

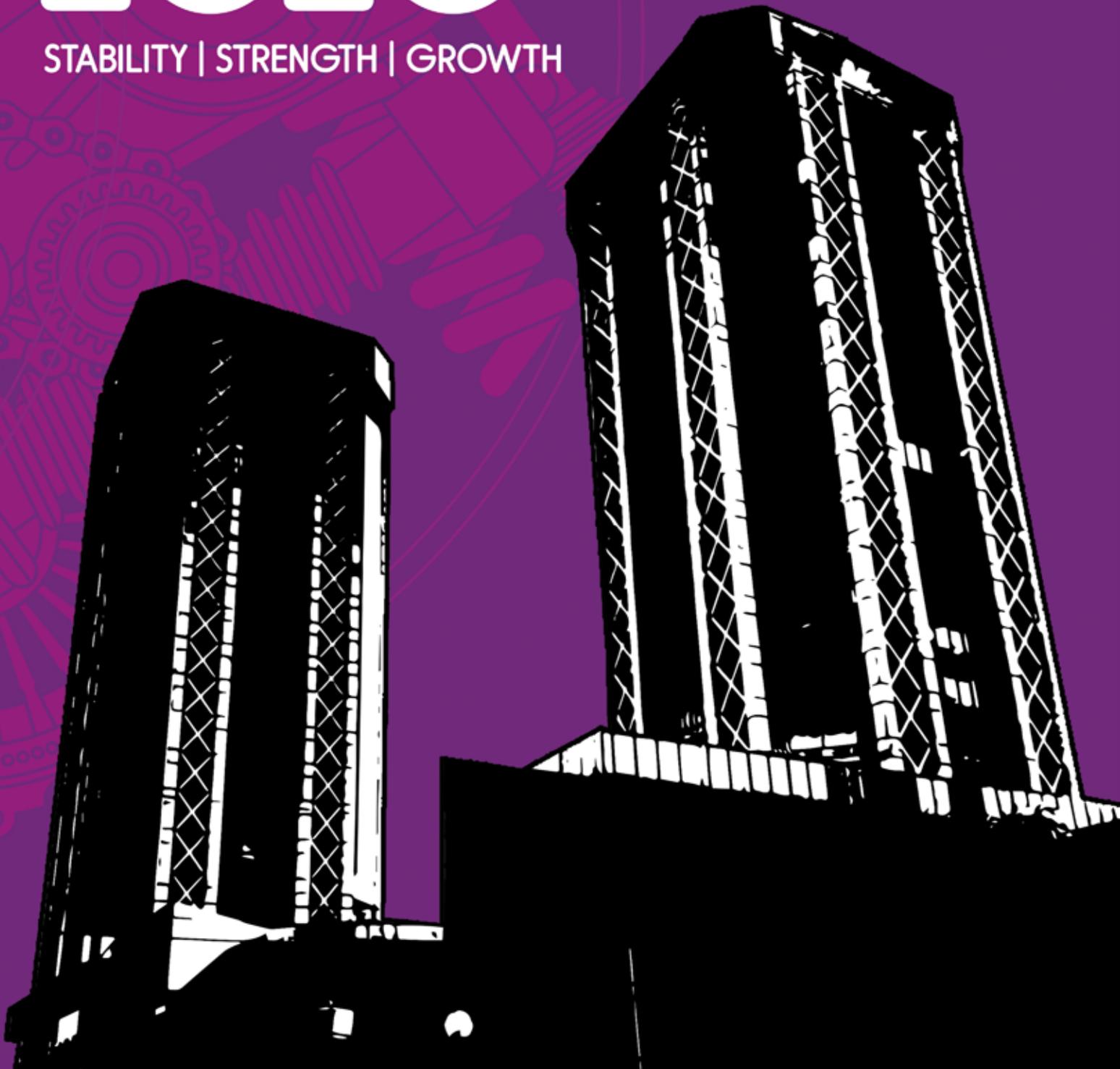


GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

2020

STABILITY | STRENGTH | GROWTH



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Executive Summary

The Social Sector Investment Programme (SSIP) examines the social landscape of Trinidad and Tobago, highlighting progress made towards attaining social transformation and development. It provides an overview of the international, Caribbean and national social situations; examines existing and new social sector initiatives and the investment made by the key social sector Ministries and the Tobago House of Assembly (THA) towards social development during the 2019 fiscal year and social sector plans for the 2020 fiscal year. The document comprises seven chapters, which are summarised as follows:

Chapter One – The International Situation, provides a comparative analysis of the socio-economic performance of countries around the world, and of the current critical issues confronting the international environment using various indices as the basis of the analysis.

Global economic activity slowed in the last two quarters of 2018, according to the International Monetary Fund - World Economic Outlook (WEO) 2019, despite the positive signs for growth in 2017 and 2018. Global growth is projected to slow from 3.6 percent in 2018 to 3.3 percent in 2019. The global economy is expected to return to 3.6 percent in 2020. The world's top three competitive economies are United States of America, Singapore and Germany. The country with the highest ranking in human development was Norway, with a score of 0.953 followed by Switzerland, Australia, Germany and Ireland with scores of 0.944, 0.939, 0.938 and 0.936, respectively.

The global gender gap currently stands at 68.0%, with marginal improvements for 89 of the 144 countries assessed last year in an effort to achieve universal gender parity.

Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) rates are relatively low in East Asia and the Pacific, Arab States and Latin America and the Caribbean, which account for 16.6

percent of the multidimensional poor globally; and in Europe and Central Asia at 0.3 percent, in comparison to South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa which together account for 82.8 percent of the multidimensional poor.

Examination of 29 health-related SDG indicators for which global trends are reported, 24 have shown improvements in recent years. Global life expectancy increased by 5.5 years to 72.0 years between 2000 and 2016, and healthy life expectancy increased by 4.8 years to 63.3 years.

Climate change has emerged as a critical human development and security issue and is primarily associated with biodiversity loss, deforestation and a reduced quantity/quality of freshwater and clean air. The World Bank Shock Waves Study (2017) estimated that 100 million more persons can be pushed into poverty by climate change.

The Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) ranks countries and territories based on how corrupt their public sector is perceived to be. Denmark and New Zealand rank highest, with scores of 88 and 87, respectively. Accordingly, the best performing region was Western Europe and the European Union with an average score of 66. Conversely Syria, South Sudan and Somalia rank lowest, with scores of 14, 12 and 9, respectively. The worst performing regions remain Sub-Saharan Africa (average score 32) and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (average score 32).

Chapter Two – The Caribbean Social Situation highlights some of the major socioeconomic developments and initiatives within the Caribbean region during the 2018/2019 fiscal year. The Caribbean has experienced economic growth over the period 2018-2019 mainly because of growth in the United States of America (USA) and globally. As a result, there has been a rise in tourism and tourism-related activities. The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) indicated that



the region is likely to grow by 2% in 2019. The United Nation's World Economic Situation and Prospects Report (2019) states that global growth is expected to be 3% for 2019 and 2020. The report stated that commodity-exporting countries are expected to gradually recover. The Caribbean region is forecasted to have a real GDP growth at market prices (in percent) of 4% and 4% forecasted for 2020.¹

Public debt and fiscal deficits remain a problem for the region because of the strain it puts on the economy and the demand on countries' Gross Domestic Product (GDP). In terms of Caribbean economies mainly dependent on commodities, income from exportation increased due to higher global prices.

Only four CARICOM countries have a Human Capital Index (HCI): Guyana (0.49), Haiti (0.45), Jamaica (0.54) and Trinidad and Tobago (0.61). This illustrates a need for greater attention to the human capital of the region. Nevertheless, the Caribbean has shown progress in reducing poverty and inequality, based on social indicators, but the progress has slowed over the last five years. Unemployment in Latin America and the Caribbean decreased in 2018 to a forecasted 7.8%.

The region has an ageing population with the number of older persons (60 years and older) increasing significantly. For the period 2015 to 2030, it is projected that this group will expand from 70 million to 119 million persons. This has implications for social development.

The chapter looked at human trafficking and noted that the Caribbean Forum (CARIFORUM) commenced a study on Human Trafficking on July 19, 2019 to get a better understanding of the problem in the CARICOM region².

The situation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela remains a concern for CARICOM which reaffirmed its position of non-interference and non-intervention. In

2019, Trinidad and Tobago held a 'Venezuelan Migration Registration Process' for legal and illegal Venezuelan migrants living in Trinidad and Tobago.³

Gender equality is another matter that is addressed in this chapter. In February 2019, CARICOM, with the assistance of UN Women, began consultations on CARICOM's Regional Gender Equality Strategy and the Beijing Platform for Action. The purpose of the consultation was to promote gender equality, equity and the empowerment of girls and women in the Member States, which is aligned to Goal #5 of the SDGs.

Several health related issues are highlighted including HIV and AIDS, paid maternity leave and breastfeeding breaks for women, non-communicable diseases and wellness, governance, financing and delivery. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between CARPHA and the Caribbean College of Family Physicians with the main aim to improve the quality of primary health care in the region. Finally, CARPHA launched its Clinical Care Guidelines and its State of Public Health Report on Climate and Health.

A Special Rapporteur on Disability for CARICOM was appointed in late 2018 to be an advocate for persons with disabilities in the region he stressed the importance of inclusiveness and equality for persons living with disabilities.

With respect to disasters, partners including the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Authority (CDEMA) the CDB, the United Kingdom (UK)'s Department for International Development the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) are working towards building climate resilience for the region in the preparation for disasters and emergencies.

Chapter Three – Trinidad and Tobago in the Context of the Caribbean, examines Trinidad and Tobago's socio-economic performance in comparison with other selected Caribbean and Latin American countries for the last year 2018-2019. The analysis utilises the following: Global Gender Gap Report, World Happiness Report, Global Peace Index and Corruption Perceptions Index.

1 This includes Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Suriname, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago.

2 <https://caricom.org/media-center/communications/press-releases/cariforum-embarks-on-critical-human-trafficking-study>

3 <http://www.news.gov.tt/content/faq-venezuelan-migrant-registration-process#.XUr05kn6t9A>

The Global Gender Gap Index report provides a framework for capturing the magnitude of gender-based disparities and tracking their progress over time, however, Trinidad and Tobago was not included in the report. It found that the gender gap has closed slightly since last year. However, it still requires one hundred and eight (108) years to achieve full parity at the current pace. Barbados maintained its rank as the top performing Caribbean country, while Nicaragua retained its rank as the highest performing country from the Latin American and the Caribbean (LAC) region. Nicaragua is ranked fifth (with a score of 0.809), Barbados is ranked 21st (with a score of 0.753).

The World Happiness Report measures countries' levels of happiness. Trinidad and Tobago is the happiest country in the Caribbean region, ranking 39th or (6.192) out of one hundred and fifty-six countries (156), followed by Jamaica ranked 56th or (5.890). Other Caribbean Countries on the list are the Dominican Republic which placed 77th (5.425), while Haiti scored as the 147th (3.597) happiest country in world.

The 2019 Global Peace Index (GPI) showed that the average level of global peacefulness improved to a certain extent. This was the first improvement in the last five (5) years. In the 2019 report which compared 163 countries, Jamaica ranked 83, moving up from 90 in 2018, with a score of 2.038. The Dominican Republic ranked 84 with a score of 2.04, moving up from its 2018 rank of 91. Haiti ranked 87 with a score of 2.052; Cuba ranked 91 with a score of 2.073 dropping approximately seven places; Guyana ranked 92 with a score of 2.075, a move down from its 2018 rank of 82. Trinidad and Tobago ranked 93 with a score of 2.094 moving seven places down from its 2018 rank of 84.

The Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2018 ranked 180 countries based on their perceived levels of public sector corruption. The index uses a scale from zero (0) to one hundred (100) with zero being highly corrupted and one hundred as very clean. Barbados maintained its 2017 score of 68 in 2018 as well as its ranking of 25 for the period. The Bahamas retained its score of 65, and moved to the rank of 29. St Vincent and the Grenadines also maintained its score of 58 in 2018, and progressed to rank 41. Dominica maintained its 2017 score of 57 but advanced three places from the rank of 42 to 45

(CPI, 2018). St Lucia kept its score of 55 but dropped two places to the rank of 50. Jamaica maintained its score of 44 from 2017 in 2018; however, the country's ranking fell from 68 to 70 during the period. Trinidad and Tobago continued with the score of 41 but its rank fell one place to 78, while Suriname score increased to 43 and its ranking improved to 73 in the CPI 2018. Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica and Suriname are perceived as the three most corrupt countries in the region.

Chapter Four – The National Social Situation, focuses on advancements made in Trinidad and Tobago's social sector during fiscal 2018/2019. The Chapter comprises two main sections which focus on two critical thematic areas of the National Development Strategy (NDS) 2016–2030, Vision 2030, namely, Theme 1: Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset and Theme II: Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence. Attention is also directed towards the alignment to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as it relates to Vision 2030.

Theme 1: Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset

Goal 1: Our Society will be grounded in the principles of Social Justice

The GoRTT through the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development (MLSED) continued to engage in a comprehensive review of existing labour legislation in fiscal 2019. The Ministry began the consultative process with national stakeholder consultations on the Draft National Workplace Policy on Sexual Harassment and focussed on implementing several initiatives in accordance with the Ten Point Plan including working on an updated online portal and operating procedures for the National Unemployment Register. The development of the Labour Migration Policy of Trinidad and Tobago continued to ensure the better management of labour migration as a sustainable development strategy and the National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS to strengthen the policy framework for the promotion of rights and responsibilities in the workplace.

The Ministry has been engaging in sustained and targetted public education and awareness campaigns.



The Ministry of Education placed priority on the provision of valid and reliable Labour Market Information to identify and forecast the occupational and labour market needs in selected economic sectors. The information provided by this initiative is necessary to inform policy decisions.

A number of important inquiries on social issues were initiated by the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality and Diversity.

Goal 2: Social Services Delivery will be improved to better serve the needs of vulnerable groups

In fiscal 2019, the Ministry of Social Development and Family Service (MSDFS) continued the implementation of the Cabinet-approved National Social Mitigation Plan (NSMP). The Inter-Sectoral Advisory and the Policy and Programmatic Oversight Committees were established in June 2019.

The MSDFS continued to make improvements in its grants administration. The Standard Means Test (SMT) which was introduced in April 2018 was reviewed by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and a report submitted to the Ministry.

The MSDFS in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Administration (MPA) is conducting a Diagnostic Assessment and Service Improvement project with the Social Welfare Division (SWD) to identify and resolve the major issues negatively affecting the operations of the SWD.

With respect to food support, a recertification of beneficiaries of the Food Support Programme was conducted to update the socio-economic dataset of all food support beneficiaries. The quantum of monetary support under the programme was also increased by \$100 in the value of the existing card categories. The MSDFS also initiated the production of a new and improved debit card, in keeping with its efforts to enhance client experience and programme efficiency.

Under the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries (MALF), the concept of home gardening was reintroduced to communities throughout Trinidad. In Tobago the Division of Food Production, Forestry and Fisheries continued to bolster agricultural production through its many initiatives in fiscal 2018/2019. One

such initiative was the Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory of which approximately 35,000 in vitro plants were produced and made available to farmers in an effort to increase production while assisting farmers.

The School Nutrition Programme (SNP) continued the provision of healthy meals to vulnerable children in the nation's schools and was evaluated by a Ministry of Education National Schools Dietary Services Evaluation Committee, which outlined several recommendations to strengthen the efficiency of the programme and improve service delivery.

Goal 3: Citizens will have access to adequate and affordable housing

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development advanced its mandate in fiscal 2019 through the implementation of policies and programmes aimed at providing adequate and affordable homes for lower and middle income citizens; subsidies and preferential mortgage loans to facilitate the purchase of new homes; and grants to assist deserving persons to undertake basic repairs and improvement to their homes and assist those who experienced unavoidable emergencies as a result of disasters, among other initiatives.

As at August 2019, 900 applicants were selected for the Home Improvement Grant for low income families and 446 grants have been disbursed to beneficiaries. At least 54 families benefitted the Housing and Village Improvement Programme to improve housing and living conditions, through the construction of 30 new 2 bedroom homes and home repairs to 10 additional existing homes. Under the Government Aided Self-Help Programme empowering persons to manage the construction of their own homes, of the 5,000 applicants for the housing lots, 700 were selected and approximately 500 were approved, based on their financial qualification.

In Tobago, approximately three hundred and eighty-four (384) grants totalling \$2.9 million dollars were distributed under the Home Improvement Grant Programme, while, approximately seventy (70) persons received financial assistance totalling approximately \$1 million dollars under the Home Completion Programme.

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

During the period 2017 to 2019, there has been a significant reduction of maternal deaths in public health institutions from nine (9) in 2015 to four (4) in 2018 and one (1) in 2019. The Ministry of Health continued to expand its dialysis treatment and organ transplant programmes for patients that are at severe and advanced stages of chronic disease and organ failure.

The Ministry also continued operation of the Adult Cardiac Programme, which allows for the purchase of cardiac services from private health care providers for citizens; the External Patient Programme, which provide immediate direct relief to citizens who have been waiting on listed surgical procedures for a minimum of three (3) months in public healthcare facilities; and the Children's Life Fund, which contributes to the expenditure to send children suffering from life threatening disease abroad for treatment.

Sensitisation and education initiatives to heighten public awareness on mental health issues were undertaken to reduce of the stigma and public perception attached to mental health challenges and the National Mental Health Policy was finalised.

The National AIDS Coordinating Committee (NACC) was re-established to coordinate all implementation of activities to achieve the national regional and international goals for HIV and AIDS epidemic control. A draft National HIV and AIDS Policy was prepared with technical support from USAID. The MLSED also continued its work in strengthening the policy framework for the promotion of rights and responsibilities in the workplace in accordance with the approved National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS.

Goal 5: Citizens will be empowered to lead healthy lifestyles

The Ministry continued implementation of the Non Communicable Diseases' (NCDs) Strategic Plan (2017-2021) on the prevention and control of NCDs to achieve the overall target of a 20% reduction in preventable mortality for NCDs by 2025.

Drug abuse prevention was facilitated by the National Drug Abuse Prevention Programme (NADAPP) through

collaboration with UTT, UWI, COSTAAT and SBCS. The country's first stress relief clinic located at Chaguanas was established in March 2019 by the North Central Regional Health Authority (NCRHA).

Engaging and educating the public on healthy lifestyles and the availability of programmes which promote health and wellness continued to be of priority. The MOH collaborated with several ministries to undertake public awareness campaigns which targetted all communities throughout the country.

Goal 6: The family will be protected and supported

The MSDFS' National Family Services Division (NFS) continued to provide critical family services to persons seeking counselling and psychosocial support. Services such as counselling, referrals, advocacy, co-parenting and advisory services were delivered in addition to its radio programmes, parenting workshops and partnership efforts to ensure the improvement of family life in Trinidad and Tobago.

MSDFS also advanced its efforts towards the finalisation of the National Family Policy for Trinidad and Tobago and is finalising, through extensive stakeholder consultations and focus groups, the National Parenting Policy, which was laid in Parliament as a Green Paper. Financial assistance to the poor and vulnerable continued with a total of 19,304 recipients of the Public Assistance Grant benefitting from a \$150.00 increase in the monthly value of the grant

In June 2019, the Mediation Division of the Ministry of the Community Development, Culture and the Arts (MCDCA) launched the new Mediation Mobile Unit to enhance its services to the public in community mediation.

The National Policy on Persons with Disabilities was approved by Cabinet as a white paper. The age eligibility for the Disability Assistance Grant was removed so as to allow children with disabilities under the age of 18 access to the grant effective January 2019. There was also an increase in the Disability Grant for adults from \$1,800 to \$2,000.

The National Enrichment Centre (NEC) for Persons with Disabilities was re-commissioned and opened as a resource centre. Discussions continued between the Ministries of Health and Social Development and



Family Services on the Community Therapeutic Services initiative which is intended to complement the services to be provided at the NEC. The decision to pursue Community Therapeutic Services is in keeping with Articles 25 and 26 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with a Disability.

The MSDFS is working in tandem with the Telecommunication Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT) to facilitate the provision of technical support for accessible assistive mobile devices for the blind, visually impaired and hard of hearing.

The cap on the Senior Citizens Pension was moved from \$5,000 to \$6000. The increase allowed a person in receipt of both an NIS pension and a Senior Citizens' pension to receive \$3,000 a month from NIS and up to \$3,000 a month in Senior Citizens' pension.

The Draft National Child Policy was approved by Cabinet for wider public consultations. Six public consultations were held in Trinidad and Tobago with both children and adult stakeholders. The OPM undertook a suite of Child Abuse and Child Rights Awareness Initiatives that are designed to sensitise the public on strategies to prevent and reduce child abuse.

The Children's Authority and the Children Court continued to provide services aimed at the protection and support of vulnerable children.

Goal 7: Trinidad and Tobago will have a modern, relevant and accessible education and training system

The Education Policy Paper 2017-2022 was approved in March 2019. The revised National School Code of Conduct was rolled out to all Principals and Vice Principals. Work continued on the institutionalisation of the School Based Management (SBM) system which aims to improve student-learning outcomes through improved leadership and management of schools, develop enhanced leadership and management competencies among School Supervisors for effective leadership. Research projects were undertaken under the Student Tracking System which aims to assess school climate and safety, report on factors that are associated with achievement levels, and report on the magnitude of the contribution educational institutions make to

students' academic progress as it incorporates a set of contextual characteristics of students or institutions.

The National Scholarship Programme Task Force's report was submitted for approval in June 2019. The Ministry of Education also commenced the implementation of full-scale eTesting infrastructure and support across the Ministry to ensure the readiness for Caribbean Examination Council (CXC) eTesting. In addition, the revised National School Code of Conduct was rolled out to all Principals and Vice Principals.

The MOE advanced initiatives in the technical vocational sector and science education aimed at improving and promoting quality education for citizens. A National Policy for TVET was developed and Management Mechanisms for TVET Development established.

Adult education continued with the Adult Education Programme of the MSDFS and the Community Education (Short Skills) Programme (CEP), which is one of the main Social Action Programme aimed at capacity-building and poverty alleviation and is offered by MCDCA.

In the area of innovation and creativity, the MCDCA hosted CARIFESTA XIV over the period August 16-25, 2019, which received glowing reviews and set a new high standard for CARIFESTA.

Theme II: Good Governance and Service Excellence

Goal 1: Our governance approach will be based on principles of participation and inclusion

The International Desk as the primary liaison between the OPM and the international community on matters relating to gender equality, child development and the national HIV and AIDS response, facilitated participation in several initiatives, including:

- UNICEF Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action Workshop;
- Strategic Planning Meeting for National Gender Machinery; and
- Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Policy Dialogue on Women's Economic Empowerment

The Citizens' Facilitation Unit works closely with other Ministries and Government agencies to ensure that all citizens receive the care and protection necessary in

meeting all basic needs required for socially-just levels of well-being. Over the past two fiscal years, the Unit received 612 petitions from a total of 608 people. Of those petitions, 602 petitioners received acknowledgment letters, six hundred and three (603) matters were addressed and closed

The MCDCA continued its Infrastructural Development for Community Participation, Culture and the Arts and the construction and refurbishment of Community Centres, Civic Centres, Complexes and other facilities were of key focus in 2018/2019. The construction and completion of the Laventille Community Swimming Pool in Sogren Trace, Laventille. Upgrades to some Indoor Sporting Arenas and recreation grounds were undertaken by the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs and the National Youth Policy was revised.

The holistic development of young people remained at the forefront of developmental plans in Tobago. As such, a number of programmes through the Division of Sport and Youth Affairs and other Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly were implemented.

The National Crime Prevention Programme established Community Crime Prevention Councils comprised of Governmental offices, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Residents, Community-Based Organisations (CBOs), Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs), Civil Society, Academia and Corporate citizens. The engagements and outreaches provide citizens with information, knowledge, tips and strategies for effective crime prevention.

Goal 2: The public service will have modern, effective and efficient public management systems

MRDLG has strengthened its position as the coordinating entity over the Disaster Management Units resident at the fourteen (14) Corporations. The Ministry has successfully established a central Emergency Operations Centre at its Headquarters in Maraval and is also in the process of installing Flood Early Warning Systems in several susceptible areas throughout the country.

The GoRTT, through the Ministry of Planning and Development continued to advance on establishing a robust National Statistical System. The CSO hosted a series of workshops with stakeholders within the National Statistical System.

Goal 3: Public service delivery will be customer-focused

Under iGovTT, the development of an online solution which allows public agencies to accept payments from citizens and businesses via debit and credit cards was initiated. The GovPay solution the Ministry of Public Administration launched ttGovChat in July 2018. This new service was launched under the ttconnect Division of iGovTT, and provides a live chat with government agencies for citizens. The statistics for the period October 2018 to June 2019 show that 31,098 interactions and queries (otherwise known as tickets) have been facilitated through the system. The provision of Wi-Fi at public libraries commenced as part of the first component of the TT Wi-Fi project.

The MSDFS conducted a series of Public Information, Education and Sensitisation (PIES) Sessions and launched the Ministry's Community Outreach Mobile Unit.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the National Insurance Board and the MSDFS to allow for sharing of data and information on applicants and clients of the social welfare and NIB grants. Additionally, under the MSDFS via TTConnect Offices remote application/ registration was made possible.

In fiscal 2019, the MSDFS continued to implement the Direct Deposit Initiative, which allows recipients of the Senior Citizens Pension (SCP), the Public Assistance Grant (PAG) and the Disability Assistance Grant (DAG) to receive their funds in their own personal bank accounts. A total of approximately 55 percent of persons accessing these grants receive their benefits via the direct deposit initiative.

Chapter Five – Overview of the Social Sector for Fiscal 2019 focuses on the budgetary allocations made by Government towards social sector development. It also highlights the performance of selected economic indicators during the 2019 fiscal year and identifies policies developed and research and evaluations undertaken during the fiscal year. The national expenditure for fiscal 2019 was TT\$51.78 billion. In the National Budget Statement 2019, social sector allocations focussed on the main areas: Education, Housing, Health and Health Care, Sport, Social Services and Safety and Security.



In fiscal 2019, there was an overall six percent (6%) increase in the budgeted allocation for Social Infrastructure and Social Programming. The combined budgeted allocation increased to TT\$10.74 billion from TT\$10.12 billion in 2018.

In fiscal 2019, the total budgetary allocation to the Tobago House of Assembly amounted to \$2.21 billion; disaggregated, \$1.9 billion was allocated for Recurrent Expenditure and \$231.6 million was allocated for Development Programme Expenditure.⁴ there was a thirty-four percent (34%) allocation to key Social Sector Ministries and Social Services Divisions of the THA in fiscal 2019. This is representative of an aggregate of TT\$ 19.7 billion from the national expenditure of TT \$ \$51.78 billion.

The Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Development & Family Services received the largest budget allocations of 31%, 26% and 25% respectively. This is a direct reflection of the Government's continuous commitment to building human capital through its investment in education and training, public healthcare services and its efforts to eradicate social ills such as poverty, inequality and social exclusion.

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

- Urban Upgrading and Revitalization Programme (MHUD)
- Establishment of a National Children's Registry (OPM)
- Establishment of the National Forensic DNA Databank (MNS)

There were also policy development and research initiatives as follows:

- Draft Childhood Obesity Prevention Policy (MOH)
- Draft Mental Health Policy (MOH)
- Draft National Bioethics Policy (MOH)
- Draft National Parenting Policy (MSDFS)
- Draft Policy Guidelines for the Museum Sector in Trinidad and Tobago (MCDCA)

⁴ 2020 Budget Statement "Advancing Our Development Agenda", 24 June 2019

- Draft Non-Nationals Accessing Health Care Policy (MOH)
- Labour Migration Policy (MLSED)
- National Policy for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour (MLSED)
- Research conducted and/or finalised in fiscal 2019:
- Determination and Impact of the Minimum Wage Level on the Economy (MLSED)
- National Baseline Survey on Knowledge, Attitudes, Beliefs and Practices on HIV in the Workplace (MLSED)
- Private and Public Sector Vacancy Surveys (MLSED)

Chapter Six – Review of Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2019

examines the initiatives undertaken by the key social sector Ministries for fiscal 2019. 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.

The initiatives highlighted are reflective of ongoing and new social sector programmes. These Social Sector programmes aim 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; skill development; social protection; and substance abuse. The section also seek to outline the ways in which the programmes aim to impact on sustainable human development.

The information provided revealed that most of the major programmes were maintained during fiscal 2019 and continued to benefit a significant number of the population of vulnerable persons. A review

of the matrices indicates however, the existence of some duplication of effort in the sector and the need for rationalisation of programming. The information revealed the existence of more than one hundred and twenty-five (125) programmes across the sector.

Chapter Seven – The Social Sector Plans for Fiscal 2020 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 2019/2020 are outlined in Table I below.

Table I: Key initiatives to be implemented in the 2019/2020 Fiscal Year

	AREA OF FOCUS	SECTOR PLANS FOR FISCAL 2020
1.	Community Development, Culture and Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to Mediation Centres • Refurbishment of Community Centres • Refurbishment of Regional Complexes • Implementation of the Self Help Programme • Hosting of community festivals to celebrate Community Development Day • Export Centres Companies Limited (ECCL)
2.	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the Standards for Regulating Early Childhood Care and Education • Quality Assurance Framework for the Early Childhood Care and Education Sector • Screening Programme for Children entering Public Early Childhood Care and Education Centres • School Based Management (SBM)/School Development Plan • Student Tracking System • Promoting Student Discipline Initiative • Financial Assistance • Caribbean Youth Science Forum • Development of an Integrated University Management System • Launch of the Institute of Culinary Arts (ICA), Woodford Lodge Campus • Development and delivery of Technology-enabled Flexible and Blended Learning Courses - in collaboration with the Commonwealth of Learning (COL): • ICT Training Units • Plastics Recycling Course-Pilot Project • Girls in ICT Project • The Establishment of a Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Research Council • Establishment of the Trinidad and Tobago National Apprenticeship System



	AREA OF FOCUS	SECTOR PLANS FOR FISCAL 2020
2.	Education (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of the West Indies new programmes will be offered in 2019/2020: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty of Humanities and Education: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Special Education Programme; o BA Journalism. • Faculty of Food and Agriculture: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Undergraduate Diploma in Agriculture (Debe Campus); o Online Programmes in Agriculture; o Undergraduate Certificate in Agriculture in collaboration with University of Belize.
3.	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of the Point Fortin Hospital • Completion of the Arima Hospital • Construction of the Sangre Grande Hospital • Re-Development of the Port of Spain General Hospital • Construction of Diego Martin Health Centre • Electrical Upgrade for Port of Spain General Hospital • Refurbishment works to the Princess Elizabeth Home
4.	Housing and Urban Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Awareness and Education Campaign • The Housing and Village Improvement Programme (HVIP) • Urban Upgrading and Revitalisation Programme
5.	Labour and Small Enterprise Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labour Legislation Reform: In fiscal 2020, the Ministry intends to continue its review of the following pieces of labour legislation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Minimum Wages Act, Chapter 88:04; • The Maternity Protection Act, Chap. 45:57; • Legislation to govern HIV/AIDS in the Workplace; and • Legislation on Sexual Harassment in the Workplace. • Completion of the Physical De-linking of the On-the-Job-Training Programme from the National Training Agency • Implement the 'Business Accelerator Programme' in collaboration with the National Enterprise Development Company Limited (NEDCO) • Development of a Modernised Labour Market Information System
6.	National Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of a New Police Headquarters • Improvement Works to Prison Buildings • Expansion of the National Crime Prevention Programme (NCPP)
7.	Public Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued Implementation of the TT WiFi Project • ICT Access Centres

	AREA OF FOCUS	SECTOR PLANS FOR FISCAL 2020
8.	Public Utilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilities Assistance Programme (UAP) • Residential Electrification Assistance Programme (REAP) • Electrification Programme (EP) • Construction of a New Meteorological Building at Piarco. • Water and Sewerage Authority: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of Water Sources • Refurbishment of Water Treatment Plants (WTPs) • Refurbishment of the Beetham Wastewater Treatment Plant and Wastewater Facilities at Frederick Settlement and Couva are planned.
9.	Rural Development and Local Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction and Restoration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration of Local Roads; • Restoration of Local Bridges; • Construction of Bailey Bridges; • Restoration of Landslips; • Restoration of Local Drainage. • Establishment of a Transformation Programme and Change Management Unit (TPCMU) • Implementing Strategic Planning – Local Economic Development Plans
10.	Social Development and Family Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Transformation and Empowerment Programme: Uplifting People (STEP-UP) • HIV/AIDS Coordination • Conduct of Refurbishment works at three (3) Homes for Older Persons • Developing Interventions for the Socially Displaced • Disability Assistance Grant for Minors (DAGM) (under 18 years) • Establishment of an Integrated Social Enterprise Management System (ISEMS) • Conduct a Values, Attitudes and Behaviours Campaign • Diagnostic Assessment and Service Improvement - Social Welfare Division
11.	Sport and Youth Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade, Rehabilitation and Improvement of Existing Facilities • Construction of the Diego Martin Sporting Complex (Phase II Stage 1) • Implementation of the 'Pink' Reign Programme' which aims to develop women and girls through the provision of opportunities to increase awareness in sport and physical activity • Coaches in Schools Programme • Community Sport Programme • Healthy Youth Wellness Programme TT • Adolescent Intervention Programme • 40 Under 40 Programme • National Mentorship Programme • Life-skills, Employability, Entrepreneurship, Activism, Patriotism (LEEAP) Programme • A Programme for Male Youths (MPowerTT)



	AREA OF FOCUS	SECTOR PLANS FOR FISCAL 2020
12.	Office of the Prime Minister- Gender and Child Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of Regulations and Standards for Nurseries • Establishment of a National Children's Registry • National Child Protection Action Plan • Upgrade of the National Domestic Violence Hotline • Establishment of Safe Houses/Shelters • Finalisation of the Sustainability Plan for HIV and AIDS
13.	Tobago House of Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of the Tobago Productivity Council • University of Tobago • The Establishment of a Tobago Tourism Council • Restoration and Upgrade to Heritage Sites • The completion of the Moriah Health Centre by April 2020. • The construction of the Roxborough Hospital • Hosting of the Sports Awards and Tobago Youth Awards • Completion of the Whim Skills Development Centre • The continuation of the Vocational Skills and the Integrated Community Literacy Improvement Programme • The implementation of a 'Safe Community' model project

The document also contains three 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 2019 and 2020 and Actual Expenditure for Fiscal 2018 under Recurrent Expenditure by Ministry.

Appendix III: A List of Non-Governmental Organisations receiving Government Subventions for fiscal 2018 and 2019.

Introduction

Trinidad and Tobago is in the fourth year of its National Development Strategy which set out a number of goals for the short-term (2016-2020). The short-term goals for Theme I – “Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset” are:

1. Our society will be grounded in the principles of social justice
2. Social Services Delivery will be improved to better serve the needs of vulnerable groups
3. Citizens will have access to adequate and affordable housing
4. The healthcare system will be sustainable and modern and deliver higher standards of healthcare
5. Citizens will be empowered to lead healthy lifestyles
6. The family will be protected and supported
7. Trinidad and Tobago will have a modern, relevant and accessible education and training system

The next theme relevant to the social sector, Theme II – “Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence”, has the following short-term goals:

1. Our governance approach will be based on principles of participation and inclusion
2. The public service will have modern, effective and efficient public management systems
3. Public service delivery will be customer focussed
4. Trinidad and Tobago will have modern, legal, regulatory and law enforcement systems

The Ministries and agencies in the social sector continued in fiscal 2019 to work with other key stakeholders and development partners to attain these goals. Efforts have been made to identify and fill gaps and reduce duplication and waste in the delivery of social services through effective collaboration and the forging of strong partnerships in the face of reduced revenues. Concerted action was taken to maintain the levels of investment in

the social sector to mitigate the impact of the slow down of the economy and to support the social safety net for protection of the vulnerable.

The sector continued to face challenges related to inter alia, turnaround times for the delivery of services, inadequate human resources, especially in the area of social workers and welfare officers and social facilities for particular target groups such as street dwellers, domestic violence victims and children in difficult circumstances. There was also a general lack of effective ICT systems to facilitate collaboration and data sharing and limited data collection to enable monitoring and evaluation of programmes. The sector continued to utilise mechanisms such as Coordinating Committees and Councils to facilitate the preparation of key policy documents and the implementation of major sector initiatives. The Research Council for the Social Sector, with the responsibility of coordinating the conduct of research in the sector, was reconstituted and commenced preparation of its workplan and the sector research agenda; the two Committees for the implementation of the National Social Mitigation Plan, the Advisory and the Programmatic, were appointed; a Committee for the development of a Migration Policy was appointed in addition to the Task Force for the National Scholarships Programme.

A comprehensive review of aspects of the health, education and social protection and labour sectors was undertaken as part of the World Bank Public Expenditure Review 2018⁵ and a number of important findings and recommendations were put forward for consideration. Specifically, the Review examined the efficiency and sustainability of public spending in the sectors. One important finding was that social protection (SP) spending in Trinidad and Tobago equaled 5.1% of GDP in 2016 and has steadily expanded over the last decade and that relative to its GDP it spends more on SP than

5 www.documents.worldbank.org

do most of its neighbours in Latin American Countries. Spending on non-contributory social assistance (SA) programmes is especially high at 4.6% of GDP in 2016, far above the global and LAC averages of 1.5% of GDP.

Emphasis was also placed in fiscal 2019 on the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and to this end, Government is guided by international and regional developments in the arena. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago is cognisant of a number of recent regional meetings of Ministers and high authorities of social development, with outcome agreements which will impact social programming at the local level. The 57th Session of the UN Commission for Social Development was held on February 7, 2018 and from February 11–21, 2019, with the priority theme of “Addressing Inequalities and Challenges to Social Inclusion through fiscal, Wage and Social Protection Policies”.⁶ Emphasis was placed on the need to deliver on the central goal of the 2030 Agenda for Social Development of eradicating poverty and leaving no one behind.

A critical aspect of the 2030 Agenda is addressing inequality and challenges to social inclusion. In this regard, public investment in social protection, including through innovative financing, reforming tax administration and fighting illicit financial flows were identified as very important areas for action. The Caribbean Community also noted that higher education spending had been the most important driver behind the declining trend in income inequality.

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) highlighted some of the most pertinent challenges facing the region, including disruptions in global economic relations, trade tensions and rapid technological change, which were worsening inequality.

At the IV Meeting of Ministers and High Level Authorities on Social Development of the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) held in Guatemala in March 2019, the Plan of Action for the period 2019–2021, with the objective to construct an Inter-American Agenda for Social Development, was approved.

Also, the authorities committed – through the signing of a joint declaration – to continue promoting the multidimensional measurement of poverty and to use the information resulting from the application of these measurements for the review and design of public policies and more effective programmes for the eradication of poverty in all dimensions, among other commitments.

At the third meeting of Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development held in Santiago in April 2019, a draft Regional Agenda for Inclusive Social Development (RAISD) was developed. The general objective of the RAISD is to support the implementation of the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly in those areas related to the mandates of the Ministries of Social Development, taking into account the achievements, opportunities and critical obstacles to inclusive social development in the region.

In view of the stage the nation is at in the implementation of the National Development Strategy, the obligation to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the developments in the social development arena, it is imperative that the focus on vulnerable groups and their needs be sustained moving into fiscal 2020 if poverty and inequality are to be eliminated. In addition, concerted attention will have to be given to treating with the structural and human resource challenges in the sector to improve the efficiency of delivery.

6 <https://undocs.org/E/CN.5/2019/10>

2020

SOCIAL SECTOR
INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION



1



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 International Monetary Fund - World Economic Outlook (WEO) 2019, despite the positive signs for growth in 2017 and 2018, global economic activity slowed in the last two quarters of 2018. Growth in 2018 was revised downwards by 0.1 percentage point due to

the weakening of the second half of the year. The main contributors included, 'the declining growth in China; car production in Germany affected by the introduction of new emission standards; natural disasters in Japan and the United States' tightening monetary policy which gave rise to increased trade tensions'. Global growth is projected to slow from 3.6% in 2018 to 3.3% in 2019. The global economy is expected to return to 3.6% in 2020.

Conversely, the WEO forecasts improvements for developing economies namely: India, sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and low income developing countries. Table 1.1 outlines the World Economic Outlook growth projections for 2019.

Table 1.1: World Economic Outlook Projections for 2019

	Projections		Difference from January 2019		Q4 over Q4 Projections October 2018		
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2019	2020	
World Output	3.6	3.3	3.6	-0.2	0.0	-0.4	0.1
Advanced Economies	2.2	1.8	1.7	-0.2	0.0	-0.3	0.4
• United States of America	2.9	2.3	1.9	-0.2	0.0	-0.2	0.1
• European Area	1.8	1.3	1.5	-0.3	-0.2	-0.6	-0.2
• Japan	0.8	1.0	0.5	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2
• United Kingdom	1.4	1.2	1.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	-0.1
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	4.5	4.4	4.8	-0.1	-0.1	-0.3	-0.1
Emerging and Developing Asia:	6.4	6.3	6.3	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1
• China	6.6	6.3	6.1	0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.1
• India	7.1	7.3	7.5	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2
Sub-Saharan Africa	3.0	3.5	3.7	0.0	0.1	-0.3	-0.2
Latin America and the Caribbean	1.0	1.4	2.4	-0.6	-0.1	-0.8	-0.3
Low-Income Developing Countries	4.6	5.0	5.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.2



1.1.1. Global Competitiveness

The Global Competitiveness Report (GCR) 2019 is utilised in the analysis contained in this section. The GCR is an annual report published by the World Economic Forum, which analyses and compares competitiveness among countries. However, this year the World Economic Forum introduced the new Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) 4.0, which builds upon the concept that the world has entered the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), integrating established markers and new levers that stimulate productivity and growth, for example, human capital, innovation, resilience and better use of technology for economic gain.

The best-performing economies and states using the GCI 4.0 methodology are similar to the top performers of the previous year. The scores and rankings of the top five countries for 2018-2019 are provided in Table 1. II. According to the Global Competitiveness Index 2018-2019 Report, the world's top three competitive economies are United States of America, Singapore and Germany.

Table 1.II: Global Competitive Index 2018-2019

Country/Economy	GCI 4.0 2018-2019 Rank (out of 140)	Score (1 – 100)
United States	85.6	5.86
Singapore	83.5	5.85
Germany	82.8	5.71
Switzerland	82.6	5.66
Japan	82.5	5.65

The top four (4) countries have maintained their positions, however, not in the same order, with the United States of America emerging as the most competitive economy over 2017-2018's leader, Switzerland. The United States performed well in three (3) pillars, with strong results across business dynamism, the labour market and financial systems. A near perfect score was recorded in the Market Size pillar, second only to China. The United States continued to perform less satisfactorily. due to the unequal access to healthcare and ICT adoption.

Singapore improved to 2nd place, using this new index, displaying its strength as a hub for global trade, transport infrastructure, services and connectivity. Compared with other top-ranked countries, Singapore also performed well as an innovator and a forerunner in the provision of healthcare.

Germany ranked 3rd place and emerged as the strongest European country in the top five (5). It ranked globally in the area of innovation and performed strongly for its research capability and patents. It is noted for its strong macroeconomic environment and social capital (healthy, educated and highly-skilled population) There is, however, need for some improvement in the areas of ICT infrastructure and connectivity.

Switzerland ranked fourth and continues to be one of the world's super innovators, with a great collaboration between academia and the business sector. Despite gains in its institutional framework, Switzerland continues to be affected by a lack of openness to trade, given its tariff regime. There is also room for improvement in its ICT capacity.

Japan, a new entrant to the top five, has shown significant improvement appearing in the top ten in all seven pillars. Japan has ranked first in health and scored notably high in digital and physical infrastructure.

1.1.2. Global Gender Gap

The Gender Gap Report (GGR) 2018 reported on data captured from 149 countries and their progress toward gender parity across four thematic areas, namely: Economic Participation and Opportunity, Educational Attainment, Health and Survival and Political Empowerment. The Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden) continue to strive ahead of their counterparts. However, Iceland has achieved 85% based on the benchmarks assessed. According to the Report, the global gender gap currently stands at 68.0%, with marginal improvements 89 of the 144 countries assessed last year in an effort to achieve universal gender parity.

There were no new entrants in the top ten ranking in the Global Gender Gap Index, but there have been notable rank changes. There were improvements in educational attainment and health and survival; in keeping with the sustainable development goals, these gaps have reduced to under 5%. Despite the many gains, the gap between women and men in political participation remains wide; with only 33% of the gap being closed.

The top spots continue to be held by smaller Western European countries, particularly the Nordics which occupy the top three positions. Countries from other regions represented in the top ten ranks included one country from the Latin American and the Caribbean region (Nicaragua 5th), two countries from the Sub-Saharan Africa region (Rwanda 6th, Namibia 10th) and one country from the East Asia and the Pacific region (Philippines 8th).

1.1.3 Human Development

The Human Development Report provides an overview of the state of development across the world, examining trends to guide policy development for the future. It is based on data captured from 189 countries.

According to the Human Development Statistical Development Update 2018, Norway continues to record the highest ranking with a score of 0.953 among countries with a very high human development, followed by Switzerland, Australia, Germany and Ireland with scores of 0.944, 0.939, 0.938 and 0.936, respectively⁷. Large declines in score and rank were experienced in countries impacted by violent conflict namely the Syrian Arab Republic, Libya and Yemen.

Analysis by region, for the period 1990 – 2017, identified South Asia as the fastest growing region at 45.3%, followed by East Asia and the Pacific (41.8 %) and Sub – Saharan Africa (34.9%).

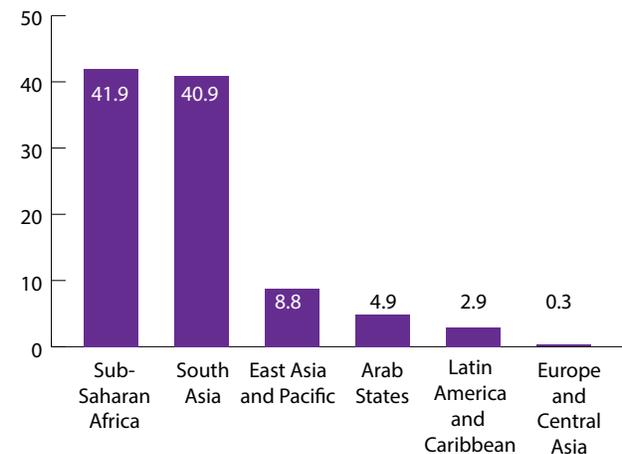
1.1.4 Poverty

The World Bank Group is among the international development agencies committed to fighting poverty in all its dimensions. The Multidimensional Poverty

Index, developed by the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, revised the methodology, to identify overlapping deprivations at the household level across health, education and living standards. It shows the proportion of people who are poor, in this context, and the average number of deprivations that each person experiences.

The Figure below details the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2017-2018 by Region.

Figure 1.1: Multidimensional Poverty Index 2017-2018



Findings

- Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) rates are relatively low in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Arab States, and in Europe and Central Asia, in comparison to South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa;
- Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia comprise 82.8% of the multidimensional poor;
- East Asia and the Pacific, Arab States and Latin America and the Caribbean comprise 16.6% of the multidimensional poor globally;
- The global multidimensional poverty rate is significantly lowest, at 0.3%, in Europe and Central Asia.

The Poverty and Shared Prosperity Report 2018 notes that a lack of robust policy-making and the inability to channel growth towards poverty reduction efforts has resulted in the higher incidence of poverty in both Africa and South Asia. It is recommended that technical cooperation from countries with similar economic and cultural contexts, where policy and poverty reduction efforts have yielded positive results, should be pursued.

⁷ Human Development Statistical Update 2018



1.1.5 Health and Wellness

According to the World Health Statistics 2018, some highlights in global health over the past decade include the following:

- Global life expectancy increased by 5.5 years to 72.0 years between 2000 and 2016, and healthy life expectancy increased by 4.8 years to 63.3 years.
- Of 29 health-related SDG indicators for which global trends are reported, 24 have shown improvements in recent years. More births are attended by skilled health personnel, and women are less likely to die in childbirth. Global targets to reduce neonatal deaths and deaths in children aged under 5 years are on track, and childhood stunting is in decline. Nonetheless, it is estimated that 303,000 maternal deaths occurred globally in 2015 and that 5.4 million children aged under 5 years died in 2017.
- Vaccination coverage rates have increased while incidence rates for several infectious diseases, prevalence of tobacco smoking, exposure to environmental risks and premature NCD mortality have decreased at the global level.

At the 72nd Session of the World Health Assembly (WHA72), which was held in Geneva during May 20–28, 2019, Member States discussed a number of key areas, including: Universal Health Coverage, Health, Environment and Climate Change and Prevention and Control of NCDs. Member States gave their commitment to the adoption of several new resolutions related to public health issues. Some notable declarations were:

- To improve safe water, sanitation and hygiene services in health facilities around the world;
- To expand universal health coverage with a focus on primary healthcare, role of community health workers and ensure further discourse at the UN General Assembly on Universal Health Coverage to be held in September 2019;
- To ensure transparency of markets for medicines, vaccines and other health products;
- To recognise patient safety as a health priority with an aim to reduce patient harm in healthcare settings.

Ebola

In August 2018, four persons tested positive for the Ebola virus disease (EVD) in Kivu, a north-eastern region in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). As at July 31, 2019, the number of infected cases recorded by the Ministry of Health, DRC had risen to 2,713 with 1,813 confirmed deaths due to EVD. According to the WHO⁸, efforts to contain the virus were stymied by the military conflict, as attacks on health centres and health workers affected the ability to control the spread of the disease. This has become the second-largest outbreak of the virus in Africa since the 2013–2016 occurrence. On July 17, 2019 the United Nations Security Council officially declared the outbreak as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern.

A trial vaccination, the rVSV-ZEBOV, has not been licensed but is in use while further research is being conducted. The ring vaccination strategy being utilised, focuses on the vaccination of at-risk persons, such as front line medical personnel and secondary/tertiary contacts of those infected.

Migrant Health

According to the World Bank, people across the world have been forced to flee from persecution, conflict or violence, with approximately 25.4 million people seeking refuge abroad. As at 2017, 85% of the world's refugees are hosted by developing countries. This has caused a burden on the resources of individual states, for example; Lebanon hosting Syrian refugees and Uganda hosting South Sudanese refugees.

According to the International Office for Migration (IOM), as at December 2018, three million people have left Venezuela amid the deepening economic crisis. However, many have not been officially granted refugee status. IOM data surmised that more than one million people have settled in Colombia.

Member States at the 72nd Session of the World Health Assembly agreed to a five-year global action plan to promote the healthcare of refugees and migrants. The plan will focus on achieving universal health coverage and the attainment of a high standard of health for host

8 WHO World Outbreak News – July 25, 2019

populations, refugees and migrants. It was noted that several Ministers of Health for Latin American countries having highlighted the challenges posed to local health systems, however, committed to a 'humane and collective response to migrants'.

1.1.6 The Environment

Climate change has emerged as a critical human development and security issue and is primarily associated with biodiversity loss, deforestation and a reduced quantity/quality of fresh water and clean air. Human development cannot be effectively sustained without addressing environmental degradation and climate change, as these phenomena threaten the sustainability of food and water supplies and the well-being of current and future generations. The 2018 Statistical Update on Human Development indicates that countries with high levels of human development are the biggest contributors to climate change with carbon dioxide emissions of 10.7 tonnes per capita. Conversely, countries with lower levels of human development, specifically small island developing states, generally have low emissions of carbon dioxide but are more vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

The World Bank Shock Waves Study (2017) estimated that 100 million more persons can be pushed into poverty by

climate change. On December 3, 2018, the World Bank announced that it would increase its 5-year climate-related investments to \$200 billion to support countries taking proactive climate action through the pursuit and use of renewable energy sources, to help citizens adapt to climate change.

1.1.7. 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 significant qualitative progress. Conversely, those countries that do not prioritise corruption issues tend to regress from year to year.

In 2018, the trend continued with an average country score of 43. It should be noted that, more than two-thirds of countries ranked below 50. Table 1.III outlines countries perceived to be least corrupt according to the 2018 CPI over the last five years.

Table 1.III: Countries Perceived to be Least Corrupt According to the Corruption Perceptions Index 2018⁹

2018 Rank	Country	2018 Score	2017 Score	2016 Score	2015 Score	2014 Score
1	Denmark	88	88	90	91	92
2	New Zealand	87	89	90	91	91
3	Finland	85	85	89	90	89
3	Singapore	85	84	84	85	84
3	Sweden	85	84	88	89	87
3	Switzerland	85	85	86	86	86
7	Norway	84	85	85	88	86

⁹ https://www.transparency.org/news/feature/corruption_perceptions_index_2018



Denmark and New Zealand rank highest, with scores of 88 and 87, respectively. Accordingly, the best-performing region was Western Europe and the European Union with an average score of 66.

Conversely Syria, South Sudan and Somalia rank lowest, with scores of 14, 12 and 9, respectively. The worst-performing regions remain Sub-Saharan Africa (average score 32) and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (average score 32).

Further analysis of the results indicates that countries with the least protection for press and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) tend to have the worst rates of corruption.

2020

SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

CHAPTER 1: THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

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 year 2018/2019.

2.1. Regional Economic Development

2.1.1. Economy

The Caribbean has experienced economic growth over the period 2018-2019. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF)'s Regional Economic Outlook for Latin America and the Caribbean (October 2018), the Caribbean has seen economic growth mainly because of growth in the United States of America (USA) and globally. As a result, there has been a rise in tourism and tourism-related activities. The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) indicated that the region is likely to grow by 2% in 2019. The President of CDB, Dr William Smith, stated that real GDP will increase due to growth in construction, tourism and extractive industries such as gold and oil. This follows a year when Grenada showed the largest growth at 5.2%, followed by Antigua and Barbuda at 3.5% and Guyana at 3.4% with an overall regional rate of 1.9%.

Public debt and fiscal deficits remain a problem for the region because of the strain it puts on the economy and the demand on countries' Gross Domestic Product (GDP). In terms of public debt, Barbados had highest government gross debt (as a percent of fiscal gross domestic product) for 2017 at more than 150%. The second highest government gross debt (as a percent of fiscal GDP) was in Belize and Jamaica at roughly 100%. Trinidad and Tobago had the lowest government gross debt (as a percent of fiscal GDP) at just below 50%. In terms of fiscal deficits for 2019, Suriname had the largest approximately -7.5% (of fiscal GDP). This was followed by Guyana and Antigua and Barbuda at -5% (of fiscal GDP). Grenada, Barbados and Jamaica all had no fiscal deficits

but were able to cut total expenditure. Their general government overall balance (as a percent of GDP) was between 0–5%.

In terms of Caribbean economies mainly dependent on commodities, income from exportation increased due to higher global prices. Trinidad and Tobago experienced moderate growth for the period 2018–2019 after two years of recession. Guyana has seen growth because of new gold discoveries and investments in the oil industry (production to commence in 2020). According to the World Bank's Global Economic Prospects, the Latin America and Caribbean region is expected to grow by 1.7% in 2019.

The United Nation's World Economic Situation and Prospects Report (2019) states that in Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago, positive economic growth was achieved due to increased gold production as well as higher oil prices in 2018 and the expansion of natural gas production. Finally, the report stated Guyana will have the highest growth at 3.7% and Barbados will have no growth at 0%.

In terms of inflation, from January to August 2019, the rate of inflation for the region is 2.4%, according to the IMF.¹⁰ The countries included in the statistic are Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago. This represented a drop from 2018 when the rate of inflation was 3.7%.

¹⁰ https://www.imf.org/external/datamapper/PCPIPCH@WEO/WEO_WORLD/VEN/CBQ



2.2. Regional Integration

CARICOM has a five-year Strategic Plan for the Caribbean Community 2015–2019: Repositioning CARICOM. In the Strategic Plan are four desired outcomes: (i) Strong Economic Growth and Reduction in Poverty and Unemployment; (ii) Improved Quality of Life; (iii) Reduced Environmental Vulnerability and (iv) An Integrated Community with Equity for All. Additionally, there are six Integrated Strategic Priorities of a Resilience Model for the region in the Plan. Among these Strategic Priorities are the Building of Social Resilience and the Building of Environmental Resilience with the hope of improving quality of life and reducing environmental vulnerability.

The Social Resilience Priority emphasizes human capital development, inclusive policies for gender and disabilities issues, health and wellness, citizen security and justice. Environmental Resilience includes issues related to the negative effects of climate change on the region, disaster management and the management of environmental and natural resources. Both Priorities are linked to social issues that create poverty, increase vulnerability and the need for social assistance. A review of the progress and implementation of the Strategic Plan and the Integrated Strategic Priorities is still to be done.

2.2.1. CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME)

The CSME is an agreement among CARICOM Member States to allow the free movement of goods, services, skilled labourers, capital and technology among participating nations. It also allows citizens of participating countries to establish a business in any other CARICOM Member State¹¹. Participating Member States are Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.

At the 30th Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM (February 26–27, 2019 in St. Kitts), the Heads of Government reviewed

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progress on decisions made at the 18th Special Meeting of the Conference on the CSME. Discussed was the proposal that all participating countries of the CSME should sign the Protocol on Contingent Rights. To date, eight countries have applied the measures which will allow spouses and dependents of skilled workers utilising the CSME the right to access education and healthcare in that country. The countries which have signed to date are: Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines and Trinidad & Tobago.

Additionally, the Agreement on the Protocol for Public Procurement was opened for signature by Member States during the meeting. Heads of Government also agreed to meet with members of the private sector, civil and labour societies of the region twice a year –through the Business and Labour Advisory Committees. This would be critical to facilitating the widest input by key stakeholders to regional decision-making relative to the CSME.

Another issue discussed was the previous blacklisting of some CARICOM Member States by the EU. It was stated that the damage to the reputation of the region affected economic and climate resilience initiatives. The blacklisting occurred because the Member States were thought to encourage tax evasion and were non-cooperative tax jurisdictions. The assessment was based on the following: tax transparency, good governance, real economic activity and the existence of a zero corporate tax rate. The previously blacklisted Member States are now on a list of countries that will be monitored by the EU.

2.3. Regional Social Development

2.3.1. Human Capital Development

The Human Capital Index (HCI) measures a country's investment in education and healthcare to a person from birth to the age of eighteen. It indicates the level of productivity a country is likely to achieve in the long-term because of its investment in future workers and

¹¹ <https://foreign.gov.tt/services/csme/>

identifies any gaps in human capital development. Only four CARICOM countries have an HCI: Guyana (0.49), Haiti (0.45), Jamaica (0.54) and Trinidad and Tobago (0.61). This illustrates a need for greater attention to the human capital of the region.

The human development component of CARICOM¹² focusses on fostering a long and healthy life for all CARICOM citizens as well as on creating a decent standard of living, ensuring political freedom and fostering self-respect.

CARICOM's Human Resource Development Strategy (2018) looks at investment in the human capital of the region. The theme of the strategy is "Investing in Human Capital with Equity." The areas of focus of the Strategy are crime & security, labour/workforce, gender, culture, sports and youth.

Other initiatives of human capital development that are linked to CARICOM's Human Resource Development Strategy include the fostering of cultural entrepreneurs with funds from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the development of the Creative Industries Innovation Fund (CIIF), which is geared towards funding innovation and job creation in the region, and the promotion of sustainable capacity-building of the sector.

Advancements in education and human development in the region also included the regional accreditation mechanism of Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) and the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) which are overseen and coordinated by the Caribbean Association of National Training Agencies (CANTA).

2.3.2. Social Security

The CARICOM Heads of Social Security met from June 6–9, 2019 in St. Kitts to discuss several social security programmes. The areas discussed were strengthening implementation of the CARICOM Agreement on Social Security, submission of data on the CARICOM Agreement, the proposed social security intervention under the 11th European Development Fund, advancing social security in CARICOM, the social security training programmes and international social security matters.

12 <https://caricom.org/our-work/human-development>

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The feature address identified three main areas essential for sustainability in the region. They were to develop a fiscal resilience framework, for CARICOM governments and national Social Security Boards to develop a sense of urgency that would spur on sustainability plans and finally collective action of the region to manage risks and develop social security strategies.

Additionally, the 30th Meeting of Heads of CARICOM Social Security Organisations was held on July 16, 2019. The Secretary-General of CARICOM addressed the group and raised several pertinent issues related to social security. He addressed issues such as support for retirement and maternity and injury benefits for CSME workers. The Secretariat, with funding from the 11th European Development Fund, will develop a system that allows CSME workers to access their home country's social security benefits in the countries they work.

2.3.3. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), designed to create a world where basic human needs are met and a sustainable future is created, were developed in September 2015 and adopted at a UN Summit on January 1, 2016. There are 17 SDGs, which build on Millennium Development Goals. In May 2018, the COHSOD approved 125 CARICOM Core Indicators based on the UN's 2030 Agenda for SDGs.¹³

According to the Quadrennial Report on Regional Progress and Challenges in Relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (2019), the Caribbean has shown progress in reducing poverty and inequality, based on social indicators, but the progress has slowed over the last five years. In terms of the move towards full productive employment and equality, ECLAC recommends that there needs to be a shift in the patterns of areas specialised by the region. There has also been a rise in participation in the informal sector in the region. Finally, inequality increased in major developed countries due to a lack of advancement in technology.

13 <http://statistics.caricom.org/Files/Publications/CARICOM%20Core%20SDGs%20Indicators.pdf>



The UN Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework (MSDF) in the Caribbean Report for the period 2017–2021 states that progress towards the SDGs in the Caribbean requires a “multi-sectoral, human development” approach. The countries covered in this framework are 18 English-speaking and Dutch-speaking Caribbean countries and overseas territories. The approach is to combine the efforts of these countries and territories in order to increase the likelihood of achieving the SDGs.

The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) launched its Caribbean Civil Society SDGs Knowledge Platform in July 2019 in Trinidad and Tobago.¹⁴ The Platform contains information on SDG implementation for the region focussing on the role of civil society organisations (CSOs). The purpose of the platform is to relay information on the role and experience of implementing the SDGs, exchange ideas and share lessons learnt and finally, increase the role of CSOs in the policy development and implementation of SDGs.

Trinidad and Tobago and St. Vincent and the Grenadines will present a voluntary national review of the SDG implementation at the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in 2020.

2.3.4. Poverty (Reduction) in the Region

Worldwide, more than 700 million people live in poverty and live on less than US\$1.90 per day.¹⁵ The UN’s 2019 Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) gives an indication of poverty in various countries around the world and sheds light on their progress towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #1: ‘End poverty in all forms.’ Multidimensional Poverty is measured by looking at statistics such as health, education and standards of living. There are ten indicators, namely, nutrition, child mortality, years of schooling, school attendance, cooking fuel, sanitation, drinking water, electricity, housing and assets. The report shows that

14 <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/caribbean-platform-facilitates-cso-contributions-to-sdgs/>

15 https://results.org/world-poverty/?gclid=EAlaIqOBChMlrMqTiunr4wlVlJ-fCh0SJV3EAAyBCAAEgL2lvD_BwE

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1.3 billion people from 101 countries or 23.1% are multi-dimensionally poor. Of these persons, more than two-thirds live in middle-income countries, which indicates that there is a high level of inequality in these countries. A survey of Latin America and the Caribbean indicates that 7.5% of the population lived in multidimensional poverty. Of the CARICOM Member States surveyed, Trinidad and Tobago had the lowest percentage of persons living in multidimensional poverty, 0.6%, followed by St. Lucia at 1.9%. Haiti had the highest percentage of the population living in multidimensional poverty at 41.3%.

Statistics on poverty in the region for 2019 are not available. The United Nations’ (UN) Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)’s Poverty Measurement in the Caribbean: A Critique of Current Approaches from a Gender Perspective (2018) highlighted the importance of viewing poverty in the CARICOM region from a gender perspective. It revealed that unemployment was higher among females in comparison to males, whilst labour force participation was higher among males than females. Additionally females, even though employed full-time, could still be living in poverty, however, male poverty was mainly due to unemployment. Another issue was the dynamics in the home that influenced women’s access to resources. There was also unequal distribution of resources, which gave rise to ‘secondary poverty.’

2.3.5. Employment

According to the International Labour Organisation (ILO)’s Labour Overview for 2018, unemployment in Latin America and the Caribbean decreased in 2018 to a forecasted 7.8%. In terms of youth unemployment, 20% of persons aged 14 to 25 years were unemployed by the third quarter of 2018. There is also a need to address gender discrepancies in the labour market. The labour force participation for women was 50.3% – 20% below that of males, and the unemployment rate for women was 10%, while for men it was 7.3%.

2.3.6. An Ageing Caribbean

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in its publication titled ‘Ageing, Older Persons and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development: A Regional and Human Rights Perspective' in 2019¹⁶ addressed the manner in which older persons should be included when implementing the SDGs and the activities after implementation. Further, it stated that for the Latin American and the Caribbean region, the number of older persons (60 years and older) is increasing significantly. For the period 2015 to 2030, it is projected that this group will expand from 70 million to 119 million persons. Finally, it noted that in this region, population ageing is taking place in the context of inequality, poverty, unsustainable economic growth and unemployment.

2.3.7. Crime and Security

In terms of human trafficking, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) published its Global Report on Trafficking in Persons (2018). In Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Grenada, Jamaica and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago human trafficking laws align with the UN's Trafficking in Persons Protocol. Grenada passed the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act in 2014. Central America and the Caribbean were both receivers and distributors of human trafficking victims. Additionally, for Central America and the Caribbean most victims (75%) originate within the same sub-region as traffickers. Furthermore, most victims are trafficked for sexual exploitation; this was also the most detected form of human trafficking. In Central America and the Caribbean human traffickers made US\$5 per act from sexual exploitation and US\$190,000 per act for organ removal. For the region, most countries reported eleven to fifty convictions of human trafficking.

The Caribbean Forum (CARIFORUM) commenced a study on Human Trafficking on July 19, 2019 to get a better understanding of the problem in the CARICOM region¹⁷. The countries that will take part in the study are Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica,

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Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. The findings will be used to develop interventions for the prevention, protection and prosecution of human trafficking and that are aligned with anti-trafficking best practices.

The UNODC initiated a pilot project in the Dominican Republic titled 'Assisted Medical Treatment for Opioid (Heroin) Users in the Dominican Republic.'¹⁸ The purpose of the pilot is to obtain scientific evidence on the care needs of persons suffering from opioid use disorders. In Suriname, several meetings were held with law enforcement officials and the UNODC in order to develop an early warning system for synthetic drugs. Additionally, training was conducted in the use of the Trunarc model portable devices for drug detection.¹⁹

The Regional Security System (RSS) hosted the 'Impact of Gang Culture on the RSS Member States' on March 20, 2019 in St. Kitts and Nevis. Discussions were held on risk factors associated with the gang phenomenon, relevant policies and other responses in St. Kitts and Nevis and the wider Caribbean. The event was partly sponsored by the EU.

2.3.8. Migration

At the 22nd Meeting of the Council for Foreign and Community Relations (COFCOR) from May 13–14, 2019, CARICOM Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their position on the crisis in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Concern was expressed for the situation, but a stance of non-interference and non-intervention was maintained. However, CARICOM members remained willing to facilitate dialogue among the parties involved.

In 2019, Trinidad and Tobago held a 'Venezuelan Migration Registration Process' for legal and illegal

16 <https://www.cepal.org/en/news/rights-based-approach-essential-addressing-ageing-latin-america-and-caribeans-population>

17 <https://caricom.org/media-center/communications/press-releases/cariforum-embarks-on-critical-human-trafficking-study>

18 <https://www.unodc.org/ropan/en/visit-to-evaluate-progress-of-pilot-project-assisted-medical-treatment-of-opioid-heroin-users-in-the-dominican-republic.html>

19 <https://www.unodc.org/ropan/en/smart-conducts-diagnostic-evaluation-to-implement-synthetic-drugs-early-warning-system-in-the-republic-of-suriname.html>



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Venezuelan migrants living in Trinidad and Tobago.²⁰ Registration took place from May 31 to June 14, 2019. The migration of Venezuelans to Trinidad and Tobago is mainly due to the financial crisis in Venezuela and Trinidad and Tobago's close proximity to the country. It is estimated that more than 16,500 persons registered during this period.

Guyana is also faced with the issue of migration from Venezuelan refugees and migrants. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Government of Guyana distributed 3,600 kits of non-food items and information on accessing basic services in Guyana in January 2019. The kits were purchased with funding from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (UNCERF). Additionally, the IOM conducted workshops with different government and state agencies in Guyana on human trafficking, smuggling and other vulnerabilities as well as on the direct assistance and referral systems.²¹

2.3.9. Gender Mainstreaming

Gender mainstreaming in trade is also an important initiative in CARICOM. It provides economic advancement opportunities for women in employment and business.²² The Caribbean Export Development Agency's Women Empowered Through Export (We-Xport) is geared towards helping Caribbean businesswomen in exportation. Additionally, the CSME should have more gender-sensitive policies that would encourage women to take advantage of its benefits. Belize released its National Trade Policy (2019–2030), which promotes gender equality as a component of the policy.

In February 2019, CARICOM, with the assistance of UN Women, began consultations on CARICOM's Regional Gender Equality Strategy and the Beijing Platform for Action. The purpose of the consultation was to promote gender equality, equity and the empowerment of girls and women in the Member States, which is aligned

to Goal #5 of the SDGs. Fifteen consultation sessions are to be held in 2019 in all CARICOM Member States. Consultations were held in Guyana and St. Vincent in March and in St. Lucia, Grenada and Belize in April thus far. Six priority areas have been identified, namely, equality and social inclusion, freedom from violence, access to health services, access to education, good governance and economic empowerment. The strategy is aligned with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Samoa Pathway, the Montevideo Consensus Strategy and other frameworks on Gender and Development that are ratified by CARICOM Member States.

The Social Institutions & Gender Index (SIGI) by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)'s Development Centre is a measure of discrimination against women in social institutions. It takes into consideration women's access to justice, rights and empowerment opportunities as well as issues/factors that undermine their decision-making authority over their life choices. The areas assessed are discrimination in the family, restricted physical integrity, restricted access to productive and financial resources and restricted civil liberties. A single score for the Caribbean for 2019 was not calculated, however, some country scores were available. Jamaica received a SIGI Value of 25% and was categorised as low; Haiti received a SIGI Value of 40% and was categorised as medium; Trinidad and Tobago received a SIGI Value of 24% and was categorised as low.

2.3.10. Health Care

SDG #3 is to create Good Health and Well-Being at all ages. One aspect of this goal is to reduce the number of deaths because of non-communicable diseases by one-third by the year 2030²³. Additionally, it focusses on ending the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, neglected tropical diseases and other communicable diseases by 2030. Finally, the goal speaks to ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes by 2030.

20 <http://www.news.gov.tt/content/faq-venezuelan-migrant-registration-process#.XUr05kn6t9A>

21 <https://rosanjose.iom.int/site/en/news/refugees-and-migrants-venezuela-guyana-receive-support-iom>

22 <https://caribbeantradelaw.com/2019/03/08/accelerating-gender-mainstreaming-in-caricom-trade-policy/>

23 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/health/>

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HIV/AIDS

Pan-Caribbean Partnership Against HIV and AIDS (PANCAP) is the region's coordinating agency with respect to HIV/AIDS based on the Caribbean Regional Strategic Framework on HIV and AIDS. The organisation has been hosting a series of meetings throughout the region with the aim of addressing stigma and discrimination against HIV/AIDS with parliamentarians, government agencies, faith-based organisations, civil society organisations and UN agencies representatives. The consultations, funded by CARIFORUM's 10th European Development Fund Programme, forms part of their 'Justice For All' programme. The first series of consultations were held in Barbados on May 29, 2019 with emphasis placed on leadership and good governance that fosters social protection of all groups. The second series of consultations were held in Guyana on June 3, 2019. It was agreed that youth groups/clubs would be utilised to promote messages against stigma and discrimination. Additionally, attendees were encouraged to integrate messages on HIV/AIDS and other social issues into holistic education for youths. Faith leaders agreed to help promote the anti-stigma and anti-discrimination message.

Vector-Borne Diseases

The Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO) met with Health Ministers/Leaders from the Caribbean and the Americas in October 2018. The purpose of the meeting was to agree upon a five-year action plan on preventing and controlling vector transmitted diseases such as malaria, dengue, Zika and Chagas. The Plan of Action on Entomology and Vector Control will have its greatest impact on the vulnerable and persons far from health services²⁴. Other aspects of the Plan of Action include monitoring and evaluation of vector control, the use of innovative strategies for vector control and continuous training for professionals and public health workers in the field.

24 <https://today.caricom.org/2018/09/25/caribbean-health-ministers-agree-to-strengthen-actions-to-prevent-vector-borne-diseases/>

Maternity

PAHO is advocating for sufficient paid maternity leave and breastfeeding breaks for women.²⁵ Additionally, they are requesting that countries in the region adopt the ILO's Convention No. 183 and the Maternity Protection Recommendation, 2000 (R191). These changes would mean that women get eighteen weeks paid maternity leave, two 30-minute breaks every working day to breastfeed their child and that the workplace provide facilities to breastfeed children.

Non-Communicable Diseases

The Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) established the Regional Health Communications Network (RHCN) in 2015 with the aim of developing, implementing, sustaining, monitoring and evaluating communication responses to major health issues that arise in the region. RHCN met from April 29–30, 2019 to develop a region-wide public education campaign on non-communicable diseases and wellness that was specific to the CARICOM culture. Additionally, a draft regional communications strategy and action plan for 2019–2021 was developed.

CARPHA Conference

From June 20–22, 2019, the 64th Annual Health Research Conference was held in Trinidad and Tobago. Themed 'Primary Health Care: Current and Future Models for the Caribbean', the Conference presented research on the Caribbean health care system related to governance, financing and delivery. More than two hundred and sixty delegates from twenty-five countries were in attendance. The session topics for the Conference were: Health Systems – Policy and Planning, Non-Communicable Diseases, Health Systems – Economics, Communicable Diseases and Public Health. The Conference contained several activities such as oral and poster research presentations, displays by representatives from private organisations in the health sector, research workshops and an awards ceremony. Additionally, during the Conference a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between CARPHA and the Caribbean College

25 <https://caricom.org/media-center/communications/news-from-the-community/paho-wants-maternity-protection-laws-implemented-in-caribbean>



of Family Physicians with the main aim to improve the quality of primary health care in the region. Finally, CARPHA launched its Clinical Care Guidelines and its State of Public Health Report on Climate and Health.

Ebola

On July 17, 2019, the World Health Organisation (WHO) announced that the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo was a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. CARPHA encouraged CARICOM Member States to increase surveillance for the diseases at ports of entry and health facilities throughout the region.

2.3.11. Disabilities

A Special Rapporteur on Disability for CARICOM was appointed in late 2018 to be an advocate for persons with disabilities in the region and to ensure that the recommendations from the Declaration of Pétiion Ville (Haiti December 2013) were materialised. In his statement on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (December 3, 2018), he stressed the importance of inclusiveness and equality for persons living with disabilities. He further stated that there are an estimated one million persons living with disabilities in the region and that over 95% of them are unemployed and over 85% of them are living in poverty.²⁶ Furthermore, there is a need to change the social, political and economic environment.

The Special Rapporteur speaking at the Down's syndrome Family Network Conference in Trinidad and Tobago in March 2019, stated that the education systems in the Caribbean should foster greater inclusion for persons with disabilities.²⁷ He stated that this should result in more positive attitudes towards persons with disabilities and reduced levels of discrimination.

26 <https://caricom.org/media-center/communications/news-from-the-community/disability-respects-no-one-caricom-special-rapporteur-on-disabilities>

27 <https://today.caricom.org/2019/04/05/liberalise-the-caribbean-education-system-for-persons-with-disabilities-caricom-rapporteur/>

2.3.12. Disaster Management – Environmental Stability

The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Authority (CDEMA) – Regional Symposium on 'Shock-Responsive Social Protection in the Caribbean' took place from June 27–28, 2019 in Turks and Caicos. The UN World Food Programme in collaboration with CDEMA hosted the Symposium. A total of fifteen Ministers and government officials from the Caribbean attended. The purpose was to facilitate exchange of ideas on issues related to disaster risk reduction, public policy, social protection and climate risk financing. The information shared during the Symposium will advise policy towards the formation of an integrated developmental and humanitarian system in the Caribbean. Additionally, the Community of Practice was established as well as key priorities were developed.

The CDB in conjunction with the United Kingdom (UK)'s Department for International Development is working towards building climate resilience for the region. The Department gave £30 million to the UK Caribbean Infrastructure Fund for reconstruction in Barbuda and Dominica. CDB was also responsible for distributing funds from the Canadian Government through the Dominica Disaster Recovery and Resilience Fund to enhance post-disaster response and help build more climate resilient schools for the country as well as prepare communities for natural disasters.²⁸ Furthermore, the bank signed an agreement with the Green Climate Fund to finance climate-related projects for the region.

The United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) signed a MOU in April 2019. The MOU is geared towards the development of more resilient communities, states and regional agencies in the preparation for disasters and emergencies for the region. Additionally, the MOU allows for collaborations in the case of emergencies providing support for children, youth, women and vulnerable groups. The main focus is to protect vulnerable groups, especially children and affected populations with an emphasis on the education sector, social protection

28 <https://today.caricom.org/2019/02/08/cdb-president-calls-for-resilience-transformation-to-drive-regional-economic-growth/>

systems and water, sanitation and hygiene elements that help build resilience.

2.3.13. Literacy in the Caribbean & Education

CARICOM Secretariat and the Central Statistics Office in Grenada held a forum and seminar in February 2019 with support from PARIS21, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the European Development Fund Support Services Unit. The forum and seminar occurred at the Third High Level Advocacy Forum on Statistics in February 2019 in Grenada and a call was made to include more statistics in the school systems in order to attract young people to the field. The theme of the forum was, 'Investing in Statistics to Build Resilience and to Achieve Sustainable Economic Growth and Development in the Caribbean Community.' The seminar was based on the implementation of the Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics (RSDS) which is focussed on building resilience and generating evidence-based policy decisions.²⁹ There was a need for training of personnel in statistics in the region to address the gaps in data collection and analysis.

The USA Department of State initiated several projects to increase engagement with the Caribbean Region through several pillars according to the 'US-Caribbean 2020: Report to Congress (2019)'. Additionally, the Department of State is seeking to increase Caribbean countries' involvement in programmes and initiatives of the US government. The USA Agency for International Development (AID) held educational programmes on improving early literacy and vocational training skills for at-risk youths, which helped 200,000 students. Moreover, USAID sponsored Jamaican higher learning institutions in order to modernise their curricula. Teachers in the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and English-speaking Eastern Caribbean countries received training in early-literacy education. Finally, after 23 years, the Department of State reopened the Fulbright Foreign Student Program in The Bahamas during 2019.

29 <https://caricom.org/media-center/communications/press-releases/calls-for-more-investment-in-statistics-systems-focus-on-literacy>

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2.3.14. Food Security

The Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA), the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN (FAO) in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries of the Government of Suriname, held meetings from July 23–25, 2019. Food safety regulators from the fifteen CARICOM Member States met to set recommendations to enhance coordination of food safety measures and harmonise food safety standards for the region³⁰. Coming out of the meeting is the creation of a Caribbean Task Force on Food Safety that will advise and strengthen the work of CAHFSA.

2.3.15. Maritime Industry

The German government continues to fund energy and water improvement projects in the region. The funds are used to support energy efficient appliances in the region by implementing the infrastructure for these appliances. Additionally, the funds support the Coastal and Aqua Terrestrial Solutions (CATS) Project that looks at improving water systems, forestry, fisheries and environmental monitoring.³¹ The CATS Project can help improve the living conditions of the poor and vulnerable in the region by improving the standard of basic needs like water and environmental conditions.

The Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) and the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF) Sector Portfolio Company (SPC) signed a MOU in 2019 to facilitate collaboration in the development of climate-resilient fisheries and aquaculture industries in the region based on the Caribbean Oceans and Aquaculture Sustainability Facility (COAST) Initiative.³²

30 <https://caricom.org/media-center/communications/news-from-the-community/food-safety-regulators-chart-path-for-strengthening-food-safety-in-caribbean>

31 <https://today.caricom.org/2019/06/20/energy-and-water-among-areas-targetted-for-german-support/>. Retrieved 21 June 2019

32 <https://www.ccrif.org/news/caribbean-countries-benefit-partnership-develop-climate-resilient-fisheries-and-aquaculture>



2.4. Regional Dialogue

The 30th Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) was held from February 26–27, 2019 in St. Kitts and Nevis. A few of the main objectives of the meeting were to discuss unity in CARICOM so that the region can withstand the changing global environment, the blacklisting of countries by the European Union (EU) and the crisis in Venezuela.

At the 30th Inter-Sessional Meeting, a few of the agreements signed were the Protocol on Contingent Rights (by Belize, Dominica and St. Kitts and Nevis), Multilateral Air Services Agreement (by Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago) and Revised Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC; by Dominica).

The 40th meeting of CARICOM Heads of Government (CHOGM) was held from July 3–5, 2019 in St. Lucia. On the first day, the Secretary General of the UN, Antonio Guterres addressed the group. His speech focussed on resilience and sustainable development for the region as well as the murder rates, climate change and its effects on the region, violence among women and girls and concessional development financing.

Some of the agreements signed during CHOGM were on the Return or Sharing of Recovered Assets, Protocol on Public Procurement for the Caribbean Community and the Protocol Amending the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas to Incorporate the Council for National Security and Law Enforcement as an Organ of CARICOM.

2.5. Outlook for 2020

For the period 2019–2021, oil prices are expected to remain flat at US\$67 per barrel, which will limit fiscal and export revenue in oil-producing economies. However, Guyana has started preparation for the commercial production of oil in 2020 as major oil reserves were found in the country. The expected economic growth – from the new source of revenue – will help the country move closer to reaching the SDGs by 2030, especially

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the eradication of poverty. However, political uncertainty may affect the growth rate for the country.

The United Nation's World Economic Situation and Prospects Report (2019) states that global growth is expected to be 3% for 2019 and 2020. The report stated that commodity-exporting countries are expected to gradually recover. The Caribbean region is forecasted to have a real GDP growth at market prices (in percent) of 4% and 4% forecasted for 2020.³³ The Report further stated that GDP per capita has been stagnant for the last five years in the region due to high vulnerability to external and domestic challenges. Finally, it stated that the region needs to improve its level of productivity in order to strengthen economic growth and progress towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

Upcoming conferences include CARPHA's 65th Annual Health Research Conference, which is expected to be held in June 2020 in Jamaica. The 25th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP25) to the UN's Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the meetings of the UNFCCC subsidiary bodies will be held in Chile from December 2–13, 2019.³⁴ The European Union – Latin America and Caribbean Foundation (EU-LAC) will hold a lecture and roundtable discussion meeting/conference on September 19, 2019 titled 'A Destiny of Geography?: Climate Change Preparedness and Response in Caribbean SIDS'. The purpose of the event is to increase public awareness and encourage policy dialogue concerning the region's vulnerability to the negative effects of climate change and the actions that can be taken to improve readiness and responsiveness. In 2020, the US Department of State will sponsor training for 20 senior administrators from Suriname, Grenada and St. Lucia to improve technical and vocational education.

33 This includes Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Suriname, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago.

34 <https://caricom.org/media-center/communications/communiqués/communiqué-twenty-second-meeting-of-the-council-for-foreign-and-community-relations-cofcor-st-georges-grenada-13-14-may-2019>

2020

SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

CHAPTER 2: THE CARIBBEAN SOCIAL SITUATION

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO IN THE CONTEXT OF THE CARIBBEAN

3



INTEGRATION



TRADE



DEVELOPMENT



FINANCE



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

The following chapter examines Trinidad and Tobago's socio-economic performance in comparison with other selected Caribbean and Latin American countries for the last year, 2018–2019. The analysis utilises the following: Global Gender Gap Report, World Happiness Report, Global Peace Index and Corruption Perceptions Index.

3.1. Global Gender Gap

The Global Gender Gap Report provides a framework for capturing the magnitude of gender-based disparities and tracking their progress over time. This year, the report found that the gender gap has closed slightly since last year. However, it will still require one hundred and eight (108) years to achieve full parity at the current pace.

As reported in the Global Gender Gap Report 2018, Barbados maintained its rank as the top performing Caribbean country, while Nicaragua retained its rank as the highest performing country from the Latin American and the Caribbean (LAC) region. Nicaragua is ranked fifth (with a score of 0.809), Barbados is ranked 21st (with a score of 0.753) followed by Costa Rica which has a rank of 22nd (with a score of 0.749). Cuba advanced its placement from 25th from the 2016 report to 23rd (with a score of 0.749). Bolivia ranked 25th (with a score of 0.748), the Bahamas ranked 30th (with a score of 0.741) while Argentina ranked 36th (with a score of 0.733) and Colombia was ranked 40th (with a score of 0.729). Ecuador was ranked 41st (with a score of 0.729) and Jamaica ranked 44th (with a score of 0.724).

As reported previously, no country has achieved parity and only the seven (7) countries in the rankings that includes Nicaragua have closed at least 80% of the gap. There is still a 32% average gender gap that remains to be closed.

The largest gender disparity is on Political Empowerment, which maintains a gap of 77.1%. The Economic Participation and Opportunity gap is the second largest at 41.9%, while the Educational Attainment and Health and Survival gaps are significantly lower at 4.4% and 4.6%, respectively. Among them, on average, only the Economic Participation and Opportunity gap has slightly reduced since last year. The GGGR 2018 report estimates that it will take the Latin American and Caribbean region seventy-four (74) years to close the economic gender gap. The report suggests that for countries to remain competitive and inclusive, gender equality will need to be made a critical part of their nation's human capital development. Trinidad and Tobago was not included in the report*.

Table 3.1 The Global Gender Gap Index Top 10 ranking for Latin America and the Caribbean

Global Rank*	Score
5. Nicaragua	0.809
21. Barbados	0.753
22. Costa Rica	0.749
23. Cuba	0.749
25. Bolivia	0.748
30. Bahamas	0.741
36. Argentina	0.733
40. Columbia	0.729
41. Ecuador	0.729
44. Jamaica	0.724

Source: Global Gender Gap Report 2018, World Economic Forum.

Note: *2018 rank out of 144 countries

NB: To be included, a country must have data available for a minimum of 12 indicators out of the 14 that compose the Index.



3.2. World Happiness

The World Happiness Report measures countries' levels of happiness. The World Happiness Report 2019 focussed on happiness and the community, how happiness has evolved over the past years, with emphasis on the technologies, social norms, conflicts and government policies that have driven those changes.

The Caribbean countries that made the listing are Trinidad and Tobago, which was placed 39th or (6.192) out of one hundred and fifty-six (156) countries, followed by Jamaica ranked 56th or (5.890). The Dominican Republic placed 77th (5.425), while Haiti scored as the 147th (3.597) happiest country in world.

The report reflected that Trinidad and Tobago is the happiest country in the Caribbean region. In comparison to the 2018 report, Trinidad and Tobago fell one place from 38th to 39th (2019), whilst Jamaica maintained its 56th ranking from the 2018 report. The Dominican Republic improved its ranking moving from 83rd to 77th happiest country globally.

The 2019 report also measured Happiness and Voting Behaviour. According to the report, the data suggest that happier people are both more likely to vote, and to vote for incumbents when they do so.

NB: The Happiness Index is calculated based on six factors: levels of GDP, life expectancy, generosity, social support, freedom and corruption.

3.3. Global Peace Index

The Global Peace Index (GPI) 2019 ranks one hundred and sixty-three (163) independent states and territories according to their level of peacefulness. The report presents the most comprehensive data-driven analysis to date on peace, its economic value, trends, and how to develop peaceful societies. The GPI utilises twenty-three (23) qualitative and quantitative indicators from highly respected sources, and measures the state of peace using three (3) thematic domains: the level of Societal Safety and Security; the extent of Ongoing Domestic and

International Conflict; and the degree of Militarisation.

The 2019 Global Peace Index showed that the average level of global peacefulness improved to a certain extent. This was the first improvement in five (5) years of the report; the 2019 GPI revealed that the conflicts and crises that emerged in the past decade have begun to abate, but new tensions within and between nations have emerged. The Middle East and North Africa region remained the world's least peaceful region. It has four (4) of the ten (10) least peaceful countries in the world, with no country from the region ranking higher than 30th on the GPI. Only Trinidad and Tobago had an increase in military expenditure as a percentage of GDP of more than one percentage point.

In the 2019 report, Jamaica ranked 83 out of 163 countries, moving up from 90 in 2018, with a score of 2.038. The Dominican Republic ranked 84 with a score of 2.04, moving up from its 2018 rank of 91. Haiti ranked 87 out of 163 countries with a score of 2.052; Cuba ranked 91 with a score of 2.073 dropping approximately seven places; Guyana ranked 92 with a score of 2.075, a move down from its 2018 rank of 82. Trinidad and Tobago ranked 93 out of 163 countries with a score of 2.094, moving seven places down from its 2018 rank of 84. All the countries printed are considered states with medium states of peace. Overall, the global GPI average improved by 0.09% from 2018 to 2019, representing an improvement in 86 countries and a deterioration in 76. The increase in peacefulness was the result of a reduction in the severity of several major conflicts worldwide, which led to decreases in deaths from internal conflict.

3.4. Corruption

The Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2018 ranked 180 countries based on their perceived levels of public sector corruption. The index uses a scale from zero (0) to one hundred (100), with zero being highly corrupted and one hundred as very clean. According to the CPI 2018, more than two-thirds of the countries scored below fifty (50), with forty-three (43) obtaining an average ranking. This suggested most countries around the world have not made significant headway to reduce/fight against corruption despite efforts.

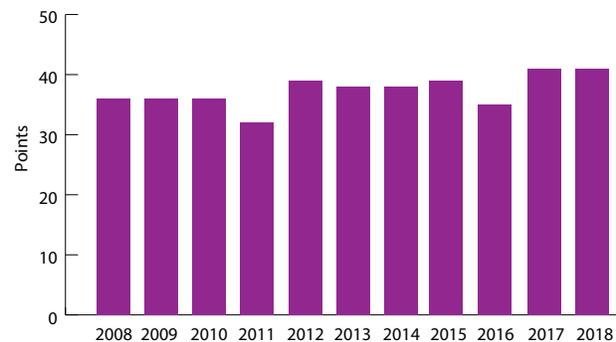
Table 3.II: CPI Ranks and Scores of Caribbean countries for the period 2013-2018

2018 Rank	Country	2018 Score	2017 Score	2016 Score	2015 Score	2014 Score	2013 Score
25	Barbados	68	68	61	n/a	74	75
29	Bahamas	65	65	66	n/a	71	71
41	St. Vincent & the Grenadines	58	58	60	n/a	62	62
45	Dominica	57	57	59	n/a	58	58
50	St Lucia	55	55	60	n/a	71	71
70	Jamaica	44	44	39	41	38	38
78	Trinidad & Tobago	41	41	35	39	38	38
73	Suriname	43	41	45	36	36	36
53	Grenada	52	52	56	n/a		

Barbados maintained its 2017 score of 68 in 2018 as well as its ranking of 25 for the period. The Bahamas retained its score of 65, and moved to the rank of 29. St Vincent and the Grenadines also maintained its score of 58 in 2018, and progressed to rank 41. Dominica maintained its 2017 score of 57 but advanced three places from the rank of 42 to 45 (CPI, 2018). St Lucia kept its score of 55 but dropped two places to the rank of 50. Jamaica maintained its score of 44 from 2017 in 2018; however, the country's ranking fell from 68 to 70 during the period. Trinidad and Tobago continued with the score of 41 but its rank fell one place to 78, while Suriname score increased to 43 and its ranking improved to 73 in the CPI 2018. Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica and Suriname are perceived as the three most corrupt countries in the region.

Grenada was not included in the 2019 SSIP report; however, it maintained its 2017 CPI score of 52 in 2018 and was ranked 53 globally.

Figure 3.I: Trinidad and Tobago Corruption Index

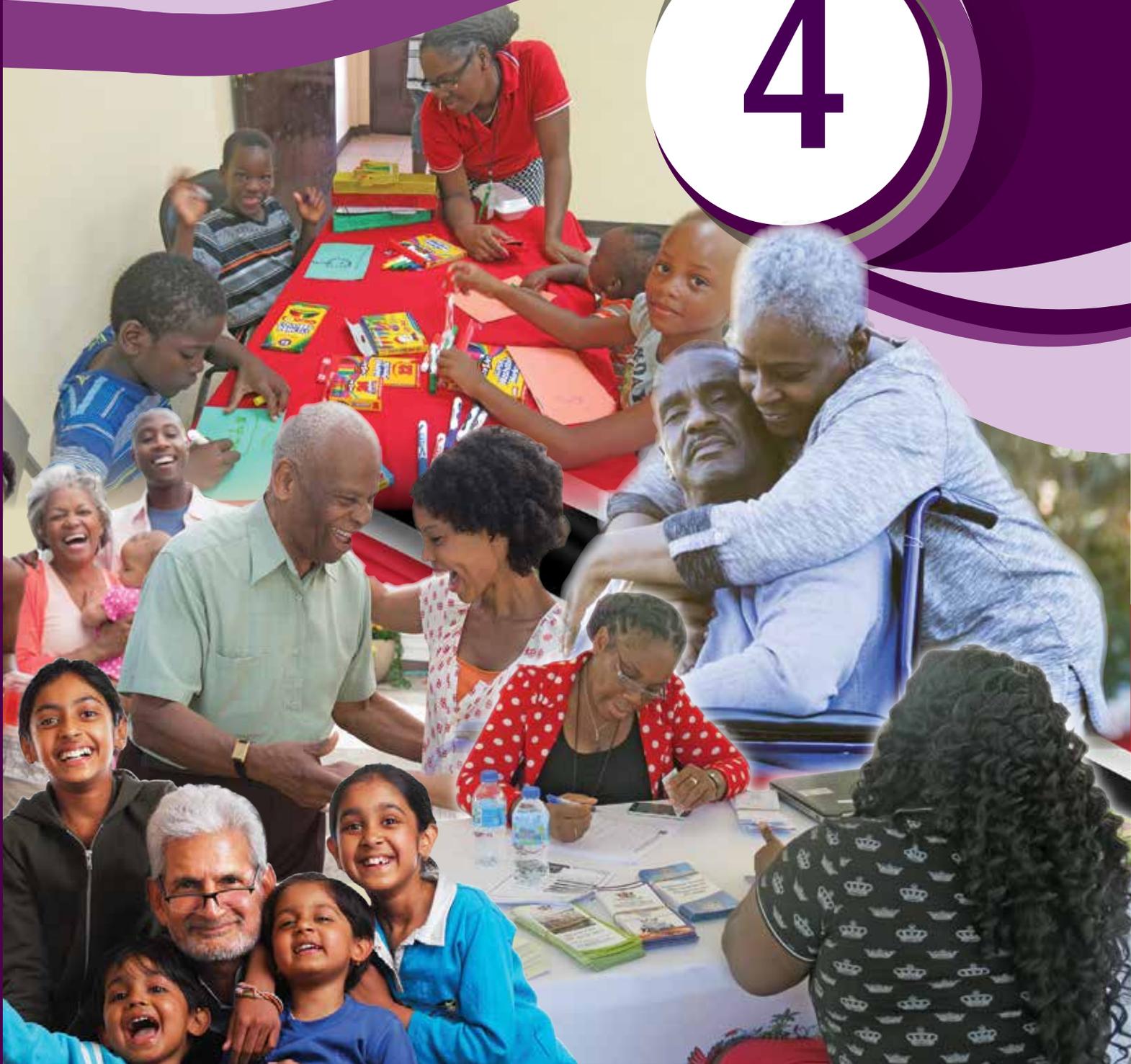


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1. Helliwell, J., Layard, R., & Sachs, J. (2019). *World Happiness Report 2019*, New York: Sustainable Development Solutions Network.
2. Institute for Economics and Peace (2019 June 24). *Global Peace Index 2019*. Retrieved from: <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/gpi-2019-web003.pdf>
3. World Economic Forum (2019 July 29). *Global Gender Gap Report 2018*. Retrieved from: <http://reports.weforum.org/global-gender-gap-report-2018/>
4. Transparency International (2019 September 14). *Corruption Perceptions Index 2018*. Retrieved from: <https://www.transparency.org/cpi2018>

THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

4



Chapter 4: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

4.1. Introduction

This chapter highlights the major advancements of the social sector of Trinidad and Tobago for the fiscal year 2018/2019. The main sections of the Chapter focus on two critical thematic areas namely, *Theme I: Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset* and Theme II: Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence, which are derived from the National Development Strategy (NDS) 2016–2030, Vision 2030. Attention is also directed towards the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their alignment to our national vision and development goals and the ensuing progress within the fiscal year.

Notwithstanding the national economic fluctuations and the corresponding impact on financial resources

in fiscal 2018/2019, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago (GoRTT) continued in its pursuit of improved social capital and human development towards national transformation. The GoRTT remains committed to providing continuous support for the initiatives of the social sector and acknowledges that the maintenance of social stability and creating a pathway for a high quality of life for all citizens are fundamental to national progress. Moreover, the GoRTT incorporated the global development agenda, the SDGs, in its National Development Strategy (see Table 4.1) to ensure a holistic approach to implementation and has advanced at both levels as demonstrated by the many achievements highlighted in the following sections.

Table 4.1: Alignment of VISION 2030: Themes I and II and Related Short Term Goals (2016-2020) with the Sustainable Development Goals

4.2. Theme I: Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset	Sustainable Development Goals
Section 4.2.1. Goal 1 Our society will be grounded in the principles of social justice	Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
Section 4.2.2. Goal 2: Social Services Delivery will be improved to better serve the needs of vulnerable groups	Goal 1: End Poverty in all forms everywhere Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
Section 4.2.3. Goal 3: Citizens will have access to adequate and affordable housing	Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
Section 4.2.4. Goal 4: The healthcare system will be sustainable and modern and deliver higher standards of healthcare Goal 5: Citizens will be empowered to lead healthy lifestyles	Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all ages
Section 4.2.4. Goal 6: The family will be protected and supported	Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries
Section 4.2.5. Goal 7: Trinidad and Tobago will have a modern, relevant and accessible education and training system	Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all



4.3. Theme II: Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence	Sustainable Development Goals
Section 4.3.1. Goal 1: Our governance approach will be based on principles of participation and inclusion	Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global partnership for Sustainable Development
Section 4.3.2. Goal 2: The public service will have modern, effective and efficient public management systems	Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global partnership for Sustainable Development
Section 4.3.3. Goal 3: Public service delivery will be customer-focussed	Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

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

The first development theme of the National Development Strategy signifies the long-term perspective envisioned for our nation to the year 2030. Sustainable social and human development is regarded as significant. It begins with aspiring towards the goal of creating a society in which all the basic needs of each individual are met, each person is valued and our children are treated with respect and dignity. Fundamental to social sustainability is the empowerment of all citizens to participate, produce and prosper within a nurtured environment. Some major achievements which contributed to social sector advancement in fiscal 2019 are outlined in the following sections and are linked to the short term development goals of Trinidad and Tobago's Vision 2030.

4.2.1. Goal 1: Our Society will be grounded in the principles of Social Justice

The principles of social justice relate to the equitable distribution of the country's resources, equal opportunities, for all citizens in all spheres of activity and especially in terms to employment diversity and upward mobility based on merit and transparent systems. Some

areas of focus include decent work, changes in values, attitudes and behaviours and adjustments to legal frameworks to facilitate greater inclusiveness. Some of the initiatives which were undertaken in fiscal 2019 which improved social justice are as follows:

A. Labour Legislative Reform

The GoRTT through the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development (MLSED) continued to engage in a comprehensive review of existing labour legislation in fiscal 2019. The labour legislative framework is recognised as the lynchpin of an effective industrial relations system and provides the foundational basis for the implementation of effective policies and programmes emanating from the MLSED. Accordingly, twenty-two (22) pieces of labour legislation were identified as requiring review. The following Acts were reviewed through stakeholder consultations in fiscal 2019:

- **Friendly Societies Act, Chap. 32:50**
- **Foreign Labour Contracts Act (No. 4 of 1990) Chap 88:1**
- **Employment Exchange Act**
- **Recruitment of Workers Act**
- **Co-operative Societies Act, Chap. 81:03**
- **Occupational Safety and Health Act, Chap. 88:08**
- **Cipriani College of Labour and Co-operative Studies Act, Chap. 39:51**
- **Recruiting of Workers Act, Chap. 88:10**

B. Sexual Harassment Policy

The Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development (MLSED) began the consultative process with national stakeholder consultations on the **Draft National Workplace Policy on Sexual Harassment** in Trinidad on June 1, 2018, and in Tobago on June 22, 2018. The National Workplace Policy on Sexual Harassment 2019 was approved by Cabinet on March 07, 2018 and laid in Parliament on International Women's Day March 08, 2019. The objectives of this policy are "to define and prevent sexual harassment in the workplace, identify and address relevant issues, and provide guidance on actions that may be taken by main stakeholders, namely; victims, observers, employers, workers and the government." It envisions "a work place free of all forms of sexual harassment" and embraces the mission "to create a work place where issues of sexual harassment are prohibited, prevented, addressed and remedied expeditiously and with equity, accountability and integrity." The core values as stated in this policy are accountability, equity, respect, professionalism, confidentiality and diversity (National Workplace Policy on Sexual Harassment, 2019).³⁵ At the end of July 2019, the implementation plan for the Policy was approved, which includes a public awareness campaign to commence in fiscal 2020.

C. Ten-Point Plan on Unemployment

In response to the social and economic impact of the slowing down of the economy, the MLSED developed a holistic Plan to assist unemployed persons. The Ten-Point Plan on Unemployment titled "*Empowering Unemployed Persons – Re-integration into Decent Work: Turning Adversity into Opportunity*" was approved for implementation by Cabinet in April 2016. The objective is to provide access to immediate, short- and medium-term assistance for unemployed persons and, where necessary, their families, to mitigate against the negative financial, social, physical and psychological effects of retrenchment and empower them towards re-integration into sustainable decent work in the shortest possible time, either through job placements or support in establishing their own businesses or Co-operatives. In fiscal 2019, the MLSED focussed on implementing several initiatives in accordance with the Plan including working on an

³⁵ MLSED. National Workplace Policy on Sexual Harassment, 2019.

CHAPTER 4: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

updated online portal and operating procedures for the National Unemployment Register.

D. Decent Work

In commemoration of 100 years of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in 2019, the "Future of Work Initiative" was brought to the implementation stage as part of the celebration. The Cipriani College of Labour and Cooperative Studies (CCLCS), through the Elma Francois Institute for Research and Debate partnered with the MLSED to host national events around the four conversations and around the report by the Global Commission on the topic of the Future of Work in July and August of 2019. Consequently, in light of Trinidad and Tobago's membership, the MLSED has reported strengthened collaborative relationships with the ILO Decent Work Team and Office for the Caribbean located in Port of Spain.

E. Labour Migration

In fiscal 2018/2019, the development of the Labour Migration Policy of Trinidad and Tobago continued under the MLSED to ensure the better management of labour migration as a sustainable development strategy. The Labour Migration Policy intends to facilitate a coherent and co-ordinated response to the inflows and outflows of workers from the Trinidad and Tobago labour market. Harmonisation and sharing of data, as well as the cooperation of all stakeholders for the collection, collation and analysis of data and other relevant issues of migration for employment are objectives of this policy.³⁶ A Committee was established in July 2018 to assist in the development of the Policy and the first consultation with key stakeholders was held in September 2019.

F. Sensitisation and Awareness Campaigns

The MLSED recognises that there is a gap in the knowledge of employers and employees on their rights and responsibilities in the workplace. As a result, the Ministry has been seeking to close this gap by engaging in sustained and targeted public education and awareness campaigns. In fiscal 2019, the MLSED undertook the following:

- Commemorated International Day of Credit Unions on October 18, 2018;

³⁶ MLSED. Social Sector Initiative Stats Report, 2019.



- Commenced a “Maternity Matters” Campaign, which provides an opportunity for information on maternity protection in the workplace to be shared with pregnant employees;
- Hosted a march against child labour in commemoration of World Day Against Child Labour on June 12, 2019 to send a public message to “Spot, Stop and Report Child Labour”;
- Hosted “Plain Talk...Work Matters,” an eleven (11) week radio segment programme comprising 15-30 minute interviews to highlight the services of the Labour Inspectorate Unit, the OJTP, the National Employment Service, the Co-operative Development Division, the Conciliation Unit and the HIV Workplace Advocacy Unit;
- Conducted Labour Month Mall Tours in July 2019 where four (4) service Divisions of the Ministry shared their services with the public at Trincity Mall and Gulf City Mall; and
- Implemented a Chronicles of Labourville Ad Campaign where the Ministry aired its six (6) radio and five (5) television advertisements for two weeks in July, 2019. These spots are intended to keep employees, employers and the rest of the populace informed of the principles of good industrial relations practices as it relates to workers and employers rights and responsibilities in the workplace. These episodes focussed on the areas of the role of the Conciliation Unit, the Probationary period (radio only), progressive discipline, retrenchment, sexual harassment and natural justice.

The Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development has also continued its focus on the development of Co-operatives and small businesses as a means of generating sustainable employment throughout the country, especially among vulnerable communities.

G. Labour Market Research

In fiscal 2018/2019, the Ministry of Education (MOE) placed priority on the provision of valid and reliable **Labour Market Information**. The objective of this project was to identify and forecast the occupational and labour market needs in selected economic sectors by utilising accurate and relevant Labour Market Information. The information provided by this initiative

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is necessary to inform policy decisions, support market-driven training, conduct evaluations and further research of TVET indicators, programmes and projects. In June 2019, data collection commenced for the MTI-NTA Quantitative and Qualitative Labour Market Report on selected Manufacturing Sub-Sectors.

H. National Workplace Policy on HIV/AIDS

The MLSED also continued its work in strengthening the policy framework for the promotion of rights and responsibilities in the workplace in accordance with the approved National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS. The Ministry’s HIV Workplace Advocacy Unit, which has responsibility for implementing the Policy continues to advocate for the adoption of the National Policy, as well as provide guidance and technical assistance to entities to develop their own Policy. Accordingly, a Public Awareness Campaign for the Policy was launched on July 23, 2019. This is aimed at sensitising employers and employees about the Policy and includes a social media series, installation of billboards at Caroni, Carib Brewery, UWI, St. Augustine, Wrightson Road and Point Fortin, and the publication of a series of media advertisements. The Ministry is also initiating a survey to gather baseline data on the knowledge, attitudes, beliefs and practices relating to HIV in the workplace.

I. The Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality and Diversity - Inquiries concerning Social Issues

The Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality and Diversity considers, from time to time, and reports whenever necessary, on all matters related to

- (a) the compatibility of Acts of Parliament with human rights, and any matters relating to human rights in Trinidad and Tobago (but excluding consideration of individual cases);
- (b) Government compliance with national and international human rights instruments to which Trinidad and Tobago is a party; and
- (c) the promotion of measures designed to enhance the equalisation of opportunities and improvement in the quality of life and status of all peoples including marginalised groups on the basis of gender, age (elderly, youth, children) disability and the creation of an inclusive and more equitable society through

greater social justice and sustainable human development within Trinidad and Tobago. The following inquiries were held for fiscal 2019:

- Sexual Harassment in the Workplace.
- Sexual Harassment in Educational institutions
- The existing provisions for the education of special needs children in public schools and the adequacy of such provisions to enhance their quality of life and equitable access to opportunities

The committee concluded its inquiry into the sexual exploitation of children in Trinidad and Tobago with specific focus on child pornography and child prostitution and followed up with the relevant stakeholders on the status of the implementation of its recommendations into the treatment of child offenders.

4.2.2. Goal 2: Social Services Delivery will be improved to better serve the needs of vulnerable groups

The efficient and effective delivery of social services is a quintessential element to a robust social protection system that sufficiently addresses the multidimensional needs of the vulnerable. Underpinned by the specific **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): No Poverty (SDG1), Zero Hunger (SDG2) and Reduced Inequalities (SDG10)**, the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (GoRTT), through the remit of various Ministries, continued to implement measures through joint efforts to achieve these common goals, as well as improve the systematic approaches to the delivery of social services in fiscal 2018/2019 as outlined below.

A. National Social Mitigation Plan (NSMP)

In fiscal 2019, the Ministry of Social Development and Family Service (MSDFS) continued the implementation of the Cabinet-approved National Social Mitigation Plan (NSMP). This Plan was a strategic response to alleviate the potential socio-economic impacts of the economic downturn on the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago, particularly the most vulnerable. In keeping with its theme, *"Building Resilience to Secure Our Nation,"* the Plan

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is intended to equip the vulnerable with the resources and tools needed to cope with their challenges while enhancing their opportunity for recovery in the short and medium to long term.

The Plan, while adopting a whole of government approach, is championed and coordinated through the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS). In fiscal 2019, working closely with its partners, the MSDFS accomplished the following:

- Established the Inter-Sectoral Advisory and Policy and Programmatic Oversight Committees in June 2019. Both Committees are charged with the responsibility for implementing various aspects of the NSMP. The Committees comprise technical officers from various Ministries, civil society organisations and academia. The mandate of the Policy and Programmatic Oversight Committee includes developing relevant mechanisms to monitor and evaluate complaints and appeals from members of the public, as well as upscale or trouble shoot factors, which can either enhance or impede the execution of the NSMP's deliverables. The responsibilities of the Inter-Sectoral Advisory Committee include the development of preventative, restorative and resilience-building interventions and strategies towards sustainable development.
- Commenced work on the design, structure and operations of the Social Support and Empowerment (SSE) Unit in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Administration (MPA). The planned SSE Unit seeks to improve the coordination and integration of the delivery of Government services to citizens in need.
- Commenced the legislative and policy review of Acts which govern the work of the MSDFS;
- Conducted a series of **Public Information, Education and Sensitisation (PIES)** sessions at Cedros, Plaisance Park, Point Fortin, Palo Seco, South Oropouche, Vistabella and Vessigny during May to July 2019. The objective of these community stakeholder sessions was for the Ministry and related agencies to gather information to understand the needs of the citizens living in these communities and the socio-economic effects related to the closure of the Petrotrin refinery. The data/information was necessary to inform the evidence-based design



of community outreaches within the region and guide the delivery of social services to these newly vulnerable groups.

- Initiated a series of Community Outreaches entitled **Social Outreach and Impact Caravan** in August 2019. The initiative is designed to bring government services at accessible and convenient locations to citizens in need. It also provides an opportunity for dialogue and engagement on pathways to resilience. Several social partners and stakeholders are involved in the outreaches, including the key Ministries such as Education, Labour and Small Enterprise Development, Health, Community Development, Culture and the Arts, and Public Utilities as they provide services on training, job opportunities, health and wellness, mediation and utilities assistance respectively. The first phase of the initiative targets the southern region, particularly areas impacted by the closure of Petrotrin. These Caravans were undertaken in Palo Seco, Fyzabad, San Fernando, Point Fortin and Cedros throughout September 2019.
- Launched the Ministry's Community Outreach Mobile Unit in July 2019 to assist in taking the services of the Ministry to rural communities, especially those impacted by the consequences of the downturn.

B. Establishment of an Integrated Social Enterprise Management System (ISEMS)

In fiscal 2019, the MSDFS continued to work towards the establishment of the Integrated Social Enterprise and Management System (ISEMS). ISEMS is a comprehensive information system that would be used to administer the Ministry's various programmes, grants and services. This system would be superior as it is automated and allows for increased efficiency and effectiveness in service delivery. This project facilitates an integrated approach in the delivery of social services and includes the following:

- An Enterprise Resource Product (ERP)
- A Document Management System
- Implementation Services
- A Data Centre

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It is envisioned that the project would be implemented in three phases, with the first phase being the Social Enterprise Case Management Solution.

C. Review of the Standard Means Test

The MSDFS implemented the Standard Means Test (SMT) in April 2018 to improve the targetting effectiveness and standardise the eligibility process of selected social safety net programmes. These programmes include the Food Support Grant, Public Assistance Grant, National Social Development Programme (NSDP), Sowing Empowerment through Entrepreneurial Development (SEED), and specific grants under the General Assistance Grants portfolio.

Based on continuous monitoring of the initiative it was observed that the SMT was impacting household eligibility and resulting in exclusion errors. In June 2019, the MSDFS, in its commitment to strengthening the SMT, collaborated with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), to conduct an independent review of the SMT. The review was motivated by the objectives of ensuring transparency, increased responsiveness, more robust identification of poor and vulnerable households and improved systems and procedures for the administration and delivery of services. A report entitled: *Review of the Standard Means Test for Selected Safety Net Initiatives within the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services - Report of a Rapid Assessment of Implementation of the Standard Means Test* was submitted to the Ministry in July 2019. Following review of the Report and its recommendations, appropriate changes will be made to the SMT.

D. Food Support

Food insecurity emphasises access, availability and financial ability to secure sustainable levels of safe and nutritious food for active healthy life at the level of the household. While, hunger, poverty and food insecurity are closely related, persons living above the poverty line can also face food insecurity³⁷. Recognising the multidimensional and complex nature of food insecurity, several initiatives are designed to address varying aspects of the phenomenon.

³⁷ Understand Food Insecurity. <https://hungerandhealth.feedingamerica.org/understand-food-insecurity/>

Under the MSDFS, implementation of the food support programme was continued. The food support programme is designed to provide short-term food assistance to vulnerable households. It provides a measure of protection and food security by ensuring persons have access to basic food items on a monthly basis.

In fiscal 2019, the MSDFS conducted a recertification of beneficiaries of the Food Support Programme. The exercise facilitated the update of the socio-economic dataset of all food support beneficiaries who were assessed prior to the implementation of the new standard means test effective March, 2018. A total of 24, 670 beneficiaries were identified for recertification. Recertification ensures that the programme is well-targetted and providing support to those households living below the poverty line.

In fiscal 2019, the quantum of monetary support under the programme was also increased by \$100 in the value of the existing food cards as follows:

- Households with 1-3 persons – from \$410 per month to \$510 per month
- Households with 4-5 persons – from \$550 per month to \$650 per month
- Households with 6 or more persons – from \$700 per month to \$800 per month.

During fiscal 2019, the Ministry also engaged in a revision of the Policy for Administration of Food Support. This amendment was necessary given changes in the targetting mechanism, as well as in the division responsible for implementation.

The **School Nutrition Programme (SNP)** under the auspices of the Ministry of Education (MOE) provides thousands of breakfasts and lunches to deserving students in over 800 schools in Trinidad and Tobago. The programme which is managed and implemented through the National Schools' Dietary Services Limited (NSDSL) provides meals that cater to the nutritional needs and dietary requirements of the students to facilitate their learning within the school environment. Additionally, through the Agricultural Thrust Initiative of the NSDSL, the SNP utilises approximately 2million lbs/units of local produce in the recipes developed and catered for the programme. The Nutrition Education

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component of the NSDSL also encourages better meal consumption, in students, parents and school personnel.

In fiscal 2019, the SNP was evaluated by a MOE National Schools Dietary Services Evaluation Committee, which was established in February 2018. The evaluation focussed on whether the programme was implemented as intended and if the resources provided are being utilised in the most cost effective manner. The review indicated that there are well documented systems and procedures for the provision of quality meals to students, inclusive of measures to increase local agricultural content.

The Committee outlined several recommendations to strengthen the efficiency of the programme and improve service delivery, such as: the implementation of a standard application and selection process for programme participation, as well as a robust monitoring system. The standard application form and a revised selection process were implemented in all schools in February 2018.

Under the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries (MALF), the concept of home gardening was reintroduced to communities throughout Trinidad. One of the initiatives developed to promote this effort is the **Grow Box Project**. This project encourages families to produce safe, healthy, fresh food in the convenience of their backyard at home. The Ministry also provides information and training for persons interested in home gardening.

The enhancement of food security in Tobago remained a priority for development through the agricultural sector. The Division of Food Production, Forestry and Fisheries continued to bolster agricultural production through its many initiatives in fiscal 2018/2019. One such initiative was the **Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory** of which approximately 35,000 in vitro plants were produced and made available to farmers in an effort to increase production while assisting farmers. The **Home Garden Initiative** project also sought to encourage the general population in Tobago to get involved in agriculture.

E. Implementation of a New Debit Card System

Under the Food Support Programme, the MSDFS also initiated a new and improved debit card, in keeping with its efforts to enhance client experience and programme



efficiency. This new Debit Card was designed with improved features and distribution to eligible recipients was expected to commence in October 2019. Over 24,000 households are expected to benefit from food support via the new debit card system. Current beneficiaries would have been successfully recertified and transitioned onto the new payment system. The new card allows greater management, monitoring of usage; as well as transparency and accountability. It offers a seamless and simple payment procedure, which provides customers with convenience and utilises latest technology.

F. Social Welfare – Diagnostic Assessment and Service Improvement Project

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS) in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Administration (MPA) is conducting a Diagnostic Assessment and Service Improvement project with the Social Welfare Division (SWD). The project forms part of the institutional strengthening of the Ministry. The objective is to identify and resolve the major issues negatively affecting the operations of the SWD. It involves a number of activities inclusive of assessing and reporting on the operations of the SWD, developing and implementing a Service Improvement Plan and associated Action Plan and administering client satisfaction surveys.

In July 2019, as an innovative approach to the implementation of the project, the MSDFS launched its Project Champions Initiative, which involves the creation of a high performance team of persons within the SWD charged with the responsibility of driving the project.

G. The Joint Select Committee on Social Services and Public Administration – Inquiries relating to Social Issues

The Joint Select Committee on Social Services and Public Administration considers matters that arise regarding the following Ministries: Education, Health, Gender, Tourism, Public Administration, Labour, Culture, Community Development and other Social Services. For fiscal 2019, the following inquiries were initiated:

- An examination of the challenges of prisoner re-entry into society and prisoner reintegration services in Trinidad and Tobago.

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- The potential benefits of non-traditional medications in the treatment of non-communicable diseases in Trinidad and Tobago.
- An inquiry into the prevalence of teenage pregnancy and the State's capacity to prevent teenage pregnancy and provide services and assistance to teenage parents.
- Examination of the current level of childhood obesity and the State's interventions to promote a healthy lifestyle among children.
- Operations of Geriatric Care Facilities / Old Age Homes.

Following meetings with key stakeholders relevant to the particular issue, the Committee prepares a Report with recommendations for the improvement of the administration and delivery of the various services.

4.2.3. Goal 3: Citizens will have access to adequate and affordable housing

An expected outcome of this goal is improved access to affordable housing and improved quality of housing stock. As stated in Vision 2030, the strategies include closing the gap between the demand and supply of housing and ensuring access to decent housing in order to achieve this goal. Some major accomplishments in this regard for fiscal 2018/2019 are outlined below.

A. Provision of Adequate Housing

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MHUD) together with its implementing agencies; the Housing Development Corporation (HDC), the Land Settlement Agency (LSA), the East Port of Spain Development Company Limited (EPOS), Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Committee (SILWC), New City Mall (NCM), East Side Plaza (ESP), and the Trinidad and Tobago Mortgage Finance Company Limited (TTMF) work attentively, to formulate, communicate and administrate Government's policy in relation to housing and urban development. In fiscal 2018/2019, the Ministry continued to implement policies and programmes related to housing and urban development by providing:

1. Adequate and affordable homes for lower and middle income citizens;

2. Subsidies and preferential mortgage loans to facilitate the purchase of new homes;
3. Grants to assist deserving persons to undertake basic repairs and improvement to their homes and assist those who experienced unavoidable emergencies as a result of disasters;
4. Security of land tenure for the disadvantaged citizens through a programme of Squatter Regularisation; and
5. Facilities to enable the development of small business enterprises and entrepreneurial activity.

B. The Home Improvement Grant

In fiscal year 2018/2019, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MHUD) continued implementation of the Home Improvement Grant for low income families whose homes are dilapidated and in urgent need of repairs. The Grant facilitates the maintenance of the current housing stock by increasing the number of homes that undergo repairs and reduce the annual national demand for new homes. Approximately 3000 applications for Grants are received each year. Special attention was devoted to serving the most vulnerable households including the elderly and persons with disabilities. As at August 2019, 900 applicants were selected for the grant and 446 grants have been disbursed to beneficiaries.

C. The Housing and Village Improvement Programme

The Housing and Village Improvement Programme (HVIP), established in fiscal year 2017/2018, is designed to improve housing and living conditions. This programme is an affordable and high quality housing initiative, whereby targetted villages with neglected infrastructure and poor quality housing are provided with housing subsidies and upgraded infrastructure.

The HVIP uses self-help approaches to address housing and infrastructure improvement. The components of the programme are at the individual household level and the village improvement level. The individual household level focuses on home construction and or improvements, utilising the Aided Self-Help Approach. Whereas, the village improvement level focuses on early and emergency works for the development and upgrade of basic infrastructure, utilities and services;

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development of a historic/preservation theme for the Village; provision of skills training and the identification of cultural, social services and facilities such as day-care, and homework centres.

For the first phase of this programme, based on social surveys conducted by the Land and Settlement Agency (LSA), the Ministry selected the Merikins community at Samuel Cooper Road, Moruga. Under the programme, at least 54 families benefitted through the construction of 30 new 2 bedroom homes and home repairs carried out on 10 additional existing homes by the state with sweat equity provided by the residents. Remedial works were also done on the drainage system in the village.

Additionally, the second phase of the project began in various communities throughout the country, including Sangre Grande, St. Joseph and Marabella with others to be identified based on social surveys conducted by the LSA. It is expected that approximately 100 families will benefit from this second phase.

Overall benefits of the HVIP include, inter alia, increase in supply of houses, increased home ownership and self-reliance, deterrence to squatting, improved standard of living and quality of life, as well as reduced dependence on the Government to provide housing.

D. The Government Aided Self-Help Programme

The Government Aided Self-Help Programme (GASHP) is another housing initiative of the Ministry with the intent of empowering persons to manage the construction of their own homes, with financial and technical support from the state. This approach is directed to persons or families with land and without land, whose combined gross monthly income does not exceed Twenty-five Thousand dollars (\$25,000).

Under this programme, the State creates the enabling environment in which beneficiaries manage the construction of their own homes. Citizens without land will benefit from fully developed lots at subsidised prices (30% of the market value) supported by subsidised mortgage loans as well as pre-approved house plans, technical assistance and oversight for the construction of affordable, high quality homes. Citizens who own land or have access to land will benefit from affordable financing, house plans and technical support to construct their homes.



Benefits of the programme include decent, affordable housing, improved individual and family well-being, access to quality homes, as well as reduce financial burden for the state to construct fully completed homes, and potential to boost short-term construction employment opportunities.

For fiscal 2018/2019, under this programme, there were 5,000 applicants for the housing lots. 700 were selected and approximately 500 were approved, based on their financial qualification. Two hundred and ten (210) persons who would have started the process of allocation under the Land for the Landless Programme were approved to move on in the GASHP.

E. Housing Construction Programme

In fiscal 2019, the Housing Development Corporation (HDC) continued implementation of a number of initiatives designed to provide affordable shelter and associated community facilities to low and middle income persons. In keeping with its mandate, these initiatives include:

- A. Housing Construction: Affordable Housing Programme
- B. Housing Construction: Public Private Partnership (PPP)
- C. Housing Construction: Pre Development
- D. Housing Allocation
- E. Refurbishment/ Remedial Work
- F. Beautification and Community Enhancement Programme
- G. Repairs to Affected Units – Greenvale Park, Oropune Gardens and Mora Heights
- H. Flood Mitigation and Infrastructure Upgrade

In the area of construction, during fiscal year 2018/2019, the Housing Development Corporation continued to work on a number of previously-stalled housing projects across the country in areas such as Guapo, Toco, Princes Town, Carlsen Field, Point Fortin, Freeport and Malabar, among others. For the period, a total of 785 units were completed and 1797 are in advance stages of construction. Other new projects under the Accelerated Housing Programme were also continued including projects in Moruga, Arouca and Arima. In the

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area of house allocations, a total of 928 individual and families had the opportunity to chart a new course as home owners.

The Tobago House Assembly (THA) recognises its critical role in providing adequate, safe and affordable housing, and continued to work towards improving and expanding the housing stock of Tobago. For fiscal 2019, the many programmes geared towards home ownership, as well as the improvement of the housing stock on the island contributed to the enhanced quality of life of many Tobagonians.

In the last fiscal year, approximately three hundred and eighty-four (384) grants totalling \$2.9 million dollars were distributed under the **Home Improvement Grant Programme**, while, approximately seventy (70) Tobagonians received financial assistance totalling approximately \$1 million dollars under the **Home Completion Programme**. Additionally, under the **Home Improvement Subsidy Programme**, approximately forty-eight (48) Tobagonians received assistance to the tune of \$0.4 million dollars and a further one hundred and forty- three (143) Tobagonians received assistance under the **Beneficiary Owned Land Programme**, totalling \$3.2 million dollars.

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

Essential to sustainable development is good health and well-being of people. This goal acknowledges and seeks to address health and well-being issues inclusive of changing climate and environmental threats, urbanisation, growing populations, and treatment and prevention of diseases—inclusive of HIV and AIDS. This goal remains of high priority for the GoRTT, demonstrated by the many initiatives carried out in fiscal 2018/2019. Some of these major achievements are outlined below:

A. Health Care

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago recognises that the quality of public health care services and the management of health institutions continue to be main concerns of the citizens of this country. More importantly, the focus is on developing a patient-centred

model, supported by a modern infrastructure, scientific evidence-driven strategies complemented with an efficient, well managed health care system that is capable of delivering health care services in accordance with global standards. Critical to this effort, is collaboration amongst all stakeholders within the health system to ensure the delivery of first class health care. The priority areas identified and focussed on for 2018/2019 included:

1. Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases;
2. Maternal and Child Health;
3. Care of the Elderly;
4. Outreach Visits to vulnerable populations such as prisons and bed bound patients;
5. Allied Health Care & Support Services such as Physiotherapists; Occupational, Therapists; Psychologists, Social Workers, Dieticians and Counsellors in the prevention and treatment and care;
6. Dental Health;
7. Mental Health; and
8. Environmental health.

In keeping with the aforementioned the following activities were undertaken:

Construction Works

To ensure access is within the reach of all citizens through the infrastructural development of primary and secondary health institutions, the Ministry embarked on an extensive construction strategy to expand, upgrade and modernise health facilities in order to meet the health care needs of citizens. Several upgrades, outfitting and construction works were completed for fiscal 2018/2019 throughout the country.

Key construction projects included upgrades to the Sangre Grande Hospital, Arima Hospital, Port of Spain General Hospital, St. James Medical Complex and San Fernando General Hospital. Construction also commenced on the Point Fortin Hospital and the Diego Martin Health Centre. The Sangre Grande Health Centre was also officially opened.

Infant and Maternal Mortality

During the period 2017 to 2019, there has been a significant reduction on the maternal deaths in public

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health institutions from nine (9) in 2015 to four (4) in 2018 and one (1) 2019. This represents a fall in the Maternal Mortality Ratio from 50-60 per 100,000 live births in 2015 to under 30 per 100,000 live births in 2019. In the case of neonatal mortality, Trinidad and Tobago has already achieved both the global and regional targets set at less than 9 per 1,000 live births. Ongoing measures are undertaken to ensure the continued decline to single digits in keeping with the target outlined under the Sustainable Development Goals.

Dialysis and Organ Transplant Programmes

The Ministry continued to expand its dialysis treatment and organ transplant programmes for patients that are at severe and advanced stages of chronic disease and organ failure. The Ministry is also reviewing and seeking to rationalise the avenues through which patients can access dialysis treatment in Trinidad and Tobago. Dialysis patients currently utilise the following avenues: Renal Dialysis Programme, the public health care institutions and the Medical Aid Programme.

Adult Cardiac Programme

The Ministry also continued operation of the Adult Cardiac Programme, which allows for the purchase of cardiac services from private health care providers for citizens; the External Patient Programme, which provide immediate direct relief to citizens who have been waiting on listed surgical procedures for a minimum of three (3) months in public healthcare facilities; and the Children's Life Fund, which contributes to the expenditure to send children suffering from life threatening disease abroad for treatment.

Mental Health Services

Another key area of concern is the strengthening and enhancement of public awareness programmes on mental health matters in the reduction of the stigma and public perception attached to mental health challenges. The key mental health services offered to the public include:

- inpatient psychiatry services;
- child guidance services;
- forensic psychiatric evaluations and risk assessments;
- occupational therapy;
- psychology;



- psychiatric outpatient clinics,
- psychosocial rehabilitation; and
- substance abuse prevention and treatment.

During the fiscal 2019, the key initiatives and services provided by the Ministry to prevent and treat mental health were as follows:

- the Adolescent Specific Mental Health Clinic service commenced at the Sangre Grande Enhanced Health Facility with the aim of providing targeted interventions and services for teenagers and young adults at risk in experiencing mental health problems.
- In 2018, the establishment of a Stress Relief Clinic in Chaguanas by the North Central Regional Health Authority (NCRHA), that has since served over 700 persons. The Centre is an attempt to address mental health issues of clients across the country especially in the areas of depression, disorders, trauma, anxiety and suicide. The facility provides a stress relief clinic, staff stress relief and a Children and Adolescent Living with Mental Health Issues (Calm Centre).
- In 2018, the launch of the national mental health awareness campaign entitled, "Paint De Town Green" with satellite activities taking place in each Regional Health Authority;
- The creation of the position of Director, Mental Health Services to ensure greater oversight in the design and effective implementation of mental health promotion and prevention strategies through the country;
- the completion of the National Mental Health Policy that guides the decentralisation of mental services throughout the country;
- The development of guidelines and a checklist for Approved Mental Health Homes to improve the standard and quality of care for persons with mental illness in the community;
- the digitisation of the patient record for all chronic patients at St. Ann's Hospital was completed;
- the development of a draft National Suicide Prevention Strategy;
- Ongoing training at all RHAs in Trinidad through the mhGAP programme to sensitise and improve the

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skills of health care workers in identifying mental health issues in patients attending regular clinics;

- Ongoing training in Psychological First Aid to equip volunteers and first responders with skills for providing basic psychosocial support in the aftermath of a disaster or crisis.

Public Health Programme

For fiscal year 2018/2019, under public health programmes, the Ministry of Health through the Insect Vector Control Division (IVCD) carried out Vector Control programmes aimed at the control of Dengue, Zika, Chickungunya, West Nile Virus, Filariasis, Yellow Fever and Malaria. Over the last two (2) years, the Ministry also implemented the Arbovirus Integrated Management Strategy for Vector Control, which utilises a Geographic Information System (GIS) to plot all arbovirus disease cases and together with information provided from various work stations across the country. The strategy has resulted in reduction of both suspected and laboratory confirmed dengue cases.

B. Reducing and Mitigating the Effects of HIV/AIDS

The National AIDS Coordinating Committee (NACC) was re-established to coordinate all implementation of activities to achieve the national regional and international goals for HIV and AIDS epidemic control. The NACC is specifically tasked with providing the policy and coordination of activities to guide the response, mobilisation of investments and technical support, building capacity, engagement and empowerment of Persons Living with HIV (PLHIV) and monitoring and evaluating all aspects of the response. The life of the Committee was extended until 2024 and a new Committee is currently serving a 2-year term.

A draft **National HIV and AIDS Policy** was prepared with technical support from USAID. In fiscal 2018/2019 the NACC, coordinated a review of the policy and transitioned the draft Policy into a Green Paper for Cabinet consideration. The Committee engaged in capacity building workshops, hosted community sensitisation and outreach programmes and campaigns.

In February 2019, the NACC also officially launched its Art Competition 2019 *'It's Beautiful to Know'* which focusses on HIV and AIDS Sensitisation and Awareness in Trinidad and Tobago. The Art Competition engages

young persons between the ages of 5-18 to use cultural arts to address matters related to HIV and AIDS. During fiscal 2019, the NACC and its Secretariat also partnered with the UN Agencies, PANCAP and other Regional organisations to improve the enabling environment to reduce risk of HIV and improve client outcomes.

Finally, related to Strategic Information, in the 2018/2019 period the NACC drafted the national **HIV and AIDS Monitoring and Evaluation Plan** in collaboration with key stakeholders such as the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), the Ministry of Health (MOH), the Central Statistical Office (CSO) and NGOs. The NACC has also developed the **HIV and AIDS Sustainability Plan**, which provides strategic guidance to the agencies involved in the response.

Tobago's Division of Health, Wellness and Family Development continued to develop a number of strategies to ensure the delivery of quality health care. Some of the initiatives implemented in the fiscal year 2018/2019 are as follows:

- The commissioning of a Women's Health Service (Pink Room) and Breast Health Clinic, which is an initiative to treat with women's health issues;
- The commissioning of the Levels four (4) and five (5) Triage Areas at the Scarborough General Hospital to reduce the waiting times at the Accident and Emergency Department;
- The introduction of free Arteriovenous (AV) fistula surgeries for thirty-nine (39) renal failure patients, and the requisite staff training, in collaboration with the Bridge of Life NGO;
- The establishment of the Regional Office and Assessment Centre of the Children's Authority in Tobago in collaboration with the Office of the Prime Minister;
- The re-establishment of the Tobago Coordinating Committee for Persons with Disabilities in collaboration with the Office of the Prime Minister; and
- The hosting of public education sessions on conflict resolution, gender based issues, domestic violence, drug prevention and disaster preparedness.

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4.2.5. Goal 5: Citizens will be empowered to lead healthy lifestyles

In fiscal 2019 the Ministry of Health undertook several initiatives to promote preventative health care as follows:

A. The Ministry continued implementation of the Non-Communicable Diseases' (NCDs) Strategic Plan (2017-2021) on the prevention and control of NCDs to achieve the overall target of a 20% reduction in preventable mortality for NCDs by 2025. In December 2018, the Ministry launched the Trinidad and Tobago Moves initiative for behavioural change including Fruits Fridays and Water Wednesdays.

B. Engaging and educating the public on healthy lifestyles and the availability of programmes which promote health and wellness continued to be of priority in fiscal 2019 by the MOH. The MOH collaborated with the Ministries of Education, Sport and Youth Affairs, Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, Community Development Culture and the Arts, Social Development and Family Services and Public Administration to undertake several public awareness campaigns which targetted all communities throughout the country. Some of these initiatives included:

- Camps/Healthy Lifestyle Camps for Children
- School Health Caravan-Healthy Me
- The RAP Program and Sound Talk
- Caribbean Wellness Day

C. Drug abuse prevention is critical to health and wellness. The National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme (NADAPP) is at the forefront of this effort. NADAPP, as part of its public education and information mandate, has engaged the public and partnered with tertiary educational institutions for public education and has hosted focus group sessions for insights on the issues of drug abuse. In this context, NADAPP collaborated with UTT, UWI, COSTAAT and SBCS to educate and sensitise the national community inclusive of vulnerable groups on the dangers of the use, misuse and abuse of licit and illicit substances. NADAPP has also facilitated continuous access to treatment and rehabilitation for drug-dependent individuals. The provision of services continued through the Programme in fiscal 2019.



D. The HIV/AIDS Coordinating Unit of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS) focuses on the psychosocial related issues of HIV in keeping with the Ministry's overall mandate "Helping, Empowering, and Transforming Lives". The Unit is therefore tasked with designing and executing appropriate HIV/AIDS programmes for the Ministry's staff, clients and the public in general. Programmes focussing on HIV/AIDS entail behaviour modification which is necessary to ensure that the risk of contracting HIV in vulnerable groups in our society (the poor, the indigent, the marginalised, the disabled, the elderly and street dwellers) reduces significantly.

The Unit's programmes are also aimed at reducing and eradicating HIV-related stigma and discrimination. The programmes that the HIV Unit implement place heavy emphasis on facilitating the empowerment of persons living with HIV (PLHIV) which increases resilience and reduces exclusion by means of reducing stigma and discrimination. Additionally, the HIV Unit partners with the various key stakeholders (such as the National AIDS Coordinating Committee (NACC) and other Ministries) to reduce the incidence of HIV infections in Trinidad and Tobago and mitigate the negative impact of HIV and AIDS on persons infected and affected by the disease in Trinidad and Tobago.

4.2.6. Goal 6: The family will be protected and supported

The GoRTT envisions Trinidad and Tobago as a place where the family would be the bedrock of society where citizens would feel confident to raise their families in a safe, secure, nurturing and peaceful environment. The family remains the primary socialisation unit and it must be protected and supported to enable sustainable human development.

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services, through its recently approved Strategic Plan 2018–2023, has set as one of its strategic goals – *To Protect, Empower and Transform Families*. The objectives include: increasing the level of support provided to families and increasing the inclusion of vulnerable groups to restore family cohesion and functionality.

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Along with the initiatives undertaken by the Office of the Prime Minister, Gender and Child Affairs Divisions, the Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago and the Court services for family and children under the Judiciary, significant progress was made for family development within Trinidad and Tobago for fiscal 2019.

A. Family Empowerment, Protection and Support

In fiscal 2019, the MSDFS' National Family Services Division (NFS) continued to provide critical family services to persons seeking counselling and psycho-social support. Services such as counselling, referrals, advocacy, co-parenting and advisory services were delivered in addition to its radio programmes, parenting workshops and partnership efforts to ensure the improvement of family life in Trinidad and Tobago.

To facilitate an enabling environment for family development, empowerment and support, the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services has also advanced its efforts towards the finalisation of the **National Family Policy for Trinidad and Tobago**. Emerging out of the 2-Day National Family Symposium hosted in June 2018, the MSDFS utilised the contributions and recommendations from stakeholders in the finalised Symposium Report as input for the revision of the policy. Concomitantly, the Ministry is also finalising through extensive stakeholder consultations and focus groups, the **National Parenting Policy**, which was laid in Parliament, as a Green Paper. In fiscal 2019, the MSDFS in collaboration with social sector partners commenced the conduct of the focus group discussions with parents and children to gain targeted insights and qualitative feedback on issues and concerns relevant to parenting in Trinidad and Tobago. This data would be used to strengthen the policy for its transition into a White Paper.

B. Financial Assistance to the Poor and Vulnerable

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services through its Social Welfare Division provides a suite of financial support and grants to vulnerable persons in need of assistance. One of the main grants administered is the Public Assistance Grant (PAG) which caters to the needs of households living below the poverty line. Effective January 01, 2019, a total of 19, 304 recipients of the PAG benefitted from a \$150.00 increase in the monthly value of the grant as follows:

- Individuals – From \$1,150 to \$1,300.00 TTD
- Two (2) persons – From \$1,400 to \$1,550.00 TTD
- Three (3) persons – From \$1,600 to \$1,750 TTD
- For four (4) persons and more – From \$1,750 to \$1,900 TTD

C. United Nations Spotlight Initiative

In fiscal 2019, the GoRTT participated in the Spotlight Initiative, which is in line with United Nations Development System (UNDS) reforms for more effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As initiated by the European Union (EU) and the United Nations (UN) the Spotlight Initiative is a new, global, multi-year initiative focussed on eliminating all forms of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). The Initiative will respond to all forms of VAWG, with a particular focus on domestic and family violence, sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices, femicide, trafficking in human beings and sexual and economic/labour exploitation. In line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Initiative will fully integrate the principle of ‘leaving no one behind’.³⁸ It also brings focussed attention to this issue, moving it into the spotlight and placing it at the centre of efforts to achieve gender equality and women’s empowerment.

In June, 2019 the 1st Spotlight Initiative Country Programme multi-stakeholder meeting was held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, which presented the global Spotlight Initiative of the European Union (EU) and the United Nations (UN) and the draft roadmap and timelines for the Spotlight Country Programme for Trinidad and Tobago. Possible priority areas for the design of the programme and next steps were determined with Government and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) at this meeting.

Gender equality, peace, justice and family stability are some of the major developmental goals that would be targetted. Proposed areas and intervention pillars of this programme include effective implementation of comprehensive laws addressing VAWG and gender-based inequality and discrimination; effective prevention strategies at national level; and interventions

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to strengthen and support civil society, the women’s movement and other organisations, which play a vital role in advancing shared strategic objectives to promote gender equality, advocate against violence and develop innovative interventions on prevention and response.

D. Central Registry on Gender-based/ Domestic Violence

Significant advancement was made in fiscal 2019 with the Central Registry on Gender-based Domestic Violence (CRDV). The CRDV is a central repository of data on domestic violence which has been collecting data from various governmental agencies and key civil society organisations. The Central Registry will allow the GoRTT to present a more reliable and comprehensive view on the incidence of domestic violence/gender-based violence in Trinidad and Tobago. As of 2019, there are thirteen (13) agencies feeding data into the system including the National Domestic Violence Hotline (800-SAVE), the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, eight domestic violence shelters and two counselling agencies. During March, 2019 End User Training was conducted for Hotline staff and for the staff at Domestic Violence Shelters. In addition, the 2018 Central Registry Data Report was prepared and submitted for approval and publication online.

E. Mediation Services

In June 2019, the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts (MCDCA) launched the new Mediation Mobile Unit, which allows thousands of persons in rural Trinidad increased access free mediation services. The Community Mediation Services Division provides services to individuals, families and communities through social work, counselling, mediation, referrals, parenting support and other therapeutic services. Over the past thirteen (13) years, the Division served communities through its eight mediation centres across Trinidad. However, for many citizens in rural communities the services were somewhat inaccessible due to logistical and economic challenges. The new buses allow for the expansion of Mediation’s programmes, as well as outreach and increased access to rural communities across the country. The buses are the newest tools in the

³⁸ UN The Spotlight Initiative.

<https://www.un.org/en/spotlight-initiative/index.shtml>



division's kit in its quest to develop a state of harmony, and peace in our society.³⁹

F. Integration Measures for Persons with Disabilities

The GoRTT in keeping with the tenets of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) seeks to design and implement measures to promote inclusion, accessibility, integration and full participation of persons with disabilities. In fiscal 2019, towards this agenda the following initiatives were implemented:

At the policy level, under the remit of the MSDFS, the **National Policy on Persons with Disabilities** was approved by Cabinet as a white paper on May 16, 2019. Movement has been made towards establishing the Oversight Interagency Committee for implementation of the Policy and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). The Annual Report of the UNCRPD was completed and submitted to the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs.

In fiscal 2019, the MSDFS continued to provide financial assistance to persons with disabilities through the provision of the **Disability Assistance Grant** to over 23,344 persons. Sustained by the impetus to improve their quality of life, the Ministry also made adjustments to the grant eligibility. In fiscal 2019, the age eligibility for the disability grant was removed so as to allow children with disabilities under the age of 18 access to the grant effective January 2019. Payments under the Special Child Grant and the Public Assistance Grant ceased for many of the existing recipients who were able to access an increased monthly grant of \$1,500 under the Disability Grant (Minors).

There was also an increase in the Disability Grant for adults, i.e. persons 18 years and older from \$1,800 to \$2,000. The Social Welfare Division (SWD) began the process of transitioning children who are in receipt of Public Assistance (PA) or the Special Child Grant under the General Assistance Grant (GAG) to the new Disability Assistance Grant Minors (DAGM) in September

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2019. The transitioning is scheduled to culminate in November 2019 where approximately 868 children will be transitioned.

In December 2018, the **National Enrichment Centre (NEC)** for Persons with Disabilities was re-commissioned and opened as a resource centre. The intended aim of the facility is to provide rehabilitation and therapeutic services for persons with disabilities. In July 2019, a Management Committee for the Centre, with a wide cross section of agencies working in the disability sector represented in the composition, was appointed for one year. The Committee will be responsible for undertaking a number of activities such as:

- To determine policy for the interim operations of the NEC as a Resource Centre;
- To consider and grant approvals on requests for use of the NEC by stakeholders;
- To make recommendations on the provision of adequate, appropriate and affordable therapeutic services for persons with disabilities at the community level throughout the country; and
- To assist the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services with the implementation of the Community Therapeutic Services Programme for persons with disabilities.

G. Community Therapeutic Services (CTS)

This initiative is a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS) intended to complement the services to be provided at the NEC. The decision to pursue Community Therapeutic Services is in keeping with Articles 25 and 26 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with a Disability (2015) which state that:

"PWDs should be mainstreamed in institutions that already offer therapy and rehabilitation services, rather than the construction of institutions which promote segregated rehabilitation."

The Disability Affairs Unit (DAU) of the Ministry developed a CTS Survey, which was administered to 70 NGOs that provide services to persons with disabilities. In fiscal 2019, the survey data was analysed and a draft final report submitted for internal review. Findings from

39 Launch of Mediation Mobile Unit.

<http://www.news.gov.tt/content/launch-mediation-mobile-unit#.XYUcQihKiUk>

the survey will be used to inform decisions in providing additional rehabilitation and therapeutic services to the community of persons with disabilities.

H. Assessment of the Disability Sector

The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) is conducting disability assessments in Borrowing Member Countries (BMCs) with the objectives to:

1. Develop a methodological toolkit for the conduct of gender-responsive and socially-inclusive socioeconomic disability assessments in BMCs, using participatory processes;
2. Provide capacity-building training for BMCs in the use of the methodological toolkit;
3. conduct socioeconomic disability assessments in four BMCs: Grenada, Saint Lucia, Jamaica and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago; and
4. Identify strategic priority areas for programme and project interventions in support of the sustainable development of persons with disabilities.

A consultant has been selected to conduct the assessment, which is intended to assess the overall situation of persons with disabilities based on a mixed method approach that includes both qualitative and quantitative data and is based on information from a wide range of persons with disabilities, institutional government and non-government organisations and agencies, as well as available documents such as legislation, policies, programme documents and statistics. Several meetings have been conducted charting the way forward for the conduct of the study in Trinidad and Tobago, commencing November 2019. A Regional Panel Meeting was hosted on 10 May 2019 and the Inception Report for the consultancy was approved on 12 July 2019. Preparatory work for project mobilisation began early in fiscal 2019.

I. Subsidised Assistive Mobile Devices

The MSDFS through its Disability Affairs Unit (DAU) is working in tandem with the Telecommunication Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT) to provide technical support for accessible **assistive mobile devices** for the blind, visually impaired and hard of hearing. On June 23rd, 2019 there was a soft launch of this project and both entities are expected to sign a

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Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) before the close of fiscal 2019.

The DAU in support of the project facilitated the conduct a Sign Language Training course for customer service representatives of the main telecommunications service providers for a period of nine (9) weeks commencing July 30, 2019. The UWI Open Campus provided the facilitators for the training.

J. Support for the Elderly

In an effort to strengthen the social protection measures for the elderly, the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS) with effect from January 2019 increased the **Senior Citizens Pension**, where the cap moved from \$5,000 to \$6000. The increase allowed a person in receipt of both an NIS pension and a Senior Citizens' pension to receive \$3,000 a month from NIS and up to \$3,000 a month in Senior Citizens' pension. The implemented increases were as follows:

- Those within the income band not exceeding \$2,500 now receive a pension rate of \$3,500;
- Those within the income exceeding \$2,500 but not exceeding \$3,500 now receive \$2,500;
- Those within the income exceeding \$3,500 but not exceeding \$4,500 now receive \$1,500; and
- Those within the income exceeding \$4,500 but not exceeding \$5,500 will now receive \$500.

Additionally, the GoRTT also approved the introduction of an interim payment of a minimum pension of \$3,500 immediately upon the compulsory retirement of public servants. This measure will take effect pending the completion of administrative requirements for payment of the full pension.

The MSDFS in its continuing efforts to establish adequate regulations for **Homes for the Aged** collaborated with the Ministry of Health (MOH) through a Working Committee to address all matters pertinent to the proclamation of the Homes for Older Persons legislation. Initial comments on the approach to revising the Act and the Regulations were prepared and forwarded to the Office of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs (AGLA) to facilitate Proclamation of the Act. Stakeholder sessions were conducted in August 2019 to obtain further comments towards the amendment and finalisation of the Regulations and Act. In June, 2019 the Ministry also



engaged a Consultant to undertake the **Development, Review and Finalisation of Procedural Manuals for Homeowners** in accordance with the Homes for Older Persons Legislation.

The MSDFS continued to bridge the divide between both young and old generations through the Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme (GAPP). This is an intensive programme designed at empowering young persons between the ages of 18-35 to respond to the growing needs of an ageing population. In fiscal 2018/2019, the Ministry commenced action toward obtaining approval for the expansion of this programme by 200 additional care givers.

In further support of health services for the elderly, the Ministry continued the Community Care Programme (CCP) to de-institutionalise Levels 1 to 3 patients who are discharged, but resident at the Port-of-Spain and San Fernando General Hospitals, St. James Infirmary and the St. Ann's Mental Hospital and who, only require social care. The Programme currently supports 87 residents across eighteen (18) Homes for Older Persons.

In fiscal 2019, the Ministry also continued review of the National Policy on Ageing by an internal working committee. The Committee also has responsibility for drafting an Action Plan for the revision of the Policy.

K. Interventions for the Socially Displaced

An inter-disciplinary Street Dwelling Co-ordinating and Monitoring Committee, was appointed through the MSDFS in August 2018 to establish and implement a Continuum of Care for persons who are street dwellers in Trinidad and Tobago. Four core areas of focus for the Committee are treatment, rehabilitation, employment and housing. In keeping with this mandate, the Committee embarked on a number of key activities which included:

- The review of The Socially Displaced Persons Act, 2000 (No. 59 of 2000); and
- The completion of the Policy Amendment document, which was submitted to the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs.

In the area of housing, a site in Port of Spain for the establishment of an Assessment Centre and transition housing was identified. The Ministry through the US Embassy also solicited technical assistance from the

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Miami Dade Homeless Trust for the establishment of the centre. A Sub-Committee was established with key stakeholder agencies (MOH, POS City Corporation and the Social Displacement Unit (SDU), MSDFS) to develop a framework for the removal of street dwellers based on reports made by the members of the public to the SDU. Other activities to the end of fiscal 2019 included, inter alia, the completion of facelift works at the Centre for Socially Displaced Persons (CSDP) and action to enable interim assessment services at the Centre from October 2019.

L. Protection for Children

Gender and Child Affairs Division

The Gender and Child Affairs Division of the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) has the responsibility of leading the way for child development in Trinidad and Tobago. The following priority projects and programmes were undertaken within fiscal 2019:

The Draft **National Child Policy** was approved by Cabinet for wider public consultations. Six public consultations were held in Trinidad and Tobago with both children and adult stakeholders. The Policy is an overarching child wellbeing policy that includes guidelines and frameworks that focus on addressing specific evidence-based gaps in the child development architecture of the nation. Comments were also received on the Draft **National Child Protection Strategy**.

In addressing the issue of children's vulnerability in disaster situations, the OPM, in collaboration with the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) implemented the **Emergency Protocol for Natural Disasters – UNICEF Return to Happiness (RTH)**. The RTH programme is a UNICEF-led and -sponsored regional initiative that provides psychological intervention to children after a natural or human-made disaster. Among the objectives, is the reduction in the number and/or intensity of symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), as well as the increase the participants' measured sense of security/hope for the future.

Over the past fiscal year, a hybrid 2-day programme was implemented in nine primary schools, which served as shelters following major flooding in October 2018. Approximately 100 children were reached during the heavy flooding. Based on the need for more trainers,

twenty-one (21) additional persons were trained to deliver the programme in the event of another disaster.

Child abuse continues to be a grave concern that requires priority attention. Awareness is recognised as a significant preventative strategy. Accordingly, the OPM has a suite of **Child Abuse and Child Rights Awareness Initiatives** that are designed to sensitise the public on strategies to prevent and reduce child abuse, as well as increase awareness on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

In fiscal 2019, the OPM observed **National Child Abuse Prevention Month**, which acknowledges the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse. Communities were encouraged to share child abuse prevention strategies and promote prevention across the country. The OPM also conducted **Child Abuse Sensitisation Workshops**, distributed **Child Abuse Booklets**, and initiated the **Child Protection League**. The latter is an innovative, interactive and educational fair on Child Protection that highlights governmental and non-governmental agencies that provide child related services. The initiative empowers children to identify cases of abuse and to have the knowledge of what should be done in the event that they or a child they know faces abuse.

Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago

The Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago is a specialised agency with the responsibility for the care and protection of children, especially those who are at risk or have been victims of abuse or neglect. The Authority, which falls under the remit of the OPM /Child and Gender Affairs, advocates for the rights of children, and encourages and supports them to enjoy their childhood. It utilises child-friendly and progressive solutions to address children's issues, facilitate rehabilitation, for the realisation of children's full potential .

The organisation is responsible for, inter alia:

- Receiving and investigating reports of mistreatment of children;
- Removing children from their homes where they are in imminent danger;
- Making applications to the Court for the protection and placement of children received into the care of the Authority;

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- Establishing and maintaining places of safety, assessment and support centres, and reception centres
- Establishing and operating a foster care system;
- Assuming conduct of the adoption process;
- Establishing standards for community residences, foster care and nurseries;
- Monitoring children's community residences, foster care providers, and nurseries;
- Issuing and revoking licences for community residences and nurseries;
- Supporting the youth justice system
- Providing assistance to the Counter-Trafficking Unit in respect of child victims; and
- Maintaining complete records.

In fiscal 2019, the Authority achieved the following in its various functional areas as at June 2019:

Assessment

- Occupation and operationalisation of the South Regional Office and Assessment Centre
- Launch of Tobago Assessment Centre
- Intervened with assessment services in the country's first case of child returnees from a conflict zone
- Conducted multidisciplinary assessments of 104 children

Registry

Call Centre

- Maintained nearly 100% (99.7%) uptime of the 24-hour hotline telephone lines to date Total number of interactions via all mediums for the period (calls, walk-ins, emails etc) = 17,506.

Child and Family Services

- Therapy Sessions conducted - 722
- School visits- 441
- Home visits- 415
- Monitoring visits at Community Residences- 667
- Supervised Access Visits- 365
- Private therapy paid for by the Authority with external service providers- 408



- Private assessments and specialized therapy paid for by the Authority with external services providers- 114

Adoption

- 10 Adoption Orders granted
- Public sensitisation on the adoption process.

Communications

- 65 media interviews conducted on the role of the Authority, its services, information on child protection tips to caregivers of children, Foster Care and Adoption
- 107 sensitisations conducted. The sessions were held with School principals and teachers, PTAs, students, medical professionals, vacation camps, school Social Workers and Faith-Based-Organisations.

Child Justice

- Deployment of Child Justice Unit (CJU) to operate in Tobago - In May 2019, 1 Team Lead and 2 Children Services Associates were added to CJU. These staff members will operate at Children Court Tobago to support minors with CHINS matters and Children in Conflict with the Law cases.
- 283 assessments conducted for minors with matters before the Court. These assessments investigated the risk factors associated with each minor and their family and gave recommendations to the Court for the development of a Care Plan. Assessments were done for matters that were being heard at all three Children Court locations (North, South and Tobago).
- Conducted 3 outreach sessions to sensitise staff of the Children Court on the function of the Unit. These sessions have allowed for the strengthening of the partnership between the Authority and the Children Court
- Conducted monitoring and follow up engagements to 237 minors. These activities are critical for assisting families to manage the challenging behaviours of minors in their care.

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Licensing and Monitoring

One new Children's Home was approved for Licensing and has opened its doors to 10 children

- The Unit obtained approval of 6 resident's license for Community Residences.
- Thirty-six (36) complaints were investigated involving children at community residences

Placement in Foster Care

In terms of foster care services fifteen (15) new applications were received, twenty-one (21) children were placed in foster care and fifteen (15) were removed.

The Children Court

The Children Court of Trinidad and Tobago, established in early 2018, is a subdivision of the Family and Children Division of the High Court which deals with court matters of family and children. The Children Court deals with all children matters including children (under 18) who are charged with offences, those in need of supervision and child care, as well as protection matters.

The Court is committed to ensuring justice for all and key to its objective is to encourage positive behaviour change and accountability on the part of young offenders and children who appear in court for negative behaviour. The following tables (Table 4.II and Table 4.III) provide information on the number of cases, their respective locations and referrals for counselling for the period February 28 to June 30, 2019.

The cases that were referred to counselling services represent actual persons whose matters were dealt with and the child may have received a custodial or non-custodial sentence but still has the social service or probationary requirements to fulfil. The parent services also involved co-parenting.

For fiscal 2018/2019, penalties under the Children's Act were increased by 100% This measure took effect in January 2019.

Table 4.II: Matters Filed at the Children Court Disaggregated by Case Type and Location for the period February 28, 2018 - June 30, 2019.³⁵

Case Type	North	South	Tobago	Total
Children's Authority – Application	94	40	7	141
Private - Application	46	18	2	66
Child in Need of Supervision	491	201	39	731
Criminal Indictable	421	140	45	606
Criminal Summary	258	107	24	389
Total	1310	506	117	1933

Table 4.III: Number of Persons Referred for Counselling Services at the Social Services Unit for the period August 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019³⁶

Type of Service	Services Requested	Number of Referrals			
		North	South	Tobago	Total
Counselling	Applicant	6	40	31	77
	Family	79	24	5	108
	Individual	166	213	112	491
	Joint	7	120	21	148
	Parent	74	37	13	124
	Total	332	434	182	948

4.2.7. Goal 7: Trinidad and Tobago will have a modern, relevant and accessible education and training system

Quality education continues to be highly prioritised for the advancement of the social sector of Trinidad and Tobago. The GoRTT continues to establish a modern, inclusive, accessible and relevant education system. Efforts towards this goal is demonstrated through the various major accomplishments in educating the citizens of all ages, for fiscal 2019.

A. Improving the Management and Administration of the Education System

The Ministry of Education under the guidance of its strategic objectives engaged in a number of projects and activities aimed towards improving the education

system of Trinidad and Tobago. Improvement of the effectiveness of the governance and administration of the education sector was one key strategic objective of the MOE for 2018/2019. The Cabinet approval of the Education Policy Paper 2017–2022 in March 2019 was one initiative directed to the achievement of this goal. Additionally, a comprehensive review of the Education Act Chapter 39:01 to incorporate inter alia continued investment and improvement in the quality of ECCE, increased parental involvement and improved relationships between the MOE and denominational Education Boards of Management, inter alia commenced during fiscal 2019.

To ensure effective management and administration of the education system, the MOE also continued working on the institutionalisation of School Based Management (SBM) standards and school development or school

³⁵ Family and Children Division of the High Court of the Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago. Children Court Data. 2019

³⁶ Ibid 9



improvement planning as a means of empowering, reculturing and restructuring schools to facilitate student achievement and well-being. The process of school development or school development planning is expected to lead to a cycle of continuous improvement.

The SBM model aims to improve student-learning outcomes through improved leadership and management of schools, develop enhanced leadership and management competencies among School Supervisors for effective leadership and implementation of the SBM initiative in schools, and increase competency in specific areas of the leadership and management process. It will also lay the foundation to ensure that schools, overseen by SBM Teams, develop and implement School Development Plans (SDP) and annual Action Plans.

Following the submission of such plans by all primary and secondary schools, implementation commenced in fiscal 2019. Status reports on the plans are being reviewed to facilitate individualised intervention at the Education District level. In fiscal 2019, stakeholder sensitisation on the SBM model also continued.

During the July/August vacation a 10-day Leadership Training Programme will be implemented. Leadership training for secondary school principals, vice principals and school supervisors III commenced on July 15, 2019. The objectives of the Programme are to improve leadership and management competencies along with competencies in planning, organising and monitoring for continuous improvement.

The MOE's strategic goal of conducting research to inform policy development was achieved to a great extent as evident in their research projects conducted for the Student Tracking System. This system aims to assess school climate and safety, report on factors that are associated with achievement levels, and report on the magnitude of the contribution educational institutions make to students' academic progress as it incorporates a set of contextual characteristics of students or institutions. The information is intended to inform strategic initiatives and improve learning outcomes at the primary and secondary school levels.⁴⁰ During fiscal 2018/2019, the MOE was able to pilot the online survey instrument in

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20 secondary schools and analyse the data, with a view to strengthening the instrument based on the findings.

B. ICT in Education

The Ministry of Education has commenced the implementation of full-scale eTesting infrastructure and support across the Ministry of Education. This is to ensure the readiness for Caribbean Examination Council (CXC) eTesting Paper 1 and 2 for secondary school and private candidates in Trinidad and Tobago. The MOE has also initiated the increased internet speed negotiated at no cost to enable all secondary schools in Trinidad and Tobago to have higher access speeds, which will also support eTesting and the forthcoming platforms offered by the MOE.

C. Student Discipline Initiative

In fiscal 2018/2019 under the MOE, the revised National School Code of Conduct was rolled out to all Principals and Vice Principals. The National School Code of Conduct sets the context and provides the structure for the development and implementation of school-level discipline policies. In order to operationalise the National School Code of Conduct at the level of the school, the review committee revised the first draft of the Promoting Discipline School Manual, providing final critique and input. This finalised Manual focused on the steps involved in creating a School Discipline Plan. The School Discipline Action Plan, a subset of this Manual, was then rolled out to all schools. This accomplishment supported the strategic objective of the Ministry to reduce incidents of student indiscipline, to create a safe, secure and conducive learning environment in all schools and to provide all schools with a standardised discipline policy.

D. Student Academic Performance

In keeping with the MOE's strategic objectives, namely "to provide effective management and administration of the education system" and "to conduct research to inform policy development", assessments were successfully carried out on an ongoing basis at the primary level through the Secondary Entrance Assessment (SEA) and at the secondary level through the National Certificate of Secondary Education (NCSE), the Caribbean Secondary Entrance Certificate (CSEC) and the Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (CAPE). Improvements in

40 MOE. Achievement Report, Part II. 2019.

student performance were recorded nationally for all assessments conducted in 2018 in a number of areas as compared to the previous year 2017.

With reference to the SEA, 2019, of the 18, 772 students who wrote the SEA, 96.56% were placed in various institutions across the country. The majority of students, that is, 94%, were placed at Government and Government Assisted Schools while 6% were placed in Private Secondary Schools and Junior Life Centres.

During the period of May to June 2018, the NCSE 2018 examination was conducted and incorporated for the first time ICT as an examinable subject. Of the total student population who registered for the NCSE, 44% were successful at five (5) or more subjects.

CSEC examinations conducted in 2018 consisted of 33 subjects and was written by 21,520 candidates. Passing grades were obtained for 67.66% of all subject entries which represented a small improvement from 2017. The improvement in student performance as compared to that of 2017 by subject entries entail females passing 70.59% of their subject entries in 2018 as compared to 69.88% in 2017, and males passing 64.12% of their subject entries in 2018 as compared to 62.93% in 2017.

A notable improvement also was evident as 60.78% of students accounted for success in five (5) or more subjects in 2018 while 57.92% were recorded as successful in 2017 for the same number of subjects. More specifically, improvement was noted as 56.47% of students who wrote five (5) or more subjects inclusive of Mathematics and English A in 2018 were successful as compared to 52.2% in 2017, which represents an improvement of 4.27%.

With reference to CAPE 2018, 95.10% (33,509) of written CAPE subject entries achieved acceptable passes, that is, Grades I-V. This was similar to CAPE 2017 with 94.85% achieving acceptable passes. 73.86% of subject entries attained Grades I, II and III. With specific reference to CAPE, Unit I, in 2018, 95.31% of written CAPE Unit I subject entries achieved acceptable passes, that is, Grades I-V. This percentage was similar to 2017 with 95.06% achieving acceptable passes.

As it pertains to performance in CAPE Unit II, in 2018, 94.71% of written CAPE Unit II subject entries achieved acceptable passes, that is, Grades I-V. This was similar

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to 2017 with 94.44% achieving acceptable passes. Also, 72.27% (8,494) subject entries attained Grades I, II and III. Performance in CAPE Unit II continues to be excellent with twenty-six out of thirty-two subjects attaining a pass rate of 90% and above As compared to improvements seen in ten (10) subjects in 2017, improvement in eighteen (18) subjects was recorded for 2018. Additionally, ten (10) subjects had attainment rates of 100% in comparison to six subjects in 2017.

E. National Scholarship Programme Task Force

The National Scholarship Programme Task Force was appointed to: report on the extent to which the value and benefits expected from the Scholarship Programme have been realised over the period 2007 – 2017; make recommendations on the restructuring of the Scholarship Programme; review mechanisms for the funding of the Scholarship Programme; review policies and procedures, which govern the operations and administration of the Scholarships and Advanced Training Division and its partnering agencies and recommend revised policy guidelines; as well as identify, evaluate and recommend areas of inter-agency cooperation.

In keeping with its mandate, the Task Force conducted meeting over the period August 2018 to March 2019, where it undertook an extensive review of all of the scholarship programmes which are currently or have been offered in Trinidad and Tobago over the period 2007 to 2017.

During these sittings, the Task Force examined the policy prescriptions governing those scholarships, how and by whom they are administered, the benefits derived from them and the challenges and issues experienced. Discussions were held with several of the stakeholders who are currently or have previously been involved in the governance and administration of the scholarship programmes and research of the relevant literature was conducted. The Committee's report was submitted for approval in June 2019.

F. Technical Vocational and Science Education

For fiscal 2018/2019, the MOE continued to advance initiatives in the technical vocational sector and science education aimed at improving and promoting quality education for citizens. The Teach Me Initiative under NIHERST was one such project, which promoted



creativity and increased capacity in science education. The initiative is geared towards strengthening math and science capabilities at secondary and primary level, as well as changing attitudes and dispositions towards Energy access, Food Security and Climate Change. In fiscal 2018/2019, both students and teachers were trained in the use and application of innovative technologies and a Student Creativity Innovation Competition was launched.

The MOE maintained its focus on achieving its strategic goal of Effective Governance and Administration of the Education System in fiscal 2018/2019 through the formulation of a National Policy for TVET and the establishment of Management Mechanisms for TVET Development. Based on the National Training Agency's (NTA's) new strategic direction and its role as a TVET regulator, it is fundamentally involved in the development of a national TVET policy and plan consistent with the MOE's goals for education.

This project would provide a clear direction on the future of TVET. The NTA has the legal authority as a TVET regulator to facilitate a greater level of coordination and monitoring and evaluation of the TVET system. During fiscal year 2018/2019, a TVET Policy Paper was drafted and reviewed. A situational analysis of the TVET landscape of Trinidad and Tobago is being undertaken, and a draft TVET Rationalisation Report is being completed.

Additionally achievements include the establishment of the NTA as a UNESCO-UNEVOC Centre. In June 2019, the NTA was approved and accepted to serve as an UNEVOC centre. The main goals of this project is facilitation of participation in international network of TVET institutions, which would foster transnational cooperation and assist in national TVET policy development through increased access to international TVET expertise. It provides a forum to share practices and innovations in TVET and development of capacity-building among TVET training providers.

The design and establishment of new approaches to Apprenticeship and Industry-Led Competency Awards initiative was also spearheaded in fiscal 2018/2019. The objective of this project is to create the necessary linkages for the establishment of a seamless education and training system, taking into account the policies and goals of early childhood, primary and secondary

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education, as well as those that facilitate social, economic, industrial and sectoral development in order to promote lifelong learning opportunities.

The ultimate goal is to ensure that learners at all levels have alternative pathways to access education and training. Accordingly, during fiscal 2018/2019, the NTA developed and revised a Trinidad and Tobago National Apprenticeship System Project Brief as well as a Universal Certification System Project Brief to regulate the operation of workers within their specific fields and a Competency Management System Project Brief was developed for organisations.

G. Tertiary Education

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) commenced the development of a new Strategic Plan 2019–2024. This project entails the collection of institutional and sector level data, consultations with stakeholders and the development of a coherent set of strategic priorities for the following 5 years. In fiscal 2018/2019, this project progressed at the consultation level, which involved meetings with public and private sector agencies and organisations, the conduct of an environmental scan and the preparation of the situation analysis report.

H. Adult Education

The Adult Education Programme seeks to promote educational development by providing opportunity for basic or further qualifications for persons who were not fortunate to acquire this in the past. It empowers participants with the necessary knowledge, behaviours and skill-sets that are required to succeed in the areas of business and employment. It is offered to persons fifteen (15) years and over at no cost.

This programme covers many areas such as Remedial Education, Introductory Occupational Courses, Leisure-Time Programmes, Literacy Programmes as well as 28 TVET active courses, as well as CXC Mathematics and English Language at the General Proficiency Level. The programme is offered across twenty-six (26) districts in Trinidad, including, but not limited to Aranguez, Arima, Chandernagore, Clarke Rochard, Crystal Stream, Fyzabad, Longdenville, Maloney, Penal, Preysal, Santa Cruz, Tabaquite and Vance River. This programme directly contributed to the efforts made towards achieving the goal of acquiring relevant and accessible education and training system in Trinidad and Tobago.

I. Community-Based Education, Training, Sensitisation and Empowerment

Under the auspices of the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts (MCDCA), the Community Education (Short Skills) Programme (CEP) is one of the main Social Action Programme aimed at capacity-building and poverty alleviation. It focusses primarily on the promotion of educational skills enhancement opportunities for persons in local communities with the ultimate goal of creating and nurturing a culture of entrepreneurship.

The overall objective concentrates on the needs of householders, the unemployed, the under-employed, the vulnerable, the less fortunate and 'at risk' in our society, by providing the opportunity to learn a skill which can be used to improve their quality of life. Training is provided in a variety of marketable skills geared towards home-based production of goods and services and employment generation. The project includes training at both the basic and advanced levels. In fiscal 2019, the MCDCA continued to successfully implement this programme for thousands of interested participants.

J. Innovation and Creativity

In June 2018, the Final Plan for the Hosting of CARIFESTA XIV over the period August 16-25, 2019 was approved. An Inter-Ministerial Committee to plan and implement activities for the hosting of CARIFESTA XIV was established in 2018. CARIFESTA was officially launched on October 23, 2018. Various cultural and educational events comprised the hosting of CARIFESTA including:

- Community Festivals at Arima, Valencia, Couva, Guayaguayare, Princes Town and Vessigny;
- Community Development Partnership Forum; and
- 'Creative Zones' involving Mentoring by the Masters and Professional Development Workshops

Other creative fora and opportunities for expression of talent included the craft markets, the Prime Minister's Best Village Trophy Competition, Music in Schools Community Programme and Cultural Camps. Under the Export Centres Company Limited (ECCL) training and entrepreneurial development were also pursued.

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K. Quality Education in Tobago

Achievements in the education sector as a major pillar of the development were noted. Over the last fiscal, the Division of Education, Innovation and Energy (DEIE), spearheaded a number of initiatives geared towards improving the delivery of quality education from Early Childhood Care Education (ECCE) to the tertiary level.

Consultations were carried out for the construction of five (5) ECCE centres which are to be located in Courland, Plymouth, Belle Garden, Roxborough and Bon Accord. Additional focus was also placed on Special Education to aid in the delivery of quality education to students with disabilities. An increase in the appointment of staff to the School for the Deaf, Speech and Language Impaired and the Happy Haven School was successfully completed.

Human resource development and capacity building for professionals employed at the primary and secondary schools aimed at increasing the effectiveness of management and administration of schools were also pursued. School leadership and financial management training programmes were conducted for school administrators.

Curriculum planning, development and training workshops were conducted in various subject areas for primary and secondary educators. Additionally, the Professional Development Centre, which was established in 2018 provided additional training opportunities for curriculum officers, principals and teachers with the objective of improved teaching, learning and student performance.

The Learning Enrichment Centre (LEC) at Hope was established in January 2019 by the Division of Education. This Centre provides academic improvement and psychological support to students on suspension through student-centred programmes. At this facility, students are able to participate in individual and group counselling, skill building sessions, remediation and other related interventions.

In fiscal 2019, advancement in vocational education also continued as highlighted by the successful establishment of the Construction Certification Training Programme at the Roxborough Trade Centre and at the Metal Industries Company Institute of Technology (MIC-IT) at Canaan. The advancement of the establishment of the University



of Tobago (UoT) was evident in collaboration with the Division of Education and the Innovation and Energy and the Tobago College and University Consortium (TCUC). The Tobago Higher Education Council (THEC) was also established to manage the delivery of tertiary education programmes offered by various institutions in Tobago.

L. Employment and Innovation (Tobago)

The strategy to establish Tobago as an 'Intelligent Island' was central to the approach to economic stimulation. Several initiatives outlined within the Draft Medium-Term Policy and Planning Framework in alignment with the National ICT Plan set out specific strategies geared towards improving ICT in Tobago. Additionally, to promote innovation and creativity, a key initiative undertaken by Tobago Information Technology Limited (TITL) over fiscal 2019, was the introduction of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Afterschool Programme, which targetted students at both the secondary and primary levels. This programme exposed them to a number of activities in the field of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Programming and Coding, Robotics, and the application of Drones. This initiative fosters and shapes persons from an early age to become future innovators and inventors.

4.3. Theme II: Good Governance and Service Excellence

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago remains committed to serving the needs of the citizens. During fiscal 2018/2019, several initiatives were implemented that are aligned to the short term goals of executing a governance approach based on the principles of participation and inclusion; ensuring that the public service has a modern, effective and efficient public management systems; maintaining customer focussed public service delivery; and providing a modern, legal, regulatory and law enforcement systems. Some major initiatives which demonstrate focus towards the attainment of these goals are outlined below.

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4.3.1. Goal I: Our governance approach will be based on principles of participation and inclusion

The GoRTT recognises that citizens must participate in national decision making and public policy must be responsive to the needs of the population. Good governance therefore necessitates the creation of structures for inclusion and participation at all levels. The following information highlights the major activities carried out to achieve this goal in fiscal 2018/2019.

A. International Desk

The International Desk is the primary liaison between the OPM and the international community on matters relating to gender equality, child development and the national HIV and AIDS response. One of its core functions has been the facilitation of participation in internationally-based events. For fiscal 2019, the Desk facilitated participation at the following events:

- UNICEF Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action Workshop, November 05-09, 2018 in Lima, Peru;
- Strategic Planning Meeting for National Gender Machineries, November 19-20, 2018 in Bridgetown, Barbados;
- Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Policy Dialogue on Women's Economic Empowerment, November 27-28, 2018 in Montevideo, Uruguay;
- First Regional Dialogue in Latin America and the Caribbean "On the road to equality," November 27-29, 2018 in Santiago, Chile;
- Fifteenth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI, December 3-5, 2018 in Washington, D.C.;
- 63rd Session on the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63), March 10-22, 2019 in New York, NY, USA;
- World Bank Understanding Risk Caribbean Conference, May 27-June 01, 2019 in St. Michael, Barbados.

B. Citizens' Facilitation Unit

The **Citizens' Facilitation Unit** works closely with other Ministries and Government agencies to ensure that all citizens receive the care and protection necessary in meeting all basic needs required for socially-just levels of well-being. Such well-being encompasses social, economic, psychological, spiritual and medical spheres. The Unit further manages the **Citizen's Initiative Fund**, from which grants are disbursed depending on the need. Over the past two fiscal years, the Unit received 612 petitions from a total of 608 people. Of those petitions, 602 petitioners received acknowledgment letters, six hundred and three (603) matters were addressed and closed and one (1) grant was awarded from the Fund.

C. Infrastructural Development for Community Participation, Culture and the Arts

The Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts continues to promote social, cultural and creative development of the people of Trinidad and Tobago. Fundamental to the fostering of community participation, the achievement of community objectives and the celebration and promotion of culture and the arts is infrastructural development.

The construction and refurbishment of Community Centres, Civic Centres, Complexes and other facilities were of key focus in 2018/2019. Some of these facilities include the La Pastora Community Centre and San Fernando North Community Centres which were opened and commencement of construction of new centres which began at fifteen (15) locations nationwide. The establishment of a Traditional Village and Living Museum for the Santa Rosa First Peoples Community has also commenced in acknowledgement of our first peoples of Trinidad and Tobago. Refurbishment works on the Maloney Regional Complex and Carenage Regional Complex also started.

The upgrade of the facilities at the Naparima Bowl was also completed and proposed is the Naparima Bowl Refurbishment and Expansion Master Plan. The maintenance and upgrade of Queens's Hall, SAPA and NAPA in fiscal 2018/2019 have also contributed to the ongoing efforts to achieve the international goal of building sustainable cities and communities. NAPA would be further upgraded to operate as a multifunctional

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facility better equipped to accommodate and promote culture and the arts, among other activities.

D. Community Empowerment in Tobago

The promotion of community participation and empowerment in Tobago for fiscal 2018/2019 involved the implementation of several initiatives. These include:

1. The completion of a new Multipurpose Facility at Belle Garden;
2. The completion of upgrade works to several Multipurpose Facilities and Community Centres in Tobago inclusive of the Bethesda and Lowlands Multipurpose Facilities and the Castara and L'Anse Fourmi Community Centres;
3. The provision of computer literacy training at various communities throughout Tobago in collaboration with the Tobago Institute of Literacy; and
4. The provision of capacity enhancement training in a wide range of areas to persons in the community under the Vocational Skills Training Programme.

E. Sport and Youth Development

The enhancement of sport and youth facilities is among the many initiatives promoting holistic development in Trinidad and Tobago. One of the key deliverables for the social sector 2018/2019 under the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (MSYA) was the construction and completion of the **Laventille Community Swimming Pool** in Sogren Trace, Laventille. The Pool is a state-of-the-art competition venue and training facility for the development of world-class swimmers.

Upgrades to some Indoor Sporting Arenas and recreation grounds were also undertaken in keeping with the strategic objectives of providing modern, safe and well-equipped facilities, increasing engagement in sporting activities such as football, cricket, basketball, netball as well as jogging by use of jogging tracks; and encouraging citizens of all age groups and levels of physical ability to participate in healthy recreational habits, while achieving the broader social agenda of social solidarity.

The National Youth Policy articulates the country's ambitions for improving the outcomes or life chances of young persons in Trinidad and Tobago. The **revision of National Youth Policy 2012-2017** continued into fiscal 2018/2019. It is the vision as stated in this policy that



each young person has “a place, a purpose, a plan” with “a unique purpose to his or her life, based upon naturally endowed skills and competencies and those they may choose to develop over time.” The policy focusses on five goals: youth participation in development; youth services & resources; integrated youth programming; youth empowerment; and citizenship and identity.⁴¹

F. Youth Development in Tobago

The holistic development of young people remained at the forefront of developmental plans in Tobago for fiscal 2019. As such a number of programmes through the Division of Sport and Youth Affairs and other divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly were implemented. Via the 2019 Vocational skills training programme, for example, the residents of Tobago had an opportunity to be a part of a programme that enables participants to learn viable skills that can be developed into a career.

The Division of Community Development, Enterprise Development and Labour’s Vocational Skills Training Programme was launched. There were classes that facilitated unemployed persons as well as 64 evening classes. Classes took place at community facilities across the island. Training in various skillsets including masonry and tiling as well as small appliances repair, hair weaving and braiding, and seasonal cooking were also provided. The programme continues to grow as the level of active participants increases each year.

THA Chief Secretary and Secretary of the Division of Education, Innovation and Energy commissioned two new buses for the Happy Haven School and the Tobago School for the Deaf, Speech and Language Impaired in August, 2019. The event was described as a glorious one because this activity underscored, very potently the GoRTT’s commitment to those among us who are differently-abled. It has been proposed that the commissioning a brand new building for the School for the Deaf, Speech and Language Impaired is expected very soon for Tobago.

International Youth Day on August 12th 2019 was a celebration that the Division of Sport and Youth

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Affairs joined in with the world. The 2019 theme was “Transforming Education” with the objective of focussing on creating a more inclusive and equitable educational system worldwide. This event was aligned to the recognition by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) that educational transformation encompasses investment in technology, holistic learning and innovation and an environment where creativity can flourish.

International Youth Day 2019 examined how Governments, young people, youth-led and youth-focussed organisations, as well as other stakeholders are transforming education so that it becomes a powerful tool to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Division continues to spearhead initiatives and collaborate with Tobago’s youth-centric organisations to help the island’s young people achieve their potential through training, inclusive of life skills, financial literacy and entrepreneurship.⁴²

The Division of Sport and Youth Affairs, through its Department of Youth, also recognises youths’ achievements and shines the spotlight on Tobago’s young people who have made an impact on their communities and the development of the island. The year 2019 marks the Department’s 16th edition of the Tobago Youth Awards. The event recognises the accomplishments of nominees for the period September 2018 to August 2019. The Individual Awards targets persons between the ages of 12 and 29, and recognises achievement in several fields inclusive of Education, Youth Triumph, Media, and Entrepreneurship. The categories for the Group Awards include Most Effective Youth Programme/Project and Most Outstanding Youth Organisation.

G. National Crime Prevention Programme

The National Crime Prevention Programme (NCPP) was established by Cabinet in August 2016, and officially launched in July 2018. The structure of the NCPP takes into consideration an integrated multi-sectorial framework in preventing crime and criminality, as well as addressing various quality of life issues. The core principles of the NCPP includes collaboration, resource

41 Trinidad and Tobago Policy and Legislation.
<http://www.youthpolicy.org/factsheets/country/trinidad-tobago/>

42 Tobago House of Assembly
<http://www.tha.gov.tt/news>

sharing, and volunteerism, which are promoted by the Community Crime Prevention Councils (CCPC), which have thus far been established in Chaguanas, Diego Martin and Tobago.

The CCPCs embody the first level of engagement with the NCPP at which issues may be resolved utilising resources available at the Municipal level. This body is comprised of Governmental offices, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Residents, Community-Based Organisations (CBOs), Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs), Civil Society, Academia and Corporate citizens.

Some achievements of the NCPP for fiscal 2019 are:

- Conduct of
 - o training sessions for NCPP stakeholders;
 - o School Outreach Engagements on crime prevention over the period January to June 2019;
 - o public and outreach engagements in communities;
 - o a National Youth Symposium entitled “A Day of Conversations and Empowerment” on May 1, 2019, with participation from approximately eight hundred (800) students.
 - o Youth Camps under the theme: “I CAN/WE CAN” over the periods July 22 to August 23, 2019; and
- Collaboration with Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (MSYA) to host parenting workshops during June, 2019.

These engagements and outreaches provide citizens with information, knowledge, tips and strategies for effective crime prevention.

4.3.2. Goal 2: The public service will have modern, effective and efficient public management systems

The modernisation of the public institutions and management systems is critical to development and transformation. An efficient and effective government services incorporates modern technology, innovation and new approaches. In fiscal 2019, the following strides were made in enhancing the management of the public service.

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A. Local Government Reform

The Miscellaneous Provisions (Local Government Reform) Bill, 2019 entails the amendments proposed to the Municipal Corporations Act, Chapter 25:04, the Burial Grounds Act, Chapter 30:50, the Cremation Act, Chapter 30:51, the Advertisements Regulation Act, Chapter 30:53, the Recreation Grounds and Pastures Act, Chapter 41:01, the Highways Act, Chapter 48:01, the Dogs Act, Chapter 67:54 and the Property Taxes Act, Chapter 76:04. This Bill was sent to a Joint Select Committee (JSC) for reporting by September 2019.⁴³ The Bill can be described as community-driven and proposes a greater level of autonomy and accountability for the Municipal Corporations under the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government. A series of sessions were held by the Committee with Government agencies and community groups and entities to solicit feedback on the Bill.

B. Disaster Preparedness and Assistance

In response to the flooding incidents in October and November 2018, the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government (MRDLG) has strengthened its position as the coordinating entity over the Disaster Management Units resident at the fourteen (14) Corporations. The Ministry has successfully established a central **Emergency Operations Centre** at its Headquarters in Maraval in fiscal 2018/2019. This development involved physical infrastructural development, as well as capacity building and institutional strengthening. Some employees of the Ministry and the Municipal Corporations have been trained in Disaster Management ICT based programmes inclusive of Web EOC, Incident Command Systems, and Emergency Operations Centre Interface.

The MRDLG has embarked upon a national **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** programme in close collaboration with all Municipal Corporations, as well as with state and non-state agencies. Volunteers are trained in the varied rudiments of disaster management so that they would be able to effectively deal with challenges encountered in real event encounters in their communities. This exercise commenced in March 2019. More than 1000 volunteers have been formally

⁴³ House of Representatives Bill.

<http://www.ttparliament.org/legislations/b2019h13g.pdf>



trained and it is the wider vision of the Ministry to train ten percent of the national population over the next six years. The MRDLG is also in the process of installing **Flood Early Warning Systems** in several susceptible areas throughout the country. This initiative will be undertaken in collaboration with the Water Resources Agency (WASA) and the Meteorological Office. It is anticipated that this measure will provide citizens with some degree of notification of a major flooding event and enable them to evacuate well ahead of time.⁴⁴

Trinidad and Tobago is partnering with University of Hawaii applied research centre, Pacific Disaster Centre (PDC), to complete a **National Disaster Preparedness Baseline Assessment (NDPBA)**. The NDPBA aims to strengthen disaster resilience, avert catastrophic losses, and reduce human suffering associated with natural disasters in Trinidad and Tobago.

C. National Statistical System

The GoRTT, through the Ministry of Planning and Development continued to advance on establishing a robust National Statistical System (NSS). The modernisation of statistical systems is directly aligned to the National Development Strategy, the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Transformative Agenda for Official Statistics.

In enhancing the NSS in Trinidad and Tobago, the Government has commenced work demonstrating its commitment to transforming the Central Statistical Office (CSO) to an independent National Statistical Institute (NSITT) to meet the growing demands for official statistics in Trinidad and Tobago. In fiscal 2019, the CSO hosted a series of seminars with stakeholders within the National Statistical System.

During this same period, the CSO also conducted workshops on international standard industrial classification with representatives of the University of the West Indies, the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, the National Insurance Board, the Board of Inland Revenue and other Government stakeholders. The aim was to also standardise statistical reporting mechanisms to ensure that the information presented to the CSO for use met the

44 Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government. Contribution to the National Budget 2019/2020.

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rigours of the national and international standards. The utilisation of the new statistical classification system contributes to enhancing policy decisions and their relevant implementation and its adoption also ensures that the economic statistics programme remains relevant in the global economy.⁴⁵

4.3.3. Goal 3: Public service delivery will be customer-focussed

The GoRTT continued to put people first by way of creating and maintaining a client centred environment for all citizens. Customer service and satisfaction remain key in executing the delivery of public services as evident by the following major efforts for fiscal 2018/2019 stated below.

A. Improved Customer Service

Under iGovTT, the development of an online solution which allows public agencies to accept payments from citizens and businesses via debit and credit cards was initiated. The Intellectual Property Office (IPO) at the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs (MAGLA) will be the first to implement this service, upon completion of connections with banks. Other governmental agencies have also proposed to utilise such a service, for example, Registrar General's Department - Companies and Land Registry.

The **GovPay solution** was designed to allow ease and convenience for other government services to accept payments. It will also connect the Government to Payment Service Providers (PSPs) such as First Citizens Bank, Republic Bank Limited and Scotia Bank Trinidad and Tobago. This initiative has many benefits apart from improving customer service, including promoting economic competitiveness and encouraging effective participation in the global economy.⁴⁶

45 CSO continues modernisation of statistical system <http://www.news.gov.tt/content/cso-continues-modernization-statistical-system#.XYO5TChKiUk>

46 Achievements for fiscal year 2018/2019 with projections for 2019/2020. Ministry of Public Administration, 2019

In an effort to serve the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago more effectively by allowing for better communication, improved transparency and accountability and the provision of value for money services leading to increased customer satisfaction, the Ministry of Public Administration launched **ttGovChat** in July 2018. This new service was launched under the tconnect Division of iGovTT, and provides a live chat with government agencies for citizens.

Using this service, individuals can interact with customer service staff on Monday to Friday 8:00am to 6:00pm, and Saturdays 8:00am to 12:00pm and queries can also be posted to the online platforms during any time of the day. The statistics for the period October 2018 to June 2019 show that 31,098 interactions and queries (otherwise known as tickets) have been facilitated through the system. Thus far, iGovTT has achieved, on average, over 77% satisfaction ratings in chat and ticket interactions among its users.

The Ministry of Public Administration by way of the National ICT plan 2018-2022 also provided **Community-based ICT-enabled Access Centres**, which allow citizens free and quick access to training, information and e-government services in rural and developing communities of Trinidad and Tobago. Over the past six (6) years, this programme has continued to contribute to the overall objective of the MPA to transform and advance the lives of all citizens through increased efficiency in service delivery and has benefited citizens especially in locations such as Guayaguayare, Marac, Penal, Cumana, and Todds Road. Additionally, as at April 2019 the provision of Wi-Fi at public libraries commenced as part of the first component of the **TT Wi-Fi project**.

B. Public Education and Information Sensitisation (PIES)

In fiscal 2019, the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services continued to host public engagement and information sessions through their **Public Education and Information Sensitisation (PIES)** initiative. The Ministry partnered with a number of agencies to host sessions for the following stakeholder groups, among others:

- Housing Development Corporation
- Beetham Community Centre

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- Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association
- Trinidad and Tobago Association for Hearing Impaired (TTAHI) and other Deaf organisations
- Single Fathers Association of Trinidad and Tobago

These sessions provide members of the stakeholder group and public with information on the services provided by the Ministry, eligibility criteria and guidance with application and its processing. The sessions also assist the general public by ensuring they are better informed about how to access government services and so reduce customer anxiety, which has the effect of improving their customer experience.

C. Remote Registration and Reduced Transaction Costs

The MSDFS further recognises that to improve service delivery, issues related to accessibility and processing timeframes are to be addressed. In fiscal 2019, the Ministry embarked upon a number of strategic partnerships towards this end. In January 2019, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the National Insurance Board and the MSDFS. The MoU would allow for sharing of data and information on applicants and clients of the social welfare and NIB grants.

Additionally, under the MSDFS, via TTConnect Offices, remote application/registration was made possible. Members of the public have been provided with the opportunity to access social welfare and other services of the MSDFS at any of the seven (7) TTConnect Service Centres located across Trinidad and Tobago. Such services include completing the application process for grants under the Social Welfare Division, such as Senior Citizens Pension, Disability and Public Assistance Grants, Food Support, grants under the National Social Development Programme (NSDP), namely electrical and plumbing grants, as well as services for older persons under the Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme (GAPP).

This new arrangement would improve service delivery and access to social services through traditional and non-traditional service delivery channels. These channels include tconnect's online portal, mobile portal, service centres, express buses, a toll-free number 800-8826, email services, self-service kiosks and LiveChat opportunities via ttGovChat and ChatBot. Users will therefore benefit



from accessing timely and accurate information at their own convenience.

D. Direct Deposit Initiative

In fiscal 2019, the MSDFS continued to implement the Direct Deposit Initiative, which allows recipients of the Senior Citizens Pension (SCP), the Public Assistance Grant (PAG) and the Disability Assistance Grant (DAG) to receive their funds in their own personal bank accounts. A total of approximately 55 percent of persons accessing these grants receive their benefits via the direct deposit initiative. This facility improves efficiency as it addresses the issue of lost and stolen cheques, as well as increased client privacy and confidentiality.

2020

SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

CHAPTER 4: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR FOR 2019

5



Chapter 5: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR FOR 2019

Chapter 5 focusses on the budgetary allocations made by the Government towards social sector development. It highlights the performance of selected economic indicators during the 2019 fiscal year and identifies policies developed and research and evaluations undertaken for the period.

5.1. Budgeted Allocations to the Social Sector

During the first half of the fiscal year 2019, the Central Bank recorded a deficit of TT\$1.9 billion. This figure represented a significant decrease in comparison to the corresponding period in fiscal 2018, which stood at

TT\$3.1 billion. Improvements in the economy were attributed to the rise in revenue resulting from an increase in the price of natural gas and higher non-tax revenue.⁴⁷

The national expenditure for fiscal 2019 was TT\$51.78 billion. In the National Budget Statement 2019, social sector allocations focussed on the main areas: Education, Housing, Health and Health Care, Sport, Social Services and Safety and Security.

Table 5.I provides a breakdown of the allocations to each Social Sector Ministry and Social Services Divisions of the THA for fiscal 2019, which amounted to TT\$19.7 billion.

⁴⁷ Central Bank, Monetary Policy Report May 2019

Table 5.I: Budgeted Allocations for the Key Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2018/2019

Key Social Sector Ministries & THA	Development Programmes TT\$	Recurrent Expenditure TT\$	Total TT\$
Social Development and Family Services	4,420,000	4,961,000,000	4,965,420,000
Community Development, Culture and the Arts	101,150,000	334,200,000	435,350,000
Education	803,141,000	5,330,300,000	6,133,441,000
Health	481,000,000	4,740,518,900	5,221,518,900
Housing and Urban Development	184,310,000	1,375,442,000	1,559,752,000
Sport and Youth Affairs	13,800,000	280,000,000	293,800,000
Tobago House of Assembly (THA)*	100,200,000	1,025,279,100	1,125,479,100
Total			19,734,761,000
Social Services Divisions of the THA*			
Health, Wellness and Family Development		510,363,000	
Community Development, Enterprise Development and Labour		60,063,200	
Education, Innovation and Energy		372,935,700	
Sport and Youth Affairs		61,194,200	
Settlement, Urban Renewal and Public Utilities		20,723,000	
Social Infrastructure	100,200,000	1,025,279,100	1,125,479,100

Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2019

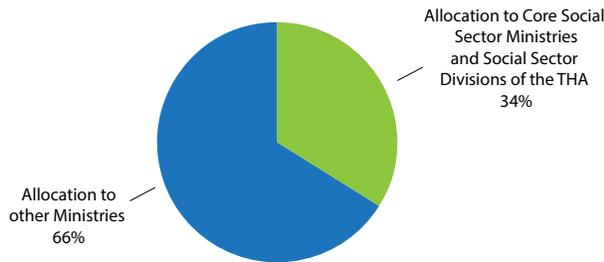


CHAPTER 5: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR FOR 2019

Figure 5.I shows that there was a thirty-four percent (34%) allocation to key Social Sector Ministries and Social Services Divisions of the THA in fiscal 2019. This is representative of an aggregate of TT\$19.7 billion from the national expenditure of TT\$51.78 billion².⁴⁸

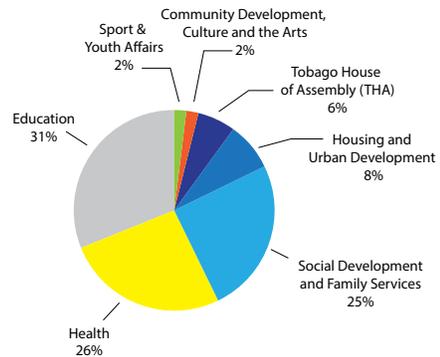
efforts to eradicate social ills such as poverty, inequality and social exclusion.

Figure 5.I: Budget Allocations for Key Social Sector Ministries and Social Sector Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2018/2019 in Relation to Total National Estimates of Expenditure



Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2019

Figure 5.II: Budget Allocations for Key Social Sector Ministries and Social Sector Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2019

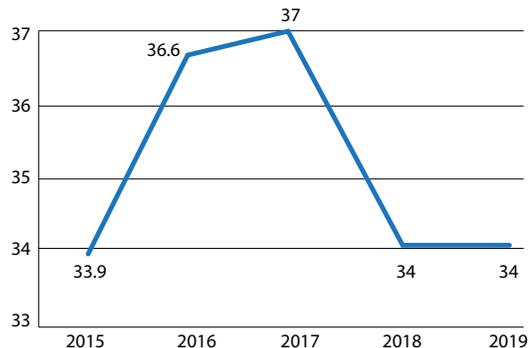


Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2019

Figure 5.II illustrates the percentage allocation to each Social Sector Ministry and Social Services Division of the Tobago House of Assembly. The Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Development & Family Services received the largest budget allocations of 31%, 26% and 25% respectively. This is a direct reflection of the Government’s continuous commitment to building human capital through its investment in education and training, public healthcare services and its

A review of Government’s investment in the Social Sector over the five (5) year period 2015–2019 shows relatively consistent levels of investment. As indicated in Figure 5.III, investment in this sector ranged between 33.9% and 37%. Financing remained constant at 34% for fiscal 2018 and 2019.

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 2015-2019



48 Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure and Development Programme for 2019

Table 5.II and Figure 5.IV display allocations to key Social Sector Ministries and Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly in relation to GDP for the period 2015–2019. Over this five-year period, Social Sector allocations have remained within the range of 12%–14% of GDP.

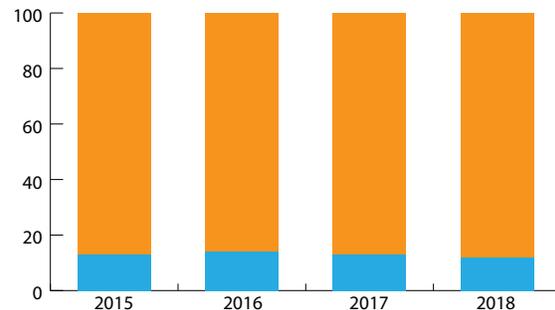
Table 5.II: Budgeted Allocations for the Key Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly and Gross Domestic Product for 2015–2018

Year	Social Sector Allocation * (TT\$ Billion)	GDP (TT\$ Billion)	Social Sector Allocation as a % of GDP
2015	21.96	170.3	13%
2016	22.95	159.9	14%
2017	19.69	156.3	13%
2018	19.88	159.2	12%

* Publications of the Social Sector Investment Programme 2015–2019

CHAPTER 5: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR FOR 2019

Figure 5.IV: Percentage Allocation to the Key Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the THA in relation to GDP (2015–2018)



In fiscal 2019, there was an overall eight percent (8%) increase in the budgeted allocation for Social Infrastructure and Social Programming. The combined budgeted allocation increased to TT\$10.95 billion from TT\$10.12 billion in 2018. Table 5.III provides details for the five-year period 2015–2019.

Table 5.III: Budgeted Allocations for Social Infrastructure and Programming for Fiscal Period 2015–2019

Year	Social Infrastructure* TT\$	Social Programming TT\$	Total TT\$
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	8,660,937,562	10,911,117,562
2018	2,008,378,000	8,117,055,000	10,125,433,000
2019	2,164,193,000	8,785,888,057	10,950,081,057

* Draft Estimates of Expenditure of Development Programme 2019



The percentage of the overall Social Sector budget allocated towards Social Infrastructure and Programming allocated to Social Sector Ministries and 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 TT\$	Budgeted Allocations for Social Infrastructure and Social Programming TT\$	Percentage of Social Infrastructure & Programming to Allocations to Social Sector Ministries and the THA %
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%
2019	19,734,761,000	10,950,081,057	54.49%

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In fiscal 2019, the total budgetary allocation to the Tobago House of Assembly amounted to TT\$2.21 billion; disaggregated, TT\$1.9 billion was allocated for Recurrent Expenditure and TT\$231.6 million was allocated for Development Programme Expenditure.⁵⁴⁹ This is representative of a 1.4% increase in the overall budgetary allocation from the, TT\$2.18 billion allotted to the Assembly in the previous fiscal.

Box 5.I: New Programmes and Projects/Initiatives Developed/Implemented in Fiscal 2019

- Urban Upgrading and Revitalisation Programme (MHUD)
- Establishment of a National Children’s Registry (OPM)
- Establishment of the National Forensic DNA Databank (MNS)

5.2. New Programmes and Projects Developed/Implemented in Fiscal 2019

The new programmes and projects developed by ministries and agencies in fiscal 2019 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 2019.

⁴⁹ 2020 Budget Statement “Advancing Our Development Agenda”, 24 June 2019

5.3. Social Policies Developed in Fiscal 2019

Policies developed during fiscal 2019 are highlighted at Box 5.II below.

Box 5.II: Policies Developed and/or Implemented in Fiscal 2019

- Draft Childhood Obesity Prevention Policy (MOH)
- Draft Mental Health Policy (MOH)
- Draft National Bioethics Policy (MOH)
- Draft National Parenting Policy (MSDFS)
- Draft Policy Guidelines for the Museum Sector in Trinidad and Tobago (MCDCA)
- Draft Non-Nationals Accessing Health Care Policy (MOH)
- Labour Migration Policy (MLSED)
- National Policy for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour (MLSED)

5.4. Research Conducted in Fiscal 2019

Research is critical, given its role to inform and support evidence-based social policy and programme planning and development. The Inter-Ministerial Research Council (I-MRC) is tasked with the coordination of the overall national social research agenda in Trinidad and Tobago. For fiscal 2019, the I-MRC met monthly and accomplished several major tasks. These achievements are listed below:

- Revision and completion of Council's Work Plan
- Compilation of Social Sector Ministries Research Studies undertaken in the past 5 years for the development of the Social Sector Research Agenda

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- Development of IMRC tab on the MSDFS's website.
- Focus Group participation in the Caribbean Centre for Health Systems Research and Development (CCHRD) institutional strengthening exercise.
- Development of draft Research Needs Assessment Form for engagement with Civil Society Organisations.
- Engagement with the Central Statistical Office regarding Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), the Household Budgetary Survey and the Survey of Living Conditions (HBS/SLC).
- Engagement with major tertiary level institutions towards strengthening internal capacity of Research units.
- Completion of first edition of IMRC Bulletin.
- Regular dissemination of Research workshops/training/conferences etc. to Social Sector Ministries.

Other key research activities conducted by social sector ministries during fiscal 2019 are highlighted at Box 5.III below:

Box 5.III: Research Conducted and/or Finalised in Fiscal 2019

- Determination and Impact of the Minimum Wage Level on the Economy (MLSED)
- National Baseline Survey on Knowledge, Attitudes, Beliefs and Practices on HIV in the Workplace (MLSED)
- Private and Public Sector Vacancy Surveys (MLSED)
- Diagnostic Assessment and Service Improvement Project – Client Satisfaction Survey & Employee Barrier Survey (MPA & MSDFS)
- Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Mapping and Priority Setting: Sectoral Innovation Mapping (SIM) of the Energy Services Sector (ESS) of Trinidad and Tobago (NIHERST)



5.5. Evaluations Conducted in Fiscal 2019

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 2019. 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 Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme (GAPP), Retiree Adolescent Partnership Programme (RAPP) and the Centre for Socially Displaced Persons (CSDP)

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services completed the data collection for the evaluations for three (3) of its programmes: the Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme (GAPP), Retiree Adolescent Partnership Programme (RAPP) and the operation of the Centre for Socially Displaced Persons (CSDP). MSDFS is in the process of analysing the data and subsequently finalising these reports, which is expected to be completed by the end of 2019.

5.5.2 The Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts

Evaluation of the Transformation and Development Centres (TDCs) and Export Centres Company Limited (ECCL)

The Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts monitored the Transformation and Development Centres (TDCs) using Quarterly Financial Reports, to ensure that monies were spent prudently, and in accordance with established restrictions articulated in

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their associated Cabinet Note. The average number of meals served were recorded to determine trends within the data. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) support was provided to Units within the MCDCA, in particular: the Peer Mediation Programme; pilot implementation of the Draft National Policy on Sustainable Community Development and the impact of CARIFESTA XIV 2019. Support was also provided to the overall policy development process within the MCDCA, namely, the National Community Development Policy.

The Ministry also conducted a Rapid Assessment for Export Centres Company Limited (ECCL). The Assessment involved: secondary research on the programmes, meetings with staff and reviewing of relevant files; designing of respective Assessments and developing of relevant instruments and sample selection; contacting participants of programmes; conducting site visits; administration of stakeholder surveys; data analysis and production of final reports.

5.5.3 The Ministry of Education Evaluation of the School Nutrition Programme (SNP)

The Ministry of Education established a National Schools Dietary Services Evaluation Committee to evaluate the current School Nutrition Programme (SNP). The evaluation of the SNP, consistent with the thrust of Vision 2030 National Development Strategy, focussed on whether the programme has been implemented as intended and if the resources provided are being utilised in the most cost effective manner.

The review of the SNP revealed well-documented systems and procedures for the provision of quality meals to students, including measures to increase local agricultural content. The Committee in reviewing the programme identified several areas to improve the efficiency and contribute to a significant reduction in cost.

The Committee compiled a list of recommendations and submitted the report to Cabinet. The Committee's report was approved in November 2018.

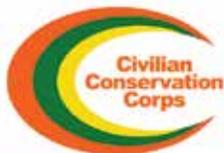
2020

SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

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REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2019

6



Chapter 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2019

This chapter examines the activities undertaken by the nation's key social sector Ministries for fiscal 2019. The review of programmes in this chapter outlines the major achievements and activities of key social programmes under the purview of sector ministries and agencies, whose primary function is to address a range of social issues, and to promote sustainable human and social development.

Table 6.1 lists the National Development Themes and Goals 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

National Development Themes and Goals	
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-focussed
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 2019, key social sector Ministries expended, in several cases, approximately between eighty percent (80%) to one hundred percent (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 2019. Appendix II also refers.



Table 6.II: Comparison of Estimates of Expenditure and Revised Estimates of Expenditure for Recurrent Social Programmes for Fiscal 2019, Key Social Sector Ministries and Key Social Services Divisions within the Tobago House of Assembly

MINISTRY	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 (TTD)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 (TTD)	% OF ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE	
			2019	2018
Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts	221,146,290	183,916,700	83	69
Ministry of Education	448,781,000	449,656,560	100	97
Ministry of Health	745,700,000	658,703,800	88	82
Ministry of Housing & Urban Development	663,542,000	661,810,500	100	100
Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs	74,366,000	64,706,100	87	77
Ministry of Social Development and Family Services	4,800,295,595	4,989,560,000	104	101
Tobago House of Assembly	80,539,000	71,699,500	89	100
TOTAL	7,034,369,885	7,080,053,160		

SOURCE: Figures supplied by the Budget Division, Ministry of Finance, September, 2019

Over the period 2014 to 2019, Government's expenditure on major social safety net programmes averaged a little over TT\$ 6 billion annually. Table 6.III outlines expenditure on these programmes over the 6-year period. The 2019 total estimated expenditure on these programmes represents approximately 80.5 % of total estimates for recurrent expenditure on social programmes for the fiscal 2019, which totalled approximately TT\$ 8.8 billion.⁵⁰

The Senior Citizens' Pension recorded the highest expenditure during the period under review, with totals ranging from TT\$2.4 billion in 2014 to TT\$3.8 billion in 2019. The Government Assistance for Tertiary Expenses (GATE) Programme recorded the second highest expenditure with figures ranging between TT\$ 434 million to TT\$ 712 million. The lowest expenditure was recorded in 2018 and the highest in 2015. The Community-based Environment and Enhancement Programme (CEPEP) recorded the third highest expenditure during the six-year period. Figures for this programme ranged between TT\$ 369 million, recorded in 2019 to TT\$ 606 million, recorded in 2015.

⁵⁰ Please see Appendix II for Total Allocations and Expenditures for Recurrent Social Programmes for Fiscal 2019

Table 6.III: Actual Expenditure for Selected Programmes for the years 2014 -2018 and Revised Estimates of Expenditure for 2019

PROGRAMME	Actual Expenditure 2014	Actual Expenditure 2015	Actual Expenditure 2016	Actual Expenditure 2017	Actual Expenditure 2018	Revised Estimates of Expenditure 2019
Community-based Environment Protection & Enhancement Programme (CEPEP)	532,557,459	606,200,000	531,587,765	450,000,000	447,997,789	369,613,280
Disability Assistance Grant (DAG)	371,682,763	379,506,550	516,847,841	523,754,942	513,471,887	566,190,000
Government Assistance for Tertiary Expenses (GATE)	635,678,144	712,000,000	650,000,000	504,940,251	434,300,000	435,000,000
National Schools Dietary Services Limited (Trinidad) (formerly School Nutrition Programme)	258,660,000	250,000,000	235,500,000	200,000,000	203,301,570	224,200,000
On the Job Training (OJT) Programme	307,025,030	308,000,000	347,820,000	228,083,000	175,895,662	243,984,726
Public Assistance Grant (PAG)	288,743,006	409,500,000	463,991,114	404,253,153	391,385,916	361,500,000
Senior Citizens' Pension (SCP)	2,434,803,838	2,861,470,500	3,688,326,325	3,506,374,482	3,553,245,345	3,853,000,000
Food Support Programme (formerly Targetted Conditional Cash Transfer Programme)	270,486,521	294,000,000	260,000,000	158,103,630	139,930,450	153,125,200
Unemployment Relief Programme (URP)	572,518,625	717,500,000	349,840,805	299,901,474	272,154,782	289,216,000
TOTAL	5,672,155,386	6,538,177,050	7,043,913,850	6,275,410,932	6,131,683,401	6,495,829,206



Review of Social Programmes

This section provides a review of the social programmes implemented in fiscal 2019. The initiatives highlighted are reflective of ongoing and new social sector programmes. These Social Sector programmes aim 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; skill development; social protection; and substance abuse. The programmes also seek to outline the ways in which they impact on sustainable human development.

Box 6.I: Ministries/Divisions highlighted in this chapter

- Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries (MALF)
- Ministry of Communications
- Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts (MCDCA)
- Division of Health, Wellness and Family Development of the Tobago House of Assembly (THA)
- Ministry of Education (MoE)
- Office of the Prime Minister (Gender and Child Affairs) (OPM- GCA)
- Ministry of Health (MoH)
- Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MoHUD)
- Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development (MLSED)
- Ministry of National Security (MNS)
- Ministry of Public Utilities (MPU)
- Ministry of Public Administration (MPA)
- Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government (MRDLG)
- Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (MSYA)
- Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS)

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES</p>	<p>AGRICULTURAL INCENTIVE PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme is geared towards supporting the agricultural sub-sectors through increased access to low-cost technology and with a renewed focus on increased food production and food security.</p>	<p>Farmers</p>	<p>During Fiscal 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considerable in-house training by extension personnel were provided to farmers. • In addition, farmers and homeowners availed themselves of the free courses offered by the Farmers Training Centre, which covered a wide range of topics. 	<p>Improved livelihoods</p>
	<p>FISHERIES INCENTIVE PROGRAMME</p> <p>Provision of Incentives to fisher folk to assist with harvesting, processing and enhancing their livelihoods</p>	<p>Fisher folk, communities</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 to September 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eight hundred and sixty-two (862) applications for VAT exemptions on engines, gear, marine accessories processed; • Thirty (30) applications for fuel rebate, nine (9) applications for aquaculture subsidies and eight (8) applications for vehicle subsidy processed; • Seventy-two (72) live fish ornamental imports processed; • One hundred and ten (110) live fish ornamental exports processed; • A consultant from the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) was procured to develop priority regulations (licensing, registration, fisheries monitoring, control, surveillance and enforcement); • A new Vessel Numbering System was developed; • A database for shrimp and ground fish biological data was developed; and • A Marine Geospatial Database was developed. 	<p>Improved livelihoods</p>



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES	<p>FORESTRY INCENTIVE PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme initiative is geared towards reversing the cycle of deforestation and land degradation and simultaneously providing economic, social and environmental benefits.</p> <p>The objectives are as follow:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promotion of sustainable land use practices. 2. Development and promotion of economically and ecologically viable forestry and agroforestry systems. 3. To protect watersheds from fires. 4. To build rural/agricultural communities by providing them with employment good nutrition and improving standard of living. 	Communities, environment, farmers, general public	<p>For the period October 2018 to September 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sixty (60) farmers were advised on good land use practices • The Forestry Division planted 1.6 hectares of land • Approximately forty (40) persons were employed from various communities 	Sustainable land use practices
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS	<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>	Older persons 60 years and over	<p>For the period: October 2018 to March 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 330 older persons residing at Homes for Older Persons were visited and trained in the use of new technology. • Thirty (30) sessions were conducted by staff. 	Older persons trained in the use of new technology
	<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.</p> <p>The major objective of the initiative is to offer services and technological access to information for the visually impaired.</p>	Visually Impaired Citizens	<p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 186 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 114 sessions, each approximately one and a half hours long. 	Social Inclusion of services to the blind and visually impaired.

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS	<p>YOUTH LITERACY PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Youth Literacy Programme was designed to impact the literacy level of young persons 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 Fiscal 2019 period, seventy-six (76) students completed and graduated the programme.</p>	
	<p>ONE BOOK ONE REHABILITATIVE COMMUNITY PROJECT (OBORC)</p> <p>The OBORC provides safe forums for the reading and positive discussion of books. The Project addresses the information 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 2018 to March 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several OBORC programmes benefiting over 300 incarcerated persons and approximately 44 persons in rehabilitation centres were held within the period as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One session at St. Jude's Home for Girls Two sessions at Women's Prison One Session at the National Library Building with attendees from Maximum Security Prison and the Port of Spain Prison 	



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS</p>	<p>CREATING, SAFEGUARDING TOOLS FOR OUR CHILDREN – HUMAN TRAFFICKING SESSIONS</p> <p>The Creating, Safeguarding Tools for Our Children – Human Trafficking Sessions are interactive dialogue sessions throughout the NALIS network. They aim to provide greater reach to diverse target audiences and are geared towards raising public awareness and empowering the citizenry to make informed decisions towards a healthier society.</p>	<p>Children, Youth, Adults</p>	<p>For Fiscal 2019, the focus of this initiative was on human trafficking and incest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 120 persons (103 children, 7 men and 7 women) attended the dialogue sessions. 	<p>Increased awareness on pertinent national issues</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. Launched in October 2017, the aim of the programme is to assist with increasing reading 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 October 2018 to March 2019, students read ‘<i>Bend Foot Bailey</i>’ by Michael Cozier.</p> <p>Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> students participated in 76 literacy-based activities. There were also 65 displays on material related to the book and author and six (6) author visits. 	<p>Increased reading and literacy levels among students</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p align="center">MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS</p>	<p>CIVIC AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES</p> <p>Civic and Community Engagement Programmes are designed with individuals and communities in mind. Each programme is intended to, among other things, increase literacy skills, promote the reading habit, open minds and develop all-round citizens.</p>	<p>Persons at all levels and age groups</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 to March 2019, the following engagement programmes were held by NALIS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carnival Workshop: A Celebration of Our Culture-117 persons participated. • Annual Spelling Bee Competition – a total of 70 students from nine (9) schools participated. • Reading for Literacy Phase IV – Fun Orientation Visits – 1,427 infant 1 and 2 students from 38 primary schools across Trinidad and Tobago participated. • Police Youth Club Registration Drive - 86 new registrants, as well as 417 interactions. • Single Fathers' Association: Boy Talk – 35 children participated in this workshop. • Storytelling at the Paediatric Emergency Department Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex (EWMSC) - a total of 158 persons (75 children and 83 of their family members) were part of this exercise. • Character Day at Sacred Heart Girls' School – over 200 children participated and also became members of the Port of Spain Children's Library. • Tele Skype Visits for those in correctional institutions – the first supervised Tele-visit Skype Session took place successfully at the Maximum Security Prison and the Arima Public Library. Incarcerated fathers were encouraged to engage in reading activities with their children over the Skype medium. One incarcerated father and his two (2) children benefited from this initiative. • Co-location of Libraries - NALIS established libraries in locations at Mt Hope/Mt Lambert and Beetham Gardens. 	<p>Increased literacy</p>



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2019

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>ARTS MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CULTURE AND THE</p>	<p>COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND SENSITIZATION PROGRAMME 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. Such programmes serve to assist individuals and groups, in particular, to make the choices that improve their lives and communities.</p> <p>COMMUNITY MEDIATION SERVICES 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>Children (17 years and under) and Youth (18 – 25 years)</p> <p>Families, Communities, Individuals</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019, 160 programmes were conducted, training 5,958 persons.</p> <p>The following sub-initiatives were undertaken as part of the programme and the following was achieved:</p>	<p>A more diversified, knowledge-intensive economy.</p> <p>Sustainable social transformation and social justice.</p>

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CULTURE AND THE ARTS	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>❖ Parental Support Groups</p> <p>Membership in the Parental Support is voluntary. Members comprise clients from 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.</p> <p>Under this initiative parents and grandparents:</p> <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; and • experience enhanced quality of family life in their communities. 	<p>Families/ Communities</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five hundred and nineteen (519) persons attended meetings. • Forty-seven (47) Parental Support Group Meetings were held. <p>The topics discussed included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dealing with Grief • Personality Types • Teen/Parent Relationship • Parenting in the Age of Technology • Sibling Rivalry • Health and Wellness • At-risk Youth and the Role of Juvenile Detention Institutions and the Court System • Positive Interactions between Parents and Teenagers • Dealing with Adult Children • Self-Care • Identifying Behavioural Issues <p>Two (2) new Parental Support Groups commenced in Couva and at the Tranquility Government Primary School during this fiscal. Consequently, there has been an 11.5% growth in Parental Support Group membership.</p> <p>Additionally, all Parental Support Groups were brought together for four (4) workshops to address critical issues which affected parenting effectiveness.</p>		



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2019

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CULTURE AND THE ARTS	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>❖ <i>Public Education and Sensitization</i></p> <p>The public awareness and education activities are designed to facilitate effective interaction with communities across the country and engage in discussions with various stakeholders to understand their peculiar needs, so that the Programme would remain relevant and realistic.</p> <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>General public</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 3,000 brochures, pamphlets and booklets on bullying, abuse, family violence, community violence, school violence, and parenting were distributed. • Workshops/ Seminars on issues related to peaceful conflict resolution, anger management, and stress management were delivered at the following institutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unemployment Relief Programme - Trinidad and Tobago Police Service -(Community Police Secretariat) - Office of the Attorney General - Esperanza Presbyterian School - Blanchisseuse Secondary School - Maraval R.C. School - Gasparillo Secondary School - Five Rivers TIA Intervention - Vishnu Boys' College - Nazarene Church Youth Group - Couva Talparo Regional Corporation • Forty-three (43) Outreach Sessions related to Peer Mediation and Parenting were conducted, benefitting approximately 3,100 participants. 		

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CULTURE AND THE ARTS</p>	<p>❖ Peer Mediation Programme</p> <p>This initiative contributes to the following social policy areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ 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 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty-seven (27) Institutional Readiness Assessment instruments were completed and can successfully support the peer mediation programme in thirteen (13) selected schools. • Five (5) residents of St. Jude's entered the Peer Mediation programme. All five (5) completed the Curriculum and were installed as Peer Mediators. • Forty (40) students completed the Curriculum at the Cunupia Government High School with thirty-three (33) students installed as Peer Mediators. • Twenty-four (24) students completed the Curriculum at the Toco Government High School. All students were installed as Peer Mediators • Fourteen (14) students were installed as Peer Mediators at the Valencia Secondary School. • Thirty-nine (39) students completed the Curriculum at the Pleasantville Secondary School and thirty-seven (37) students were installed as Peer Mediators. • Thirty-three (33) students completed the Curriculum at the Mt. Hope Secondary School and thirty (30) students were installed as Peer Mediators. • Nineteen (19) students completed the Curriculum at the Tranquillity Government Primary School with fifteen (15) of this total being installed as Peer Mediators. • Fifty-eight (58) students benefitted from re-training at the following schools: Valencia Government Secondary School (22); Pleasantville Government Secondary School (17); Sangre Grande Government Secondary School (7); and Tranquillity Government Secondary School (12). • One hundred and eighty-six (186) students entered the programme from the following schools: Brazil Secondary School and Sangre Grande Secondary School. • Sixty-one (61) persons entered and completed the Train-the-Trainer Programme to become Facilitators and Coordinators. • Peer mediation has been implemented in seven (7) Institutions 	



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CULTURE AND THE ARTS</p>	<p>❖ Mediation and Social Work Intervention Cases Programme</p> <p>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>	<p>Families, Communities, Individuals</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019 the following achievements were recorded under the Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four thousand, five hundred and twenty-seven (4,527) clients (1,958 males and 2,569 females) were served at the various Centres; • One thousand, four hundred and sixty-four (1,464) clients received counselling; • Seven hundred and ninety-one (791) Civil and Family cases were managed; (135 Civil and 656 Family cases) • Three hundred and four (304) cases were mediated. <p>Additionally, the Division worked to develop a new element of its Social Work Practice – the new Co-parenting Programme</p> <p>As at June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty-two (22) clients were served via the Mobile Mediation Unit as follows: • Six (6) Civil and Family intake matters; • One (1) client received counselling; 	
<p>❖ Mobile Mediation Unit</p> <p>This initiative provides mediation and social work services to clients in communities throughout Trinidad requesting assistance through the Mobile Mediation Unit. Clients could be self-referred or Court-referred in matters classified as civil or family in nature.</p>	<p>Families, Communities, Individuals</p>	<p>As at June 2019, twenty-nine (29) parents (20 females and 9 males) benefitted from this initiative.</p> <p>This initiative consisted of three (3) modules comprising nine (9) sessions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Session 1 – What is Co-Parenting? • Session 2 – Separations and Emotions • Session 3 – Impact of Communication Styles in Co-parenting Relationships • Session 4 – Effect of Conflict on Children • Session 5 – Visitation • Session 6 – Restoring Control in Parenting • Session 7 – Consistency and Maintenance • Session 8 – Drafting the Co-Parenting Agreement • Session 9 – Evaluation and Graduation 		
<p>This initiative commenced in June 2019.</p> <p>❖ Co-parenting Programme</p> <p>The Co-parenting project enhances the competencies of parents to work together as partners to raise their children after separation or divorce. For both parents, this means having a clear understanding of their new roles, rights, shared responsibilities, their children, themselves and their former partners.</p> <p>This initiative commenced in May 2019.</p>	<p>Parents, Children</p>			

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CULTURE AND THE ARTS	<p>COMMUNITY EDUCATION (SHORT 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 annual programme usually starts in March/April and continues for a duration of six months until August/ September. 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. 	Communities	As at June 2019, three hundred and forty-one (341) programmes were conducted in communities throughout the country; approximately, 9,536 persons benefitted.	Self-reliant and sustainable communities.
	<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>	Community-based organisations	<p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019, two hundred and thirty-four (234) programmes were implemented in 234 communities across the country. Approximately 2,589 persons benefitted from the programme.</p> <p>The significant decrease in the amount of funds released to this Programme affected the number of programmes submitted for approval and actual implementation.</p>	Improved community leadership.
	<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>	Vulnerable families and communities	<p>As at June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial and technical assistance were provided for the completion of one hundred and thirty-nine (139) projects to improve rural community infrastructure, provide relief to applicants who have suffered a natural disaster and assist deserving individuals in renovation to their homes and improvement of their living conditions. This benefitted a total number of 19,416 persons. • Financial and technical assistance were also provided for three hundred (300) projects under the ERRAG and three hundred and twenty-four (324) projects implemented under the MRRG. 	



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CULTURE AND THE ARTS</p>	<p>NATIONAL REGISTRY OF ARTISTS AND CULTURAL WORKERS</p> <p>The National Registry of Artists and Cultural Workers was established 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 initiative 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 (MCDCA). Other public and private sector stakeholders, locally, regionally and internationally also benefit from public access to the database.</p>	<p>Cultural groups and organizations, creative and artistic individuals</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fifty (50) applicants were approved for addition to the database as follows (16 females, 18 males, 5 cultural groups/organizations and 11 creative/artistic works). 	<p>Development of the Creative and Cultural Industries</p>
	<p>MENTORING BY THE MASTERS</p> <p>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 2019, ninety-two (92) persons were shortlisted to participate in the developmental workshops, which will run from the period of June to July 2019.</p>	
	<p>PRIME MINISTER'S BEST VILLAGE TROPHY COMPETITION (PMBVTC)</p> <p>The Prime Minister's Best Village Trophy Competition is designed to partner with communities; to identify, promote and implement programmes and projects, whilst preserving Traditional Folk Art through competition between communities.</p>	<p>Children, Youth and Communities</p>	<p>For fiscal 2019, the following was achieved under the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three hundred and seven (307) tutors (in the areas of dance, drumming, drama and music) gained part-time employment. • Two hundred and seventy-four (274) training classes were conducted for communities participating in folk presentations/theatre in performances in approximately one hundred and thirty-five (135) communities. • Approximately seven thousand, six hundred and eighty (7,680) persons (families and communities) were beneficiaries under the PMBVTC. 	<p>Self-reliant and sustainable communities.</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CULTURE AND THE ARTS</p>	<p>MUSIC SCHOOLS IN THE COMMUNITY</p> <p>The Music Schools in the Community Programme has the following objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Aid the development of cultural industries through creating a cadre of musicians for the future; 2. Increase Music Literacy among the steel band community; 3. Expose steel bands and artistic community organizations to other instruments; and 4. Support steel bands and artistic community organizations in capacity building for self-sustainability. 	<p>Communities</p>	<p>As at June 2019, students from five (5) communities were enrolled in the programme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fifty-eight (58) children (14 years and under); 27 males and 31 females • Seventy-six (76) youth (15-24 years); 43 males and 33 females 	<p>Self-reliant and sustainable communities.</p>
<p>DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)</p>	<p>DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)</p> <p>The Division of Health, Wellness and Family Development, seeks to be an integrated entity spearheading the THA's thrust for improved health service delivery and social development.</p>	<p>Communities</p>	<p>The following programmes were undertaken by the Division of Health, Wellness and Family Development during Fiscal 2018/2019:</p> <p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately two hundred and eighty-five (285) students benefitted from the Project Alert initiative under the (ADAPP). • Additionally, sixty-five (65) females attended the Drug Symposium held under the ADAPP programme. • During the same period, a total of eight (8) persons, (6 males and 2 females) benefitted from counselling. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p>
<p>DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)</p>	<p>❖ Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme (ADAPP)</p> <p>This programme is responsible for providing drug demand reduction in Tobago. It is mandated to deliver substance abuse prevention awareness at schools and at the community level with a focus on education and training.</p>	<p>Communities</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately two hundred and eighty-five (285) students benefitted from the Project Alert initiative under the (ADAPP). • Additionally, sixty-five (65) females attended the Drug Symposium held under the ADAPP programme. • During the same period, a total of eight (8) persons, (6 males and 2 females) benefitted from counselling. 	<p>Self-reliant and sustainable communities.</p>



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>DEVELOPMENT (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY) DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND FAMILY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Golden Apple Adolescent Partnership Programmes (GAPP) This programme, delivered under the Aging Unit is designed to meet the social needs of the elderly in Tobago, through long-term care. 	<p>Senior Citizens</p>	<p>For the period October 2019 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GAPP provided care for forty-one (41) clients and employment for thirty-four (34) caregivers and eight (8) supervisors. • During the same period, four (4) Senior Activity Centres were up and running. Where two of the centres are under private entities but receives subvention from the Division. 	<p>An Enhanced Quality of Life for Older Persons.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Community Mediation Programme) This programme serves as the facilitation and empowerment of individuals, groups and communities by resolving disputes through mediation in a non-threatening environment. 	<p>Communities</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of one hundred and nine (109) new cases were referred. • Additionally, eighty-five (85) cases were mediated and a total of fifteen (15) workshops were conducted. 	<p>Self-reliant and sustainable communities.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Children and Family Services Unit This unite was established to promote the economic and social wellbeing of families, children, individuals and communities. 	<p>Families</p>	<p>During the fiscal period, approximately one hundred and eighty-one (181) clients were assisted through the counselling and intervention services.</p>	

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)</p>	<p>❖ <i>Technical Vocation Centre for Persons with Mental Retardation (TECVOC)</i></p> <p>The Disability Affairs Unit of the Division of Health, Wellness and Family Development is dedicated to the inclusion and empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) through implementation of targeted programs and activities in collaboration with key stakeholders. The Objectives of the Unit include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promotion of the family, financial, social/welfare services and other opportunities for PWDs; 2. Engaging in disability research and needs assessments 3. Facilitating the direct provision of disability aids/equipment, programmes and activities towards mobility, full inclusion and empowerment of PWDs 4. Promotion of the right, abilities and concerns of PWDs. 	<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>During the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total number of thirty (30) students benefitted from the centre. • Eighty-five (85) clients in need of social assistance, received field visits • Provision of disability aids/equipment to thirty (30) clients and servicing and repairs were also done for fifteen (15) clients. • Eight (8) clients benefitted from the ELDAMO Bus Service. • Additionally, six (6) students can independently sign their names, All Students of the Technical Vocational Centre successfully participated in the Special Olympics Tobago Games at Shaw Park where they captured twenty-three (23) Medals: seven (7) Gold, six (6) Silver and ten (10) Bronze. They also participated in the 2019 Edition of the National Special Olympics Games Trinidad, with a total of nine (9) Medals: 3 Gold, 2 Silver and 4 Bronze. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable.</p>
	<p>❖ <i>Tobago Rehabilitation Programme (TREC)</i> - <i>Narcotics Anonymous</i></p> <p>The Unit intends to provide substance misusers with the knowledge and skills to rebuild their lives and to successfully reintegrate into mainstream society as productive citizens, using a structured client centred program within a supported environment.</p>	<p>Substance Abusers and their Families</p>	<p>For the 2019 fiscal period:</p> <p>Under the Narcotics Anonymous initiative, three (3) out of the five (5) clients have successfully left the programme, went back to their jobs and have reintegrated back into society.</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable.</p>



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2019

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)</p>	<p>❖ Domestic Violence Project – The Women’s Economic and Technological Empowerment Centre (WE-TEC)</p> <p>The Women’s Economic and Technological Empowerment Centre (WE-TEC) is a Domestic Violence Shelter operated by the Gender Affairs Unit of the Division of Health, Wellness and Family Development. The project aims to empower women and families through sensitisation and access to shelter and safety. The Programme’s objectives are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide shelter to women and their children who experience domestic violence in their homes; 2. Establish a crisis Intervention Hotline; and to 3. Sensitise the public about Domestic Violence and related issues. 	<p>Victims of Violence</p>	<p>For the 2019 fiscal period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty-five (25) students between the ages 14-16, benefitted from the Social Intervention Programme, with 15 completing the programme. • Under the MIC, YTEPP and CCC Programme, a total of two hundred and ten (210) students received support from the Children and Family Unit. • Approximately one hundred and thirty (130) women attended the Domestic Violence and Women Empowerment Programme. • One hundred and five (105) men benefitted from Interventions under the Community Programme. • Two hundred and fifty (250) young men attended the Men Empowerment Programme and as well as 300 men attending conferences held. • The Gender Department served one hundred and forty-five (145 in-house clients). 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable.</p>

DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT (TORAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
	<p>❖ Programme For Adolescent Mothers (PAM)</p> <p>The Programme for Adolescent Mothers is a developmental and Educational programme which provides the necessary support systems for adolescent mothers and their babies. The programme assists adolescent mothers who are school dropouts acquire the skills of mothering, while continuing their education. It also seeks to equip them with technical skills as a means of employment. The programme is intended to decrease the number of repeated pregnancies among young women and break the cycle of inter-generational poverty which may emerge among the target group due to early pregnancy.</p> <p>The programme components include training in Life Management, Moral/Spiritual Education, Parenting Education, Childcare, Mathematics, English Language and Social Studies. Technical skills include: Cosmetology, Food and Nutrition, Computer Literacy and Sewing. The Programme also provides counselling, day care services and training in pre post-natal childcare.</p>	<p>Adolescent Mothers</p>	<p>During the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately thirty-five (35) adolescent mothers were registered under the Programme and benefitted from lectures/classes in Parenting Education, Cosmetology, Family Planning and Sewing. • Ten (10) students are now gainfully employed • Six (6) students returned to school to complete their secondary education. 	



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2019

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)</p>	<p>❖ Realisation and Economic Achievement Project (REACH)</p> <p>The objectives of this programme are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote self-empowerment, entrepreneurship and self-sufficiency. 2. Equip the vulnerable and disadvantaged with marketable skills. 3. Reduce unemployment, under employment and dependency in communities 4. Encourage the establishment of micro-business 		<p>For the 2019 fiscal period:</p> <p>The Programme distributed a total of 31 grants amounting to a total of Two Hundred and Thirty-Two Thousand Five Hundred dollars (\$232,500).</p>	
	<p>❖ Community Social Services Unit</p> <p>This Unit is charged with the responsibility to enhance the quality of life for clients through increased access to an effective social services delivery system. The Unit also endeavours to provide a supportive environment for clients to effectively resolve individual, group and family problems, as well as, facilitate the empowerment of its clients for sustained self-sufficiency.</p>	<p>Vulnerable families and communities</p>	<p>For the 2019 fiscal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ninety-one (91) persons received counselling. • Six (6) persons were provided with clothing and food. • Thirty-four (34) persons benefitted from the medical assistance services. • Additionally, twelve (12) persons received building materials and forty-eight (48) persons received rental assistance. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable.</p>

DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>❖ Litter Eradication Programme (LEP)</p> <p>The programme was designed as a social mechanism aimed at enhancing the self-sustainability of persons (mostly women) who are at risk. This programme prides itself on being the premier provider of eradicating all litter in order to execute the Tobago House of Assembly's, vision of a Clean, Green, Safe and Serene Tobago. The programme works in unison with the Public Health Department by assisting in the cleaning in and around communal bins on a daily basis, and with the Division of Infrastructure, Quarries and the Environment by assisting the 'cutting team' by eradicating visible litters, such as plastic and glass bottles, tins, boxes etc.</p>			<p>For the fiscal period April – July 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LEP engaged in a recycling initiative (separation of plastic bottles) from April, 2019. These plastic bottles were collected in either green environ bags or plastic recycling bags. • Two Thousand, Six Hundred and Thirteen (2,613) plastic recycling bags and eight thousand, seven hundred and ninety-three (8,793) green environ bags were collected. 	<p>A Clean, Green, Safe and Serene Tobago</p>



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p align="center">MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</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 benefiting 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"> i. where the household income is \$10,000 per month or less, students will be eligible for 100% funding; ii. 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; iii. 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"> i. persons who qualify and their household income is \$30,000 per month or more, will receive 25% of tuition fees; ii. 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 2019 period, the following was recorded under the GATE Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 2018 – December 2018: Eight thousand, two hundred and fifty-three (8,253) students benefitted; • January 2019 – March 2019: Nine thousand, four hundred and thirty-three (9,433) students benefitted; • April 2019 – June 2019: Four thousand and thirty-four students benefitted • Six (6) new programmes from the University of the West Indies (UWI) – Open Campus, UWI St. Augustine and the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) were approved for funding under GATE in alignment with the national development needs of Trinidad and Tobago. <p>Additionally,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Funding and Grants Administration Division collected over 2.6 million dollars in refunds due to non-compliance of students. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	<p>HELPING YOU PREPARE FOR EMPLOYMENT (HYPE)</p> <p>HYPE Training is a nine (9) month programme with 80% practical and 20% theory. It's based on a "learn to work" model and mainly conducted with the training institution. Trainees are also given the opportunity to visit job sites on field trips to gain hands-on experience.</p>	<p>Unemployed Nationals between the ages of 16 and 25 years</p>	<p>For the fiscal period 2018/2019 the following was achieved:</p> <p>October 2018 – December 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six hundred and sixty-five (665) trainees enrolled in the HYPE programme and aligned to mentors in job positions. • New Programme Initiatives were introduced as follows: Small Appliance Repairs, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration and Small Engine Repairs, Bridging the Gap Programme and Full-time Music Programme. <p>January 2019 – June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six hundred and twenty-three (623) trainees were enrolled in the HYPE programme and aligned mentors in job positions. • New Programmes introduced :Community Skills Training Programme. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens</p>
	<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>Qualifying students of undergraduate and postgraduate level programmes at tertiary level institutions</p>	<p>For the 2018/2019 fiscal period, the following was recorded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 2018 – December 2018: Two hundred and sixty-six (266) loans were approved for students. • January 2019 – March 2019: One hundred and sixteen (116) loans were approved for students. • April 2019 – June 2019: Sixty loans were approved for students. 	<p>Students of undergraduate and postgraduate level programmes</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p align="center">MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</p>	<p>NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED: (SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMME) 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 utilizing local produce wherever possible in the meal plan. 	<p>Primary and Secondary School Students</p>	<p>For the fiscal period 2018/2019 the following was achieved:</p> <p>October 2018 – December 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 2.3 million breakfast meals and 3.4 million lunches were served to students. • Nutrition education sessions, with a focus on the basics of healthy eating and the promotion of local foods, were conducted during this period for two thousand, seven hundred and ninety-eight (2,798) participants. <p>January 2019 – March 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.8 million breakfast meals and 4.1 million lunches were served. • Two hundred and twenty-four (224) nutrition education sessions, with a focus on the basics of healthy eating and the promotion of local foods, were conducted during this period for eight thousand, seven hundred and fifty-seven (8,757) participants. <p>April 2019 – June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.8 million breakfast meals and 2.6 million lunches were served. This amounted to 4.4 million safe and nutritious meals being prepared for the period. • One hundred and forty-one (141) nutrition education sessions, with a focus on the basics of healthy eating and the promotion of local foods, were conducted during this period for five thousand, three hundred and sixty-eight (5,368) participants. <p>Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality Assurance Officers and Zonal Managers conducted routine visits to contract kitchens to assist them with the execution of menus or recipe standardisation. • Independent random microbial testing of food items, to ensure that the standards of food quality were consistent and in keeping with requirements, were continued. About 40 samples were tested for the period October 2018- December 2018, 59 samples for the period January 2019 - March 2019 and 40 samples for the period April 2019 - June 2019. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED: (SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMME (Continued))	Primary and Secondary School Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research into the barriers, enablers, costs and nutritional quality of lunches consumed by children attending primary schools in Trinidad was conducted. • Recipe testing and development and retooling of menu items to be served on the School Nutrition Programme (SNP) continued. • Institutional strengthening was conducted in areas such as food safety and quantity food production. 	
	MAXI TAXI SCHOOL TRANSPORT CONCESSIONAIRE SERVICE	Children within Primary and Secondary Schools	For the fiscal period 2018/2019: Approximately ten thousand, three hundred and forty-three (10,343) students benefited from accessing the service.	
	MULTI-SECTOR SKILLS TRAINING (MuST) The MuST Programme is a “Work to Learn” programme designed for unemployed nationals of Trinidad and Tobago between the ages 17 to 50 years. The programme seeks to develop self-awareness and self confidence in socially displaced citizens.	Unemployed Nationals between the ages 17 and 50 years	For the fiscal 2019 period the following was achieved under the MuST: October 2018 – December 2018: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three hundred and eighty-six (386) trainees were enrolled in the MuST Programme and aligned with on-site mentors. • New Programme – Crop Production commenced on October 17, 2018 in Canaan, Tobago. • Success in guidance and counselling of at-risk trainees. January 2019 – March 2019: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three hundred and fifty-four (354) trainees were enrolled in the MuST Programme. April 2019 – June 2019: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One hundred and sixty-two (162) trainees were enrolled on April 5, 2019. • One hundred and fifty-four (154) trainees completed Cycle 169 on February 22, 2019. • One hundred and fifty-eight (158) trainees completed Construction and Crop Production in May and June 2019. • One hundred and sixty-two (162) trainees held job positions. 	



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	<p>NATIONAL ENERGY SKILLS CENTRE (NESC)</p> <p>The NESC provides advanced Technical Vocational training that provides industry-relevant skills training across Trinidad and Tobago. The programme also seeks to develop, plan and execute skills training programmes leading to sustainable employment.</p>	<p>Unemployed persons between the ages 16 and 60 years.</p>	<p>For the fiscal 2019 period the following achieved:</p> <p>October 2018 – June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four hundred and twenty-seven (427) male and thirty-seven (37) female trainees were enrolled in Full-time Programmes. The Ministry of Education in Guyana partnered with the NESC to offer training for ten (10) of Guyana’s Technical and Vocational instructors in the Heavy Equipment Maintenance and Repairs Diploma Programme. In October 2018, NESC partnered with NP Ultra Lubricants to offer the Fundamentals of Hybrid Technology Programme at the Point Lisas, Ste. Madeleine, Debe and Woodford Lodge Campuses. <p>January 2019 – March 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thirteen (13) students received training in Structural Welding which was offered in partnership with NESC and the Samuel Jackson Prescod Institute of Technology in Barbados. Eighty (80) employees from Damus Limited participated in the competency assessment for Pipe Fitting and Fabrication that was offered in partnership with the NESC, the Energy Chamber of Trinidad and Tobago and Methanex Trinidad Limited. <p>April 2019 - June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NESC partnered with NGC CNG and ANSA to conduct a CNG Installation and Maintenance Apprenticeship Programme at the Point Lisas Campus. 	<p>A cadre of quality graduates in Technical, Vocational Programmes.</p>
	<p>TEXTBOOK RENTAL LOAN PROGRAMME</p> <p>To provide primary, secondary and special education schools (Government, Government Assisted and Private) with the required quantities and titles of textbooks and learning materials to ensure that all students are provided with the means to access quality education.</p>	<p>All Primary and Secondary School Students</p>	<p>During the 2018/2019 fiscal period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The stock of books provided prior to 2017/18 continued to be in use at Primary, Secondary and Special Education schools. 	

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	<p>NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION, RESEARCH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (NIHERST)</p> <p>❖ <i>Teach Me</i></p> <p>The Teach Me initiative aims at improving the level of creativity in Trinidad and Tobago by building and strengthening capacities in Science Education. The project's ultimate aim is to strengthen students' math and science capabilities at the primary and secondary school levels as well as to change students' attitudes and dispositions towards science (including Energy Access, Food Security and Climate Change)</p>	<p>All Primary and Secondary School Students</p>	<p>For the 2019 fiscal year :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fifteen (15) schools successfully completed training in technology for both teachers and students (33 teachers and 228 Science Club students were trained) in total. • One hundred and seventy (170) primary school students, and fifty-eight (58) secondary school students were trained in the use of the 3Doodler pen (a 3D graphic pen) and QuirkBot (a simple, creative tool for the whole STEM field) coding kit respectively; • Twenty-four (24) primary school teachers, and nine (9) secondary school teachers, were trained in the use and application of the technology; and • The Student Creativity Innovation Competition was launched for Eleven (11) Primary and Four (4) Secondary schools. 	
	<p>❖ <i>iSTEM Club</i></p> <p>The iSTEM Club project provides academic support to students in problematic science topics that are encountered in the classroom while engaging members in 21st century learning. Its aim is to foster a positive attitude in students towards STEM. The Club provides the environment to cultivate students' curiosity and creativity while teaching them to base their reasoning on evidence, and solve problems via interactive and hands-on inquiry and problem-based learning.</p>	<p>Students between the ages of 6-13 years</p>	<p>During the 2019 fiscal period the following activities were completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Term 1 Theme: "Patent Pending" (seventy-five (75) members participated); • Term 2 Theme: "Water-Food-Energy Nexus" (sixty-three (63) members participated); and • Term 3 Theme: "Forensics – Crime Scene Investigation" (fifty-six (56) members participated). 	



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>YOUTH TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (YTEPP)</p> <p>❖ <i>Youth Training Programme</i></p> <p>This programme aims to provide technical and vocational skills training to prepare graduates for employment opportunities and articulation to higher levels of training. The Programme targets a broad category of at risk, unskilled and unemployed youth, as well as under-served communities, by offering a suite of courses that are relevant, demand-driven and incorporate Life Skills and Entrepreneurial Training interventions.</p> <p>The benefits of this programme includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of young and at risk youth that are skilled and certified in occupational areas that are in demand; • Sector support by the establishment of a competent workforce leading to the satisfaction of the demand for skilled labour; and • Increase in the number young entrepreneurs. Participation in this programme would lead to improvement in occupational competence, work habits and attitudes of young persons to enhance their employability. 	<p>Young persons between the ages of 15 and 35 years particularly “at risk” youth</p>	<p>For the fiscal year 2018/2019 the following was achieved:</p> <p>October to December 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five hundred and ninety (590) persons were enrolled in the Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) 41 and the National Examination Council (NEC) 46 of the Youth Training Programme. • Six hundred and seventy-six (676) trainees enrolled in the Youth Training Programme. • Eighty-six (86) trainees were enrolled in the Certified Welders and Fabricators Project (CWFP). <p>January 2019 – June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two thousand, two-hundred and sixty-six (2,266) trainees were enrolled in the Youth Training programme. • Five hundred and ninety (590) trainees were enrolled in the Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) 41 and the National Examination Council (NEC) 46 of the Youth Training Programme. • One hundred and three (103) trainees were enrolled in the Certified Welders and Fabricators Project (CWFP). • One thousand, five hundred and seventy-three (1,573) were enrolled in CVQ and NEC 46 of the Youth Training Programme. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens.</p>	

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	<p>❖ Retraining Programme</p> <p>This programme aims to provide vocational skills training and certification at Levels 1, 2 and 3, in occupational areas that would enhance opportunities to access viable and lucrative employment and self-employment options. The programme also equips persons with the requisite employability skills required to maintain employment and progress in the workplace.</p> <p>The benefits of this programme include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of displaced persons skilled and certified in occupational areas that are in demand, enabling them to re-enter the workforce; • Sector support by the establishment of a competent workforce leading to the satisfaction of the demand for skilled labour; and • Increase in the number of new businesses established. This programme will result in a skilled and certified workforce trained in 26 skill areas and able to access sustainable employment and self-employment opportunities and articulation to higher levels of training. <p>It will also engender improvement in work habits and attitudes of displaced persons to enhance their ability to manage in a dynamic work environment.</p>	<p>Retrenched/ displaced, unemployed and underemployed persons up to 60 years of age</p>	<p>During fiscal 2018/2019 the following was achieved:</p> <p>October 2018 – December 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two hundred and thirty-five (235) trainees were enrolled for Cycle 32 of the Retraining Programme. <p>January 2019 – June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three hundred and three (303) trainees were enrolled during the period in the Programme. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens.</p>



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>❖ Rehabilitating Inmates through Training and Retraining (RITTR)</p> <p>The Rehabilitating Inmates through Training and Retraining (RITTR) is an intervention geared towards providing training to convicted inmates with the intent of reducing reoffending and recidivism and targets inmates in all of the prison institutions who have 6 to 18 months of their sentence remaining. Trainees in the 3 prison institutions are exposed to training in 3 areas, namely, Technical and Vocational Skills Training, Life Skills, and Information Technology at Levels 1 and 2.</p> <p>This project seeks to ensure that participants are trained and certified, can successfully reintegrate into society upon release from prison and are thus less likely to reoffend. The social benefit of this programme is a reduction in the rate of re-offense and recidivism amongst beneficiaries through an increase in the number of graduates in sustainable employment (wage or self) after release from prison.</p>	<p>Prison inmates who have 6-18 months of sentencing remaining</p>	<p>For the 2019 fiscal period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ninety (90) inmates, inclusive of three (3) females, were enrolled in the programme; 	<p>Improved Reintegration into society</p>	
<p>❖ BpTTYTEPP Cosmetology on Wheels</p> <p>This project is conducted on YTEPP Limited's Cosmetology Mobile Unit encourages persons to start their own businesses. The benefits of this programme include new or enhanced micro-business ventures operated by young persons in the personal services sector and an increase in the number of persons in under-served communities trained and certified in the Barbering and Braiding and Weaving.</p> <p>It is expected that increased employment resulting in improved socio-economic circumstances among beneficiaries will be realised, which may in turn promote growth in the personal services sector.</p>	<p>Persons in “at-risk” or underserved communities</p>	<p>For the 2019 fiscal period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between YTEPP and BPTT was developed (Proposal, budget and implementation plan were prepared). The MOU sponsorship agreement was signed with BPTT for \$465M, and the first tranche of \$176, 273 was received; and • Training in the two skills (Barbering and Braiding /Weaving) was completed at Pt. Cumana and Carenage. Forty (40) students were enrolled at two locations in Carenage and Pt. Cumana. Thirty one (31) of the forty (40) enrolled completed the programme, at a 78% completion rate. • Graduates were awarded CVQ Unit awards based on competencies displayed. 		

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	<p>❖ Reducing Food Insecurity One Community at a Time - Hydroponics Project This project provides training in Hydroponics in Bayshore, Marabella. It is supplemented by the teaching of Life Skills and Entrepreneurship Training to develop a self-sustaining model of a community-based hydroponics system. It is expected that this project would result in the cultivation of produce that can feed the community</p>	Communities	<p>During the 2019 fiscal year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills training in Hydroponics commenced for fifteen (15) participants. • Attendance was maintained at over 75%. 	
	<p>❖ Community –Based and Special Project/Initiatives</p>		<p>During fiscal 2018/2019 the following was achieved</p> <p>October 2018 – December 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two hundred and forty-seven (247) trainees commenced ICT training. • Twenty eight (28) trainees completed ICT training. • Forty (40) trainees enrolled in programmes located in Carenage and Point Cumana <p>January 2019 – June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One hundred and thirty (130) persons were enrolled in ICT training. • Sixty (60) persons continued training in ICT. • Forty (40) persons continued training in Carenage and Point Cumana. • Thirty one (31) trainees from Point Cumana and Carenage received certification. • Fifteen (15) persons were enrolled in Centres located in Port-of-Spain. • Three hundred and seventy-eight (378) trainees were enrolled in ICT training. • Three hundred and forty-two (342) trainees completed training in ICT. • Thirty-five (35) persons were enrolled for training at the Centres located in Fyzabad and Arima. • Twenty-seven (27) trainees were enrolled for training at Centres located in Tobago and San Fernando. 	



	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 organizations 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; and 3. To create awareness of existing cultural/social gender norms which prevent women's empowerment. 	Males aged 14 years and older	<p>For the period April to June 2019:</p> <p>A total of seven hundred and forty-five (745) men and boys participated in four (4) sessions conducted in Secondary Schools and four (4) Barbershop Initiative workshops.</p> <p>A structured pre-test and post-test questionnaire was issued to participants at the workshops in schools that tested knowledge change in 4 thematic areas (act like a man, violence, coping with emotions, and men and boys as role models), along with a facilitator feedback form. A total of 166 questionnaires were distributed, but only 97 were utilisable.</p> <p>Specific Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75% of the secondary school sessions surpassed their attendance targets. • 100% of workshop sessions surpassed their attendance targets. • Participant knowledge of the correct group of agencies that provide support for men and boys increased by 36% after the intervention. • 62% of participants plan to use what they learnt from the workshop in their everyday lives. <p>Of the four (4) secondary school sessions conducted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two of the schools showed knowledge increase in two of the thematic areas covered and decrease in two. • One secondary school showed increase in knowledge in three (3) thematic areas and decrease in one. • The last secondary school showed variable increases and decreases in knowledge for all themes. 	<p>Facilitation of male-to-male discussions about behaviours, attitudes and gender relations</p> <p>Increased awareness of gender inequality and negative gender stereotypes</p> <p>Greater awareness and understanding of existing cultural/social gender norms which prevent women's empowerment</p> <p>Knowledge or organisations which provide support and other services for men and boys</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)	<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 (CRs). 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. The aim of the practicum is to expose students to the situations in Community Residences and provide opportunities for the application of information and skills learnt. This will serve to assist staff of the homes to improve developmental outcomes for children in their care.</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>Children in Community Residences</p> <p>Victims of Domestic Violence</p>	<p>For Fiscal 2019:</p> <p>Two Cohorts were held: Cohort 3 commenced 17th May 2019 and Cohort 4 commenced 1st July 2019.</p> <p>Cohort 3 23 caregivers have been trained Cohort 4 23 caregivers have been trained</p> <p>All classes, practicum and examinations have been completed. Administrative processes to determine the graduates are currently underway. The graduation date is tentatively scheduled for 1st November 2019.</p> <p>Since recruitment occurs after graduation, the number and percentage of graduates employed in the Community Residences is yet to be determined.</p> <p>During Fiscal 2019, a total of seven hundred and forty-nine (749) client reports were captured.</p>	<p>Holistic development of children in Community Residences</p> <p>Reduction in the levels of Domestic Violence</p>



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)	<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. 	Children and members of the public	<p>For the period October 2018 to March 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sixteen (16) schools from Trinidad, two (2) community residences and four (4) schools from Tobago attended the Child Rights Workshop and Creative Tutorial. • In total, forty-five (45) children attended the Child Rights Workshop and Creative Tutorial and became certified as Child Rights Ambassadors for one year ending November 21, 2019. Although having slightly less participants than the previous cycle (47 ambassadors); this year a total of twenty (20) schools participated, (4 from Tobago) in comparison to eighteen (18) schools last year, (3 of which were from Tobago. • Four (4) schools with children with disabilities participated, permitting this cohort of children to access and teach their peers. • The Child Ambassadors from each participating school were asked to teach children their rights using creative arts and take a video and/or pictures of their presentation. Each school was asked to indicate the number of students that were reached through the presentation. Most schools presented to their entire school population during assembly and many of the schools went to neighbouring schools and communities to bring awareness of children's rights and responsibilities. An approximate total of seven thousand five hundred (7,500) children and adults were taught children's rights and responsibilities using creative arts. • Child Ambassadors were also invited to participate in events throughout the year. Ambassadors were selected to be Child and Adolescent Correspondents for the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN); and their input was sought in developing the IIN Strategic Plan. 	Increased awareness and education on children's rights and responsibilities

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)	<p>NATIONAL 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; 4. Facilitate the collection of data, which can be analysed for informing the development of policies, programmes and projects to deal with issues. 	All victims of domestic violence	<p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately two hundred and nineteen (219) persons reported domestic violence incidents as follows: (1 child, 25 young persons, 163 women, 3 men and 27 older persons.) Additionally, four hundred and eighty-nine (489) persons requested information. Seven hundred and forty-three (743) client calls were followed up during the period; 	Reduction in acts of Domestic Violence
	<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. Objectives of the initiative are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhance the quality of care provided to children at Community Residences 2. Aid in the attainment of licenced status of CRs. 	Children up to 18 years living in Community Residences	<p>As at March 2019, an assessment report was completed and four hundred and eighty-nine (489) children benefitted from this initiative.</p>	<p>Enhanced quality of care provided to children in Community Residences.</p> <p>Progress towards the attainment of licenced CR status.</p>



OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<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 (20) Ministries and twenty-five (25) State Agencies to serve as gender advocates within their Ministries, Departments and Organisations/State Agencies. This programme commenced in 2018.</p>	<p>State Agencies/ Ministries/ Organisations</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fifty-one (51) persons in gender focal points in Ministries were trained in gender mainstreaming in their respective sector • Fifteen (15) persons in State Agencies received training at capacity building workshops on gender advocacy and the promotion of gender equality and equity. • Thirty-nine (39) Gender Focal Points in State Agencies were trained in Gender Response Budgeting (GRB). Two (2) one-day workshops from June 12-13, 2019 were hosted in collaboration with the High Commission of Canada. • Gender Sensitivity sessions were held in 45 Secondary Schools. Students were sensitised on gender issues in different types of music. • Thirty (30) members of staff at NIPDEC benefitted from Public Education/ Sensitisation on Gender-Based violence for external agencies. A presentation on “Living a Life Free of Gender Based Violence: Building Self Esteem” was delivered. 	<p>Increased understanding of the critical importance of the use of GRB tools in mainstreaming gender in public policy and public management</p>	
<p>INTERNATIONAL COMMEMORATIONS</p> <p>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>	<p>General public</p>	<p>During the period October 2018 to June 2019, the following observances were commemorated:</p>	<p>Promotion of gender equity and equality in Trinidad and Tobago. Increased gender awareness amongst population of Trinidad and Tobago.</p>	

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>❖ 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 8th.</p>	<p>Women, girls</p>	<p>Several activities were held to commemorate International Women's Day (IWD) as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IWD Youth Seminars: Youth Seminars on "Building Healthy Relationships" were conducted by the Gender Affairs Division in collaboration with Families in Action (FIA) at the following Secondary Schools: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Five Rivers Government Secondary School - Eighty (80) students from Form 1-3 participated. 2. Malabar Government Secondary School - Thirty (30) Form 3 students participated. • A Workshop entitled "Let's Think Smart" was hosted in collaboration with the Association of Female Executives of Trinidad & Tobago (AFETT). • Support and Financial Assistance were provided for the IWD's Solidarity Rally led by the Institute of Gender and Development Studies (IGDS). • Community Outreach through the Arts "Shades of I-She"-an (ICAN) Production was hosted in collaboration with Member of Parliament for Laventille East/Morvant at the Misir Community Centre, St. Francois Valley Road, Morvant. Approximately seventy (70) persons attended. 		



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)	<p>❖ International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women</p> <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.</p>	Women	<p>This Day was commemorated on 25th November 2018. The following events were held to commemorate IDEVAW and the 16 days of Activism from November 25th to December 10th which included World AIDS Day on December 1st and Human Rights Day on December 10th 2018.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of the Minister’s Message on the OPM (GCA’s) website and Facebook page; • Hosting of a Public Education and Information Fair at the Port of Spain City Gate, on Friday 23rd November, 2018 in collaboration with key Government stakeholders. • Hosting of 3 Youth Seminars on Respectful Relationships focusing on Gender Based Violence, Respectful Relationships and Offensive Behaviour/ Cyber Bullying at: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. St. Joseph College, Maracas Royal Road, St. Joseph on Tuesday 20th November, 2018. 2. Strong 1’s Youth Group/ Mayaro Boys Sports Club at BPTT Mayaro Resource Centre on Thursday 22nd November, 2018. 3. Malabar Secondary School, Malabar, Arima on Tuesday 27th November, 2018. • Support of IDEVAW Prayer Breakfast hosted by the Board of Social Responsibility (BSR), Anglican Diocese of Trinidad and Tobago on Saturday 24th November, 2018. The BSR Anglican Diocese of Trinidad and Tobago also received financial assistance towards the project under the Grant Funding Committee. • Support to the Trinidad and Tobago Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CADV) “Man to Man Video Series” on breaking the silence and changing the narrative surrounding Masculinity and Gender Based Violence (GBV) in November 2018. The CADV also received financial assistance towards the project under the Grant Funding Committee. 	

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>❖ 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 19th each year.</p>	<p>Men and Boys</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Men's Seminar was held at St. Mary's Parish Hall, Tacarigua on Thursday 15th November 2018. The IMD Seminar focused on the 2018 local theme: "Promoting Positivity Empowering Men and Boys". An estimated 218 persons attended. • A message from the Minister was also published on the Ministry's electronic platforms. 		
<p>❖ Human Rights Day Commemorated on December 10th each year, the objectives of this observance are to:</p> <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. 	<p>All citizens</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OPM Staff Engagement: The OPM (GCA) led by the Gender Affairs Division hosted a Seminar on Human Rights with a focus on Human "Trafficking" for the staff of OPM and the gender focal points of other Government Ministries. • This event was facilitated by the Counter Trafficking Unit (CTU), Ministry of National Security and the Caribbean Umbrella for Restorative Behaviour (CURB). 		
<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>During the period April to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven (7) workshops were held which benefitted three hundred and sixty (360) Early Childhood Care and Education educators, fifty-seven (57) Youth Officers, and one hundred and fifty-five (155) Coaches. • Three hundred and sixteen (316) persons were trained through Training of Trainers workshop. • A media campaign, which targeted the general population, was executed. Ads were placed on the Ministry's website as well as social media platforms such as Facebook. • A Child Protection Fair was held. Seven hundred (700) children and one hundred (100) parents/adults attended. 	<p>Increased awareness of child abuse.</p>	



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2019

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p align="center">MINISTRY OF HEALTH</p>	<p>CARDIAC PROGRAMME</p> <p>In addition to cardiac care provided at public sector hospitals, the Ministry of Health, through its Adult Cardiac Programme, also procures 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 2018 to September 2019:</p> <p>A total of one thousand, four hundred and fifty (1,450) patients (male and female) of the public health care system accessed medical procedures from private institutions through the Ministry of Health. One thousand, two hundred and sixty (1,260) patients were approved for cardiac procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angiograms: 651 (360 males; 291 females) • Angioplasty procedures: 143 (88 males; 55 females) • Coronary Artery Bypass Grafts: 279 (192 males; 87 females) • Electrophysiology procedures: 106 (39 males; 67 females) • Other cardiac procedures: 81 (41 males; 40 females) 	<p>Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.</p>
	<p>CHRONIC DISEASE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (CDAP)</p> <p>The objectives of this programme are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To offer patients afflicted with a chronic disease, convenient, faster and improved access to medication. 2. To reduce the burden on public dispensaries and patient waiting time by providing additional private dispensing facilities across the country. 3. To reduce the cost of healthcare to patients. 	<p>Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>As at September 2019:</p> <p>The total number of times patients accessed the programme (sum of unique transactions) = 235,909</p> <p>Two hundred and forty-eight (248) Private Pharmacies were registered on the programme.</p> <p>Additionally, the pharmacy at the Couva Medical Multi-training Facility was added to the programme this fiscal year.</p> <p>The following medicines were available to treat chronic diseases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forty-four (44) pharmaceuticals plus four (4) non-pharmaceuticals (two (2) brands of diagnostic blood glucose test strips, insulin syringes and spacer devices). 	

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF HEALTH	<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>	<p>Children 15 years and under</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 to September 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of twenty-five (25) children from 2 months to fifteen (15) years of age received specialised medical treatment abroad for life threatening illnesses. 91% of applicants to the Fund qualified for funding with 75% 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>	<p>All citizens</p>	<p>During the period October 2018 to September 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of four thousand, six hundred and seventy-five (4,675) requests for assistance were received; One thousand, three hundred and twenty-four (1,324) patients were facilitated during the period October 2018 to September 2019. <p>Additionally, the following medical procedures were for patients of the Public Health Care System as indicated hereunder:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cataract removal surgeries: 183 CT/MRI scans: 657 Joint Replacements: 54 Other procedures: 430 deemed urgent and necessary (inclusive but not limited to mammograms and ultrasounds). 	<p>Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.</p>



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p align="center">MINISTRY OF HEALTH</p>	<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>	<p>Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>As at August 2019, approximately 61,070 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"> • 844 were (14 years and under); • 11,946 were between (15 and 24 years); • 47,678 were between (25 to 60+ years); and • 632 fell into the Other category 	<p>Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.</p>
	<p>HIV AND AIDS TREATMENT AND CARE PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Programme offers HIV Treatment and Care to all persons who receive an HIV-positive test result following access to the HIV Counselling and Testing service 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 Treatment and Care Programme also offers diagnostic screening to determine CD4 count and viral load suppression.</p>	<p>Persons living with HIV and AIDS</p>	<p>As at June 2019, approximately seven thousand, five hundred and fifty - four (7,554) adults and children were reported to be receiving Antiretroviral therapy.</p> <p>NB: Data currently being validated</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable.</p> <p>Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.</p>
	<p>MEDICAL AID PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme aims to provide medical financial assistance to patients through the public-patient initiative. 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 2018 to September 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five hundred and seven (507) patients received assistance through this programme for External Radiation Treatment Co-payments, External Radiation Treatment (Non-Insurance Patients). • Two hundred and eighty-five (285) patients applied for financial assistance through this programme for: Eye Surgeries, Prosthesis, and other services deemed urgent and necessary 	<p>Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF HEALTH	<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.</p> <p>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 2018 to September 2019:</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable.</p> <p>Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Primary and Secondary School Drug Prevention Initiatives <p>This Initiative facilitates outreach activities that 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 utilizing 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; and 3. Encourage participants to take responsibility for their health. 	<p>Students of Primary and Secondary Schools and Tertiary Level Institutions</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 to September, 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three thousand, two hundred and ninety-two (3,292) students benefited from outreach programmes conducted throughout Trinidad. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable.</p> <p>Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF HEALTH</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-School Prevention Initiative 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>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To sensitize 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 October, 2018 to September, 2019,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An inventory exercise was undertaken to determine the quantities of pre-school drug education materials that were still in good condition following storage of over two (2) years. An inventory of materials which is expected to be used in the Trinity Smart programme was developed. Programme is presently being reviewed by newly employed Programme Officer, Schools and Community. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable.</p> <p>Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment and Rehabilitation The objective of this initiative is to assist treatment and rehabilitation programmes with opportunities for capacity building in various areas, as well as to provide technical support and assistance to policy makers concerning alcohol and substance abuse issues in substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation programmes. 	<p>Adults 18 years and over</p>	<p>During the period December 2018 to September 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Directory of local substance abuse treatment and prevention service providers were listed on the Cooperation Programme between Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union on Drugs Policies (COPOLAD's) website. Eighteen (18) professionals were trained to deliver substance abuse treatment services to adolescents before the court with substance abuse issues. Approximately one hundred and fifty (150) persons presented themselves for treatment at treatment centres. Attendance at a meeting in Suriname hosted by COPOLAD during the period May 12 to 16, 2019 to present the country's report on the pilot of the indicators for the standards of care. A meeting of treatment centres was led by NADAPP and co-hosted by the National Drug Council to sensitize the stakeholders of the impending implementation of the standards of care. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable.</p> <p>Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF HEALTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Education and Information Campaign The overall objective of this initiative is to disseminate relevant information via the Media, through advertising and support for programmes via radio, television and the social networks. Distribution of posters, brochures and drug fact sheets, deliver mini lectures/ discussions and provide information centres/ special Library services. 	National Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two thousand, one hundred and ninety (2,190) persons participated at booths/lectures through the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and Servol. Six hundred and twenty-five (625) youths were sensitised via booths/lectures at tertiary education institutions including the University of the West Indies (UWI), University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT), College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT) and the School of Business and Computer Science (SBCS); Community outreaches were held where three thousand, eight hundred and thirty-seven (3,837) persons benefitted. Information on issues related to substance abuse was disseminated on the following television and radio stations in the pre-Carnival period: CNC 3, TV6, TTT and Power 102 radio. Over 4000 brochures were distributed on the harmful effects of licit and illicit drugs. Approximately four hundred and nineteen (419) Library visits by the general public as well as in house visits and books loaned. There were three hundred and thirty – six (336) reference checks made and filled 	An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable. Efficient Quality Healthcare System.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workplace Education and Institutional Strengthening This initiative seeks to: <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. 	National Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seven hundred and one (701) persons benefitted from a workshop conducted to sensitize participants about the dangers associated with drug use and abuse. 	An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable. Efficient Quality Healthcare System.



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF HEALTH	<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>	All citizens	<p>During the period October 2018 to September 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One thousand and seventy-one (1,071) patients are currently receiving dialysis services. Of this total, four hundred and sixty-four (464) were new patients; • Four hundred and sixty-four (464) patients received approval for treatment and were sent to institutions. <p>NB: (since it is continuous, same patients may appear on the listing for consecutive months Patients will fall off based on death as well as receiving organ transplants).</p>	Efficient Quality Healthcare System.
	<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>	Children 14 years and under	<p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fourteen thousand, eight hundred and eighty-five (14,885) students (7,367 males and 7,038 females) received auditory screening. Of this screened population, 491 students were referred to Health Centres to be seen by a medical officer. Of the students referred to the Health Centres, 380 were scheduled for hearing testing at DRETCHI. Of this total, 207 students were tested with nineteen (19) students being fitted for hearing aids. • Twenty-six thousand, five hundred and seventy-five (26,575) students received Vision screening. Two thousand, four hundred and thirty - four sixty (2,434) students (9.1% of the screened population) were referred to Health Centres to be seen by medical officers. 	Efficient Quality Healthcare System.

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT	<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>	Families	As at June 2019, a total of forty-six (46) homes were repaired.	Access to Adequate Affordable Housing
	<p>URBAN UPGRADING AND REVITALISATION PROGRAMME</p> <p>Under this New Programme, the Ministry will seek to improve the quality of life of low-income households and increase the vitality of urban areas. Additional beneficiaries include current and potential users of urban public spaces.</p> <p>❖ <i>Affordable Housing Programme</i></p> <p>This component seeks to reduce the housing deficit by providing financial subsidies for (a) selected home improvements for currently occupied homes and (b) new home construction.</p>		<p>For fiscal year 2018/2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Housing Development Corporation (HDC) continued work on its new projects under the Affordable Housing Programme. These include Gomez Trace, Phase 2, Moruga; Bon Air South (Woodstar Villas) Arouca; and Carina Gardens, Arima. One hundred and ninety seven (197) units were completed at these three sites and forty-two (42) units are currently under construction 	
	<p>ACCELERATED HOUSING PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme is the long-standing over-arching policy which governs Government's delivery of subsidised housing units to qualified citizens of Trinidad and Tobago.</p>		<p>For the fiscal period 2018/2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work continued on a number of previously stalled housing projects including Hubertstown, Guapo; Cumana, Toco; Buen Intento, Princes Town; Bon Air North (Ridge View Heights), Arouca; Cashew Gardens North, Carlsen Field; Eden Gardens, Freeport; and Lakeview, Point Fortin. A total of Seven hundred and eighty-five (785) units were completed. An additional one thousand, seven hundred and ninety-seven (1,797) units are actively under construction at these and other Developments. 	Access to Adequate Affordable Housing



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2019

MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<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>Citizens in crisis</p>	<p>As at May 2019:</p> <p>One hundred and ninety-five (195) investigations for the provision of housing for victims of disaster were completed; Additionally, two hundred and sixty-nine (269) investigations were completed for client requests for relocation on legal and other grounds.</p> <p>False claims submitted by persons in order to secure housing and limited technical resources were listed as constraints.</p>	<p>Access to Adequate 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 2018 to June 2019, four hundred and forty-five (445) grants were disbursed which benefited three hundred and sixty-five (365) families and eighty (80) physically challenged persons.</p>	<p>Access to Adequate Affordable Housing</p>	

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT</p>	<p>HOUSING AND VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Housing and Village Improvement Programme (HVIP) was established in fiscal year 2017/2018 to improve housing and living conditions. This programme is an affordable and high quality housing initiative, whereby targeted villages with neglected infrastructure and poor quality housing are provided with housing subsidies and upgraded infrastructure.</p>	<p>Low-income citizens</p>	<p>During the fiscal 2019 period, at least fifty-four (54) families benefitted through the construction of thirty (30) two-bedroom homes and home repairs carried out on ten (10) existing homes by the State. Sweat equity was provided by the residents. Remedial works were also done on the drainage system in the village. In this way, the general infrastructure of the village was enhanced.</p> <p>The second phase of this project has already begun in various communities throughout the country, including Sangre Grande, St. Joseph and Marabella with others to be identified based on social surveys conducted by the Land Settlements Agency (LSA). The status of the activities is detailed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bayshore, Marabella – A total of four (4) units were completed and twenty-six (26) are ongoing; • Maracas, St. Joseph – Construction is currently being undertaken on fourteen (14) units; and • Sangre Grande – A total of twelve (12) units were completed and sixteen (16) projects are ongoing. 	<p>Access to Adequate Affordable Housing</p>
<p>LAND SETTLEMENT AGENCY - GOVERNMENT AIDED-SELF-HELP HOUSING PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Government Aided Self-Help Housing Programme (GASHHP) is 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 subsidized prices (30% of the market value) supported by subsidized 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 June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four hundred and thirty-eight (438) applicants were selected for allocation; • Three hundred and fifty-five (355) have viewed their lots; • Two hundred and sixty-two (262) have signed Sale Agreements; and • Eighteen (18) applications were forwarded to the Commissioner of State Lands for the preparation of Deeds of Lease. 	<p>Access to Adequate Affordable Housing</p>	



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<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 supports entrepreneurs in business structure, planning and growth.</p>	<p>Persons 17 years and over Small and Micro Enterprises (SMEs)</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of two hundred and seventy-two (272) clients accessed Business Advisory Services from the NEDCO in North/West and South/Central communities across the country including: Port of Spain, Cocorite, Cascade, Carenage, Chaguanas, San Fernando, Couva, Cunupia, D’Abadie and Claxton Bay. • Twenty-three (23) Fashion Designers/ Garment Manufacturers benefitted from JOINT FashionTT VCIP/NEDCO business advisory sessions. • Over hundred (100+) Trinidad and Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute (THTI) students benefitted from entrepreneurial development presentations and consultations held. • Private Business Advisory Services were also provided to four (4) persons • A Business Advisory session for NGO Trinidad and Tobago Bridge Initiative was conducted in May 2019. 	<p>Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Partnership</p>
	<p>ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS TRAINING</p> <p>Entrepreneurial Training is designed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Equip entrepreneurs within the Micro and Small Enterprise (MSE) sector to be successful within each business segment; and 2. Provide training that will equip existing and upcoming entrepreneurs in key areas such as introduction to entrepreneurship, steps to starting your business, recordkeeping and cash management, savings and investments and costing and pricing. 	<p>Persons 15 years and over Small and Micro Enterprises (SMEs)</p>	<p>Over the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of one hundred and ninety-three (193) clients received skills training in the following courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Know Your Taxes - Costing & Pricing - Marketing for SMEs - Steps to Starting Your Business - Tendering for Contracts - Developing a Business Plan - Social Media Strategy for SMEs - Record Keeping and Cash Management <p>NEDCO also partnered with Fashion TT to provide mentorship and training to 90 budding Designers</p>	<p>Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Partnership</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT	<p>OUTREACH</p> <p>Provision of Outreach services to community groups, schools, state agencies and general public. Comprising presentations and information booths to inform persons about NEDCO's suite of services. This programme commenced in October 2018.</p>	General public	<p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately one thousand four hundred and twenty-five (1,425) persons benefited from outreach services at the following fairs and presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o COSTATT's Human Resources Employee Fair; o Carapichaima East Secondary School's Career Day; o Queen's Royal College Career Day; o Women's Career Day - Jesus Elam Revival, Baratania; o PEAPSL Exhibition for Petrotrin; o National Flour Mills Ltd. Small Business Seminar. o "Meeting you Home" Initiative – Sangre Grande; o UWI Entrepreneurship Workshop; o Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business; o Trinidad and Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute; o The University of Trinidad and Tobago 2019 Fashion Week; o YTEPP, South Campus; o UWI ROYTEC, South Campus; and o "The Timely Entrepreneur" - Book Launch 	
	<p>COMMONWEALTH/ CARIBBEAN SEASONAL 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>	Unemployed persons aged 21-45 years interested in agricultural work	<p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One hundred and two (102) Canadian farmers submitted vacancy orders during the reporting period. • As a result, three hundred and eighty-four (384) workers received employment on the programme for the reporting period. <p>Constraints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competition from other supply countries (Jamaica, Barbados, Grenada, Mexico) • Loss of vacancies due to bad weather conditions and damage to crops 	



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT</p>	<p>HIV WORKPLACE ADVOCACY UNIT</p> <p>The HIV Workplace Advocacy Unit seeks to advocate and provide technical support for the adoption and implementation of the National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS in all workplaces in Trinidad and Tobago, including the public, private and informal sectors, as well as civil society organisations.</p> <p>It carries out its mandate by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sensitising workplaces in the public, private and informal sectors and the general public about the National Workplace Policy, and 2. Advocating for and assisting with the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of workplace policies and programmes on HIV/AIDS. 	<p>General public</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 to July 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The HIV Workplace Advocacy Unit hosted a number of public awareness campaigns to promote the National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Over 200 hundred organisations from the public sector, civil society organisations, private sector and trade unions benefitted from sensitisation sessions ◦ Two hundred and five (205) workers were sensitised through: engagement in World Aids Day activities, workplace sensitisation activities and outreach activities <p>Additionally, a Public Awareness Campaign for National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS was launched on July 23, 2019.</p>	<p>The Elimination of Stigma and Discrimination against Persons Living with or Affected by HIV/AIDS.</p>
	<p>ON-THE-JOB-TRAINING PROGRAMME</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The Programme, which was formerly under the purview of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education, under the aegis of the National Training Agency, was re-assigned to the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development with effect from September 2015.</p> <p>The OJTP was integrated as a Division of the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development with effect from May 31, 2017.</p>	<p>Persons aged 16-35 who are graduates of secondary and technical/vocational or tertiary institutions without work-based experience</p>	<p>As at August 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were five thousand four hundred and thirty-seven (5,437) active trainees participating in the Programme. • All trainees placed on the programme were required to attend a five (5) day mandatory Trainee Development Programme prior to assuming duties at the training providers' location. • Ten (10) cohorts of Trainee Development Programmes were facilitated: eight were held in Trinidad and two were held in Tobago. • During the period October 2018 to June 2019, two thousand, eight hundred and seventy-one (2,871) successful applicants were trained, two thousand and ninety-three (2,093) female trainees and seven hundred and seventy-eight (778) male trainees. • There has been an increase in demand for trainees in the following fields: Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Dietetics, Medicine, and Law. 	<p>Economic growth, Job Creation, Competitiveness and Innovation.</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT</p>	<p>SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Programme addresses community road safety concerns for children in East Dry River and environs attending schools situated near major roads while providing employment for persons in the community.</p>	<p>Unemployed persons residing within the East Dry River community/enviros</p>	<p>In Fiscal 2019, twelve (12) persons were employed on a rotational basis for a period of one academic year.</p> <p>Additionally, no accidents or incidents were reported.</p>	<p>Job Creation, Decent Work Opportunities Created.</p>
	<p>SHORT-TERM EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Short-Term Employment Programme is an initiative, which 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. Staff is provided from the National Employment Service (NES) database of registrants.</p>	<p>Persons 17 years and over</p>	<p>During the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <p>Three hundred and fifty-four (354) persons were employed under this programme.</p>	<p>Economic growth, Job Creation, Competitiveness and Innovation.</p>
	<p>O'LEVEL / NON GRADUATE PROGRAMME</p> <p>To address staffing needs for employment of persons in a Clerical capacity at various Ministries. 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 (NES) database of registrants.</p>	<p>Persons 17 years and over and in possession of at least 1 CXC subject pass</p>	<p>During the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <p>Forty-three (43) persons were employed under this programme at the various Manpower units of the MOLSED.</p>	<p>Economic growth, Job Creation, Competitiveness and Innovation</p>



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"> 1. Reduce crime and violence; 2. Reduce shootings and woundings; 3. Increase community efficacy; and 4. Promote safer communities. 	<p>Communities deemed to be High Risk</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 to April 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community engagement continued in more than twenty-five (25) partner communities. This involved the conduct of public awareness campaigns, peer pressure and gang interactions, books/reading projects, advanced counselling training, provision of support for crime victims, and mobilisation of community members to develop and implement community projects. 	<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"> 1. Raise the self-esteem of young persons deemed to be at-risk; 2. Initiate interventions that would assist in fostering socially desirable behaviours among youth; 3. Train and develop unemployed/unemployable persons in the target group to prepare them for employment; 4. Foster a sense of national pride in participants; 5. Provide temporary employment for unemployed young persons. 	<p>Young persons between the ages of 16-35 years</p>	<p>For the Fiscal 2019 period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eight hundred and fifty-seven (857) at-risk youth (419 males and 438 females) between the ages of 15 to 24 received training under the programme; seventy-five (75) Graduate trainees (17 males and 58 females) were employed as Assistant Team Commanders, Junior 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; and Eighty (80) Communities benefitted from community enhancement projects which involved Painting, Repairs and General Maintenance projects. 	

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 June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of three hundred and two (302) young persons (male) were enrolled in the programme. • Additionally, a total of nineteen (19) persons (4 males and 15 females) were employed under the programme as Graduate Trainees, Assistant Team Commanders and Junior Team Commanders. • The programme recorded an 80.5% retention rate of its cadet population (161 out of its 2017 -2018 intakes of 206 cadets). • Approximately 60% of the cadets (62 out of the 103) were able to sit the CSEC Exams. • 65% of the cadets from the 2017 programme intake (72 persons) were registered to sit CSEC examinations. 31% (22 persons) attained 5 -6 subjects; 42% (30 persons) attained 3-4 subjects and 20% (17 persons) attained 1-2 subjects. • Approximately (60-70%) were recorded as displaying good behaviour towards teachers and instructors, whilst 89% displayed high levels of discipline, deportment and conduct. Drug use amongst 60% of the students was reduced and 70% of cadets displayed positive social development and attitudes to learning. 	



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2019

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY	<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 2019:</p> <p>Activities undertaken included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Easter Vacation Camps, • Academic and Vocational training for the members, charitable works, training in performing and fine arts, environmental awareness and sport events (Olympic sports, walks against crime and Sports and Family Days. • Parental workshops where topics including parenting and child development; domestic violence; cybersecurity; bullying and financial management were discussed. • The Caring Intervention for Troubled Youths (C.I.T.Y) programme for re-integration was continued by the Sangre Grande PYC; • Participation in cultural and religious events such as Easter and Eid-Ul-Fitr activities, National Junior Panorama, Carnival and Prime Minister's Best Village. 	
	<p>PROBATION SERVICES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Emergency Cases Fund</i> <p>This programme provides financial assistance to any client of the Probation Services. The funds are used primarily for providing schoolbooks, stationary, school uniforms and footwear for probationers and other relatives of the family. Requests for additional services are sometimes entertained.</p>	<p>Clients of Probation Services</p>	<p>For Fiscal 2019: One child (male) benefitted from the Emergency Cases Fund.</p>	

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p style="text-align: center;">MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY</p>	<p>YOUTH OUTREACH ENGAGEMENTS</p> <p>This programme was designed to ensure that awareness was created about the National Crime Prevention Programme (NCPP) and crime prevention, engage young persons between the ages of 15 to 30 years and empower the youths to make positive choices.</p>	<p>Secondary, Tertiary, technical and Vocational Students</p>	<p>During Fiscal 2018/ 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three (3) Youth Outreaches were held in North and South Trinidad and Tobago. • A national Youth Symposium was held on May 1st, 2019 at the Lord Kitchener Auditorium at the National Academy for Performing Arts (NAPA) 	
	<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 fiscal 2019 period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three hundred and eighty-two (382) 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. • Therapeutic Interventions employed included: Grief and Narrative Therapy, Crisis Intervention, Trauma Focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy and Solution Focus and Family Systems Therapy. 	



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2019

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<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"> • Homeowners whose homes have never been wired; • Homeowners whose homes are at a risk of electrical fires and are in urgent need of rewiring as a pre-requisite to accessing electricity. <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 Home-owners</p> <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 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REAP provided assistance in the form of residential electricity to twenty-six (26) households (approximately one hundred and thirty (130) persons were impacted). <p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <p>The UAP provided assistance to thirteen thousand, six hundred and thirty (13,630) beneficiaries. The benefits extended under the programme components were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utility Bill Assistance to 13,600 beneficiaries (12,281 persons benefitting from WASA subsidies and 1,319 persons benefitting from T&TEC subsidies); • Water Tank assistance to thirty (30) households. <p>Additionally, four (4) public education campaigns to disseminate information to the targeted population about the Programme, were conducted.</p> <p>Between the period July to September 2019, it is expected that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An additional one thousand nine hundred and thirty-five (1,935) beneficiaries would be provided with water and electricity subsidies; • forty-five (45) low-income households and five (5) communities will be provided with water tanks and fittings; and • two (2) solar panels will be installed in two low-income households. 	<p>Efficient and Accessible Social System</p> <p>Efficient and Accessible Social Protection System</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	<p>IMPLEMENTATION OF A NATIONAL BROADBAND NETWORK 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 objective of the initiative is to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deploy a secure, reliable, high-speed Wi-Fi network for the provision of free broadband internet services to the public. 	General Public	<p>As at June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first component of this project commenced, which was the rollout of WiFi services to public libraries; • Thirteen (13) public transportation buses with access to free WiFi were in operation. 	Access to free Wi-Fi in Public Spaces
	<p>COMMUNITY-BASED ICT ACCESS CENTRES</p> <p>The 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 under-served areas throughout Trinidad and Tobago. 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. 	Underserved Communities	<p>For the period October 2018 to June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICT access was provided to approximately eight thousand and fourteen (8,014) persons in the following underserved communities: Penal, Cumana, Marac, Guayaguayare and Todds Road; • Training in ICT was provided to approximately eight hundred and forty-four (844) persons. This training focused on the use of ICT and how to access the TT-Connect facility and other online government services; <p>Additionally, the provision of ICT related training to Standard five classes, during the active school term was provided.</p>	



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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT</p>	<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Environmental Clean-up, Beautification and Maintenance, 2. Waste Removal, Dead Animal Removal (DART) 3. CEPEP Marine (Wetlands, Inland Waterways and Marine Space Maintenance) 4. Coastal Maintenance 5. Eco-Sites Management 6. Disaster and Emergency Response (DERT) 	<p>Communities</p>	<p>During the Fiscal 2019 period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of Eight thousand, three hundred and sixty-two (8,362) persons were employed on the programme as follows: • Three thousand, five hundred eighteen (3,518) men. • Four thousand, three hundred and sixty-one (4,361) women. • Four hundred and eighty-three (483) young persons aged (15 – 24 years). 	
	<p>COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)</p> <p>The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is to train communities to recognize, respond and recover for any hazard that impacts their community. Training modules includes Emergency Preparedness, Fire Safety, Emergency Medical Operations, Light Search and Rescue, CERT Organization, Disaster Psychology and Terrorism.</p>	<p>Communities</p>	<p>As at July 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six hundred (600) volunteers were trained in the various rudiments of disaster management. The training targeted communities affected by the 2018 floods. 	<p>Resilient Communities in the area of Disaster Management</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS	<p>LIFE-SKILLS, EMPLOYABILITY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, ACTIVISM, AND PATRIOTISM PROGRAMME (LEEAP)</p> <p>This programme provides an environment that builds the Physical, Social, Intellectual and Emotional Self. The goal is to enable youth to successfully transition to adulthood and contribute meaningfully to sustainable national development.</p>	Youth	<p>As at August 2019,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycle 1 for both Trinidad and Tobago have been completed and culminated with the successful graduation of one hundred and twenty-five (125) participants in Trinidad and twenty-six (26) participants in Tobago; • Cycle 2 of LEEAP in Tobago, which commenced on 16th July, 2019 and consisted of three (3) projects, has been completed. A total of eighty-one (81) persons participated in the LEEAP Cycle 2 and seventy (70) persons successfully graduated from the programme. 	Youth development and social self-efficacy
	<p>40 UNDER 40 PROGRAMME</p> <p>This Programme provides a platform for the youth of Trinidad and Tobago to be supported in the area of personal and professional development and creates opportunities for youth to engage with young established entrepreneurs, entertainers, sportsmen and influencers, towards improving their outlook on life and securing a brighter future.</p>	Youth	<p>As at August 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twelve (12) schools have participated in the programme, benefiting approximately three hundred and sixty (360) participants; • Additionally, an assessment of the feedback received from participants indicated that the programme had an overall satisfactory rating and produced the benefits of increased awareness of career opportunities and potential entrepreneurial pursuits. 	
	<p>CARNIVAL SENSITIZATION</p> <p>This programme consists of school caravans at the Secondary School level, which seeks to empower youth and promote Healthy Lifestyle choices and appropriate behaviours associated with potential risks that are apparent during the carnival celebrations.</p>	Secondary school students	<p>For Fiscal 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a target audience of one thousand, seven hundred and fifty-four (1,754) students were sensitized; • Students also displayed a greater understanding of the effects of risky lifestyle choices and the importance of living healthier lifestyles. 	
	<p>AIM YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Apprenticeship, Internship and Mentorship (AIM) High Youth Programme advocates the use of job orientation and career training for the acquisition of requisite skills and knowledge that will guide participants as they prepare for the job market.</p>	Youth	<p>This is the programme's inaugural year and a total of thirty-nine (39) persons participated in the programme.</p>	



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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SPORT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS</p>	<p>YOUTHPRENEURS VACATION PROGRAMME The programme was implemented in partnership with We Say Yes Organisation and the Tobago Rotary Club and seeks to address the high levels of poverty and unemployment, and increase in youth delinquency and criminality within certain communities.</p>	<p>Youth</p>	<p>The programme commenced in Fiscal 2019 and was conducted during the July/August vacation period in Tobago. A total of thirty-three (33) persons (20 Females and 13 Males) participated in the programme.</p>	
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p>ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMME (AEP) 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 Fiscal 2019 period, a total of three thousand, eight hundred and eleven persons (3,811) persons enrolled in the programme which comprised 28 TVET active courses as well as CXC Mathematics and English Language at the General Proficiency Level. This benefitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • eight hundred and twenty-two (822) persons 15yrs-24yrs; • two thousand, four hundred and thirty-three 2,433 persons 25yrs -59yrs; and • five hundred and fifty-six persons (556) 60+ years <p>It is envisaged that for the 2019-2020 Cycle, the AEP will introduce The Methodology of Action Research and Education for Sustainability (EFS) which will be employed through evidence-based principles and practice. Action research is a methodology that has the potential to bring about personal and social change in the interest of a more sustainable, equitable and socially just world.</p>	<p>The promotion of lifelong learning among citizens of Trinidad and Tobago.</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	<p>DISABILITY AFFAIRS</p> <p>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>❖ <i>Community Therapeutic Services (CTS)</i></p> <p>This initiative is a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services. The decision to pursue Community Therapeutic Services is in keeping with Articles 25 and 26 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with a Disability (2015.) which state that: “ <i>PWDs should be mainstreamed in institutions that already offer therapy and rehabilitation services, rather than the construction of institutions which promote segregated rehabilitation.</i>”</p>	<p>Persons with disabilities</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 to August 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Unit shared information on the Unit’s mandate at the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services’ Public Information Education and Sensitisation Series (PIES). The National Policy for Persons with Disabilities was approved by the Cabinet as a white paper on May 16, 2019 The Unit re-commissioned the National Enrichment Centre to serve in the short term as a resource centre for persons with disabilities The Unit worked in tandem with the Telecommunication Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT) to provide technical support for accessible assistive mobile devices for the blind, visually impaired and hard of hearing. Also conducted a Sign Language Training course with customer service representatives. <p>The following was also achieved by the Division during the period:</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p>
		<p>Persons with disabilities</p>	<p>For fiscal 2019, the Disability Affairs Unit of the Ministry has developed a CTS Survey, which was administered to seventy (70) NGOs that provide services to persons with disabilities. Data collated from this survey will be used to inform decisions in providing additional rehabilitation and therapeutic services to the community of persons with disabilities.</p>	



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p>AGEING:</p> <p>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 2018 to June 2019 the following were achieved:</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Older Persons Information Centre (OPIC) <p>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:</p> <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. 	<p>Senior Citizens</p>	<p>As at June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Division of Ageing received one hundred and forty-seven (147) reports against domiciles (private residences) and forty-three (43) from Homes for Older Persons. • The Help Desk received an average of five hundred (500) calls. These included requests for information about the Senior Citizens Grant, Senior Activity centres, referrals for geriatric services and questions about ageing. • Also, between November 2018 and February 2019, twenty-two (22) calls were received from older persons regarding flood assistance/relief where, thirteen (13) of those cases have been successfully resolved. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Community Care Programme (CCP) <p>This programme was first established in 2007 to de-institutionalize 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 MSDFS in 2010.</p>	<p>Senior Citizens</p>	<p>For the period October 2018 – June 2019, the number of placements totalled 24 persons who decanted from RHA institutions as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SWRHA – 3 - NWRHA - 3 - NCRHA – 14 - ERHA - 4 <p>Additionally, support to eighteen (18) facilities in the care of eighty-seven (87) patients was recorded through the Community Care Programme during the same period.</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p> <p>An Enhanced Quality of Life for Older Persons.</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p>❖ 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.</p>	<p>Senior Citizens</p>	<p>As at June 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The evaluation of the nine (9) NGOs that submitted proposals in response to the Ministry's Requests for Proposals to collaborate for the operations of the SACs, was completed. A Note for Cabinet for the resumption of subventions for SACs currently in operation is being finalised for submission. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p> <p>An Enhanced Quality of Life for Older Persons.</p>
	<p>❖ Homes for Older Persons The Ministry currently supports the operations of nine (9) Homes for Senior Citizens, which are managed by management committees. The Homes are located in Chaguana, 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 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services engaged an Individual Consultant to undertake the Development, Review and Finalisation of Procedural Manuals for Homeowners, in accordance with the Homes for Older Persons Legislation of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. The specific objectives of the consultancy are to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a comprehensive review of existing sectional manuals developed by the Division of Ageing, Develop recommendations based on the review at (1) above, and on discussions with relevant personnel; Conduct research and develop additional sectional manuals in accordance with established legislative requirements; and Produce a final Procedural Manual for Homes for Older Person comprised of all sectional manuals developed in accordance with established legislation. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p>GERIATRIC ADOLESCENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (GAPP)</p> <p>The Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme (GAPP) is an intensive short-term Intergenerational Training Programme that 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. 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. Sensitize 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 2018 to August 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One thousand, seven hundred and nineteen (1,719) senior citizens were in receipt of caregiving services, which were provided by six hundred (600) caregivers under GAPP. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable.</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<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>• 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>Members of staff of the MSDFS and members of the Public</p>	<p>During the period, October 2018 to July 2019, the Unit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conducted a survey on HIV/AIDS with a sample of two hundred (200) persons; • conducted an HIV Knowledge Forum and Testing Drive, in partnership with other key stakeholders, in commemoration of World AIDS Day in December 2018. The initiative was held at the Arcade, National Library and Information System (NALIS) and the Old Fire Station in Port of Spain. Approximately ninety-one (91) persons (28 males and 63 females) were able to access the various testing services offered by partner agencies including the North West Regional Health Authority. • A total of thirty-six (36) persons (13 males and 23 females) were able to get tested for HIV. The following was also achieved during the period: 	<p>Reduction of Incidence of HIV/AIDS.</p> <p>Reduction in levels of discrimination towards persons living with HIV</p>
		<p>National Community</p>	<p>Approximately two hundred (200) clients of the Ministry participated in sensitization sessions conducted at the offices of the Social Welfare Division. Sensitization sessions were conducted at the following Social Welfare Offices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aranguez • Chaguanas • Princes Town • San Fernando <p>For the rest of the Fiscal Year (August and September), the Unit will visit Social Welfare Offices – Tunapuna, Sangre Grande, Chaguanas, P.O.S (twice), Siparia and Point Fortin.</p>	<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 2019

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p>NATIONAL FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION (NFSD)</p> <p>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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Parenting Workshops <p>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 reporting period October 2018 to July 2019, seven thousand three hundred and fourteen (7,314) clients received services from the NFSD as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counselling services – 4,063 • Co-parenting Counselling services – 358 • Referral services – 144 • Advocacy services – 496 • Advice/Information - 2,253 	<p>Empowerment of individuals and families.</p> <p>Reduction in family dysfunction, family violence and youth delinquency</p>
		<p>Individuals, Couples, Children and Families</p>	<p>During the period October 2018 to July 2019:</p> <p>The National Family Services Division was able to host four (4) Community Parenting Workshops in Carenage, Mt. Lambert/ Mt. Hope, Rio Claro, and Longdenville; a total of one hundred and thirty-nine (139) parents successfully completed the workshop from the various communities. A breakdown of these completed Community Parenting Workshops is highlighted as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop for parents of children with special needs at Rio Claro; Number of persons registered -56 • Workshop for parents of children with special needs at Mt Hope / Mt Lambert; Number of persons registered – 42 • Regular parenting workshop at Longdenville; Number of persons registered– 17 • Regular parenting workshop at Carenage; Number of persons registered– 24 	<p>Increased knowledge of parenting issues and enhanced skills in managing the Parenting Role.</p> <p>Reduction in family dysfunction</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	<p>NATIONAL FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION (NFSD) (Continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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: <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 2018 to July 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-hour, Call-in weekly programmes were aired on 195.5 FM, beginning May 29, 2019. Topics discussed included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ National Family Services Division/ Family Month - May 29, 2019 ◦ Ageing & International Elder Abuse Awareness Day - June 12, 2019 ◦ Climate Change and the Impact on the Family - June 26, 2019 ◦ Family Values and Communication within the Family - July 3, 2019 ◦ Being a Parent, Not Just a Provider & Safety Tips for the Vacation Period - July 10, 2019 	<p>Greater awareness and enhanced ability to improve family life</p>
	<p>NATIONAL SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME</p> <p>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>	<p>Vulnerable persons and communities</p>	<p>The following was achieved during the period October 2018 to September 2019:</p>	<p>Enhancement in quality of life of citizens</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. 	<p>Vulnerable persons and communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the Minor House Repair Assistance, forty-four (44) grants were distributed at a cost of \$696,618.77. One hundred and twenty-eight (128) persons benefited. 	<p>Enhancement in quality of life of citizens</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 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</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the Sanitary Plumbing Assistance, fifteen (15) grants were distributed during the period at a cost of \$185,458.27. Forty-five (45) persons benefited. 	



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	<p>NATIONAL SOCIAL PROGRAMME (Continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <i>House Wiring Assistance</i> This initiative provides electrification for households throughout Trinidad and Tobago ❖ <i>Sowing Empowering through Entrepreneurial Development (SEED)</i> 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. <p>ASSISTANCE TO NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (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>Vulnerable persons</p> <p>Vulnerable persons</p> <p>General population of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House Wiring Assistance was provided to one (1 Beneficiary) at a cost of \$14,289.55. • Twenty-seven (27) grants benefitting ninety-five (95) persons were distributed at a value of \$33,288.14. <p>During the period October 2018 to September 2018, the Unit continued its planning and/or follow-up activities for the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect Your Hearing Campaign; <p>Additionally, the following were achieved during the period:</p>	<p>Enhancement in quality of life of citizens</p> <p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	<p>❖ Financial Assistance to NGOs (One-off Grants under \$10,000)</p> <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 2018 to July 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forty-six (46) new requests for social projects (either under or over \$10,000) were reviewed. Of this total, four (4) NGOs received funding totalling \$18,380.00. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>
	<p>❖ Financial Assistance to NGOs (One-off Grants over \$10,000)</p> <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 2018 to July 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forty-six (46) new requests for social projects (either under or over \$10,000) were reviewed. Of this total, three (3) NGOs received funding totalling \$90,000.00. <p>NGOs that were not recommended for grants fell into either one of the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request did not meet the mandate of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services Event date passed while under review Documentation requirements were not fulfilled 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>
	<p>❖ Subventions to NGOs</p> <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 Fiscal 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subventions to twenty-two (22) NGOs inclusive of three (3) Statutory Boards in the sum of nineteen million, three hundred and sixty-nine thousand, six hundred and ninety-two dollars and fifty cents (\$19,369,692.50) were disbursed. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p>PIPARO EMPOWERMENT CENTRE (PEC) 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 2018 to August 2019 the following was achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four (4) Residents completed training in the fields of Farming and Drought, Good Agricultural Practices and Fundamentals of Landscaping with PCS Nitrogen Ltd. • Two (2) practicum students trained in Social Work at the PEC with the University of the Southern Caribbean and the Caribbean Nazarene College • Twenty-five (25) persons from faith-based organisations visited the PEC and held religious sessions of song and prayer with the Residents. • One hundred and nine (109) persons from the National Trust Fund/ National Heritage Tour were sensitized to the history, roles and functions of the PEC. • Forty-one (41) new residents were enrolled in the Centre • The following Tutoring/Counselling Sessions were conducted as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 459 Remedial Tutoring Sessions completed by only 2 Remedial Education Tutors - 101 Seminars completed by 3 Therapeutic Community Counsellors - 110 Therapeutic Group Counselling Sessions - 44 Alcohol Anonymous sessions - 44 Narcotics Anonymous sessions - 64 Religious sessions - 184 Peer Counselling Group Sessions - 385 Individual Counselling Sessions - 2 Follow-up Group Sessions • The Centre continued with its Agricultural Project with several crops being harvested including ochroes, patchoi, cauliflower, cassava, dasheen, lettuce, oranges, avocados, peppers and tomatoes. • Six (6) residents successfully completed the 9 months Programme and graduated. • Hosted Annual Family Day - approximately 100 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>RETIREES ADOLESCENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (RAPP) 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 minimize 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. 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>INITIATIVES ON STREET DWELLING: - SOCIAL DISPLACEMENT UNIT 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>	<p>Children (14 years and under) and Youth (15-21 years) identified as ‘at risk’ and retired older persons (60-75 years). NGOs as well as ‘at-risk’ Communities also benefit from the programme</p> <p>Socially displaced persons</p>	<p>During the period October 2018 to March 2019: A total of two hundred and forty-three (243) young persons were impacted by the benefits of the programme. Of this total, 132 were males and 111 were females. The programme was hosted in five (5) at-risk communities namely: Couva, Belmont, La Horquetta, Laventille and Valencia.</p> <p>During the period October 2018 to July 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two hundred and seventy-eight (278) in-office Social Work Interventions were conducted with clients. • Forty-two (42) technical advice sessions/engagements were held with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other stakeholder/ partners. 	<p>Self-Reliant and Sustainable Communities</p> <p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2019

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>❖ Street Outreach Programme 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 2018 to July 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Street Head Count was conducted. Two hundred and forty-four (244) persons are currently sleeping on the streets of the two (2) main towns of Trinidad as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Port of Spain and Environs - 192 persons o San Fernando and environs - 52 persons <p>Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three hundred and fourteen (314) street interviews were conducted with street dwellers. • Twenty (20) Public Reports of Street Dwellers were investigated. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>
<p>❖ Deportee Reception and Integration 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 2018 to July 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty-four (24) deported persons were provided with counselling whilst seven (7) deported persons were referred to Vision on Mission for additional services. • Advice was also provided to various stakeholders on matters related to care and social support needs of deported persons. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>
<p>❖ Rehabilitation of the Strictly Homeless at New Horizons 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 2018 to July 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of twenty-six (26) persons benefitted from admission and care at the New Horizons Facility. • Three (3) short crops were grown by residents (ochro, seasonings and pumpkin). • Twenty (20) persons were assessed for admission to the Facility. • Four (4) persons were admitted to the facility. 	<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
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p>❖ Relocation of Elderly Street Dwellers Programme 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 2018 to July 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty-three (23) elderly persons received counselling. • Twenty-five (25) elderly persons were in special care facilities for the socially displaced • Six (6) NGO facilities were monitored per quarter re care of socially displaced elderly • Seven (7) families were referred to the Division of Ageing for services. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>
	<p>❖ Centre for Socially Displaced Persons (CSDP) – Riverside Carpark 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 2018 to July 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thirty-four (34) persons were referred for admission to CSDP (North). 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>
	<p>SOCIAL WELFARE DIVISION 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. 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 fiscal 2019 period, the following Grants were distributed:</p>	<p>An efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable Reduction in the incidence of Poverty</p>



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2019

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p>❖ Disability Assistance Grant 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>As at July 2019: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty-three thousand, three hundred and forty-four (23,344) persons were in receipt of the Disability Assistance Grant, and of this number one thousand, four hundred and thirteen (1,413) persons were recorded as new clients of the programme. </p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p>
	<p>❖ Disability Assistance Grant for Minors (DAGM) In order for a minor to access this grant, a permanent medical diagnosis must be presented. This Grant has received Cabinet approval for its introduction effective January 2019.</p>	<p>Persons under 18 years of age who have been certified by a Government medical officer as having severe or complete levels of disability</p>	<p>As at September 2019: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The transitioning process for children with a disability who are receiving Public Assistance or Special Child Grants commenced. • Approximately eight hundred and sixty-eight (868) children are expected to be transitioned at a cost of eleven million, seven hundred and eighteen thousand dollars (\$11,718,000.00). </p>	
	<p>❖ General Assistance Grant 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 2019, a total of 1,466 clients received assistance under the General Assistance Grants (GAGs) Programme which amounted to a grand total of three million, seven hundred and eighty-nine thousand, eight hundred and thirteen dollars and nineteen cents (\$3,789,813.19). The expenditure was as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household items- \$482,883.75 • Medical Equipment- \$40,786.86 • Pharmaceutical- none received to date • School Supplies- \$23,099.75 • Clothing- \$36,736.58 • Home Care Help- none received to date • Education- \$353,600.00 • Special Child- \$394,400.00 • Dietary- \$178,200.00 • Rent- \$150,700.00 • Prosthesis- \$80,000.00 • Burials- \$2,049,406.25 </p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p>SOCIAL WELFARE DIVISION (Continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Food Support Programme 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: ❖ Long Term Food Support Card This is the cash transfer component of the TCCTP, which is currently implemented via a debit card (TT Card™). It aims to enable families in need to purchase nutritious basic food items; ❖ Temporary Food Card 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>Indigent and vulnerable households</p>	<p>As at July 2019, twenty-three thousand (23,000) households were beneficiaries of the enhanced Food Support Programme at a cost of \$133,450,440.00</p> <p>The Ministry will soon be introducing the new Food Support Card which will strengthen mechanisms and purge the current system. It is anticipated that these new cards will become available by the end of fiscal 2019.</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>



CHAPTER 6: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES 2019

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p>❖ Public Assistance Grant</p> <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. The Public Assistance Grant is an essential social net programme providing financial aid to the nation's vulnerable citizens. Effective January 01, 2019 recipients would have benefitted from an increase in the monthly value of these grants as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Individuals – From \$1,150 to \$1,300.00 TTD 2. Two (2) persons – From \$1,400 to \$1,550.00 TTD 3. Three (3) persons – From \$1,600 to \$1,750 TTD 4. For four (4) persons and more – From \$1,750 to \$1,900 TTD 	<p>Unemployed, persons unable to work, or who have little means of financially supporting themselves and guardians of necessitous children.</p>	<p>As at July, 2019:</p> <p>Nineteen thousand, three hundred and four (19,304) clients were in receipt of the Public Assistance Grant. Of this total, three thousand, one hundred and seventeen (3,117) persons were recorded as new beneficiaries.</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p>
	<p>❖ Special Achievers Grant (SAG)</p> <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>As at September 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of thirty-eight (38) persons received financial assistance totalling \$1,226,560.00 under this initiative. • Additionally, steps are being taken to review the SAG policy to make it more applicable to persons who would have been contributing to the international profile of Trinidad and Tobago regardless of experiencing severe hardship. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p>
	<p>❖ Disaster Relief (Flooding)</p> <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>As at September 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ten thousand, three hundred and sixty-six (10,366) cheques, to the value of \$135,704,500.00 were printed and despatched to persons affected by severe flooding. 	

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	OUTCOME																
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p>❖ Senior Citizens' Pension (SCP)</p> <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. With effect from January 2019 senior citizens would have received the new pension increases ranging from \$500.00- \$3,500.00 in keeping with the relevant Pension Bands</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Income Band</th> <th>Pension</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <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> </tbody> </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	<p>Eligible Senior Citizens</p>	<p>As at July 2019, ninety-seven thousand, nine hundred and eleven (97,911) senior citizens were in receipt of the new Senior Citizens' Pensions. Of this total, seven thousand, two hundred and fifty-two (7,252) persons were added to the database as new beneficiaries</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</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																			

SOCIAL SECTOR PLANS FOR 2020

7



**“Building Resilience To
Secure Our Nation”**

Chapter 7: SOCIAL SECTOR PLANS FOR 2020

This chapter outlines social sector initiatives planned for implementation by ministries and the THA for fiscal 2020. Ministries and agencies continue to align their Ministerial/ Departmental Plans and performance frameworks to enable monitoring and evaluation of their progress towards the achievements of the themes and goals of

Vision 2030 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In fiscal 2020 Government will continue to maintain the high levels of investment in the social sector in order to sustain the gains made over the years in the well being of the population.

Table 7.I: Comparison of Budgeted Allocations for Social Infrastructure & Programming – 2019-2020

Sector Component	BUDGETED ALLOCATION 2019	BUDGETED ALLOCATION 2020
Social Infrastructure	2,164,193,000	2,236,052,000
• Development Programme	916,178,000	1,004,531,000
• Infrastructure Development Fund	1,248,015,000	1,231,521,000
Social Programming	8,785,888,057	8,278,258,320
TOTAL ALLOCATION	10,950,081,057	10,514,310,320

Source: Ministry of Finance

The following sections outline major plans to be implemented in fiscal 2020 by the following Ministries: ⁴¹

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

⁴¹ Information was obtained from Budget Submissions of Ministries for fiscal 2020



7.1 Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts

The mission of the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts (MCDCA) is to lead in the development of resilient communities by stimulating human and social capital through collaboration and the provision of innovative programmes, projects and services. In the area of Culture and the Arts, the Ministry focusses on fostering artistic growth, and leveraging the country's rich and varied cultural, historical, religious and national heritage.

In fiscal 2020, the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts will continue to deliver on its mandate, which includes:

- Developing and building resilient communities and creating an environment where our diverse cultures can flourish in an atmosphere of understanding, tolerance and harmony;
- Preserving our heritage and history and strengthening cultural values, attitudes and behaviours; and
- Promoting a productive environment for our citizens.

In this regard, the Ministry proposes to undertake the following during the period:

A. Support to Mediation Centres:

- Establishment of the Penal/Debe Mediation Centre
- Relocation of the East Main Mediation Centre in Arima
- Infrastructural work for the Rio Claro/Mayaro Mediation Centre
- Establishment of the South Main Mediation Centre—San Fernando

B. Refurbishment of Community Centres at:

- La Lune, Diego Martin Central, and Shende Street.

C. Refurbishment of Regional Complexes at:

- Sangre Grande and St. Augustine.

D. Implementation of the Self Help Programme (NCSHL):

- Eight hundred and twenty-three (823) projects are proposed under the Minor Repair and Reconstruction Grant (MRRG).
- Six hundred and forty-five (645) projects are proposed under the Emergency Repair and Reconstruction Assistance Grant (ERRAG).

E. Community Festivals:

- Hosting of community festivals to celebrate Community Development Day.

F. Culture:

- Heritage Preservation: continued focus on the mounting of monthly exhibitions that commemorate Trinidad and Tobago's national days and festivals;
- Development of competencies in the visual, literary and performing arts; and
- Festival development.

G. Export Centres Companies Limited (ECCL):

- **Craft Incubator:** The craft incubation programme will be implemented to assist artisans in creating and growing their business. This collaborative programme will provide a space to work as well as seek funding, mentoring, training and other benefits. Incubators will be set up at nine (9) Training Centres and will comprise 148 hours of product development training, management skills training, and research and marketing skills training.
- **Production:** This plan proposes to bridge the gap between ECCL's Training Programme and the trainees' production readiness through a comprehensive design that would allow for maximum product output through the use of manufacturing best practices, guidelines and techniques.
- **Craft Markets:** Craft markets will be opened at ECCL Centres located in Diego Martin, Bourg Mulatresse, Tunapuna, Bon Air, Fyzabad, Palo Seco, La Brea and Point Fortin.

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 pursued in fiscal 2020:

A. Education Policy Paper 2017–2022:

The Ministerial Work Plan, which was crafted in accordance with policy statements included in the Policy Paper, will be finalised for implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

B. Early Childhood Care and Education

- **Review of the Standards for Regulating Early Childhood Care and Education:** During fiscal 2020, Consultations and Focus Group Sessions will be conducted with denominational boards, tertiary institutions, other Ministries, community members, private ECCE providers and other relevant stakeholders to appraise them of the updated Standards for Regulating ECCE Services and the requirements to operate ECCE Centres.
- **Quality Assurance Framework for the Early Childhood Care and Education Sector:** This project seeks to develop a Quality Assurance Framework for the ECCE sector to improve quality and accountability. The following will be undertaken:
 - o development and administration of an Indicators Instrument to assess compliance with the regulatory Standards for ECCE services;
 - o training for ECCE teaching staff, field officers and private providers in the Instrument's use;
 - o conduct of a public education programme to encourage private ECCE centres to raise their standards in compliance with the ECCE regulatory standards; and
 - o recruitment of staff for data collection and input.
- **Screening Programme for Children entering Public Early Childhood Care and Education Centres:** This project seeks to ensure the early

identification and intervention for children displaying characteristics of special education needs at the ECCE level. For fiscal 2020, screening and assessment will be expanded beyond the seven ECCE centres identified to conduct the Needs Assessment. Additionally, training for teachers on the early identification of special needs/disabilities in children entering public ECCE centres will continue.

C. School-Based Management (SBM)/School Development Plan:

This project entails the institutionalisation of School-Based Management (SBM) standards and school development or school improvement planning as a means of empowering, reculturing and restructuring schools to facilitate student achievement and well-being. For fiscal 2020, the revised SBM Manual, SDP Guidelines and SDP Template will be disseminated to all schools. These forms will enable tracking of the effectiveness of the interventions employed by all schools with particular emphasis on underperforming schools. This will facilitate informed adjustments to planned interventions.

D. Promoting Student Discipline Initiative:

This initiative entails the creation of a Discipline Manual that will guide schools in the development of an evidence-based Promoting Student Discipline Plan (PSDP) for their respective schools. In fiscal 2020, The Discipline Matrix and Positive Reinforcement Strategies will be formalised and institutionalised in all schools. The Promoting Discipline School Manual will be distributed to all schools during term one of the academic year 2019/2020 and it is expected that by the end of the academic year 2019/2020, all schools will have developed and implemented a School Discipline Plan that satisfies the criteria as laid out in the manual. Data will continue to be collected and analysed with a view to developing and implementing individual school strategies to improve discipline.

E. Financial Assistance:

Among the proposed activities for fiscal 2020 are:

- The review of all programmes funded under the GATE programme to ensure alignment of socio-economic and labour market priority areas;



- The conduct of evaluations on tuition fees for new programmes to determine competitive rates;
- The review and possible revision of the Means Test system; and
- Continued collaboration with participating lenders and tertiary level institutions to promote the Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP).

F. Caribbean Youth Science Forum:

The National Institute of Higher Education, Research Science and Technology (NIHERST) will host a Caribbean Youth Science Forum (CYSF) during the first week of August, 2020 at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus. This forum will bring together 130 Lower Sixth Form Science students from the Caribbean for a full week of activities. The programme contributes to a knowledge-driven economy through provision of academic and social activities that facilitate the development of 21st century skills.

G. Fab Lab to Fab Academy:

Funded under the 9th European Development fund, the goal of this project is to upgrade the current capabilities of the Fab Lab to an internationally certified Fab Academy. This project seeks to provide a stronger stimulus for innovation-driven entrepreneurship through the acquisition of state of the art equipment to facilitate training for budding entrepreneurs, researchers and students in rapid prototyping technologies and digital fabrication. The upgraded Academy will mark the NIHERST as the only Fab Lab/Fab Academy in the English-speaking Caribbean.

H. Development of an Integrated University Management System:

For fiscal 2020, the UTT will continue the development of its Integrated University Management System (iUMS). The System will integrate all key business and supporting functions across the institution into a single information system to serve the specific needs of all departments whilst facilitating decision-making.

I. Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme (YTEPP):

The following is proposed under the YTEPP for fiscal 2020:

- **Launch of the Institute of Culinary Arts (ICA), Woodford Lodge Campus:** The aim of the ICA is to offer a flexible and blended, holistic approach to culinary arts training. The programme targets young persons between the ages of 15 to 35 and particularly, at-risk youth and unemployed/underemployed, retrenched or displaced nationals aged 25 to 60 years.
- **Development and delivery of Technology-enabled Flexible and Blended Learning Courses - in collaboration with the Commonwealth of Learning (COL):** This programme will enable YTEPP to systematically transition from delivering training via traditional face-to-face teaching/learning methods to delivery using blended learning and/or fully online instruction.
- **ICT Training Units:** This programme entails the provision of information, communication and technology (ICT) training utilising mobile training units. It aims to foster increased use of technology in rural communities and targets persons between the ages of 16 to 35 years.
- **Plastics Recycling Course-Pilot Project:** This multi-faceted training course will equip ten (10) Engineers-in-Training (EITs) in a 17-month course in Plastics Processing and Recycling Technology.

J. Ecosystems Driving Innovation and Entrepreneurship (EDGE):

This project builds on the conversion from Fab Lab to Fab Academy and seeks to encourage and enable innovation by strengthening structures and improving the environment that supports and promotes innovation. This project is funded under the 9th European Development (EDF) Programme.

K. Girls in ICT Project:

This project aims to empower and encourage girls and young women to consider careers in the growing field of ICT, enabling both girls and technology companies to reap the benefits of greater female participation in the ICT sector. During the upcoming fiscal, the National Institute of Higher Education, Research Science and Technology NIHERST will host female students for a series of information and communication technology (ICT) workshops and a 'hackathon'. The sessions will

expose students to concepts such as coding and programming, and their practical applications in a range of fields. Students will also be challenged to create a mobile application that solves a real-world problem.

L. The Establishment of a Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Research Council:

The TVET Research Council will be a Ministry-appointed working Committee that will inter-alia: define best practice standards for the promotion of TVET, the gathering of labour market information and the expansion of TVET programmes.

M. Establishment of the Trinidad and Tobago National Apprenticeship System:

This system will promote, coordinate and regulate the training of apprentices with companies/industries. It is expected that the efficient transfer of complex skillsets inclusive of high technology occupations will be achieved.

N. University of the West Indies:

The following new programmes will be offered in 2019/2020:

- Faculty of Humanities and Education:
 - Special Education Programme;
 - BA Journalism.
- Faculty of Food and Agriculture:
 - Undergraduate Diploma in Agriculture (Debe Campus);
 - Online Programmes in Agriculture;
 - Undergraduate Certificate in Agriculture in collaboration with University of Belize.

Box 7.1 : Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Education for Fiscal 2019/2020

Research:

- **Craftsman Tracer Study Project:** This project aims to support the effective governance and administration of the education system through an understanding of employment outcomes inclusive of labour force participation, earnings and sector demand. It is expected to be completed in fiscal 2020.
- **National Skills Gap Analysis in Emerging Sectors of the Economy, 2020:** This study seeks to assess the demand and skills gap for Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) graduates in two of the priority sectors identified in the GORTT diversification strategy.
- **National Survey of Innovation in Emerging Sectors 2020:** Aviation and Maritime - This study seeks to collect data on the innovative activities of establishments in the Aviation and Maritime sectors.
- **Student Tracking System:** The Student Tracking System comprises of structures and measures for identifying discrepancies between student progress and targets established by the school/district. Under this project the following is proposed:
 - **Measures of School Climate:** The revised School Climate Survey will be administered and data-use workshops, in the administration and use of the results, will be conducted for stakeholders.
 - **Value Added Measures:** The findings of these Measures will be disseminated to secondary schools for the development of relevant School Improvement Plans. A "soft" accountability system at the secondary school level will also be established and will act as a benchmark to identify schools in need of relevant support services.
- **STI Mapping and Priority Setting:** This project aims to identify innovations within the industry and the drivers/impediments to innovation and unveil the intensity of the linkages and interactions among actors in this sector. The project continues in fiscal 2020 with the Sectoral Innovation Mapping (SIM) of the Tourism Sector, a micro-level research study that maps the innovation system of the Tourism Sector.
- **Survey of Science and Technology Indicators:** The objective of this study is to measure the investment in Science & Technology (S&T) in Trinidad and Tobago. Among other things, it intends to increase evidence-based decision and policy-making in planning and investment in S&T particularly research and development.

Policy:

- **Development of a STEM/ STREAM Policy** that focusses on and promotes the use of alternative teaching strategies to develop and strengthen learning and innovation skills (critical thinking and problem solving, creativity and innovation) in primary and secondary school students.



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 keeping with its focus to develop a patient-centered model of healthcare, the Ministry will continue to provide an array of programmes and services to the general population at both the primary and secondary health facilities across the country but will focus on implementation of the following in fiscal 2020:

A. Completion of the Point Fortin Hospital:

The project which has an estimated cost of \$1.26 billion is 78% complete and expected to be completed by December 2019. A Commissioning Team is in place to allow for phased start-up of service by the 1st quarter of the 2020 calendar year.

B. Completion of the Arima Hospital:

The project with an estimated cost of \$1.65 billion is approximately 90% completion. It is expected to be completed by December 2019. Once completion and handover dates are met by the contractor, phased start-up of services will begin by the 1st quarter of the 2020 calendar year.

C. Construction of the Sangre Grande Hospital:

This involves construction of a 106-bed hospital to include Medical, Surgical, Trauma, Orthopaedic and General Wards as well as High Dependency and Intensive Care Units. The project is expected to be completed by March 2022.

D. Re-Development of the Port of Spain General Hospital:

Phase 1 of the project, which entails erection of a new Central Stores structure, is currently 57% completed with projected completion set for December 2019. Phase 2 construction (which entails full replacement of the Central Block at the POSGH) is set to begin in December 2019. Relocation of Medical Wards to the COSTAATT Building is ongoing at 29% completion. Expected completion date is November 2019.

E. Construction of Diego Martin Health Centre:

The completion of construction has commenced with a completion date of October 2020. The start of Services is carded to begin by November 2020.

F. Electrical Upgrade for Port of Spain General Hospital:

The project entails a planned T&TEC upgrade of high voltage lines coming into the POSGH as well as an upgrade of the entire electrical system within the hospital. This will allow for compliance with the new Electrical Codes/OSH Act and will minimise the potential for power outages and damage to equipment. The project will be undertaken on a phased basis and is expected to be completed by September 2021.

G. Electrical Upgrade for San Fernando General Hospital (SFGH):

The project entails a planned T&TEC upgrade of high voltage lines coming into the SFGH as well as an upgrade of the entire electrical system within the hospital. This will allow for compliance with the new Electrical Codes/OSH Act and will minimise the potential for power outages and damage to equipment. The project will be undertaken on a phased basis and is expected to be completed by September 2022.

H. Refurbishment works to the Princess Elizabeth Home:

The project entails a planned T&TEC upgrade of high voltage lines coming into the SFGH as well as an upgrade of the entire electrical system within the hospital. This will allow for compliance with the new Electrical Codes/OSH Act and will minimise the potential for power outages and damage to equipment. The project will be undertaken on a phased basis and is expected to be completed by September 2022.

I. It is envisaged that with the completion of the Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey (MICS) 2019 that the Ministry will undertake planning and programming initiatives relevant to the outcome results of the Survey.

Box 7.II: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Health for Fiscal 2019/2020**Policy:**

- **Childhood Obesity Prevention Policy:** This policy seeks to address T&T's higher than global average rate of childhood obesity, by facilitating the creation of supportive environments that give every child the opportunity to live a long, healthy and productive life.
- **National Alcohol Policy:** This Policy seeks to provide guidelines for minimising the health and social impact that may result from the harmful use of alcohol, with particular focus on addressing underage drinking.
- **Breastfeeding Policy/Infant & Young Child Feeding Policy:** This Policy provides guidelines for the promotion of breastfeeding to mothers and expectant mothers to ensure exclusive breastfeeding to infants up to six months of age and continued breastfeeding up to two years after the introduction of solids. This will improve the nutritional status of children in Trinidad and Tobago.
- **Anti-Microbial Policy:** This policy outlines national guidelines for the cross-sectional prudent use and stewardship of Anti-microbial drugs by healthcare practitioners, including physicians, dentists, veterinary surgeons and members of the public, to counteract the spread of anti-microbial resistant organisms.
- **National Bioethics Policy:** The Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights advocates the establishment of independent, multidisciplinary and pluralist ethics committees at national, regional, local or institutional levels. This policy seeks to regulate the conduct of health research and the establishment of a national bioethics committee.

Research:

- **Conduct of the National Risk Factor Survey;**
- **Conduct of the National Consumption Survey;** and
Research into several existing and new policies for development including;
 - o the Adverse Events Policy;
 - o the Adolescent Policy;
 - o the National Blood Bank Policy; and
 - o National Physical and Nutrition Policy.

7.4. Ministry of Housing and Urban Development

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development is charged with the provision of adequate housing to the population, and development of urban environments. The Ministry will pursue the following projects in fiscal 2020.

A. Public Awareness and Education Campaign:

In fiscal 2020, the Ministry proposes to finalise and launch its Home Ownership 101: Know How Guide (H101). H101 is meant to be the "go-to" manual to guide individuals

on issues including purchase, construction, mortgages, maintenance and insurance in the public and private housing markets.

B. The Housing and Village Improvement Programme (HVIP):

This programme is an affordable and high quality housing initiative established in fiscal year 2017/2018 to improve housing and living conditions in targetted villages with neglected infrastructure and poor quality housing. In fiscal 2020, four (4) communities were identified, based on social analysis, for the HVIP – Matelot, Point Fortin, Sangre Grande and Wallerfield.



C. Urban Upgrading and Revitalisation Programme:

Under this New Programme, the Ministry will seek to improve the quality of life of low-income households and increase the vitality of urban areas. Additional beneficiaries include current and potential users of urban public spaces. The programme comprises the following components:

- **Urban Upgrading** - this component will finance regularisation of squatter settlements on State-owned lands with focus on sites situated in the main urban corridors in Trinidad and Tobago.
- **Affordable Housing Programme** - this component seeks to reduce the housing deficit by providing financial subsidies for (a) selected home improvements for currently occupied homes and (b) new home construction.
- **Urban Regeneration/Revitalisation** - a range of urban regeneration initiatives, with an emphasis on improving accessibility and the quality of public space will be financed under this component.
- **Strengthening of Housing and Urban Development Sector Stakeholders Capacities** - This component will finance a range of activities that will better equip supply-side stakeholders to address the medium-term housing and urban development needs of the country.

D. The Home Improvement Grant:

This grant seeks to reduce vulnerabilities associated with poor quality housing and poverty by preserving the national housing stock and reducing the demand for new homes. In fiscal 2020, the MHUD will continue to provide Home Improvement Grants to assist homeowners with home repairs.

E. Social and Economic Programme for East Port of Spain:

This programme seeks to rebrand and enhance the physical image of East Port of Spain. It also seeks to attract new businesses and investment and fuel economic activity through the establishment of a Business Improvement District. Such a programme will serve to increase attractiveness of the community and engender greater pride in the residents. Furthermore, the increased aesthetic appearance and strategic position of

the Eastern Main Road are opportunities for investors to anchor their business. The estimated cost for fiscal 2019/2020 is \$1 million.

7.5. Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development

With its overall mission to champion equity and opportunities for all stakeholders through a collaborative approach to labour administration, the empowerment of employers and employees, and entrepreneurship, the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development will implement the following initiatives in fiscal 2020:

A. Labour Legislation Reform:

In fiscal 2020, the Ministry intends to continue its review of the following pieces of labour legislation:

- The Minimum Wages Act, Chapter 88:04;
- The Maternity Protection Act, Chap. 45:57;
- Legislation to govern HIV/AIDS in the Workplace; and
- Legislation on Sexual Harassment in the Workplace.

B. Completion of the Physical De-linking of the On-the-Job-Training Programme from the National Training Agency:

During the fiscal period, the Ministry plans to relocate the OJTP's Head Office and complete other infrastructural work including the development of an Integrated Human Resource Information System for the OJTP.

C. Continued Implementation of the Ten Point Plan on Unemployment:

In fiscal 2020, the Ministry proposes to actively pursue the promotion of small business and cooperatives among unemployed persons. Additionally, collaboration with relevant agencies to provide psychological and financial counselling services to unemployed persons, will continue.

D. Small Business Development:

In collaboration with the National Enterprise Development Company Limited (NEDCO), the Ministry

will work towards implementing the 'Business Accelerator Programme'. This enhanced Incubator programme will seek to facilitate the creation of successful sustainable businesses and generate employment through a collaborative effort with tertiary institutions.

E. Development of a Modernised Labour Market Information System:

This project will address major gaps in the production and dissemination of timely and relevant labour market information in Trinidad and Tobago, particularly demand-side data that supports evidence-based decision-making and effective policy formulation.

Box 7.III: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development for Fiscal 2019/2020

- National Policy on Co-operatives
- National Workplace Policy on Sexual Harassment
- National Policy for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in Trinidad and Tobago
- Labour Migration Policy for Trinidad and Tobago
- National Baseline Survey on Knowledge, Attitudes, Beliefs and Practices on HIV in the Workplace

7.6. Ministry of National Security

The Ministry of National Security 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 2020, the Ministry of National Security will undertake the following initiatives:

A. Establishment of a New Police Headquarters:

The establishment of the new Police Headquarters will allow for enhanced relationships between decision-makers and operational units, real time execution of

projects, decisions and security measures and enhanced service delivery.

B. Construction of Police Stations:

The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) will be targeting the completion of six (6) police stations and begin construction of the Carenage Police Station. Reconstruction of the San Fernando Police Station is also planned.

C. Improvement Works to Prison Buildings:

Continued improvement works to prison buildings will be undertaken. This will include:

- Upgrade of the Remand Yard Prison, Golden Grove;
- Construction of a Girl's Rehabilitation Centre on the compound of the Youth Transformational and Rehabilitation Centre (YTRC) (formerly known as the Youth Training Centre);
- Upgrade and improvement of the dormitories at the YTRC; and
- Re-purposing of the Nursery at the Women's Prison to accommodate a Youth Training Rehabilitation Centre for Females (YTRCF).

D. Expansion of the National Crime Prevention Programme (NCPP):

The following will be undertaken during fiscal 2020

- **Expansion into other Municipalities:** This is geared to generate greater awareness across Trinidad and Tobago about crime prevention. Expansion will entail the building of strong networks and enforcing collaboration amongst various groups in society;
- **Training and Development for Crime Prevention Councils:** This will be implemented to equip members of Community Crime Prevention Councils (CCPCs) with skills to promote community development.

E. Collaboration with Non-Governmental Organisations:

- **Expansion of the Operational Framework of Crime Stoppers:** the addition of a new element to the existing Crime Stoppers Initiative that would allow individuals to provide anonymous information about criminal activity specifically related to illegal firearms.



7.7. Ministry of Public Administration

The creation of high quality, modern public services and a globally competitive economy lead the Ministry of Public Administration's vision towards regional leadership in public service modernisation. In order to achieve its goal, the Ministry will pursue the following initiatives in fiscal 2020:

A. Continued Implementation of the TTFi Project:

Further to the launch of this project in 2016 with the provision of free Wi-Fi on 13 buses, in fiscal 2020, the project implementation continues with the provision of free Wi-Fi at a proposed sixty (60) densely populated/high traffic locations. These locations include public libraries across the country, waiting rooms in hospitals and health centres and major transportation hubs.

B. ICT Access Centres:

This initiative was established to provide ICT services to persons in rural and underserved communities where ICT infrastructure is lacking. To date five (5) ICT Access Centres are operational in Guayaguayare, Marac, Penal, Cumana and Todd's Road. In keeping with the its goal to bridge the digital divide and increase access to ICTs, the Ministry aims to open four (4) additional ICT Access Centres in fiscal 2020.

C. Universal Service Infrastructure – Broadband Development Access:

The scope of this project involves the development of an implementation plan for the provision of Broadband Internet Access service in designated underserved areas and selection of a suitable concessionaire, who will build out of the necessary network and launch the service in the designated areas. Brasso Venado and Parlatuvier have been selected as designated areas emanating from Digital Divide Survey conducted in 2013.

D. Implementation of Universal Service Initiative: Preparation and Rollout of Assistive Devices and Technologies for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs):

In accordance with the schedules contained within the Universal Service Regulations, this Mandatory Universal Service initiative aims to provide subsidised

assistive devices to PwDs in Trinidad and Tobago. The project will ensure that PwDs have access to basic telecommunications mobile services through the provision of assistive mobile devices, and reduce the digital divide by promoting digital inclusion of ICTs to PwDs. This project is also intended to enhance the quality of life of PwDs by helping them to fully participate in society and ensure equality of opportunity.

7.8. Ministry of Public Utilities

The Ministry of Public Utilities (MPU) is charged with the responsibility for ensuring the delivery of quality electricity, water, wastewater, waste management, telecommunications, meteorological and postal services in an efficient, affordable and reliable manner to the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. To this end, the Ministry will pursue the following in fiscal 2020:

A. Utilities Assistance Programme (UAP):

For fiscal 2020 the MPU will continue to provide assistance to low income utilities customers as follows:

- **Provision of Utility Bill Assistance:** Approximately 14,400 low-income utility customers including 12,600 WASA customers and 1,400 T&TEC customers will be assisted;
- **Provision of Solar Panel Assistance:** Approximately five (5) low-income households that cannot access the electricity grid will receive assistance.
- **Provision of Water Tanks and related fittings:** Approximately 70 households and five (5) community-based facilities will receive assistance recipients with safe water storage. This will serve to reduce the incidence of water borne diseases;
- **Undertake a Public Education Campaign** to increase awareness of the UAP in areas that are most affected by utility issues.

B. Residential Electrification Assistance Programme (REAP):

A total of approximately 200 households (approximately 650 persons) are expected to be provided with electrical wiring/rewiring and electrical infrastructure in fiscal 2020.

C. Electrification Programme (EP):

A total of 150 households will be provided with electricity poles and the associated electrical infrastructure (transformers and low voltage lines) in fiscal 2020.

D. Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Services Division (MSD):

Construction of a New Meteorological Building at Piarco.

E. Water and Sewerage Authority:

The following projects are expected to be completed in fiscal year 2020:

- **Development of Water Sources:** Nineteen (19) wells on both islands are due for rehabilitation. It is anticipated that approximately 62,000 customers in areas inclusive of Arima, Las Lomas, Chatham, Granville and Roxborough will benefit.
- **Increased Transmission and Distribution Capacity:** The Tobago Transmission Network will be upgraded.
- **Refurbishment of Water Treatment Plants (WTPs):** Refurbishment works at the Caroni Water Treatment Plant and upgrade of the Petrotrin Guayaguayare Water Treatment Plant Phase 3 are planned. Approximately 2,200 consumers will receive increased water supply.
- **Wastewater Service:** Refurbishment of the Beetham Wastewater Treatment Plant and Wastewater Facilities at Frederick Settlement and Couva are planned. These works will result in improvements in operations and efficiency to meet WPR 2001 and WHO standards. Consumers in Port of Spain and environs will be impacted.

7.9. Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government

In fiscal 2020, the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government (MRDLG) will pursue the following:

A. Construction and Restoration:

- Restoration of Local Roads;

- Restoration of Local Bridges;
- Construction of Bailey Bridges;
- Restoration of Landslips;
- Restoration of Local Drainage.

B. Establishment of a Transformation Programme and Change Management Unit (TPCMU):

This Unit will support the implementation of, and monitor the transformation of the Municipal Corporations and facilitate Local Government reform.

C. Implementing Strategic Planning – Local Economic Development Plans:

The MRDLG continues to implement formulated models for Local Economic Development (LED) in municipalities, as part of the fulfillment of Transitioning of the Local Government Draft Policy 2016. Through this development model, improvements to services and infrastructure within municipalities will be positively impacted leading to the social and economic development of the various communities via employment opportunities and increased levels of investment.

7.10. 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. As the Ministry mandated to address the social challenges of poverty, social inequality and social exclusion, the MSDFS aims to empower and transform its clientele through programmes and initiatives that promote sustainable human prosperity.

In fiscal 2020, the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services will focus on the following initiatives:

A. Review of the Standard Means Test (SMT):

Following the receipt of the Report on the review of the SMT from the ECLAC, the Ministry will determine the changes to be made to the application of the tool and will make a recommendation for a technical team



of persons from the key Ministries of the social sector to review the Report toward the application of the Test across the sector.

B. Social Transformation and Empowerment Programme:

Uplifting People (STEP-UP): In fiscal 2020, the revised STEP-UP model, a programme of psychosocial support that focusses on prevention and early recovery, will be put into effect across the social sector and serve as a tool for resilience-building in the population.

C. HIV/AIDS Coordination:

The Unit will continue to undertake activities focussed on educating and empowering clients of the MSDFS, persons living with HIV, staff of the Ministry and the general public. Initiatives for fiscal 2020 include:

- Roving Caravan: Sensitisation for Staff of the Ministry;
- Commemoration of World AIDS Day;
- Sensitisation for Clients;
- Life Skills Programme;
- Promotion of Nutrition and Healthy Living for PLWHIV Workshop.

D. Homes for Older Persons:

Conduct of refurbishment works at three (3) Homes for Older Persons to enable compliance with the Homes for Older Persons Act.

E. Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme:

The Ministry will work towards the rationalisation of the training component of the Programme and its expansion to cater to the unserved older persons in the population.

F. Developing Interventions for the Socially Displaced:

- **Conduct of a National Street Count:** This exercise will be undertaken to determine the number of persons currently sleeping on the nation's streets.
- **Development of a Social Housing Project:** Works to be undertaken in fiscal 2020 to renovate/refurbish a facility in Carapo for use as transitional housing.
- **Refurbishment of Hernandez Place:** Refurbishment and upgrade works will be conducted on Hernandez Place, Arima. This facility

will accommodate socially displaced persons in need of long-term care.

G. Support for Persons with Disabilities:

- **Disability Assistance Grant for Minors (DAGM) (under 18 years):** In the new fiscal, the Social Welfare Division will continue the process of transitioning minors currently receiving Public Assistance or Special Child Grants to the DAGM.
- **National Enrichment Centre:** The National Enrichment Centre currently serves as a resource centre for persons with disabilities. In fiscal 2020, an agency will be contracted to operationalise the Centre to fulfil its intended purpose of providing therapeutic services.
- **Community Therapeutic Services:** This project is a collaborative effort between the MSDFS and the Ministry of Health. It seeks to provide rehabilitation and therapeutic services to persons with disabilities in a community environment. The Ministry hopes to commence the initiative in fiscal 2020.
- In fiscal 2020, focus will be placed on the implementation of the approved Policy for PWDs through the work of an Inter-agency Coordinating Committee appointed by the Cabinet as well as an assessment of the Disability sector in keeping with the recommendations of the National Social Mitigation Plan.
- The Ministry will work in collaboration with the Public Service Transport Corporation (PTSC) and key stakeholders to improve the ELDAMO service.

H. Values, Attitudes and Behaviours Campaign:

This campaign is critical to the rebirth of a positive and transformative values system in Trinidad and Tobago, which is vital for the attainment of the Vision 2030 objectives. In fiscal 2020, a Task Force to develop and oversee the implementation of a VABs Conceptual Framework will be established and appointed for a period of two (2) years.

I. Establishment of an Integrated Social Enterprise Management System (ISEMS):

The Ministry's ISEMS project was established to provide for a comprehensive information system to administer its various programmes, grants and services. For fiscal 2020,

the Ministry will embark on the award of a contract for Phase I of the Project, which includes implementation of a Core Social Enterprise Management (SEM) Solution and Automation of the Social Welfare Division.

J. Direct Deposit Initiative:

In fiscal 2020, the Ministry aims to transfer 85% of grant recipients to direct deposit and rationalise the cheque printing process for social welfare grants. This will serve to transform and simplify the processing of grants and significantly reduce the number of cheques in the system.

K. Diagnostic Assessment and Service Improvement - Social Welfare Division:

Continued rollout of this project, which seeks to improve social service delivery, increase client satisfaction, and identify and remove barriers to allow for increased staff morale and productivity, will continue.

L. National Social Mitigation Plan (NSMP):

The overarching goal of this Plan is to mitigate the negative social impacts of the downturn in the Trinidad and Tobago economy. During fiscal 2020, the following initiatives are among those planned:

- **Engagement of Consultancy:** To undertake the implementation of Phase I of the NSMP which includes:
 - o Establishment of the Social Support and Empowerment (SSE) Unit;
 - o Review of Current Social Programmes – this will be done to assess programme efficiency, effectiveness and relevance;
 - o Conduct of a Socio-Economic Situational Analysis of the effects of the economic downturn;
 - o Conduct of Assessment of the Civil Society Sector;
 - o Establishment of two pilot Health and Wellness Centres;
 - o Conduct of Assessment of the Disability Sector; and
 - o Review of legislative and policy frameworks.

- **Develop and introduce a component in State-funded Social Programmes to transform Values, Attitudes and Behaviours;**
- **Enhancement and Extensive Implementation of the STEP-UP Development Model for Social Programmes;** and
- **Development of a National Resilience Framework** to guide the development of resilience among the population.

**Box 7.IV: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services for Fiscal 2020****Policy:**

- **Operational Guidelines for Disaster Response:** These Operational Guidelines seek to clearly outline the necessary internal actions from the onset of a disaster to the end-point of the client receiving assistance. It also aims to formally outline and improve the governance arrangement between the MSDFS and the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government (MRDLG) regarding the provision of disaster assistance when activated by first responder agencies.
- **National Family Policy:** This Policy seeks to create an enabling environment to support effective family functioning
- **National Parenting Policy:** This Policy advocates for the requisite and/or improved social support and services from the State that would enable parents and guardians to better manage their responsibilities.
- **Review of the National Policy on Ageing**
- **Social Housing Policy**

Research:

- Assessment of the Disability Sector through the Caribbean Development Bank
- National and Quarterly Street Count (Street Dwellers)
- Comparative and Trend Analysis of Street Count Data
- Continued development of a Socio-economic Indicator Database for the Social Sector
- Assessment of the Civil Society Sector
- Review of Current Social Programmes
- Investigations into issues raised by the Joint Select Committee (JSC) - (Single Fatherhood, Teenage Pregnancy, Social Housing)
- Literature review to support the development of a National Resilience Framework

Evaluations are planned for the following Non-Governmental Organisations:

- Madinah House
- Autism Services of Trinidad and Tobago
- Marabella Family Crisis Centre
- St. Vincent De Paul Society (Audrey Mollineau Halfway House)
- Persons Associated with Visual Impairment (PAVI)
- Community Action Resource (CARE)
- International Institute for Health Care and Human Development (IIHHD)
- Lifeline

7.11. Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs

The Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs will continue to deliver on its mandate of facilitating the development of sport and physical recreation and creating an enabling environment for youth development and empowerment. In fiscal 2020, the Ministry will undertake the following initiatives:

A. Upgrade, Rehabilitation and Improvement of Existing Facilities:

The Ministry will pursue the following:

- Upgrade and rehabilitation of the Caroni Sport Facilities including: the Sevilla Club House and the Dubisoon Park. Upgrade works to be done to tennis courts, external buildings and swimming pool.
- Upgrade and rehabilitation of thirteen (13) grounds including Aranguez, Marac, Grande Riviere, Paramin, Park Street, Pascal and Todd's Road recreation grounds. Works will also continue on the development of larger regional recreation grounds namely the Bourg Mulatresse recreation ground, Santa Cruz and the North Eastern recreation ground, Sangre Grande.
- Continuing works on the establishment of a Multi-Purpose Facility in Moruga.
- Continuing development works to the Mahaica Oval in Point Fortin.
- Continuing comprehensive rehabilitation works to the Dwight Yorke Stadium, Tobago.
- Upgrade of four (4) stadia in preparation for upcoming 2021 Commonwealth Youth Games.
- Commencement of re-development and refurbishment works to Skinner Park, San Fernando.
- Refurbishment and upgrade of non-residential youth facilities (St. James, Malick, California, Basilon Street and Laventille). Works will include the upgrade of washrooms, gymnasium, workshops and offices. A Youth Resource Centre is also to be developed.
- Refurbishment and upgrade of the Persto Praesto and Chatham Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centres (YDACs).

B. Development of New Facilities:

The Ministry will continue the construction of the Diego Martin Sporting Complex (Phase II Stage 1), which will include construction of hard courts (basketball and netball), construction of a children's play park and outfitting of the facility.

C. Programme Implementation:

The Ministry plans to continue the implementation of the 'Pink' Reign Programme, which aims to develop women and girls through the provision of opportunities to increase awareness in sport and physical activity. Other programmes carded for implementation during the 2020 fiscal period are:

- **Coaches in Schools Programme:** In collaboration with the Ministry of Education, sporting activities will be conducted in both primary and secondary schools. Rural schools will also be encouraged to participate in competitive sports and increase the number of active participants in district sporting activities.
- **Community Sport Programme:** This programme will assist existing and new sporting organisations with obtaining the necessary knowledge and skills to function effectively in their respective communities.
- **Healthy Youth Wellness Programme TT:** This initiative in partnership with the Ministry of Health and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is geared towards decreasing the level of childhood obesity and increasing the level of physical activity among the nation's youth. It will provide opportunities for increased physical activity at selected Sport and Youth facilities nationwide.

D. Youth Development Programmes:

The Ministry's investment in youth development will be continued in fiscal year 2019-2020 through the following programmes:

- **Adolescent Intervention Programme:** This is a post-SEA programme, targeting students who are about to enter secondary school and focuses on helping them to navigate their new environment. A range of topics including nutrition, personal hygiene and grooming, teen sexuality, bullying, and time management will be covered. Students will also be



encouraged to become involved in co-curricular and sporting activities.

- **40 Under 40 Programme:** The crime reduction programme is expected to increase the contribution of youth development works to the National Youth Agenda and contribute to an enhanced quality of living for youths. The programme is being proposed to run for another 3 cycles within fiscal year 2019/2020.
- **National Mentorship Programme:** The MSYA has engaged a consultant to assist in developing an action plan for the National Mentorship Programme – a social intervention and youth empowerment programme aimed at modifying the behavioural and coping skills of mentees.
- **Life-skills, Employability, Entrepreneurship, Activism, Patriotism (LEEAP) Programme:** This programme seeks to provide an environment that builds the physical, social, intellectual and emotional self. The programme will continue as an integral part of the youth intervention initiative for fiscal 2020.
- **A Programme for Male Youths (MPowerTT):** The MSYA will consult, design and implement a programme which caters to the specific needs of male youths. The programme will cover topics such as conflict management, mentoring, personal and social development, career development and parenting.

7.12. Office of the Prime Minister

In fiscal 2020, the following initiatives will be undertaken by the Office of the Prime Minister through the following Divisions/Agencies: Gender Affairs Division, Child Affairs Division and the National AIDS Coordinating Committee.

A. Child Affairs Division:

The OPM continues to work towards strengthening the child protection framework in our nations. To this end, several of its key programmes will continue including:

- **Third Cohort of the Child Rights Ambassadors Programme:** This programme seeks to provide

a platform upon which children are given the opportunity to be ambassadors for their rights and to speak out on issues that affect them.

- **United against Child Abuse initiatives:** These involve hosting of the third Child Protection League, an interactive and educational fair on Child Protection, and the U-Report project.
- **National Child Protection Action Plan:** This will be completed pending the review of research gathered at consultations held on the National Child Policy.
- **Development of Regulations and Standards for Nurseries.**
- **Disaster Management Plan for all Homes.**
- **Establishment of a National Children's Registry:** the Registry, a Government database, aims to effectively monitor the development of children (under 18 years) and assist in identifying and tracking their progress in order to ensure their well-being.
- **Two Places of Safety for Children in Need of Supervision (CHINS):** During the fiscal, two places of safety for children in need of supervision will be customised and outfitted.

B. Gender Affairs Division:

The Gender Affairs Division (GAD) leads the State's response to issues of gender and is therefore an integral part of the Government's decision-making process in addressing gender and development. The following initiatives will be implemented in fiscal 2020:

- **Gender Sensitisation/Training:** Training of gender focal points in government ministries and State agencies will continue. Gender focal points in private and civil society organisations will also be established.
- **Continuation of the UN Foundations Programme.**
- **Upgrade of the National Domestic Violence Hotline:** The Hotline is expected to be relocated and the telephone and computer systems upgraded.
- **Establishment of Safe Houses/Shelters:** It is expected that two (2) Domestic Violence Shelters and the Gender Resource/Drop in Centre will be operationalised. Additionally, four (4) buildings will be refurbished for use as domestic violence safe houses.

Box 7.V: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Office of the Prime Minister: Gender and Child Affairs for Fiscal 2019/2020

Child Affairs Division:

Policy:

- **Policy on the Establishment of the Office of the Children's Commissioner**
- **Policy and Operating Guidelines for Vacation and After School Programmes**
- **Standards for Transporting Children**

Gender Affairs Division:

Policy:

- **The National Policy on Gender and Development (Green Paper)**
- **Draft National Strategic Action Plan on Gender Based Violence:** This will be the State's primary policy tool in the implementation and coordination of policies and programmes aimed at reducing gender-based violence in Trinidad and Tobago.

Research:

- **Male Victims of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV):** This study seeks to examine the issue of intimate partner violence from the male perspective in the Trinidad and Tobago context.
- **Female Marginalisation in Law Enforcement:** This study seeks to understand from the perspective of female police officers, the barriers and obstacles faced.

National AIDS Coordinating Committee:

Policy:

- **Completion of the National HIV and AIDS Policy:** Through its Secretariat, the NACC will coordinate a series of consultations in fiscal 2020 to obtain stakeholder feedback on the revised draft Policy.

Research:

- **Knowledge, Attitudes, Practices and Behaviour (KAPB) Survey** to monitor and evaluate the impact of health promotion and behavioural change interventions.

- **Fatherhood after Separation Programme:** This programme aims to provide fathers who are experiencing separation or divorce with the tools to develop effective co-parenting relationships.
- **"A Fighting Chance"- Women/Girls Self-Defense Programme:** This new project is aimed at reducing gender-based violence. The initiative will provide training in situational awareness and self-defense for both women and girls.
- **Women in Politics Project:** The preparation and socialisation of women from across the political divide interested in running for public office is the aim of this initiative. It is aimed at raising women's representation at all levels of governance and will allow for their increased representation in and advocacy for gender equality issues.
- **Leadership for Gender Justice:** This initiative targets women who are already active or aspiring to enter political or public leadership, by providing an opportunity to develop and build on their leadership and governance capacities.
- **Digital Literacy in Entrepreneurship for Women and Girls.**

C. National AIDS Coordinating Committee:

The National AIDS Coordinating Committee (NACC) was re-established to coordinate the implementation of activities to achieve national, regional and international goals focussed on controlling the HIV and AIDS epidemic.

- **Finalisation of the Sustainability Plan for HIV and AIDS.**
- **Expansion of the National Response to HIV and AIDS:** This includes expanding the promotion of HIV and AIDS awareness among Trinidad and Tobago's youth population and incorporating private medical testing facilities in the national response.
- **Disaster Management:** In an effort to mitigate the risks associated with natural disasters such as the inability to distribute anti retro-viral drugs (ARV), steps will be taken to integrate the National Response to HIV/AIDS with the National Disaster Response overseen by the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM).



- **Treating with Migrant Populations:** The NACC will work with international partners and other agencies to coordinate a structured response to expand the outreach to the migrant population.

7.13. Tobago House of Assembly

As the legislative body responsible for the affairs of the island of Tobago, the Tobago House of Assembly (THA) has identified several thematic areas for development. The following areas were among those included in the THA's 2020 Budget Statement:

A. Economic Growth and Diversification:

- **The Business Development Unit (BDU):** In keeping with its responsibility to support the growth and development of existing businesses and start-ups, the BDU will continue to host several community caravans and business development expos to afford Tobago entrepreneurs opportunities to showcase their products.
- **The Eco-Industrial Development Company of Tobago (E-IDCOT):** Several initiatives are proposed by the E-IDCOT for fiscal 2020. These include:
 - o The establishment of a food testing lab in collaboration with the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) and the Caribbean Industrial Research Institute (CARIRI) to provide avenues for local producers to test food quality and receive certification for domestic and export markets;
 - o The establishment of a business incubator and shared business space to provide a nurturing environment for entrepreneurs and enterprises in the early development stages, and to act as a focal point for innovation in business development; and
 - o The establishment of an animation studio at Cove to assist in jumpstarting an animation industry in Tobago.

B. Job Creation and Productivity Enhancement:

The following will be undertaken in the upcoming fiscal:

- **Establishment of the Tobago Productivity Council:** This Council will be established to address challenges of productivity in both the public and private sectors.

C. Innovation and Creativity:

- **Information and Communications Technology (ICT):** In keeping with its ongoing innovation strategy and mandate to transform Tobago into an Intelligent Island, the THA, through the Tobago Information Technology Limited (TITL), will offer tertiary level ICT training to students. Discussions are ongoing with key educational institutions in Trinidad to explore physical, technological or hybrid modes of course delivery to students in Tobago.

D. Education and Human Capital Development:

- **Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE):** Five (5) ECCE Centres are earmarked for construction in the communities of Courland, Plymouth, Belle Garden, Roxborough and Bon Accord in the upcoming fiscal.
- **University of Tobago:** The Division of Education, Innovation and Energy is collaborating with the Tobago College and University Consortium (TCUC) to advance the establishment of the University of Tobago (UoT).

E. Development of the Tourism Sector: Some of the initiatives aimed at developing Tobago's tourism sector include:

- **The Establishment of a Tobago Tourism Council:** The Council will provide a platform for tourism industry stakeholders to discuss opportunities and address the challenges facing the industry.
- **Restoration and Upgrade to Heritage Sites:** In the upcoming fiscal, restoration and upgrade works to several heritage sites and attractions, including the Roxborough Cocoa House and the Historical Site at Cove Estate, will be undertaken.
- **The Creation of Destination Apps:** These will be used to enhance the visitor experience by highlighting key sites, attractions and events.

- **Implementation of Free WiFi:** Free WiFi will be provided at strategic sites and attractions across the island.

F. Expansion of Food Production:

Over the next fiscal year, among the agricultural expansion programmes and initiatives to be undertaken by the THA's Division of Food Production, Forestry and Fisheries are:

- The continuation of the Agricultural Access Roads Programme.
- The reopening of the Scarborough market.
- The continuation of the 'Eat Local Campaign'.
- The completion of the Goldsborough Agricultural Irrigation Project.
- The establishment of a Community Business Facility for local fruit processing.
- The continuation of the Home Garden Initiative and the Agriculture at Schools programme.
- The provision of capacity enhancement training for farmers and prospective farmers.
- The continuation of support for the activities of the Tobago Agricultural Society (TAS) and the Tobago Apicultural Society.

G. Health Care and Wellness:

In its continued work towards improving the general level of health and well-being of the residents of Tobago, the THA's Division of Health, Wellness and Family Development proposes will undertake several initiatives including:

- The completion of the Moriah Health Centre by April 2020.
- The construction of the Roxborough Hospital.
- Provision of sexual and reproductive health services, staff training and provision of family planning counselling services through its continued partnership with the Family Planning Association of Trinidad and Tobago (FPATT).
- Formalisation of the relationship between the Division and the New York-based Trinbago Progressive Association, to support medical

missions, donations of equipment, and health education activities throughout Tobago.

- The provision of a range of activities for over 8,000 senior citizens in collaboration with the Tobago Association of the Elderly (TATE).
- Increased support for persons with disabilities, including training for caregivers and parents, through partnership with the Tobago Coordinating Committee for the Differently-abled (TCCD).
- The provision of adequate care (inclusive of social workers, and a community residence for children) for at-risk children in collaboration with the Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago.
- The improvement of renal disease care in Tobago in collaboration with the Washington School of Medicine.

H. Housing:

- Major housing development projects are proposed in the Riseland and Adelphi Developments. These projects are expected to add approximately one hundred and fifty-four (154) units to the island's housing stock.

I. Holistic Youth Development:

The following will be undertaken in the upcoming fiscal:

- Completion of the Whim Skills Development Centre by November 2019.
- Completion of the Goodwood Pavilion.
- The hosting of the World of Work (WoW) programme to improve employability and aid in personal development.
- Hosting of the Sports Awards and Tobago Youth Awards, where we continue to recognise and reward youth excellence in a range of areas. The hosting the Tobago Youth Empowerment Forum by the Division of Finance and the Economy to expose our young people to cutting-edge ideas in the field of business.
- The hosting of the Youth Entrepreneurship Programme, Career Fairs, Life Skills, Professional Development and Summer Internship Programmes under the Youth Energised for Success (Y.E.S.) Programme in the Division of Finance and the Economy.



- The hosting of a Financial Literacy Quiz, the You-Biz Summer Camp, Financial Literacy Business Tours and a Financial Literacy Youth Exposition to sensitise Tobago's youth about financial literacy and entrepreneurial issues.
- The upgrades to several recreational grounds inclusive of Hope, Speyside, Goodwood, Roxborough, Shaw Park and Plymouth.

J. Community Development: In the upcoming fiscal, the planned programmes and initiatives to upgrade community infrastructure and empower communities in Tobago include the following:

- The continuation of upgrade works to several Community and Multipurpose Centres throughout Tobago, including Pembroke, Delaford, Les Coteaux, Charlotteville, Glamorgan, Betsy's Hope and Speyside.
- The outfitting and commissioning of Adventure and Charlotteville Micro Enterprise Centres.
- The continuation of the Vocational Skills and the Integrated Community Literacy Improvement Programme.
- The expansion and enhancement of the Cool Kids Camp, which is geared towards exposing children to art and craft, civics, agriculture and environmental awareness.
- The implementation of a 'Safe Community' model project to promote safety and security at the community level.

Box 7.VI: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2020

- **Conduct of a Job Vacancy Survey:** This will be used to detail the current and future job and skill requirements for the private sector in Tobago.
- **Expansion of research in areas inclusive of:** aging, cancer, management of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), mental health and biomedical waste management.

2020

SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

CHAPTER 7: SOCIAL SECTOR PLANS FOR 2020



APPENDICES

Appendix I:

Key Social Programmes and Structural /
Institutional Initiatives Funded by the Public Sector
Investment Programme (PSIP) 2018-2020

Figures supplied by the Ministry of Finance as at 2/10/19

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2020 TTD
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES				
Development Centre for Persons with Challenges	224,423	500,000	239,700	1,500,000
DRETCHI – Refurbishment/Reconfiguration	0	0	0	100,000
Establishment of a Data Centre and Storage Area Network	957,161	0	0	0
Establishment of an Integrated Social Enterprise Management System	0	1,000,000	0	1,000,000
Establishment of Social Displacement Centres	90,562	660,000	0	3,050,000
The Street Dwellers Rehabilitation & Re-Integration Project	854,226	100,000	182,000	200,000
Toco Home for Senior Citizens	0	0	0	0
Implementation of a Social Mitigation Plan	35,520	160,000	0	250,000
Refurbishment of Hernandez Place	0	1,000,000	0	400,000
Total	2,161,892	3,420,000	421,700	6,500,000
MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, CULTURE AND THE ARTS				
Refurbishment of the Community Education, Training, Information and Resource Centre	0	2,000,000	671,100	1,500,000
Support to Mediation Services	2,269,543	2,000,000	476,300	2,500,000
National Museum Development/Carnival Museum	511,337	500,000	498,500	800,000
Establishment of a Sugar Museum	0	500,000	138,500	500,000
Development of First Peoples	500,000	1,000,000	180,000	1,000,000
*Construction of Community Centres	35,162,710	20,000,000	26,010,956	45,000,000
*Refurbishment of Community Centres	5,330,378	6,000,000	4,287,822	8,000,000
*Implementation of Self-Help Programme (NCSHL)	5,754,217	15,000,000	7,104,464	15,000,000
*Construction of a Children's Homework Centre in Carenage	3,316,352	0	0	0
Total	52,844,537	47,000,000	39,367,642	74,300,000
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT				
*Community Improvement Services	0	0	0	0
*Development of Rural Communities	3,524,464	56,076,000	10,500,000	20,000,000
Total	3,524,464	56,076,000	10,500,000	20,000,000



PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2020 TTD
MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT				
Relocation of Squatters	0	5,000,000	0	0
Conduct of the 2018-2019 Household Budgetary Survey/ Survey of Living Conditions	0	6,000,000	967,600	4,000,000
Conduct of the 2019 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS)	0	743,000	1,423,513	1,400,000
Total	0	11,743,000	2,391,113	5,400,000
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER				
Refurbishment of Two (2) Safe Houses	238,829	0	0	790,000
Establishment of Places of Safety	1,347,567	0	0	0
Establishment of a National Children's Registry	0	800,000	0	1,360,000
Conduct of Key Research Studies by Children's Authority	176,415	500,000	0	400,000
Database Management System Expansion for Children's Authority	582,937	1,000,000	37,300	0
Digitization of Adoption Records	2,754	0	492,600	0
National Child Policy	2,531	200,000	36,400	0
*Reconstruction of St Mary's Home for Children	144,263	1,000,000	65,157	1,000,000
*Modernization of St. Michael's School for Boys	8,952	0	0	0
*Refurbishment of St. Dominic's Home for Children- Old Bethlehem	0	500,000	95,640	1,300,000
*Refurbishment of the Salvation Army- Josephine Shaw House	0	3,000,000	759,709	10,000,000
Total	2,504,248	7,000,000	1,486,806	14,850,000
MINISTRY OF HEALTH				
Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children- Refurbishment Works	297,386	400,000	570,300	600,000
Special Programme - Renal Dialysis	42,519,150	30,000,000	43,383,200	40,000,000
Special Programme - Treatment of Adult Cardiac Disease	19,981,823	20,000,000	19,985,500	30,000,000
Tissue Transplant	644,814	700,000	101,900	700,000
Waiting List for Surgery	12,050,360	19,000,000	5,616,800	15,000,000
Establishment of a Renal Dialysis Centre	0	300,000	0	200,000
President's Emergency Programme For AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)	1,297,493	1,000,000	560,000	500,000
* Construction of the National Oncology Centre	2,356,180	4,000,000	24,852,500	1,600,000
Total	79,147,206	75,400,000	95,070,200	88,600,000

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2020 TTD
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS				
Conduct of a National Sport and Recreational Census	0	0	0	500,000
Development of a Youth Employment Policy	111,179	1,000,000	0	1,000,000
Implementation of the National Youth Policy	524,466	1,500,000	657,800	3,000,000
Refurbishment of Youth Training Facilities	111,370	2,000,000	181,100	3,000,000
Refurbishment of the Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centre	168,750	3,000,000	1,258,500	2,000,000
* Development and Upgrading of Recreational Grounds, Parks and Spaces	0	6,000,000	431,500	5,000,000
* Upgrading of Corporation Grounds	1,750,698	4,000,000	1,324,200	15,000,000
Total	2,666,463	17,500,000	3,853,100	29,500,000
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION				
Seamless Education System Project	240,141	0	0	1,847,000
Support the Enhancement of the Education Strategy	246,197	0	0	194,000
Metal Industries Company (MIC) - Training Subsidy (Legacy Project)	1,500,000	2,000,000	1,380,000	2,500,000
National Skills Development Programme	2,088,018	2,000,000	0	1,000,000
* Early Childhood Care and Education	23,642,381	25,000,000	59,169,531	15,000,000
* Development of a School for Special Education at Point-a-Pierre	26,498	24,000	20,600	1,000,000
* Repairs and Maintenance of Special Schools	2,999,999	2,000,000	3,068,100	4,000,000
Total	30,743,234	31,024,000	63,638,231	25,541,000
TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY				
Community Awareness Programme	500,000	0	0	300,000
Construction of School for the Deaf	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	800,000
Construction of a Wellness/Fitness Centre	225,000	0	0	100,000
Domestic Violence Project	150,000	0	0	50,000
Emergency Medical Alert System	75,000	0	0	100,000
Enterprise Assistance Grant Programme	1,000,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	1,000,000
Establishment of Community Unit and Development of Programme for Social Behaviour Change	150,000	0	0	50,000
Establishment of Parenting in Student Support Services Unit	300,000	0	0	100,000
Establishment of Probation Hostels	225,000	0	0	300,000
Expansion of Mardon House Youth Development Centre	375,000	0	0	0
Gender Management System and Gender Mainstreaming Programme	150,000	0	0	50,000
Golden Apple Adolescents Partnership Programme (GAAPP)	450,000	0	0	3,400,000
Home Completion Programme, Tobago	562,500	0	0	0
Home Improvement Grant, Tobago	1,725,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	3,000,000
Home Improvement Subsidy, Tobago	450,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,500,000



PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2020 TTD
Implementing Family Remedial Therapy/Thinking	75,000	0	0	50,000
Life Management and Parenting Education Programme	150,000	0	0	50,000
Programme for Adolescent Mothers	300,000	0	0	100,000
Programme for Rural Electrification	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Project for the Realisation of Economic Achievement (REACH)	600,000	0	0	300,000
Roving Care Givers Programme	600,000	300,000	300,000	300,000
Seamless Education Programme (IDB) Tobago	21,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	0
Social Services and Prison Integrated Network (SPINE)	225,000	0	0	75,000
Tobago Elderly Housing and Rehabilitative Centre	300,000	0	0	100,000
Tobago HIV/AIDS Strategic Response	400,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Tobago Rehabilitation Programme	150,000	0	0	525,000
Upgrade of Happy Haven School	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	800,000
Vocation Centre for Persons with Mental Retardation	150,000	0	0	100,000
Total	32,537,500	16,550,000	16,550,000	13,900,000
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT				
Housing Grants	8,098,626	15,000,000	13,335,000	14,000,000
Surveys of Squatter Sites	213,478	4,500,000	4,196,000	1,500,000
Housing and Village Improvement Programme	1,060,241	10,000,000	8,174,900	15,000,000
Regularization and Regeneration of Communities- Greater POS Region	300,734	2,500,000	3,312,500	10,000,000
Regularisation of Squatter Communities	2,832,707	15,000,000	14,200,400	13,000,000
Emergency Shelter Relief Fund (Head Office)	690,000	1,000,000	990,000	1,000,000
Home Ownership 101	0	550,000	464,400	0
Home Improvements and New Housing Subsidies Programme	14,927,049	0	20,000	0
Sector and Institutional Strengthening Programme	1,810,751	0	0	0
Social and Economic Programme for East Port of Spain	2,219,895	3,000,000	1,746,400	2,000,000
* Accelerated Housing Programme	279,998,039	200,000,000	199,994,700	260,000,000
Total	312,151,520	251,550,000	246,434,300	316,500,000
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES				
Water Management and Flood Control Programme	1,617,442	2,000,000	354,000	3,000,000
Total	1,617,442	2,000,000	354,000	3,000,000
GRAND TOTAL	519,898,506	519,263,000	480,067,092	598,091,000

* Infrastructure Development Fund

Appendix II:

Allocations and Expenditure for Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2019 and 2020 and Actual Expenditure for Fiscal 2018 under Recurrent Expenditure by Ministry

Figures supplied by the Ministry of Finance as at 2/10/19

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2020 TTD
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT				
Community-Based Environment Protection & Enhancement Programme (CEPEP)	447,997,789	375,915,380	369,613,280	347,876,000
Total	447,997,789	375,915,380	369,613,280	347,876,000
MINISTRY OF FINANCE				
Food Price Support Programme	139,930,450	185,200,000	153,125,200	175,200,000
Government's Contribution to the Children's LIFE Fund	0	30,000,000	6,300,000	30,000,000
Government Assistance for Tertiary Expenses (GATE)	434,300,000	435,000,000	435,000,000	435,000,000
Unemployment Relief Programme (URP)	272,154,782	250,000,000	289,216,000	250,000,000
Total	846,385,232	900,200,000	883,641,200	890,200,000
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER				
Other Transfers:				
Non-Profit Institutions – Ecclesiastical Bodies	0	500,000	36,000	500,000
Other Social Programmes	0	0	0	0
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions (Children's Homes)	5,888,832	5,450,000	12,650,000	8,000,000
St Mary's Children's Homes	13,500,000	13,500,000	13,500,000	13,500,000
St Dominic's Children Home	18,262,900	18,262,900	18,262,900	18,262,900
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions (Gender Affairs)	5,380,345	5,000,000	10,180,000	8,000,000
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions PRP- Child Development	589,495	886,030	518,200	886,030
Heroes Foundation	420,000	420,000	420,000	420,000
St Michael's School for Boys	11,000,000	11,000,000	4,947,300	5,777,860
St Jude's Home for Girls	8,000,000	8,000,000	8,000,000	8,000,000
Adoption Board Expenses	105,000	105,000	105,000	257,900
Foster Care Expenses	1,123,999	1,124,000	1,124,000	1,703,000
Children's Authority	55,000,000	57,769,100	63,769,100	64,329,710
Total	119,270,571	122,017,030	133,512,500	129,637,400



HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2020 TTD
MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT				
Debit Card System for URP Employees	662,073	1,300,000	1,300,000	3,000,000
Total	662,073	1,300,000	1,300,000	3,000,000
TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY				
Education, Innovation and Energy:				
Adult Education Extension Services (Adult Classes)	599,900	800,000	700,000	800,000
Assistance to Sporting Organisations	0	0	0	0
Assistance to Youth Organisations	0	0	0	0
Basic Grants	11,973,787	12,500,000	10,500,000	11,000,000
Building Grants to Assisted Schools	0	150,000	0	150,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	329,331	350,000	350,000	350,000
Early Childhood Care	64,022	500,000	100,000	500,000
Grants to Necessitous Students Attending Public Schools	396,402	400,000	400,000	400,000
Grant-Trinidad & Tobago National Council of Parent Teacher Association Inc	0	100,000	0	100,000
Grants for Students attending conferences, seminars and competitions	46,766	150,000	150,000	150,000
School Feeding Programme	38,733,427	39,000,000	35,000,000	37,000,000
Special Education Resources Programme	57,186	250,000	100,000	250,000
Student Support Services Unit	27,055	500,000	500,000	500,000
Happy Haven School-Tobago Council for Handicapped Children	1,849,365	2,966,800	2,644,800	2,477,500
Tobago School for the Deaf, Speech and Language	1,162,200	2,122,200	2,019,700	2,018,700
Youth Development Programme	0	0	0	0
Sport and Youth Affairs:				
Assistance to Sporting Organisations	1,564,775	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Assistance to Youth Organisations	140,685	500,000	250,000	500,000
Youth Development Programme	176,313	500,000	200,000	500,000
Agriculture, Marine Affairs, Marketing and the Environment:				
Agricultural Incentive Programme	0	0	0	0
Subsidy for Fishermen	0	0	0	0
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	0	0	0	0
Food Production, Forestry and Fisheries				
Agricultural Incentive Programme	769,054	700,000	800,000	700,000
Subsidy for Fishermen	0	450,000	200,000	450,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	30,000	20,000	20,000	20,000

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2020 TTD
Community Development, Enterprise Development and Labour:				
Assistance to Community Organizations	80,300	500,000	450,000	500,000
Assistance to Cultural Groups	0	0	0	0
Community Action for Renewal and Empowerment (CARE)	0	200,000	65,000	200,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	0	150,000	50,000	150,000
Export Centres	2,350,021	2,000,000	2,300,000	2,300,000
National Service	0	100,000	20,000	100,000
National Days and Festivals	0	0	0	0
Regional Complexes	4,229,755	4,300,000	4,300,000	4,300,000
Small Grants	0	400,000	150,000	400,000
Special Community Programme	1,939,042	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
Health, Wellness and Family Development:				
Assistance to Home for the Aged	5,300	30,000	30,000	30,000
The Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago	4,633	100,000	100,000	100,000
Emergency Cases Fund	298,174	800,000	800,000	800,000
Foster Care Services	330,922	200,000	200,000	200,000
Non- Profit Institutions - Special Social Programmes	3,206,549	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	71,780	300,000	300,000	300,000
Grants towards Necessitous Patients	2,651,117	3,000,000	2,500,000	3,000,000
Total	73,087,861	80,539,000	71,699,500	76,746,200
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY				
Vision on Mission	7,254,000	7,254,000	3,627,000	7,254,000
Civilian Conservation Corps	33,780,245	27,357,700	29,201,200	32,754,500
Military Led Academic Training (MILAT)	12,700,253	15,000,000	10,079,700	15,000,000
Mentoring Programme for Youth at Risk	0	0	0	0
Criminal Injuries Compensation	1,418,232	2,000,000	181,100	2,000,000
Emergency Cases Fund (Probation Services)	90,496	200,000	0	100,000
Crime Stoppers Trinidad & Tobago Limited	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
HIV/AIDS Coordinating Unit	99,455	1,000,000	0	0
Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management	9,179,937	18,000,000	4,224,700	13,000,000
National Drug Council	474,792	1,500,000	177,000	1,000,000
The Morvant/Laventille Initiative	386,566	1,188,600	1,228,600	1,500,000
National Crime Prevention Programme	2,000,296	4,094,300	2,497,400	5,153,600
Total	69,384,272	79,594,600	53,216,700	79,762,100



HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2020 TTD
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT				
Non Profit Institutions	1,606,288	1,605,055	1,218,477	1,605,055
On the Job Training Programme	175,895,662	207,739,281	243,984,726	247,197,563
National Entrepreneurship Development Company (NEDCO)	22,000,000	20,000,000	12,000,000	20,000,000
Fair Share Programme	0	250,000	0	250,000
HIV/AIDS Advocacy and Sustainability Centre	113,372	457,360	97,950	457,360
Total	199,615,322	230,051,696	257,301,153	269,509,978
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES				
Agricultural Incentive Programme	42,523,764	24,364,000	7,143,000	26,067,000
Incentive Programme	568,858	500,000	0	500,000
Forestry Incentive Programme	89,829	300,000	0	300,000
Relief of Flood Damage	9,666,926	9,000,000	7,000,000	10,500,000
4H Young Farmers Club	33,824	250,000	16,000	380,000
Rural Women Producers Network	0	25,000	0	25,000
Youth Apprenticeship Programme in Agriculture (YAPA)	0	500,000	0	500,000
Total	52,883,201	34,939,000	14,159,000	38,272,000
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	203,301,570	200,000,000	224,200,000	200,000,000
School Transportation Services	42,139,645	52,000,000	30,960,000	47,000,000
Servol Junior Life Centres	1,752,000	4,686,000	4,686,000	4,686,000
Special Education Resources Programme	0	900,000	0	500,000
Student Support Services Programme	662,497	2,000,000	600,000	3,000,000
Textbook Rental/ Management Unit – Primary Schools	1,894,984	2,000,000	4,351,500	5,000,000
Textbook Rental/ Management Unit – Secondary Schools	1,732,113	2,000,000	2,521,600	2,500,000
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	0	0	0
Retraining Programme for Displaced Workers	9,000,000	8,316,000	8,316,000	0
Higher Education Loan Programme	22,257,548	10,000,000	2,000,000	10,000,000
MIC Craft Programmes	10,752,530	10,000,000	10,837,600	10,000,000
Helping Youth Prepare for Employment Programme (HYPE)	13,979,160	13,516,000	14,516,000	18,000,000
Multi-Sector Skill Training Programme (MUST)	17,216,600	17,300,000	20,200,860	17,300,000

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2020 TTD
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)	6,950,000	7,200,000	7,200,000	7,200,000
Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme Ltd (YTEPP)	55,000,000	45,000,000	45,000,000	45,000,000
Metal Industries Co Ltd (National Skills Development Programme)	28,166,600	26,613,000	27,017,000	26,613,000
Total	462,055,247	448,781,000	449,656,560	444,049,000
MINISTRY OF HEALTH				
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions	15,267,180	11,000,000	12,683,100	18,300,000
Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Centres	0	0	0	0
National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention	0	200,000	0	200,000
Medical Treatment of Nationals in Institutions	49,450,659	60,000,000	57,258,500	55,000,000
Children's Life Fund Authority	2,400,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,400,000
School Health Programme (Audio test, hearing aid, service and eyeglasses)	438,134	500,000	600,000	500,000
Drugs and Other Related Materials and Supplies	498,077,892	660,000,000	575,162,200	144,200,000
Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children	10,864,830	12,000,000	11,000,000	12,000,000
Total	576,498,695	745,700,000	658,703,800	232,600,000
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES				
Utilities Assistance Programme	3,748,790	4,000,466	3,456,000	4,000,000
Total	3,748,790	4,000,466	3,456,000	4,000,000
MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, CULTURE AND THE ARTS				
Non-Profit Institutions	38,372,099	41,870,000	27,014,800	46,083,060
Community Action for Revival and Empowerment (CARE)	2,314,007	2,500,000	921,000	2,200,000
Hosting of Cultural Camps	398,550	900,000	398,550	900,000
Music Schools in the Community	562,700	1,000,000	294,950	1,000,000
Export Centres	7,200,000	6,300,000	6,300,000	7,300,000
National Commission for Self-Help Limited	10,805,244	9,000,000	9,000,000	10,000,000
National Days and Festivals	5,923,360	5,500,000	6,828,100	6,000,000
Queens Hall	7,695,345	8,260,000	8,260,000	9,907,901
Naparima Bowl	4,342,359	5,976,500	4,289,600	5,976,500
National Carnival Commission of T & T	108,964,491	139,839,790	120,609,700	165,000,000
Total	186,578,155	221,146,290	183,916,700	254,367,461



HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2020 TTD
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS				
Transfers:				
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions (Sporting Organisations)	13,275,216	11,000,000	8,089,100	21,450,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions (Youth Organisations)	233,385	366,000	220,300	687,530
Other transfers:				
Indoor Sporting Arenas/ Hockey Facility	3,832,163	3,000,000	1,200,000	3,000,000
The Sport Company of Trinidad & Tobago	71,951,960	60,000,000	55,196,700	91,000,000
Total	89,292,724	74,366,000	64,706,100	116,137,530
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT				
Other transfers:				
Trinidad and Tobago Housing Development Corporation	672,099,997	663,542,000	661,810,500	602,384,000
Total	672,099,997	663,542,000	661,810,500	602,384,000
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES TOBAGO				
Non-Profit Institutions:				
Contribution to Non-Profit Organizations	124,580	500,000	0	400,000
Total	124,580	500,000	0	400,000
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE				
Transfers:				
Non-Profit Institutions-Police Youth Clubs	1,623,007	3,000,000	1,597,800	6,000,000
Total	1,623,007	3,000,000	1,597,800	6,000,000
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES				
Other Social Programmes	1,079,922	7,500,000	200,000	2,500,000
Senior Citizens' Homes	844,031	1,200,000	678,000	1,200,000
Senior Citizens' Centres	658,046	1,616,400	0	1,616,400
Social Programmes (Ageing)	0	490,000	0	500,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions	9,000,000	13,000,000	6,190,000	8,500,000
Retirees Adolescent Partnership Programme	1,434,640	1,800,000	1,544,000	1,800,000
President's Award of Trinidad and Tobago	55,000	60,000	40,000	60,000
Young Women's Christian Association	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Young Men's Christian Association	156,000	156,000	156,000	156,000
Scouts Association of Trinidad and Tobago	126,000	126,000	26,400	126,000
Girl Guides Association of Trinidad and Tobago	84,000	84,000	84,000	84,000

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2018 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019 TTD	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2020 TTD
Non-Profit Institutions (Other Social Parenting Programmes)	267,677	2,000,000	0	2,000,000
Non-Profit Institutions (Other Social Family Programmes)	213,287	1,250,000	59,000	1,250,000
Adult Education Programme	1,872,418	2,824,000	1,900,000	2,824,000
Senior Citizens' Grant	3,553,245,345	3,680,947,000	3,853,000,000	3,798,467,000
Social Assistance	391,385,916	390,000,000	361,500,000	330,000,000
Urgent Temporary Assistance	19,820,390	30,000,000	140,410,400	30,000,000
S.H.A.R.E.	0	0	0	0
Rehabilitative Programme	582,091	8,500,000	383,000	5,000,000
Payments to Registrars of Births and Deaths	851	12,195	1,200	0
Disability Grant	513,471,887	581,000,000	566,190,000	521,000,000
Assistance to National Heroes	1,534,800	2,000,000	652,000	2,000,000
Target Conditional Cash Transfer Programme -Development Component for Receipts	0	0	0	300,000
National Service - Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme	19,649,282	21,000,000	19,500,000	20,000,000
National Social Development Programme	512,009	8,000,000	940,000	5,000,000
Community Care Programme	3,490,169	3,000,000	4,068,000	4,000,000
Trinidad & Tobago Association for Retarded Children (Lady Hochoy Home)	13,954,275	18,000,000	14,050,000	18,203,251
Trinidad and Tobago Association for the Hearing Impaired	9,716,463	11,700,000	6,693,000	12,700,000
Trinidad & Tobago Blind Welfare Association	10,768,193	14,000,000	11,265,000	14,000,000
Total	4,553,952,692	4,800,295,595	4,989,560,000	4,783,316,651
GRAND TOTAL	8,355,260,208	8,785,888,057	8,797,850,793	8,278,258,320



Appendix III:

List of Non-Governmental Organisations Receiving Government Subventions for Fiscal 2018 & 2019

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2018 TTD	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2019 TTD	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2019 FROM 2018 TTD
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES			
Services for Persons with Disabilities			
Goodwill Industries of the West Indies	564,413	564,413	0
National Centre for Persons with Disabilities	799,360	799,360	0
T&T Association for Retarded Children (Lady Hochoy Homes)	14,000,000	18,000,000	4,000,000
T&T Association for the Hearing Impaired	8,500,000	11,700,000	3,200,000
T&T Blind Welfare Association	12,000,000	14,000,000	2,000,000
T & T Chapter of Disabled People International	133,200	133,200	0
Sub-Total	35,996,973	45,196,973	9,200,000
Socially Displaced			
Court Shamrock Centre for the Socially Displaced	255,596	452,000	196,404
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	1,682,340	1,682,340	0
Sub-Total	4,982,336	5,178,740	196,404
Family Life and Counselling Service			
Family Planning Association	1,000,000	1,000,000	0
Islamic Community Services	48,000	48,000	0
Rape Crisis Society of Trinidad and Tobago	300,000	300,000	0
T & T Innovative Parenting Support	290,000	290,000	0
T & T Red Cross Society	730,000	730,000	0
Sub-Total	2,368,000	2,368,000	0
Homes for Senior Citizens			
Chaguanas Senior Citizens Home	144,187	144,187	0
Couva Home for the Aged	148,000	148,000	0
JC McDonald Home for the Aged	239,382	239,382	0
La Brea Senior Citizens Home	77,674	77,674	0
Mayaro Home for the Aged	44,194	44,194	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	1,143,584	1,143,584	0
Hostels/Halfway Houses			
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

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2018 TTD	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2019 TTD	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2019 FROM 2018 TTD
HIV/AIDS			
South AIDS Support	167,816	167,816	0
Sub-Total	167,816	167,816	0
Youth NGOs			
Girl Guides Association of T&T	84,000	84,000	0
President Awards of T&T	60,000	60,000	0
Scout Association of T&T	126,000	126,000	0
Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)	156,000	156,000	0
Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)	30,000	30,000	0
Sub-Total	456,000	456,000	0
Ministry of Social Development and Family Services' Total Subventions	45,342,909	54,739,313	9,396,404
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)			
Family Life and Counselling Service			
ChildLine	1,734,196	1,300,647	-433,549
Network of Non-Governmental Organisations of Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women	0	100,000	100,000
New Life Ministries for the Establishment and Administration of a Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre	900,000	900,000	0
The Heroes Foundation	420,000	315,000	-105,000
Sub-Total	3,054,196	2,615,647	-438,549
Children's Homes			
A Bridge of Hope	456,800	518,500	61,700
Amica House	324,675	371,125	46,450
Angels of Hope Children's Foundation	193,325	220,950	27,625
Casa de Corazon	312,875	309,600	-3,275
Cecilia's Children Foundation	0	11,850	11,850
Chickland Children's Home	106,750	121,250	14,500
Couva Children's Home & Crisis Nursery	396,200	524,050	127,850
Credo Foundation for Justice - Credo Development Centre	269,801	186,310	-83,491
Credo Foundation for Justice - Sophia House	315,856	215,601	-100,255
Society of St. Vincent De Paul - Cyril Ross Nursery	287,200	233,625	-53,575
Dar-Ul-Aman Freeport Children's Home	131,300	117,575	-13,725
El Shaddai Restoration Home for Children	411,675	376,000	-35,675
Ezekiel Home for Abandoned Children	440,725	417,150	-23,575
Ferndean's Place Children's Home	273,200	263,625	-9,575
Haven of Hope	314,900	287,000	-27,900
Jairah House	146,900	119,800	-27,100
Joshua House	234,250	223,425	-10,825
Mothers' Union Children's Home	201,625	185,525	-16,100
Living Water Community - Our Lady of the Wayside	320,150	389,500	69,350
Raffa House	125,600	134,800	9,200



ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2018 TTD	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2019 TTD	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2019 FROM 2018 TTD
Rainbow Rescue	292,550	266,600	-25,950
Sri Jayalakshmi Children's Home Ltd	284,575	230,775	-53,800
The Hope Centre	0	302,800	302,800
The Allyson Lynch Home	317,675	82,000	-235,675
The Islamic Home for Children Inc.	322,575	333,650	11,075
The Margaret Kistow Children's Home	386,350	492,500	106,150
Vishok Bhavan	264,350	146,500	-117,850
Sub-Total	7,131,882	7,082,086	-49,796
Industrial Schools			
St. Dominic's Children's Home	18,262,900	3,043,816	-15,219,084
St. Jude's School for Girls	8,000,000	2,000,001	-5,999,999
St. Mary's Children's Home	13,500,000	3,375,000	-10,125,000
Sub-Total	39,762,900	8,418,817	-31,344,083
Office of the Prime Minister's (Gender and Child Development) Total Subventions	49,948,978	18,116,550	-31,832,428
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
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 (TDCs)	2,129,022	2,129,022	0
Trinbago Unified Calypsonians' Organisation	50,000	50,000	0
Trinidad Theatre Workshop	30,000	30,000	0
Trinidad and Tobago Federation of Women's Institutes	8,000	8,000	0
Trinidad and Tobago Music Festival Association	100,000	100,000	0
The Little Carib Theatre and Folk House	100,000	100,000	0
Ryu Dan Dojo	0	135,000	135,000
Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts' Total Subventions	4,587,022	4,722,022	135,000
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

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2018 TTD	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2019 TTD	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2019 FROM 2018 TTD
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
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)	518,820	345,880	-172,940
Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development's Total Subventions	518,820	345,880	-172,940
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY			
Crime Stoppers	2,000,000	2,000,000	0
Vision on Mission	7,254,000	7,254,000	0
Ministry of National Security's Total Subventions	9,254,000	9,254,000	0
GRAND TOTAL	127,102,945	104,628,981	-22,473,964



List of Acronyms

ADAPP	Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme
AEP	Adult Education Programme
AIM	Apprenticeship, Internship and Mentorship
ARV	Anti Retro-Viral Drugs
BDU	Business Development Unit
BMC	Borrowing Member Countries
CAHFSA	Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency
CANARI	Caribbean Natural Resources Institute
CANTA	Caribbean Association of National Training Agencies
CAPE	Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination
CARDI	Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
CARe	Community Action Resource
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CARIFORUM	Caribbean Forum
CARIRI	Caribbean Industrial Research Institute
CARPHA	Caribbean Public Health Agency
CARTAC	Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Centre
CATS	Coastal and Aqua Terrestrial Solutions
CATT	Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago
CBO	Community-Based Organisations
CCC	Civilian Conservation Corps
CCHRD	Caribbean Centre for Health Systems Research and Development
CCLCS	Cipriani College of Labour and Cooperative Studies
CCP	Community Care Programme
CCPC	Community Crime Prevention Council
CCRIF	Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility
CCSAWP	Commonwealth/ Caribbean Seasonal Agricultural Workers' Programme
CDAP	Chronic Disease Assistance Programme
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CDEMA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency

CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CEP	Community Empowerment Programme
CEPEP	Community-based Environment Protection & Enhancement Programme
CERT	Community Emergency Response Team
CHINS	Children in Need of Supervision
CHOGM	Caribbean Community Heads of Government
CIIF	Creative Industries Innovation Fund
CLFA	Children's Life Fund Authority
COAST	Caribbean Oceans and Aquaculture Sustainability Facility
COFCOR	Council for Foreign and Community Relations
COHSOD	Council for Human and Social Development
COL	Commonwealth of Learning
COP25	25 th Session of the Conference of the Parties
COSTAATT	College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago
CPI	Consumer Price Index
CR	Community Residences
CRDV	Central Registry on Gender-based Domestic Violence
CRFM	Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism
CSEC	Caribbean Secondary Entrance Certificate
CSME	CARICOM Single Market and Economy
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CSO	Central Statistical Office
CSP	Citizen Security Programme
CSDP	Centre for Socially Displaced Persons
CTS	Community Therapeutic Services
CVQ	Caribbean Vocational Qualification
CXC	Caribbean Examinations Council
CYSF	Caribbean Youth Science Forum
DAG	Disability Assistance Grant
DAGM	Disability Assistance Grant for Minors
DATAS	Department of Advanced Training and Advisory Services
DAU	Disability Affairs Unit

ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education
ECCL	Export Centres Companies Limited
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean
EDGE	Ecosystems Driving Innovation and Entrepreneurship
EIT	Engineers in Training
E-IDCOT	Eco-Industrial Development Company of Tobago
ELDAMO	Elderly and Differently-Abled Mobile Service
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement
ERRAG	Emergency Repair and Reconstruction Assistance Grants
EU	European Union
EU-LAC	European Union – Latin America and Caribbean Foundation
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FBO	Faith-Based Organisations
FPATT	Family Planning Association of Trinidad and Tobago
GAD	Gender Affairs Division
GAPP (THA)	Golden Apple Adolescent Partnership Programme (Tobago House of Assembly)
GAPP	Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme
GASHHP	Government Aided Self-Help Housing Programme
GATE	Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIS	Geographic Information System
GoRTT	Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
HCI	Human Capital Index
HDC	Housing Development Corporation
HELP	Higher Education Loan Programme
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
HRM	Human Resource Management
HVIP	Housing and Village Improvement Programme
HYPE	Helping You Prepare for Employment
ICA	Institute of Culinary Arts
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IDEVAW	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
I-MRC	Inter-Ministerial Research Council
IMD	International Men's Day
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ISEMS	Integrated Social Enterprise and Management System
IVCD	Insect Vector Control Division
IWD	International Women's Day
LEEAP	Life-Skills Employability, Entrepreneurship, Activism and Patriotism
LEC	Learning Enrichment Centre
LED	Local Economic Development
LEP	Litter Eradication Programme
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas
LSA	Land Settlement Agency
MALF	Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries
MCDCA	Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoH	Ministry of Health
MHUD	Ministry of Housing and Urban Development
MIC-IT	Metal Industries Company Institute of Technology
MILAT	Military-Led Academic Training
MNS	Ministry of National Security
MOLSED	Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development
MPA	Ministry of Public Administration
MPU	Ministry of Public Utilities
MPI	Multidimensional Poverty Index
MRDLG	Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government
MRRG	Minor Repairs and Reconstruction Grants
MSD	Meteorological Services Division
MSDF	Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework
MSDFS	Ministry of Social Development and Family Services
MSYA	Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs
MuST	Multi Sector Skills Training
NACC	National AIDS Coordinating Committee
NADAPP	National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme



NALIS	National Library and Information System Authority
NAPA	National Academy for the Performing Arts
NCD	Non-Communicable Diseases
NCPP	National Crime Prevention Programme
NCSE	National Certificate of Secondary Education
NEC	National Enrichment Centre
NEDCO	National Entrepreneurship Development Company
NES	National Employment Service
NESC	National Energy Skills Centre
NFSD	National Family Services Division
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NHIS	National Health Insurance System
NIHERST	National Institute of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology
NIBTT	National Insurance Board of Trinidad and Tobago
NIS	National Insurance
NPP	National Parenting Programme
NSDP	National Social Development Programme
NSDSL	National Schools Dietary Services Limited
NSMP	National Social Mitigation Plan
NTA	National Training Agency
OBORC	One Book One Rehabilitative Community Project
ODPM	Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OJTP	On-the-Job Training Programme
OPIC	Older Persons Information Centre
OPM (GCA)	Office of the Prime Minister (Gender and Child Affairs)
PAG	Public Assistance Grant
PAHO	Pan American Health Organisation
PAM	Programme For Adolescent Mothers
PAVI	Persons Associated with Visual Impairment
PDC	Pacific Disaster Centre
PEC	Piparo Empowerment Centre
PETROTRIN	Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago
PIES	Public Information and Education Sensitization
PMBVTC	Prime Minister's Best Village Trophy Competition

PMCD	Public Management Consultation Division
POSGH	Port of Spain General Hospital
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PSDP	Promoting Student Discipline Plan
PTSC	Public Transport Service Division
PwDs	Persons with Disabilities
PYC	Police Youth Club
RAPP	Retiree Adolescence Partnership Programme
REACH	Realisation and Economic Achievement Project
REAP	Residential Electrification Assistance Programme
RHCN	Regional Health Communications Network
RITTR	Rehabilitating Inmates through Training and Retraining
RSDS	Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics
RSS	Regional Security System
SAC	Senior Activity Centres
SAG	Special Achievers Grant
SAPA	Southern Academy for the Performing Arts
SBM	School Based Management
SCP	Senior Citizens Pension
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SDU	Social Displacement Unit
SEA	Secondary Entrance Assessment
SEED	Sowing Empowerment through Entrepreneurial Development
SEM	Social Enterprise Management
SFGH	San Fernando General Hospital
SID	Small Island Developing States
SIGI	Social Institutions and Gender Index
SMT	Standard Means Test
SNT	School Nutrition Programme
SPC	Sector Portfolio Company
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
STEP UP	Social Transformation and Empowerment Programme – Uplifting People
SWD	Social Welfare Division
TAS	Tobago Agricultural Society
TATE	Tobago Association of the Elderly
TCCD	Tobago Coordinating Committee for the Differently-abled
TCCTP	Targeted Conditional Cash Transfer Programme

TCUC	Tobago College and University Consortium
THA	Tobago House of Assembly
THEC	Tobago Higher Education Council
TITL	Tobago Information Technology Limited
TPCMU	Transformation Programme and Change Management Unit
TTPS	Trinidad and Tobago Police Service
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UAP	Utilities Assistance Programme
UDeCOTT	Urban Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNCERF	United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNCRPD	United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
UNEVOC	UNESCO International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	UN's Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNICEF	United Nations Children Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UoT	University of Tobago
US	United States
USA	United States of America
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UTT	University of Trinidad and Tobago
UWI	University of the West Indies
VABs	Values, Attitudes and Behaviours
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
WEO	World Economic Outlook
WE-TEC	The Women's Economic and Technological Empowerment Centre
WHO	World Health Organisation
WOW	World of Work
WTPs	Water Treatment Plants

YDACs	Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centres
YTEPP	Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme



SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME FEEDBACK FORM

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