collected on critical resources, location of fire and police stations, and medical facilities; persons with disabilities in the various communities and locations of senior citizens' homes.</p>	<p>Resilient communities in the area of disaster management</p>	



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMME This Programme provides free educational opportunities to Adults to complete Primary and Secondary Education; Technical Vocational Skills Training and Literacy Skills.</p>	<p>Adult men and women</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to September 2018, of the 3,253 persons enrolled, 2,385 persons completed the NEC Level I training programme. Additionally, 1,207 persons enrolled for the CSEC and Primary School leaving programme.</p>	<p>The promotion of lifelong learning among citizens of Trinidad and Tobago</p>
<p>DISABILITY AFFAIRS The Disability Affairs Unit (DAU) was established in 1999 and serves as a resource and referral centre for information pertaining to disability matters. In addition to coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the National Policy on Persons with Disabilities, the Unit also coordinates, develops and implements comprehensive programmes to assist citizens of Trinidad and Tobago with disabilities.</p>	<p>Persons with disabilities</p>	<p>The following were achieved under Disability Affairs during the 2017/2018 fiscal year:</p>	<p>An efficient and effective social system for the poor and vulnerable</p>
<p>National Register of Persons with Disabilities The National Register of Persons with Disabilities is a nationwide database of citizens with disabilities which is confidentially kept by the Government and other service providers to improve planning and delivery of special services. The purpose of the proposed national register of persons with disabilities is to ensure that socio-economic planning and programming for the national community of persons with disabilities is evidenced-based. This would enable greater precision in the targeting of programmes, improved allocation of resources and an elevated standard of living for citizens with disabilities. The establishment of a national register is consistent with Article 31 of the UNCPRD which promotes the need for data and statistical collection.</p>	<p>Persons with disabilities</p>	<p>To date, information on approximately 1,000 recipients of the Disability Assistance Grant were entered into the database of the Unit.</p>	<p>Efficient and accessible social system</p>
<p>AGEING The Division of Ageing is the umbrella agency with overall responsibility for the coordination and monitoring of initiatives on ageing in Trinidad and Tobago.</p>	<p>Senior citizens</p>	<p>During the period October 2017 to June 2018, three (3) draft procedural manuals that would guide the monitoring of Homes for Older Persons were completed; Physical Requirements & Equipment; Standards of Care; and Assessments and Inspections. Additionally, the following were achieved:</p>	<p>An efficient and effective social system for the poor and vulnerable</p>

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	<p>AGEING (ctd.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older Persons Information Centre (OPIC) The OPIC Help Desk, was originally established in 2005 to serve as a referral facility for information on activities, initiatives, programmes, services and products for older persons in Trinidad and Tobago. The facility has evolved into an entity that also deals with welfare issues, elder abuse and social work cases on a regular basis. Given the spectrum of cases now recorded by OPIC, it has developed significantly into an information hub concerning the needs, issues and impact of social change and public policy on the elderly community in Trinidad and Tobago. Among its key functions are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing information about Homes for the Aged; • Referring older persons to age-related goods and services; • Offering information on legislation related to older persons; • Following up on elder abuse cases. • Community Care Programme (CCP) This programme was first established in 2007 to de-institutionalise Levels 1-3 patients aged 60 years and over (from the Port of Spain General Hospital, San Fernando General Hospital, St. James Infirmary and the St. Ann's Mental Hospital), who required social care. The Programme which was formerly administered by the Ministry of Health was placed under the ambit of the MPD in 2010. • Senior Activity Centres Programme The Senior Activity Centres (SACs) are designed to provide the necessary physical, social and mental stimulation, and support mechanisms to enable older persons aged 55 years and over to remain active and healthy. The Centres serve as multi-service facilities, which are the focal points for older persons to come together for services and educational and recreational activities that enhance their dignity, support their independence and encourage their involvement in and with the community. 	Senior citizens	<p>As at July 2018: The Division received twelve (12) reports of elder abuse and five (5) reports of non-compliance and inappropriate activities at Senior Homes. Follow up actions were taken on 20% of cases in Senior Citizens' Homes and 30% of cases in private residences.</p>	An efficient and effective social system for the poor and vulnerable
		Senior citizens	Eighty-eight (88) elderly residents housed in (22) homes for older persons benefitted from the Community Care Programme.	An efficient and effective social system for the poor and vulnerable An Enhanced quality of life for older persons
		Senior citizens	A request for Proposals from NGOs, FBOs and CBOs to operate additional Senior Activity Centres in Trinidad was advertised. Twelve (12) submissions have been received from prospective operators.	An efficient and effective social system for the poor and vulnerable An enhanced quality of life for older persons



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>AGEING (ctd.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homes for Older Persons <p>The Ministry currently supports the operations of nine (9) Homes for Senior Citizens, which are managed by management committees. The Homes are located in Chaguanas, Couva, La Brea, Mayaro, Point Fortin, Sangre Grande, Siparia, Toco and San Fernando, and are sustained through the provision of annual subventions. The Homes aim to provide safe accommodation to older persons as well as care and support.</p>	<p>Older persons aged 60 years and over who may be socially-isolated and/or indigent</p>	<p>As at June 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Division's Inspectorate conducted reviews and assessments of one hundred and fifty (150) Homes for Older Persons to determine/evaluate the standards of care being administered 	<p>An efficient and effective social system</p>
<p>GERIATRIC ADOLESCENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (GAPP)</p> <p>The Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme (GAPP) is an intensive short-term intergenerational Training Programme which imparts knowledge and skills in elder care to young persons. It also aims at empowering young persons to respond to the growing and complex needs of an ageing population.</p> <p>Its objectives are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Instil in young people a sense of national pride and civic mindedness. 2. Sensitise young people to the needs of the elderly and in so doing, gain knowledge and understanding of the ageing process. 3. Foster national consciousness. 4. Equip young persons with basic skills in caregiving. 5. Provide young persons with the tools to make appropriate life choices. 6. Instil discipline in young persons through training and service to the elderly. 7. Improve intergenerational relationships. 8. Improve the quality of life of the elderly. <p>Students receive training at two levels. Level I (for young persons between the ages of 17-30) and Level II (for young persons between the ages of 18-35). Graduates of the programme provide elder care to senior citizens.</p>	<p>Young persons and adults between the ages of 17-25 and 18-30 years and older persons 60 years and over</p>	<p>During the period October to July 2018, one thousand, seven hundred and nineteen (1,719) senior citizens received caregiving services from 600 caregivers.</p>	<p>An efficient and effective social system for the poor and vulnerable</p>

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
	<p>HIV/AIDS COORDINATION</p> <p>The HIV Coordinating Unit executes its programmes/initiatives in accordance with the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services' mission and vision which are highlighted in the Ministry's quest of helping, empowering and transforming lives (particularly the vulnerable) in our society. The Unit's initiatives/programmes are also premised on the national expanded response to the HIV and AIDS epidemic as articulated in the National HIV and AIDS Strategic Plan (NSP) 2013-2018 which highlights the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing new infections and mitigating the impact of the epidemic among persons infected and affected by HIV; • Engaging a coordinated and multi-sectoral approach for addressing HIV and AIDS; • Acknowledging the role of Public Service Agencies in the response. <p>• Staff Sensitisation Sessions (Educational Lectures)</p> <p>This initiative involves the coordination and execution of programmes/workshops/initiatives for the delivery of HIV/AIDS education services for staff of the MPSD</p>	<p>Members of staff of the MSDFS and members of the public</p>	<p>During the period October 2017 to July 2018, a qualitative research project to determine the knowledge attitudes, behaviour and perception of the elderly about HIV was conducted with male and female respondents 55 years and over. An estimated 46 men and 46 women participated in the project. The following was also achieved during the period:</p>	<p>Reduction of incidence of HIV/AIDS</p> <p>Reduction in levels of discrimination towards persons living with HIV</p>
	<p>• Staff Sensitisation Sessions (Educational Lectures)</p> <p>This initiative involves the coordination and execution of programmes/workshops/initiatives for the delivery of HIV/AIDS education services for staff of the MPSD</p>	<p>Members of staff of the MPSD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Unit hosted its Annual HIV Symposium to commemorate International Women's Day (IWD) 2018. The Symposium was also the platform to launch the Unit's Advocates of HIV and AIDS Campaign. The event called for women to unite, to advance and to press for women's rights, parity and progress. UN AIDS Goodwill Ambassador and former Ms. Universe, Wendy Fitzwilliam, was named as the campaign's first advocate. • In celebration of Fathers' Day, the Unit hosted its annual symposium for male members of staff of the MSDFS. Approximately 40 men were in attendance. This year's symposium was entitled 'Masculinity and its Impact on HIV'. An HIV sensitisation programme was conducted for staff of the Inter-disciplinary Child Development Centre. • Monthly bulletins on contemporary HIV issues were also disseminated to staff via the Ministry's Communication Division. 	<p>Reduction of incidence of HIV/AIDS</p> <p>Reduction in levels of discrimination towards persons living with HIV</p>
	<p>• Public Sensitisation Sessions</p> <p>This involves the coordination and execution of programmes/workshops/initiatives for the delivery of HIV/AIDS education services for clients of the MSDFS.</p>	<p>National community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 400 clients of the Ministry participated in sensitisation sessions conducted at the Offices of the Social Welfare Division. • An estimated 250 senior citizens were sensitised on HIV and HIV related issues at participating Senior Activity Centres. • Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials were also distributed at the Ministry's Public Information and Education Sensitisation Session (PIES) events across the country. 	<p>Reduction of incidence of HIV/AIDS</p> <p>Reduction in levels of discrimination towards persons living with HIV</p>



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p> <p>NATIONAL FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION (NFSD) The National Family Services Division (NFSD) is the primary institution in Trinidad and Tobago providing a range of programmes and services to promote healthy family functioning. The NFSD provides rehabilitation through group, family and individual counselling and other support with its ultimate goal being the empowerment of vulnerable individual/s and families in order to sustain healthy social functioning.</p>	<p>Individuals, couples, children and families</p>	<p>During the reporting period October 2017 to July 2018, eight thousand and forty-one (8,041) clients received services from the NFSD as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counselling services – 4,275 • Co-parenting Counselling services – 580 • Referral services – 239 • Advocacy services – 116 • Advice/Information - 2,831 	<p>Empowerment of individuals and families.</p> <p>Reduction in family dysfunction, family violence and youth delinquency</p>
<p>• Community Parenting Workshops The National Parenting Programme (NPP) seeks to strengthen and support families in Trinidad and Tobago through the provision of information, education and support. The NPP is a strategic response to various issues and concerns that involve parenting practices and behaviour in Trinidad and Tobago.</p>	<p>Individuals, couples, children and families</p>	<p>During the period October 2017 to July 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven (7) communities were identified to host the Workshops: Tunapuna and Environs, Rio Claro, San Fernando, Carenage, Claxton Bay, Point Fortin and Penal. • Four (4) Service Providers were selected and approved. The modules covered at the Workshops included: Self Awareness, Stages of Child Development (0-18 years), Sexuality and Teenage Pregnancy, Discipline vs. Punishment, Bullying/Cyber Bullying and Social Media. • Approximately 178 persons registered for the Workshops in 5 communities; with 131 persons receiving Certificates of Participation. 	<p>Increased knowledge of parenting issues and enhanced skills in managing the parenting role</p> <p>Reduction in family dysfunction</p>
<p>• Radio Programme – “It’s Family Time: Let’s Talk” This programme is a key component of the messaging campaign to families and is designed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disseminate information on issues of importance to healthy family functioning to a wide cross section of society. 2. Encourage dialogue with and provide a forum for fellow citizens on various aspects of family life. 	<p>Individuals, couples, children and families</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to July 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-hour, Call-in weekly programmes were aired on i95.5 FM, beginning June 18, 2018; several topics being discussed including: NFSD Services, Hosting of the Inaugural National Family Symposium, Family Values, Co-Parenting, Bullying/Cyber Bullying, Safety Tips for Children During Vacation Period, Mental Health Issues and its Impact on Families and Child Abuse. 	<p>Greater awareness and enhanced ability to improve family life</p>

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p> <p>NATIONAL SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME The National Social Development Programme ensures that needy citizens throughout the country have access in their homes to reliable and sustainable supplies of pipe borne water and electricity and improved sanitary plumbing facilities. It also assists in providing simple, useful recreational facilities in underdeveloped communities. This is all in an effort to raise the standard of living and quality of life of vulnerable citizens. The NSDP officially began its operations in the Ministry in October 2012.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor House Repair Assistance This initiative provides persons with materials and/ or labour for roof repairs and other minor structural repairs to their homes. • Sowing Empowering through Entrepreneurial Development (SEED) The SEED grant aims to provide a mechanism to empower those citizens who are considered poor and who have an interest in starting or improving their own business but are unable to gain access to funding on their own. It also seeks to provide an opportunity for existing clients of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services who are receiving welfare grants to start mini/micro enterprises and become more independent and self-sufficient. • Sanitary Plumbing Assistance This initiative provides assistance towards the purchase of materials based on an assessment of individual circumstances. With the total material cost to a limit of \$15,000.00. 	<p>Vulnerable persons and communities</p> <p>Vulnerable persons and communities</p> <p>Vulnerable persons</p> <p>Vulnerable persons</p>	<p>The following was achieved during the period October 2017 to August 2018:</p> <p>A total of thirty-three (33) minor house repair grants were distributed during the period at an expenditure of \$473,282.86.</p> <p>For the reporting period, a total of sixty-seven (67) SEED grants were distributed at an estimated expenditure of \$657,449.99. During the period, applicants also benefitted from a training workshop hosted in collaboration with the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago. Applicants were exposed to highly interactive and intensive sessions focused on: financial management, marketing and customer service as well as the development of responsible behavioural and attitudinal skills for the entrepreneur. Businesses being pursued range from Agriculture, Sewing, Cosmetology, Catering and Mini Marts.</p> <p>For the period, two (2) Sanitary Plumbing Assistance grants were distributed at a cost of \$21,130.87.</p>	<p>Enhancement in quality of life of citizens</p> <p>Enhancement in quality of life of citizens</p> <p>Enhancement in quality of life of citizens</p> <p>An efficient and effective social system</p>



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	<p>ASSISTANCE TO NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS (NGOs)</p> <p>The NGO Unit was established in May 2013 to manage the Ministry’s relationship with partner NGOs in the delivery of social services in communities.</p> <p>The objectives of the Unit are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote value for money in the delivery of social services; • Partner with the NGO sector towards a decentralised approach for the delivery of social services to vulnerable groups in society; • Foster a collaborative approach to capacity building for the effective delivery of social services in communities; • Promote good governance in the achievement of government policy on Social Sector programmes. 	<p>General population of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>During the period October 2017 to September 2018, the Unit continued its planning and/or follow-up activities for the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symposium for Blind and Visually Impaired; • Symposium for Intellectually Disabled; • Symposium for Deaf and Hard of Hearing. <p>Additionally, the following was achieved during the period:</p>	<p>An efficient and effective social system</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Assistance to NGOs (One-off Grants under \$10,000) <p>This initiative provides one-off financial assistance (Contributions and Donations) from the Ministry to qualifying Community-Based, Faith Based or Non-Governmental organisations for a specific project or activity valuing under \$10,000.</p>	<p>Non-governmental, or faith-based, or community-based organisations</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to September 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One hundred (100) new requests for social projects were reviewed. Of this total, fifty-four (54) NGOs received funding totalling \$408,126.00. • Additionally, 90% of project completion reports distributed to recipient NGOs were completed and returned for review. 	<p>An efficient and effective social system</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Assistance to NGOs (One-off Grants over \$10,000) <p>Under this Initiative, financial assistance (over \$10,000.00) is provided from the Ministry to qualifying Organisations to assist in the execution of a specific social development project or activity</p>	<p>Non-governmental, or faith-based, or community-based organisations</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to September 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ten (10) new requests for social projects were reviewed. Of this total, six (6) NGOs received funding totalling \$125,100.00. • Additionally, 90% of project completion reports distributed to recipient NGOs were completed and returned for review. 	<p>An efficient and effective social system</p>

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
	<p>ASSISTANCE TO NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS (NGOs) (ctd.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subventions to NGOs <p>Under this initiative, financial assistance is given to NGOs for recurrent expenditure payable over a specified period.</p>	<p>Non-governmental organisations</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to September 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subventions to twenty-four (24) NGOs inclusive of three (3) Statutory Boards were processed. Additionally, quarterly reports for twenty-four (24) NGOs were received and reviewed. • Monthly financial reviews of twenty-four (24) NGOs were conducted. • Site visits to ten NGOs were conducted. • Performance measures and monitoring and evaluation indicators, which were developed in collaboration with the UNDP, were presented to ten (10) NGOs. These measures were to ensure alignment with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals 	<p>An efficient and effective social system</p>



INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>PIPARO EMPOWERMENT CENTRE (PEC)</p> <p>The Piparo Empowerment Centre is a Therapeutic Community established as a refuge where recovering substance abusers can be empowered to achieve their fullest potential. The Centre provides rehabilitation and skills training for male substance abusers who are socially displaced, past offenders or requiring long term treatment.</p> <p>Primary objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To reduce substance abuse in the population 2. To reduce the number of socially displaced persons 3. To reduce the incidence of poverty in society. 	<p>Male substance abusers over the age of 18</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to August 2018 the following was achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One (1) Resident completed training in the field of Woodwork with MIC. • One (1) Resident completed a General Cooking Course with UWI Open Campus. • Two (2) Residents completed training in Home Gardening. • Two (2) Residents completed training in Citrus Production. • Two (2) Residents completed training in Melongene, Pepper and Tomato Production. • Three (3) Residents completed training in Dasheen and Dasheen Leaf Production. • Three (3) practicum students (2-Undergraduate Students and 1- Caribbean Regional Addiction Studies Student) were facilitated at the PEC and trained under the Clinical team. • Forty (40) new residents were enrolled in the Centre • The following Tutoring/Counselling Sessions were conducted as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 68 Remedial Tutoring Sessions (PEC was without any Remedial Tutors for the period January to July) - 139 Developmental/Life Skills Sessions - 117 Therapeutic Group Sessions - 81 Peer Counselling Group Sessions - 558 Individual Counselling Sessions - 4 Follow-up Group Sessions - 44 Alcohol Anonymus Sessions - 44 Narcotics Anonymus Sessions - 81 Religious Sessions • Additionally, 40 Group Therapy Sessions for Alcoholics Anonymus and 40 Narcotics Anonymus sessions were completed. 73 Religious Sessions were also completed. • The Centre continued with its Agricultural Project with several crops being harvested including ochroes, patchoi, cauliflower, cassava, dasheen, lettuce, oranges, avocados, peppers and tomatoes. Additionally, one hundred and thirty-three (133) pounds of Tiapia were also harvested; • Five (5) residents were employed with the CEPEP Programme (CEPEP Programme is now closed) • Six (6) residents successfully completed the Programme. • Hosted Annual Family Day in December, 2017- approximately 150 persons attended. 	<p>An efficient and effective social system</p>

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p> <p>RETIRES ADOLESCENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (RAPP)</p> <p>This programme is a community-oriented programme which seeks to provide assistance and supervision at the community level to "young, at-risk" persons in order to minimise the delinquency and drop-out rate in the nation's school population. It seeks to provide a common platform geared towards improving learning skills, developing and enhancing social skills, building self-esteem and finding mutual ground for purposeful and productive living.</p> <p>It also seeks to give retired experts an opportunity to work in partnership with young adults and as a result, bridge the generation gap.</p> <p>This programme is a community-oriented programme which seeks to provide assistance and supervision at the community level to "young, at-risk" persons in order to minimise the delinquency and drop-out rate in the nation's school population. It seeks to provide a common platform geared towards improving learning skills, developing and enhancing social skills, building self-esteem and finding mutual ground for purposeful and productive living.</p> <p>It also seeks to give retired experts an opportunity to work in partnership with young adults and as a result, bridge the generation gap.</p>	<p>Children (14 years and under) and youth (15-21 years) identified as 'at risk' and retired older persons (60-75 years).</p> <p>NGOs as well as 'at-risk' communities also benefit from the programme</p>	<p>During the period October 2017 to July 2018:</p> <p>Three hundred and thirty-six (336) young persons between the ages of 9 - 21 years were impacted by the programme. Of this total, 166 were male and 170 were female. The following was also achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three (3) centres hosted Parenting Seminars (approximately 150 parents were impacted) • Two (2) centres, hosted Community Outreaches & Health Fairs. Several service providers rendered free services (barbering, hairdressing, manicures and pedicures) to the people of the community. Other agencies such as the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service, Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture were in attendance. • Approximately twenty-(25) visits were made to various senior citizens' homes in the respective communities. Participants helped with meal preparation, clean up, and provision of manicures and pedicures. • All centres celebrated and hosted their own Christmas Functions where several mini concerts were conducted. Parents were hosted by the young participants. • A Vocational Camp was conducted for the month of July. • Over the three-week period, two hundred and seventy-six (276) persons (9-17) years were thought one or more skills from among several including: Baking, Beauty Culture, Food Prep, Computer Application/Repairs, Basic Auto Mechanics, Tiling, Cake Making & Decorating, Basic Plumbing, Barbering, Woodwork, Music (Pan, Guitar, Keyboard), Upholstery, Soap Making, Jewellery and Basic Home Electrical Installation. • Approximately fifty (50) volunteers from various organisations including U.W.I, TTPS, T&T Defense Force, T&T Prison Service, T&T Red Cross, and skilled individual from the respective communities made presentations at the various Centres. • Quarterly training was provided for centre personnel and community groups. Participants were given additional tools to ensure proper execution of R.A.P.P. at all centres. Approximately 40 persons were in attendance. • A Parents Appreciation Day was held at 4 Centres. • Approximately 163 parents were in attendance. Participants hosted their parents • Eighty (80) participants at 2 centres planted and reaped a variety of crops including: cassava, pigeon peas, lettuce, patchoi, chive, celery, parsley and sweet peppers. 	<p>An improved system of support for youth</p>



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p> <p>INITIATIVES ON STREET DWELLING: - SOCIAL DISPLACEMENT UNIT</p> <p>The Social Displacement Unit of the MPSD plans and coordinates activities pertinent to the empowerment and rehabilitation of socially displaced persons. The Unit currently provides direct social work services to the client population and ensures that the services and programmes provided by treatment and care centres are appropriate to the needs of the socially displaced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street Outreach Programme <p>This programme seeks to provide street dwellers with access to the various services offered by the Ministry of the People and Social Development, as well as any emergency support necessary. Field Officers of the SDU carry out regular street outreach visits to advise the displaced on services available</p>	<p>Socially displaced persons</p>	<p>During the period October 2017 to September 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two hundred and nineteen (219) in-office Social Work Interventions were conducted with clients. • Baseline data was collected on Clients in Care facilities at the Centre for Socially Displaced Persons (North and South) and the New Horizons Facility. • Thirteen (13) technical advice sessions/engagements were held with NGO partners. 	<p>Self-reliant and sustainable communities</p> <p>An efficient and effective social system</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street Outreach Programme <p>This programme seeks to provide street dwellers with access to the various services offered by the Ministry of the People and Social Development, as well as any emergency support necessary. Field Officers of the SDU carry out regular street outreach visits to advise the displaced on services available</p>	<p>Socially displaced persons</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to September 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Annual National Street Head Count was conducted. The count indicated that four hundred and fourteen (414) persons were currently sleeping on streets as follows: 392 males and 22 females. • One hundred and thirty-five (135) street dwellers were provided with advice, referrals and counselling re: shelter and rehabilitation services. • Thirty-seven (37) street dwellers were assisted with accessing rehabilitation; and • Seventeen (17) public reports of persons living on the streets were investigated and addressed. 	<p>An efficient and effective social system</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deportee Reception and Integration <p>This programme provides assistance to deported persons with relocation and family reintegration into society. The SDU also assists deportees in finding employment.</p>	<p>Deported persons</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to September 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thirty-three (33) deported persons were provided with counselling whilst four (4) deported persons were referred to Vision on Mission for additional services. <p>Advice was also provided to various stakeholders on matters related to care and social support needs of deported persons.</p>	<p>An Efficient and effective social system</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rehabilitation of the Strictly Homeless at New Horizons <p>A residential life and employment skills development facility for adults. The programme provides rehabilitation services geared towards the social, emotional and financial development of persons with a view to preparation for independent living.</p>	<p>Socially displaced persons</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to September 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of thirty (30) persons benefitted from admission and care at the New Horizons Facility. • Three (3) short crops were grown by residents (cassava, seasonings and pumpkin). • Six (6) persons were assessed for admission to the Facility. • Six (6) persons graduated to independent living. 	<p>An efficient and effective social system for the poor and vulnerable</p>

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>INITIATIVES ON STREET DWELLING: - SOCIAL DISPLACEMENT UNIT (ctd.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relocation of Elderly Street Dwellers Programme <p>Under this initiative, elderly persons (55 and over) are relocated to Homes for Older Persons where they will receive relevant special care. The Ministry subsidises monthly payments for those clients who have no income or payment is borne by both the client and the Ministry for those in receipt of grants from the Ministry.</p>	<p>Socially displaced older persons</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to September 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forty-seven (47) persons were assessed for elderly relocation; • One (1) person was admitted into an elder-care facility. • Four (4) persons received counselling. • Eighteen (18) elderly persons were in special care facilities for the socially displaced with two (2) deaths registered; whilst nine (9) elderly persons were placed in private homes for the elderly; and • Four (4) NGO facilities were assessed for special relocation of elderly project. • Four (4) families were referred to the Division of Ageing for additional services. 	<p>An efficient and effective social system</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre for Socially Displaced Persons – Riverside Carpark <p>This facility provides a shelter for homeless persons and acts as transitional housing during the assessment and initial intervention stage after they are removed from the streets.</p>	<p>Socially displaced persons</p>	<p>For the period October 2017 to September 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty-five (25) persons were referred for admission to CSDP (North). • Sixteen (16) cases were referred for technical advice or queries to CSDP (North). • Three (3) cases were referred for Technical advice or queries to CSDP (South). 	<p>An efficient and effective social system</p>
<p>SOCIAL WELFARE DIVISION</p> <p>The Social Welfare Division (SWD) is concerned with reducing the incidence of poverty among vulnerable groups and offers a range of financial assistance/ grants to persons in need.</p> <p>The core services provided are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Citizens Pension • Public Assistance Grant • Disability Assistance Grant • General Assistance Grant 	<p>Vulnerable citizens of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>During the period October 2017 to September 2018 the following Grants were distributed:</p>	<p>An efficient and effective social system for the poor and vulnerable</p> <p>Reduction in the incidence of poverty</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability Assistance Grant <p>This grant of TTD 1,800.00 is intended for persons who have a disability and are unable to earn an income as a result. A person is entitled to receive Disability Assistance if in the opinion of the Local Board, he/she is so disabled that he/she is unable to earn a livelihood and has been certified by a Government Medical Officer as being so disabled. The disability must be permanent in nature.</p>	<p>Persons 18-64 years of age who have been certified by a Government medical officer as having a disability and as a consequence unable to earn a livelihood.</p>	<p>A total of 23,245 persons were in receipt of the Disability Assistance Grant as at September 2018. Of this total, 996 persons were recorded as new clients on the grant for the fiscal period.</p>	<p>An efficient and effective social system for the poor and vulnerable</p>

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p> <p>INITIATIVE</p> <p>SOCIAL WELFARE DIVISION (ctd.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Assistance Grant <p>This grant was established to assist persons/ households traumatised and rendered needy as a result of natural/other disasters. The grants are currently used to provide assistance to individuals/ households living in poverty and to clients of the SWD and other delivery units of the MSDFS who cannot otherwise help themselves. Cases are assessed by social workers of the Ministry.</p>	<p>Victims of natural disasters and clients of the Ministry</p>	<p>As at August 2018, a total of 1,386 clients received assistance under the General Assistance Grant as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dietary Assistance - 79 Domestic Help - 1 Education - 224 Rental Assistance - 47 Special Child Grant - 51 Funeral Grants - 526 Household Items - 238 Medical Equipment - 55 Clothing - 109 Pharmaceuticals - 1 School Supplies - 8 Prosthetics - 47 	<p>An efficient and effective social system</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Support Programme <p>This is a short-term food assistance and developmental programme, aimed at providing social protection by promoting nutritional and food security for vulnerable households. The Programme comprises of the following components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long Term Food Support Card <p>This is the cash transfer component of the TCCTP, which is currently implemented via a debit card (TT Card TM). It aims to enable families in need to purchase nutritious basic food items;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temporary Food Card <p>This system provides immediate food relief to the extremely vulnerable by bridging the gap between eligibility determination and actual receipt of the TT Card. The Temporary card is valid for up to three months and is also given to victims of disasters and in emergency situations.</p>	<p>Indigent and vulnerable households</p>	<p>As at September 2018, a total of 24,327 households were beneficiaries of the Food Card Programme. A new debit card system is scheduled for implementation in fiscal 2019. During the transitioning process to the new card, existing clients will be re-assessed as to their eligibility. Also, the Ministry will review and implement the Step-Up Model (Social Transformation and Empowerment Programme – Uplifting People) in fiscal 2019 as a complementary component to the Food Support.</p>	

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
	<p>SOCIAL WELFARE DIVISION (ctd.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Assistance Grant <p>This grant provides financial aid to persons who are unable to support themselves or to earn a living because of ill health. It is also granted on behalf of necessitous children where the father or both parents is/are dead, incarcerated, disabled from earning or has/have deserted the family and cannot be found.</p> <p>The Grant is administered as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 person: \$1,150 2 persons: \$1,400 3 persons: \$1,600 4 or more persons: \$1,750 	<p>Unemployed, persons unable to work, or who have little means of financially supporting themselves and guardians of necessitous children</p>	<p>As at September 2018, 23,150 persons were in receipt of the Public Assistance Grant. Of this total 4,409 were recorded as new clients for the period October 2017-September 2018.</p>	<p>An efficient and effective social system for the poor and vulnerable</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Achievers Grant (SAG) <p>The SAG provides support to persons who made significant contribution to the development of Trinidad and Tobago and who were experiencing severe hardship. Support in the areas of health, housing and income is provided. A Special Achiever is considered to be a citizen of Trinidad and Tobago whose record of services and/or performance is publicly distinguishable as an extraordinary contribution to the international profile of Trinidad and Tobago.</p>	<p>National achievers in need of support</p>	<p>A total of thirty-eight (38) persons received financial assistance under this initiative, totalling \$1,528,800.00.</p>	<p>An efficient and effective social system for the poor and vulnerable</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster Relief (Flooding) <p>Disaster relief is provided to victims whose items were destroyed beyond use due to natural or man-made disasters.</p>	<p>Victims of natural or man-made disasters</p>	<p>During the period October 2017- August 2018, a total of 1,304 victims of flooding were provided with disaster relief at a total of \$9,924,500. Of this, 1,105 persons received grants as a result of the floods that took place in October 2017.</p>	



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2018

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME																
	<p>SOCIAL WELFARE DIVISION (ctd.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior Citizens' Pension (SCP) <p>The Senior Citizens' Pension provides financial assistance to persons aged 65 and who meet the other qualifying criteria for the grant. In 2016, the schedule of payment was adjusted resulting in an increase in the SCP. This adjustment resulted in an increase in the total income; (other personal income and SCP) to \$5000.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Income Band</td> <td>Pension</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$0-\$1,500</td> <td>\$3,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>>\$1,500.01 - \$2,000</td> <td>\$3,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>>\$2,000.01 - \$2,500</td> <td>\$2,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>>\$2,500.01 - \$3,000</td> <td>\$2,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>>\$3,000.01 - \$3,500</td> <td>\$1,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>>\$3,500.01 - \$4,000</td> <td>\$1,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>>\$4,000.01 - \$4,500**</td> <td>\$ 500</td> </tr> </table> <p>** Statutory limit increased in 2016 from \$3,500 to \$4,500 per month.</p>	Income Band	Pension	\$0-\$1,500	\$3,500	>\$1,500.01 - \$2,000	\$3,000	>\$2,000.01 - \$2,500	\$2,500	>\$2,500.01 - \$3,000	\$2,000	>\$3,000.01 - \$3,500	\$1,500	>\$3,500.01 - \$4,000	\$1,000	>\$4,000.01 - \$4,500**	\$ 500	Eligible senior citizens	<p>As at September 2018, 95,266 senior citizens received the Senior Citizens' Pension. Of this total, 6,942 were new beneficiaries for the fiscal period under review.</p> <p>Additionally, under the Direct Deposit Initiative, over 62,000 pensioners received their Pension funds via direct deposits to their personal bank accounts.</p>	
Income Band	Pension																			
\$0-\$1,500	\$3,500																			
>\$1,500.01 - \$2,000	\$3,000																			
>\$2,000.01 - \$2,500	\$2,500																			
>\$2,500.01 - \$3,000	\$2,000																			
>\$3,000.01 - \$3,500	\$1,500																			
>\$3,500.01 - \$4,000	\$1,000																			
>\$4,000.01 - \$4,500**	\$ 500																			

2019

Social Sector
Investment Programme 2019

SOCIAL SECTOR PLANS FOR 2019

7

"Building Resilience
To Secure Our Nation"



Nation Building...Resilience...
Prosperity

Chapter 7:

SOCIAL SECTOR PLANS FOR 2019

This chapter outlines social sector initiatives planned for implementation by ministries and the THA for fiscal 2019. As was the case in fiscal 2018, Ministries and Agencies will be required to align their Ministerial/Departmental Plans and performance frameworks to monitor and evaluate progress toward attaining Vision 2030.

Table 7.I: Comparison of Budgeted Allocations for Social Infrastructure & Programming – 2018-2019

Sector Component	Estimates of Expenditure 2018	Estimates of Expenditure 2019
Social Infrastructure	2,008,378,000	2,123,901,000
• Development Programme	752,647,000	753,115,000
• Infrastructure Development Fund	1,255,731,000	1,370,786,000
Social Programming	8,116,055,000	8,735,315,057
TOTAL ALLOCATION	10,124,433,000	10,859,216,057

Source: Ministry of Finance

The following sections outline major plans to be implemented by the following Ministries: ⁴¹

- Community Development, Culture and the Arts
- Education
- Health
- Labour and Small Enterprise Development
- National Security
- Rural Development and Local Development
- Social Development and Family Services
- Sport and Youth Affairs
- Office of the Prime Minister- Gender and Child Affairs and
- Tobago House of Assembly

⁴¹Information was obtained from Budget Submissions of Ministries for Fiscal 2019



7.1 Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts

The mandate of the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts (MCDCA) is to develop communities with a view to building resilience, self-reliance and socio-economic sustainability towards national development and prosperity for all. In the area of Culture and the Arts, the Ministry focuses on fostering artistic growth, and leveraging the country's rich and varied cultural, historical, religious and national heritage.

In fiscal 2019, the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts will continue the development of resilient communities through the provision of innovative programmes, projects and services. Accordingly, the Ministry proposes to undertake the following:

- National Museum Development – upgrade and modernisation of the RVI Building and Museum exhibits
- Development of First Peoples – development of village square, a cultural centre, traditional buildings, road works
- Hosting of CARIFESTA XIV 2019
- Refurbishment of the Community Education Training, Information and Resource Centre
- Support to Mediation Centres –
 - o Establishment of the South Main Mediation Centre – San Fernando
 - o Relocation of the East Main Mediation Centre – San Fernando
 - o Relocation of the Penal/Debe Sub-centre
 - o Site preparation for the housing of two mobile units at St. Ann's
 - o Infrastructural work for the Rio Claro/Mayaro Mediation Centre
 - o Establishment of Laventille District Centre
 - o Establishment of Diego Martin Sub-centre
 - o Establishment of Morvant District Centre
- o Establishment of Cocorite Sub-centre
- o Establishment of Chaguanas Sub-centre
- Refurbishment of Export Centres
- Construction of Community Centres at Bagatelle, Diego Martin North, Diego Martin South, Morvant, Cantaro, Tarodale, Bon Air South, La Pastora, San Fernando North, Indian Trail, Maitigual, Quarry Road, Petit Valley, Chickland, Las Lomas, Quarry Village, Siparia, Tarouba, Techier, Blanchisseuse, Harmony Hall, Chatham, Arima, Mon Repos, Lisas Garden and Tacarigua
- Refurbishment of Community Centres at Belmont, Surrey Village, Diego Martin Central, Princes Town, Sobo, Coalmine, Pleasantville, La Lune and Brooklyn
- The hosting of ten (10) community festivals to showcase the culinary, cultural, craft and heritage development opportunities through community tours within communities
- Culture initiatives –
 - o Heritage preservation through monthly exhibitions to commemorate Trinidad and Tobago's national days and festivals. National Inventory Exercise
 - o The Development of Competencies in the Visual, Literacy and Performing Arts
 - o Cultural camps
 - o National Registry of Artist and Cultural Workers
- Continuation of the following Community Development Initiatives –
 - o Community Education (Skills Training) Programme
 - o Handicraft Development Programme
 - o Community Awareness and Sensitisation Programme
 - o Entrepreneurship Development Programme
 - o The hosting of three (3) Craft Markets for handicraft artisans across the country to be afforded the opportunity to sell their items in a space created by the MCDCA

Box 7.1: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts for Fiscal 2018/19

- Policy for the promotion of entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development to Build Individual and Community Livelihoods (2018/2019)
- Finalise the National Policy on Culture and the Arts. Implementation and Launch (2018/2019)
- Finalise the National Policy on Sustainable Community Development Implementation and Launch (2018/2019)
- Finalise the Policy Guidelines for the Museum Sector in Trinidad and Tobago (2019/2019)
- Revise the Interim Policy Guidelines for the Administration of Grants in the MDCDA (2018/2019)
- Review of the Community Facilities Management Arrangement (2018/2019)
- Commence Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts Strategic Plan 2020-2022

7.2. Ministry of Education

The Ministry of Education will continue to pursue its mandate of providing a quality education system that is modern, inclusive, accessible and relevant. Accordingly, the following initiatives will be implemented in fiscal 2019:

A. Seamless Transition from Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) to Primary School Project

The project will foster strong and equal partnership between ECCE Centres and Primary Schools in order to improve educational continuity and facilitate the transition from one stage to the next. Accordingly, both ECCE and Primary School teachers will be equipped to apply a cooperate approach and a common understanding of education at both levels. The aim is to provide the appropriate support to children, their parents and teachers.

B. Laptop Initiative

Under this initiative the focus will be on improving effectiveness and efficiency and distribution at the secondary school level. Accordingly, the proposed activities for fiscal 2019 will include testing of laptops,

distribution of charging charts to Secondary Schools and the distribution of laptops to Secondary Schools.

C. Financial Assistance (Studies) Programme (FASP)

Financial Assistance (Studies) Programme (FASP) is designed to provide assistance to students who cannot sufficiently meet the cost of Post-Secondary/ Undergraduate level education, despite assistance from existing programmes. It is intended to be a supplementary source of financial support and not intended to be the student's main source of funding.

D. Education Research and Evaluation Optimisation of a School-Based Programme for Slower Learners

This research will explore triggers, potential sources, a solution/strategies for aiding slow learners in Secondary Schools. It will be mixed-method study. The qualitative component will involve focus group discussions with children, parents and teachers. The quantitative component will be a semi-structured survey targeting teachers.

E. Electronic Dictionary of Occupations (E-DOTT)

Establishment of the OFTEN Steering Committee

This will be an electronic version of the Dictionary of Occupations for Trinidad and Tobago (DOTT), which will allow for improved access to the document by stakeholders. It is specifically designed to assist student in exploring their career options.

F. Establishment of a National Teacher Council

The goal is to foster high standards in the teaching profession. Under this initiative, regional and national teaching councils will be established to monitor, direct and advise on the development and maintenance of standards for teaching and teacher education.

G. University of the West Indies (UWI)

Curriculum and Pedagogical Reform and Access:

I. Barriers to Access

This programme will examine the barriers to accessing higher education among the underserved and seek to address the provision of access in alignment with the needs of national and industry demand.



II. Enhance Quality of Teaching and Learning

This initiative aims to deliver the graduate (undergraduate and postgraduate) of the future who can transform the region by addressing the redesign of the course rationalisation process based on course implementation costs and strategic importance and the holistic development of the student.

III. Innovation and Entrepreneurship

In order to create a climate of innovation and entrepreneurship, the UWI will establish a Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE). The CIE will be multidisciplinary in nature and provide access to all the constituent elements (e.g. idea validation, design, IP/legal services etc.) required to move the potential innovations to market.

IV. Institutional Strengthening

UWI Library initiatives for fiscal 2019 include:

- The addition of modules for the UWI Scholar application
- Integration of the National Herbarium and the Centre for Language Learning satellite libraries by the Cataloguing and Metadata Services Unit
- Reviews of the following programmes by the Campus Quality Assurance Unit:
 - o Theology
 - o Para-Clinical Sciences
 - o French
 - o Social Work & Mediation Studies
 - o English for Academic Purposes
 - o Veterinary School
 - o Sociology

H. Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme (YTEPP)

Development and delivery of technology-enabled Flexible and Blended Learning Courses in collaboration with the Commonwealth of Learning (COL)

A pilot delivery of new blended courses in Draughting, Construction Technician and Food Preparation will be conducted in fiscal 2019.

Box 7.2 – Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Education for Fiscal 2018/19

- The Faculty of Medical Sciences – Establishment of the Caribbean Oral Health Research Unit
- The Faculty of Humanities and Education in collaboration with the National Trust of Trinidad & Tobago and the University of Vienna, an Archaeological Survey and Historical Research Project on Caledonia Island and Nelson Island
- The Faculty of Social Sciences – Establishment of the Centre for Export Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- The Faculty of Science and Technology – Development of a diagnostic tool for Integrated Plant Disease Management, research on identifying and describing new species of terrestrial molluscs, and research on defining new forest timber yield in collaboration with MPhil student

7.3. Ministry of Health

The Ministry of Health is committed to ensuring that every citizen of Trinidad and Tobago has access to first-class healthcare. In fiscal 2019, the Ministry will focus on implementation of the following:

- A. Construction of the Arima Hospital:** This will be a modern state-of-the-art 150-bed hospital; estimated cost is \$1.66 billion. It is approximately 41% complete. Construction is estimated to be completed by June 2019.
- B. Construction of the Point Fortin Hospital:** This will be a modern state-of-the-art 100-bed hospital; an estimated cost of \$1.26 billion. It is approximately 50% complete. Construction is estimated to be completed by May 2019.
- C. Re-Development of the Port of Spain General Hospital:** This involves construction of new structures for relocation of Central Stores, Engineering and Biochemical Departments; and construction of a Central Block to provide acute care services. This project is estimated to be completed by September 2019.

D. Construction of CARPHA Headquarters and CARPHA, NPH and NBTS Laboratories: This involves two (2) buildings with three (3) floors for office and laboratory space for testing of diseases, drugs, food and blood samples. Construction is expected to commence in July 2019 and be completed in June 2021.

E. Construction of the Diego Martin Health Centre: This will be a two-storey Health Centre with space for Administration, Treatment Rooms, Dental Clinic, Pharmacy, Imaging Services, Health Information, Storage Area and Exercise Area. Construction is proposed to commence in August 2018 and be completed in December 2019.

7.4. Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development

The Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development will implement the following initiatives in fiscal 2019:

A. Legislation

Continuation of the project on Reform of Labour Legislation. In this context, steps will be taken to amend/review the following pieces of legislation:

- Workmen's Compensation Act
- Retrenchment and Severance Benefits Act
- The Industrial Relations Act
- Cipriani College of Labour and Co-operative Studies Act
- Basic Terms and Conditions of Work
- Friendly Societies Act
- Co-operative Societies Act
- Employment Exchange Act
- Recruitment of Workers Act
- Foreign Labour Contract Act

B. Development of a Modernised Labour Market Information System (LMIS)

This project will address major gaps in the production and dissemination of timely and relevant labour market information to support evidenced-based decision-making and policy formulation. In Fiscal 2019 the

Ministry proposes to undertake a Private Sector Vacancy Survey. This survey will inform policies and decision-making with respect to labour market and contribute to the development of the Labour Market Information System and the National Statistical System.

C. Policy Development and Implementation

- **National Policy on Co-operatives:** An Implementation Plan will be developed. The Ministry will also pursue the restructuring of the Co-operative Development Division in terms of systems, organisational structure and operations in the context of the National Policy. Additionally, the Ministry will host a Workshop to share experiences on similar restructuring initiatives in other countries.
- **National Policy for the Prevention of Child Labour in Trinidad and Tobago:** This policy will treat with incidences of child labour and contribute to the eventual elimination of child labour in Trinidad and Tobago. The policy will be developed in collaboration with key stakeholders. In fiscal 2019 the activities to be conducted will include research, legislative review, hosting of stakeholder consultations and drafting of the policy document.
- **Labour Migration Policy for Trinidad and Tobago:** The Ministry will commence drafting of a Labour Migration Policy for Trinidad and Tobago. The work of the Inter-Ministerial Committee, appointed in July 2018 will continue in this regard.

D. National Baseline Survey on Knowledge, Attitude, Belief and Practice on HIV in the Workplace

This survey will be conducted to collect data to inform the development of appropriate initiatives to support the needs of persons living with HIV.

E. Implementation of the Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE) Development Policy – The Establishment of the Education to Entrepreneurship Programme

This project aims to seek out sound innovative academic proposals and launch them into commercially viable micro and small enterprises. The Ministry proposes to create support systems necessary to encourage entrepreneurship within universities.



F. Continued Implementation of the Ten-Point Plan on Unemployment

The Ministry will continue its efforts to implement the Ten-Point Plan. In fiscal 2019, a marketing campaign to encourage new opportunities will be implemented. The Ministry will also continue to collaborate with relevant agencies to make available referral services for psychosocial and financial counselling of all unemployed persons requesting these services.

G. Small Business Development

The Ministry will collaborate with the National Entrepreneurship Development Company Limited (NEDCO) to revise and enhance the Small Business Incubator Programme so as to enhance the creation of sustainable business, and thereby sustainable employment.

H. Promotion of Rights and Responsibilities in the Workplace

The Ministry will implement a Nationwide Awareness of Workplace Rights and Responsibilities. In this connection the Ministry will disseminate information to the public on several important issues, including retrenchment and its effects on society, child labour, maternity protection and minimum wage. This initiative is intended to empower the relevant groups in the population. It is in keeping with the Ministry’s commitment to fostering a governance approach that is based on participation and inclusion.

I. Safety and Health of Workers

The Ministry will continue the implementation of the Occupational Safety and Health Programme. In fiscal 2019 the Ministry will develop a National OSH Profile, OSH Regulations and a Standardised Regulatory Enforcement Practice for the OSH Agency and establishment of a Document Management System.

Box 7.3 – Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development for Fiscal 2018/19

- National Policy on Cooperatives
- National Policy for the Prevention of Child Labour in Trinidad and Tobago
- Labour Migration Policy for Trinidad and Tobago
- National Baseline Survey on Knowledge, Attitude, Belief and Practice on HIV in the Workplace
- Labour Market Information System (LMIS) Surveys:
 - o Private Sector Vacancy Survey
 - o Public Sector Vacancy Survey

7.5. Ministry of National Security

The Ministry of National has the mandate for ensuring public safety and security through the maintenance of law and order and the commitment of all available resources to the protection of life and property and defence against aggression. In addition, the ministry oversees the coordination of disaster preparedness and emergency relief, as well as monitoring the flow of persons into and out of the country.

In fiscal 2019, the Ministry of National Security will undertake the following initiatives:

A. Immigration and Border Protection:

- Implementation of an expanded Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) to further strengthen border control capability.
- Establishment of a Joint Border Protection Task Force to develop a modern Policy Framework for Border Management.
- Establishment of Joint Border Patrol Agency to manage the security and integrity the country’s borders.
- Physical upgrade of the Immigration and Detention Centre (IDC).

B. Prisons

- Continue improvement Works to Prison Buildings at Remand Yard Golden Grove, YTC, Maximum Security

and Golden Grove Prison to ensure safe and secure facilities for inmates, a healthy environment and improved facilities for Officers and enhancement of the security of the prison compound.

- Construction of dormitory facilities for Prison Officers in Tobago.
- Establishment of a Video Conferencing Facility at the Remand Prison.

C. Disaster Risk Management

- Development of a Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Policy. The intent is to increase resilience to natural hazards.

D. Police

- Completion of Construction of Old Grange and Roxborough Police Stations.
- Commencement of construction of Police Stations at St. Clair and Carenage.
- Establishment of Juvenile Booking Stations at selected Police Stations for processing juvenile offenders, in keeping with statutory obligations to support operations of the Children's Court.

E. Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force (TTDF)

- Advancing the work of the Counter Trafficking Unit (CTU) to ensure the critical issue of human trafficking is effectively addressed.

G. Fire Services

- Commencement of construction of the San Fernando (Lady Hailes) and Arouca Fire Stations.
- Tendering for contractors for the Point Fortin Fire Station.

H. National Crime Prevention Programme

The National Crime Prevention Programme (NCPP), will be implemented in keeping with this country's Whole-Of-Government Approach to treat with issues including National Security and Public Safety. The Ministry is engaging in a collaborative partnership with other Ministries as well as with public and private sector stakeholders to execute this programme.

The NCPP will engage, educate and empower communities by providing an avenue to access Government services in response to their specific needs.

The Programme is also structured so as to provide feedback to the communities, to ensure that they are kept informed of the status of progress with respect to the country's response to their needs. It will strongly impact crime prevention by engaging communities as strategic partners to create social change by efficiently managing resources in order to reverse the elements that contribute to the challenges facing the citizenry in terms of the fear of crime, criminality and social disorder across the country.

The NCPP will be initiated in fifteen (15) Community Crime Prevention Councils, representing the 14 municipalities in Trinidad and the Tobago House of Assembly. These Councils will interface directly with their respective communities to determine their needs in order to respond appropriately. Phase 1 of the Programme will be implemented in Diego Martin, Chaguanas and Tobago.

7.6. Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government

In fiscal 2019, the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government will pursue implementation of the following initiatives:

A. Enhancement of Disaster Management Capacity

The Disaster Management Unit (DMU) will continue to focus on building capacity within the regions in order to mitigate against and respond to disasters. This will be effected through community information and education outreaches, training and enhancement programmes and developing and implementing systems to facilitate collaboration among trained personnel in the areas of search and rescue, community emergency response and shelter management. An early warning system will also be established, to ensure more effective response and recovery and implementation of an 800 system which will allow affected persons to contact any of the fourteen (14) municipalities in times of natural disasters.



B. Initiative in support of the Automation of Construction Permitting

The process of preparing the Municipal Corporation to be in a state of to support the automated system for construction permitting will commence.

C. National Local Roads/Street Signage Project Programme

The goal of this programme is to address the inadequacy of street sign, which usually make navigation difficult and hazardous. Proper signs will be installed on all streets and roads throughout the country. The programme will involve street signs, directional signs and information signs for tourism.

D. Transformation Programme and Change Management Unit (TPCMU)

In an effort to fulfil its mandate and improve services for the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago, the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government is embarking on a devolution exercise to enable greater autonomy to take place at the Municipal Corporations, which is consistent with the proposed Local Government Reform Policy. The establishment of a Transformation Programme and Change Management Unit (TPCMU) will support the implementation of, and monitor the transformation of the Municipal Corporations and facilitate Local Government reform.

E. Centralised Municipal Data Management

The Centralised Municipal Spatial Data Management System project will provide quality spatial data for mapping, monitoring, mitigation and relief efforts. The overarching aim of the project is geared towards building national resilience to disasters, climate change risk, managing vulnerability at the municipal and local levels and facilitating climate change risk management.

7.7. Ministry of Social Development and Family Services

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS) is the core social sector Ministry responsible for coordinating implementation of Government’s initiatives for achieving social and human development objectives. In keeping with its portfolio, the MSDFS is mandated to address the social challenges of poverty, social inequality and social exclusion.

In Fiscal 2019 the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services will focus on the following initiatives:

A. Direct Deposit System: The majority of Senior Citizens eligible for the Government’s Pension, as well as persons eligible for the public assistance and disability grants, will receive their funds in their personal bank accounts through the Direct Deposit System.

B. Implementation of a Data Sharing Arrangement between the MSDFS and NIBTT: There will be full implementation of a Data Sharing Arrangement between the MSDFS and the NIBTT. Once the Data Sharing arrangement is implemented, there will be a shorter grant processing timeframe and reduced transaction costs in applying for public assistance and other grants.

C. Debit Card System: A new Debit Card System for the Food Support Programme will be introduced.

D. Remote Application/Registration for the Ministry’s Grants: This facility will be available through TTConnect Offices throughout the country.

E. Life Certificate System: Consequent on the signing of Memoranda of Understanding with the Ministries of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs and National Security, recipients of Senior Citizens Pension will no longer have to visit the Ministry’s offices to prove that they are alive through the Life Certificate System.

F. The Standard Means Test: The Standard Means Test will continue to be rolled-out to ensure more effective targeting of support to individuals and families who are most in need.

G. Provision of Counselling Psychosocial and other Services:

The family, as the bedrock of our society, will be protected, supported and given the tools of empowerment through the provision of a suite of counselling and psychosocial services and specially designed parenting programmes. The National Parenting Programme will be reviewed and re-introduced.

H. Values, Attitudes & Behaviours Campaign:

A National Values, Attitudes & Behaviours Campaign will be developed and implemented throughout Trinidad and Tobago with a focus on inculcating positive values and attitude in the family.

I. Evidenced-Based National Policies:

The development/review of several major policies that will guide the development and implementation of initiatives for vulnerable individuals and families will be finalised. These policies are: The National Family Policy, the National Parenting Policy, the National Policy on Persons with Disabilities and the Policy on Older Persons.

J. Resilience Framework:

A Resilience Framework will be developed and implemented. The Framework will provide the framework for building capacity in our people to withstand and cope with the impact of negative occurrences/shocks to the economy or to their household.

K. The STEP-UP Developmental Model:

The STEP-UP Developmental Model will be fully implemented. STEP-UP is intended to steer social welfare beneficiaries and other vulnerable persons on a path of resilience and self-sufficiency. This enhanced model will be reintroduced in a more robust way to enable graduation of beneficiaries from the grants programmes to a state of self-sustainability.

L. Collaborative efforts with Civil Society:

Collaboration with Civil Society partners will be strengthened to build their capacity to provide support for and to protect and empower our vulnerable citizens.

M. Integrated Social Enterprise Management System (ISEMS):

Integrated Social Enterprise Management System (ISEMS) will facilitate greater coordination across the Social Sector. The introduction of an ISEM system will create electronic linkage among all social sector Ministries for information sharing. This will be supplemented by the establishment of a Social Services

Call Centre to provide information to customers on the grants and services available across the social sector.

N. Shelters and Assessment Centres:

New shelters and assessment centres will be established, in keeping with the Continuum of Care for Street Dwellers, to protect rehabilitate and reintegrate into the mainstream of society, the socially displaced who would have become homeless due to mental illness, substance abuse and deportation.

O. Senior Activity Centres:

Our older persons will have opportunities to interact and recreate to improve their health and well-being through restructured Senior Activity Centres programme, towards enhancement of administrative and operational arrangements

P. Enhanced Services for Persons with Disabilities:

Persons with disabilities will have opportunities to obtain physical therapies, access to contemporary education, employment opportunities, housing and full and equal utilisation of public accommodations and public services, without discrimination on account of their disability.

Q. Integrated and Holistic Social Service Delivery:

The Ministry will take a further step towards a more efficient and effective, integrated and holistic social service delivery through the establishment of the Social Support and Empowerment Unit and the implementation of the integrated model for service delivery.

R. Improving the Customer Experience:

There is commitment to improving the customer experience at the Ministry's offices throughout Trinidad and Tobago. Apart from improvements in access through ICT systems, staff will be trained continuously in good customer service practices. Standards will be established and continuously monitored.

S. National Social Mitigation Plan for Trinidad and Tobago:

Phase I of the National Social Mitigation Plan for Trinidad and Tobago will be implemented. Phase I will comprise of several research and programmatic initiatives geared toward building the resilience of the population.

T. National Enrichment Centre for Persons with Disabilities:

The National Enrichment Centre for Persons with Disabilities will be fully operationalised. The Centre will provide therapeutic services for persons with disabilities at an affordable cost. It will also serve



as a resource centre for NGOs that provide services for persons with disabilities.

Table 7.II: Research/Policy Initiatives under the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services for Fiscal 2018/2019

RESEARCH/POLICY INITIATIVES
I. RESEARCH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Therapeutic Services – Gap Analysis of Therapeutic Needs of Persons with Disabilities and Services currently available
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Situational Analysis for the formulation of the revision of the National Policy for Ageing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data on Domestic Violence Cases to the Domestic Violence Registry at OPM - Gender and Child Affairs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inventory: Services/Programmes for Street Dwellers: Standards of Care compliance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Poverty Eradication Strategy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a Socio-economic Indicator Database for the Social Sector
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Socio-Economic Situational Analysis for T&T (National Social Mitigation Plan)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of the Disability Sector
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research into the Impact of the Standards Means Test in relation to the number of Successful/Rejected Applications
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of Non-Governmental Organisations serving the Community of Persons with Disabilities in Trinidad and Tobago
II. POLICY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Family Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Parenting Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Policy on Persons with Disabilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Policy on Older Persons

7.8. Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs

The Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs will continue to deliver on its mandate and strive towards making Trinidad and Tobago a world class sporting nation, contributing to the national well-being and youth development and empowerment. In fiscal 2019, the Ministry will undertake the following initiatives:

A. The National Youth Policy: The Ministry will continue its review exercise on the National Youth Policy. There will be a second round of consultations, as well as the launch and promotion of the policy, the Establishment of a Programme implementation Unit and commencement of implementation of the Policy.

B. Development of New Facilities

- Construction of a Multi-Purpose Facility at Moruga

C. Upgrade, Rehabilitation and Improvement of existing Infrastructure: The Ministry will continue its programme of infrastructure development and upgrade of sporting and youth facilities. This will involve:

- Upgrade of Community Swimming Pools, and Indoor Sporting Arenas at Youth Training Facilities and Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centres.
- Rehabilitation of the former Caroni sporting facilities which include the Sevilla and Usine Ste. Madeline Golf Course and Club House
- Comprehensive rehabilitation works on the Dwight Yorke Stadium.
- Upgrade works at the Larry Gomes, Mannie Ramjohn, Ato Boldon and Hasely Crawford Stadia, and the Jean Pierre Complex.
- Upgrade and rehabilitation of community recreation grounds at Aranguez and Marac.
- Continue development works on regional recreation ground at Bourg Mulatresse Recreation Ground and the North Eastern Recreation Ground, Sangre Grande.
- Continue development works at the Mahaica Oval in Point Fortin.

D. Research Initiative: The Ministry will conduct research on participation in sport and recreation to ensure evidence-based project and programme development. In this context, a National Sport and Recreational Census will be undertaken.

7.9. Office of the Prime Minister - Gender and Child Affairs

The following initiatives will be undertaken by the Gender and Child Affairs Division in the OPM in fiscal 2019:

A. Protection of Children: Violence against children and other forms of child abuse is major issue of concerns to be addressed in Trinidad and Tobago. The OPM (Gender and Child Affairs) will lead efforts to reduce this problem in 2019, in collaboration with stakeholders working in the child development sector. Vulnerable segments of the child population such as children with disabilities will also be a key area of focus. In this context, the Gender and Child Affairs Unit will ensure that measures are put in place for early screening services to avoid the risk of children developing disabilities that could result in poor academic achievement and other negative effects later in their life.

B. National Child Policy: The National Child Policy (NCP) will be completed in 2019. The first draft of the Policy will be submitted to Cabinet for approval for public consultation to be undertaken, and subsequent laying of the policy document in the Parliament.

C. The National Children's Registry: The National Children's Registry (NCR) will be established.

D. Child Protection Workbook: Child protection sensitisation will continue with persons listed as duty bearers in the law. Accordingly, the Child Protection Workbook will be delivered to every Form 1 students throughout the country, as well all ensuring trainers conduct their relevant sessions with peers. The target for 2018/2019 will be religious boards and faith-based organisations. Training will also continue in the Children's Homes and Residences. The 2nd instalment of this programme will continue, with more emphasis

being placed on the Train-the-Trainer element of the programme.

E. Infrastructure Development: A Modernisation Programme will be implemented for the St. Mary's Home for Children (SMCH); the St. Jude's School for Girls will be relocated to a more conducive location; and the Josephine Shaw House, a facility that provides temporary housing for single women as they transition from the children's to independent living will be reconstructed.

Box 7.4 – Policy and Research Initiatives of the Office of the Prime Minister: Gender and Child Affairs for Fiscal 2018/19

Child Affairs Division:

- National Child Policy
 - The Child Protection Policy with a National Strategic Framework for Child Protection
 - Children in Alternative Care Policy
 - Nursery Policy
 - Early Childhood Development
 - Framework for Children with Disabilities

Gender Affairs Division:

- Gender Responsive Budgeting Policy
- National Strategic Action Plan for ending Gender-Based Violence
- Research on Domestic Violence Shelters and related facilities
- Research on the Central Registry on Domestic Violence

Children's Authority:

- Policy for Development and Implementation of a Regulatory Regime for Nurseries
- A systemic review and gap analysis of the available systems, processes and facilities that provide care and protection for children with mental illnesses who have been abused or maltreated
- Identify and Evaluate the Factors Responsible for the Hypersexualised Behaviour of Children in Trinidad and Tobago



7.10. Tobago House of Assembly

Priorities for fiscal 2018/2019

The Tobago House of Assembly (THA) has identified the following priorities for fiscal 2018/2019:

- Economic Expansion and Diversification
- Fostering Innovation and Creativity
- Tourism Sector Development
- Monetising Cultural Resources
- Stimulating the Agriculture Sector
- Investment in Physical Infrastructure
- Education and Human Capital Development
- Provision of Housing Opportunities
- Improving Healthcare and Well-being
- Sport and Youth Development
- Protecting our Pristine Natural Environment
- Community Empowerment and Public Service Modernisation

The following initiatives were outlined for fiscal 2019:

Tourism Sector Development

- A comprehensive product audit on all tourism sites, attractions and accommodation;
- Rehabilitation of sensitive marine areas and the pursuit of international certification such as Blue Flag;
- Improvement to tourism related infrastructure around Tobago including: better signage; upgrades to nature trails; beautification of Scarborough, and upgrade and restoration of beach facilities;
- Facilitation of the upgrade to existing accommodation facilities through the Tourism Accommodation Upgrade Programme (TAUP) and other initiatives; and
- Enhanced customer service training throughout the tourism industry facilitated by the Tobago Tourism and Hospitality Institute.

The Agriculture Sector

In the next fiscal year, the Division of Food Production, Forestry and Fisheries proposes a number of initiatives to forge a progressive path for agriculture which will result in the development of a dynamic and multi-faceted agro production sector.

The Division also proposes to continue its ‘Eat Local’ Campaign as part of its overall strategy to promote the production and consumption of local produce. The farming community stands to benefit from this initiative, as the ‘Eat Local’ Campaign will propel the demand for local produce which in turn will increase production, sale and consequently farm income. The Division is collaborating with other Divisions of the Assembly as well as with the Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute and the Tobago Agricultural Society, to promote a more effective and inclusive campaign going forward. The Division of Food Production, Forestry and Fisheries also proposes to collaborate with the University of the West Indies and PCS Nitrogen on the planting of fruit trees in all primary and secondary schools in Tobago, where possible. The fruit trees for consideration include guava, cherry, five finger, soursop and pommecythere.

Education and Human Capital Development

The THA proposes to repair and upgrade all our schools on the island in the annual school repair programme. Greater attention will also be placed on the infrastructural needs of the School for the Deaf, Speech and Language Impaired as well as Happy Haven to bring them in line with acceptable international standards. A special committee is now in place to guide the process of transformation and capacity building at both schools. The Division of Education, Innovation and Energy is also in discussions with the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) to introduce programmes that are relevant to Tobago’s needs such as: Marine Sciences, Visual and Performing Arts, Agriculture, Clothing and Textile, Physical Education and Sport. It is hoped that UTT Tobago Campus can become the Centre for Visual and Performing Arts as well as for Marine Sciences.

Other initiatives include:

- The provision of auditory and visual examinations for first year students of all primary schools as well as the administering of vaccinations to all standard five students in Tobago;
- Continuation of social protection programmes to protect vulnerable groups inclusive of women, children, the elderly and persons with disabilities; and
- Collaboration with Department of Advanced Training and Advisory Services (DATAS) in the Office of the Chief Secretary, for scholarships in specialised areas.

Sport and Youth Development

In the next fiscal year, the Division of Sport and Youth Affairs will continue to support the holistic development of young people through capacity building and financial assistance workshops. Among those initiatives carded for the upcoming year are:

- The Building Bridges Programme aimed at engaging youth in a regional exchange programme to expose them to youth work and youth related activities;
- The participation in the upcoming Caribbean Youth Summit and Commonwealth Youth Forum. This forum presents an opportunity for exposure and networking among other Commonwealth delegates and the opportunity to plan various youth initiatives; and,
- The continued upgrades to sporting and recreational facilities throughout the island.

In the next fiscal year, this Administration proposes new measures aimed at preserving our natural environment. In this regard, the Executive Council recently approved the establishment of a Coastal Zone Management Unit within the Department of Environment to allow for more robust monitoring and analysis of coastal processes and the resultant impact on coastal morphology. We are keenly aware that Tobago has been experiencing significant challenges related to coastal erosion and sea level rise, largely induced by climate change. In fact, coastal erosion has severely damaged and continues to compromise the integrity of our road infrastructure and public institutions along the Milford Road, Grange Bay,

Black Rock and Plymouth in the West, as well as areas such as Roxborough, Argyle and Kendal in the East.

Health

In the upcoming year the THA proposes several initiatives and programmes all geared towards further improving the health and well-being of Tobago residents. In keeping with the Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) Plan 2017-2020, the strategy will focus on improved data management, as well as enhanced public awareness and early screening and detection with respect to these diseases.

Other initiatives to improve the health and well-being of Tobago residents over the next fiscal year include:

- The recruitment of specialists in maxillofacial, paediatric surgery and orthopaedic surgery that has reduced the transfer of such cases to Trinidad;
- Ongoing upgrades to all health centres on the island;
- Collaboration with Department of Advanced Training and Advisory Services (DATAS) in the Office of the Chief Secretary, for scholarships in specialised areas;
- Installation of a laboratory at Signal Hill to enhance vector control services; and
- Improvements to the solid waste management facility at Studley Park.

Community Development

The THA believes that sustainable development requires communities to play an integral role. As such, the empowerment of communities in Tobago is an essential element of our development strategy. In 2017 the Division of Community Development, Enterprise Development and Labour conducted several training programmes in areas such as vocational skills and entrepreneurship in about twenty-nine (29) communities throughout Tobago, targeting approximately two thousand and fifty (2,050) participants. Further, to assist in fostering entrepreneurship at the community level, the Division facilitated activities such as the Calder Hall Market Experience, the Parlatuvier and Environs Business Outreach Seminar and several Night Markets. Approximately one hundred and twenty-five (125) entrepreneurs participated in these community initiatives.



In the new fiscal, training programmes will be continued in Vocational skills and community outreach. Programmes earmarked for implementation in the next fiscal year also include the Community Literacy Improvement Plan (CLIP), the Social Cohesion and Mobilisation Programme (SCMP) and the Pride of Tobago Project.

2019

Social Sector
Investment Programme 2019



APPENDICES

Appendix I:

Key Social Programmes and Structural /
Institutional Initiatives Funded by the Public Sector
Investment Programme (PSIP) 2017-2019

Figures supplied by the Ministry of Finance as at 27/09/18

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2017 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES				
Development Centre for Persons with Challenges	109,832	4,000,000	0	500,000
DRETCHI – Refurbishment/Reconfiguration	0	2,000,000	0	0
Establishment of a Data Centre and Storage Area Network	0	2,000,000	0	0
Establishment of an Integrated Social Enterprise Management System	0	10,000,000	0	1,000,000
Establishment of Social Displacement Centres	587,374	2,000,000	100,000	660,000
The Street Dwellers Rehabilitation & Re-Integration Project	1,661,908	500,000	1,002,000	100,000
Toco Home for Senior Citizens	246,780	0	0	0
Implementation of a Social Mitigation Plan	137,250	1,000,000	50,000	160,000
Providing access to All at MSDFS Facilities	0	2,000,000	498,000	0
Community Therapeutic Services for Persons with Disabilities	0	1,500,000	0	0
Refurbishment of Hernandez Place	0	2,000,000	0	1,000,000
Total	2,743,144	27,000,000	1,650,000	3,420,000
MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, CULTURE AND THE ARTS				
Refurbishment of the Community Education, Training, Information and Resource Centre	28,301	0	0	2,000,000
Support to Mediation Services	1,385,738	3,000,000	2,300,000	2,000,000
National Museum Development	96,506	1,000,000	600,000	500,000
Establishment of a Sugar Museum	0	500,000	0	500,000
Development of First Peoples	0	500,000	500,000	1,000,000
*Construction of Community Centres	11,934,915	30,000,000	32,790,000	20,000,000
*Refurbishment of Community Centres	2,435,319	5,000,000	7,545,000	6,000,000
*Implementation of Self-Help Programme (NCSHL)	13,691,568	15,000,000	4,446,000	15,000,000
*Construction of a Children's Homework Centre in Carenage	0	4,700,000	3,317,000	0
Total	29,572,347	59,700,000	51,498,000	47,000,000



PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2017 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT				
*Community Improvement Services	1,378,729	0	0	0
*Development of Rural Communities	30,234,125	15,000,000	2,200,000	56,076,000
Total	31,612,854	15,000,000	2,200,000	56,076,000
MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT				
Relocation of Squatters	0	5,000,000	0	5,000,000
Household Budgetary Survey	45,755	0	0	0
Conduct of the Survey of Living Conditions	0	2,000,000	0	0
Total	45,755	7,000,000	0	5,000,000
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER				
Outfitting of three (2) Safe Houses	8,398	0	239,550	0
Establishment of Places of Safety	0	1,000,000	471,730	0
Establishment of a National Children's Registry	0	1,000,000	400,000	800,000
Conduct of key Research Studies by Children's Authority	0	400,000	400,000	500,000
Database Management System Expansion for Children Authority	0	1,000,000	600,000	1,000,000
Digitization of Adoption Records	0	550,000	100,000	0
National Child Policy	16,020	240,000	100,000	200,000
Child Justice Assessment Centre	0	1,500,000	408,000	0
Juvenile Justice Implementation	0	400,000	100,000	0
*Reconstruction of St Mary's Home for Children	0	3,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
*Modernization of St. Michael's School for Boys	0	3,000,000	1,000,000	0
*Refurbishment of St. Dominic's Home for Children- Old Bethlehem	0	690,000	300,000	500,000
*Refurbishment of the Salvation Army- Josephine Shaw House	0	3,000,000	100,000	3,000,000
Total	24,418	15,780,000	5,219,280	7,000,000
MINISTRY OF HEALTH				
Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children- Refurbishment Works	500,000	100,000	743,500	400,000
Special Programme - HIV/AIDS	2,995,578	0	0	0
Special Programme - Renal Dialysis	23,969,450	24,000,000	24,000,000	30,000,000
Special Programme - Treatment of Adult Cardiac Disease	14,858,987	20,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2017 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD
Tissue Transplant	288,047	900,000	900,000	700,000
Waiting List for Surgery	9,200,270	20,000,000	12,000,000	19,000,000
Establishment of a Renal Dialysis Centre	188,733	500,000	0	300,000
President's Emergency Programme for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)	0	500,000	0	1,000,000
* Construction of the National Oncology Centre	17,247,806	5,000,000	3,000,000	4,000,000
Total	69,248,871	71,000,000	60,643,500	75,400,000
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS				
Conduct of a National Sport and Recreational Census	0	200,000	0	0
Development of a Youth Employment Policy	0	500,000	271,000	1,000,000
Implementation of the National Youth Policy	0	1,500,000	530,000	1,500,000
Refurbishment of Youth Training Facilities	0	2,500,000	249,000	2,000,000
Refurbishment of the Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centre	0	4,000,000	300,000	3,000,000
*Development and Upgrading of Recreational Grounds, Parks and Spaces	341,761	1,500,000	500,000	6,000,000
* Upgrading of Corporation Grounds	1,866,931	8,500,000	2,000,000	4,000,000
Total	2,208,692	18,700,000	3,850,000	17,500,000
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION				
Seamless Education System Project	1,207,620	13,000,000	224,340	0
Support the Enhancement of the Education Strategy	948,682	728,000	328,000	0
Establishment of a National Accreditation Council	0	2,000,000	0	0
MIC Training Subsidy (Legacy Project)	900,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	2,000,000
National Skills Development Programme	500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,000,000
*Early Childhood Care and Education	29,271,682	35,000,000	23,800,000	25,000,000
*Development of a School for Special Education at Point-a-Pierre	0	1,000,000	100,000	24,000
*Repairs and Maintenance for Special Schools	491,286	3,000,000	3,000,000	2,000,000
Total	33,319,270	58,728,000	31,452,340	31,024,000
TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY				
Community Awareness Programme	0	500,000	500,000	0
Construction of School for the Deaf	0	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Construction of a Wellness/Fitness Centre	0	300,000	300,000	0
Domestic Violence Project	0	200,000	200,000	0



PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2017 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD
Emergency Medical Alert System	0	100,000	100,000	0
Enterprise Assistance Grant Programme	3,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,500,000
Establishment of Community Unit and Development of Programme for Social Behaviour Change	0	200,000	200,000	0
Establishment of Parenting in Student Support services Unit	0	300,000	300,000	0
Establishment of Probation Hostels	2,500,000	300,000	300,000	0
Expansion of Mordon House Youth Development Centre	0	500,000	500,000	0
Gender Management System & Gender Mainstreaming Programme	0	200,000	200,000	0
Golden Apple Adolescents Partnership Programme (GAAPP)	4,100,000	600,000	600,000	0
Home Completion Programme, Tobago	1,000,000	750,000	750,000	0
Home Improvement Grant, Tobago	4,770,000	2,300,000	2,300,000	5,000,000
Home Improvement Subsidy, Tobago	2,000,000	600,000	600,000	1,000,000
Implementing Family Remedial Therapy/Thinking	0	100,000	100,000	0
Life Management and Parenting Education Programme	0	200,000	200,000	0
Programme for Adolescent Mothers	100,000	400,000	400,000	0
Programme for Rural Electrification	0	250,000	250,000	250,000
Project for the Realisation of Economic Achievement (REACH)	500,000	800,000	800,000	0
Roving Care Givers Programme	0	600,000	600,000	300,000
Seamless Education Programme	0	21,000,000	21,000,000	5,000,000
Social Services and Prison Integrated Network (SPINE)	0	300,000	300,000	0
Tobago Elderly Housing and Rehabilitative Centre	200,000	400,000	400,000	0
Tobago HIV/AIDS Strategic Response	1,000,000	400,000	400,000	500,000
Tobago Rehabilitation Programme	0	200,000	200,000	0
Upgrade of Happy Haven School	0	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Vocation Centre for Persons with Mental Retardation	0	200,000	200,000	0
Total	19,170,000	34,700,000	34,700,000	16,550,000
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT				
Housing Grants	9,999,999	12,000,000	12,000,000	15,000,000
Surveys of Squatter Sites	330,038	1,500,000	226,370	4,500,000

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2017 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD
Residential Lots Programme (Land for the Landless)	4,964,242	0	400,000	0
Housing and Village Improvement Programme	0	5,000,000	1,100,000	10,000,000
Regularisation and Regeneration of Communities- Greater POS Region	0	5,000,000	1,273,000	2,500,000
Regularisation of Squatter Communities	0	10,000,000	5,000,000	15,000,000
Emergency Shelter Relief Fund (Head Office)	975,000	1,000,000	200,000	1,000,000
Home Ownership 101	0	1,000,000	0	550,000
Home Improvement and New Housing Subsidies Programme	15,000,000	15,000,000	14,927,100	0
Sector and Institutional Strengthening Programme	997,624	1,651,000	1,722,400	0
Social and Economic Programme for East Port of Spain	3,882,625	3,000,000	2,200,000	3,000,000
*Accelerated Housing Programme	216,049,676	180,000,000	270,000,000	200,000,000
Total	252,199,204	235,151,000	309,048,870	251,550,000
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES				
Water Management and Flood Control Programme	0	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Total	0	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
GRAND TOTAL	440,144,555	544,759,000	502,261,990	512,520,000

* Infrastructure Development Fund



Appendix II:

Allocations and Expenditure for Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2018 and 2019 and Actual Expenditure for Fiscal 2017 under Recurrent Expenditure by Ministry

Figures supplied by the Ministry of Finance as at 27/09/18

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2017 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT				
Community-Based Environment Protection & Enhancement Programme (CEPEP)	450,000,000	350,000,000	448,000,000	375,915,380
Total	450,000,000	350,000,000	448,000,000	375,915,380
MINISTRY OF FINANCE				
Food Price Support Programme	158,103,630	192,000,000	192,000,000	185,200,000
Government's Contribution to the Children's Life Fund	15,000,000	30,000,000	30,000,000	30,000,000
Government Assistance for Tertiary Expenses (GATE)	504,940,251	434,300,000	434,300,000	435,000,000
Unemployment Relief Programme	299,901,474	250,000,000	287,841,940	250,000,000
Total	977,945,355	906,300,000	944,141,940	900,200,000
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER				
Other Transfers:				
Non-Profit Institutions – Ecclesiastical Bodies	312,500	500,000	356,000	500,000
Other Social Programmes	0	100,000	100,000	0
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions (Children's Homes)	6,623,866	5,450,000	5,450,000	5,450,000
St Mary's Children's Homes	13,500,000	13,500,000	13,500,000	13,500,000
St Dominic's Children Home	13,600,000	18,262,900	18,262,900	18,262,900
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions (Gender Affairs)	4,498,474	5,000,000	6,000,000	5,000,000
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions PRP- Child Development	598,800	1,000,000	1,000,000	886,030
Heroes Foundation	420,000	420,000	420,000	420,000
St Michael's School for Boys	10,970,000	11,000,000	11,000,000	11,000,000
St Jude's Home for Girls	8,500,000	8,000,000	8,000,000	8,000,000
Adoption Board Expenses	100,000	105,000	105,000	105,000
Foster Care Expenses	1,693,999	1,124,000	1,124,000	1,124,000
Children's Authority	36,969,325	55,000,000	55,000,000	57,769,100
Total	97,786,964	119,461,900	120,317,900	122,017,030

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2017 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD
MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT				
Debit Card System for URP Employees	784,215	1,300,000	260,100	1,300,000
Total	784,215	1,300,000	260,100	1,300,000
TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY				
Education, Innovation and Energy:				
Adult Education Extension Services (Adult Classes)	867,180	800,000	800,000	800,000
Assistance to Sporting Organisations	2,971,106	0	0	0
Assistance to Youth Organisations	255,975	0		0
Basic Grants	12,148,635	12,500,000	12,500,000	12,500,000
Building Grants to Assisted Schools	0	150,000	150,000	150,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	351,488	300,000	300,000	350,000
Early Childhood Care	2,122,537	500,000	500,000	500,000
Grants to Necessitous Students Attending Public Schools	337,816	400,000	400,000	400,000
Grant-Trinidad & Tobago National Council of Parent Teacher Association Inc	10,500	100,000	100,000	100,000
Grants for Students attending conferences, seminars and competitions	204,534	150,000	150,000	150,000
School Feeding Programme	39,857,805	39,000,000	39,000,000	39,000,000
Special Education Resources Programme	151,850	250,000	250,000	250,000
Student Support Services Unit	175,376	500,000	500,000	500,000
Happy Haven School-Tobago Council for Handicapped Children	2,074,704	2,325,700	2,325,700	2,393,800
Tobago School for the Deaf, Speech and Language	1,131,878	1,907,200	1,907,200	2,122,200
Youth Development Programme	195,358	0	0	0
Sport and Youth Affairs:				
Assistance to Sporting Organisations	0	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Assistance to Youth Organisations	0	500,000	500,000	500,000
Youth Development Programme	0	500,000	500,000	500,000
Agriculture, Marine Affairs, Marketing and the Environment:				
Agricultural Incentive Programme	1,024,897	0	0	0
Subsidy for Fishermen	0	0	0	0
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	44,800	0	0	0



HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2017 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD
Food Production, Forestry and Fisheries:				
Agricultural Incentive Programme	0	500,000	500,000	700,000
Subsidy for Fishermen	0	450,000	450,000	450,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	0	200,000	200,000	20,000
Community Development, Enterprise Development and Labour:				
Assistance to Community Organisations	486,004	1,500,000	1,500,000	500,000
Assistance to Cultural Groups	707,289	0	0	0
Community Action for Renewal and Empowerment (CARE)	180,551	200,000	200,000	200,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	3,080	150,000	150,000	150,000
Export Centres	1,945,009	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
National Service	0	100,000	100,000	100,000
National Days and Festivals	481,778	0	0	0
Regional Complexes	4,104,711	4,300,000	4,300,000	4,300,000
Small Grants	237,967	400,000	400,000	400,000
Special Community Programme	1,255,629	2,000,000	2,000,000	1,500,000
Health, Wellness and Family Development:				
Assistance to Home for the Aged	19,005	30,000	30,000	30,000
The Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago	0	100,000	100,000	100,000
Emergency Cases Fund	164,102	800,000	800,000	800,000
Foster Care Services	215,795	200,000	200,000	200,000
Non- Profit Institutions - Special Social Programmes	3,564,566	2,000,000	2,000,000	3,000,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	58,101	300,000	300,000	300,000
Grants towards Necessitous Patients	531,404	2,000,000	2,000,000	3,000,000
Total	77,881,430	79,112,900	79,112,900	79,966,000
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY				
Vision on Mission	2,824,250	7,254,000	7,151,800	7,254,000
Civilian Conservation Corps	36,660,809	25,000,000	33,000,000	27,357,700
Military Led Academic Training (MILAT)	10,282,288	10,000,000	14,000,000	15,000,000
Mentoring Programme for Youth at Risk	212,932	0	0	0
Criminal Injuries Compensation	999,059	1,500,000	1,500,000	2,000,000
Emergency Cases Fund (Probation Services)	26,643	160,000	160,000	200,000

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2017 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD
Crime Stoppers Trinidad & Tobago Limited	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
HIV/AIDS Coordinating Unit	30,030	1,000,000	600,000	1,000,000
Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management	10,593,720	16,000,000	16,000,000	18,000,000
National Drug Council	631,894	1,300,000	800,000	1,500,000
The Morvant/Laventille Initiative	766,340	2,000,000	500,000	1,188,600
National Crime Prevention Programme	59,165	1,000,000	3,000,000	4,094,300
Total	65,087,130	67,214,000	78,711,800	79,594,600
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT				
Non Profit Institutions	1,316,287	1,407,000	1,303,880	1,605,055
On the Job Training Programme	228,083,000	225,633,500	184,517,200	207,739,281
National Entrepreneurship Development Company (NEDCO)	24,000,000	20,000,000	26,368,740	20,000,000
Fair Share Programme	3,887	250,000	0	250,000
HIV/AIDS Advocacy and Sustainability Centre	118,379	500,000	137,000	457,360
Total	253,521,553	247,790,500	212,326,820	230,051,696
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES				
Agricultural Incentive Programme	10,532,629	12,000,000	43,000,000	24,364,000
Incentive Programme	43,798	700,000	530,000	500,000
Forestry Incentive Programme	3,145	300,000	0	300,000
Relief of Flood Damage	13,542,612	2,000,000	9,000,000	9,000,000
4H Young Farmers Club	296,370	400,000	35,000	250,000
Rural Women Producers Network	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Youth Apprenticeship Programme in Agriculture (YAPA)	92,000	500,000	0	500,000
Total	24,535,554	15,925,000	52,590,000	34,939,000
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION				
Early Childhood Care and Education	20,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000
National Schools Dietary Services Limited	200,000,000	156,700,000	156,700,000	200,000,000
School Transportation Services	45,610,299	47,000,000	40,260,000	52,000,000
Servol Junior Life Centres	3,692,400	4,820,000	3,020,000	4,686,000
Special Education Resources Programme	0	900,000	0	900,000
Student Support Services Programme	454,812	2,000,000	1,200,000	2,000,000
Textbook Rental/ Management Unit – Primary Schools	5,151,145	2,000,000	4,631,000	2,000,000



HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2017 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD
Textbook Rental/ Management Unit – Secondary Schools	4,447,847	2,000,000	2,250,000	2,000,000
Grant – Trinidad & Tobago National Council of Parent/ Teachers Associations	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
UWI-Family Development Centre for Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)	0	1,000,000	0	0
Retraining Programme for Displaced Workers	9,258,000	9,000,000	9,000,000	8,316,000
Higher Education Loan Programme	2,139,020	10,000,000	13,729,000	10,000,000
MIC Craft Programmes	11,835,000	12,000,000	10,752,600	10,000,000
Helping Youth Prepare for Employment Programme (HYPE)	13,431,000	14,200,000	14,000,000	13,516,000
Multi-Sector Skill Training Programme(MUST)	17,808,700	20,000,000	17,300,000	17,300,000
SERVOL Hi-Tech & Advanced Skills Training Programme	7,000,000	7,000,000	7,000,000	7,000,000
SERVOL's Human Development and Skills Training	20,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000
Military-Led Programme of Apprenticeship and Re-orientation (MYPART)	7,383,000	7,200,000	6,950,000	7,200,000
Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme Ltd (YTEPP)	64,383,600	55,000,000	55,000,000	45,000,000
Metal Industries Co Ltd (National Skills Development Programme)	13,731,200	30,000,000	28,166,600	26,613,000
Total	446,576,023	421,070,000	410,209,200	448,781,000
MINISTRY OF HEALTH				
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions	10,838,835	18,969,000	17,000,000	11,000,000
Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Centres	0	100,000	0	0
National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention	409,840	700,000	0	200,000
Medical Treatment of Nationals in Institutions	60,751,178	60,000,000	60,000,000	60,000,000
Children's Life Fund Authority	2,420,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
School Health Programme (Audio test, hearing aid, service and eyeglasses)	251,233	1,000,000	1,000,000	500,000
Drugs and Other Related Materials and Supplies	531,603,625	630,000,000	500,000,000	610,000,000
Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children	11,350,779	11,729,600	11,200,000	12,000,000
Total	617,625,490	724,498,600	591,200,000	695,700,000

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2017 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES				
Utilities Assistance Programme	3,803,705	3,500,000	4,044,000	4,000,466
Total	3,803,705	3,500,000	4,044,000	4,000,466
MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, CULTURE AND THE ARTS				
Non-Profit Institutions	43,610,920	46,613,800	38,830,000	41,870,000
Community Action for Revival and Empowerment (CARE)	3,598,083	3,000,000	2,000,000	2,500,000
Hosting of Cultural Camps	897,140	900,000	450,000	900,000
Music Schools in the Community	0	1,500,000	750,000	1,000,000
Export Centres	8,000,000	6,300,000	6,300,000	6,300,000
National Commission for Self-Help Limited	9,638,994	9,000,000	9,000,000	9,000,000
National Days and Festivals	7,879,175	6,750,000	5,500,000	5,500,000
Queens Hall	10,692,566	8,260,000	7,180,000	8,260,000
Naparima Bowl	6,005,926	5,976,500	4,119,600	5,976,500
National Carnival Commission of T & T	168,048,663	147,350,000	90,471,500	139,839,790
Total	258,371,467	235,650,300	164,601,100	221,146,290
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS				
Transfers:				
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions (Sporting Organisations)	10,352,560	9,000,000	8,000,000	11,000,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions (Youth Organisations)	695,344	250,000	76,000	366,000
Other transfers:				
Indoor Sporting Arenas/ Hockey Facility	3,049,706	3,000,000	3,600,000	3,000,000
The Sport Company of Trinidad & Tobago	84,343,000	80,200,000	59,785,000	60,000,000
Total	98,440,610	92,450,000	71,461,000	74,366,000
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT				
Other transfers:				
Trinidad and Tobago Housing Development Corporation	635,897,786	672,100,000	672,100,000	663,542,000
Total	635,897,786	672,100,000	672,100,000	663,542,000



HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2017 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES TOBAGO				
Non-Profit Institutions				
Contribution to Non-Profit Organisations	499,937	300,000	125,000	500,000
Total	499,937	300,000	125,000	500,000
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE				
Transfers:				
Non-Profit Institutions-Police Youth Clubs	3,368,419	6,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
Total	3,368,419	6,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES				
Other Social Programmes	5,786,796	7,500,000	1,000,000	7,500,000
Senior Citizens' Homes	717,002	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,200,000
Senior Citizens' Centres	228,270	3,000,000	1,000,000	1,616,400
Social Programmes (Ageing)	316,500	350,000	350,000	490,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions	9,584,690	13,000,000	6,000,000	13,000,000
Retirees Adolescent Partnership Programme	1,626,393	1,800,000	1,800,000	1,800,000
President's Award Scheme	30,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
Young Women's Christian Association	0	30,000	30,000	30,000
Young Men's Christian Association	156,000	156,000	156,000	156,000
Boy Scouts Association	81,500	126,000	126,000	126,000
Girl Guides Association	84,000	84,000	84,000	84,000
Non-Profit Institutions (Other Social Parenting Programmes)	513,921	2,000,000	200,000	2,000,000
Non-Profit Institutions (Other Social Family Programmes)	269,856	1,250,000	750,000	1,250,000
Adult Education Programme	2,310,029	2,824,000	2,000,000	2,824,000
Senior Citizens' Grant	3,506,374,482	3,508,000,000	3,562,000,000	3,680,947,000
Social Assistance	404,253,153	400,000,000	400,000,000	390,000,000
Urgent Temporary Assistance	24,038,855	20,000,000	20,000,000	30,000,000
S.H.A.R.E.	0	1,000,000	0	0
Rehabilitative Programme	2,327,708	8,500,000	1,500,000	8,500,000
Payments to Registrars of Births and Deaths	1,460	11,200	2,000	12,195
Disability Grant	523,754,942	500,000,000	520,000,000	581,000,000
Assistance to National Heroes	1,871,400	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2017 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD
Target Conditional Cash Transfer Programme -Development Component for Recipients	0	1,000,000	0	0
National Service - Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme	21,413,288	21,000,000	21,000,000	21,000,000
National Social Development Programme	7,848,102	8,000,000	1,200,000	8,000,000
Community Care Programme	0	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
T'dad & T'go Association for Retarded Children (Lady Hochoy Home)	13,304,274	14,000,000	13,500,000	18,000,000
Trinidad and Tobago Association for the Hearing Impaired	8,303,700	8,500,000	7,185,000	11,700,000
T'dad & T'go Blind Welfare Association	10,961,974	12,000,000	9,808,000	14,000,000
Total	4,546,158,295	4,540,191,200	4,575,751,000	4,800,295,595
GRAND TOTAL	8,558,283,933	8,482,864,400	8,427,952,760	8,735,315,057



Appendix III:

List of Non-Governmental Organisations Receiving Government Subventions for Fiscal 2017 & 2018

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2017 TTD	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2018 TTD	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2018 FROM 2017 TTD
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES			
Services for Persons with Disabilities			
Goodwill Industries of the West Indies	564,413	564,413	0
International Institute for Health Care & Human Development	0	0	0
Lady Hochoy Homes	13,328,610	13,695,639	367,029
National Centre for Persons with Disabilities	799,360	0	-799,360
Persons Associated with the Visually Impaired (PAVI)	130,125	0	-130,125
T&T Association for Hearing Impaired	8,745,058	8,303,700	441,358
T&T Blind Welfare Association	13,189,123	11,177,174	2,011,949
T&T Chapter of Disabled People International	133,200	133,200	0
Sub-Total	34,017,021	31,242,209	-2,774,812
Socially Displaced			
Court Shamrock Centre for the Socially Displaced	255,596	255,596	0
St Vincent De Paul Centre for Socially Displaced Persons	2,896,800	2,896,800	0
St Vincent De Paul Society Nazareth Halfway House	147,600	147,600	0
The Centre of Hope, Hernandez Place Sanctuary	1,319,875	1,241,400	-78,475
Sub-Total	4,619,871	4,541,396	-78,475
Family Life and Counselling Service			
Family Planning Association	937,000	748,000	-189,000
Islamic Community Services	0	0	0
Lifeline	0	0	0
Marabella Family Crisis Centre	0	0	0
Rape Crisis Society of Trinidad and Tobago	300,000	228,000	-72,000
T & T Innovative Parenting Support	290,000	239,558	-50,442
T & T Red Cross Society	730,000	730,000	0
Sub-Total	2,257,000	1,945,558	-311,442

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2017 TTD	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2018 TTD	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2018 FROM 2017 TTD
Homes for Senior Citizens			
Chaguanas Senior Citizens Home	0	0	0
Couva Home for the Aged	148,000	148,000	0
J C Mc Donald Home for the Aged	239,382	239,382	0
La Brea Senior Citizens Home	77,674	77,674	0
Mayaro Home for the Aged	0	0	0
Point Fortin Senior Citizens Association	200,880	200,880	0
Sangre Grande Home for the Aged	133,920	133,920	0
Siparia Home for the Aged	110,707	110,707	0
Toco Home for Senior Citizens	44,640	44,640	0
Sub-Total	955,203	955,203	0
Senior Citizens Activity Centres			
Barataria Senior Activity Centre (Coterie of Social Workers)	0	0	0
Maloney Women's Group Senior Centre	0	0	0
Margaret Crandahl Senior Activity Centre, Pointe a Pierre (in partnership with the Open Bible School Church)	0	0	0
Rural Women Development Committee Senior Centre	0	0	0
St. Stephen's Senior Activity Centre, Princes Town	0	0	0
Penal Senior Activity Centre	0	0	0
Sub-Total	0	0	0
Hostels/Halfway Houses			
Madinah House	0	0	0
Salvation Army Hostel for young women	73,200	73,200	0
Shelter for Women and Children	90,000	90,000	0
The Halfway House	65,000	65,000	0
Sub-Total	228,200	228,200	0
HIV/AIDS			
Community Action Resource	0	0	0
South AIDS Support	0	0	0
Sub-Total	0	0	0
Youth NGOs			
Girl Guides Association	84,000	84,000	0
President Awards of T&T	30,000	55,000	25,000



ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2017 TTD	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2018 TTD	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2018 FROM 2017 TTD
Scout Association of T&T	126,000	126,000	0
Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)	156,000	156,000	0
Young Womens Christian Association	0	30,000	30,000
Sub-Total	396,000	451,000	55,000
Ministry of Social Development and Family Services' Total Subventions	42,473,295	39,363,566	-3,109,729
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)			
Family Life and Counselling Service			
Child Welfare League of T&T	593,584	0	-593,584
Child Welfare League (management) of Adolescent Mothers Programme	1,165,447	0	-1,165,447
ChildLine	1,734,196	1,300,647	-433,549
Network of Non-Governmental Organisations of Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women	200,000	0	-200,000
New Life Ministries for the Establishment and Administration of a Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre	900,000	675,000	-225,000
The Heroes Foundation	420,000	315,000	-105,000
Women Working for Social Progress	150,000	0	-150,000
Sub-Total	5,163,227	2,290,647	-2,872,580
Children's Homes			
A Bridge of Hope	248,000	344,200	96,200
Amica House	303,250	243,275	-59,975
Angels of Hope Children's Foundation	72,225	143,975	71,750
Casa de Corazon	285,850	236,975	-48,875
Chickland Children's Home	0	78,850	78,850
Couva Children's Home & Crisis Nursery	348,300	297,175	-51,125
Credo Foundation for Justice- Credo Development Centre	199,550	202,601	3,051
Credo Foundation for Justice (Sophia House)	236,328	226,006	-10,322
Society of St. Vincent De Paul- Cyril Ross Nursery	287,050	215,400	-71,650
Dar-UI-Aman Freeport Children's Home	130,800	101,000	-29,800
El Shaddai Restoration Home for Children	292,000	304,275	12,275
Ezekiel Home for Abandoned Children	304,400	339,150	34,750
Ferndean's Place Children's Home	194,250	207,200	12,950

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2017 TTD	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2018 TTD	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2018 FROM 2017 TTD
Haven of Hope	302,800	235,700	-67,100
Jairah House	120,100	111,500	-8,600
Joshua House	219,650	174,450	-45,200
Mothers' Union Children's Home	194,950	150,025	-44,925
Living Water Community - Our Lady of the Wayside	266,700	241,150	-25,550
Raffa House	138,400	87,200	-51,200
Rainbow Rescue	233,300	215,200	-18,100
Sri Jayalakshmi Children's Home Ltd	232,100	206,300	-25,800
The Hope Centre	233,525	242,325	8,800
The Islamic Home for Children Inc.	286,050	238,975	-47,075
The Margaret Kistow Children's Home	493,600	267,650	-225,950
Vishok Bhavan	252,500	205,950	-46,550
Outstretched Hands Centre of Life	19,925	0	-19,925
Ruah Transitional Facility for Girls	3,800	0	-3,800
Christ Child Convalescent Home	52,000	0	-52,000
Lady Hochoy Home	32,400	0	-32,400
Sub-Total	5,983,803	5,316,507	-667,296
Industrial Schools			
St. Dominic's Children's Home	13,644,000	13,600,000	-44,000
St. Jude's School for Girls	8,547,000	8,500,000	-47,000
St. Mary's Children's Home	13,420,800	13,500,000	79,200
St. Michael's School for Boys	10,100,000	10,970,000	870,000
Sub-Total	45,711,800	46,570,000	858,200
Office of the Prime Minister (Gender and Child Affairs)'s Total Subventions	56,858,830	54,177,154	-2,681,676
MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, CULTURE AND THE ARTS			
The Art Society of Trinidad & Tobago	20,000	20,000	0
Chaguaramas Military History and Aerospace Museum	300,000	300,000	0
National Dance Association of Trinidad & Tobago	130,000	130,000	0
National Drama Association of Trinidad & Tobago	100,000	100,000	0
National Parang Association of Trinidad & Tobago	120,000	120,000	0



ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2017 TTD	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2018 TTD	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2018 FROM 2017 TTD
Santa Rosa Carib Community	30,000	30,000	0
Santa Rosa First Peoples Community	1,400,000	1,400,000	0
San Fernando Arts Council	30,000	30,000	0
Secondary Schools Drama Association	30,000	30,000	0
Secondary Schools Sanskritik Sangam	40,000	40,000	0
Transformation and Development Centres	2,129,021	2,129,021	0
Trinbago Unified Calypsonians Organisation	50,000	50,000	0
Trinidad Theatre Workshop	30,000	30,000	0
Trinidad and Tobago Federation of Women	0	8,000	8,000
Trinidad and Tobago Music Festival	0	100,000	100,000
Ministry of Community Development's Total Subventions	4,409,021	4,517,021	108,000
MINISTRY OF HEALTH			
Autistic Society	300,000	300,000	0
Breast Feeding Association of Trinidad & Tobago	200,000	200,000	0
Christ Child Convalescent Home	613,000	613,000	0
Cotton Tree Foundation	385,300	385,300	0
Diabetes Association of Trinidad and Tobago	150,000	150,000	0
Eye on Dependency	300,000	300,000	0
Friends of the Blood Bank	500,000	500,000	0
HEAL (Helping Every Addict Live)	120,000	120,000	0
Heartbeat International	565,000	565,000	0
Horses Helping Humans	700,000	700,000	0
Living Water Community	3,201,350	3,201,350	0
Lupus Society of Trinidad and Tobago	10,500	10,500	0
Mamatoto Centre	150,000	150,000	0
Medical Research Foundation	5,985,157	5,985,157	0
Rebirth House and Oasis Drop-In-Centre	1,666,749	1,666,749	0
Serenity Place	179,160	179,160	0
Society for Inherited Severe Blood Disorder	60,000	60,000	0
South Cancer Support Group	100,000	100,000	0
The Just Because Foundation	240,000	240,000	0

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2017 TTD	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2018 TTD	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2018 FROM 2017 TTD
Trinidad and Tobago Cancer Society	1,500,000	1,500,000	0
Trinidad and Tobago National Council on Alcoholism	300,000	300,000	0
Trinidad and Tobago Heart Foundation	225,000	225,000	0
Ministry of Health's Total Subventions	17,451,216	17,451,216	0
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT			
International Labour Organisation (Grant for rent assistance)	0	0	0
Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development's Total Subventions	0	0	0
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY			
Vision on a Mission	2,824,250	7,254,000	4,429,750
Crime Stoppers	2,000,000	2,000,000	0
Ministry of National Security's Total Subventions	4,824,250	9,254,000	4,429,750
GRAND TOTAL	126,016,612	124,762,957	-1,253,655



List of Acronyms

ACTT	Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago	CCSS	CARICOM Crime and Security Strategy
ACS	Association of Caribbean States	CCRIF SPC	Caribbean Catastrophe and Risk Insurance Facility
ADAPP	Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme	CCTV	Closed Circuit Television
ADB	Agricultural Development Bank	C-DAP	Chronic Disease Assistance Plan
ADF	Automatic Document Feeder	CD4	Cluster Difference 4
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome	CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
AIP	Agricultural Incentive Programme	CDD	Co-operative Development Division
AIU	Association of Indian Universities	CDEMA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
APDP	Agriculture Professional Development Programme	CDF	Community Development Fund
APIS	Advance Passenger Information System	CDRM	Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management
ARS	Agricultural Ranger Squad	CDM	Comprehensive Disaster Management
BOF	Basket of Funding	CEBO	Creativity for Employment and Business Opportunity
CAC	Continuous Assessment Component	CELAC	Community of Latin American and Caribbean States
CANTO	Caribbean Association of National Telecommunication Organizations	CEP	Community Education (Skills Training) Programme
CAP	Continuous Assessment Programme	CEPEP	Community-based Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programme
CAPE	Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination	CERP	Community Enhancement and Regeneration Programme
CARE	Community Action for Revival and Empowerment	CHIP	Corporate Household Intervention Programme
C@ribNET	Caribbean Research and Education Network	CICB	Criminal Injuries Compensation Board
CARICAD	Caribbean Centre of Developmental Administration	CIQPE	Centre for the International Promotion of Quebec Public Expertise
CARICOM	Caribbean Community and Common Market	CISL	Community Improvement Services Limited
CARISMA	Caribbean Social Marketing Project	CIU	Criminal Intelligence Unit
CARPHA	Caribbean Public Health Agency	CKLN	Caribbean Knowledge and Learning Network
CATT	Children’s Authority of Trinidad and Tobago	CMSD	Community Mediation Services Division
CBBI	Community-Based Business Incubators	CNCD	Chronic Non-Communicable Disease
CBI	Commercial Business Incubator	COC	Certificates of Comfort
CBO	Community-based Organisation	CODO	Consortium of Disability Organizations
CBTT	Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago	CONSLE	Council for National Security and Law Enforcement
CBU	Caribbean Broadcasting Union	COP	Code of Practice
CCHI	Caribbean Cooperation in Health Initiative	CORE	Communities Organised and Ready for Emergencies
CCC	Civilian Conservation Corps	COSTAATT	College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago
CCLCS	Cipriani College of Labour and Co-operative Studies		

CPI	Consumer Price Index	EFCL	Education Facilities Company Ltd
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child	ELDAMO	Elderly and Differently-abled Mobile Shuttle Service
CRIP	Caribbean Regional Indicative Programme	ELMO	Elderly Mobile Shuttle Service
CRM	Customer Relationship Management	EMBD	Estate Management Development Company Limited
CSA	Co-operative Societies Act	EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement
CSC	Correctional Service Canada	EPI	Environmental Performance Index
CSDP	Centre for Socially Displaced Persons	ERRAG	Emergency Repair and Reconstruction Assistance Programme
CSEC	Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate	ETTIC	Entrepreneurial Training Institute and Incubation Centre
CSI	Crime Scene Investigator	EU	European Union
CSME	CARICOM Single Market and Economy	EVIPNet	Evidence-Informed Policy Network
CSO	Central Statistical Office	EWMSC	Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex
CSO	Civil Society Organization	FA-HUM	Human Allied Forces Emergency/ Disaster Management Exercise
CSP	Citizen Security Programme	FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
CSSC	Couva Social Services Centre	FBO	Faith Based Organization
CTU	Caribbean Telecommunications Union	FITUN	Federation of Independent Trade Unions and NGOs
CTU	Counter Trafficking Unit	FPA	Family Planning Association
CUA	Credit Union Act	FSP	Fair Share Program
CVQ	Caribbean Vocational Qualifications	FTO	Field Training Officer
CWRD	Centre for Workforce Research and Development	FY	Fiscal Year
DAG	Disability Assistance Grant	GAG	General Assistance Grants
DAU	Disability Affairs Unit	GAIN	Gambetta Athletic Improvement Network
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic Acid	GAP	Good, Average, Poor
DOA	Division of Ageing	GAPP	Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme
DOP	Diabetes Outreach Programme	GATE	Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses
DOTS	Directly Observed Treatment Short course	GAU	Gender Affairs Unit
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction	GCI	Global Competitiveness Index
DSU	Decentralisation Support Unit	GCR	Global Competitiveness Report
EAAP	Elite Athlete Assistance Programme	GCS	Global Competitiveness Score
eCAL	Econnect and Learn Programme	GDP	Gross Domestic Product
ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education	GDR	Global Development Report
ECCL	Export Centre Company Limited	GGP	Golden Grove Prison
ECGECW	Every Caribbean Girl, Every Caribbean Woman	GHG	Greenhouse Gas
ECLAC	Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean	GHSS	Global Health Sector Strategies
ECS	Early Childhood Services	GII	Gender Inequality Index
EDF	European Development Fund	GIS	Geographic Information System
eduCATE	educate Children, Administrators and Teachers in Excellence Portal		



GoRTT	Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago	IHDI	Inequality Human Development Index
GPA	Grade Point Average	IHRIS	Integrated Human Resource Information System
GPI	Global Peace Index	IIHHD	International Institute for Health Care and Human Development
GPS	Global Positioning System	ILHRU	International Law and Human Rights Unit
GSB	Graduate School of Business	ILO	International Labour Organization
GSM	Global System for Mobile communications	IMF	International Monetary Fund
HASC	HIV/AIDS Advocacy and Sustainability Centre	IMPACS	Implementation Agency for Crime and Security
HCW	Health Care Worker	IMPIRC	Inter-Ministerial People Issues Resolution Committee
HDC	Housing Development Corporation	I-MRC	Inter-Ministerial Research Council
HDI	Human Development Index	IMS	Integrated Dengue Management Strategy
HDR	Human Development Report	IOCR	International Office of Child Rights
HELP	Higher Education Loan Programme	IOM	International Organisation of Migration
HIG	Home Improvement Grant	IPL	Indian Premier League
HIP	Harmonized Implementation Programme	ISA	Indoor Sporting Areas
HIS	Health Information System	ISEMS	Integrated Social Enterprise Management System
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus	ISO	International Standard Organization
HLM	High Level Meeting	ISTC	International Standards of Tuberculosis Care
HOPE	Harmony, Opportunity, Peace and Enforcement,	IT	Information Technology
HRH	Human Resources for Health	ITU	International Telecommunication Union
HRM	Human Resource Management	IVM	Integrated Vector Management
HRP	Hardship Relief Programme	IWD	International Women's Day
HSACTT	Health Services Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago	IYC	International Year of Co-operatives
HYPE	Helping Youth Prepare for Employment	IYY	International Year of Youth
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank	JRC	Joint Research Centre of the European Commission
IATF	Inter-Agency Task Force	KAPB	Knowledge, Attitudes, Perception and Behaviour
IAU	Inter-Agency Unit	LAC	Latin American and Caribbean
IBIS	National Integrated Business Incubator System	LAMISTT	Labour Administration Information System of Trinidad and Tobago
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization	LEAD	Leadership Education and Development
ICT	Information and Communication Technology	LIME	Landline, Internet, Mobile, Entertainment
ICT4D	Information and Communication Technology for Development	LMIS	Labour Market Information System
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank	LRC	Legislative Review Commission
IDC	Immigration Detention Centre	LSA	Land Settlement Agency
IDEVAW	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women	M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
IDPD	International Day of Persons with Disabilities	MARP	Most At-Risk Population
IDRC	International Development Research Centre	MASS	Make a Smile Shine
IGDS	Institute of Gender and Development Studies	MCDAC	Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts
iGovTT	The National Information and Communication Technology Company Limited	MCH	Maternal and Child Health

MCT	Multi-purpose Community-based Telecentre	NAMDEV- CO	National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation
MDG	Millennium Development Goal	NCD	Non-Communicable Disease
MEG	Micro Enterprise and Training Development Grant	NCHE	National Commission for Higher Education
MEL	Micro Enterprise Loan Facility	NCSHL	National Commission of Self Help Limited
MFCC	Marabella Family Crisis Centre	NDC	National Determined Contributions
MALF	Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries	NEDCO	National Enterprise Development Company
MIC	Metal Industries Company	NEOC	National Emergency Operations Centre
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey	NES	National Employment Service
MILAT	Military Led Academic Training Programme	NESC	National Energy Skills Centre
MLI	Making Life Important Initiative	NFLP	National Financial Literacy Programme
MLSN	Medical Library Services Network	NFSD	National Family Services Division
MNS	Ministry of National Security	NGB	National Governing Body
MoA	Memorandum of Agreement	NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
MoE	Ministry of Education	NHSL	National Helicopter Services Limited
MoH	Ministry of Health	NIBTT	National Insurance Board of Trinidad and Tobago
MoHUD	Ministry of Housing and Urban Development	NICU	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
MoLSED	Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development	NIDCO	National Infrastructure Development Company of Trinidad and Tobago
MoSN	Ministry of National Security	NIHERST	National Institute of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology
MoSDFS	Ministry of Social Development and Family Services	NIIT	National Institute Information Technology
MoT	Ministry of Works and Transport	NIPDEC	National Insurance Property Development Company Limited
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding	NIS	National Insurance System
MP&SD	Ministry of Planning and Sustainable Development	NOMP	National Organizational Mentorship Programme
MPI	Multi-dimension Poverty Index	NOSTT	National Open School of Trinidad and Tobago
MPU	Ministry of Public Utilities	NPA	National Plan of Action for Children
MRPs	Machine Readable Passports	NPREPCU	National Poverty Reduction and Eradication Programmes Coordinating Unit
MRRG	Minor Repair and Reconstruction Grant	NPGD	National Policy on Gender and Development
MSE	Micro and Small Enterprises	NPRS	National Poverty Reduction Strategy
MSP	Maximum Security Prison	NPS	National Preparedness Survey
MSYA	Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs	NREN	National Research and Education Network
MTPF	Medium Term Priority Framework	NSDP	National Skills Development Programme
MTI	Ministry of Trade and Industry	NSDP	National Social Development Programme
MuST	Multi-Sector Skills Training Programme	NSDSL	National Schools Dietary Services Limited
MYPART	Military Led Youth Programme of Apprenticeship and Re-orientation Training	NSIC	National Small Industries Corporation
NACC	National AIDS Coordinating Committee	NSMP	National Social Mitigation Plan
NADAPP	National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme	NSO	National Sport Organization
NALIS	National Library and Information System Authority	NSOC	National Security Operations Centre
		NSP	National Strategic Plan



NSPCD	National Strategic Plan for Child Development	PLHIV	People Living with HIV/AIDS
NTA	National Training Agency	PLIAP	Point Lisas Industrial Apprenticeship Programme
NUP	Neighbourhood Upgrading Programme	PLS	Praedial Larceny Squad
NWRHA	North West Regional Health Authority	PLWHA	Persons Living with HIV/AIDS
NYCTT	National Youth Council of Trinidad and Tobago	PMBVTC	Prime Minister’s Best Village Trophy Competition
NYP	National Youth Policy	PMCD	Public Management Consulting Department
OAS	Organisation of American States	PMTCT	Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission
ODL	Open Distance Learning	POSGH	Port of Spain General Hospital
ODP	Organizational Development Programme	PPM	Public Private Mix
ODPM	Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management	PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States	PREFAR	President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief
OJT	On the Job Training	PRERPU	Poverty Reduction and Eradication Research and Policy Unit
OLEP	Office of Law Enforcement Policy	PRESS	Poverty Reduction through Empowerment Social Strategies
OPIC	Older Persons Information Centre	PRP	Poverty Reduction Programme
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister	PRTU	Penal Reform and Transformation Unit
OSH	Occupational Safety and Health	PSIP	Public Sector Investment Programme
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Act	PSNC	Private Security Network Commission
OSS	One-Stop-Shop	PTA	Parent-Teacher Association
PAB	Project Advisory Board	PTIS	Psychological Trauma-Informed Services
PAF	Programme Acceleration Funding	PTRC	Psychological Trauma Recovery Centre
PAG	Public Assistance Grant	PTSC	Public Transport Service Corporation
PAGE	Partnerships with Affiliated Government Entities	PWD	Persons with Disabilities
PAHO	Pan-American Health Organization	RAPP	Retirees Adolescent Partnership Programme
PAL	Practical Approach to Lung Health	RC	Regional Corporation
PAM	Programme for Adolescent Mothers	RDDS	Regional Digital Development Strategy
PAN	Positive Adolescent Network	REACH	Realisation of Economic Achievement
PANCAP	Pan Caribbean Partnership Against HIV/AIDS	RED	Regional Entrepreneurship Development
PATP	Personal Assistants’ Training Programme	RFAC	Regional Framework of Action for Children
PAVI	Persons Associated with Visual Impairment	RHA	Regional Health Authority
PB	Policy Brief	RISE	Rehabilitating Inmates Seeking Empowerment
PBL	Policy Based Loan	RISE-UP	Rights of Individuals to Social and Economic Security-Universal Prosperity
PBX	Private Branch Exchange	RITRP	Rehabilitating Inmates through Training and Retraining Programme
PCA	Police Complaints Authority	RMPF	Regional Micro Project Fund
PD	Policy Dialogue	ROPE	Repeat Offenders’ Programme Unit
PEC	Piparo Empowerment Centre	RSDDR	Regional Strategy for Drug Demand Reduction
PEP	Post Exposure Prophylaxis	RSHDC	Regional Social and Human Development Councils
PEPFAR	President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief	SALISES	Sir Arthur Lewis of Social and Economic Studies
PHS	Public Health Sector		
PIRCU	People’s Issues Resolution Coordinating Unit		
PLAR	Prior Learning and Assessment Recognition		

SARI	Severe Acute Respiratory Infection	SWOT	Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities and Threats
SAT	Scholastic Assessment Test	SWRHA	South West Regional Health Authority
SAUTT	Special Anti-Crime Unit of Trinidad and Tobago	SYSP	Specialised Youth Services Programme
SCA-ECLAC	Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean	TB	Tuberculosis
SDA	Seventh Day Adventist	TCCTP	Targeted Conditional Cash Transfer Programme
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals	TDC	Transformation and Development Centre
SDRC	Sports Dispute Resolution Centre	TEMA	Tobago Emergency Management Agency
SDU	Social Displacement Unit	THA	Tobago House of Assembly
SEA	Secondary Entrance Assessment	TITL	Tobago Information Technology Limited
SEBA	Small Enterprise Business Association	TLI	Tertiary Level Institution
SEMP	Secondary Education Modernisation Programme	ToR	Terms of Reference
SEPAO	South East Port of Spain Achievement Organisation	TQM	Total Quality Management
SERVOL	Service Volunteered for All	TTABA	Trinidad and Tobago Agribusiness Association
SEW	Single Electronic Window	TTADO	Trinidad and Tobago Anti-Doping Organization
SFGH	San Fernando General Hospital	TTASPE	Trinidad and Tobago Alliance for Sport and Physical Education
SIA	Security Intelligence Agency	TTBBC	Trinidad and Tobago Boxing Board of Control
SIDS	Small Island Developing States	TTCB	Trinidad and Tobago Cricket Board
SIISP	Strategic Integrated Information System Plan	TTDF	Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force
SIYC	Start and Improve Your Co-operatives	TTHSI	Trinidad and Tobago Health Science Initiative
SLC	Survey of Living Conditions	TTHTC	Trinidad and Tobago Health Training Center
SME	Small and Medium sized Enterprise	TTHTI	Trinidad and Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute
SNLMC	Standing National Labour Market Council	TTIC	Trinidad and Tobago Innovation Centre
SNP	School Nutrition Programme	TTMF	Trinidad and Tobago Mortgage Finance Company Limited
SOE	State of Emergency	TTNPP	Trinidad and Tobago National Parenting Programme
SOP	Standards Operating Procedures	TTNVQ	Trinidad and Tobago National Vocation Qualification
SPINE	Social Services and Prison Integrated Network	TTPS	Trinidad and Tobago Police Service
SPORTT	Sport Company of Trinidad and Tobago	TTRENT	Trinidad and Tobago Research and Education Network
SRP	Special Reserved Police	TTUTA	Trinidad and Tobago Unified Teachers Association
SSA	Strategic Services Agency	T&TEC	Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission
SSDA	Social Services Delivery Agency	TVET	Technical-Vocational Education and Training
SSIP	Social Sector Investment Programme	TYDN	Tobago Youth Development Network
SSN	Social Safety Net	UAP	Utilities Assistance Programme
SSSD	Student Support Services Division	UDeCOTT	Urban Development Corporation Of Trinidad And Tobago Limited
STEP	Sport Training and Enhancement Programme	UK	United Kingdom
STI	Science Technology Innovation	UN	United Nations
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection		



UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	YAPA	Youth Apprenticeship Programme in Agriculture
UNATT	United Nations Association of Trinidad and Tobago	YDAC	Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centres
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	YES	Youth Energised for Success
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme	YMCA	Young Men’s Christian Association
UNECLAC	United Nations Economic Commission of Latin America and The Caribbean	YTC	Youth Training Centre
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation	YTEPP	Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund	ZIKV	Zika Virus
UNLIREC	United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean		
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime		
UNTFHS	United Nation Trust Fund for Human Security		
UPR	Universal Periodic Review		
URP	Unemployment Relief Programme		
US	United States		
USAID	United States Agency for International Development		
USDOL	United States Department of Labour		
UTT	University of Trinidad and Tobago		
UWI	University of the West Indies		
VAPA	Visual and Performing Arts		
VCT	Voluntary Counselling and Testing		
VH	Viral Hepatitis		
VOIP	Voice Over Internet Protocol		
VOISCES	Village Outreach to Integrate Senior Citizens through Edutainment and other Social Activities		
VSEP	Voluntary Separation of Employment		
WAC	Workforce Assessment Centre		
WADA	World Anti-Doping Agency		
WASA	Water and Sewerage Authority		
WBN	World Breakthrough Network		
WDR	World Development Report		
WEAAD	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day		
WEF	World Economic Forum		
WE-TEC	Women’s Economic and Technology Empowerment Centre (Tobago)		
WHO	World Health Organisation		
WICB	West Indies Cricket Board		
WINAD	Women’s Institute for Alternative Development		
WP	Women’s Prison		

2019

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