



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2026

***T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES***



2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

Contents

Foreword	3
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	8
INTRODUCTION	22
CHAPTER 1: THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT	30
1.1 The International Social Situation	30
1.2 The Caribbean Social Situation	44
1.3 Trinidad and Tobago in the Context of the Caribbean	56
1.4 Conclusion	68
1.5 References	69
CHAPTER 2: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION	80
2.1 Protection of Vulnerable Citizens	85
2.2 Transformational Initiatives for the Education System	96
2.3 Advancing Gender Equality and Empowerment	108
2.4 Youth Empowerment	119
2.5 Families and Communities: Building Resilience and Social Cohesion	130
2.6 Healthcare: Advancing Universal Access, Quality, and Resilience	150
2.7 Modernisation of Government Service Delivery	165
2.8 Crime Prevention, Justice Reform, and Strengthening Public Safety	178
2.9 Social Sector Investments and the Attainment of the SDGs, 2030	187
2.10 Conclusion	199
2.11 References	200
CHAPTER 3: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR AND REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES	211
CHAPTER 3A: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR	212
3.1 Defining the Social Sector	212
3.2 Budgeted Allocations to the Social Sector	213
3.3 New Programmes and Projects Developed / Implemented in FY 2025	227
3.4 Social Policies Developed in FY 2025	229
3.5. Research Conducted in FY 2025	230
CHAPTER 3B: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES	232
CHAPTER 4: SOCIAL SECTOR PLANNED INITIATIVES FOR 2026	338
4.1 MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES (MALF)	341
4.2 MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (MCCCD)	347
4.3 MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (MoE)	353
4.4 MINISTRY OF HEALTH (MoH)	363
4.5 MINISTRY OF HOUSING (MoHo)	372
4.6 THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, SMALL AND MICRO-ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT (MLSMED)	377
4.7 MINISTRY OF THE PEOPLE, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES (MPSDFS)	385
4.8 MINISTRY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (MPAAI)	394
4.9 MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES	398
4.10 MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MRDLG)	400
4.11 MINISTRY OF SPORT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS (MSYA)	403
4.12 MINISTRY OF TERTIARY EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING (MTEST)	411
4.13 TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY (THA)	417
4.14 CONCLUSION	432
4.15 REFERENCES	433
APPENDIX I: Methodology for Comparing National Expenditure to SDG Goals	437
APPENDIX II: Social Sector Investment Programme Expenditure for Fiscal 2025 Mapped Against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 2030	442
APPENDIX III: Key Social Programmes and Structural / Institutional Initiatives Funded by the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) 2024-2026	455
APPENDIX IV: Allocations and Expenditure for Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2025 and 2026 and Actual Expenditure for Fiscal 2024 under Recurrent Expenditure by Ministry	459
APPENDIX V: List of Non-Governmental Organisations Receiving Government Subventions & One-Off Grants for Fiscal 2024 & 2025	469
ABBREVIATIONS AND GLOSSARY	488

Foreword



The Honourable Vandana Mohit
Minister of the People, Social Development
and Family Services

Honourable Minister of the People, Social Development and Family Services **SSIP 2026 — “T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES”**

Putting Trinidad and Tobago (T&T) first means ensuring every dollar works harder for every household. In a period of constrained revenues and rising expectations, this Social

Sector Investment Programme (SSIP) 2026 demonstrates how disciplined, accountable fiscal management can advance economic fairness while safeguarding dignity, opportunity, and resilience for all.

The Government's National Policy Framework guides our approach: clear outcomes, prudent stewardship of public finances, and transparent measurement of results. In practice, that means targeting resources to where need is most significant and value-for-money is highest, keeping children learning through remediation and student support; strengthening families through counselling, parenting, and nutrition programmes; improving throughput in the health system via primary-care reinforcement and high-impact treatment pathways; expanding skills, apprenticeships, and job-matching tied to the real economy; and modernising social protection tools so that help arrives faster, more

fairly, and with respect for people's time and privacy.

Economic fairness is not achieved by spending more, but by spending well. Under this theme, Ministries and agencies will deepen cost discipline and delivery accountability: standardising indicators, integrating administrative data to reduce duplication and "double-dipping," publishing timely performance reports to Parliament and the national community, and aligning procurement and programme design with evidence of what works. These reforms, supported by digital service improvements and streamlined institutional arrangements, ensure that social investments translate into tangible outcomes in communities across Trinidad and Tobago.

Our commitments remain anchored in the Sustainable Development Goals (notably SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, and 11), pursued through practical,

measurable actions that protect the vulnerable, unlock human potential, and strengthen safe and cohesive communities. We will continue to collaborate with civil society, the private sector, local government, and international partners, ensuring that each partnership contributes to more precise lines of sight from budget to impact.

This SSIP documents a year of steady progress and outlines the next steps for FY 2026, focusing on improving service reliability, scaling targeted interventions, and embedding rigorous monitoring and evaluation across the sector. Above all, it affirms that prudent, accountable fiscal policies and people-centred delivery are not competing goals; they are the twin engines of a fairer economy and a more inclusive society. I thank our dedicated public officers and partners whose work fills these pages. With discipline in our finances and compassion in

our delivery, we will keep T&T first, building economic fairness for today while strengthening the foundations for tomorrow.

The Honourable Mrs. Vandana Mohit – M.P.

Minister of the People, Social Development
and Family Services
Government of the
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

B. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Context and Fiscal Position

T&T's social sector remained a stabilising force in FY 2025, with approximately TT\$21.99 billion (about 33% of total expenditure) channelled to key Social Sector Ministries (SSMs) and the THA to protect the vulnerable, build human capital, and sustain community resilience. Over the 2021 to 2025 period, allocations averaged approximately 35% of the national budget, rising from 32% in FY 2022 to 37% in FY 2023, 38% in FY 2024, before easing to 33% in FY 2025, signalling consistent prioritisation despite tighter fiscal space.

FY 2025 unfolded amid fiscal headwinds and social pressures common across the Caribbean. Even so, the social sector continued to anchor equity, access, and resilience, consistent with the role described in prior SSIPs. The GoRTT

budgeted TT\$54.224 billion in revenue and TT\$59.741 billion in expenditure (deficit TT\$5.517 billion; 2.91% of GDP). Within this envelope, SSM's expenditure solely focused on education, health, social protection, community development, housing, and youth, anchoring inclusive growth and social stability.

What Government Delivered

For FY 2025, the Government delivered tangible gains across classrooms, clinics, communities, and homes, expanding learner supports and school meals, accelerating patient care, strengthening prevention and rehabilitation, and improving habitability and tenure through grants, subsidies, regularisation, and renewal.

- **Education & Child Development:** Expanded remediation and transition support; over 63,000 breakfasts and 77,000 lunches daily via the School Nutrition

Programme (SNP); large-scale counselling, parent education, psycho-educational assessments, and Special Concessions to keep learners on track.

- **Health & Well-being:** Chronic Disease Assistance Programme (CDAP) access for approximately 88,000 patients quarterly; External Patient Programme (EPP) pathways reduced critical waiting lists; scaled HIV testing / treatment, including Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT), with no infant positives recorded in the reporting window.
- **Community Safety & Cohesion:** Police / Prisons youth, victim-support, and restorative programmes strengthened prevention, rehabilitation, and community trust.
- **Housing & Urban Upgrading:** Grants, subsidies, squatter regularisation, and urban

renewal improved habitability and tenure security while creating jobs.

Together, these actions protected well-being and opportunity, rebuilt trust in public services, and laid a practical foundation for scaling impact and value for money in FY 2026.

New Initiatives, Policies, and Evidence

In FY 2026, social-sector delivery will be tightened through a blend of new programmes, enabling policy frameworks, and stronger evidence systems. Digital service and process modernisation frameworks will standardise how citizens access benefits and public services, improving reliability and the user experience.

Community-level investments in East Port of Spain (EPOS) aim to boost resilience, inclusion,

and safety through sanitation, cultural, and recreation projects. Within social protection, child and family-focused initiatives, parenting and suicide-prevention workshops, caregiver training, and upgraded Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (CATT) facilities, reinforce safeguarding and service quality. Labour-market policies are being backed by fresh data: baseline surveys of micro and small enterprises (MSEs), a modernised labour-market information system, and minimum-wage studies to inform decent-work choices. Utilities are embedding service-delivery enhancement and monitoring frameworks to raise accountability and responsiveness.

Together, these launches, policies, and studies put clearer guardrails and incentives around implementation, positioning FY 2026 to deliver faster services, fairer opportunities, and visibly

better outcomes for households, while aligning with the SDGs and the National Development Policy.

Key Risks

Persistent cost pressures (food and inputs), staff attrition in critical services, documentation barriers for vulnerable households, and multi-agency bottlenecks (e.g., deed issuance) could dilute programme reach and timeliness.

SSIP 2026 Priorities

In FY 2026, the Government will deliver a people-first, systems-strong agenda, protecting vulnerable incomes, unlocking human capital, speeding healthcare throughput, building safe and resilient communities, and tightening value-for-money across the social sector.

- 1. Protect the Vulnerable:** Maintain the purchasing power of core transfers; sharpen targeting and grievance redress.
- 2. Unlock Human Capital:** Scale remediation, Student Support Services Division (SSSD) supports, nutrition, Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET), and youth apprenticeships tied to growth sectors.
- 3. Health System Throughput:** Expand high-impact External Patient Programme (EPP) pathways; reinforce primary care and Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) prevention.
- 4. Safe, Resilient Communities:** Invest in mediation, victim services, prevention, and urban upgrading.

Together, these priorities convert scarce resources into measurable gains in welfare, learning, health and safety, improving habitability and tenure

security, expanding decent work, and ensuring accountability through standardised indicators, integrated data, and effective grievance redress.

Chapter Map

This year's volume provides a clear line of sight from the country's social context to sector performance and the forward agenda for FY 2026.

- **Chapter 1: Social Development Context**
 - situates T&T within the international and Caribbean landscape, then narrows to T&T's position in the region. It synthesises global and regional social trends, key risks, and comparative indicators to frame national strategy.
- **Chapter 2: The National Social Situation**
 - examines current conditions across protection of vulnerable citizens, education

transformation, gender equality, youth development, families and communities, healthcare access and quality, modernised service delivery, and public safety. It highlights relevant allocations, expenditures, achievements, and implementation challenges.

- **Chapter 3: Overview of the Social Sector & Review of Programmes** – defines the social sector, reports indicative budget allocations and out-turns, and consolidates FY 2025 programme launches, policy advances, and research activities. To ensure continuity with existing MoF publications, the names of Ministries are presented according to the pre-election portfolio, allowing for easy identification and verification of allocations to these entities.
- **Chapter 4** – sets out **FY 2026 planned initiatives** by ministry, using the updated

portfolio adopted after the national elections of April 2025. Programmes are organised around protecting household welfare, rebuilding human capital, modernising service delivery, and strengthening community safety, while aligning with Joint National Steering Committee (JNSC)¹ cooperation areas and agency mandates

Forward Agenda for FY 2026 (Government priorities)

The current Government has articulated a social sector agenda focused on protecting incomes, rebuilding human capital, strengthening public services, and restoring community safety. In FY 2026, the Government will focus on people-first essentials, protecting vulnerable households,

¹ The JNSC is a Government–United Nations mechanism (co-led by GoRTT and the UN system via the Resident Coordinator/UN Country Team) that reviews cooperation priorities and progress.

rebuilding learning and youth pathways, and strengthening health, dignity and safety, so support is timely, inclusive, and tied to real opportunities.

- **Protect the most vulnerable** – Maintain the real value and timely delivery of core transfers, deploy ISIRTT / ISEMS for better targeting and grievance redress, align with the forthcoming Shock-Responsive Policy to ensure rapid support during floods and other hazards.
- **Rebuild learning and youth pathways** – Scale remediation, nutrition, and psycho-social supports, expand apprenticeship/TVET tied to growth sectors, and advance universal digital access for students, consistent with the Government's education inclusion pledges.
- **Health, dignity and safety** – Strengthen primary care and NCD prevention, continue

GBV system reforms (shelter standards, prevention, survivor services), and improve transitions for children in residential care.

- **Modern, joined-up services** – Consolidate social registries and case management; reduce duplication (“double-dipping”), and expand digital interfaces that speed decisions and improve citizen experience, consistent withSSIP’s good-governance emphasis.
- **Safe, cohesive communities** – Prioritise violence prevention, youth engagement, and community development programmes aligned to the JNSC cooperation areas and ministry mandates.

Together, these priorities convert scarce resources into measurable gains in welfare, skills and wellbeing, delivering a fairer, safer, and more resilient T&T.

Conclusion & Partnerships

SSIP 2026 carries forward a disciplined, people-centred agenda: protecting household welfare, accelerating learning and health outcomes, strengthening community safety, and modernising service delivery so that every dollar works harder. It draws a clear line from context to action, consolidating FY 2025 gains, scaling proven interventions, and closing gaps through better data, joined-up systems, and accountable implementation. Delivery will be strengthened through partnerships with UN agencies (e.g. UNDP, UNICEF, UN Women, PAHO / WHO, ILO, UNESCO, UNFPA), regional bodies (e.g. CARICOM Secretariat, CARPHA, CDEMA, CARICOM IMPACS, CXC), multilaterals (e.g. IDB, CDB, World Bank), bilateral partners (e.g. EU, UK, Canada, China, Singapore, Japan / JICA, USA), academia, CSOs and the private sector, aligning resources to measurable results across communities.

INTRODUCTION



2026

C. INTRODUCTION

The SSIP presents the GoRTT's commitment to advancing inclusive and sustainable development. It reflects national priorities articulated in the National Policy Framework (2025), while aligning with the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and related international commitments (MPAAI, 2025; UNDP, 2023). The document builds on achievements of previous years and sets out targeted strategies to address persistent vulnerabilities, expand social equity, and enhance the well-being of all citizens.

In FY 2025, T&T made important strides in human development, particularly in education and health, with youth literacy rates reaching 92% and life expectancy stabilising at 73.5 years (UNDP, 2023). At the same time, challenges such as rising

food price inflation, higher unemployment, and widening social disparities highlighted the need for integrated and innovative responses (Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, 2025). Regionally, the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) countries continued to face climate-related shocks, high public debt, and crime, prompting calls for more resilient and people-centred approaches (Trinidad and Tobago Newsday, 2025). T&T's position within the wider Caribbean reflects both opportunities, anchored in its energy base, industrial infrastructure, and diversification potential, and constraints, including limited innovation capacity and persistent inequality (World Economic Forum, 2019; World Economic Forum, 2024).

The SSIP 2026 consolidates these national and regional realities, drawing on lessons from over 120 ongoing social programmes that span poverty alleviation, education, health, family

support, youth empowerment, housing, and social protection (Ministry of Finance, 2024). It also outlines new policy directions and planned initiatives for FY 2026, such as expanded micro- and small-enterprise development, digital transformation of service delivery, and modernisation of public institutions. These interventions are anchored in a people-first philosophy, ensuring that vulnerable groups, including women, children, older persons, and persons with disabilities, remain at the centre of national development.

The integration of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) continues to frame the SSIP. More specifically, the SSIP therefore monitors and reports on progress toward key SDGs, particularly SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and

SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions). The SSIP 2026 also responds to emerging themes from recent United Nations Human Development Reports, the Global Gender Gap Report, and the Global Competitiveness Report, which emphasise resilience, equity, and innovation as cornerstones of future-ready societies (UNDP, 2023; World Economic Forum, 2024).

This report reflects the most up-to-date information available to the Ministry of People, Social Development and Family Services (MPSDFS) across Government Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) at the time of writing. In most cases, data were available up to the third quarter of FY 2025, with fourth-quarter achievements incorporated wherever possible. The findings presented here, therefore, provide the most comprehensive and reliable picture available at the time of preparation.

Taken together, the SSIP 2026 is both an accountability instrument and a planning tool. It provides parliament, policymakers, civil society, and international partners with a consolidated review of social sector performance and a roadmap for advancing citizen well-being. The GoRTT remains resolute that, despite fiscal pressures and external shocks, investments in the social sector are critical for ensuring national resilience, safeguarding human dignity, and promoting prosperity for all.

References

Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago. 2025. Monetary Policy Report, May 2025. Port of Spain: CBTT.

International Monetary Fund. 2025. World Economic Outlook: April 2025. Washington, D.C.: IMF.

Ministry of Finance. 2024. Budget Statement 2025. Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

Ministry of Public Administration and Artificial Intelligence (2025) Official Policy Framework for the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Available at: MPAAI website (accessed 7 October 2025).

Trinidad and Tobago Newsday. 2025. 'Government Channels Majority of Social Sector Budget into Poverty Alleviation, Education and Health Programming'. Newsday, July 2025.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). 2023. Human Development Report 2023/24: Breaking the Gridlock - Reimagining Cooperation in a Polarized World. New York: UNDP.

World Economic Forum. 2019. Global Competitiveness Report 2019. Geneva: WEF.

World Economic Forum. 2024. Global Gender Gap Report 2024. Geneva: WEF.

World Happiness Report. 2024. World Happiness Report 2024. New York: Sustainable Development Solutions Network.

CHAPTER 1

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT



2026

CHAPTER 1: THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

1.1 The International Social Situation

This section analyses the international social situation between 2019 and 2024, focusing on global development benchmarks that inform the SSIP 2026. It reviews human development, peace and security, poverty and inequality, health, education, migration, climate change, and governance, while also highlighting cross-cutting indicators such as competitiveness, gender equality, and well-being. The evidence is drawn from leading global reports by the United Nations (UN), the World Bank, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

(OECD), the World Economic Forum (WEF), the Institute for Management Development (IMD), and other reputable sources. Country-specific details for the Caribbean and T&T are presented in separate chapters.

1.1.1 Human Development

The United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP's) Human Development Report (2023 / 2024) highlighted that global progress has stalled in many areas. The Human Development Index (HDI) reveals persistent gaps between developed and developing regions, with a worldwide average HDI score of 0.739 in 2023, which masks deep disparities between OECD countries (with an average of 0.900) and developing states (UNDP, 2023). Sub-Saharan Africa and parts of Latin America and the Caribbean experienced reversals due to the pandemic and climate shocks.

Implication

Global trends demonstrate the need for resilient development strategies that combine social investment with climate adaptation to prevent reversals in human development outcomes (UNDP, 2023).

1.1.2 Peace and Security

According to the Global Peace Index (GLPI), global peacefulness deteriorated by 0.56% in 2024, marking the thirteenth decline in the past fifteen years (Institute for Economics and Peace, 2024). The Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, and parts of Latin America recorded the steepest declines. The global economic impact of violence was estimated at US\$17.5 trillion in 2023, equivalent to 13% of global Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (IEP, 2024).

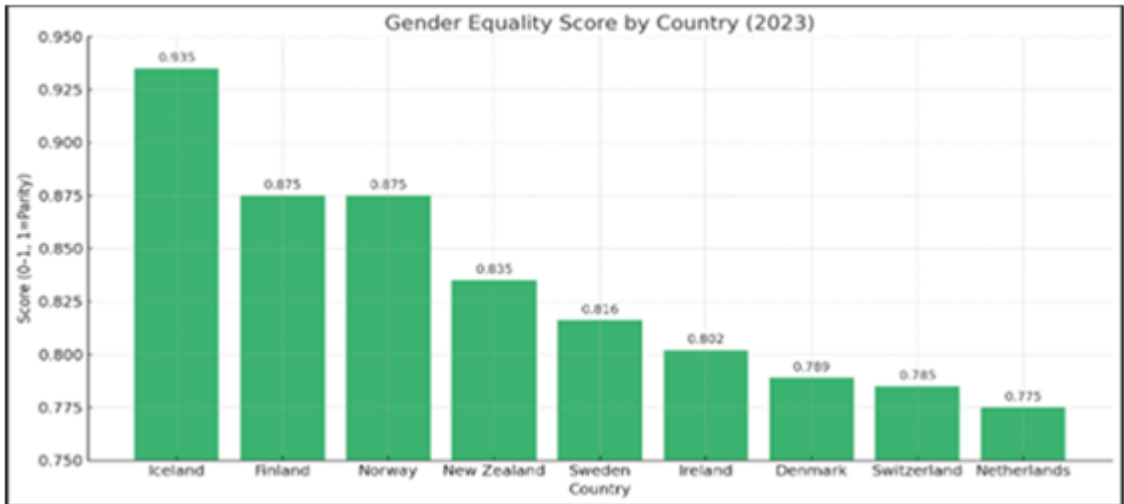
Implication:

Rising violence and conflict underscore the importance of international cooperation and investment in conflict prevention and peacebuilding, with lessons for small states that face security spill-overs.

1.1.3 Gender Equality

The WEF's Global Gender Gap Report (2024) finds that the world will take 134 years to close gender gaps at the current rate. The overall global gender gap stands at 68.5%, with disparities in political empowerment, economic participation, and health outcomes. Nordic countries such as Iceland and Finland continue to lead (see Figure I), closing more than 85% of their gaps, while many low- and middle-income countries lag significantly (WEF, 2024).

Figure I: Gender Equality Scores by Country (2023)



Implication:

Global experience demonstrates that sustained policy action and investment in care systems are critical for accelerating gender equality. International good practices underscore the importance of gender-responsive budgeting and inclusive labour market reforms.

1.1.4 Health

The World Health Organisation (WHO, 2023) reports that progress towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC) has stalled globally since 2019. In 2023, over 4.5 billion people lacked full access to essential health services, and 2 billion people faced financial hardship due to out-of-pocket healthcare costs. Pandemic disruptions further delayed global vaccination targets and exacerbated inequalities.

Implication:

The global health situation underscores the importance of investing in primary healthcare, resilient financing mechanisms, and digital health systems. Lessons from countries advancing UHC can inform Caribbean reforms.

1.1.5 Education

The World Bank (2024) and UNESCO (2024) report that learning poverty remains a global crisis, with 70% of ten-year-olds in low- and middle-income countries unable to read and understand a simple text. The pandemic caused learning losses equivalent to more than one year of schooling in many contexts, with severe implications for future earnings and productivity. High-performing education systems, such as those in Singapore and Finland, demonstrate the benefits of early investment in literacy, numeracy, teacher training, and digital learning (UNESCO, 2024).

Implication:

Global trends confirm the need for accelerated learning recovery, stronger teacher development, and alignment of skills with future labour markets.

1.1.6 Poverty and Inequality

World Bank estimates show that global poverty declined slightly in 2023, with 8.6% of the worldwide population living on less than US\$2.15 per day, down from 9.1% in 2021 (World Bank, 2024). However, inequality persists both within and between countries. The World Inequality Report (2023) highlights that the top 10% of earners captured over 52% of global income, while the bottom 50% received just 8%. High levels of inequality remain a significant barrier to inclusive development and social cohesion.

Implication:

Poverty reduction strategies must be complemented by redistributive policies, progressive taxation, and targeted social investments.

1.1.7 Migration and Human Mobility

The International Organisation for Migration (IOM, 2024) reports that there were over 281 million international migrants worldwide in 2023, representing 3.6% of the global population. Conflict, climate change, and economic opportunity continue to drive mobility. Remittances reached US\$860 billion globally in 2023, a vital lifeline for many developing countries (World Bank, 2024). However, many migrants face limited access to social protection, discrimination, and irregular status.

Implication:

Global migration trends underscore the need for coordinated governance frameworks, fair labour policies, and regional cooperation to ensure protection and harness development benefits.

1.1.8 Climate Change and Environment

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2023) warns that the world remains off track to limit global warming to 1.5°C. Extreme weather events resulted in US\$313 billion in global economic losses in 2022, with a disproportionate impact on developing countries (Munich Re, 2023). Climate change continues to exacerbate poverty, displacement, and food insecurity worldwide.

Implication:

Global experience underscores the urgency of scaling climate adaptation finance, renewable energy transitions, and social safety nets to protect the most vulnerable populations.

1.1.9 Governance and International Cooperation

Multilateral cooperation remains essential for addressing global challenges. The 2023 SDG Summit highlighted the need to accelerate progress, as only 15% of SDG targets are on track globally (UN, 2023). Strengthening global governance, reforming international financial institutions, and expanding concessional finance for vulnerable countries remain priorities.

Implication:

International trends reaffirm the need for small states to actively engage in multilateral forums to secure financing, partnerships, and technical support.

1.1.10 Competitiveness and Innovation

The 2024 IMD World Competitiveness Ranking positions Singapore as the world's second most competitive economy, supported by high government efficiency, adaptable business policies, and world-class technological infrastructure. Other leading economies included Switzerland, Denmark, and Ireland, reflecting strengths in innovation, skilled labour, and economic performance (IMD, 2024).

Implication:

Investment in adaptive governance, skilled labour, and digital infrastructure drives competitiveness, sustaining growth and resilience in global markets.

1.1.11 Happiness and Well-being

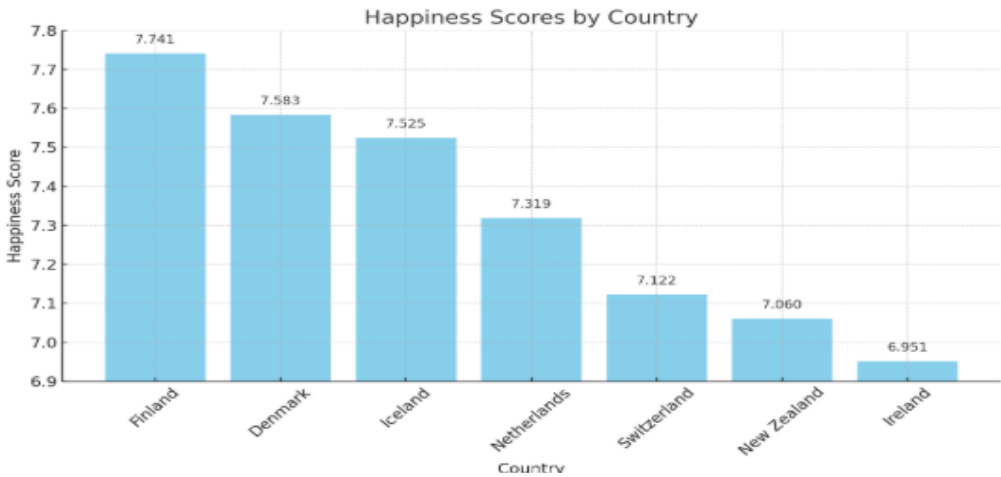
The 2024 World Happiness Report shows Finland, Denmark, and Iceland as global leaders in well-being, with scores above 7.5. Other OECD countries, such as Switzerland, the Netherlands, and New Zealand, also ranked highly (see Figure II), reflecting strong social protection, high trust in institutions, and a high quality of life (World Happiness Report, 2024).

Implication:

Strong social protection, trust, and inclusive policies are crucial for enhancing well-being and resilience across all populations.

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

Figure II: Happiness Scores by Country (2024)



Source World Happiness Report 2024

1.1.12 Conclusion

The international social situation remains marked by uneven progress, characterised by widening inequality, persistent gender and health disparities, learning losses, fragile migration governance, and escalating climate risks. At the same time, global indices of happiness, gender equality, and competitiveness illustrate pathways to resilience, with best practices in social protection, gender-responsive governance, and digital innovation offering transferable lessons. For T&T and the wider

Caribbean, these international trends provide both cautionary signals and models of success to guide investment and reform under SSIP 2026.

1.2 The Caribbean Social Situation

This section examines the Caribbean social situation between 2019 and 2024, with emphasis on regional challenges and trends. It analyses poverty, inequality, crime and security, health, education, migration, climate change, and governance, drawing on international and regional sources including CARICOM, ECLAC, the IDB, PAHO and UNDP. The discussion is regional in focus; country-specific details for T&T are presented separately in the chapter T&T in the Context of the Caribbean.

1.2.1 Poverty and Inequality

Poverty and inequality persist as entrenched challenges across the Caribbean. ECLAC (2024) estimates that poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean stood at 27.3% in 2023, a level similar to that observed a decade earlier. Although recovery is underway, inequality remains high, with Gini coefficients frequently above 0.40 (ECLAC, 2024). Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are particularly vulnerable due to high debt burdens, limited fiscal space, and a heavy reliance on external financing (UNDP, 2023).

The Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic disproportionately impacted women, youth, informal workers, and migrants, exacerbating pre-existing inequities (UNICEF, 2023). While targeted cash transfers and social assistance helped mitigate impacts in some

states, rising food and energy costs offset gains in others (World Bank, 2024).

Implication:

Regional anti-poverty strategies must prioritise fiscal resilience and targeted social protection. Shock-responsive social protection systems, linked to dynamic social registries and digital payment platforms, are essential for buffering vulnerable populations during crises (UNICEF, 2023; World Bank, 2024).

1.2.2 Crime and Security

The Caribbean faces persistently high levels of crime and violence, with homicide rates among the highest globally (UNODC, 2023). In April 2023, CARICOM Heads of Government declared crime and violence a public health emergency, recognising the need for multisectoral responses

that integrate health, education, and social services (CARICOM, 2023).

Gun trafficking and gang violence remain pressing concerns. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC, 2023) notes that the majority of small arms in circulation are trafficked from outside the region. The IDB (2024) estimates that crime costs Latin America and the Caribbean approximately 3.5% of GDP annually, undermining social and economic development.

Implication:

Crime and violence require coordinated CARICOM-level security and public health approaches. Integrating hospital injury data with police statistics, expanding youth violence prevention programmes, and strengthening firearms tracing through CARICOM IMPACS are critical steps (PAHO, 2024; IDB, 2024).

1.2.3 Health

Health systems in the Caribbean remain under strain from demographic changes, NCDs, and limited fiscal capacity. PAHO (2024) reports that 35% of the population in Latin America and the Caribbean still faces unmet healthcare needs, disproportionately affecting low-income groups. The pandemic highlighted weaknesses in health infrastructure and reinforced the need for resilient, universal health systems (WHO, 2023).

Caribbean health spending per capita remains below the OECD averages, with a high dependence on out-of-pocket expenditures (World Bank, 2024). To achieve UHC, expanded investment in primary health care, workforce development, and financial protection is required (PAHO, 2023).

Implication:

Investments in health systems and universal access remain critical to human development outcomes. Caribbean governments must prioritise primary health care, telehealth solutions for outer islands, and regional pooled procurement to reduce costs (PAHO, 2024; World Bank, 2024).

1.2.4 Education

In the Caribbean, education systems continue to face persistent inequities that extend beyond the pandemic's impact. While global studies highlight the scale of educational disparities, regional evidence underscores how rural isolation, economic hardship, and limited support for children with disabilities contribute to uneven outcomes (UNICEF, 2023). The challenge is not only one of recovery from COVID-19, but also of

addressing long-standing structural gaps that restrict equitable access to quality education.

At the secondary and post-secondary level, curricula are often misaligned with labour market demands. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB, 2024) emphasises the importance of investing in TVET, digital literacy, and pathways to employment in the blue and green economies.

Implication:

Regional education reform is needed to reduce inequities and strengthen labour force readiness. Foundational learning recovery, expanded TVET, and employer-aligned skills pipelines are essential (World Bank, 2024; IDB, 2024).

1.2.5 Migration and Human Mobility

The Caribbean is simultaneously a source and destination of migration. Outward migration reduces labour force capacity, particularly in health and education, while inward migration from Venezuela, Haiti, and other crisis-affected states strains the social services of host countries (IOM, 2024).

Remittances provide crucial household support, accounting for up to 20% of a country's GDP (World Bank, 2023). However, inadequate social protection for migrants exacerbates vulnerabilities (UNHCR, 2024).

Implication:

Migration requires stronger regional frameworks, labour market integration, and social protection to reduce vulnerabilities and support resilience across both host and source countries.

1.2.6 Climate Change and Environment

The Caribbean is one of the world's most climate-vulnerable regions. Rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and ecosystem degradation pose significant threats to lives, livelihoods, and social stability (IPCC, 2023). Climate change also undermines food and water security, exacerbating health risks (FAO, 2024).

ECLAC (2024) estimates that Caribbean states require annual investments of 3 to 5 per cent of their GDP to build adequate resilience. However, access to concessional finance remains limited, placing pressure on already constrained fiscal systems (UNDP, 2023).

Implication:

Climate adaptation and disaster resilience financing are essential for sustainable growth. The SSIP should prioritise social investments that

reduce vulnerability, including resilient housing, social insurance for farmers, and regional disaster risk pooling mechanisms (ECLAC, 2024; UNDP, 2023).

1.2.7 Governance and Regional Cooperation

Regional cooperation has been a central component in addressing shared challenges. CARICOM continues to play a key role in harmonising responses on health, security, and education. At the same time, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) has advanced regional social protection and gender-responsive policies (OECS, 2023). Partnerships with international agencies, such as ECLAC, PAHO, UNDP, and the IDB, have enabled financing and technical assistance for social programmes.

While the region as a whole faces challenges in implementing the SDGs, individual country dashboards illustrate specific trajectories. For example, T&T's SDG score in 2024 was 60.6, ranking 126th globally, with significant challenges in health, education, and inequality (see Figure III).

Implication:

Deeper regional cooperation and data harmonisation are required to accelerate progress towards the SDGs. SSIP 2026 should align domestic initiatives with CARICOM and OECS strategies to leverage shared resources and policy synergies (CARICOM, 2023; OECS, 2023).

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

Figure III: T&T’s SDG Performance



Source: Sustainable Development Report (2024)

1.2.8 Conclusion

The Caribbean social situation remains characterised by persistent poverty and inequality, high levels of violence, health and education gaps, climate vulnerabilities, and governance challenges. However, recent regional cooperation initiatives and policy innovations demonstrate pathways to resilience. For T&T, aligning SSIP 2026 with these regional dynamics ensures that national investments contribute to broader Caribbean progress, while benefiting from shared experiences, technical cooperation, and policy harmonisation.

1.3 Trinidad and Tobago in the Context of the Caribbean

This section assesses T&T's socio-economic position within the Caribbean by comparing its

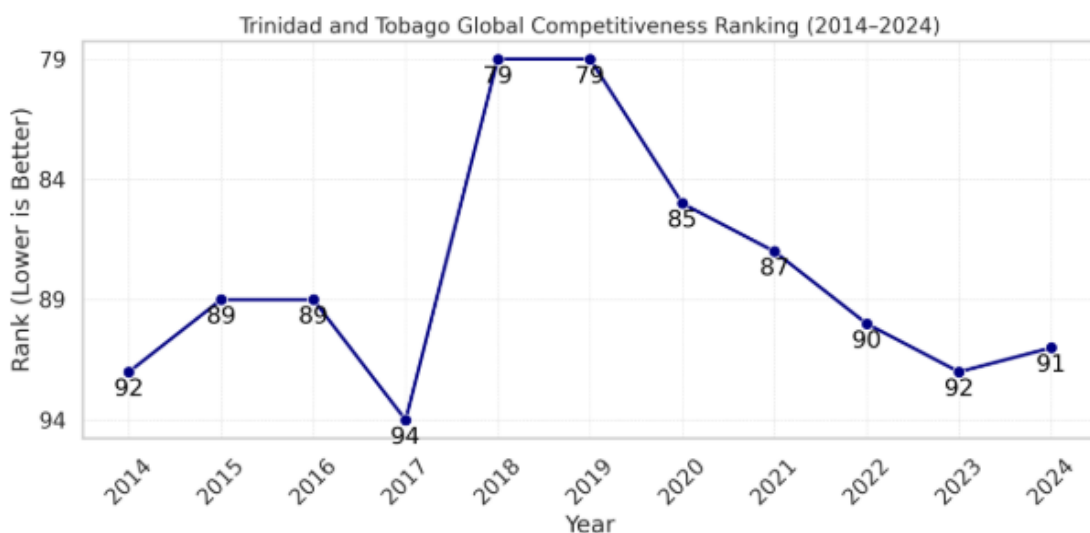
performance with that of regional peers from 2019 to 2024. It draws on six key international indices, i.e., the HDI (2020–2022), Global Competitiveness Reports (2017–2019), Global Gender Gap Report (2020–2024), World Happiness Report (2020–2024), and GLPI (2023–2024). Together, these indices provide a snapshot of T&T’s progress, highlighting areas of strength and identifying gaps that require policy attention. The analysis aims to inform social investment decisions and guide policy dialogue within the context of the SSIP 2026.

1.3.1 Global Competitiveness

The Global Competitiveness Report (GCR), produced by the World Economic Forum, benchmarks countries on productivity through three areas: Basic Requirements (institutions, infrastructure, health, education), Efficiency

Enhancers (higher education, markets, technology, finance, market size), and Innovation and Sophistication (business and innovation).

Figure IV: Trinidad and Tobago's Global Competitiveness Ranking (2014–2024)



Source: World Economic Forum (2018, 2019); Trading Economics

Figure IV shows that T&T's ranking fluctuated between 2014 and 2019, rising from 92nd in 2014 to 79th in 2018–2019 after a dip in 2017. With the GCR suspended post-2019, this remains the latest official score. Related indices highlight ongoing challenges: the Global Innovation Index

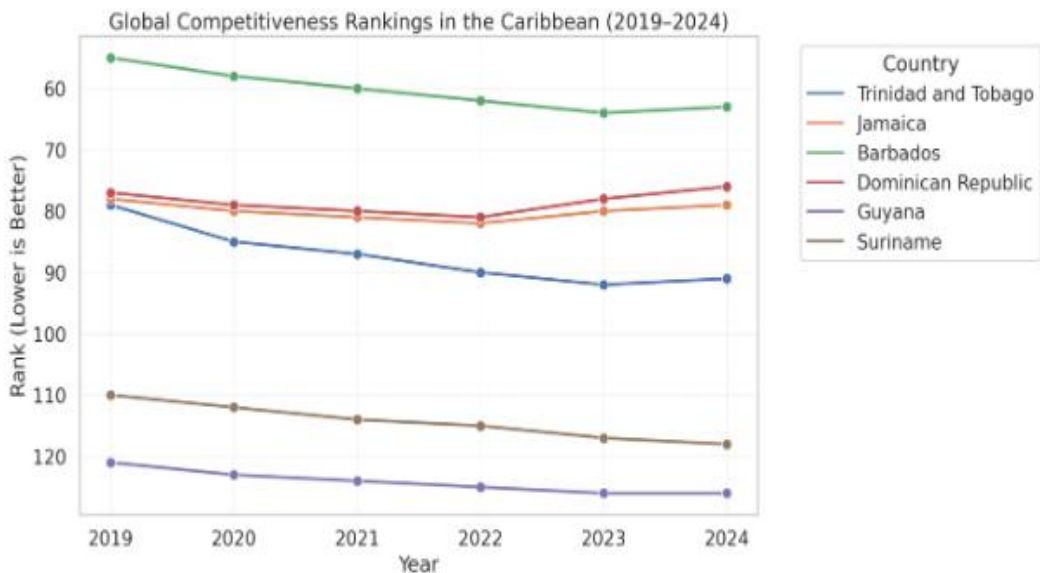
T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

2024 ranked T&T 108th of 133 countries, while in the Global Opportunity Index 2023, T&T achieved a moderate score of 70 out of 100.

Implication:

Sustained investment in innovation, technology readiness, and institutional quality is required to strengthen competitiveness.

Figure V: T&T's Global Competitiveness Ranking Compared to Selected Caribbean Countries (2014–2024)



Source: World Economic Forum (2018, 2019); Trading Economics.

Figure V compares T&T to other Caribbean countries. T&T improved in 2018–2019 but still lagged behind reform-driven peers, such as Barbados, Jamaica, and the Dominican Republic, while outperforming Guyana and Suriname.

Implication:

T&T must strengthen digital transformation and economic reforms to converge with regional leaders.

1.3.2 Global Gender Gap

The WEF's Global Gender Gap Report measures disparities in economic participation, political empowerment, educational attainment, and health and survival. T&T ranked 46th in 2015 but slipped in later years, reflecting challenges in labour force participation and political

representation (see Figure VI). Despite this, the country consistently scored well in health and survival.

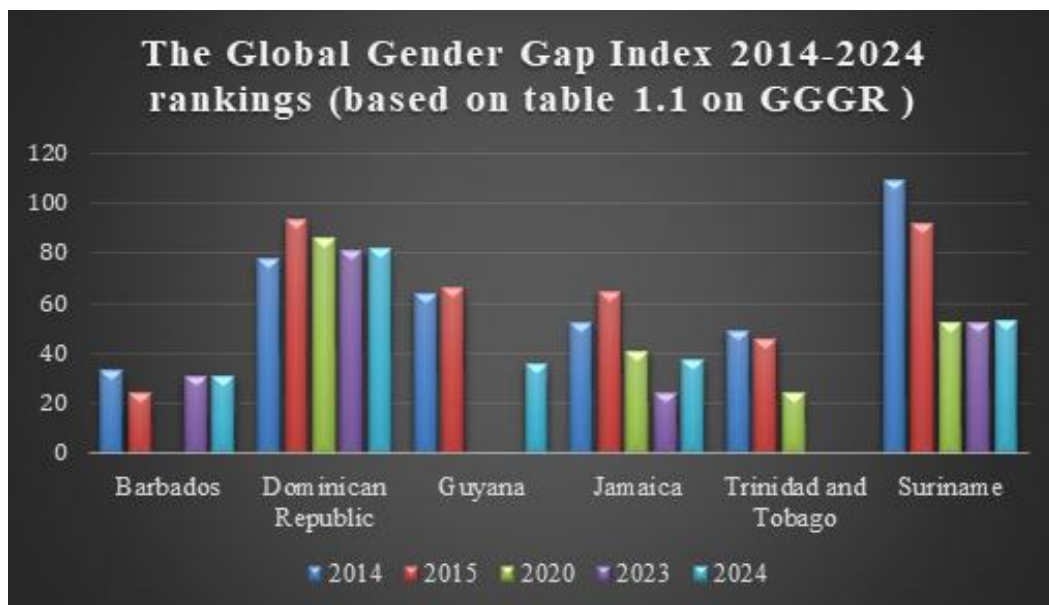
Figure VI: Global Gender Gap Ranking for T&T (2014–2021).



Source: World Economic Forum (2024); Country Economy

Regional leaders include Barbados and Jamaica, with the Dominican Republic and Suriname also showing gains (see Figure VII).

Figure VII: Global Gender Gap Scores for Selected Caribbean Countries (2014–2015; 2020–2024).



Source: World Economic Forum (2024); World Population Review (2025)

Implication:

T&T must benchmark best practices from regional leaders, such as Barbados and Jamaica, to accelerate gender parity.

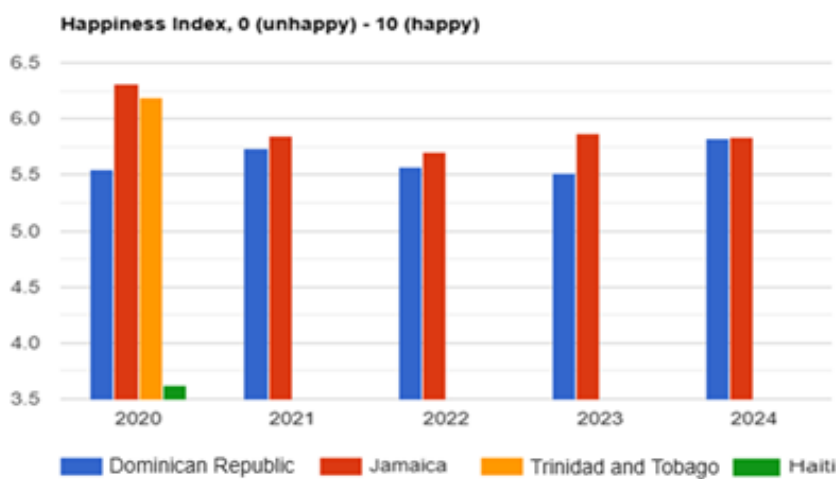
1.3.3 World Happiness Report

The World Happiness Report ranks countries based on life satisfaction and subjective well-

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

being. Caribbean trends from 2020 to 2024 reflect the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Jamaica peaked at 37th in 2021 but fell to 67th by 2024, while the Dominican Republic rebounded after pandemic-related declines. The most recent data for T&T is limited to 2020, when it ranked 43rd, highlighting a need for more consistent data collection (see Figure VIII). Provisional commentary suggests declines due to pandemic-related economic stress; however, caution is needed when citing unofficial 2025 estimates.

Figure VIII: Happiness Rankings for Caribbean Countries (2020–2024)



Source: The Global Economy

Implication:

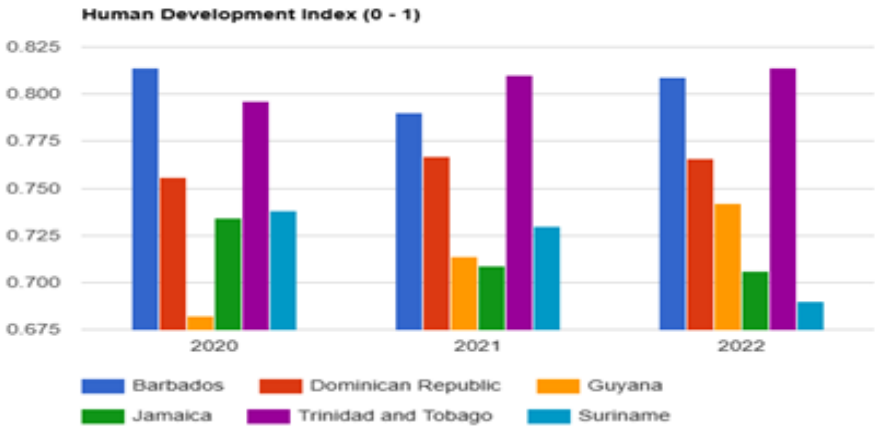
Greater attention to social cohesion, well-being, and resilience is needed to complement economic progress.

1.3.4 Human Development Index (HDI)

The HDI combines life expectancy, education, and income. Across 2020–2022, Barbados and T&T sit at the top of the group, hovering around 0.79–0.82; T&T edges up across the period (0.79 – 0.82). The Dominican Republic tracked in the mid-tier (0.74–0.76) with a gentle upward trend. Jamaica sits near 0.70–0.73, dipping in 2021. Suriname exhibited a steady decline, with a significant dip in 2022, while Guyana showed a steady increase, rising from 0.68 in 2020 to approximately 0.74 (see Figure IX).

In the 2023 / 2024 UNDP report, T&T joined Barbados in the ‘Very High Human Development’

Figure IX: Human Development Index (HDI) for Selected Caribbean Countries (2020–2022)



Source: United Nations Development Programme (2023)

category, ranking 60th globally (up from 63rd in 2018 / 2019), reflecting steady improvements despite pandemic setbacks. Jamaica (85th) and Guyana (95th) remain in the ‘High Human Development’ category, while Haiti continues to lag.

Implication:

Sustained investments in education, health, and income equality will be necessary to maintain and build on gains.

1.3.5 Global Peace Index (GLPI)

The GLPI shows a mixed Caribbean picture from 2023 to 2024. T&T slips slightly (higher rank number), signalling modest deterioration. A similar trend is observed for Jamaica, the Dominican Republic, and Guyana, with all three countries moving to higher (weaker) ranks. Haiti showed a minor improvement (see Figure X).

Figure X: GLPI Rankings for Selected Caribbean Countries (2024)



Source: Institute for Economics and Peace (2024).

Implication:

Tackling crime and enhancing security sector governance remain urgent priorities.

1.3.6 Overall Social Situation (2019–2024)

Between 2019 and 2024, T&T demonstrated steady progress on the Human Development Index but setbacks in gender equality, happiness, and peace. Improvements did not align with economic growth and HDI gains in terms of subjective well-being or social cohesion. The volatility of peace and competitiveness scores underscores structural vulnerabilities. Policy focus must therefore remain on diversifying the economy, advancing gender equity, strengthening governance, and building institutional resilience.

1.4 Conclusion

T&T enters FY 2026 with solid foundations and clear opportunities. While crime, climate risks, and learning recovery remain real challenges, the country has the tools to respond: resilient macroeconomic management, active community networks, and a capable social sector. SSIP 2026 prioritises value-for-money spending, stronger primary health care, accelerated learning catch-up, and a modern, data-driven safety net. With digital integration across ministries, climate-smart investments, and partnerships with CARICOM, UN agencies, and bilateral and multilateral allies, alongside the private sector and civil society, we can protect the vulnerable, expand opportunities for youth and women, and strengthen safe and healthy communities, turning stability into measurable social progress.

1.5 References

Caribbean Journal Staff. (2013). "Barbados Continues to Lead Caribbean in Human Development Index." Caribbean Journal, June 21, 2013. <https://www.caribjournal.com/2013/06/21/barbados-continues-to-lead-caribbean-in-human-development-index/>

Caribbean Journal Staff. (2014). "Ranking the Caribbean on Gender Equality." Caribbean Journal, November 4, 2014. <https://www.caribjournal.com/2014/11/04/ranking-the-caribbean-on-gender-equality/>

CARICOM. (2023). Declaration on Crime and Violence as a Public Health Issue. CARICOM Secretariat.

Cornell University, INSEAD, and the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO). (n.d). "Global Innovation Index 2020–2024"

Geneva: WIPO, 2020–2024. <https://www.globalinnovationindex.org>

Country Economy. (n.d.). “Global Gender Gap Index: Trinidad and Tobago.” Accessed May 2025. <https://countryeconomy.com/demography/global-gender-gap-index/trinidad-tobago>

ECLAC. (2024). Social Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean 2024. Santiago: United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

FAO. (2024). Climate Change and Food Security in the Caribbean. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organisation.

IDB. (2024). The Cost of Crime in Latin America and the Caribbean. Washington, DC: Inter-American Development Bank.

IDB. (2024). The State of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean 2024. Washington, DC: Inter-American Development Bank.

IEP. (2024). Global Peace Index 2024: Measuring Peace in a Complex World. Sydney: Institute for Economics and Peace.

Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP). "Global Peace Index 2024: Measuring Peace in a Complex World" 2024.Sydney: IEP. <https://www.visionofhumanity.org/reports>

IOM. (2024). Migration Trends in the Caribbean. International Organisation for Migration.

IOM.(2024).World Migration Report 2024.Geneva: International Organisation for Migration.

IPCC. (2023). Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report. Geneva: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Munich Re. (2023). NatCatSERVICE: Natural Catastrophe Loss Events 2022. Munich: Munich Reinsurance Company.

OECD. (2024). Education at a Glance 2024. Paris: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

OECS.(2023).Social Inclusion and Social Protection Strategic Action Plan 2022–2030. Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States.

PAHO. (2023). Primary Health Care Strategy for Universal Health Coverage. Washington, DC: Pan American Health Organisation.

PAHO. (2024). Regional Health Report: Universal Health Coverage in the Americas. Washington, DC: Pan American Health Organisation.

Sachs, J., Kroll, C., Lafortune, G., Fuller, G. & Woelm, F. (2024). Sustainable Development Report 2024. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. <https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/>

SDG Index (2024). Sustainable Development Report Dashboards 2024. [online] Sdgindex.org. Available at: <https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/>.

SeabrookNews.(2024).“GuyanaRegisteredDecline in Human Development Index.” Stabroek News. <https://www.stabroeknews.com/2024/05/10/news/guyana/guyana-registered-decline-in-human-development-index/>

Searchlight. (2024). “The Human Development Index: Caribbean Party Time?” Searchlight News, May 10, 2024. <https://www.searchlight.vc/news/2024/05/10/human-development-index-caribbean-party-time/>

SolAbility.TheGlobalSustainableCompetitiveness Index Reports 2020–2024. Seoul: SolAbility, 2020–2024. <https://solability.com/the-global-sustainable-competitiveness-index>.

Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN).2024.Global Sustainable Competitiveness Index Reports 2020–2024. Seoul: SolAbility, 2020–2024. <https://solability.com/the-global-sustainable-competitiveness-index>

The Global Economy. "Happiness Rankings." Accessed June 5, 2025. <https://www.theglobaleconomy.com/rankings/happiness/>.

The Global Economy. "Human Development Rankings." Accessed June 5, 2025. https://www.theglobaleconomy.com/rankings/human_development/

The Global Economy. (n.d.). "Competitiveness by Country, around the World." Accessed May 2025. https://www.theglobaleconomy.com/rankings/davos_competitiveness_new_measure/

Trading Economics. (n.d.). "Competitiveness Rank: Trinidad and Tobago." Accessed May 2025. <https://tradingeconomics.com/trinidad-and-tobago/competitiveness-rank>

UN. (2023). Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023. New York: United Nations.

UNDP. (2023). Human Development Report 2023/2024: Breaking the Gridlock. New York: United Nations Development Programme. <http://hdr.undp.org>.

UNESCO. (2024). Global Education Monitoring Report 2024. Paris: United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation.

UNESCO. (2024). The Urgency of Educational Recovery in Latin America and the Caribbean. Paris: UNESCO.

UNHCR. (2024). Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan for the Caribbean. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

UNICEF. (2023). Annual Report: Eastern Caribbean Area. Bridgetown: UNICEF Eastern Caribbean Office.

UNICEF. (2023). Annual Report: Global Snapshot. New York: UNICEF.

UNODC. (2023). Global Study on Homicide 2023. Vienna: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

UNODC. (2023). Global Study on Homicide 2023. Vienna: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Vision of Humanity. 2024. "Peacefulness in Americas: Global Peace Index 2024." Vision of Humanity, May 2024. <https://www.visionofhumanity.org/peacefulness-in-the-americas-key-insights-from-the-2024-global-peace-index/>

WEF. (2024). Global Gender Gap Report 2024. Geneva: World Economic Forum.

WHO. (2023). Universal Health Coverage Global Monitoring Report. Geneva: World Health Organisation.

World Bank. (2023). Migration and Remittances Data. Washington, DC: World Bank.

World Bank. (2024). LAC Poverty and Equity Briefs. Washington, DC: World Bank.

World Bank. (2024). Poverty and Inequality Platform Data. Washington, DC: World Bank.

World Economic Forum (2018) "The Global Competitiveness Report 2018" Geneva: World Economic Forum, 2018. <https://www3.weforum.org/docs/GCR2018/05FullReport/TheGlobalCompetitivenessReport2018.pdf>

World Economic Forum. 2019. The Global Competitiveness Report 2019. Geneva: World Economic Forum. <https://www.weforum.org/reports/global-competitiveness-report-2019>

World Economic Forum. 2024. Global Gender Gap Report 2024. Geneva: World Economic Forum. <https://www.weforum.org/reports/global-gender-gap-report-2024>

World Happiness Report (2023). New York: Sustainable Development Solutions Network. Available at: <https://worldhappiness.report/ed/2023/>

World Inequality Lab. (2023). World Inequality Report 2023. Paris: World Inequality Lab.

World Intellectual Property Organisation. Global Innovation Index 2024: Trinidad and Tobago. Geneva: WIPO, 2024. <https://www.wipo.int/gii-ranking/en/trinidad-and-tobago>

World Population Review. (2025). "Gender Equality by Country 2025." Accessed May 2025. <https://worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/gender-equality-by-country>

CHAPTER 2

THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION



2026

CHAPTER 2: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

In FY 2025, T&T's national social landscape was characterised by persistent structural challenges alongside emerging opportunities from technological advances, economic transitions, and evolving global dynamics. The country's progress toward national development goals continued to emphasise improving the quality of life, reducing poverty, and promoting inclusive human development, especially for vulnerable populations.

This chapter provides an overview of the new social sector initiatives undertaken in FY 2025, situating them within the broader national development agenda and international

commitments. It underscores the GoRTT's efforts to fulfil both domestic and global social development obligations, with particular emphasis on targeted investments in human capital and expanded social protection. These efforts aim to accelerate progress towards sustainable social and human development outcomes.

Human Development and Social Progress:

According to the UNDP, T&T remained in the high human development category of the HDI. Progress was recorded in both health and education indicators. Life expectancy stabilised at approximately 73.5 years in 2023, with 76.7 years for women and 70.4 years for men, reflecting steady gains in public health (Macrotrends, n.d.). Education outcomes also improved, particularly among youth and women. Youth literacy rates reached 92% for individuals aged 15 to 24 (NationMaster, 2008),

with lower secondary school completion rates of 75.6% for girls and 68.4% for boys, and a gender parity index for tertiary enrolment of 1.28, highlighting higher female participation in higher education (TheGlobalEconomy, n.d.). These trends demonstrate sustained progress in health and education, benefiting young people and women most significantly. However, income inequality and disparities in access to quality social services persist, particularly in rural and underserved communities.

Consequently, the GoRTT reaffirmed its commitment to sustainable development in 2025 by aligning with the United Nations Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022-2026 (Newsday, 2025). This framework, covering 22 English and Dutch-speaking Caribbean states, articulates shared regional priorities, including inclusive growth, climate resilience, institutional strengthening,

and human rights protections. T&T's commitment reflects a deliberate orientation toward integrated and cooperative strategies for confronting complex development imperatives.

Further consolidation of national priorities took place in the third quarter of FY 2025 with the formal adoption of the National Policy Framework. This framework provides strategic guidance for Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) by outlining medium-term government priorities and objectives. It aims to improve coordination among MDAs through a shared vision that supports targeted project and policy development, efficient resource use, and transparent, effective governance.

The framework encompasses a wide range of initiatives aimed at empowering citizens, fostering innovation, promoting economic diversification, and generating employment

opportunities. Overall, the GoRTT's National Policy Framework seeks to accomplish the following strategic goals:

- i. Diversify the economy through non-oil sectors;
- ii. Modernise government and the public service;
- iii. Transform health care and education;
- iv. Empower youth through skills and opportunities;
- v. Revitalise tourism, sports and culture;
- vi. Combat crime and improve community safety; and,
- vii. Revamp the business climate and empower regional development, with special emphasis on Tobago.

Accordingly, this chapter aligns the major FY 2025 social sector initiatives of MDAs with the strategic priorities articulated in the National

Policy Framework. The analysis focuses on interventions in the following domains:

1. Protection of vulnerable citizens;
2. Strengthening of communities and families;
3. Education reform and access;
4. Gender equality;
5. Youth empowerment;
6. Healthcare transformation; and,
7. Modernisation of government service delivery.

2.1 Protection of Vulnerable Citizens

The GoRTT remains committed to the global agenda of Ending Poverty in All its Forms as articulated in the SDGs, particularly Goal 1. Target 1.2 aims to reduce, by at least half, the proportion of individuals of all ages living in poverty in all

its dimensions. Protecting vulnerable citizens is central to national development, as poverty and social exclusion affect rural households, female-headed households, persons with disabilities, children, and older adults. These groups face limited access to education, health services, and economic opportunities, which perpetuates cycles of deprivation and inequality.

Addressing these challenges requires not only income support but also integrated services that strengthen social inclusion and promote long-term resilience. In FY 2025, the GoRTT implemented a comprehensive range of social protection programmes and services aimed at addressing the financial, social, psychosocial, and economic needs of citizens most at risk. These programmes provided immediate relief to vulnerable groups. Key achievements in FY 2025 are outlined below.

2.1.1. Development of T&T's Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index

Traditionally, poverty has been measured by comparing an individual's, region's, or nation's income against a defined poverty threshold or line. While this unidimensional approach has been helpful, it does not fully capture the complex realities of poverty. Recent studies underscore the need for more comprehensive methodologies, given that poverty is inherently multi-dimensional. Beyond income, critical deprivations include food insecurity, unemployment, inadequate housing, poor sanitation, limited access to healthcare, and inadequate educational opportunities. Dr Sabina Alkire, Director of the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, has argued that there is now global recognition of the need for multidimensional poverty measures that capture multiple deprivations (Alkire, 2015). In

FY 2025, the Ministry of Planning, Economic Affairs and Development (MPEAD), through the Central Statistical Office (CSO), initiated the process of developing T&T's MPI. As the ministry charged with charting the country's path toward national prosperity, it has reaffirmed its commitment to "shaping a better future for every citizen." The MPI will complement the existing monetary-based poverty measurement system, enable a more holistic understanding of deprivation and allow for more precise targeting of programmes and interventions. By identifying both the intensity and composition of poverty, the MPI will strengthen policy design and resource allocation, thereby enhancing human development outcomes.

In July 2025, the CSO established the Project Steering Committee (PSC), a multi-disciplinary body tasked with providing technical oversight for the creation of the MPI. The PSC's mandate

is to ensure that the MPI meets international standards of technical rigour while remaining a credible and sustainable policy tool. Its work will focus on securing:

1. Leadership support from the highest levels of government;
2. Technical robustness in methodology and data collection;
3. A comprehensive communication strategy to promote public and stakeholder engagement; and,
4. Institutional credibility to ensure sustainability over time.

The PSC will comprise experts in poverty analysis, statistics, social and economic development, research, policy, and communication. Membership will include representatives from key government MDAs, academia, civil society organisations, the private sector, and international development partners.

2.1.2. Revision and Updating of the MPSDFS' Standard Means Test (SMT)

Since its establishment in 2018, the MPSDFS has utilised the SMT as the primary eligibility criterion for access to the Ministry's social safety net programmes and grants. The SMT was designed to achieve multiple objectives, including:

1. Enhancing the efficiency of targeting mechanisms for economically challenged households;
2. Strengthening the effectiveness of service delivery across MPSDFS units; and,
3. Reducing duplication and overlap among social programmes and grants.

The SMT, which is the MPSDFS' primary eligibility tool for social support, remained under active review in FY 2025. The MPSDFS prepared a technical report to update poverty

thresholds, inflating the 2005 national poverty line using 2024 food prices from the approved Minimum Food Basket (2,400 kilocalories). This work involved consultations with stakeholders, collaboration with the CSO, the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI), and the National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation (NAMDEVCO), which resulted in the formulation of a draft report with revised thresholds. Concerns raised in Parliament and civil society regarding fairness and coverage also prompted the Cabinet to approve the establishment of a six-month Inter-Ministerial Committee to examine the SMT's methodology, assumptions, and criteria. While not a complete reform, these actions reinforced the SMT's role as part of an evolving toolkit to improve targeting accuracy and ensure that eligibility thresholds better reflect the real cost of living. Once implemented, the revised SMT is expected

to significantly improve the accuracy and efficiency of MPSDFS' targeting mechanisms. This will enable the more precise identification of households eligible for social support, ensure a better allocation of resources, and ultimately foster an environment that helps vulnerable families to achieve greater stability and resilience.

2.1.3. Expansion of the MPSDFS' Social Services Centres

As part of its ongoing efforts to strengthen social service delivery and expand citizen access, the MPSDFS officially opened the Couva Social Services Centre in April 2025. This marked progress in implementing the ministry's single social entry model for residents of Central Trinidad.

The establishment of the Centre demonstrates the Ministry's commitment to decentralising

services and ensuring efficient, coordinated, and equitable access to social support. It also reflects the GoRTT's alignment with SDG Target 1.4, which emphasises that the poor and vulnerable should have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services. The Couva Centre consolidates several of the Ministry's core divisions and units under one facility, including:

1. Social Welfare Division (SWD);
2. National Family Services Division (NFSD);
3. National Social Development Programme (NSDP); and,
4. Citizen Engagement and Outreach Unit.

This integrated model streamlines service delivery, reduces duplication, and provides citizens with a single point of access to social protection and family support.

2.1.4. Interventions for the Socially Displaced

Social displacement remains a complex and pressing issue in T&T, driven by socio-economic factors including poverty, mental illness, unemployment, domestic violence, and inadequate access to affordable housing. The visible presence of socially displaced individuals, particularly street dwellers, raises significant humanitarian and public health concerns, underscoring the urgent need for coordinated, multi-sectoral responses.

Although existing legislation does not currently allow for the involuntary relocation of socially displaced persons, the GoRTT has adopted a compassionate and dignified approach, centred on empowerment, care, and social inclusion. In FY 2025, key interventions focused on establishing transitional housing facilities and conducting public sensitisation campaigns

on homelessness and reintegration as part of national social protection efforts.

2.1.5. Transitional Facilities

During FY 2025, the MPSDFS established two transitional facilities:

1. The Penal Transitional Facility; and,
2. The Carapo House Transitional Facility.

These facilities were designed to offer temporary accommodation, care, and support services to individuals and families displaced by emergencies such as fires, natural disasters, or evictions. Their core objective is to serve as a stepping stone towards independence, helping residents regain stability and transition into more permanent living arrangements. Key services at these centres will include:

1. Comprehensive skills development programmes, aimed at equipping residents

with the tools required for economic independence; and,

2. Psychosocial support services, focused on emotional well-being, trauma recovery, and resilience-building.

These facilities are not merely shelters: they were designed to function as integrated service points that promote social inclusion and restore dignity to vulnerable citizens.

2.2 Transformational Initiatives for the Education System

The GoRTT recognises that educational transformation is essential to creating a resilient, knowledge-based society. Targeted investments in technology integration, youth development, and curriculum modernisation were prioritised in FY 2025. The MoE pursued

three core strategic imperatives to guide the transformation of T&T's education system. These priorities are designed to advance progressive and inclusive national development.

1. **Focusing on the Nation's Children:** Placing students at the heart of the education system to ensure their diverse needs are met with equality and care.
2. **Engaging Parents:** Encouraging active parental involvement as a cornerstone of student success and wellbeing.
3. **Enhancing System Components:** Strengthening the essential pillars of the education system, including policy, infrastructure, and curriculum, to support holistic growth.

These policy directions are anchored in the principles of equity, access, and quality. They are informed by the rights enshrined in the United

Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). In FY 2025, several initiatives were implemented to improve learning outcomes, enhance digital literacy, and support holistic student development.

2.2.1. Ministry of Education (MoE) Screening Initiatives

In FY 2025, the MoE advanced several screening and wellness initiatives aimed at strengthening early detection, intervention, and support for students' health and development. These initiatives helped reduce preventable barriers to learning and promoted educational equity.

1. **Vision Screening and Eyeglasses Distribution:** In October 2024, students from eighty (80) primary schools benefited from free vision screening and eyeglasses through the *Adopt-a-School Vision Screening*

Programme, a key component of Phase II of the Schools in Focus programme. Implemented under the MoE's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) framework, the programme leveraged corporate sponsorship to deliver critical eye care services to vulnerable children. It reduced barriers to learning, improved educational outcomes, and enhanced students' overall well-being.

2. **Universal Screening Initiative:** This comprehensive, nationwide programme for children ages four to six included neurodevelopmental, physical, mental, and socio-emotional assessments, as well as vision screenings conducted in partnership with UNICEF. It marked a significant step in early intervention, ensuring holistic development from the outset of schooling.

3. **Health Screening in ECCE Centres:** This initiative was implemented in collaboration with District Health Visitors and the MoH. Between May and June 2025, wellness checks and vaccination status reviews were carried out in 22 Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Centres across three educational districts, reaching a total of 473 children. It ensured compliance with national immunisation policies and enabled early identification of health concerns, reducing risks to long-term learning.

Collectively, these screening initiatives strengthened the education sector's role in national health and human development and fostered partnerships among the MoE, parents, the health sector, and corporate sponsors. Together, they contributed to a safer, healthier, and more inclusive learning environment.

2.2.2. Development of a Computerised Tracking System

In February 2025, the MoE formally launched the First Year Infant Registration System (FIRSTT), a digital platform enabling parents to apply online to multiple schools, thereby replacing slower paper-based processes and improving administrative transparency and convenience (Ministry of Education, 2025a). The MoE website describes FIRSTT as part of the broader Digital Transformation Programme, framing it within the Ministry's push to modernise the education sector's information systems (MoE, n.d.).

2.2.3. Parenting Education Programmes

In FY 2025, the MoE prioritised family and parental engagement as a cornerstone of student success. Research indicates that educational outcomes improve when families

are informed, supported, and actively engaged in the learning process. To this end, the Ministry delivered its Parenting Education Programmes in primary and secondary schools. These structured sessions addressed topics such as mental health, grief, emotional intelligence, and school transitions. Delivery was facilitated through multi-agency collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) – Community Police, the CATT, the MPSDFS, the Family Court and the Children’s Court. Collectively, these efforts empowered parents, strengthened family-school partnerships, and supported resilience within communities.

At the ECCE level, two flagship initiatives supported families during key transition periods:

1. **Transition from Home to ECCE Programme:** This initiative engaged over 2,200 parents, easing children’s adjustment

by introducing families to school environments, routines, and staff.

2. **Transition from ECCE to Primary Programme:** This programme promoted continuity in development and learning by guiding more than 1,200 parents and caregivers on supporting children as they moved into primary education.

Both initiatives strengthened home-school collaboration, improved student adjustment, and fostered developmental continuity across the education pipeline. These programmes demonstrated the Ministry's holistic approach to education by recognising the family unit as an essential partner in national human development.

2.2.4. Teacher Professional Development and Innovation in Education

Professional development for teachers was strengthened by the MoE's *Tutorial Tuesdays and Thursdays Initiative*, which provided hands-on training for 173 educators from 55 schools. This initiative focused on the effective use of digital tools and platforms, enhancing teachers' digital literacy for contemporary education delivery. In alignment with global education trends, the Ministry introduced *AI in Education*, which covered the use of artificial intelligence in teaching, examined its ethical implications, and highlighted its potential to support personalised learning. Together, these initiatives demonstrated the ministry's commitment to equipping educators with the skills and knowledge required for 21st-century teaching and learning.

2.2.5. Advancing Cybersecurity Education and Workforce Development

In October 2024, the former Ministry of Digital Transformation (MDT) and the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to create training and education opportunities in the field of cybersecurity. This collaboration supported the Government's objective to modernise the national curriculum and equip students with the skills required to thrive in the digital economy. The initiative responds to the growing demand for cybersecurity expertise, given the increasing risks associated with advances in information and communication technologies (ICTs). Expected outcomes include:

1. Internship opportunities for UTT students within the Ministry's Cybersecurity Unit;

2. Research collaboration to anticipate and address emerging cyber threats;
3. Development of a diversely skilled, tech-ready workforce.

This partnership aims not only to enhance national digital security but also to support innovation, employability, and resilience within T&T's technology sector.

2.2.6. Strengthening Quality Assurance in Technical and Vocational Education (TVET)

In 2025, the National Energy Skills Centre Technical Institute (NESC-TI), formerly the National Energy Skills Centre, successfully renewed its ISO 21001:2018 certification for its Educational Organisation Management System. This renewal reaffirmed the Institute's commitment to quality-assured, learner-

centred TVET delivery. As the only tertiary-level institution in the Caribbean to hold this distinction, NESC-TI demonstrated regional leadership by aligning its governance, curriculum, and stakeholder engagement with global educational standards. The certification process included institutional self-assessment, gap analysis, staff training, system development, and a comprehensive external audit.

Throughout FY 2025, the Institute embedded ISO 21001 principles across all operational systems, strengthened internal audits, and promoted its certified status at the regional level, all of which were funded through internal resources. These efforts enhanced the credibility of NESC-TI's programmes. They supported the establishment of new CARICOM partnerships, further positioning the institution as a model for excellence in technical and vocational education and training.

2.3 Advancing Gender Equality and Empowerment

The GoRTT continued to advance gender equality as a cornerstone of inclusive national development. Recognising that equitable participation of women and men strengthens social cohesion, enhances economic growth, and fosters resilience, the GoRTT implemented a series of targeted initiatives to address systemic barriers and create opportunities for empowerment. These interventions are anchored in the principles of the National Policy on Gender and Development (NPGD) and aligned with international commitments such as the SDGs, particularly SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

During FY 2025, priority was placed on strengthening women's economic empowerment, promoting inclusive security

frameworks, supporting rehabilitation and reintegration of vulnerable populations, and raising awareness to combat gender-based violence. The following initiatives illustrate the GoRTT's integrated approach to building a more equitable society.

2.3.1. Women's Economic Empowerment Initiatives

The GoRTT recognises that women's economic empowerment is central to achieving inclusive growth, poverty reduction, and gender equality. Empowering women to participate fully in economic life not only strengthens household resilience but also contributes to national development and social stability. In alignment with SDG 1 and SDG 5, the GoRTT has invested in targeted initiatives designed to provide women with the skills, resources, and opportunities needed to achieve economic independence.

In FY 2025, these initiatives addressed barriers such as limited access to financing, training, and business opportunities, while promoting entrepreneurship and leadership.

- **The PowHer Programme**

Implemented by the Ministry of National Security (MNS), this six-month initiative was designed to equip women with the skills required to navigate the business start-up process successfully. Combining local and international expertise, the programme delivered inspirational and practical training sessions to promote women's entrepreneurship and independence. In November 2024, as part of the Morvant Laventille Initiative (MLI), a total of 56 women graduated from the programme. Participants received targeted support to overcome barriers related to poverty, unemployment, and limited resources, thereby creating pathways to sustainable livelihoods.

- **Completion of the “Boss Lady” Project**

Implemented by the Ministry of Culture and Community Development (MCCD)-formerly the Ministry of Sport and Community Development, this 10-week training programme strengthened women’s capacity for entrepreneurship, leadership, and personal development. A total of 79 women graduated in FY 2025, equipped with a holistic set of skills, including life skills, craft training, business development, and community engagement. By combining technical and soft skills, the initiative enabled participants to pursue economic opportunities while overcoming institutional and gender-based barriers to advancement.

2.3.2. Launch of the Women, Peace and Security National Action Plan (NAP)

In March 2025, the (former) Gender and Child Affairs Division (GCAD), in collaboration with

UN Women, launched T&T's first Women, Peace and Security (WPS) National Action Plan (NAP). The NAP serves as the country's formal mechanism for advancing the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325) and the broader WPS agenda. It provides a framework for integrating the four pillars of the agenda into national policies and programmes:

1. **Participation** – increasing women's involvement in peace processes;
2. **Prevention** – preventing conflict-related sexual violence and human rights violations;
3. **Protection** – safeguarding women and girls from violence; and,
4. **Relief and Recovery** – ensuring gender-sensitive support and reconstruction efforts.

This landmark initiative reaffirmed the GoRTT's commitment to mainstreaming gender into national security efforts. It represents

a transformative step in strengthening institutional responsiveness to complex security challenges, including gun violence, gang activity, and gender-based violence. By empowering women and girls as leaders in conflict prevention and peacebuilding, the WPS NAP fosters inclusive security strategies, enhances public trust, and promotes institutional accountability. This initiative aligns with SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) by strengthening security frameworks that foster equity, resilience, and social justice, particularly for vulnerable populations (UN Women, 2025).

2.3.3. Re-Integration Support and Empowerment (R.I.S.E.) – Who Am I? Pilot Project

In FY 2025, the MPSDFS, in collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Prison Service (TTPrS), implemented the Re-Integration Support

and Empowerment (R.I.S.E.) – Who Am I? Pilot Project. This initiative prepared pre-release female inmates for successful reintegration into society by addressing their psychosocial, vocational, and personal development needs.

The programme combined trauma therapy, vocational and life skills training, and creative expression to build resilience and foster personal growth. A key component involved training participants in garment construction and reconstruction using recycled materials, enabling them to develop marketable skills while also engaging in sustainable practices.

The project culminated in a fashion show hosted by the GCAD, showcasing garments created by participants and symbolising their journey toward reclaiming dignity, identity, and purpose. Conducted over four months (April – July 2025), the pilot programme demonstrated the potential of rehabilitation initiatives to:

1. Support social reintegration and reduce recidivism;
2. Provide equitable access to rehabilitation services for marginalised populations; and,
3. Strengthen institutional capacity for responsive, inclusive, and transformative social development.

The success of R.I.S.E. highlights the value of holistic interventions that equip individuals with economic skills while empowering them to rebuild confidence and re-establish positive roles within their families and communities.

2.3.4. Launch of the Central Registry on Gender-Based Violence's Umbono System

In January 2025, the GCAD officially launched the Central Registry on Gender-Based Violence (GBV)-Umbono System. This initiative advanced the National Strategic Action Plan on Gender-

Based Violence and Sexual Violence, reinforcing the State's commitment to addressing GBV through data-driven policy, coordinated service delivery, and victim-centred care. The Central Registry serves as a critical tool for collating and maintaining up-to-date national statistics on gender-based and sexual violence. With the introduction of the Umbono System, the Registry evolved from a basic data repository into a comprehensive platform with advanced client management capabilities.

Key Features and Benefits of the Umbono System include:

1. **Enhanced Client Management:** Seamless case tracking reduces duplication and strengthens referral pathways.
2. **Continuity of Care:** Captures client journeys across agencies, reducing re-traumatisation during referrals.

3. **Holistic Family Support:** Supports family transitions from shelter to counselling, rehabilitation, and reintegration
4. **Data-Driven Policy Development:** Generates reliable data for evidence-based policymaking and resource allocation.
5. **Service Coordination:** Improves inter-agency collaboration and oversight across GBV services.

The Umbono System represents a key innovation in national efforts to combat GBV and domestic violence. By combining real-time data management with a victim-centred approach, the platform supports the transition of individuals and families from states of distress to improved well-being (TTT News, 2025).

2.3.5. Training, Capacity Building, and Awareness Raising

During the third quarter of FY 2025, the GAD undertook a series of training, capacity-building, and awareness-raising initiatives aimed at combating gender-based violence and promoting gender equality. Grounded in the National Policy on Gender and Development's thematic pillars, these sessions addressed topics such as gender roles, stereotypes, equality, gender mainstreaming, gender-responsive budgeting, and empowerment.

Recognising that education is a catalyst for behavioural and social change, the Division implemented the following targeted training sessions:

1. **Gender Sensitisation Outreach Sessions**

- a) Excel Primary School, Beetham Gardens;

- b) Carapichaima West Secondary School;
and,
- c) Helping Her Foundation.

2. Institutional Training

- a) Environmental Management Authority (EMA) – Gender Training Workshop.

These efforts raised awareness at both the community and institutional levels, equipping participants with the knowledge and tools to challenge harmful stereotypes, promote equality, and advance a more inclusive society.

2.4 Youth Empowerment

The GoRTT recognises that young people are the nation's most valuable resource and are central to achieving sustainable social and economic progress. As articulated in the National Policy Framework, the GoRTT views youth not as a problem to be managed but as

a solution whose potential must be unleashed. The National Youth Transformation Plan is anchored on five strategic pillars:

1. Education – future-ready, AI-driven learning;
2. Employment – guaranteed jobs, internships, or training;
3. Entrepreneurship – funding and support for youth-led businesses;
4. Engagement – stronger youth voice in governance; and,
5. Empowerment – housing, wellness, and independence.

In pursuit of these objectives, a suite of targeted initiatives was implemented during FY 2025 to expand opportunities for skills development, employment readiness, leadership, and entrepreneurship among the youth population. Delivered in collaboration with ministries, state agencies, and private-

sector partners, these initiatives strengthened resilience, fostered innovation, and created pathways for meaningful participation in the economy and society. Collectively, they advance the Government's broader agenda of inclusive growth, national transformation, and youth empowerment.

2.4.1. Launch of the Healthcare Training Programme

In February 2025, the former Ministry of Youth Development and National Service (MYDNS) officially launched the Healthcare Training Programme in collaboration with the MoH, the MoE, and the College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT). The programme equipped young people with both theoretical knowledge and practical, hands-on experience, preparing

them for careers in healthcare and home care services.

The inaugural cohort admitted 75 participants for training in healthcare and home care, along with 25 participants for specialised training as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). By creating pathways into the healthcare sector, the programme directly addressed national workforce needs, enhanced the availability of essential medical services, and provided young citizens with opportunities for sustainable employment in a critical industry. Importantly, this initiative showcased the GoRTT's commitment to youth development by empowering young people with marketable skills, increasing their employability, and enabling them to make meaningful contributions to national progress (MSYA, 2025).

2.4.2. Launch of the Future Leaders Internship Programme

On July 31, 2025, Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago (TSTT), under the purview of the Ministry of Public Utilities (MPU), officially launched the Future Leaders Internship Programme, which benefitted over 600 young people across T&T. Launched under the tagline “Powering the Next Generation: Future Ready, Tech Driven, TSTT Inspired”, the initiative targeted citizens aged 17 to 21 who were not employed or enrolled in full-time tertiary education.

The three-week internship was implemented to build a digitally fluent, work-ready talent pipeline by exposing participants to structured training in digital literacy, professional development, and career readiness. The blended format combines virtual learning with on-site experience across key areas of TSTT’s operations,

ensuring that participants acquire both technical and workplace competencies. This national initiative reflected TSTT's commitment to digital inclusion and workforce readiness, aligning with the government's broader objective of enhancing youth employability. By creating pathways to employment and entrepreneurship, the programme enabled young people to become active contributors to the digital economy, thereby advancing the national agenda for youth development, innovation, and sustainable growth.

2.4.3. Student Enhancement and Empowerment Programme (STEEP)

The MIC Institute of Technology, under the auspices of the MoE, delivered the STEEP, a six-week training programme designed to equip young people with practical skills for employment and entrepreneurship. The

programme aligns with SDG 4.4, which aims to increase the number of young people and adults with relevant technical and vocational skills.

Key modules included:

1. Business etiquette;
2. Financial management;
3. Introduction to entrepreneurship;
4. Life skills; and,
5. Computer literacy.

STEEP provided participants with stipends and certification, representing a tangible investment in the nation's human capital development strategy. By equipping participants with relevant 21st-century competencies, the programme contributed to economic resilience and supported the GoRTT's broader youth development agenda.

2.4.4. East Port of Spain Youth Leadership and Development Programme

In the first quarter of FY2025, the former MYDNS signed an MoU with the EPOSDC to deliver the ministry's youth programmes in EPOS communities. This strategic collaboration provides a framework for designing, implementing, and executing Youth Development, National Service, Entrepreneurship, and Co-operative Development Training Programmes, tailored to address the specific needs of young people in the area.

Through the East Port of Spain (EPOS) Youth Leadership, Empowerment and Development (LEAD) Programme, young participants received a platform for character development, emotional intelligence, public speaking, civic-mindedness, community empowerment, and personal growth. The initiative strengthened

individual capacities and fostered social change and leadership at the community level.

This collaboration marked a transformative approach to urban regeneration, with a focus on improving the economic, social, and physical conditions in East Port of Spain. Emphasis was placed on Young Women in Business (ages 18 to 35) and at-risk youth (ages 18 to 25), recognising the need for targeted interventions that promote empowerment, resilience, and sustainable livelihoods. By nurturing the talents and ambitions of young residents, this initiative served as a pillar of innovation and community renewal, advancing the Government's commitment to inclusive youth development and equitable national growth (MSYA, 2024).

2.4.5. Trailblazers: National Youth Apprenticeship and Community Development Programme

In July 2025, the MCCD launched its hallmark youth initiative, Trailblazers: The National Youth Apprenticeship and Community Development Programme. This transformative programme targeted young people aged 15 to 25 from at-risk and underserved communities across T&T, and equipped them with the skills, mentorship, and opportunities necessary to thrive in today's society.

Delivered in collaboration with government agencies and stakeholder organisations, Trailblazers provided a comprehensive package of support, including life skills development, paid apprenticeships, structured mentorship, networking opportunities, and field experiences. These components build resilience, leadership, civic pride, and employment readiness among the nation's youth.

The programme advanced the Government's National Youth Empowerment & Transform-

ation Plan, particularly its five pillars: Education, Employment, Engagement, Entrepreneurship, and Empowerment. Key components of the Trailblazers Programme include:

1. Curriculum Delivery – Life skills and personal development training;
2. School Management and Leadership – Focused on pathways to sustainable employment and growth;
3. National Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) – Expanding career opportunities and industry partnerships;
4. Youth Achievement Recognition – Celebrating and rewarding youth accomplishments; and,
5. Paid Apprenticeships & Internships – Offering stipends and hands-on experience through organisational placements.

By combining immediate interventions with long-term capacity-building, the Trailblazers Programme created clear pathways to employment, leadership, and national development. This initiative reflected the Government's commitment to fostering a generation of skilled, confident, and community-minded young leaders who contribute to T&T's sustainable development.

2.5 Families and Communities: Building Resilience and Social Cohesion

The Government recognised that strong families and resilient communities are the foundation of national development. The National Policy Framework, therefore, emphasises supporting families, empowering communities, and protecting vulnerable groups, aligning with the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Collectively, the policies in the framework reflected the Government's commitment to fostering inclusive growth and national transformation by empowering families as the building blocks of society and strengthening communities as spaces of safety, participation, and opportunity. By linking local initiatives to global priorities, T&T affirmed its alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its commitment to leaving no one behind.

2.5.1. Expansion of National Parenting Programme

In FY 2025, the MPSDFS expanded the National Parenting Programme (NPP) to meet the growing demand for family support services. Additional Parenting Workshops were introduced in sixteen (16) new locations, ensuring broader access for parents and caregivers nationwide. The new locations include:

- Aranguetz / El Socorro
- Arouca
- Belmont
- Carapichaima
- Carenage
- Chaguanas
- Coal Mine / Sangre Grande
- Enterprise
- Lower Laventille
- Maloney
- Morvant
- Penal / Siparia
- Pleasantville
- San Juan
- Santa Cruz
- Upper Laventille

The NPP delivered evidence-based parenting education through community-based

workshops, equipping parents with practical tools to navigate modern challenges, including parenting in the digital age, fostering positive discipline and strengthening family bonds. Successful participants were recognised as ambassadors of strong family values, inspiring others to build homes rooted in love, respect, and understanding.

2.5.2. Expansion of resources for children

In January 2025, the GCAD signed an MoU with the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF) to collaborate on the development of innovative digital resources for children. This partnership supported three key projects:

1. Improvement of Knowledge-Sharing on Childzonett – expanding access to informative videos, interactive online courses, educational games, downloadable brochures, and workbooks.

2. Animated Videos on Child Rights and Child Protection – raising national awareness about child abuse, neglect, and the importance of safeguarding children.
3. Online Directory of Services for Children – providing parents, guardians, children, and professionals with quick access to essential services in healthcare, education, counselling, and legal assistance.

2.5.3. Increased Collaboration Among Child Protection Agencies

In July 2025, the CATT and ChildLine strengthened their partnership through the integration of ChildLine into the *Primero Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS+)*. This collaboration aimed to streamline case management and deliver more effective, coordinated support to children requiring care

and protection. The Primero CPIMS+ platform was introduced in T&T through the UNICEF-EU Spotlight Initiative, representing a significant advancement in the country's child protection infrastructure.

The integration links ChildLine's services with the web-based platform managed by the Children's Authority, enabling seamless processing of cases from initial registration through to assessment and referral. This initiative demonstrated the shared commitment of both agencies to improving case management, strengthening stakeholder coordination, and ensuring timely, confidential, and effective support for children in need. Notably, the integration addressed a longstanding challenge in child protection by reducing the risk of re-traumatisation for children, who previously were required to recount their experiences multiple times to different agencies and

systems. The Authority also engaged additional stakeholders across the child protection sector to build a more comprehensive and responsive support network (CATT, 2025).

2.5.4. Launch of the National Care and Empowerment Centre (NCEC)

In FY 2025, the Children's Authority continued to fulfil its mandate as the lead national agency for child protection through a range of initiatives and services. The Authority remained responsible for safeguarding the rights, welfare, care, and rehabilitation of children who were victims of abuse, neglect, abandonment, or any form of endangerment, as well as those requiring state intervention to ensure their safety and development.

Significant advancements during the year included:

1. Installation of forensic equipment at the South and Mt Hope Assessment Centres;
2. Activation of medical services at the South Assessment Centre;
3. Training of 30 staff members in forensic interviewing; and,
4. Implementation of training across all service units on the Administration of Justice (Indictable Proceedings) Act, 2023 (AJIPA), which enhanced the Authority's internal assessment capacity.

A significant milestone was the launch of the National Care and Empowerment Centre (NCEC), a trauma-informed reception centre designed to provide holistic child care. This facility joined the three existing reception centres operated by the Authority. Additionally, several innovative programmes were undertaken at the reception centres during FY 2025, including:

1. A Farm-to-Table Project to promote wellness, nutrition, and life skills;
2. A Robotics Programme to foster critical thinking and problem-solving abilities;
3. Psychotherapy services to support emotional resilience; and,
4. Sports development programmes to promote physical well-being and personal growth.

These initiatives demonstrated the Authority's continued commitment to strengthening child protection services and creating safe, nurturing, and empowering environments for children in need of state care.

2.5.5. Expanding the Local Economic Development Booths Initiative

The Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government (MRDLG), in collaboration with

the Rural Development Company of Trinidad and Tobago (RDC), continued to advance its Local Economic Development (LED) initiative in FY 2025 through the establishment of LED Booths in Arima.

This new business hub was designed to foster entrepreneurship, stimulate local economic activity, and empower residents through opportunities for self-employment and entrepreneurship. The booths were fully outfitted with essential infrastructure, including plumbing and electrical services, providing entrepreneurs with ready-to-use spaces that support the effective operation of small businesses. By offering accessible and affordable facilities, the initiative lowered barriers to entry for entrepreneurs and created an environment that enabled business growth. The booths directly contributed to community enrichment, as local commerce flourished

and economic activity circulated within the community. Ultimately, LED Booths represented a sustainable approach to empowering communities, stimulating economic growth, and strengthening local economies across T&T (TTT News, 2025).

2.5.6. Interventions to Promote Disability Inclusion and Support

In FY 2025, the MPSDFS advanced several strategic interventions aimed at strengthening support systems for persons with disabilities and their families. These initiatives demonstrated the State's continued commitment to fostering inclusion, enhancing access to services, and ensuring that individuals with disabilities and their caregivers could participate fully in national development. In alignment with SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, these interventions aimed to remove barriers, promote equity, and

create a society where all citizens have equal opportunities to thrive.

- **Development of the Disability Resource and Referral Database (DRD)**

During the current fiscal year, the MPSDFS, through the DAU, commenced the development of the Disability Resource and Referral Database (DRRD). This centralised repository will provide updated and verified information on disability-related services, organisations, and support mechanisms. Importantly, it also integrates current research across multiple sectors and shows both international and local best practices in disability service provision.

The DRRD was designed to function as a knowledge hub for policymakers, service providers, researchers, and members of the public seeking reliable and up-to-date information on the disability sector. As part of its development, the DAU conducted site visits

to nine (9) therapy service providers across T&T between July 10th and July 16th, 2025. These visits targeted providers of essential services such as physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, and behavioural therapies. The information collected provided a more accurate mapping of available services, thereby strengthening referral systems and contributing to the creation of a more responsive and integrated service delivery framework.

- **G.U.I.D.E Panel Discussion**

In the first quarter of FY2025, the ministry hosted its inaugural G.U.I.D.E Panel Discussion, an initiative designed to support parents of children with disabilities. The acronym G.U.I.D.E. represents Growth, Understanding, Inclusion, Development, and Empowerment, core principles guiding this intervention. The panel discussion provided parents with practical strategies, psychosocial support, and

opportunities to share experiences in navigating the unique challenges of raising children with disabilities. Issues frequently encountered by parents include denial, anger, embarrassment, fear, guilt, and caregiver burnout, all of which underscore the need for sustained counselling, guidance, and emotional support. The Ministry recognised that the additional responsibilities of caring for a child with a disability had significant effects on families, particularly in terms of time, patience, and financial demands.

By directly engaging this vulnerable group, the G.U.I.D.E. initiative underscored the Government's commitment to reducing the invisibility of disability issues within society. It also provided a platform to raise public awareness, promote inclusion, and ensure that parents and families of children with disabilities

received the support necessary throughout their extended parenting journey.

- **School Sensitisation Initiative (SSI) on Disability Awareness and Inclusion**

In September 2025, the MPSDFS, in collaboration with the MoE, launched the SSI on Disability Awareness and Inclusion. This intervention aims to promote disability awareness and foster inclusive practices in primary and secondary schools throughout T&T.

The initiative will be piloted in 22 schools during Term I of the 2025/2026 academic year, with support from the MoE's Student Support Services Division (SSSD). In partnership with the Child Affairs Division, the inaugural sensitisation session was conducted at Barataria North Secondary School on 16th September 2025. A total of 51 Form Three students participated in the session, which combined information sharing with interactive activities designed to increase

awareness of different types of disabilities and reduce misconceptions surrounding Persons with Disabilities. The SSI seeks to:

1. Educate students from an early age on the values of equity, empathy, and respect;
2. Increase understanding of the challenges faced by persons with disabilities;
3. Reduce stigma and promote inclusive behaviours among young people; and,
4. Support the development of more inclusive learning environments across the education system.

This initiative represents a proactive step by the GoRTT towards embedding a culture of inclusion within the nation's schools. By engaging students directly, the programme fosters attitudinal change, thereby contributing to the creation of a society that recognises and values diversity.

2.5.7. MPowerTT Programme Launch

In January 2025, the MCCD officially launched the MPowerTT Programme. This initiative provided 79 young men with the opportunity to discover and develop their full potential. Through the Programme, participants engaged in positive interactions and meaningful dialogue with accomplished male role models. This national initiative was specifically designed to address issues central to male development within communities, while also fostering public awareness on the importance of positive male role models in households, schools, and broader society. By creating supportive networks, the programme aimed to enhance male empowerment and contribute to building safer, more resilient communities. This programme, which targeted young males between the ages of 18 and 40 years, addressed a wide range of areas relevant to male development, including:

1. Conflict management;
2. Mentoring and personal development;
3. Social and career development;
4. Sexuality and parenting;
5. Health and well-being; and,
6. Crime prevention and reduction.

The MPowerTT Programme aims to develop men who lead fulfilling lives and contribute meaningfully to their communities and the nation, through a comprehensive mix of capacity-building, empowerment, and sustainability-focused activities. These included:

1. **Awareness Campaigns** – community outreach activities such as Lounge Talks and Block Meetings to engage young men on issues of development and empowerment.
2. **Life Skills Training** – launched on February 03, 2025 and concluded on March 07, 2025, this component equipped participants

with critical competencies necessary for personal and professional growth.

3. **Career Guidance and Apprenticeship** – participants were supported in exploring career pathways and transitioning into hands-on training placements, bridging the gap between education and employment.
4. **Mentorship and Volunteerism** – fostered peer and community engagement through guided mentorship activities and service opportunities.
5. **One-on-One Coaching and Psycho-Social Sessions** – participants benefitted from personalised counselling and mentorship to address challenges, develop coping strategies, and improve mental well-being. These sessions proved instrumental in reinforcing self-awareness and promoting personal growth.

6. **Apprenticeship Phase** – participants were expected to transition into practical work experiences over the upcoming months, to gain field-specific exposure in their chosen fields and develop skills that foster self-sufficiency and long-term success.

Overall, this programme represents a transformative intervention that directly addresses the vulnerabilities of young men, particularly those at risk of social exclusion. By combining mentorship, skills training, psychosocial support, and employment pathways, the programme made a meaningful contribution to youth empowerment, crime reduction, and the advancement of national development priorities.

2.6 Healthcare: Advancing Universal Access, Quality, and Resilience

The GoRTT recognised that a modern, inclusive, and resilient healthcare system is fundamental to national development. As outlined in the Cabinet-approved Policy Framework, the government has committed to improving access, strengthening patient rights, modernising infrastructure, and expanding preventive and specialist care. These measures are directly aligned with SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being, while also supporting SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities. The healthcare agenda, as outlined in the Framework, is centred on modernising hospitals, reducing waiting times, empowering staff, strengthening patient rights, addressing mental health, improving accountability, and leveraging medical tourism as a growth sector. It is envisioned that collectively, these

policies will position T&T to achieve universal, equitable, and sustainable healthcare, ensuring that citizens not only live longer but also live healthier, more dignified lives. The following are some of the major projects completed in FY 2025.

2.6.1. Strengthening Healthcare Delivery and Public Health Response

During FY 2025, the GoRTT advanced several initiatives aimed at improving the quality, accessibility, and efficiency of healthcare services nationwide. These measures were designed to strengthen primary healthcare delivery, enhance the management of chronic diseases, reduce surgical backlogs, and improve national preparedness for public health risks. Collectively, these actions contributed to achieving SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) by ensuring equitable access to essential

services, reducing health system pressures, and fostering more resilient communities.

1. Extension of Opening Hours at Selected Health Centres

In July 2025, six additional health centres under the North-West and South-West Regional Health Authorities (RHAs) extended their opening hours to better serve the public. Services were offered from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Saturday. This initiative enhanced access to primary healthcare services, alleviated congestion at hospitals, and contributed to overall savings in national healthcare expenditures.

2. Establishment of the Cancer Centre of TT – South

Launched on December 14, 2024, the facility is housed at the refurbished Augustus Long Hospital (ALH) in Pointe-a-Pierre and is a partnership between the South West Regional

Health Authority (SWRHA) and the MoH. Patients at the centre accessed services including an oncology outpatient and inpatient clinic, pharmacy services, a palliative care outpatient clinic, a colposcopy clinic, rehabilitation services, hematoma-oncology services, infusions, various psychological services, and the newly introduced palliative care and hospice services.

3. Review of the Chronic Disease Assistance Programme (CDAP)

To ensure cost-effectiveness and clinical relevance, the MoH established a Review Committee to evaluate the existing CDAP item list. The Committee was tasked with assessing alignment with Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) and identifying opportunities to modernise the programme, to improve the management of chronic diseases and enhance patient outcomes.

4. Coordinated Multi-Agency Approach to Public Health Risks

A coordinated, multi-agency response was implemented to strengthen the country's ability to address public health risks, with a particular focus on dengue prevention. The MoH, MRDLG, and MCCD collaborated on joint initiatives to improve prevention efforts. Additionally, upgrade works commenced on the Insect Vector Control Division's St. Ann's Workstation, aimed at enhancing operational capacity. These upgrades are expected to be completed by September 2025.

5. Addressing Elective Surgery Backlogs

Recognising the impact of long waiting lists on patient care, the MoH established a committee to address elective surgery backlogs in the RHAs. The Committee's mandate included reviewing waiting lists, identifying region-specific challenges, and documenting current

or planned solutions. Priority areas focused on ophthalmology, orthopaedics, gynaecology, and urology surgeries. This initiative is expected to enhance efficiency, minimise delays, and promote equity in access to surgical care throughout T&T.

6. The Hansen's Disease Training Series

In July 2025, the MOH collaborated with PAHO and the Trinidad and Tobago Medical Association (TTMA) to conduct a Hansen's Disease Training Series. The training aimed to equip medical professionals with the tools to detect early signs of Hansen's Disease and ensure timely referrals for diagnosis and treatment as part of concise continued support. This initiative reaffirmed the Ministry's commitment to the WHO's goal of achieving 'Zero Hansen's Disease by 2030.'

7. International Partnerships and Donations in Health

During FY 2025, T&T benefited from strategic international partnerships aimed at strengthening the national health system through the provision of critical medical resources and technical assistance.

a) Donation of Medical Equipment by the United States Embassy and U.S. Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM)

The Port of Spain General Hospital (POSGH) and the San Fernando General and Teaching Hospital (SFGH) benefited from donations of vital medical equipment from the U.S. Embassy and USSOUTHCOM. This contribution enhanced the quality of patient care, improved diagnostic capacity, and strengthened service delivery in two of the nation's largest tertiary health institutions.

b) Health Sector Support through Trinidad and Tobago–India Bilateral Agreements

In Quarter 3 of FY 2025, T&T and the Republic of India formalised 15 new agreements during a high-level bilateral visit. Health sector assistance included the provision of 20 dialysis units, two sea ambulances, and the hosting of a prosthetic limb fitment camp that will benefit approximately 800 individuals. Additionally, the agreements facilitated enhanced access to high-quality Indian generic medicines, thereby improving the affordability and availability of essential drugs for the population.

2.6.2. Strengthening the National Response to Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)

In T&T, non-communicable diseases (NCDs), including diabetes, hypertension, cardiovascular

disease, and several forms of cancer, remained the leading causes of morbidity and mortality. Beyond their devastating impact on individuals and families, NCDs placed a significant burden on the national healthcare system and economy. Recognising the urgency of this challenge, the MoH advanced a series of strategic initiatives to strengthen prevention, early detection, and management of NCDs.

- **Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) 2025–2030**

On April 25, 2025, the Pan American Health Organisation/World Health Organisation (PAHO/WHO) and T&T signed the Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) 2025–2030, a landmark framework to guide collaborative health priorities over the next five years. Developed through a holistic process that included national stakeholder consultations (November 5–6, 2024), the CCS provides a

blueprint for interventions in five priority areas:

1. Strengthening resilient health systems within the context of universal health;
2. Prevention and control of NCDs;
3. Control and elimination of communicable diseases;
4. Addressing the impact of climate change on health; and,
5. Driving the digital transformation of the health sector.

This strategic partnership reinforced the GoRTT's commitment to sustainable health development and supported integrated, evidence-based approaches to address NCDs.

2.6.3. Mental Health

Mental health remained a growing public health concern and a critical priority area for the MoH. In alignment with the GoRTT's policy

direction and consistent with the commitments outlined in the National Policy Framework, which emphasised expanding mental health services, promoting community-based care, and reducing the stigma associated with mental illness, the MoH advanced the transition from a centralised, institutional model to a more balanced, community-centred approach. This shift aimed to enhance accessibility, protect human rights, and improve recovery and reintegration outcomes. During FY 2025, several initiatives were implemented to support this transformation, including:

- **WHO QualityRights Training**

The MoH, in collaboration with PAHO, hosted a WHO QualityRights Train-the-Trainer Workshop to advance the transformation of mental health services in T&T. The initiative trained over 30 mental health professionals with the knowledge and tools to promote attitudinal and

practical changes in service delivery, grounded in the principles of human rights, dignity, and recovery. The training formed part of the MoH's broader efforts to strengthen mental health services in line with the National Mental Health Policy, which emphasised the delivery of high-quality, timely, evidence-based, cost-effective, and people-centred care. By fostering a rights-based and recovery-oriented approach, this initiative contributed to improved patient experiences across mental health facilities nationwide, and ensured greater alignment with international best practices.

- **Launch of the TeenCareTT Website**

In April 2025, the Ministry launched TeenCareTT, an online platform dedicated to adolescent mental health. This initiative provided children and teenagers with age-appropriate resources on mental health disorders, coping strategies, and available support services, thereby

promoting early intervention, awareness, and access to care.

- **Decentralisation of Mental Health Services**

In May 2025, the MoH advanced its decentralisation agenda through the development of a framework focused on five strategic areas. These include the provision of integrated, community-based care; prioritisation of rehabilitation and recovery; development of a national mental health information system; and support for research and evidence-based planning. The overall aim was to shift away from institutionalised models of care and toward more accessible, inclusive, and community-driven mental health services. Together, these initiatives demonstrated the GoRTT's commitment to strengthening the national mental health system, reducing inequities in access, and advancing the long-

term vision of a modern, rights-based, and recovery-oriented model of care in T&T.

2.6.4. Alcohol and Drug Abuse

In March 2025, T&T hosted a three-day meeting of the Cooperation Programme between Latin America, the Caribbean, and the European Union on Drug Policy (COPOLAD III). The event convened 50 health and drug administration experts from the European Union (EU), Latin America, and the Caribbean (LAC) to engage in high-level discussions on drug policy, prevention, and community interventions. Deliberations centred on three priority areas:

- i. Enhancing awareness of the risks associated with illegal drugs and vaping, with particular emphasis on children and young people;
- ii. Promoting community-based approaches to drug prevention and treatment; and

- iii. Strengthening policy frameworks to more effectively support vulnerable populations affected by drug use.

This initiative was undertaken in collaboration with the MoH's National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme (NADAPP) and the National Drug Council (NDC) of T&T. By fostering international cooperation and facilitating the exchange of best practices, COPOLAD III contributed to strengthening national capacity to address substance abuse, improving support systems for affected communities, and reinforcing the Government's commitment to safeguarding public health and well-being.

Furthermore, in September 2025, the NDC, in collaboration with the Organisation of American States/Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (OAS/CICAD), hosted a Youth Engagement Session to commemorate the International Day Against Drug Abuse

and Illicit Trafficking. The session captured the perspectives of young people on drug use and its intersections with the criminal justice system, thereby acknowledging that young persons are both directly affected by substance abuse and uniquely positioned to shape future solutions. A central feature of the event was a panel discussion that allowed participants to share their opinions, respond to guiding questions, and discuss their personal experiences.

2.7 Modernisation of Government Service Delivery

The GoRTT remained resolute in advancing the principles of good governance, equity, and service excellence, recognising their centrality to national development and social progress. This priority underscored the dual commitment to strengthening institutional frameworks while building public confidence in the state,

ensuring that governance structures remained people-centred, accountable, and transparent. Building on the initiatives outlined in the National Policy Framework and guided by the SDGs, especially SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), the GoRTT pursued policies and programs that reduced disparities, fostered inclusivity, and promoted accessible, efficient, and citizen-focused services.

As the quality of governance directly impacts the standard of living and well-being of citizens, there was an ongoing need to modernise institutions, enhance service delivery, and ensure that all interventions are anchored in transparency, accountability, morality, and integrity in public life. Transforming into a Digital Government remained a top priority for the GoRTT. To this end, some of the major achievements in FY 2025 are outlined below.

2.7.1. Development of a Remote Work Policy for the Trinidad and Tobago Civil Service

In FY 2025, the former Ministry of Public Administration (MPA) advanced the development of a comprehensive Remote Work Policy for the civil service. Extensive stakeholder consultations with Permanent Secretaries and Heads of Ministries guided this reform initiative. It was designed to formalise and institutionalise modern, flexible work arrangements across Government. The policy seeks to:

1. Establish a digital work environment that supports business continuity across MDAs;
2. Facilitate greater flexibility for staff, leading to improved work-life balance;
3. Generate cost savings and enhance operational efficiency;

4. Reduce levels of absenteeism among public officers; and,
5. Strengthen accountability and service delivery to citizens, particularly vulnerable groups.

To date, three of the five project phases were completed, marking steady progress toward the institutionalisation of this transformative initiative. Once finalised, the Remote Work Policy will modernise public sector operations, improve resilience, and elevate the overall quality of services provided by the GORTT.

2.7.2. Training and Development

The Public Service Academy (PSA) remained the central agency responsible for training and development within the public service. Its mandate was to maximise human potential for excellence and high performance by providing

flexible, accessible learning opportunities in collaboration with strategic partners. For FY 2025, the PSA achieved the following:

1. **Partnerships:** Established collaboration with 10 entities to strengthen the delivery of training and development interventions.
2. **Bilateral Training Programme (China):** From October 31 to November 12, 2024, the Embassy of the People's Republic of China hosted a bilateral training programme titled "Seminar on ICT Planning and Construction Capacity for Trinidad and Tobago."
3. **MoU with the University of the West Indies (UWI):**
 - a) The first cohort commenced in October 2024 and concluded in February 2025, with 1,211 public officers completing training.

b) Registration for the second cohort opened in May 2025, attracting over 2,000 applications, with training access pending.

4. **MoU with UTT:** On January 31, 2025, the Permanent Secretary of the former MPA signed an MoU with the Principal of UTT. This partnership expanded training opportunities for public officers, ensuring wider access to knowledge and skills development on an annual basis.

Through these initiatives, the PSA played a crucial role in building a skilled, adaptable, and high-performing public service workforce, strengthening institutional capacity, and advancing the government's public sector transformation agenda.

2.7.3. Digital Transformation

In FY 2025, the GoRTT prioritised Digital Transformation as a driver of a more efficient, innovative, and inclusive public service that supported sustainable growth and equity. Key objectives of the state's digital transformation agenda included implementing online services, enhancing operational efficiency, achieving cost savings, and expanding digital inclusion nationwide. Trinidad and Tobago's digital transformation strategy followed a systematic approach, built on three integrated pillars and supported by a comprehensive enabling framework, developed in consultation with stakeholders across the public, private, and civil society sectors. Key initiatives implemented in 2025 include:

- **National Digital Transformation Strategy (NDTS)**

Launched in February 2025, the NDTS provided a holistic, people-centred blueprint for leveraging digital technologies to improve lives and drive sustainable national growth.

This initiative:

1. Focused on digital literacy, inclusivity, innovation, digital trade, and entrepreneurship.
2. Positioned digital transformation as a core enabler of economic growth and citizen well-being.
3. Aligned with SDG 9(c) by promoting increased access to ICT and providing universal, affordable internet access.

The NDTS, described as the BOLD initiative, represented a comprehensive approach to building a modern, digitally empowered society.

- **ICT Access Centres**

The ICT Access Centres Programme (IACP) is a cornerstone initiative aimed at fostering digital inclusion, particularly among underserved communities. Through this programme, individuals who may otherwise face barriers to technology were provided with opportunities to participate fully in the digital economy and society. The IACP promoted digital inclusion in underserved communities by:

1. Providing free internet and access to e-government services;
2. Offering digital proficiency training to at-risk youth, older adults, and persons with disabilities; and,
3. Supporting the growth of a knowledge-based society.

In FY 2025, twenty-six (26) Centres were launched, and twenty-two (22) were fully

operationalised, while ten (10) centres are under refurbishment. This initiative aligned with SDG 4: Quality Education and SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, by bridging the digital divide.

- **Social Benefits Wallet (SBW) – BenefiTT**

In FY 2025, the GoRTT advanced its digital transformation agenda with the development of the Social Benefits Wallet (SBW), a secure, digital platform designed to streamline the distribution of non-financial benefits across MDAs, with future integration of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs). This initiative represented a significant shift in the delivery of social support, moving away from fragmented, paper-based processes towards a modern, unified approach. At the core of the initiative is the BenefiTT suite, which includes three interlinked tools:

1. A beneficiary mobile app, enabling citizens to access and manage their entitlements easily.
2. A vendor mobile app, supporting authorised service providers in redeeming and verifying benefits.
3. A web portal for benefit providers, allowing government and partner agencies to manage programmes more effectively.

The first benefit to be integrated into the SBW is the Disaster Relief Grant, administered by the MPSDFS. Once the SBW platform is fully operationalised, additional benefits will be progressively incorporated, creating a comprehensive ecosystem that modernises social service delivery, reduces inefficiencies, and improves transparency in the allocation of public resources.

By leveraging technology in this way, the SBW not only improves the efficiency of benefit

distribution but also promotes greater equity, accountability, and resilience within T&T's social protection framework.

- **Launch of Anansi – National AI Assistant**

In 2025, the Ministry of Public Administration and Artificial Intelligence (MPAAI) unveiled Anansi, the national artificial intelligence assistant. This ground-breaking initiative represented a significant step towards modernising service delivery across the public sector. Unlike earlier siloed chatbots that operated within individual agencies, Anansi brought together knowledge and resources from 32 MDAs into a single, unified system.

By offering citizens one intelligent interface to access government services, Anansi transformed the way the State engages with the public. The platform was designed with inclusivity at its core, ensuring ease of use regardless of an individual's technological

literacy, economic circumstances, or physical ability. In doing so, it eliminated long-standing barriers to accessing public services, while also deepening trust and participation between citizens and the State (iGovTT, 2025).

- **National Payment Company of Trinidad and Tobago (NPCTT)**

In line with the National Policy Framework, the government established the NPCTT in FY 2025. This newly established state agency under the remit of the Ministry of Finance is responsible for advancing digital payment solutions and innovation within the Financial Services Sector. The NPCTT played a pivotal role in the GoRTT's technical transformation initiatives, acting as a key strategic partner for all stakeholders as T&T moves towards a FinTech-enabled digital economy. Through this organisation, the GoRTT formally established a national integrated payment system for government

services, streamlining revenue collection in the public sector through various Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) methods. This reduced cash reliance and improved service efficiency and budgeting accuracy. Partnering with the National Lotteries Control Board (NLCB), the system will facilitate card and cash payments for all types of government-related services, including taxes, at NLCB terminals and an online portal (Newsday, 2025).

2.8 Crime Prevention, Justice Reform, and Strengthening Public Safety

The GoRTT advanced a comprehensive suite of initiatives in crime prevention, law enforcement, justice reform, and institutional strengthening. These measures reflected a strategic approach to addressing the evolving security landscape by enhancing access to

justice, modernising offender management systems, building the capacity of law enforcement agencies, and reinforcing public safety infrastructure, in alignment with SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. Over the FY year, these efforts supported the overall direction of the National Policy Framework on crime prevention, law enforcement, and justice reform. The Framework promoted well-resourced institutions, enhanced forensic and intelligence capabilities, and expanded training and capacity-building to foster safer communities and uphold the rule of law. Some of the initiatives undertaken over the fiscal year included:

2.8.1. Self-Help Tools for Court Customers and the Public

In October 2024, the Judiciary introduced a comprehensive suite of court service

information and training materials designed to support self-represented litigants (Litigants in Person – LIPs) and members of the public in navigating court processes. Developed under the *Securing Access, Fairness and Efficiency (SAFE) Project*, a collaboration between the Judiciary, the International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs Section (INL) of the United States Embassy, and the National Centre for State Courts (NCSC), these resources utilised plain-language techniques and provide step-by-step guidance on areas such as Divorce, Child Maintenance, Bail, the Criminal Court Process, and Probate.

Additionally, a series of self-paced training modules was developed on the JustConnect e-learning platform to expose judges, judicial officers, and court staff to international best practices for engaging with self-represented

litigants in the courtroom (Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago, 2025).

2.8.2. Upgrading of Electronic Monitoring Solutions

In FY 2025, the Electronic Monitoring Unit (EMU) commenced the upgrade and replacement of the national Electronic Monitoring System (EMS). During the third and fourth quarters of the fiscal year, the EMU received upgraded electronic monitoring devices and the accompanying software for operational testing. Complete transition to the new system was scheduled for the end of FY 2025.

The upgraded EMS will significantly enhance offender supervision, reduce recidivism, and strengthen compliance with court orders through automated reporting, reduced manual oversight, and expanded remote monitoring

capacity. This will allow the redeployment of resources to other critical areas of national security.

2.8.3. Capacity-Building Training Courses

The GoRTT has remained resolute in its commitment to strengthening institutional resilience, promoting adherence to the rule of law, and supporting sustainable public safety. Accordingly, several strategic capacity-building initiatives were undertaken during the fiscal year to enhance the competencies and operational effectiveness of law enforcement personnel.

- **Combating Trafficking in Arms and Ammunition (CTAM)**

In the first quarter of FY 2025, representatives from the (former) Ministry of National Security (MNS), the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs (MAGLA), the Ministry of Foreign

and CARICOM Affairs, the TTPS, the Municipal Police Service, the Port Authority Police, and the Customs and Excise Division participated in the CTAM training course.

Delivered by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC) in partnership with the MHS, this initiative formed part of the broader UNLIREC project “Combating Illicit Firearms and Ammunition Trafficking in the Caribbean”, funded by the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) of the USA.

The course provided theoretical and practical instruction on global and regional firearms trafficking trends, methods of illicit manufacture, systems for regulating international transfers, including brokering, and mechanisms for international cooperation. Emphasis was placed on addressing the emerging threat of privately

manufactured firearms and strengthening inter-agency collaboration to reduce firearms-related crime (UNLIREC, 2024).

- **Canine Training in Firearms, Components, and Ammunition Detection**

On July 7, 2025, the Ministry of Homeland Security (MHS), in partnership with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), CSI Canine Consulting Group Ltd., and with support from the Federal Republic of Germany, launched a two-week training programme for national canine units.

The programme equipped canine handlers with internationally certified skills in scent detection, tactical deployment, and interdiction of illicit arms at critical entry points, including airports, seaports, and border crossings. Building on the proven success of canine units in narcotics detection, this initiative represented a strategic

expansion of their role in firearms interdiction, thereby enhancing frontline security capabilities and community safety.

2.8.4. Strengthening Institutional Capacity

The GoRTT implemented targeted measures to enhance the operational capacity, efficiency, and effectiveness of key security and emergency response institutions. These initiatives focused on optimising human resources across the TTPS, the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service (TTFS), and the TTPrS, by addressing critical staffing gaps and reinforcing institutional resilience. In doing so, these measures contributed to improved public safety, the maintenance of law and order, and the promotion of secure and well-managed correctional and emergency services.

1. **Absorption of Special Reserve Police Officers (SRPs) into the TTPS** - In July 2025, GoRTT approved the absorption of more than 800 SRPs into the TTPS to address a shortfall of over 1,100 vacancies. This measure optimised resource utilisation, enhanced operational capacity, and reaffirmed the Government's commitment to public safety.
2. **Absorption of Auxiliary Fire Officers into the TTFS** - On 22 May 2025, GoRTT approved the absorption of 280 auxiliary fire officers into the TTFS. This intervention directly addressed longstanding staff shortages and strengthened the operational capacity of the Fire Service.
3. **Recruitment Drive for the TTPrS** - On 31 May 2025, the TTPrS conducted entrance examinations to recruit 500 Prison Officers I to fill existing vacancies. This initiative

responded to an increasing inmate population and supported the maintenance of high standards in correctional facility security and rehabilitation services.

2.9 Social Sector Investments and the Attainment of the SDGs, 2030

In 2015, all UN Member States adopted the SDGs, a universal call to end poverty, protect the planet, and promote peace and prosperity for all by 2030. The SDGs address interconnected dimensions of sustainable development, including:

1. Social development, such as ending poverty, hunger, and inequality, and ensuring health, education, and gender equality.
2. Economic development, by creating decent work, fostering innovation, promoting

sustainable growth, and reducing inequalities.

3. Environmental protection, through climate action, the preservation of life below water and on land, sustainable cities, and responsible consumption.
4. Governance and partnerships, by strengthening peace, justice, and institutions, and promoting global partnerships for development.

Each goal includes specific targets, totalling 169, with corresponding indicators to monitor progress. These targets guide countries and organisations in aligning their development efforts within a common global framework.

The Vision of the SDGs

The SDGs aim to eliminate poverty and hunger, promote good health and education, achieve

gender equality, and ensure access to clean water, sanitation, and sustainable energy. They support inclusive economic growth, develop resilient infrastructure, and reduce inequalities while encouraging sustainable consumption and production. The goals also aim to combat climate change, protect ecosystems, foster peaceful societies, and enhance global partnerships for sustainable development.

National Budgeting and SDGs

National budgeting plays a pivotal role in realising the SDGs by ensuring the efficient and effective allocation of financial, human, and physical resources toward key development priorities. Integrating the SDGs into national budgets delivers several benefits:

1. **Integration with Development Priorities** – Governments map budget lines

to specific SDG targets, directly channelling financial resources to sectors that advance sustainable development.

2. **Accountability and Transparency** – Aligning budgets with the SDGs allows for tracking expenditure and progress across sectors, thereby strengthening accountability and ensuring that funds are used effectively to achieve measurable outcomes.
3. **Medium and Long-Term Planning** – Incorporating the SDGs into the budgeting process encourages governments to move beyond annual fiscal cycles and to address cross-cutting challenges such as climate change and gender inequality through strategic, long-term planning.
4. **Public–Private Partnerships** – SDG-aligned budgets highlight investment opportunities that attract private sector

participation. By allocating funds to areas such as clean energy, infrastructure, and innovation, governments can incentivise private contributions and mobilise additional resources for sustainable development.

Several countries have successfully embedded the SDGs into their national budgeting processes, thereby aligning financial planning with sustainable development targets to promote implementation and transparency.

T&T remains committed to the SDGs and has incorporated these global objectives into its recently adopted National Development Policy Framework. A key initiative in advancing the SDGs is the modernisation of the national statistical system, aimed at improving the quality, reliability, and accessibility of data required for evidence-based decision-making and effective implementation. This includes

strengthening the CSO's capacity to collect and process data using modern methodologies, an essential component in achieving national and global development targets. By aligning the Policy Framework with the SDGs, the GoRTT ensures the continuous monitoring of progress towards these goals through regular reporting on the national strategy.

Findings & Analysis

In FY 2025, the SSIP focused on assessing social sector investments in alignment with the SDGs. This evaluation entailed a review of the sector's mandate, an examination of budget allocations for various initiatives, and the classification of programs according to their contribution to specific SDGs. It should be noted, however, that the interventions have been categorised under the SDG areas where they are intended to have their significant impact (first-round impact),

with the understanding that interventions may impact multiple areas. The methodology utilised for the analysis is outlined in Appendix I of this document.

Based on the analysis of the 2025 Estimates of Expenditure, approximately TT\$9.03 billion was allocated to initiatives supporting the SDGs, as illustrated in Table I and Figure XI below. This allocation underscores T&T's continued commitment to advancing the SDGs through targeted investments in social and educational programmes. A more detailed breakdown of the SSIP's Estimates of Expenditure for fiscal 2025, aligned with the relevant SDGs, targets, and indicators, is provided in Appendix II of this document.

In FY 2025, 85.68% of the total TT\$9.07 billion allocation was directed toward three central Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), continuing a similar trend from the previous

fiscal year, when 84.4% of SDG-related funding was concentrated in three goals. However, in FY 2025, the focus of financing shifted from Goal 8, Decent Work and Economic Growth, to Goal 3, Good Health and Well-being. The distribution for FY 2025 is as follows:

1. Goal 1 – No Poverty: 66.16%
2. Goal 4 – Quality Education: 11.54%
3. Goal 3 – Good Health and Well-being: 7.98%

Table I: Summary of Estimated Expenditure related to Sustainable Development Goals for Fiscal 2025

SD Goal	Defined	Estimates of Expenditure (TTD) for 2025	Percentage
1	No Poverty	6,001,528,000	66.16%
2	Zero Hunger	429,893,700	4.74%
3	Good Health and Well-being	723,780,400	7.98%
4	Quality Education	1,046,614,900	11.54%
5	Gender Equality	7,025,000	0.08%
6	Clean Water and Sanitation	4,000,000	0.04%
8	Decent Work and Economic Growth	482,938,000	5.32%

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

SD Goal	Defined	Estimates of Expenditure (TTD) for 2025	Percentage
10	Reduced Inequalities	45,486,500	0.50%
11	Sustainable Cities and Communities	27,000,000	0.30%
13	Climate Action	302,594,100	3.34%
	Total	9,070,860,600	100.0%

Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2025

The remaining 14.32% of the SSIP budget was distributed across seven other SDGs:

- 1. Goal 2 – Zero Hunger
- 2. Goal 5 – Gender Equality
- 3. Goal 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation
- 4. Goal 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth
- 5. Goal 10 – Reduced Inequalities
- 6. Goal 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities
- 7. Goal 13 – Climate Action

This budgetary allocation underscores the GoRTT’s ongoing commitment to reducing

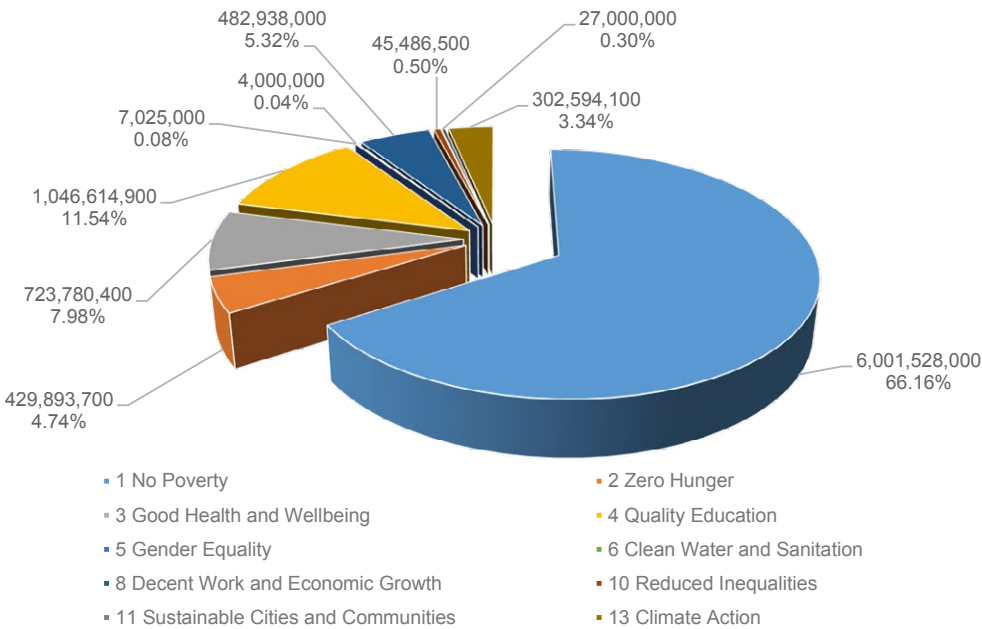
poverty, enhancing educational outcomes, promoting good health and well-being, and fostering progress in other aspects of sustainable development.

In summary, the 2025 budget allocations demonstrate a strong and growing commitment by the GoRTT to advancing sustainable development and making measurable progress toward the SDGs. Significant allocations to Goals 1 – No Poverty, 4 – Quality Education, and 3 – Good Health and Well-being highlight the government's focus on improving living standards and addressing inequalities. Investments directed toward climate action and sustainable cities and communities further illustrate an awareness of environmental sustainability and urban resilience.

However, the analysis also reveals that areas such as Gender Equality (Goal 5) and Clean Water and Sanitation (Goal 6) could benefit from

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

Figure XI: Summary of Expenditure on Sustainable Development Goals FY 2025



Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2025

increased investment to ensure more balanced progress across the full spectrum of SDGs.

These insights underscore the importance of regularly monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the SDGs. Ongoing assessment not only enhances the analysis of fiscal expenditure but also helps identify areas that require additional attention to strengthen national development outcomes. The focus

on the SDGs should therefore extend beyond financial allocations to include strategic programme planning, implementation, and performance measurement, consistent with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Specific SDGs and their intended beneficiaries must be clearly defined at the outset of the budgeting process. Aligning budget allocations with the objectives of the 2030 Agenda facilitates the creation of more accurate and timely systems for monitoring, evaluation, and reporting on development investments. Given the interconnected nature of the Goals, effective implementation requires strong inter-ministerial coordination and the active engagement of stakeholders across all sectors. Achieving the SDGs demands sustained commitment not only from government institutions but also from the private sector, civil society, and development partners. Trinidad

and Tobago has been recognised as a regional leader with the institutional capacity to foster cross-sectoral collaboration and advance the SDG agenda. While findings from the SSIP expenditure review reinforce this position, persistent challenges highlight the need for continued, coordinated, and intensified efforts if the country is to achieve the SDGs by 2030.

2.10 Conclusion

T&T's new social sector interventions in FY 2025 demonstrated significant progress in advancing equity, resilience, and inclusive national development. Through strategic investments in education, youth empowerment, healthcare, family support, gender equality, and digital transformation, the GoRTT reaffirmed its commitment to leaving no one behind. These initiatives not only addressed urgent needs but also laid the foundation for long-term

transformation by strengthening institutions, modernising service delivery, and expanding opportunities for citizens. As the country continues to navigate complex social and economic challenges, the achievements of FY 2025 highlight the importance of sustained innovation, cross-sector collaboration, and people-centred policies in shaping a more equitable and prosperous society. In this regard, the GoRTT remains resolute in its pledge to accelerate progress toward the SDGs and the social development priorities articulated in the National Policy Framework.

2.11 References

Alkire, S., 2015. Multidimensional Poverty Measurement and Analysis. Oxford: Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative.

Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat (2024) CARICOM *Regional Gender Equality*

Strategy 2024–2028. Georgetown: CARICOM.

Central Statistical Office (CSO) (2024) *Household Budgetary Survey Report 2023/2024*. Port of Spain: Ministry of Planning and Development.

Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (2025) *Annual Report 2024–2025*. Port of Spain: Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago, 2025. Child protection agencies are strengthening their collaboration to enhance support for children. [online] 15 July. Available at: <https://ttchildren.org/child-protection-agencies-strengthen-collaboration-to-enhance-support-for-children/>

Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (GoRTT) (2025) *National Policy Framework*. Port of Spain: Office of the Prime Minister.

iGovTT, 2025. AI Assistant 'Anansi' Launched to Revolutionise Access to Government Services. [online] Available at: <https://www.ttt.live/arima-entrepreneurs-to-benefit-from-new-business-hubs/>

Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF). Colombia INFF: Financing Sustainable Development through SDG Budget Tagging. Bogotá: Government of Colombia, 2023.

International Monetary Fund (IMF) (2025) *World Economic Outlook Update: Navigating Global Uncertainty*. Washington DC: IMF.

International Monetary Fund (IMF). Mexico: Integrating the SDGs into the Budgeting Process. Washington, DC: International Monetary Fund, 2021.

Joint SDG Fund. Integrated National Financing Frameworks: Concept and Guidance Material. New York: United Nations, 2020.

Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago, 2025. The Judiciary Launches Self-Help Tools for Court Customers and the Public. [online] Available at: <https://www.ttlawcourts.org/index.php/newsroom-69/news/13625-the-judiciary-launches-self-help-tools-for-court-customers-and-the-public>

Macrotrends, n.d. Life expectancy — Trinidad and Tobago. [online] Available at: <https://www.macrotrends.net/global-metrics/countries/tto/trinidad-and-tobago/life-expectancy>

Ministry of Education (MoE) (2025a) *Vision and Health Screening Initiatives in Schools: 2024/25 Report*. Port of Spain: MoE.

Ministry of Education (MoE) (2025b) *Parenting Education Programmes: Annual Report 2024–2025*. Port of Spain: MoE.

Ministry of Health (MoH) (2025a) *National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme (NADAPP) Report 2024–2025*. Port of Spain: MoH.

Ministry of Health (MoH) (2025b) *National Mental Health Policy Implementation Update*. Port of Spain: MoH.

Ministry of Health (MoH) (2025c) *STEPS NCD Risk Factor Survey 2024: Preliminary Findings*. Port of Spain: MoH in collaboration with PAHO/WHO.

Ministry of Public Administration (2025) *Remote Work Policy Consultation Report*. Port of Spain: Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

Ministry of Public Administration and Digital Transformation (2025) *Anansi: National AI Assistant Launch*. Port of Spain: Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MPSDFS) (2025a) *Annual Report 2024–2025*. Port of Spain: MPSDFS.

Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MPSDFS) (2025b) *Social Services Centre Launch – Couva*. Port of Spain: MPSDFS.

MSYA, 2024. MYDNS Signs MoU with East Port of Spain Development Company. [online] 13 December. Available at: <https://www.msya.gov.tt/media/releases/mydns-signs-mou-with-east-port-of-spain-development-company/>

MSYA, 2025. 100 Youth Admitted to MYDNS Healthcare Training Programme. [online] Available at: <https://www.msya.gov.tt/media/releases/100-youth-admitted-to-mydns-healthcare-training-programme/>

NationMaster, 2008. Trinidad and Tobago Education Stats. [online] Available at: <https://www.nationmaster.com/country-info/profiles/Trinidad-and-Tobago/Education>

Newsday, 2025. Government Rolling Out New National Payment Service. [online] 15 August. Available at: <https://newsday.co.tt/2025/08/15/government-rolling-out-new-national-payment-service/>

Newsday, 2025. The Planning Ministry approves the UN development framework. [online] 14 July. Available at: <https://newsday.co.tt/2025/07/14/planning-ministry-signs-off-on-un-development-framework>

Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) (2025) *Country Cooperation Strategy 2025–2030: Republic of Trinidad and Tobago*. Washington DC: PAHO.

The Global Economy, n.d. Trinidad and Tobago — Youth literacy rate (15-24). [online] Available at: https://www.theglobaleconomy.com/Trinidad-and-Tobago/Youth_literacy_rate_1established%205_24

TTT News, 2025. 'Umbono' System Unveiled to Combat Gender-Based Violence in T&T. [online] 8 January. Available at: <https://www.ttt.live/umbono-system-unveiled-to-combat-gender-based-violence-in-tt/>

TTT News, 2025. Arima Entrepreneurs to Benefit from New Business Hubs. [online] 15 April. Available at: <https://www.ttt.live/arima-entrepreneurs-to-benefit-from-new-business-hubs/>

UNWomen, 2025. TT becomes the first Caribbean nation to launch a national action plan on WPS. [online] Available at: <https://caribbean.unwomen.org/en/stories/news/2025/03/tt-becomes-first-caribbean-nation-to-launch-a-national-action-plan-on-wps>

United Nations (2023) *Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. New York: United Nations.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) (2024) *Human Development Report 2024*. New York: UNDP.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). *Indonesia's Innovative Financing for the SDGs*. New York: UNDP, 2021.

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). Institutionalising the SDGs in National Development Planning in Asia and the Pacific. Bangkok: UNESCAP, 2018.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) (2025) *Training Report on Firearms Detection: Trinidad and Tobago Programme*. Vienna: UNODC.

United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC) (2025) *Combating Illicit Firearms and Ammunition Trafficking in the Caribbean: Training Report*. Lima: UNLIREC.

UNLIREC, 2024. Trinidad & Tobago Enhances National Capacities to Combat Illicit Trafficking in Arms and Ammunition. [online] Available at: <https://www.unlirec.org/en/trinidad-tobago-enhances-national-capacities-to-combat-illicit-trafficking-in-arms-and-ammunition/>

CHAPTER 3

OVERVIEW

OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR AND REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES



2026

CHAPTER 3: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR AND REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES

This chapter analyses the Government's FY2025 budget allocations for the development of the national social sector. It reviews government allocations to key social sector ministries from 2021 to 2025 and outlines the expenditure by these ministries on social programmes in FY 2025. The chapter also details new social programmes introduced, policies developed, and research and evaluations carried out during the fiscal year. Furthermore, it assesses the achievements of social sector programmes and evaluates their alignment with the national development goals.

3A: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

3.1 Defining the Social Sector

A core Social Sector Ministry (SSM) is defined as a government agency whose primary responsibility is to prevent or address social problems or actively promote social development. Typically, over 75% of the annual budget of these Ministries is allocated to addressing social issues. Besides these core SSMs, there are several other Ministries whose primary or secondary roles significantly influence social progress. Most activities carried out by these Ministries can be classified as social interventions, making a meaningful contribution to the Government's efforts to tackle social challenges. Typically, more than 50% of their

respective budgets are dedicated to social service programmes. Ministries outside these two categories are referred to as social development enablers, as their operations, whether directly or indirectly, support the broader aim of national social progress. Together, core SSMs, supporting Ministries, and enablers work towards enhancing the overall quality of life for citizens.

3.2 Budgeted Allocations to the Social Sector

According to the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook, global growth is projected to decelerate from 3.3% in 2024 to 2.8% in 2025. This represents a 1.5 percentage point downward revision to the IMF's forecast for global trade growth since its January 2025 update. The downward adjustment primarily reflects increased uncertainty in the global economy, driven by significant shifts in trade

policies among major economies, most notably the United States of America (USA). The prospect of new tariffs imposed by the USA during the first quarter of 2025 introduced volatility in international financial markets and disrupted trade flows. In addition to these trade-related developments, the moderation also reflects the waning impact of cyclical factors that had previously supported the growth in global goods trade. Growth among advanced economies is projected at 1.4% in 2025, while output in emerging markets and developing economies is expected to slow to 3.7% in 2025, with a modest improvement to 3.9% in 2026 (IMF, 2025).

On the domestic front, recent data released by the Central Statistical Office (CSO) indicate that the national economy rebounded in the third quarter of 2024, supported by a recovery in energy sector output and sustained momentum in the non-energy sector. According to the Central

Bank of Trinidad and Tobago (2025), the energy sector experienced a modest recovery in the fourth quarter of 2024. However, labour market indicators point to emerging challenges. The CSO reported an increase in the unemployment rate in the fourth quarter of 2024 when compared to the same period in 2023. Additionally, external accounts recorded a deficit in the balance of payments, suggesting pressure on the country's external position. In terms of inflationary dynamics, headline inflation rose to 1.5% in April 2025, up from 0.5% in November 2024. This increase was driven primarily by higher food price inflation, which accelerated to 4.7% from 3.1% over the same period. Core inflation also turned positive, rising to 0.7% in April 2025 compared to -0.3% in November 2024, indicating broader-based price pressures within the economy (Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, 2025).

According to the Ministry of Finance (MoF, 2024), total revenue was estimated at TT\$54.224 billion, while total budgeted expenditure was projected at TT\$59.741 billion. This resulted in a fiscal deficit of TT\$5.517 billion, equivalent to 2.91% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (Ministry of Finance 2024).

Of the total expenditure, an estimated TT\$21.99 billion was allocated to the key SSMs and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly (THA). A detailed breakdown of these allocations is presented in Tables II and III below.

Table II: Budgeted Allocations for the Social Services Division of the THA

Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly	Development Programmes TT\$	Recurrent Expenditure TT\$	Total TT\$
Community Development, Youth Development, and Sport	33,300,000.00	112,000,000.00	145,300,000.00
Education, Research and Technology	19,800,000.00	435,400,000.00	455,200,000.00
Health, Wellness and Social Protection	26,500,000.00	772,096,600.00	798,596,600.00
Settlements, Public Utilities and Rural Development	19,450,000.00	39,500,000.00	58,950,000.00
	99,050,000.00	1,358,996,600.00	1,458,046,600.00

Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2025

Table III: Budgeted Allocations for the Key Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Division of the THA for FY 2025

Key Social Sector Ministries & the THA	Development Programmes TT\$	Recurrent Expenditure TT\$	Total TT\$
Trinidad			
Education	456,000,000.00	5,278,586,000.00	5,734,586,000.00
Health	509,200,000.00	6,348,363,000.00	6,857,563,000.00
Housing and Urban Development	593,000,000.00	661,842,000.00	1,254,842,000.00
Social Development and Family Services	76,750,000.00	5,671,177,700.00	5,747,927,700.00
Sport and Community Development	212,986,000.00	390,141,500.00	603,127,500.00
Youth Development and National Service	110,000,000.00	228,098,400.00	338,098,400.00
Tobago			
THA	99,050,000.00	1,358,996,600.00	1,458,046,600.00
Total			21,994,191,200.00

Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2025

The aggregated sum of TT\$21.99 billion allocated to the key SSMs and the Social Sector Divisions of the THA represents 33% of the total

draft expenditure estimates for recurrent and developmental programmes, valued at TT\$66.59 billion. Table IV below provides a breakdown of the draft expenditure, while Figure XII below shows the percentage allocations.

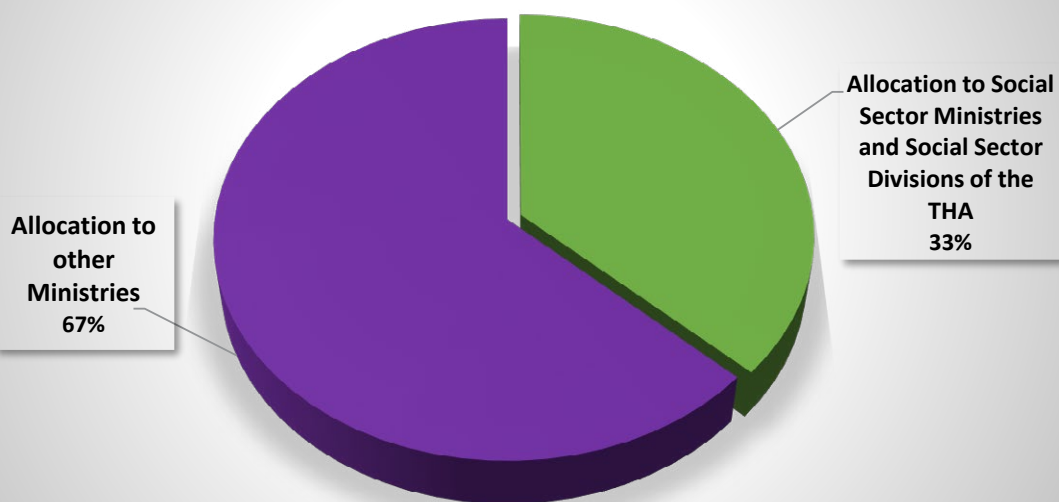
Table IV: Draft Estimates of Expenditure On Recurrent and Developmental Programmes

Draft Estimates of Expenditure on Recurrent and Developmental Programmes	Amount
Draft Estimate of Recurrent Expenditure for the FY 2025	60,920,339,090
Draft Estimate of Development Programmes for the FY 2025 [Consolidated Fund (2,610,244,000) + [Infrastructure Development Fund] (3,055,981,000)]	5,666,225,000
Total	66,586,564,090.00

Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2025

Over the five years from 2021 to 2025, the Government and the THA allocated an average of 35% of the national budget to social sector ministries and divisions. While funding levels varied across the years, the overall trend reflects

Figure XII: Budgeted Allocations for Social Sector Ministries and Social Sector Divisions of the THA for FY 2025 in Relation to the Estimate of Expenditure on Recurrent and Developmental Programme

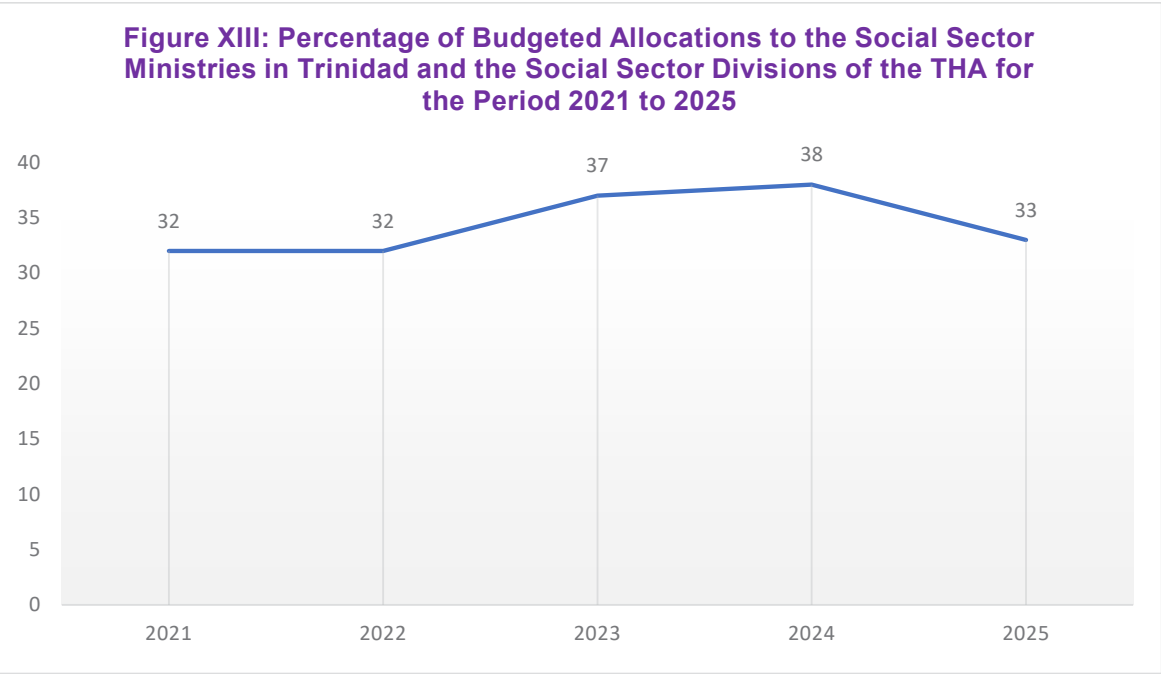


Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2025

a strong commitment to social development. Specifically:

1. In FY 2021 and 2022, allocations remained steady at 32% of total expenditure.
2. This rose to 37% in 2023 and 38% in 2024.
3. However, in FY 2025, the allocations declined slightly to 33%, which is broadly consistent with the five-year average.

This fluctuation illustrates the dynamic nature of budgetary priorities while underscoring sustained support for the social sector. Figure XIII below demonstrates this fluctuation in budgetary allocation for the period 2021 to 2025.



Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2025

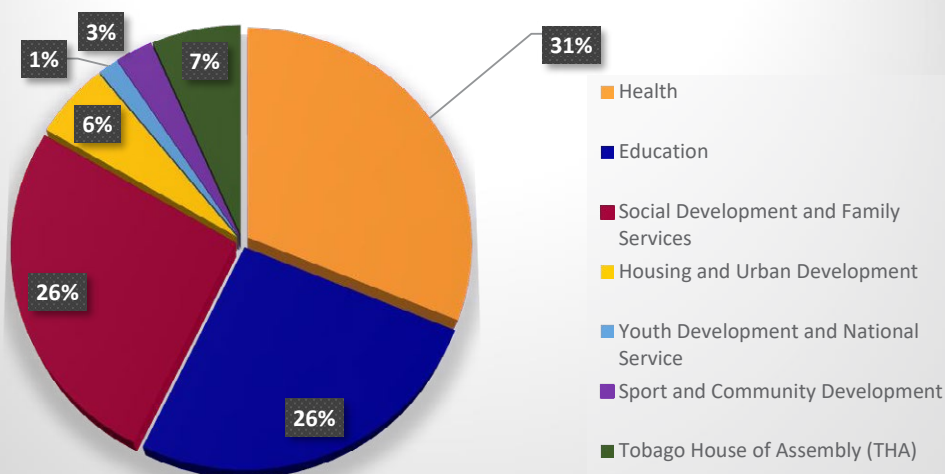
The GoRTT reaffirmed its commitment to advancing human development in FY 2025 through sustained investment in key social sector ministries. Targeted budgetary allocations to health, education, and social welfare underscore a deliberate policy orientation towards fostering equitable growth, ensuring access to quality healthcare, reducing poverty and inequality, and strengthening human capital. These investments are designed to improve health outcomes, expand educational opportunities, and reinforce social protection mechanisms for vulnerable groups. Collectively, such measures not only advance social development but also function as critical drivers of economic productivity, social stability, and inclusive national growth.

In FY 2025, the Government allocated the most significant proportions of the social sector budget allocation to the following Ministries:

1. Ministry of Health: 31%
2. Ministry of Education: 26%
3. Ministry of Social Development and Family Services: 26%

These allocations underscore the recognition that a well-educated, healthy, and supported population is fundamental to national development. Education enhances an individual's capacity for innovation and productive participation in the economy. Healthcare ensures a healthy and industrious workforce. Social services provide critical support to those most in need, promoting social cohesion, inclusion, and long-term societal resilience. Figure XIV hereunder details the percentage budgetary allocations to the key social sector ministries and the social services divisions of the THA for FY 2025.

Figure XIV: Budgeted Allocations for Social Sector Ministries and Social Sector Divisions of the THA for FY 2025



Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2025

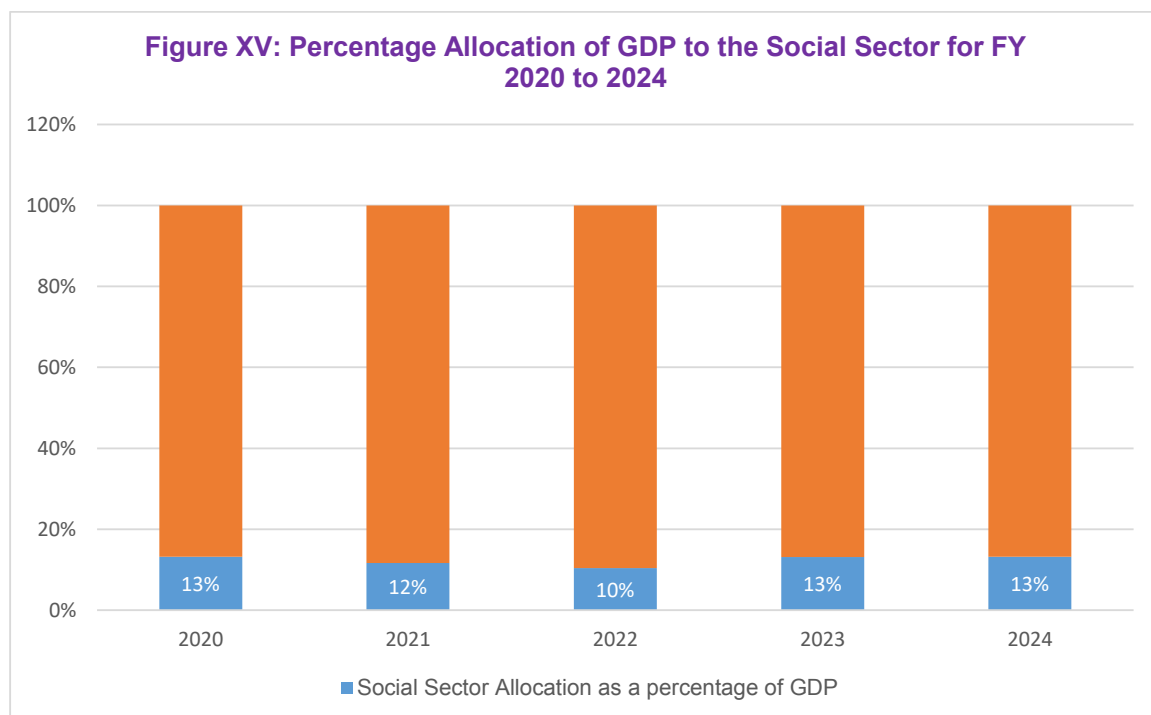
The budgeted allocations for the SSMs and the Social Sector Divisions of the THA over the period 2020-2024 reflect the Government's sustained commitment to social development, notwithstanding shifts in national economic performance. Allocations increased from TT\$18.6 billion in 2021 to a peak of TT\$22.94 billion in 2023, before moderating slightly to TT\$22.67 billion in 2024. As a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), social sector

expenditure remained within the range of 10 to 13 per cent annually. The lowest share was recorded in 2022 at 10 per cent, attributable to stronger GDP growth relative to expenditure. The subsequent recovery to 13 per cent in 2023 and 2024 underscores the government’s strategic prioritisation of social investment to safeguard human development outcomes. Table V and Figure XV highlight the relative stability of budgeted allocations to the social sector during the period 2020 to 2024, both in absolute terms and as a share of GDP.

Table V: Budgeted Allocations for the Key SSMs and the Social Services Divisions of the THA and Gross Domestic Product for 2018 to 2022

Fiscal Year	Social Sector Allocation (TT\$ Billion)	GDP at Market (Current) Prices (TT\$ Billion)	Social Sector Allocation as a % of GDP
2020	19.34	146.9r	13%
2021	18.6	159.5r	12%
2022	19.15	184.5r	10%
2023	22.94	174.6r	13%
2024	22.67	172.0p	13%

Source: Ministry of Finance r – revised p – provisional



Source: Ministry of Finance

There was a 5% decrease in the total budgeted allocations for social infrastructure and social programming in FY 2025. The total for this fiscal year amounted to TT\$11.72 billion, compared to TT\$12.34 billion in FY 2024. Table VI details the total allocations for both social infrastructure and social programming for the last five fiscal years over the period 2021-2025.

Table VI: Budgeted Allocations for Social Infrastructure and Programming for Fiscal Period 2020 to 2025

Year	Social Infrastructure TT\$	Social Programming TT\$	Total TT\$
2021	1,639,602,000	8,072,090,956	9,711,692,956
2022	1,807,866,000	8,068,458,409	9,876,324,409
2023	2,187,621,000	9,012,844,686	11,200,465,686
2024	2,512,208,000	9,827,318,419	12,339,526,419
2025	2,150,083,000	9,572,133,300	11,722,216,300

Source: Ministry of Finance

3.3 New Programmes and Projects Developed / Implemented in FY 2025

Social programmes and projects constitute a critical pillar in the development of human capital and the empowerment of individuals. These initiatives are designed to improve the overall standard of living by advancing productivity, employability, educational attainment, health, and wellness. They also provide essential

support to individuals and families, particularly those who are poor or vulnerable, in managing and mitigating the impacts of crises and socio-economic shocks. New programmes / projects developed in 2025 are listed in Box 1 below.

Box 1: New Programmes and Projects/Initiatives Developed/Implemented in FY 2025

- Launch of the Women, Peace and Security National Action Plan (NAP)
- East Port of Spain Youth Leadership and Development Programme
- Trailblazers: National Youth Apprenticeship and Community Development Programme
- Re-Integration Support and Empowerment (R.I.S.E.) – Who Am I? Project

3.4 Social Policies Developed in FY 2025

Social policies delineate the government's strategic framework for identifying, addressing, and mitigating societal challenges to generate sustainable and equitable outcomes. Such policies serve not only as instruments for guiding state intervention in critical areas of social concern but also as mechanisms for promoting social justice, inclusion, and resilience. Through their formulation, implementation, and subsequent evaluation, social policies contribute to the progressive enhancement of human development and the overall well-being of the population. Box 2 provides an overview of the new policies developed and/or implemented during FY 2025.

Box 2: Policies Developed/Implemented in FY 2025

- Remote Work Policy for the Trinidad and Tobago Civil Service (MPAAI)
- National Youth Employment Policy (MSYA)
- Critical Incident Policy (CATT)

3.5. Research Conducted in FY 2025

Research is indispensable in shaping evidence-based social policy as well as programme planning and development. It provides a robust foundation for understanding complex social issues, identifying emerging trends, and generating data-driven insights that inform decision-making. By grounding policies and programmes in empirical evidence, research

enhances their relevance, effectiveness, and sustainability. Key research activities conducted by social sector ministries during FY 2025 are highlighted in Box 3.

**Box 3: Research Conducted/Finalised
in FY 2025**

- Contributory vs Non-contributory Pensions in the Public Service – MLSMED
- Job Vacancy Surveys – MLSMED
- Environmental Scan of Social Sector Landscape (MPSDFS)
- Addressing the Issue of Double Dipping in Social Sector Programmes: A Call for Accountability and Efficiency (MPSDFS)

CHAPTER 3B: REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES

This section presents a review of key programmes delivered during the period October 2024 to September 2025. It synthesises results across the social portfolio to show how investments translated into outputs and early outcomes for citizens. The analysis spans more than 120 ongoing programmes implemented by 16 line ministries and the THA. Interventions address a broad spectrum of priorities: ageing, community development, child protection, disability inclusion, education, employment and enterprise, environmental management, family services, gender equality, health, housing, information and digital access, literacy, poverty reduction, skills development, social protection

and substance-use prevention, aligned to the national policy framework and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

It draws on administrative data and reports submitted by participating entities, namely the Ministries of Agriculture; Culture and Community Development; Education; Health; Homeland Security; Housing; Justice; Labour, Small and Micro Enterprise Development; People, Social Development and Family Services; Public Administration and Artificial Intelligence; Public Utilities; Rural Development and Local Government; Sport and Youth Affairs; Tertiary Education and Skills Training; Transport and Civil Aviation; Works and Infrastructure; and the THA's Division of Community Development, Youth Development and Sport (See Box 4).

Box 4: Ministries/Divisions highlighted in this Chapter

Ministry / Division (before May 2025)	Ministry / Division (after May 2025)
Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries (MALF)	Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries (MALF)
Ministry of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs (AGLA)	Ministry of Justice (MoJ) Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs (AGLA)
Ministry of Education (MoE)	Ministry of Education (MoE) Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training (MTEST)
Ministry of Health (MoH)	Ministry of Health (MoH)
Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MoHUD)	Ministry of Housing (MoHo)
Ministry of Labour, Small & Micro Enterprise Development (MLSMED)	Ministry of Labour, Small and Micro Enterprise Development (MLSMED)
Ministry of National Security (MNS)	Ministry of Defence (MoD) Ministry of Homeland Security (MoHS)
Ministry of Public Administration (MPA)/ Ministry of Digital Transformation (MDT)	Ministry of Public Administration and Artificial Intelligence (MPAAI)
Ministry of Public Utilities (MPU)	Ministry of Public Utilities (MPU)
Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government (MRDLG)	Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government (MRDLG)
Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS)	Ministry of the People, Social Development and Family Services (MPSDFS)

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

Ministry / Division (before May 2025)	Ministry / Division (after May 2025)
Ministry of Sport and Community Development (MSCD)	Ministry of Culture and Community Development (MCCD) Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (MSYA)
Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts (MTCA)	Ministry of Trade, Investment and Tourism (MTIT)
Ministry of Works and Transport (MWT)	Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation (MoTCA) Ministry of Works and Infrastructure (MWI)
Office of the Prime Minister, (Child and Gender Affairs)	Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) NB: The Child and Gender Affairs portfolios were transferred to the Ministry of the People, Social Development and Family Affairs.
THA – Division of Community Development, Youth Development and Sport	THA – Division of Community Development, Youth Development and Sport

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES			
AGRICULTURAL INCENTIVE PROGRAMME <p>This programme supports agricultural sub-sectors by improving access to affordable technology, equipment, and modern techniques, with a focus on boosting food production and national food security.</p>	Farmers	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 1,769 farmers received incentives under the programme. This included 50 farmers aged 15 to 24, 1,401 aged 25 to 59, and 318 aged 60 and above. Support was provided through the Agro Incentive Grant to facilitate the adoption of new equipment and techniques. 	A resilient, modern and inclusive agricultural sector
FORESTRY INCENTIVE PROGRAMME <p>This programme is designed to reverse the cycle of deforestation and land degradation, while simultaneously providing economic, social, and environmental benefits.</p>	Farmers	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension services engaged 26 farmers, promoting alternatives to slash-and-burn agriculture and encouraging sustainable land use practices. 	A resilient, modern and inclusive agricultural sector
VALUE ADDED TAX (VAT) AND DUTY EXEMPTION <p>This programme provides VAT and Duty exemptions for the authorised importation of fishing vessels, marine engines, and accessories. It reduces operational costs for commercial fishing enterprises, supporting sustainability and growth in the sector.</p>	Communities, environment, fisher folk, general public	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 420 persons benefitted from this programme, reducing operational costs and strengthening fishing capacity. Digitisation of successful applications improved reporting transparency and monitoring of approvals. 	A resilient, modern and inclusive agricultural sector

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT			
COMMUNITY ACTION FOR REVIVAL AND EMPOWERMENT The programme supports the active and innovative involvement of civil society in achieving national development goals. It stimulates local and individual initiative and creativity as distinct from public sector efforts.	Communities	During the fiscal period: <ul style="list-style-type: none">A total of 66 grants for the creation, development and community sustainability efforts were approved to support community creation, development, and sustainability projects.	Safe, resilient and sustainable communities
COMMUNITY AWARENESS SENSITISATION PROGRAMME The Community Awareness and Sensitisation Programme is an outreach initiative comprising lectures and workshops designed to raise awareness about various pressing social issues and provide citizens with relevant information. The objectives of the programme include building empowerment and resilience in participants, thereby supporting the creation of sustainable communities.	Communities	For the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none">89 sessions were conducted with a total of 875 persons benefitting from the various outreach and sensitisation sessions.	Empowered individuals and families

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMME Good Governance and Leadership Programme (GGLP) <p>The programme builds the capacity of community leadership by implementing organised and structured learning activities. The training equips NGO and CBO leaders with tools to strengthen resilience and leadership capacity within their communities.</p>	Community-based organisations	<p>For the period October 2024 to July 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 80 sessions (outreaches/lectures/workshops) were conducted; and, A total of 615 persons participated. <p>Constraints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited venue availability to host sessions; and, Low attendance from some pre-registered participants. 	Safe, resilient and sustainable communities
COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMME Domestic Support Skills Training and Handicraft Programme <p>This programme equips householders with practical skills for producing goods and services at home, thereby addressing domestic needs and supporting livelihoods. The programme supports national goals for inclusive growth and transformation.</p>	Communities	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5,750 persons (1,360 males and 4,390 females) benefitted from short skills training programmes across 183 communities. 10 online and 104 in-person courses were conducted. Courses were held from January to July 2025. 10 online courses and 37 in-person programmes were conducted during November to December 2024. 	Empowered and resilient communities
COMMUNITY MEDIATION SERVICES Co-Parenting Programme <p>The Co-Parenting programme is a twelve (12) session group therapy intervention that aims to build the capacity of parents to create a successful co-parenting plan and become child-focused instead of being self-focused.</p>	Parents	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 co-parenting programme sessions were conducted; and, 96 parents participated and graduated from the programme (12 males; 84 females). <p>Constraints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staffing constraints hindered the number of participants that could be accommodated on the programme. 	Empowered and resilient individuals and families

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>COMMUNITY MEDIATION SERVICES</p> <p>Parental Support Groups (PSG)</p> <p>The groups offer a safe and therapeutic space for parents to develop their parenting skills, receive guidance, and better manage family challenges.</p>	Individuals and Families	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 28 monthly PSG meetings were held at mediation centres across Trinidad. Additionally, 788 participants attended annual workshops for all members of the PSGs. Members addressed critical issues that affect parenting effectiveness 	Empowered and resilient individuals and families
<p>COMMUNITY MEDIATION SERVICES</p> <p>Mediation and Social Work</p> <p>Mediation and social work services are provided to clients through Mediation Centres, serving both self-referrals and court-referred civil, family, and non-family cases.</p>	Individuals and Families	<p>During the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 2,275 clients (741 males; 1,523 females) were served at Mediation centres across the country. 75 Civil and 429 family cases were managed. 153 court-referred cases – (30 mediated), and 306 self-referred cases (26 mediated). 52 cases yielded the following outcomes: 20 full agreements, 11 partial agreements and 11 non-agreements. 19 cases were ongoing at the time of reporting. 1,113 individuals received counselling. Of this total, 308 were new clients and 815 were repeat clients. 2 clients referred to external agencies for additional support. <p>Constraints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficulties acquiring appropriate buildings to establish the North East Main Centre and the South Main Centre. Need for Penal/Debe sub-centre to handle Siparia Magistrate’s Court referrals. 	Empowered and resilient individuals and families

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>COMMUNITY MEDIATION SERVICES</p> <p>National Empowerment Programme</p> <p>The National Empowerment Programme (NEP, formerly known as the Community Empowerment Programme is a pre-emptive intervention initiative, seeking to address the common dysfunctional and destructive approaches to dispute resolution. Programme benefits include strengthened coping skills, personal growth, and promotion of social harmony at the community level.</p>	Communities, families and individuals	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 3,900 persons completed workshops in stress management, conflict de-escalation, and leadership. Additionally, upskilling and re-skilling initiatives were delivered across approximately 10 communities and multiple stakeholder groups. 	Empowered and resilient individuals, families and communities
<p>Men's Symposium</p> <p>This Symposium created a safe forum for men to discuss sensitive issues and access support openly.</p>		<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three one (1) day workshops were held on the theme, "<i>A Men's Intervention Forum where Real Men Talk on Real Issues.</i>" 290 persons attended the workshops. <p>Topics included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know the Process: Criminal Charges & Bail; Know the Process: Divorce, Alimony & Child Support; and, Bankruptcy and Insolvency in T&T. 	Empowered and resilient individuals, families and communities

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>GROW IT YOURSELF (GIY) AGRICULTURAL TRAINING, EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Grow It Yourself (GIY) Agricultural Training Programme is a four-month initiative for primary schools, combining practical and theoretical training in grow box farming, hydroponics, agro-processing, and entrepreneurship.</p>	<p>Primary School Students 14 years and under</p>	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The initiative was implemented in 7 primary schools, with 220 students (79 males; 141 females) benefiting. Students harvested crops such as lettuce, chives, celery and patchoi at the end of the programme for distribution to their communities and families. 	<p>Children who will achieve their full potential Children are adequately prepared educationally to fulfil their potential</p>
<p>MPOWERTT</p> <p>The MPOWERTT initiative empowers young men aged 16 to 40 years to develop their potential, lead fulfilling lives, and make a positive contribution to their communities and the nation. It promotes holistic development by enhancing social awareness, employability, education, and overall well-being via four main components:</p> <p>1) Lounge Talks; 2) Soft Skills Training; 3) Career Guidance; and, 4) One-on-One Mentorship.</p>	<p>Males aged 16 to 40 years</p>	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 79 participants completed the programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 22 (ages 15 to 24 years); and, 57 (ages 25 to 29 years). 4 community projects executed, fostering leadership and entrepreneurial skills. As a result, several small and micro-enterprises were developed. <p>Constraints:</p> <p>Community tensions in some areas required relocation of life skills sessions.</p>	<p>Empowered and resilient individuals, families and communities</p>

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>TRAILBLAZERS NATIONAL YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme targets at-risk and underserved youth aged 15 to 25, providing structured training in life skills, mentorship, networking, and apprenticeships.</p> <p>Objectives include skills development, work readiness, civic engagement, building networks and career pathways, and community impact, with a specific emphasis on economic diversification, cultural preservation, and inter-island collaboration in Tobago.</p>	<p>Young persons aged 15 to 25 in at-risk and underserved communities</p>	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 228 young persons (98 males; 135 females) across 30 communities; • Approximately 30 ministries and agencies provided collaborative support; • 95% of participants completed technical and life skills training; and, • All participants were placed in apprenticeships with private or public sector employers. 	<p>Empowered and resilient individuals, families and communities</p>

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION			
<p>NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED (NSDSL): SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMME</p> <p>The School Nutrition Programme provides eligible students throughout Trinidad and Tobago with breakfast and lunch to improve nutrition and support learning.</p> <p>Aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Improve children's nutritional status to enhance learning; and2. Support local agriculture by using domestic produce in meals.	<p>Primary and Secondary School Students</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025, the following was achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily provision of 63,139 breakfasts and 77,521 lunches across over 800 schools.• 65 local caterers engaged.• 7,377 students from 92 ECCE and Primary schools participated in virtual nutrition sessions on healthy eating and local foods.• Staff training sessions included:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cholesterol and Nutrient Interactions;• Microorganisms and Food Safety; and,• Interpreting Food Labels.• A Consumption Survey was completed in 20 randomly selected schools. <p>Constraints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rising food and raw material costs.	<p>Children who are healthy and growing normally.</p> <p>Children who will achieve their full potential</p>

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>RE-ENGAGING FOR SUCCESS– REMEDIATION PROGRAMME</p> <p>The programme involves the development of a comprehensive, multifaceted and cohesive system of support to ensure students are well-positioned to achieve, at a minimum, basic certification for future self-sufficiency. 80 primary and 26 secondary schools in Trinidad were targeted for additional support based on low performance levels.</p> <p>Objectives include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increasing student proficiency in Mathematics, English Language Arts and Writing through various programmes, vacation revision programmes and adapted curricula. 2. Reducing the percentage of students performing below basic levels in national assessments. 3. Reducing the dropout rates in secondary schools through targeted intervention strategies. 4. Ensuring student access to counselling, mentorship and behavioural intervention programmes in schools of focus. 	Students	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 3,271 students (1,751 males; 1,520 females) received additional teaching time via the <i>After School Support Education Programme (ASSEP)</i>. • Students received an average of 83 hours of supplementary tuition across 75 centres nationwide. • Approximately 2,817 Standard 4 and 5 students and 182 teachers participated, with an average attendance of 1,888 students and 120 teachers. • Programme support was provided by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 65 School Social Workers, • 7 Senior School Social Workers, • 36 Guidance Counsellors, • 130 Learning Support Assistants, and, • 9 Restorative Practice Facilitators. <p>Additionally, 81 mentors were retained voluntarily.</p>	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (SSSD) This initiative encompasses the following areas within the education system: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developmental Assessment and Intervention• Teacher Education Sessions• Parenting in Education• School Social Work• Counselling• Special Education		For the period October 2024 to June 2025, the SSSD delivered the achievements outlined below via its various programmes and initiatives:	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (SSSD) Evaluations and Assessments This programme assesses students with emotional and behavioural challenges that affect learning and development. The objective is to apply standardised testing and psychometric principles to evaluate students' academic, social-emotional, and behavioural functioning, and to benchmark performance against national norms.	Students	For the period October 2024 to June 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 72 psychoeducational evaluations were completed; 40 evaluations are in progress.• 22 Functional Behavioural Assessments (FBA) were completed; 13 are in progress.• 3 Psychotherapeutic Support sessions (online and face to face) were completed; 30 assessments in progress.• 807 consultations and meetings were conducted. Constraints: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• High staff attrition reduced available personnel, limiting programme delivery.	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>Teacher Education Sessions – Conduct of Psychoeducation Sessions on the Psychoeducational Needs of Students</p> <p>Psychologists conduct ongoing training for teachers on psychoeducational and behavioural assessments. The sessions equip teachers with strategies to address classroom behavioural challenges and strengthen skills in conflict de-escalation.</p>	Teachers	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,960 teachers participated in 77 training sessions. The training topics included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conflict resolution and management; Psychological first aid; Trauma-informed interventions; Operant conditioning in the classroom; Managing classroom behaviours; and, De-escalating challenging behaviours. 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens
<p>STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (SSSD)</p> <p>Parenting in Education</p> <p>This programme is geared towards increasing parental support, developing productive partnerships between home and school, and sensitising parents to their role in parenting and supporting their children. It aims to improve low parental and community involvement in the school environment, contributing to the development of children's personal academic achievement.</p>	Parents and Students	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,004 sessions were conducted with parents of primary school students. A total of 8,427 parents benefitted. 673 sessions were conducted with parents of secondary school students. A total of 11,590 parents benefitted. 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>Counselling & Consultations</p> <p>The school social workers’ counselling programme provides clinical services to students experiencing mental health challenges, psychosocial barriers to learning, cognitive processing difficulties, or other therapeutic needs, identified through assessment tools.</p>	Students	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10,209 students (4,459 males and 5,750 females) received individual counselling across 10,818 sessions. • 16,697 students (8,616 males and 8,081 females) participated in 3,332 group counselling sessions. • Additionally, 20,647 students (8,033 males and 12,614 females) benefitted from consultations. 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens
<p>STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (SSSD)</p> <p>Networking and External Referrals: The SSSD Social Work Unit collaborates with external agencies to provide additional support on student cases.</p> <p>Teacher Information Programme: The programme builds the capacity of teachers and parents to collaborate with SSSD to assess students’ psychosocial needs and support academic success.</p>	Teachers, Students and Parents	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025</p> <p><i>Networking and External Referrals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 284 external referrals received (89 from primary schools and 195 from secondary schools). • 189 external referrals sent for intervention (72 from primary schools and 117 from secondary schools). • 365 referrals addressed (75 from primary schools and 290 from secondary schools). • 351 community engagement sessions conducted with 3,632 participants benefitting. <p><i>Teacher Information Programme:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 890 sessions conducted (586 at the primary level and 304 at the secondary level). • 5,884 teachers and administrators benefitted from the sessions. 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (SSSD)</p> <p>Home Visits: The purpose of the visits is to promote positive home practices which can better prepare students for school. They also allow the school social worker to validate additional information needed and initiate/ strengthen relationships with students' families.</p> <p>Crisis Intervention: School Social Workers respond to provide timely, direct intervention for students involved in critical incidents.</p>	Teachers, Students and Parents	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Home Visits:</i> 1,747 home visits were conducted by school social workers (712 related to primary school students and 1,035 related to secondary school students). Of the student matters addressed at the primary level, 401 related to male students and 311 related to female students. At the secondary level, 485 matters related to male students and 550 related to female students. <i>Crisis Intervention (CI):</i> At the primary school level: 325 critical incidents were received; and 717 students required CI. A total of 665 CI cases were addressed (207 males and 358 female). At the secondary school level, 410 critical incidents were received and 786 students required CI. A total of 944 CI cases were addressed (312 male and 632 female). 	
<p>Parent Education Sessions</p> <p>These sessions equip parents with practical strategies to reinforce learning and behaviour at home, aligned to the Comprehensive School Guidance and Counselling Programme (CSGCP).</p>	Parents	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 29,586 parents benefitted (13,426 primary; 16,160 secondary). 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens
<p>Group Guidance</p> <p>This programme seeks to provide students with specific life skills/tools for character development in the domains of personal social development, academic development and career development.</p>	Teachers and Students	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the primary level, 272,029 students benefitted (64,827 from career development; 79,099 in academic progress; 128,103 personal–social development). At the secondary level, 153,056 students benefitted (39,789 from career development; 37,973 in academic progress; 75,294 personal–social development). 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (SSSD) Career Fair/World of Work <p>This programme exposes students to career clusters and entry requirements (academic standards, skills, attitudes and experience), and facilitates interaction with industry representatives.</p>	Students	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025</p> <p>Students at both primary and secondary levels benefitted from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Days - 11,928 students benefitted (5,294 primary; 6,634 secondary). • Career Fairs - 5,514 students benefitted (1,156 primary; 4,358 secondary). • Academic Advising - 3,018 students benefitted (120 primary; 2,898 secondary) • Career planning - 80 secondary students completed individual career plans. 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens
Teacher Education Sessions <p>These sessions build teachers' and administrators' capacity to identify students' psychosocial needs and apply evidence-based intervention strategies.</p>	Teachers	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,446 teachers benefitted (2,595 primary; 1,851 secondary). 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens
Consultations <p>These sessions equip parents and teachers with strategies to reinforce learning and behaviour at home and school, aligned to the Comprehensive School Guidance and Counselling Programme (CSGCP).</p>	Parents and Teachers	<p>As at May 29, 2025, Consultations were held with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6,450 parents (3,304 primary; 3,146 secondary); • 12,277 teachers (9,101 primary; 3,176 secondary); and, • 15,157 administrative staff (6,959 primary; 8,199 secondary). 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (SSSD) Conduct of Pro-active Counselling and Guidance Interventions at primary and secondary schools (SSSD) <p>This initiative provides targeted interventions for students "at risk" of academic failure due to behavioural challenges, low motivation or negative attitudes to learning.</p>	Students deemed at risk.	<p>As at May 29, 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,578 counselling referrals were received across primary and secondary schools (661 new cases at the primary level and 1,917 at the secondary level). 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>Early Childhood Intervention for Learners with Special Needs/ Disabilities (ECCE and Early Primary Levels)</p> <p>This programme provides special education services and individualised education plans (IEPs) for learners at the ECCE and early primary levels who have been identified with developmental delays or special educational needs.</p>	<p>Students with Special Needs</p> <p>Special Education Officers (SEOs)</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 127 students were identified for follow-up and intervention at the ECCE level; all needs assessment validations have been completed on their behalf. 3,676 students identified for follow up and intervention at the primary level. 148 students identified for follow up and intervention at the secondary level. 87 students with special needs were accounted for at public special schools. <p>Additionally,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Multi-Disciplinary Team reviewed identified students; screening and observation sessions are ongoing. Verification of students identified at other school levels (Infant I and II) has been completed, with recommendations for internal interventions or referral to the SSSD. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens</p>
<p>STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (SSSD)</p> <p>Implementation of Special Education Interventions / Administration of Special Concessions</p> <p>This programme administers special concessions/ considerations, and implements special education interventions, including teacher aides, alternative placements, access to braille specialists, and examination accommodations for students diagnosed with special educational needs across all local examinations (e.g., SEA).</p>	<p>Students with Special Needs</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 354 applications for special concessions were approved for students writing the 2025 SEA examination. Special education interventions were implemented for 1,384 students, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 330 alternative intervention strategies; 355 individualised education plans (IEPs); 447 student observations; 207 initial screenings; and, 45 standard assessments. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens</p>

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>Private Special Schools Project</p> <p>This project expands equitable access to quality education for students with special educational needs through support to approved private special schools.</p>	Students with special education needs	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant funding was provided, and scheduled monitoring visits were conducted at 13 private special schools for the Academic Year (AY) 2024/2025. 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens
<p>Special Education Intervention: Special / Alternative Placement</p> <p>This initiative manages the transition and placement of students with special educational needs (SEN) into appropriate alternative or specialised settings, in collaboration with families and districts.</p>	Students	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 41 applications for alternative placement were dispatched to education districts for parent collection and processing. 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens
<p>STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (SSSD)</p> <p>Restorative Practices Project</p> <p>Restorative practices foster positive relationships and community building by employing structured processes to repair harm and restore connections when incidents occur.</p>	Students	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 9,345 student ‘circles’ were conducted, benefitting a total of 3,941 students. 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MAXI TAXI SCHOOL TRANSPORT CONCESSIONAIRE SERVICE Provide needs-based school transport to students in rural communities not served by the Public Transportation System, improving regular attendance and punctuality.	Students	For the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 903 primary school students from 24 schools across 6 educational districts benefitted; and, • 5,572 secondary school students from 65 schools across 7 educational districts benefitted. Constraints: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ministry has cited difficulty in getting maxi-taxi operators to work in the rural communities. However, transportation costs are being reviewed to encourage participation. 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens.

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>NATIONAL NUMERACY PLAN (2020-2025)</p> <p>Raise numeracy levels at primary and secondary schools by strengthening classroom practice and leadership in mathematics, using a School-Based Management approach..</p>	Students Teachers Adminis- trators	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Teacher database for secondary mathematics developed and now more than 50% complete, with 560 records entered.96 Standard Three teachers, 118 Standard Four teachers, 109 Standard Five teachers and 68 Form One Mathematics teachers were sensitised to the “UTT Mathematics Training Manual”.116 Primary and Secondary School teacher inductees were trained in “Integrating Mathematics Across the Curriculum” with an emphasis on “Integration Across Mathematics Strands”.195 Primary and Secondary school teacher inductees were trained in “Integrating Mathematics Across the Curriculum with an emphasis on Integration Across the Curriculum”.67 teachers (Infants to Standard Five) in five schools of focus, were supported with planning, pedagogical and assessment strategies in Mathematics.Additionally, 592 Standard Five Teachers and 246 Form One Mathematics teachers were sensitised to the UTT Mathematic Training Manual.	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens.

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
NATIONAL LITERACY PLAN (2020 to 2025) Improve literacy outcomes across primary and secondary schools through targeted teacher development and classroom interventions.	Students	During the reporting period, the Ministry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued implementation of measures to mitigate learning loss associated with the COVID-19 pandemic; Remediation training delivered by the University of Trinidad and Tobago for teachers of Standards 3–5 and Form 1; Primary-level workshop conducted: Remediation Strategies for Improving Literacy; Sensitisation to the UTT Reading and Writing Manual for Standard 5 teachers (approximately 400 participants); and, Workshops delivered on “SEA ELA Reading Comprehension” 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens.
TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (TVET) TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION REVITALISATION PROGRAMME AT SECONDARY SCHOOLS 2023-2027 Modernise TVET / Technology Education in secondary schools in line with national priorities and the skills required for the fourth industrial revolution, through curriculum, assessment and workforce-relevant upgrades.	Students and Teachers	During the reporting period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Survey instrument was updated and piloted in seven secondary schools (April 2025); The Survey Instrument was refined and distributed to all secondary schools (June 2025). 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens.

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>STUDENTS TRANSITIONING EFFECTIVELY FROM PRIMARY TO SECONDARY (STEPS)</p> <p>Equip primary school leavers with the knowledge, skills and attitudes required for a successful transition to secondary school, improving student experience, engagement and retention.</p>	Students	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9 curriculum modules developed in core subject areas at the primary level.• Additional modules produced in Technology Education and Information and Communication Technology to promote problem solving and collaborative learning.• Life Skills content delivered to strengthen 21st-century competencies (e.g., self-management, communication, teamwork). <p>Constraints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Funding and resource constraints limited the pace and scale of rollout.	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens.

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF HEALTH			
CHRONIC DISEASE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (CDAP) Improve access to pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical items for the treatment of 11 chronic disease conditions through a network of private pharmacies.	Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago	During the reporting period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 88,000 patients accessed the programme on a quarterly basis; Approximately 273 Private Pharmacies were registered with the programme to provide additional dispensing facilities across the country; Approximately 8 pharmacies completed the evaluation process for entry into the programme; and, 610 pharmacy compliance visits were conducted on a quarterly basis by monitoring officers. 	Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.
CHILDREN'S LIFE FUND AUTHORITY Finance life-saving medical treatment for eligible children whose procedures are not available locally, using multidisciplinary case assessment to ensure the best care plan for each child.	Children 15 years and under	During the reporting period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 cases (12 males; 12 female) were approved for funding. Cases included cardiac, oncology/haematology and neurological conditions. Survival rate recorded during the period was 63%. Staff training delivered in January–February 2025 (CPR and fire-prevention), strengthening basic life-saving knowledge and workplace hazard-mitigation skills. An Employee Assistance Programme was launched to support staff with personal or work-related mental-health needs. Constraints: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited foreign exchange supply has delayed payments to overseas medical facilities. 	Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>EXTERNAL PATIENT PROGRAMME (EPP)</p> <p>Reduce public hospital waiting lists by procuring timely, quality care from accredited private providers for eligible public patients.</p> <p>Scope of services: Cataract removal, joint replacements, CT/MRI scans, histology, and other surgical and diagnostic services delivered in collaboration with Regional Health Authorities. The EPP includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Adult Cardiac Programme2. Medical Aid Programme3. Renal Dialysis Programme <p><i>Eligibility:</i> Applicants must be registered patients of a public health facility and on the waiting list for the required service for at least three months.</p>	<p>Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>The sections that follow summarise the achievements during the period October 2024 to June 2025 via the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adult Cardiac Programme• Medical Aid Programme• Renal Dialysis Programme	<p>Efficient and Quality Healthcare System</p>

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>EXTERNAL PATIENT PROGRAMME (EPP)</p> <p>Adult Cardiac Programme (ACP)</p> <p>In addition to cardiac care provided at public sector hospitals, the ACP provides timely access to life-saving cardiac procedures that are unavailable within required timeframes at public institutions, through contracted private providers.</p> <p>These services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angiograms; • Angioplasties; • Transoesophageal Echocardiograms; and, • Open-Heart Surgeries. 	<p>Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 1,101 patients (male and female) in the public health care system accessed medical procedures from private institutions through the MoH. From this total, 1,034 patients were approved for cardiac procedures as follows: • Angiograms: 523 • Angioplasty/PCI procedures: 135 • Coronary Artery Bypass Grafts: 326 • Valve Replacement: 16 • Electrophysiology procedures: 27 • Other cardiac procedures: 7 	<p>Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.</p>
<p>Medical Aid Programme</p> <p>Provide medical financial assistance to eligible public patients by procuring priority procedures from accredited private providers, thereby easing public-system demand and reducing waiting lists.</p>	<p>All citizens</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 197 patients applied for assistance for eye surgeries and other urgent procedures; • From this total, 195 patients were referred to service providers. • Additionally, the following procedures were performed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vitrectomy – 165; • Digital Subtraction Angiograms (DSA) – 16; • AVM Embolisation – 10; and, • Stem Cell Transplant – 6. 	<p>Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.</p>

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
Renal Dialysis Programme Ensure timely access to dialysis for eligible public patients by supplementing public capacity with contracted private providers.	All citizens	For the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 748 clients received dialysis services each month; 255 new applications were received; 221 patients were approved and referred to private institutions for treatment. <i>Programme note:</i> This is a continuous service. The same clients appear in monthly counts until they exit due to clinical reasons (e.g., transplant or death).	Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.
HIV COUNSELLING AND TESTING PROGRAMME Expand access to voluntary counselling, testing and self-testing through public facilities and NGOs operating under MOUs with the MoH	All Citizens	For the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 44,554 persons benefitted from this programme as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 533 children; 8,476 youth (15 – 24 years); 29,352 adults (25-59 years); 5,964 older persons (60+ years); and, 229 persons (age not specified). Approximately 1,950 self-testing kits were distributed nationally.	Reduction and Prevention in the spread of HIV.
HIV AND AIDS TREATMENT AND CARE PROGRAMME Provide free antiretroviral therapy (ART), clinical monitoring (CD4 count and viral load), and supportive care to persons with HIV, delivered through public facilities and NGOs operating under MOUs with the MoH.	All Citizens	For the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 7,099 persons received anti-retroviral treatment on the programme as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 36 children - (16 males and 20 female); 188 young persons - (118 males and 70 female); 5,675 adults - (2,848 male and 2,827 female); and, 1,200 older persons - (690 males and 510 female). Clients requiring nutritional support received food vouchers and high-protein supplements to reduce the risk of wasting syndrome. 	Efficient and Quality Healthcare System. Reduction and Prevention of the spread of HIV.

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
HIV PREVENTION OF MOTHER TO CHILD TRANSMISSION PROGRAMME (PMTCT) Provide comprehensive antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal care, including ART and early infant diagnosis, to eliminate vertical transmission of HIV.	HIV+ Pregnant women and their babies	During the reporting period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,036 screenings were recorded in the public health sector only. • 15 HIV+ pregnant women received antiretroviral drugs to reduce mother-to-child transmission. • Of the 15 live births, 9 babies received virological tests for HIV within 2 months of birth. • No babies tested positive for HIV. NB: Report received only for October to December 2024	Efficient and Quality Healthcare System. Reduction and Prevention of the spread of HIV.
NATIONAL DRUG ABUSE AND PREVENTION PROGRAMME (NADAPP) Lead national drug demand-reduction efforts through prevention, treatment and rehabilitation programmes, in partnership with state agencies and civil society..	General population of Trinidad and Tobago	For the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The programme implemented prevention and rehabilitation initiatives nationwide (details available on request from implementing partners and service reports). 	Reduction in the abuse of drugs.
NATIONAL DRUG ABUSE AND PREVENTION PROGRAMME (NADAPP) Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Strengthen treatment and rehabilitation services through capacity-building, technical support, and evidence-informed guidance to providers and policy-makers.	Adults 18 years and over	For the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment recommendations issued for 26 persons (21 males; 5 females). • 53 persons accessed treatment during the period. • Planned capacity-building session for treatment-centre administrators, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health's Mental Health Unit, focused on Psychological First Aid. 	Efficient and Quality Healthcare System. Reduction in the abuse of drugs.

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>NATIONAL DRUG ABUSE AND PREVENTION PROGRAMME (NADAPP)</p> <p>National Primary and Secondary School Drug Prevention Initiatives</p> <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><i>Objectives:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent and / or reduce the negative impact of alcohol, drug abuse and HIV on the lives of students and youth by utilising a wide range of media; • Educate and equip all primary and secondary school students with the necessary knowledge and skills to resist the temptation to use/abuse drugs; and • 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 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 66 students (28 males; 38 females) benefitted from school-based drug education initiatives – educational sessions and informational dissemination booths. • 15 community-oriented police officers were equipped with the skill to deliver drug education sessions to primary and secondary school students. • Plans are in progress for the rollout of a training programme for 265 guidance officers and counsellors. 	<p>Reduction in the abuse of drugs.</p>
<p>Pre-School Prevention Initiative</p> <p>Provide age-appropriate education materials (toys, puppets, DVDs, puzzles and workbooks Levels 1 to 3) and build teacher capacity to identify early risk and implement school-based prevention as part of the national drug-demand reduction strategy.</p>	<p>Pre-schoolers ages 2 to 5 years</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-School stakeholders and students were sensitised on the adverse effects of alcohol and other drugs via broadcasting of video materials continued on Trinidad and Tobago Television (TTT; 4,678 views were recorded for the period. • A refresher workshop is planned for October 2025 to train NALIS librarians in the use of Trinity Smart educational materials. 	<p>Reduction in the abuse of drugs.</p>

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>NATIONAL DRUG ABUSE AND PREVENTION PROGRAMME (NADAPP)</p> <p>Public Education and Information Campaign</p> <p>Disseminate evidence-based information on drug use and prevention through community sessions, traditional media and social media; provide referral information for treatment and rehabilitation.</p>	National Population	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 174 persons at the community level, benefitted from face-to-face and virtual sessions on drug education. • The Webinar Series 2020: <i>Youth and Substance Use</i> continued to attract viewership. A total of 1,715 persons viewed the Series. • The Webinar Series 2022: Substance Use-Health and Psychosocial Issues had a total of 1,029 YouTube views and 6,200 Facebook views. • 32 online requests for drug treatment information received and actioned. 	Reduction in the abuse of drugs.
<p>NATIONAL DRUG ABUSE AND PREVENTION PROGRAMME (NADAPP)</p> <p>Workplace Education and Institutional Strengthening</p> <p>The programme aims to promote a drug-free workplace culture through education and technical assistance. It also seeks to strengthen, through training, the effective and efficient operations of therapeutic and caregiving institutions to maintain acceptable standards of care for persons in treatment and rehabilitation.</p>	National Population	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 55 persons benefitted from workplace drug prevention initiatives. • 800 MoH staff members received information relating to the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. 	Reduction and Prevention in the abuse of drugs.

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF HOMELAND SECURITY			
<p>TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE</p> <p>Police Youth Clubs (PYCs)</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 ages of 15 to 24 years in activities that guide them away from crime and criminal activities.</p> <p>It is anticipated that these interactions would ultimately lead to a productive lifestyle that benefits themselves, their families, communities and the country. Objectives of the PYC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting nationalism among the nation’s youth. • Encouraging the nation’s youth to participate fully in physical, cultural, sporting, educational and spiritual activities. • Promoting the value of good discipline, self-respect, and respect for others. • Preparing youths for the responsibilities of adulthood. 	<p>Children/ Youth</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 45 young persons (19 males and 16 female) received Math and English support via an After-School Homework Programme. • 230 persons participated in juvenile track and field classic games. • 19 young women participated in a netball Tournament in St. Lucia. • 21 athletes competed in a track and field athletic meet in Curaçao. <p>The various activities were geared to promote personal growth and development, encourage educational excellence, reduce crime and nurture their talents.</p>	<p>Efficient Social Service Delivery to better serve the needs of vulnerable groups</p>

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE</p> <p>Victim and Witness Support Unit</p> <p>Provide psychosocial support and advocacy to victims and witnesses; strengthen trust and cooperation between communities and the Police Service; and build community capacity to prevent and respond to violence.</p>	<p>Victims and witnesses of crime</p> <p>Bereaved families and at-risk community members</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025, the VWSU delivered targeted workshops in schools and communities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Domestic Violence</i>: Raised awareness of intimate partner violence and forms of abuse within relationships; 20 women benefitted. • <i>Deviant and Non-Deviant Behaviours</i>: Equipped participants with strategies to navigate challenges and build healthy habits; 75 Form One students of Queen's Royal College participated. • <i>Stress Management</i>: Covered stress, mental-health awareness and setting personal boundaries; 75 students of Queen's Royal College participated. • <i>Social Image and Social Media Awareness</i>: Focused on maintaining a positive social image and responsible online presence; 7 Form Two female students and 5 teachers of Mucurapo West Secondary School participated. • <i>Life After Loss Programme</i>: Fostered healing, promoted mental-health awareness, and strengthened relationships between the Police Service and bereaved families; 22 families affected by homicide benefitted. • <i>Psychosocial Interventions</i>: Equipped participants with skills to manage emotions, build empathy, communicate effectively, and resolve conflicts; 109 students of Carapo R.C. School benefitted (68 males; 41 females). • <i>Suicide Prevention Awareness</i>: Delivered sessions to Form 2–3 students of Cunupia High School on recognising risk, problem-solving, and practical wellness strategies; 50 students benefitted (21 males; 29 females). 	<p>Efficient Social Service Delivery to better serve the needs of vulnerable groups</p>

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE Victim and Witness Support Unit	<p>Victims and witnesses of crime</p> <p>Bereaved families and at-risk community members</p>	<p>Additionally, the VWSU:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hosted the 4th National Symposium on Elder Abuse Awareness (June 2025) to raise awareness of crime-related victimisation among older persons; 109 participants attended (49 males; 60 female), including caregivers. Implemented the 5th Christmas Kindness Project, providing comfort and relief to victims and witnesses of crime during the holiday season; 140 families across all 10 policing divisions benefitted. Delivered critical-incident and stress-debriefing interventions in Barataria, Matelot and El Socorro; 89 persons (children, youth and adults) accessed emotional and trauma support. Conducted community sensitisation walks in Diego Martin and Petit Valley (Trinidad) and L'Anse Fourmi and Charlotteville (Tobago), promoting awareness of VWSU services, offering informal wellness checks, and strengthening resident–law-enforcement relationships. 	<p>Efficient Social Service Delivery to better serve the needs of vulnerable groups</p> <p>Empowered individuals and families</p>

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO PRISONS SERVICE The Prison Youth Club		<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025, the Prison Youth clubs undertook the following initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Musical Theory Grades 1, 2 and 3:</i> 36 inmates participated in the initiative which introduced them to formal music theory and encouraged cultural appreciation as part of rehabilitation. • <i>Transforming Lives through Anger Management:</i> This initiative aims to equip inmates with the tools to understand, regulate and express anger in healthy and constructive ways. 43 inmates benefitted from the programme which commenced in October, 2024. • <i>Transforming Lives through Life Skills:</i> This initiative empowers inmates with essential life skills such as communication, conflict resolution and financial literacy and supports personal development. It also lays a foundation for successful re-integration into society. 49 inmates benefitted from the programme. • <i>Vision on Mission Preparation for Release Programme:</i> This programme assists inmates prepare for transition into society via mentorship, spiritual guidance and personal development training. 155 inmates benefitted from reintegration and other support services. • <i>Change for Life:</i> This is a therapeutic, rehabilitative programme that addresses behavioural transformation, emotional well-being, spiritual renewal and preparation for re-entry into society. 58 inmates benefitted from the programme. • <i>Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme (YTEPP)</i> offers certified vocational training to inmates in several areas including agriculture, digital media and life skills. A total of 127 inmates profited from the programme. 	Efficient Social Service Delivery to better serve the needs of vulnerable groups

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF HOUSING			
<p>HOME IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAMME</p> <p>Improve the existing housing stock by providing grants, up to TT\$15,000, to low-income households to undertake approved home repairs and accessibility upgrades.</p> <p><i>Eligibility (summary):</i> Applicants must show proof of legal land tenure or permission to occupy and have a gross monthly household income not exceeding TT\$5,000. Approved works include roof and ceiling repairs; plumbing; electrical upgrades; structural reinforcements; installation of basic sanitary facilities; and accessibility improvements for persons with disabilities.</p>	Families and physically challenged persons	<p>During the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 639 persons (216 males; 423 female), representing 639 households, received grants to facilitate housing repairs. Of the recipients, 4 were youth, 444 adults, and 191 older persons (including persons with disabilities). <p>Constraints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing qualifying criteria exclude some vulnerable households that are unable to meet documentation or income requirements. Security conditions in several communities hinder inspections, delaying verification and grant disbursement. 	Access to Adequate and Affordable Housing
<p>LAND SETTLEMENT AGENCY (LSA):</p> <p>Development of Residential Lots for Former PETROTRIN Employees</p> <p>Provide serviced residential lots, meeting all regulatory and statutory requirements, to eligible former PETROTRIN employees, including access roads, drainage and water supply, plus pre-approved house plans and technical support for affordable home construction.</p>	Low-income citizens	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential lots under development at Princes Town, Point Fortin, Golconda and La Romaine; and, 130 applicants deemed eligible for Deeds of Lease processing. <p>Constraints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-agency decision flows prolong verification and approvals, resulting in lengthy deed issuance timelines. 	Safe and Sustainable Communities

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>LAND SETTLEMENT AGENCY (LSA):</p> <p>Government Aided-Self-Help Housing Programme</p> <p>Expand access to affordable, high-quality housing by offering fully developed lots at subsidised prices (30% of market value), supported by TT Mortgage Bank financing, standard house plans, technical assistance and construction oversight. Homes are built through self-help and engagement of small contractors.</p>	Low-income citizens	<p>As of June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites under development at Cashew Gardens, Carlsen Field and Balmain, Couva; 7 Deeds of Lease were prepared, and 67 Deeds of Lease were distributed; 40 clients received mortgage approvals; 18 interviews were conducted for the selection of house plans; and, 2 house plans were approved. <p>Constraints:</p> <p>The involvement of multiple entities at successive approval stages frequently lengthens the issuance of Deeds of Lease to beneficiaries.</p>	Access to Adequate and Affordable Housing
<p>Housing and Village Improvement Programme</p> <p>Upgrade housing and basic infrastructure in vulnerable communities through construction, repair, small-scale infrastructure works and emergency interventions.</p>	Low-income citizens	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 218 families benefitted from the completion of 156 housing units; programme works generated 1,622 construction jobs. Infrastructure works executed in 9 communities; 45 persons employed. 62 housing units under construction, with an additional 43 units approved to commence. 	Access to Adequate and Affordable Housing

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>LAND SETTLEMENT AGENCY (LSA):</p> <p>Regularisation of Squatter Communities</p> <p>Secure tenure and upgrade basic infrastructure in squatting settlements through a two-part programme:</p> <p>(i) Tenure regularisation — progression from Certificate of Comfort (COC) to Statutory Lease (30 years) to Deed of Lease (199 years); and,</p> <p>(ii) Infrastructure development — roads, drainage and related works.</p>	Squatter communities	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 189 applications for Certificates of Comfort (COCs) were received; and, 97 COCs were approved for preparation. <p>Infrastructure and road-rehabilitation works executed in:</p> <p>Bois Bande Site A, Sangre Grande; Jacob Hill, Wallerfield, Demerara; Glenroy, Princes Town; Harmony Hall, Five Rivers Arouca; and Blitz Village, San Fernando</p>	<p>Access to Adequate and Affordable Housing</p> <p>Efficient and Effective National Transport, Infrastructure and Public Utility Systems</p>
<p>Regularisation & Regeneration of Communities - Greater Port of Spain Region</p> <p>Address critical settlement needs and improve safety and mobility in high-density urban communities through infrastructure upgrades and community employment..</p>	Port of Spain (POS) communities	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects delivered in two communities - Grand Fond Road, Maracas and Savannah Road, Maracas Bay - including road upgrades, staircase and footpath construction, and drainage works. 40 persons gained short-term employment via project implementation. 	Safe and Sustainable Communities.

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRAMME FOR EAST PORT OF SPAIN</p> <p>Design and deliver community-led social and economic programmes that improve employability, personal development and livelihoods, while showcasing local culture.</p>	Low-income households/ citizens in East Port of Spain	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 551 persons completed skills activities to enhance employability and personal development (e.g., Building Resilient Families, Cooking with Confidence, Conversational Spanish, Become Your Own Boss, Computer Repairs and Maintenance). 19 communities in East Port of Spain benefitted. 4 organisations facilitated literacy and culture workshops highlighting East Port of Spain's heritage. <p>Constraints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insufficient funding limited programme roll-out. 	Safe and Sustainable Communities.
<p>URBAN UPGRADING AND REVITALISATION PROGRAMME</p> <p>Home Construction Subsidy</p> <p>This initiative is a home construction subsidy that enhances the housing conditions for low-income households. It also improves the habitability of urban settlements on State-owned lands.</p>	Low-income households	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 132 persons (47 males; 85 females) in 14 communities received subsidies to enhance housing conditions. 	Access to adequate and affordable housing.

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>URBAN UPGRADING AND REVITALISATION PROGRAMME</p> <p>Home Improvement Subsidy</p> <p>The main objectives for this initiative are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Enhance housing conditions for low-income households2. Improve habitability in urban settlements on State-owned lands.3. Reduce vulnerability of female-headed households by allocating 40% of subsidies to these households.	Low-income households	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 245 persons (72 males; 173 females) in 15 communities received subsidies to improve their homes.	Access to adequate and affordable housing.

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE			
SCHOOL OUTREACH PROGRAMME Educate students, parents and school staff on sexual misconduct in schools, responsible device use and the legal consequences of device misuse.	Youth/ Parents/ Teachers	During the reporting period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 440 persons participated, comprising: 120 youths under 14 (60 males; 60 females), 270 youths aged 15–24 (130 males; 140 females) and 50 adults. 	Safe and Sustainable Communities
THINKING FOR A CHANGE INTERVENTION AT THE LEARNING ENRICHMENT CENTRE (LEC) This programme is targeted to foster the rehabilitation of suspended students in the secondary school system. This type of group therapy engages participants in cognitive restructuring, social skills development, and problem-solving skills and aims at promoting positive behaviour change, while reducing repeat suspensions.	Youth	For the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 359 youths in Forms 1 to 5 benefitted from the Thinking for A Change Intervention at the Learning Enrichment Centre (LEC) – Centre for suspended secondary children. 	Safe and Sustainable Communities

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>THINKING FOR A CHANGE INTERVENTION</p> <p>Deliver an integrated cognitive behaviour-change programme, covering cognitive restructuring theory, social skills development, and the learning and use of problem-solving skills.</p> <p>Other services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Life Skills for Probationers • The Case Care Management (CCM) • Group Intervention Session • The Insight Project (TIP) 	Youth	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 youths (15 to 24 years) benefitted from the <i>Thinking for A Change</i> intervention. This programme consisted of three modules: bridging the gap of reconciliation between parents/ guardians and client, life skills and anger management. • 74 persons benefitted from the <i>Life Skills for Probationers</i> intervention for probationers before the Children's court. • 43 persons benefitted from the <i>Case Care Management (CCM)</i> Programme. • 21 youths (15 to 24 years) benefitted from the Group Intervention Session for gang violence in schools and communities and substance abuse by minors. • 12 persons benefitted from <i>The Insight Project (TIP)</i>, a cognitive behaviour change initiative for offenders placed on community service. 	Safe and Sustainable Communities

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF LABOUR, SMALL AND MICRO ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT			
COMMONWEALTH/ CARIBBEAN SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL WORKERS PROGRAMME (CCSAWP) <p>Meet peak seasonal labour needs of Canadian agricultural producers while providing Trinidad and Tobago workers with temporary employment and exposure to modern agricultural skills and techniques.</p>	Individuals and families	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 451 persons (435 males;16 females) received employment under this programme in Ontario and Alberta, Canada. 	Job creation, decent work opportunities created.
ENTREPRENEURIAL ADVISORY & TRAINING <p>Provide business advisory services and practical training to new and existing entrepreneurs in the small and micro-enterprise sector. The advice and training equips the entrepreneurs in key areas that will assist with business start-up, record keeping and cash management, savings and investment and costing and pricing.</p>	Individuals and families	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 185 persons (70 males; 115 females) received advice under this programme. 377 persons (126 males; 251 females) received training under this programme. 	Job creation, decent work opportunities created.
HIV WORKPLACE ADVOCACY UNIT <p>Advocate for and provide technical support to adopt and implement the National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS; sensitise workplaces and the public; and support the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of workplace HIV programmes.</p>	<p>Members of the public</p> <p>Employees of the public, private and informal sectors</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,076 persons benefitted from 57 Sensitisation Sessions: 604 from the public sector, 471 from the private sector, and one from civil society. 	The Elimination of Stigma and Discrimination against Persons Living with or Affected by HIV/ AIDS.

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
ON-THE-JOB-TRAINING PROGRAMME The programme provides structured, paid on-the-job training that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gives nationals aged 16 to 35 opportunities to gain certified, work-relevant competencies; 2. Matches academic/technical skills with labour-market needs; and, 3. Develops the nation's human-resource capacity. 	Persons aged 16-35 who are graduates of secondary and technical/ vocational or tertiary institutions without work-based experience	For the period October 2024 to June 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,023 trainees (1,480 females; 543 males) successfully completed and graduated from the programme. • 1,631 trainees (1,105 females; 526 males), including 18 persons with disabilities, received job placements. • 375 participants, including 238 trainees (8 males; 230 female) and 137 training providers (123 public-sector; 7 private-sector; 7 NGOs), joined a webinar on Creating an Inclusive Workplace for Maternity, covering support, compliance and inclusivity for pregnant trainees. • 301 trainees (67 males; 234 females) completed a Pay-As-You-Earn (PAYE) seminar on required tax deductions and filing individual tax returns. 	Economic growth, job creation and innovation.
ON-THE-JOB-TRAINING PROGRAMME Provide structured, paid work placements and capacity-building to develop market-relevant competencies and ease school-to-work transition.		For the period October 2024 to June 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 289 persons participated in 3 <i>Train-the-Trainer</i> sessions, including public sector (269), private sector (8), NGOs (6), other (6). The sessions oriented supervisors to their role and responsibilities as they mentor trainees during their training tenure. • 265 persons including 197 trainees (34 males; 163 female) and 68 training providers: 61 from the public sector, five from the private sector and two NGOs, participated in a webinar entitled "<i>Preventing sexual harassment in the workplace</i>", to educate trainees and training providers on Government's zero tolerance on any matter concerning sexual harassment in the workplace. 	

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
ON-THE-JOB-TRAINING PROGRAMME Provide structured, paid work placements and capacity-building to develop market-relevant competencies and ease school-to-work transition.	Persons aged 16-35 who are graduates of secondary and technical/ vocational or tertiary institutions without work-based experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 144 trainees (9 males; 135 female) participated in the annual webinar hosted in commemoration of International Women's Day to celebrate women's achievements in entrepreneurship, promote inclusivity, and inspire action towards gender equality within the workplace. 77 trainees (49 males; 28 females) participated in the webinar hosted in commemoration of International Men's Health Month to highlight the importance of men's physical and mental health. 	Economic growth, job creation and innovation.
SHORT-TERM EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME Provide short-term placements (3 to 6 months) in ministries across professional, administrative / managerial, clerical, secretarial and manipulative classes to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> offer unemployment relief; provide workplace exposure; build independence; and reduce poverty. 	Persons 17 years and over	During the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 266 persons (58 males; 208 females) gained short-term employment through the programme. 	Economic growth, job creation and innovation.
O'LEVEL / NON GRADUATE PROGRAMME Meet short-term clerical staffing needs across ministries by placing eligible candidates from the National Employment Service (NES) register for periods up to three months.	Persons 17 years and over and in possession of at least 1 CXC / CSEC subject pass	For the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 223 persons employed (57 males; 166 females). 	Economic growth, job creation and innovation.

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>SUPPORT SERVICES RELIEF PROGRAMME</p> <p>Provide temporary employment placements, up to 12 months, inclusive of vacation leave, to strengthen ministry operations and offer income relief to unemployed persons.</p>	Persons 17 years and over, Graduates and Non-Graduates	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 333 persons employed (155 males; 178 females).	Job creation and decent work opportunities created.

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF TERTIARY EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING			
<p>GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE FOR TUITION EXPENSES (GATE)</p> <p>Provide means-tested financial assistance for tuition to increase equitable access to tertiary education. The current means test is summarised below:</p> <p>Undergraduate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household income ≤ TT\$10,000/month – 100% tuition funded. > TT\$10,000 to < TT\$30,000/month – student pays 25% of tuition. ≥ TT\$30,000/month – student pays 50% of tuition. <p>Postgraduate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household income < TT\$30,000/month – 50% tuition funded. ≥ TT\$30,000/month – 25% tuition funded. 	<p>Students enrolled in approved under-graduate and postgraduate programmes at public and private Tertiary Level Institutions (TLIs)</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15,491 students received tuition assistance through GATE. Programme expanded to cover full tuition for medical students from Trinidad and Tobago at UWI Mona and UWI Cave Hill. <p>Constraints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human-resource shortages affected programme administration. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens</p>

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
HELPING YOU PREPARE FOR EMPLOYMENT (HYPE) Provide nine-month entry-level training that combines practical exposure (80%) with foundational theory (20%) across two complementary technical skill areas, preparing trainees for work and entrepreneurship.	Unemployed Nationals aged 16 to 25 years	During the reporting period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 264 trainees enrolled (253 males; 11 females) and received hands-on experience on construction projects. Collaboration with the Ministry's Curriculum Department completed to standardise skills courses in HYPE and at MIC-IT. Ongoing mentorship contributed to improved self-awareness and confidence among trainees. Constraints: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced funding from State entities affected intake and the procurement of training materials. 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens
HIGHER EDUCATION LOAN PROGRAMME (HELP) Expand equitable access to tertiary education through a low-interest loan facility offered via participating commercial banks, covering tuition, accommodation, textbooks and approved travel.	Tertiary Level Students	For the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 612 students accessed loans; and, Virtual and in-person public awareness campaigns delivered at various tertiary level institutions and secondary schools. 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens
MULTI-SECTOR SKILLS TRAINING (MuST) PROGRAMME The MuST Programme is a "Work to Learn" programme designed for unemployed nationals of Trinidad and Tobago between the ages of 17 to 59 years. The programme seeks to develop self-awareness and self-confidence in citizens.	Unemployed Nationals aged 17 to 59 years	For the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 187 participants trained across priority sectors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hospitality and Tourism: 88 Construction: 95 Crop Production: 4 8 Hospitality and Tourism trainees retained by industry partners following training. 51 industry partners engaged to provide on-the-job exposure and placements. Literacy sessions introduced for participants through the Adult Literacy Tutors Association (ALTA). 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
YOUTH TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (YTEPP) Youth Training Programme Deliver demand-driven technical and vocational training, integrating Life Skills and Entrepreneurship, to improve employability, support progression to higher-level training, and stimulate youth entrepreneurship, especially among unskilled and unemployed youth and underserved communities.	Young persons aged 15 to 35 years, particularly “at risk” youth	For the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,601 persons enrolled in YTEPP youth training and employment programmes (61% of the overall enrolment target). 1,323 youths (15–35 years) enrolled in CVQ/TVET, NEC or YTEPP-certified programmes (66% of the Youth Training Programme target of 2,008). In collaboration with the Ministry of Education, a Digital Literacy Certification Programme was launched to provide structured, progressive training to approximately 2,600 Form Three students across 26 secondary schools.	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens.
Community Based and Special Projects/ Initiatives Improve employability and entrepreneurship in underserved communities by delivering short, market-relevant ICT courses and targeted skills programmes in partnership with public agencies and NGOs.	Young Entrepreneurs & Persons with Disabilities	For the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 809 learners enrolled in the following courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Webpage Design. Introduction to Graphic Design. Introduction to Mobile App Development. Introduction to Auto CAD. Additionally, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 Patient Care Assistant (Level 1) trainees received hands-on training at the Mt. Hope Women’s Hospital via a partnership with the North Central Regional Health Authority (NCRHA). 144 Participants of the MCCD’s MPowerTT programme received training in micro entrepreneurship. Training programmes were provided via 48 and 144 contact hours’ programmes. 104 students of St Anthony’s College received Life Skills Training via a 10-week training programme. 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens.

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>YOUTH TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (YTEPP)</p> <p>Rehabilitating Inmates through Training and Retraining (RITTR)</p> <p>Reduce reoffending by providing structured training in technical/vocational skills, life skills and information technology (Levels 1–2) across all prison institutions to support safe reintegration.</p>	<p>Prison inmates with 6 to 18 months remaining on their sentences</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 97 inmates enrolled in Cycle 17 of the RITTR programme. 	<p>Improved Reintegration into society</p>
<p>Retraining Programme</p> <p>The Retraining Programme aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide market-relevant skills training that enables access to viable employment and self-employment; 2. Certify trainees under the TTNVQ or CVQ frameworks; 3. Equip trainees with transferable skills and work-readiness to succeed in the labour market. 	<p>Persons aged 25 to 50 years who have been displaced or retrenched</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 181 persons enrolled in Cycle 38 of the Retraining Programme. <p>Training commenced with the Institute of Cosmetology (Cohort 7) in Aesthetics, Hairdressing and Nail Technology.</p>	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens.</p>

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF THE PEOPLE, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES			
AGEING: The Division of Ageing (DOA) has overall responsibility for coordinating and monitoring initiatives related to ageing in Trinidad and Tobago. Initiatives include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Older Persons Information Centre (OPIC) 2. Community Care Programme (CCP) 3. National Centenarian Programme (NCP) 4. Homes for Older Persons 	Senior Citizens	For the period October 2024 to September 2025:	An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable
AGEING: Older Persons Information Centre (OPIC) The OPIC Help Desk serves as a referral facility for information on activities, initiatives, programmes, services, and products for older persons, and also deals with welfare issues, elder abuse, and social work cases. It informs on the impact of social change and public policy on the community of older persons in T&T. Its key services include providing information on Homes for older persons; referring older persons to age-related goods and services; Informing on legislation related to older persons.	Senior Citizens	For the period October 2024 to September 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 266 information requests handled (e.g., Senior Citizens' Grant, placement in homes, referrals for geriatric services, and general queries on ageing). • 178 reported cases of elder abuse in private residences were received and referred. • 23 reported cases of elder abuse in homes for older persons were received and referred. 	An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>Community Care Programme (CCP)</p> <p>The CCP was first established in 2007 to de-institutionalise Level 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 MPSDFS in 2010. It is jointly administered by the DOA and the SDU of the ministry.</p>	Senior Citizens	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 74 clients currently receiving accommodation and social support; and, • 14 CCP homes operating nationwide. 	An Enhanced Quality of Life for Older Persons.
<p>AGEING</p> <p>National Centenarian Programme (NCP)</p> <p>Launched in 2021, the NCP is designed to recognise and honour citizens of T&T who achieved the milestone of reaching the age of 100 years and above. This programme allows the centenarians to feel valued for their contributions to the overall success of our nation.</p>	Senior Citizens	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 256 registered centenarians have been acknowledged and celebrated since the programme's relaunch; and, • 43 newly registered centenarians were honoured. 	An Enhanced Quality of Life for Older Persons.

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>Homes for Older Persons</p> <p>The ministry currently supports the operations of nine Homes for Senior Citizens. The Homes located in Chaguanas, Couva, La Brea, Mayaro, Point Fortin, Sangre Grande, Siparia, Toco and San Fernando are sustained through the provision of annual subventions. They aim to provide safe accommodation, care and support to older persons.</p> <p>The Homes, non-profit institutions, operate under the management of community-based committees, and are monitored by the Division of Ageing via regular inspections to ensure compliance with the Private Hospitals Act Chapter 29:03 towards consideration for the reinstatement of subventions.</p>	Older persons aged 60 years and over who may be socially-isolated and/or indigent	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 129 socially-isolated and/or indigent older persons, 60 years and over, were provided with residential accommodation care at 9 Cabinet-approved Homes. These homes are inspected annually to ensure compliance with the Private Hospitals Act Chapter 29:03. 	An Efficient and Effective Social System
<p>DISABILITY AFFAIRS</p> <p>Established in 1999, the DAU serves as the national resource and referral centre on disability; coordinates and monitors implementation of the National Policy on Persons with Disabilities; and designs and delivers programmes that advance inclusion and access to services, consistent with a rights-based approach.</p>	Persons with disabilities	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Legislative Policy on Disability Inclusion and Support Services prepared and advanced to internal review, to strengthen the legislative and institutional framework for persons with disabilities and align national practice with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). 	An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>Sensitisation and Public Awareness</p> <p>Reduce stigma and increase disability inclusion across the public service through targeted communications and observances aligned to international awareness days</p>	Persons with disabilities	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implemented the “<i>Myth Busters</i>” communications campaign to dispel misconceptions about disability and promote respectful, inclusive practice across the ministry. 1,200 persons engaged through activities timed to global observances, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>World Braille Day</i> – 4 January; <i>World Down Syndrome Day</i> – 21 March (participation in the <i>Rock Your Socks</i> campaign with the Down Syndrome Family Network); <i>World Autism Awareness Day</i> – 2 April (targeted content and staff engagement). 	An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable
<p>DISABILITY AFFAIRS</p> <p>Disability Resource and Referral Database</p> <p>Maintain a central, up-to-date repository of disability-related services, organisations and support mechanisms, including current research and local/international best practice, to guide policymakers, practitioners and the public..</p>	Persons with disabilities	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 therapy service providers across Trinidad and Tobago were visited. 1 Disability Resource and Referral Database updated. The information gathered during these visits coupled with the updating of the Disability Resource and Referral Database would allow the ministry to provide an enhanced referral service and a centralised repository of information on disability-related services, organisations, and support mechanisms. 	An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable
<p>Referral Service for Therapy Service Providers for persons with disabilities</p> <p>Strengthen the referral network for critical therapies (physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology and behavioural therapies) and improve data quality in the Disability Resource and Referral Database.</p>	Persons with disabilities	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-site visits were conducted to therapy providers nationwide to validate services and update the Ministry’s referral database. A more accurate mapping of available services was produced to support coordinated referrals and a more responsive, integrated service-delivery framework. 	An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>TATT Subsidised Mobile Initiative</p> <p>The ministry advanced its efforts to improve digital inclusion through the continued implementation of the Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT) Subsidised Mobile Device Initiative. Through this programme, the ministry facilitated the provision of subsidised mobile devices to persons with disabilities, thus bridging the digital divide.</p>	Persons with disabilities	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 247 new persons with disabilities received subsidised mobile devices during the reporting period, ensuring access to affordable and appropriate communication tools, promoting their independence, access to information, and participation in social and economic life. 	An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable
<p>DISABILITY AFFAIRS</p> <p>National Therapeutic and Resource Centre (NTRC)</p> <p>Provide essential clinical and therapeutic services and tailored supports through a dedicated national centre.</p>	Persons with disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On April 21, 2025, the Ministry's National Therapeutic and Resource Centre (NTRC) for Persons with Disabilities was commissioned. The commissioning marked a significant step in the Government's commitment to delivering comprehensive therapeutic services and support for persons with disabilities. In collaboration with the MoH and the Digicel Foundation, the MPSDFS supported the Centre's readiness through the procurement of specialised equipment and the execution of necessary upgrades and refurbishments. 	An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
FOOD SUPPORT PROGRAMME <p>The Food Support Programme 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 the following components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-Term Food Support Card • Temporary Food Card 	Indigent and vulnerable households	From October 2024 to September 2025, the following was achieved:	An Efficient and Effective Social Protection System
Long-Term Food Support Card <p>This is the cash transfer component of the TCCTP, which is currently implemented via a debit card (TT Card TM). It aims to enable families in need to purchase nutritious basic food items.</p>	Indigent and vulnerable households	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$95,103,760 expended on Food Support Grants. • 14,637 households supported, comprising 8,635 <i>TTCard</i> clients and 6,002 cheque recipients. 	An Efficient and Effective Social Protection System for the Poor and Vulnerable
FOOD SUPPORT PROGRAMME Temporary Food Card <p>This system provides immediate food relief to the extremely vulnerable by bridging the gap between eligibility determination and actual receipt of the TT Card. The Temporary card is valid for up to three months and is also given to victims of disasters and emergencies.</p>	Indigent and vulnerable households	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 421 clients received Temporary Food Cards; and • Expenditure totalled \$231,550.00. 	An Efficient and Effective Social Protection System for the Poor and Vulnerable

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS DIVISION (CHILD AFFAIRS)</p> <p>World Children's Day: National Inclusion and Wellness Fairs – T&T</p> <p>The National Inclusion and Wellness Fair promotes holistic wellness and inclusivity for all children by providing accessible health services, educational activities and fostering community engagement.</p>	Children / Teachers / Parents / NGOs	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trinidad: 2,300 children engaged, alongside 500 adults, 150 volunteers (including Child Rights Ambassadors) and 35 stakeholder groups (200 representatives). Tobago: 700 children engaged, with 200 adults, 70 volunteers and 28 stakeholder groups (130 representatives). 	Protection of Children and promotion of child rights.
<p>GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS DIVISION (CHILD AFFAIRS)</p> <p>In The Know - On The Go: A Series on Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention</p> <p>As part of T&T's ongoing efforts to advance the principles and implementation of the National Child Policy (NCP), the "In the Know – On the Go" initiative is a targeted training programme designed to raise awareness and build institutional capacity in the areas of child rights, child protection, and child abuse prevention.</p> <p>This initiative directly supports the Policy's Priority Areas, particularly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Protection Institutional Framework and Accountability Child Survival, Development and Participation 	Staff of Members of Parliament Offices and Children from Children's Homes	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 45 adults and 47 young persons benefitted from the train-the-trainer workshops held within this programme. 	Protection of Children and promotion of child rights.

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>Cyber-Grooming Workshop</p> <p>In keeping with the objectives of T&T’s National Child Policy (TTNCP), and aligned with the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), particularly Article 19 (protection from all forms of abuse), Article 17 (access to appropriate information), and Article 34 (protection from sexual exploitation), the workshop was designed to educate children, parents, and caregivers on the dangers and impact of cyber-grooming. This initiative reflects a rights-based approach to child protection and digital literacy, supporting both national and international commitments to safeguarding children from emerging threats in the digital environment.</p>	<p>Children and adults</p>	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 300 participants (adults, school children, teachers and child protection practitioners) benefitted from this programme. 	<p>Protection of Children and promotion of child rights.</p>

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS DIVISION (CHILD AFFAIRS)</p> <p>Protecting Our Future: Strengthening Caregiver Skills to Prevent and Respond to Child Abuse - Training for Caregivers of Children's Homes</p> <p>In alignment with the TTNCP and the guiding principles of the UNCRC, particularly the child's right to protection from abuse (Article 19), to care and nurturing (Article 3), and to recovery and reintegration following trauma (Article 39, this training initiative aimed to equip caregivers in Children's Homes with essential skills on Trauma-Informed Care, Conflict Resolution, Positive Discipline Strategies and Practical Self-Care.</p>	Caregivers of Children's Homes	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 200 caregivers of Children's Homes trained and provided with applied tools in trauma-informed care, conflict resolution and positive discipline. 	Protection of Children and promotion of child rights.
<p>Child Rights and Child Protection Sensitisation Sessions</p> <p>Sensitisation sessions focus on raising awareness and educating parents about children's rights and child protection. These sessions take the form of School Tours and Outreaches to the community and other types of organisations. The sessions empowered parents and children with the knowledge and tools to uphold child rights and protection, and participation, while fostering safe, nurturing, and inclusive environments that support the holistic well-being of all children.</p>	Children / Teachers / Parents	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,912 persons reached via school-based sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 485 primary school students 935 secondary school students 492 parents and early-childhood/ education students 170 persons engaged through youth and community groups, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 114 Police Youth Club members 56 participants from a football club 	Protection of children and promotion of child rights.

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS DIVISION (CHILD AFFAIRS)</p> <p>Child Abuse Prevention – Art Competition</p> <p>The Art Competition sought to engage children and young persons (10 to 17 years) across the country in raising awareness through art about child protection.</p>	Children and adults	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 artworks submitted by children. • The initiative strengthened national capacity to identify and respond to mental-health challenges affecting children and youth. 	Protection of children and promotion of child rights.
<p>Psychological First Aide for Youth Webinar in Collaboration with UNICEF</p> <p>The training supported young persons and adults, inclusive of child protection professionals in recognising early signs of emotional distress, promoting positive coping strategies, and accessing appropriate support systems for children in need. This effort strengthens community-based capacity for mental health care and contributes to the creation of safe, nurturing, and responsive environments for every child.</p>	Young persons and adults, inclusive of child protection professionals	<p>During the reporting period</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 72 persons in child protection and youth leadership benefitted from this programme. 	Protection of children and promotion of child rights

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS DIVISION (CHILD AFFAIRS)</p> <p>Financial Assistance to Community Residences</p> <p>The GoRTT, provides financial assistance to support the care of children residing in Community Residences (CRs) and State Residences. The funding is provided through the Payment Per Child System to the private Community Residences or a subvention to the larger State Community Residences. The funds cover both direct and a portion of indirect needs associated with the care and development of the children.</p>	Children up to 18 years living in Community Residences	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 451 children in private Community Residences benefitted from this initiative. 233 were children 14 years and under, and 118 were young persons 15 to 18 years. 123 children in three large Community Residences supported via subventions. 76 were children 14 years and under and 123 were young persons 15 to 18 years. 	Protection of children and promotion of child rights

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>(GENDER AFFAIRS)</p> <p>National Domestic Violence Hotline</p> <p>The National Domestic Violence Hotline (800-SAVE) is a 24/7 facility to provide listening, information and referral support for victims and perpetrators of domestic violence. This mechanism was implemented to promote increased reporting of gender based violence (GBV) and as a strategy to prevent, treat and alleviate the occurrence of domestic violence events. The objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the incidence of domestic violence acts; • Provide support for victims and perpetrators of violence; • Provide a facility for anyone to access help in a situation of crisis; • Facilitate the collection of data, which can be analysed for informing the development of relevant policies, programmes and projects. 	<p>All citizens and general public</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 652 contacts to the hotline to report domestic violence, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 children; • 26 youths; • 140 adults (25 to 59 years); • 34 older persons (60+ years); and, • 447 anonymous callers. • 3,814 Domestic Violence Related Calls were recorded for the reporting period. 	<p>Reduction in acts of domestic violence / gender based violence.</p> <p>Increased awareness and reporting of domestic violence/ gender based violence.</p>

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS DIVISION (GENDER AFFAIRS)</p> <p>National Domestic Violence Shelter</p> <p>The National Domestic Violence Shelter is a 24/7 facility that provides safety, rehabilitation, and referral support for victims of domestic violence and their dependents. This initiative was implemented to treat and alleviate the impacts of domestic violence events. The shelters provide safe accommodation for survivors of domestic violence and their dependents.</p>	Female survivors of domestic violence and their dependents	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 59 persons sheltered: 19 women, 21 boys, 12 girls, and 7 youths (15 to 24 years; 6 female, 1 male). 	Safety and security for victims domestic violence and their families.
<p>UMBONO – Central Registry for Gender Based Violence (GBV)</p> <p>The UMBONO Central Registry for Gender Based Violence was launched on January 8th 2025. UMBONO allows the GORTT to present a more reliable and comprehensive view of the incidence of domestic violence / gender-based violence in T&T. In February 2025, a heat map feature was fully operationalised. The heat map provides a visual representation of active incidents over the geographic landscape of T&T. This feature highlights locations where there is a higher concentration of activity for resources to be focused in the specific areas that are more prone to risk.</p>	Victims / Survivors of domestic violence	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UMBONO (the national GBV case-management system) launched 8 January 2025. 358 cases captured, comprising: 1 child (≤ 14 years), 30 youths (15 to 24), 232 adults (25 to 59), 15 older persons (60+), and 80 anonymous reports. System features include a provider directory, referral pathways across health, security, justice, social services and economic-empowerment supports, and GIS mapping for disaggregated GBV statistics and high-risk location targeting. 	Reduction in the levels of Domestic Violence through improved Social Services Delivery.

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS DIVISION (GENDER AFFAIRS)</p> <p>Organisation of American States – Course for Electoral Candidates</p> <p>For the first time, the OAS partnered with the Gender Affairs Division of the GORTT and UN Women to host a two-day course geared towards preparing women interested in pursuing a political career. Objectives of the initiative included strengthening the political leadership skills of women candidates during electoral campaigns; and providing strategies to combat gender discrimination that persists in electoral campaigns.</p>	Women	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 40 women from 7 Caribbean Countries (The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago) participated in the course.• The topics included campaign financing, political communication, strengthening women’s skills to counter discrimination and violence in the political realm.	Gender equality and empowerment of women
<p>Disbursements of (One Off) Grants</p> <p>One-Off Grants are single disbursements allocated for specific activities within the areas of gender and/ or child affairs. These grants aim to support initiatives that contribute positively to national development. The purpose of the grant disbursement is to provide national civil society organisations (CSOs), or individual applicants with financial support in order to conduct project and programmes that support the polices of Gender, and Child Affairs.</p>	Civil Society Organisations / individual applicants	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 NGO organisations and 2 individuals benefitted from grants in the sum of \$163,200.	Financial support to Civil Society Organisations

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS DIVISION (GENDER AFFAIRS)</p> <p>Re-Integration, Support and Empowerment (R.I.S.E.) of Women and Girls Behind the Prison Walls Pilot Project: “Who Am I?”</p> <p>This pilot project entitled “<i>Who Am I?</i>” was a rehabilitative strategy that aided incarcerated women and girls to re-discover and re-define themselves through the use of art therapy.</p> <p>This project through the partnership with the TTPRS and supported by the Family Counselling Services and was initiated to commemorate International Women’s Day 2025 under the theme “<i>For All Women and Girls: Rights, Equality, Empowerment</i>”.</p>	Female prison residents	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 residents participated in the training programme and displayed their skills in craft making at the closing R.I.S.E. showcase. • 20 female adult inmates of the Women’s Prison participated in the training programme. • 122 Care packages distributed to inmates of Women’s Prison (110) and residents of YTRCF (12). <p>The training programme included trauma therapy, life skills, career development, mental health and wellness activities, journaling, art and craft, introduction to garment design and construction, self-expression using fabric paint, jewellery making and experimentation and innovative fashion.</p>	Empowerment of women and girls.
<p>Gender Sensitisation Training</p> <p>The Gender Sensitisation and Training initiative aims at promoting an understanding / awareness of gender-related issues among various stakeholders including government agencies, civil society organisations, educational institutions, youth organisation, and community groups.</p> <p>The initiative aligns with the Government’s National Policy on Gender and Development (2018), and seeks to advance the GoRTT’s goal of creating a more equitable and inclusive society.</p>	Primary and Secondary School Students, Youth Organisations, CSOs, Government Organisations	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 979 persons benefitted from this training i.e. 214 children (14 and under), 493 youth (15 to 24 years) and 272 adults (25 to 59 years). 	Increased understanding and awareness of key concepts and issues in gender and development.

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS DIVISION (GENDER AFFAIRS)</p> <p>National Workshop Translating the Trinidad and Tobago Action Plan on Women Peace and Security into Concrete Implementation</p> <p>The national workshop laid the foundation for translating the National Action plan (NAP) into practical implementation. Additionally, the workshop provided participants with technical knowledge of methodologies and approaches for implementing and monitoring progress toward the NAP’s goals, ensuring a shared understanding of the foundational elements required for the NAP’s successful execution.</p>	Government and CSO	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 16 persons were trained (i.e. 15 public sector representatives and 1 NGO).• 50 persons engaged in the “<i>Women Peace and Security</i>” Launch and publishing of the National Action Plan (NAP).	Increased understanding and awareness of key concepts and issues in gender and development.

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>INTERNATIONAL COMMEMORATIONS</p> <p>International Commemorations are held annually to promote gender equity and equality in T&T and to increase gender awareness amongst the population of Trinidad and Tobago.</p> <p>Commemoration of International Women's Day (IWD) 2025</p> <p>International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated annually to recognise the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. This year's theme, <i>"For All Women and Girls, Rights, Equality and Empowerment,"</i> encourages nations globally to promote gender equality, advance the rights of women and girls, and foster the empowerment of women and girls.</p>	Women and Girls	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>IWD Breakfast</i> with the Prime Minister at the Diplomatic Centre: 170 women attended; programme included remarks by Government officials, a spoken-word performance by an NGO activist, and musical interludes. • IWD Walk (in collaboration with the NGO network): 200 women participated. • 170 women participated in Tobago IWD events under the theme <i>Celebrating Tobago Empowerment of Women and Girls</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artisan Market showcasing female entrepreneurs and craftswomen; • Symposium on leadership, mental health and economic independence; • Women Trailblazers Awards honouring women with significant community impact across agriculture, technology and community development; • Concert featuring women performers highlighting women's talents across the arts. 	Sensitisation of the population on gender equality, the rights of women and girls, and women's and girls' empowerment.

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS DIVISION (GENDER AFFAIRS)</p> <p>Commemoration of International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (IDEVAW) 2025</p> <p>Observed on November 25th annually, the observance aims to raise awareness about the prevalence of violence against women, and to promote gender equality. IDEVAW also marks the commencement of 16 days of activism which concludes on December 10th. Activities to commemorate IDEVAW and <i>16 Days of Activism</i> included a Minister’s message; An Inclusion and Wellness Fair and National Youth Rallies in Trinidad and Tobago and World AIDS Day Pan Crawl</p>	Boys and Girls and Women and Men	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1,410 persons participated in the three <i>Inclusion and Wellness Fair and National Youth Rallies</i>. The included 880 boys and girls; 200 youths, and 330 adults.• Approximately 40 youth and 20 adults participated in the World AIDS Day Pan Crawl (WADPC).	Increased awareness of child rights/issues Increased HIV/ AIDS awareness

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>International Men's Day (IMD)</p> <p>International Men's Day (IMD) is commemorated on November 19th annually. The global theme for 2024 was 'Men's Health Champions' while the local theme was: Empowering Men: Breaking Barriers & Building Bridges.</p>	Men and boys in Trinidad and Tobago	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 men and boys participated in the <i>Solidarity March</i>. • 42 persons attended the <i>Youth Forum</i>. • 105 persons were engaged in a <i>Panel Discussion and Awards</i>. Participants were from educational institutions, government and non-governmental organisations, law enforcement and protective services and civil society organisations. • In 2024, the observance was commemorated with the 2nd Inter-Island International Men's Day Retreat in collaboration with the Single Fathers Association of T&T, BeMen T&T and the Hope & Action Network. This initiative included: A Solidarity March on Sunday 17th November; a Youth Forum on Monday 18th November; and a Panel Discussion and Awards Ceremony on Tuesday 19th November. 	Awareness of gender issues related to men and boys

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS DIVISION (GENDER AFFAIRS)</p> <p>Gender Focal Points (GFPs) Sensitisation Webinar</p> <p>The initiative was conducted in commemoration of IWD 2025. The virtual sensitisation titled “<i>Women’s and Girls’ Human Rights and Gender Equality</i>” targeted GFPs of Government MDAs. The role of GFPs is critical to the development of capacities within their MDAs to treat with issues affecting women, men, boys and girls in the respective sectors. This is to ensure equality of opportunity and reduction of discriminatory practices through the identification and implementation of appropriate equity measures.</p>	<p>Government MDAs</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 57 GFPs of government ministries participated in the <i>Gender Focal Points Sensitisation Webinar</i>. The webinar initiated the process of strengthening the GFP mechanism, which supports the implementation of the National Policy for Gender and Development, and the promotion of gender equality and equity in T&T.	<p>Sensitisation of the population on gender equality, the rights of women and girls, and women’s and girls’ empowerment.</p>

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>The “Chalk Back” Youth Initiative</p> <p>“Chalk Back”- Youth Initiative to Raise Public Awareness on Street Sexual Harassment and Gender-Based Violence. The GAD partnered with the IGDS IGNITE, a student club at the UWI, St. Augustine to host the “Chalk Back” event. This initiative intended to show solidarity towards victims/ survivors of sexual harassment and GBV through art. The event included the following components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chalking Graffiti Art 2. Informational Booths 3. Gender Justice Advocacy through educational games and activities. 	Youths and Adults	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 persons (youths and adults) participated in this event. 	Sensitisation of the population on gender equality, the rights of women and girls, and women’s and girls’ empowerment.
<p>GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS DIVISION (GENDER AFFAIRS)</p> <p>Health Fair</p> <p>The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) Staff Health Fair was a collaboration between the OPM Gender and Child Affairs Division and the National AIDS Coordinating Committee (NACC).</p> <p>The fair included Health Screening and early linkage to health interventions with specific inclusion of cancer screenings (PAP Smear/Breast exam), vision, general well-being and HIV and Syphilis testing for women.</p>	Adults	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 175 persons (162 females; 13 males) participated in the Health Fair. 	Sensitisation of the population on gender equality, the rights of women and girls, and women’s are girls’ empowerment.

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>Working Men’s Forum – Tobago</p> <p>The Working Men’s Forum – Tobago was designed to engage male in middle and upper management positions in meaningful discussions about gender issues in the workplace. Participants benefitted from a specialised workshop which aimed to provide insights into power dynamics, sexual harassment, and other gender-related challenges that arise in the work environment. The forum will also provide strategies for addressing these issues and creating a more inclusive and respectful work environment. Participants also engaged in discussion around the formation of a Men’s Bureau in Trinidad and Tobago.</p>	<p>Adult men representing public and private sector organisations and civil society organisations</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 57 men participated in the Working Men’s Forum – Tobago.	<p>Improved gender awareness</p>

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS DIVISION (GENDER AFFAIRS)</p> <p>Men's Bureau</p> <p>The Men's Bureau of T&T was launched in November 2024 as part of the GoRTT's commitment to address the unique challenges faced by men and boys in our society. It will serve as the coordinating mechanism for the engagement and empowerment of men and boys towards gender equality in T&T. It aims to ensure that men and boys have access to the necessary resources, support, and guidance to overcome obstacles and thrive in their personal and professional lives. The Bureau offers tailored programmes and projects while strengthening and promoting policies to enhance the well-being, health, and empowerment of males nationwide</p>	Men and boys	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25 men representing civil society organisations participated in the launch of the Men's Bureau. 	Gender Equality

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>NATIONAL FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION (NFSD)</p> <p>The National Family Services Division (NFSD) is the primary institution in T&T providing a range of programmes and services to promote healthy family functioning. The ultimate goal is the empowerment of vulnerable individuals and families in order to sustain healthy social functioning.</p>	Individuals, couples, children, families and communities.	<p>During the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ongoing psychosocial support was provided to clients nationwide;• Community Parenting Workshops were delivered;• Community-Based Parenting Initiative was implemented;• Community counselling and parenting support was provided; and,• The National Suicide Prevention Hotline (800-COPE) was operated and promoted.	Empowerment of individuals and families.
<p>NATIONAL FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION (NFSD)</p> <p>Psychosocial Support</p> <p>Promote healthy family functioning through preventive, developmental and remedial services, including counselling, advocacy and crisis support.</p>	Individuals, Couples, Children and Families	<p>During the period October 2024 to September 2025, the following was achieved by the Division:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2,364 clients (individuals and families) received psychosocial support through the delivery of the following services:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2,044 persons received counselling services.• 61 persons benefitted from advocacy services.• 216 persons benefitted from referrals and other forms of support.• 43 persons received valuable crisis information.	Empowerment of individuals and families.

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
Community Parenting Workshops Strengthen parenting competencies through evidence-based education, peer discussion and practical tools.	Individuals, Couples, Children and Families in Vulnerable situations	During the period October 2024 to September 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 110 persons benefitted from the Community Parenting Workshops hosted in various locations in Trinidad: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arima 18; Diego Martin 12; Belmont 32; Carenage 13; Pleasantville 13; Aranguez 22. Topics included: Parenting in the 21st Century; Discipline vs. Punishment; Parenting a Child with a Disability; Coping with Trauma, Sex Education; and Balancing Work and Family Life.	Empowerment of individuals and families
Community-Based Parenting Initiative The initiative delivers workshops and community-based clinical interventions, under the Building T&T Initiative. Conducted in partnership with the Ministry of Health, it aims to strengthen parenting knowledge and practices.	Families and Communities	During the period October 2024 to September 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 sessions were hosted at the Desperadoes Steel Orchestra under the Community-Based Parenting initiative targeting parenting and guardians of East Port-of-Spain and environs. Topics included: Emotional Intelligence, Stages of Development, Managing Family and Work Life Balance, Effective Communication and Parenting Children with Special Needs.	Empowerment of individuals and families.
NATIONAL FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION (NFSD) Community Counselling and Parenting Support The support seeks to increase community access to psychosocial services, including counselling, case management and support groups and provide family case management through Social Workers.	Families and Communities	During the period October 2024 to September 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Services were delivered at 7 health centres: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> George Street Health Centre Maraval Health Centre Roy Joseph Health Centre Gasparillo Health Centre Marabella Health Centre Claxton Bay Health Centre Pleasantville Health Centre 	Empowerment of individuals and families

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
National Suicide Prevention Hotline 800-COPE Callers are provided a 24-hour crisis hotline staffed by trained personnel to address suicidal ideation and other urgent psychosocial challenges	Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago	During the period October 2024 to September 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none">The hotline received 6,331 calls.	Reduction in individual dysfunction

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>NATIONAL SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (NSDP)</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. Areas of assistance include:</p> <p>Minor House Repair Assistance</p> <p>This initiative provides persons with materials and/or labour for roof repairs and other minor structural repairs to their homes.</p> <p>Sanitary Plumbing Assistance</p> <p>This initiative provides assistance towards the purchase of materials based on an assessment of individual circumstances. The total material cost is to a limit of \$15,000.00.</p> <p>House Wiring Assistance</p> <p>This initiative provides electrification for households throughout Trinidad and Tobago.</p>	Vulnerable persons and communities	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The N SDP processed home repair grants for 273 households representing 912 beneficiaries at a cost of \$3,896,141.88. 	Enhancement in citizens' quality of life

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>NATIONAL SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (NSDP)</p> <p>Sowing Empowering through Entrepreneurial Development (SEED)</p> <p>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 businesses but are unable to gain access to funding on their own. It also seeks to provide an opportunity for existing clients of the MPSDFS who are receiving welfare grants to start mini/ micro enterprises and become more independent and self-sufficient.</p>	<p>Vulnerable persons</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The NSDP processed micro-business development grants for 71 households representing 231 beneficiaries at a cost of \$974,877.47.	<p>Enhancement in citizens' quality of life.</p>

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>Disaster Relief</p> <p>Disaster relief is provided to victims adversely affected by natural or man-made disasters. The Grant is provided to individuals whose furniture and appliances were destroyed beyond use.</p> <p>The grants available are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household Items up to \$10,000.00 per household. Clothing Items up to \$1,000.00 per household member. School Supplies up to \$700.00 per child (Primary level) and up to \$1,000.00 per child (Secondary level). Rental Assistance Grant up to \$2,500.00 per month for three (3) months. Temporary Food Support - \$550.00 per household is also provided using a debit card which disaster victims can use at approved supermarkets. 	<p>Victims of natural or man-made disasters</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NSDP processed disaster relief grants for 952 households representing 3,116 beneficiaries at a cost of \$5,620,884.37. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social Protection System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p>

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS (NGOs)</p> <p>The NGO Unit manages the Ministry's relationship with partner NGOs in the delivery of social services in communities. The objectives of the NGO 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.	General population of T&T	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025, the NGO Unit:</p> <p>Implemented four work streams with partner NGOs, i.e.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• one-off financial assistance;• subventions;• capacity-building; and,• outreach/collaborative activities.	An Efficient and Effective Social Protection System

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>Financial Assistance to NGOs (One-off Grants up to a maximum of \$50,000)</p> <p>This initiative provides one-off financial assistance from the ministry to qualifying Community-Based, Faith Based or Non-Governmental organisations for a specific project or activity up to a value of \$50,000.</p>	Non-Governmental, Faith-Based, or Community-Based Organisations	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025, a total of \$66,000.00 was approved in grant funding to disability NGOs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 NGO received funding in the amount of \$6,000 to support advocacy and knowledge initiatives for persons with Down Syndrome and other disabilities. • 1 NGO was allocated funding in the amount of \$50,000.00 for the development of an educational video series on at-home therapies for parents of children with disabilities. • 1 NGO was allocated funding in the sum of \$10,000.00 to support various therapies for children with disabilities. 	An Efficient and Effective Social Protection System
<p>PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS (NGOs)</p> <p>Subventions to NGOs</p> <p>Provide recurrent financial support to eligible NGOs and statutory bodies to sustain community-based social services</p>	Non-Governmental Organisations	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TT\$43,164,359 was disbursed to 11 eligible NGOs and statutory boards: • 3 statutory boards: TT\$40,353,256; • 2 youth organisations: TT\$156,000; and, • 6 NGOs: TT\$2,655,103. • 21,104 persons benefitted from subvented social programmes supported by these funds. 	An Efficient and Effective Social Protection System

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>Capacity Building for NGOs</p> <p>The inaugural World NGO Day Fair under the theme “Better Together” was hosted by the NGO Unit at the National Academy for the Performing Arts (NAPA).</p> <p>This networking and information sharing event provided a forum for NGOs to connect with state agencies, charitable foundations and multilateral organisations on opportunities for support and collaboration.</p>	Non-Governmental Organisations	<p>At this event:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 capacity-building sessions were delivered: • 39 NGOs attended a sensitisation on vulnerabilities of NGOs to money-laundering and terrorism financing, facilitated by the Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago. • 37 NGOs participated in a consultation on a Draft National Accountability Framework for the NGO Sector to improve accountability and transparency in NGO governance. 	An Efficient and Effective Social Protection System

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS (NGOs)</p> <p>Outreach and Collaborative Activities with NGOs</p> <p>The NGO Unit were engaged in direct outreaches in order to provide general information on access to funding, legal compliance, registration of NGOs on the NGO Unit database, information on NGOs and opportunities for funding via other donors.</p>	Non-Governmental Organisations	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 98 NGOs were provided with general information via outreaches at various events including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The annual <i>Walk for Sight</i> with the Blind Welfare Association. • The annual <i>Buddy Walk</i> by the Down Syndrome Family Network. • The Unit collaborated with SEWA-TT for its annual Clothing Recycle Campaign. 22 organisations participated in the collection and distribution of clothing items. 1,000 vulnerable persons in transitional residential type facilities (Children's Homes, Shelters, Rehabilitation Centres, and Prisons) received much needed clothing items. <p>A collaboration with the Cropper Foundation for the Virtual World NGO Day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 NGOs participated. The staff of the NGO Unit also assisted as session moderators in the various breakout sessions under the theme "Securing Our Spaces" for civil society advocacy a development. • A collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Association for the Hearing Impaired (TTAHI). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 interpreters provided sign language services for the Ministry's <i>Beyond By-Standing</i> webinar. • 4 interpreters provided sign language services for the Ministry's <i>GUIDE</i> seminar. 	An Efficient and Effective Social Protection System

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
SOCIAL DISPLACEMENT UNIT The Social Displacement Unit (SDU) of the MSDFS plans and coordinates activities pertinent to the empowerment and rehabilitation of socially displaced persons. Field Officers of the SDU carry out regular street outreach visits to advise the displaced on services available. Key initiatives include: Street Dwelling Initiatives Deportee Reception and Integration	Socially displaced persons	For the period October 2024 to September 2025, the following were achieved:	An Efficient and Effective Social Protection System
Street Dwelling Initiatives 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. This includes engagements, investigations, referrals, and social work intervention and counselling.		For the period October 2024 to September 2025, the following were achieved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,383 engagements/investigations of persons living on the streets were undertaken. • 402 persons were referred for shelter and care. • 385 persons were referred for additional social programme assistance. • 126 persons seen in office for social work intervention/counselling. • 56 persons were referred for rehabilitation. • 227 persons were referred to Community Care Programme. • 23 persons transitioned to independent living. 	An Efficient and Effective Social Protection System
Deportee Reception and Integration This programme assists deported persons with relocation and family reintegration into society. The SDU also assists deportees in finding employment.	Deported persons	For the period October 2024 to September 2025, the following were achieved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 77 deportees provided with psychosocial support. 	An Efficient and Effective Social Protection System

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
SOCIAL WELFARE DIVISION <p>The Social Welfare Division (SWD) is concerned with reducing the incidence of poverty among vulnerable groups and offers a range of financial assistance/grants to persons in need.</p>	Vulnerable citizens of Trinidad and Tobago	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025</p> <p>The core assistance provided are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disability Assistance Grant (DAG) Disability Assistance Grant for Minors (DAGM) General Assistance Grant (GAG) Public Assistance Grant (PAG) Senior Citizens Pension (SCP) 	An efficient and Effective Social Protection System for the Poor and Vulnerable
Disability Assistance Grant <p>This grant of TT\$ 2,000.00 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>	Persons 18-64 years of age who have been certified by a Government medical officer as having a disability and unable to earn a livelihood.	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21,437 persons received the Disability Assistance Grant, with an expenditure of \$542,245,651.20 1,372 were new beneficiaries of the DAG. 	An Efficient and Effective Social Protection System for the Poor and Vulnerable
Disability Assistance Grant for Minors <p>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>	Persons under 18 years of age who have been certified by a Government medical officer as having severe or complete levels of disability	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4,292 Disability Assistance Grant Minors (DAGM) were distributed, which amounted to a total of \$79,007,912.00 492 persons were recorded as new clients of the programme. 	Enhancing qualities of life and living.

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
SOCIAL WELFARE DIVISION General Assistance Grant <p>This grant was established to assist persons / households traumatised and rendered needy as a result of natural/ other disasters. The grants are currently used to assist 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>	Victims of natural disasters and clients of the Ministry	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 814 clients received assistance under the General Assistance Grants programme, which amounted to a total of \$6,382,213.30 	An Efficient and Effective Social Protection System
Public Assistance Grant (PAG) <p>This grant provides financial aid to persons who are unable to support themselves or 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 Grant is an essential social safety net programme providing financial aid to the nation's vulnerable citizens. With effect from January 1, 2019, the monthly value of these grants are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Individuals - TT\$1,300.00 2. Two (2) persons - TT\$1,550.00 3. Three (3) persons - TT\$1,750 4. Four (4) persons and more - TT\$1,900 	Unemployed persons unable to work, or who have little means of financially supporting themselves and guardians of necessitous children.	<p>For the period October 2024 to September 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13,870 clients were in receipt of the PAG with expenditure totalling \$267,875,248.46. 1,974 were new beneficiaries enrolled in this programme. 	An Efficient and Effective Social Protection System for the Poor and Vulnerable

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME										
SOCIAL WELFARE DIVISION Senior Citizens' Pension (SCP) The Senior Citizens Pension (SCP) provides financial assistance to persons aged 65 years and over who meet the qualifying criteria. With effect from January 01, 2019 the cap for SCP was increased to \$5,500.00. It thus allows a person in receipt of an NIS pension of \$3,000 to receive a SCP in the sum of \$2,500. <table><tr><th>Income Band</th><th>Pension</th></tr><tr><td>\$0-\$2,500</td><td>\$3,500</td></tr><tr><td>>\$1,500.01 - \$2,500</td><td>\$3,500</td></tr><tr><td>>\$3,500.01 - \$1,500</td><td>\$4,500</td></tr><tr><td>>\$4,500.01 - \$500</td><td>\$5,500</td></tr></table>	Income Band	Pension	\$0-\$2,500	\$3,500	>\$1,500.01 - \$2,500	\$3,500	>\$3,500.01 - \$1,500	\$4,500	>\$4,500.01 - \$500	\$5,500	Eligible Senior Citizens	For the period October 2024 to September 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none">116,420 senior citizens received the Senior Citizens' Pension grant at a total cost of \$4,508,194,987.448,615 persons were added to the database as new beneficiaries.	An Efficient and Effective Social Protection System for the Poor and Vulnerable
Income Band	Pension												
\$0-\$2,500	\$3,500												
>\$1,500.01 - \$2,500	\$3,500												
>\$3,500.01 - \$1,500	\$4,500												
>\$4,500.01 - \$500	\$5,500												

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE			
E-IDENTITY (E-ID) PROGRAMME The e-ID Programme will provide a secure, trusted and unique digital identifier to all citizens and residents of T&T. This mobile-based system will enable people to access public and private services, both in-person and online, more efficiently.	Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago	For the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training manuals for the e-Identity mobile app enrolment process were developed.• Sensitisation sessions with the MPAAI, and the MPSDFS in collaboration with the Integrated Service Centre were conducted to prepare for on-boarding and a controlled launch of the programme.	A digitally literate society
BENEFITS WALLET The Benefits Wallet initiative aims to digitally transform and optimise the current system of distributing non-financial benefits provided by all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and eventually Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) through the use of a personalised digital wallet. The Wallet will have a controlled launch with the first available benefit being Household Items under the Disaster Relief Grant managed by the MPSDFS.	Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago	During the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approval for the controlled launch of the Wallet was received from the Benefits Wallet Joint Steering Committee	Empowered citizens
TTWiFi The TTWiFi project seeks to provide broadband access in highly populated and frequented areas such as transport hubs, hospital waiting rooms, libraries and schools at no cost to the public.	Members of the Public	During the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A total of 23 sites were commissioned.	Empowered citizens

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>DIGITAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (WeLearnTT)</p> <p>The Digital Skills Development Programme is tasked with increasing the digital literacy of the population of Trinidad and Tobago. The programme aims to develop a portal for digital skills training that is populated by content from local and international sources to provide a platform and up-to-date repository for continuous digital literacy initiatives.</p>	Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago	<p>During the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 4,000 persons received training under the programme. 	Empowered citizens
<p>ICT ACCESS CENTRES</p> <p>The ICT Access Centres Programme aims to launch 100 Centres with user-friendly, technology-enabled environments within communities. The programme aims to bridge the digital divide by establishing accessible ICT in underserved communities. These Centres will provide access to computers, the internet and digital literacy training to empower individuals with the skills and tools necessary to participate fully in the digital economy at no cost to the user.</p>	Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago	<p>During the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2,252 persons completed Digital skills training as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 149 children - aged eight to 12 years (75 males; 74 females); 135 teens - aged 13 to 18 years (73 males; 62 females); 342 young persons - aged 15 to 24 years (126 males; 216 females); 96 older persons – aged 60+ (20 males; 76 females); and, 96 persons benefitted from ICT Vacation Camps (9 males; 87 females). Participants received training in several areas including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Robotics, Programming and Coding; and Problem Solving and Circuit building. Centres are soon to be launched. 	<p>Empowered citizens</p> <p>A digitally literate society</p>

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES			
COMMUNITY WATER IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME (CWIP) The objective of the CWIP is to bring relief to underprivileged communities throughout Trinidad and Tobago that are without a water supply and also to improve the water supply to at least Class III (72 hours per week) in areas that receive inadequate water supply. The Programme was initiated in Fiscal 2019/2020.	Underprivileged communities without water supply; areas with inadequate water supply	During the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 28,640 persons benefitted from the Community Water Improvement Programme (CWIP) initiative, and 44 projects were completed.• 158 communities benefitted from the National Rainwater Harvesting Programme.	Efficient and Accessible Social Protection System

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>UTILITIES ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (UAP)</p> <p>The UAP is a social intervention, 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 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: provides solar panels to low-income households in remote communities that are unable to access the electricity grid. • Water Tank Assistance (WTA): This provides a water tank and fittings to low-income households and community-based facilities to ensure access to safely stored water. 	<p>Low-income Customers of WASA and T&TEC who are also recipients of Senior Citizens Pension, Disability and other specific Grants</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12,828 persons benefitted from the Bill Assistance Programme including 19 new clients. • 67 persons benefitted under the Water Tank Assistance Programme. 150 applications were pending review by the Technical Advisory Committee. • 9 Solar Panel Projects were approved during the period. 	<p>An Efficient and Accessible Social Protection System</p>

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (R.E.A.P)</p> <p>The Residential Electrification Assistance Programme (REAP) offers one-time assistance to eligible persons whose homes have never been wired or where the existing electrical wiring is old and faulty by providing the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• First time wiring - Provides assistance to low income homeowners who cannot afford to wire their homes for electricity.• Rewiring - Provides assistance to low income homeowners where the electrical wiring is aged and faulty and not up to the electrical standards.	<p>Households without an electricity supply; communities without an electricity supply</p>	<p>During the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 149 persons from 72 households benefitted from a safe supply of electricity under the programme.• 59 projects were completed for the period.• 33 small contractors/OPR Registered Electricians benefitted from employment under the programme.	<p>Efficient and Accessible Social System</p>

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>ELECTRIFICATION PROGRAMME (EP)</p> <p>The EP is aimed at improving the social and economic welfare of the less fortunate sectors of the population; through the programme, T&TEC will offer assistance by way of the installation of poles and other electrical infrastructure to households or communities requesting electrification. The benefits of the programme will include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Combatting poverty 2. Stimulating employment and equality of opportunity 3. Fostering rural-urban equity 4. Significantly improving the quality of life of citizens, especially the vulnerable, 5. Providing greater access to telecommunication services, including high-speed internet service. 	Households without an electricity supply; communities without an electricity supply	<p>During the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 jobs completed. • 84 new persons benefitted from the programme. 	Efficient and Accessible Social System

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT			
<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 integral to the National Strategy for Development of the Green Economy of Trinidad and Tobago. It manages the 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 Maintenance5. Eco-Sites Management6. Disaster and Emergency Response (DERT)	Communities Unemployed citizens	<p>During the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employment: 9,773 semi-skilled and unskilled persons engaged (4,842 men; 4,931 women), including 710 youth (15–24 years), 8,127 adults (25–59 years) and 936 older persons (60+ years).• Community reach and enterprise development: 2,064 communities served; 336 small and micro-enterprises contracted and trained.• Environmental maintenance delivered:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 44,687 km of roadway maintained;• 18,638 km of minor watercourses cleared;• 29,166,962 m² of open spaces maintained;• 378, 274 bags of waste collected and removed.	Safe, clean sustainable communities.

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS			
PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT AND RECOGNITION (PLAR) <p>This is a formal assessment and recognition strategy for skilled youth between the ages of 16 to 35 years. Through the PLAR process, skilled youth without certification are provided with the opportunity to have their competence assessed and recognised through formal certification. The programme allows skilled youth to obtain the Trinidad and Tobago National Vocational Qualifications (TTNVQ) or Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) as either a full certification or unit awards.</p>	<p>Young persons between the ages of 16 and 35 years particularly "at risk" youth</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 261 young persons (177 males; 84 females), aged 16 to 35 years received formal certification. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens.</p>

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>RETIREES ADOLESCENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (RAPP)</p> <p>This is a community-oriented programme which seeks to provide assistance and supervision at the community level to “young, at-risk” persons to minimise the delinquency and drop-out rate in the nation’s school population. It provides a common platform for 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>Children (14 years and under) and Youth (15-21 years) identified as ‘at risk’ and retired older persons (60-75 years).</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 452 persons benefitted from the programme;• 196 persons aged 14 years and under• 149 persons aged 15 to 24 years enrolled in supplemental and remedial classes and received guidance in character development.• 107 retired professionals and skilled adults in the various communities employed as mentors and supervisors on the programme. These persons ranged in ages from 25 to 60+ years.• The programme impacted 320 families across 18 communities and a total of 9 NGOs partnered with the programme.	<p>Increase youth, Community education.</p>

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<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. Its objectives include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sensitising young people to the needs of senior citizens and understanding of the ageing process. 2. Equipping young persons with basic skills in caregiving. 3. Instilling discipline in young persons through training and service to senior citizens. 4. Improving intergenerational relationships and the quality of life of senior citizens. <p>Students receive training at two levels. Level I (for young persons between the ages of 17 to 30) and Level II (for young persons between the ages of 18 to 35).</p>	<p>Young persons and adults between the ages of 17-35 and older persons 60 years and over</p>	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 785 clients (562 females; 223 males) received monthly caregiving services via this programme. 	<p>Citizens will lead healthy lifestyles.</p>

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF TERTIARY EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING			
<p>YOUTH TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (YTEPP)</p> <p>Youth Training Programme</p> <p>This programme aims to provide technical and vocational skills training to prepare graduates for employment opportunities and matriculation 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 relevant demand-driven courses, and incorporates Life Skills and Entrepreneurial Training interventions.</p> <p>The benefits of this programme include:</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; • Increase in the number of young entrepreneurs. Participation in this programme would lead to an improvement in occupational competence, work habits and attitudes of young persons to enhance their employability. 	<p>Young persons aged 15 to 35 years particularly “at risk” youth</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,601 persons enrolled in programmes under Youth Training. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens.</p>

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MULTI-SECTOR SKILLS TRAINING (MuST) PROGRAMME The MuST Programme is a “Work to Learn” programme designed for unemployed nationals of T&T aged 17 to 59 years. The programme seeks to develop self-awareness and self-confidence in citizens.	Unemployed Nationals aged 17 to 59 years	During the reporting period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 208 trainees enrolled in the MuST Programme. • 88 trainees received training in Hospitality and Tourism, and 8 trainees retained by industry partners. • 95 trainees received training in Construction. • 4 trainees received training in Crop Production. 	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens
MULTI-SECTOR SKILLS TRAINING (MuST) PROGRAMME Rehabilitating Inmates through Training and Retraining (RITTR) 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.	Prison inmates who have 6 to 18 months of sentencing remaining	For the period October 2024 to June 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 97 persons enrolled in courses under the RITTR programme. 	Improved Reintegration into society

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>Special Projects / Initiatives</p> <p>The Special Projects/ Initiatives aim to equip individuals in underserved communities with computer literacy and technology skills that would improve their general marketability. It is also intended to equip persons with disabilities, (physical, hearing and sight) with computer literacy and technology skills that would improve their general marketability.</p> <p>This project also aims to equip young entrepreneurs with enhanced entrepreneurial skills in an effort to boost entrepreneurship development in Trinidad and Tobago. It also seeks to serve the needs of special groups via skills training and education programmes implemented in collaboration with strategic partners.</p>	<p>Young Entrepreneurs & Persons with Disabilities</p>	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 809 persons enrolled in courses under the special projects and initiatives. Courses included; introduction to AutoCAD, introduction to webpage design, graphic design, and introduction to mobile app development. • 176 persons participated in Functional Digital Literacy training. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens.</p>

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>MULTI-SECTOR SKILLS TRAINING (MuST) PROGRAMME</p> <p>Retraining Programme</p> <p>The Retraining Programme aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide eligible individuals (displaced or retrenched workers) with skills training that would enhance their opportunities to access viable and lucrative employment and self-employment options. • Certify trainees to National or Regional Occupational Standards through the TTNVQ) or (CVQ) framework. • Equip trainees with new and transferable skills to develop the necessary competencies, and the right attitude required to function efficiently and effectively in the job market. 	<p>Persons between the ages 25-50 years</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 181 persons enrolled in the Retraining programme. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens.</p>
<p>ELDERLY AND DIFFERENTLY ABLED MOBILE (ELDAMO) SERVICE</p> <p>The objective of this service is the provision of an efficient public transportation service to facilitate the needs of persons with more specific transportation requirements. This transportation service caters for senior citizens and persons with disabilities.</p>	<p>Elderly and differently abled</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 44 persons enrolled in this service (26 males;18 female). 	<p>Public transportation service for senior citizens and differently abled</p>

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY - DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND SPORT			
CENTENARIAN AWARENESS PROGRAMME <p>The Centenarian Awareness Programme is a community outreach programme hosted by the division to recognise older persons who have attained the age of one hundred (100) years.</p> <p>The Objectives of the programme are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publicly honour and celebrate centenarians for their life achievements. Recognise and preserve the dignity and autonomy of senior citizens. Encourage family participation in milestone celebrations. 	Older persons	<p>During the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 older persons who attained the age of 100 years were visited during the period and presented with life certificates in recognition of the milestone. 80 family members participated in the milestone celebrations. 	An enhanced quality of life for older persons

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>COMMUNITY-BASED ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME (CEPEP)</p> <p>The CEPEP serves as a key vehicle for advancing community development, workforce empowerment, and environmental enhancement in Tobago. Through its integrated approach, the programme provides structured opportunities for employment, personal development, skills training, and active community participation. In doing so, CEPEP contributes to poverty reduction, strengthens human capital, and supports the sustainable maintenance of public spaces.</p>	<p>Unemployed citizens Communities</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 577 persons (242 males; 335 females;) benefitted from the programme. Additionally, 20 persons graduated from vocational courses as at June 2025 Of the persons employed a total of 31,200 labour hours were completed. 	<p>Safe, clean sustainable communities</p>
<p>TRADE TREK APPRENTICESHIP PILOT PROGRAMME:</p> <p>This initiative is piloted under the PRO-YOUTH programme and is designed to equip 40 unemployed youth in Tobago (ages 16 to 35) with hands-on technical/vocational training and apprenticeship placements over a 2-month period. The programme includes orientation training, mentorship, work experience, and career development support aimed at fostering employability, entrepreneurship, and enrolment in TVET institutions.</p>	<p>Young persons aged 15 to 29 years</p>	<p>For the period October 2024 to June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 58 persons (40 males; 18 females) completed the programme. Of this total, 52 were aged 15 to 24 years and six were aged 25 to 29 years. The 58 graduates represented a 97% completion rate. 40% of apprentices obtained jobs. <p>A performance tracking system was established to follow-up on graduates over a three month, six month and one year period.</p>	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens</p>

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>VOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Vocational Skills Training Programme is one of the flagship programmes in the Division's work plan. This programme has not only facilitated vocational education and training, but has also continually promoted lifelong learning, empowerment, and an entrepreneurial spirit. The programme's primary goal is to promote sustainable communities through skilled-based training and fostering social and economic development by improving Tobago's human capital.</p>	Communities	<p>As at June 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,188 persons enrolled in the programme as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 persons aged 14 years and under (1 male; 13 females); • 192 persons aged 15 to 24 years (57 males; 135 females); • 898 persons aged 25 to 29 years (264 males; 634 females); and, • 84 persons aged 60 years and older (25 males; 59 females). <p>Additionally, steps are being taken to certify five skilled fields under the NESC.</p>	A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens

2026

SOCIAL SECTOR
INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE			
LAKE ASPHALT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: PROJECT HELPING HANDS This is a non-cash project that provides relief to Communities via distribution of hampers and assistance via volunteerism.	Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago	For the period October 2024 to August 2025: Assistance was provided to 3 families and 4 FBOs.	Enhancement in citizens' quality of life.

CHAPTER 4

SOCIAL SECTOR PLANNED INITIATIVES FOR 2026



2026

CHAPTER 4: SOCIAL SECTOR PLANNED INITIATIVES FOR 2026

This chapter details the strategic social sector initiatives planned by Government Ministries and the Tobago House of Assembly (THA) for FY 2026 (October 2025 - September 2026). These programmes directly align with the new National Development Policy's focus on social equity, inclusion, and citizen well-being. They are guided by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 3 (Good Health), SDG 4 (Quality Education), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities). These efforts underscore the GoRTT's firm resolve to prioritise people in development, ensuring that all citizens, particularly the vulnerable, gain equitable access to essential services and opportunities.

for social mobility. Table (VII) below provides a comparison of Budgeted Allocations for Social Infrastructure and Programming for fiscal years 2025 and 2026.

Table VII: Comparison of Budgeted Allocations for Social Infrastructure & Programming – 2025 – 2026

Sector Component	Estimates of Expenditure 2025	Estimates of Expenditure 2026
Social Infrastructure	2,150,083,000	1,757,154,000
• Development Programme	1,085,452,000	936,948,000
• Infrastructure Development Fund	1,064,631,000	820,206,000
Social Programming	9,572,133,300	9,789,726,888
TOTAL ALLOCATION	11,722,216,300	11,546,880,888

Source: Ministry of Finance

The following section outlines major plans to be implemented in FY 2026 by the following Ministries and Agencies:

1. Agriculture, Land and Fisheries;
2. Culture and Community Development;
3. Education;

4. Health;
5. Housing;
6. Labour, Small and Micro Enterprise Development;
7. People, Social Development and Family Services;
8. Public Administration and Artificial Intelligence
9. Public Utilities;
10. Rural Development and Local Government;
11. Sport and Youth Affairs;
12. Tertiary Education and Skills Training; and,
13. The Tobago House of Assembly.

4.1 MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES (MALF)

The MALF is responsible for leading and managing the implementation of policies for the Agricultural Sector in T&T. The MALF is committed to transforming agriculture into a high-value, technology-enabled, export-driven industry capable of feeding the population, generating foreign exchange, creating sustainable jobs, and protecting the environment. The continued advancement of T&T's agricultural sector is a vital element of the nation's development policy, anchored in the vision to make T&T, "a nation that feeds itself." As such, for FY 2026, the MALF will undertake the following:

A. Modernising Farming and Training – Agricultural Technology and Artificial Intelligence Farming

The use of Agricultural Technology (agri-tech) and Artificial Intelligence (ATAI) in farming is a key strategy for modernising the agricultural sector in T&T. The primary objectives of incorporating ATAI into farming include improving efficiency and productivity, enhancing sustainability and resilience and increasing growth and food security. The MALF, in collaboration with the National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation (NAMDEVCO), proposes to implement the following projects in FY 2026:

- **Farm to Table:** One of the main objectives of the Farm to Table project is the development of a Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) programme to train, guide and support local

farmers in adherence to food safety standards and other globally recognised regulations. Through the GAP programme, farmers will be equipped with the knowledge, tools, and practices manner necessary to produce food safely, profitably, and in a manner that protects the environment, supports communities, and opens markets. The programme will also improve buyer relationships and access to high-value export or formal domestic markets, and boost local economies and food security.

- **Farm to Agro-processing project:** This project will employ the methodology developed using satellite imagery, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), and geospatial analytical techniques to estimate crop production for all agricultural areas across T&T. The adoption of this technology will significantly reduce the resources and man-power required to

gather crop production data. Supporting food security and sustainable agricultural growth would enable early threat detection and reduce post-harvest loss rates, providing accurate yield forecasts to aid traders and agribusinesses in anticipating supply, mitigating price volatility, and avoiding gluts or shortages.

- **Construction of a Multi-Purpose Training Facility at the Orange Valley Wholesale Fish Market:** The objective of this project is to provide a state-of-the-art facility to provide training and education with respect to safety practices, standards and processing within the fishing industry. Training is essential for enhancing health and safety, both at sea and on land, upholding quality and food safety standards, adhering to national and international regulations, promoting value-added processing, and ensuring

economic viability and sustainable fisheries management.

- **National Seed Bank Project:** This project aims to introduce solar energy technology to enhance operational efficiency, upgrade the facilities to support increased, high-quality production, disease-free seeds and planting materials (e.g. bodi, hot pepper, pumpkin, pigeon pea, ochro, melongene and corn) to meet production targets. This will ensure that the farming community has access to a wide range of seeds locally, thereby reducing reliance on imported planting material.

B. Export Expansion and Value Added Agriculture:

This project aims to transform the traditionally import-dependent sector into a dynamic, modern, and internationally competitive industry that significantly contributes to

the nation's economic diversification and sustainable development. The MALF, in collaboration with the NAMDEVCO, has proposed the following:

- **Fruit Ripening Facility:** Proposed to be built in Valencia, the facility will facilitate the extension of the shelf-of climacteric commodities, to support sustainability in products locally. Investing broader to reducing and providing the infrastructure required, not only for local farmers but also for the wider Caribbean region, will enable T&T to become a regional food hub, aiming to reduce food losses in line with the World Health Organisation's (WHO) guidelines. Among other things, this project is expected to decrease inflation and the national food importation bill. It will also minimise spoilage, waste and economic losses and improve product shelf life.

4.2 MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (MCCD)

The MCCD is strategically aligned with the GoRTT's vision to build a thriving and diversified nation. Its core mandate is to preserve and promote the nation's cultural identity while empowering communities through inclusive development. By overseeing cultural and artistic activities and targeted community-based programmes, the ministry facilitates social transformation, fosters national pride, and works to ensure equitable access to opportunities for the benefit of every citizen. The ministry's efforts are essential to creating a united and resilient society capable of achieving its full potential. Key initiatives which will be pursued by the ministry for FY 2026 include:

A. Community Development: Empowering Citizens with Skills

The Community Development Division (CDD) will empower citizens and foster sustainable livelihoods through targeted training and education. Its programmes will address the domestic needs of households and provide marketable skills for unemployed and under-employed persons. Accordingly, some of the following initiatives will be pursued:

- **Entrepreneurial (Micro-Enterprise) Management and Development Programme (EMDP):** The programme will focus on providing mentorship to participants to support the development of new micro and small businesses. Participants will benefit from direct interaction with successful entrepreneurs who have expanded their businesses nationally and regionally. The EMDP will also pursue collaboration with

strategic partners for training support and funding.

- **Handicraft Training for Special Students (HATTSS):** As a social outreach mechanism, this programme will use handicraft to enhance the quality of life for vulnerable and at-risk persons. It will facilitate the physical, mental, and social development of individuals who are 'vulnerable' and / or 'at risk'. This includes persons with disabilities, senior citizens, and persons who are incarcerated. Approximately 140 persons are expected to benefit from this programme.

B. Community Recovery: Fostering Resilience and Self- Sufficiency

The Community Recovery Unit (CRU) will empower vulnerable populations through targeted skill-building and leadership

development. These initiatives will be strategically designed to foster economic independence, promote healthy living, and build more resilient communities across the nation.

- **Grow It Yourself Kitchen Challenge:** This initiative will engage 500 participants (youth, schools, and communities) in food cultivation and healthy living. By promoting kitchen gardens, the programme will help citizens become more self-sufficient, fostering a strong connection to local food systems and directly contributing to the nation's food security.

C. Community Mediation Services: Fostering Conflict Resolution and Social Cohesion

The Community Mediation Services Programme (CMSP) will serve as a vital tool for promoting

proactive conflict resolution and positive behaviour change within local communities. By focusing on building relationships and encouraging mutual accountability, the programme will aim to create more resilient and harmonious communities.

- **Mobile Mediation Unit (MMU):** For FY 2026, the MMU will expand its national outreach to increase school and community visits in vulnerable areas. The unit will offer on-the-spot counselling and information booths in high-traffic zones to improve accessibility and address conflicts before they escalate.
- **Restorative Practice Programme (Pilot):** The ministry will pilot a Restorative Practice Programme in selected schools and communities. This transformative approach to discipline will focus on empathy and communication over punitive measures

and will seek to foster more inclusive and empowering environments for participants.

D. Building Human Capital in Communities

The ministry will implement two key capital expenditure programmes focused on enhancing employability and strengthening communities, which are vital for social development.

- **EPOS Community Youth Lead Programme:** This initiative will target 150 youth aged 21 to 35, focusing on employability, entrepreneurship, and crime prevention in vulnerable communities. The programme is designed to equip young people with the skills and mindset needed to become positive leaders and economic contributors.

4.3 MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (MoE)

The MoE is currently undertaking a comprehensive transformation to modernise the national education system. Guided by principles of inclusion, equity, and digital innovation, the ministry's agenda is designed to be highly responsive to the needs of all learners, parents, and stakeholders. By focusing on evidence-based decision-making, the MoE has initiated a series of major projects and programmes that are already delivering significant impact across the country. The central goal of these efforts is to build a future-ready education system that is accessible, relevant, and resilient in a rapidly changing world.

A. Digital Transformation of the Education System

The MoE is committed to advancing the digital transformation of the education system, a vital step toward creating a modern, 21st-century education landscape that embraces innovation and technology. The ministry's strategy focuses on enhancing infrastructure, providing essential tools, and building digital capacity across the sector to prepare students and educators for the future. To ensure the sustainability and success of this digital shift, the ministry will implement several key initiatives:

- **Acquisition and Delivery of Laptops:**

The MoE will provide approximately 18,000 laptops to Form One students and 3,000 to teachers in FY 2026. This initiative will support blended and online learning, helping to establish a modern, 21st-century education system.

- **ICT Training:** The MoE will launch an ICT training programme for teachers, focusing on digital literacy and foundational ICT. Furthermore, via its Digital Learning Webinar Series educators will be introduced to the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the classroom, in alignment with the UNESCO AI Competency Framework.
- **AI Math Project:** This project will provide specialised training for mathematics teachers, empowering them to use AI-powered tools to enhance student engagement and improve academic performance. Approximately 600 teachers will be impacted through the training workshops.
- **ICT Infrastructure Upgrade:** The ministry will procure and implement new ICT infrastructure to ensure network reliability, bolster data security, and prevent data loss with the MoE. This will strengthen the

ministry's operational capacity and improve service delivery.

- **Digital Education Programme:** The MoE will launch a comprehensive programme to modernise classrooms, including the development of an eBook platform to provide electronic textbooks. This will promote digital literacy, reduce the reliance on heavy schoolbags and make learning more interactive and accessible.
- **School Learning Management System (SLMS):** The ministry will enhance and integrate the SLMS to streamline online learning and support real-time progress tracking. Additionally, the eLearnTT content management platform will be rolled out to provide students with access to virtual classrooms and open educational resources to improve student outcomes and reduce dropout rates.

B. Expanding Access for Lifelong Learning:

- **Continuing Education:** The part-time programme of Continuing Education and Training will offer free tuition to adults without O'Level / CSEC qualifications or those seeking academic improvement. This initiative will expand equitable access to education and promote digital literacy while providing greater opportunities for lifelong learning.

C. Building Capacity for Effective School Leadership

The MoE is focused on building the capacity of its educators to ensure a supportive learning environment for all students. To achieve these objectives, some key initiatives are outlined below:

- **Mental Health Training:** In collaboration with key stakeholders, the ministry will introduce a self-paced online training programme to boost mental health literacy among educators, staff, and parents. This initiative aims to improve academic performance and attendance by supporting the mental and emotional well-being of students.
- **Master Principal Initiative:** This national leadership development programme will build the capacity of school administrators. Principals with successful remediation programmes will share strategies with peers to strengthen leadership and evidence-based decision-making. This initiative will be complemented by ongoing training for school administrators to foster inclusive school environments and improve student outcomes.

- **Teacher Induction and Onboarding:** A year-long hybrid Teacher Induction Project will build the competence of early career teachers in instructional design and classroom management. The goal is to reduce attrition and promote stability in schools, especially in underserved communities.
- **Screening Training:** The ministry will introduce a training programme to empower teachers and parents of Infants One and Two with the skills to identify and support the diverse needs of young learners. This will facilitate early interventions and strengthen school-family partnerships.
- **Annual Literacy and Numeracy Series (ALaNS):** The ALaNS is a key remediation initiative designed to improve national academic performance. The programme will identify learning gaps through assessments and deliver targeted, high-quality training

to educators. To ensure a holistic approach, ALaNS will also feature dedicated webinars for parents, fostering community involvement and encouraging home-based learning to improve academic performance.

D. Strengthening School Governance and Security

The ministry is implementing initiatives to enhance school performance and ensure a safe and secure environment for students and staff. Key initiatives are outlined below:

- **School Priority Project:** In seeking to improve school performance, the MoE has identified 56 priority secondary schools for a comprehensive intervention. A proposed committee will oversee strategies to raise student achievement, improve behaviour and attendance, strengthen school governance

and leadership and promote the ethical use of educational technology and AI.

- **School Police Officers Training:** A specialised training programme will be developed to equip police officers with the skills needed to operate effectively within a school environment. This initiative aims to foster positive relationships with both students and staff, promote school safety and reduce incidents of violence and disruption in schools.

E. Strengthening Academic and Learning Support

The MoE is committed to enhancing student success and educational outcomes through targeted curricular support and strategic academic initiatives. The following key initiatives are designed to improve academic performance, ease key transitions, and equip

students with essential skills for future success.

- **Spanish as the First Foreign Language (SAFFL) Programme:** The SAFFL Programme will be a national initiative to integrate Spanish as the primary foreign language in schools. This programme, supported by Spanish e-Book resources, will equip students with linguistic and cultural competence, enhance communication skills, and broaden future academic and professional opportunities.
- **Pathways to Progress:** This programme will target underperforming Form One students by introducing a progression model that aligns learning with student interests. By offering flexible, structured electives, the programme will build confidence, foster curiosity, and improve academic performance, which will ultimately increase employability and national productivity.

4.4 MINISTRY OF HEALTH (MoH)

In line with its national mandate, the MoH will advance a comprehensive healthcare reform agenda for the period 2025 to 2030. The ministry will focus on modernising the health sector, strengthening service delivery, and deepening governance. Guided by the principles of equity, accessibility, and resilience, these reforms aim to improve the health status of the population of T&T. Central to this vision is the delivery of high-quality, people-centred healthcare services that are responsive to both current and emerging health challenges. By doing so, the ministry seeks to safeguard the well-being of all citizens and ensure that health institutions remain adaptable, inclusive, and capable of meeting the needs of future generations. Key

initiatives which will be pursued by the ministry for FY 2026 include:

A. Strengthening Oral Healthcare Services

The MoH is addressing longstanding challenges in oral health care by revitalising dental services at Health Centres. This project will restore clinical capacity and modernise service delivery across the public system by procuring new dental equipment. With implementation at 37 primary healthcare facilities across the four Regional Health Authorities in Trinidad, this initiative will significantly expand access to oral health services, especially in underserved communities.

B. Advancing a Digital Health Strategy

The MoH will continue to pursue the digital transformation of the health sector, which is central to building a modern, resilient, and people-centred health system. This strategic approach will be supported by robust data protection and cybersecurity measures, ensuring sensitive health information is safeguarded. By streamlining processes and enhancing interconnectivity, these initiatives will deliver greater equity, efficiency, and responsiveness in healthcare service delivery. Key initiatives under this plan include:

- **Establishing the Inter-RHA Network:** The Tobago Regional Health Authority (TRHA) will be integrated into the Wide Area Network (WAN). This crucial link will facilitate seamless data exchange between institutions and

support the national rollout of Electronic Prescription (e-Prescription) services.

- **Improving System Interconnectivity:** The ministry will integrate key systems, including the Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS) and the Laboratory Information System (LIS). This ensures that patient imaging and laboratory results are instantly accessible across all facilities.
- **Developing a Laboratory Information Network:** This network is being developed to enable real-time sharing of results across all four RHAs, significantly reducing delays and improving the continuity and quality of patient care.

C. Strengthening Cybersecurity and Resilience

To ensure system reliability, the ministry will complete Phase 2 of security upgrades in 2026. This includes acquiring backup hardware and software and commissioning new solutions. Additionally, disaster recovery upgrades will commence in 2026 to improve system recovery times and data integrity across all Regional Health Authorities (RHAs). Concurrently, the digitalisation of health records is being accelerated through the acquisition of new equipment. This will reduce backlogs and ensure faster, more efficient service delivery for patients.

D. Health Information Systems and National Health ID

The ministry will continue to advance a comprehensive Health Information System

(HIS) at the Eastern Regional Health Authority (ERHA). Concurrently, a National Health ID solution will continue being developed. This solution will provide every citizen with a secure, unique identifier, which will improve patient tracking and continuity of care across the entire health system.

E. Strengthening Mental Health Services and Support

The MoH will advance its mental health reform agenda through a Comprehensive National Mental Health Implementation Plan. This strategic plan will provide the framework to improve service access, enhance patient care, and fully integrate mental health into routine health delivery systems across the nation. The plan's goals will be achieved through:

- **Expanding Service Access:** The ministry will embed mental health services across

all public health facilities, directly reducing barriers to care and ensuring wider, equitable availability for all citizens.

- **A National Mental Health Awareness Campaign:** The ministry will launch a comprehensive National Mental Health Awareness Campaign to actively reduce stigma, raise public awareness of mental health issues, and inform citizens of accessible support services offered by the ministry.

F. Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)

The MoH is intensifying its response to the growing burden of NCDs, which are a leading cause of illness and death in T&T. For FY 2026, the ministry will strengthen primary healthcare, expand preventative education, and improve

treatment capacity for chronic illnesses. The ministry will launch the following initiatives:

- **Comprehensive Assessment:** A full assessment of community-based and home-care services to ensure health centres have the necessary staff, equipment, and resources for effective NCD screening and treatment.
- **National Health and Wellness Plan:** Collaboration with educational and research institutions to develop a national plan that makes preventative care a cornerstone of health policy.
- **WHO Acceleration Plan:** Implementation of the WHO Acceleration Plan to STOP Obesity, which includes public education campaigns, school-based physical activity programmes, and the expansion of the TT Moves Junior NCD Academies.

Box 5: Policy Initiatives for the Ministry of Health for FY 2026

- Development & implementation of the MoH's Strategic Plan 2026-2030
- National Policy for the Prevention, Management and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) 2026-2030
- Updated National Alcohol Policy
- Maternal and Child Health Policy
- Policy and Guidelines for the External Patient Programme
- Updated National Oral Health Policy
- Climate Change & Health Policy
- Healthy Ageing Policy
- National Medicines Policy
- Policy for the Management, Control and Regulation of Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals
- Adverse Events Policy
- Medical Records Policies and Procedures Manual

4.5 MINISTRY OF HOUSING (MoHo)

The MoHo is responsible for the formulation and execution of the GoRTT's policy in the Housing sector. The ministry operates as a facilitator in the implementation of those policies through its various units and affiliated agencies and aligns with UN Sustainable Development Goal 11 - "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable". It focuses strategically on the delivery of safe, government-subsidised housing, urban development, the regularisation of tenure for squatter communities, and the provision of home improvement grants and subsidies. The MoHo, through its various agencies, will pursue the following for FY 2026:

A. East Port of Spain Development Company Limited (EPOS)

The East Port of Spain Development Company Limited (EPOS) will continue to advance its mandate to transform communities through the upgrade and development of both physical and social infrastructures via economic and social interventions. For FY 2026, the EPOS will pursue the following:

- **Community Enhancement and Emergency Relief Projects:** The EPOS will continue its small-scale emergency relief efforts to build resilience and create sustainability within the various communities. Projects are aligned with SDG 6 which seeks to “ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.” Among its key projects for FY 2026 is implementation of Phases 15 -16 of its Latrine Eradication Project. This would,

“ensure access to equitable sanitation and hygiene for all ...paying special attention to the needs of women and girls” in keeping with SDG 6.2.

- **Heritage and Culture Projects:** Via these projects, the EPOS proposes to refurbish three (3) Pan Theatres. In keeping with SDG 11.4, these initiatives will “strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard cultural and natural heritage” within the respective communities.
- **Sports, Recreation and Community Facilities:** For FY 2026, the EPOS will implement 12 projects to expand recreational and community facilities. These projects intend to provide a safe, positive environment for children, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities. By serving as venues for inclusive and equitable quality education, these facilities will promote lifelong learning opportunities as outlined in SDG 4.

- **Social and Economic Programme for EPOS:** The company plans to implement 15 key projects spanning infrastructure, social, and economic development. These projects will transform the lives of approximately 30,000 residents. The projects will provide several benefits including, job creation, improved access to essential services and enhanced public safety.

B. The Trinidad and Tobago Housing Development Corporation Facilities and Estate Management Company Limited (FEMCoL)

- **Infrastructure Modernisation and Preventative Maintenance:** This first phase of FEMCoL's five-year investment strategy will target 125 of the 459 HDC-managed developments, directly impacting

approximately 15,000 families. The works will include structural rehabilitation, fire safety upgrades, waterproofing, and energy efficiency improvements, all aimed at extending the lifespan of the public housing infrastructure and reducing long-term maintenance costs. These strategic investments will not only improve resident safety, accessibility, and quality of life but will also stimulate local economies by creating jobs and supporting small contractors.

- **Community Governance, Engagement, and Compliance Support:** FEMCoL will implement community engagement and compliance support measures across all 459 HDC developments, with a focus on strengthening resident governance and community collaboration. This will include administration over 54 HDC-led management companies and providing necessary training

to residents. The objective of this initiative is to strengthen partnerships with local government and public agencies, foster social cohesion, and promote a culture of shared responsibility, leading to safer, more liveable, and self-sustaining housing environments.

4.6 THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, SMALL AND MICRO- ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT (MLSMED)

The MLSMED plays a pivotal role in advancing the GoRTT's vision of inclusive growth, social equity, and national resilience. The ministry's work is strategically aligned with SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), making it central to promoting decent work, safeguarding workers'

rights, and fostering equal opportunity. In the previous fiscal period, the ministry intensified its efforts to maintain industrial peace and expand opportunities for vulnerable groups within the labour market.

Box 6: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Labour, Small and Micro-Enterprise Development

Research:

- National Baseline Survey on Micro and Small Enterprises: The National Baseline Survey on MSEs will provide critical data on the demographics, distribution and developmental stages of MSEs across both the formal and informal sectors.
- Determination and Impact of the Minimum Wage Level on the Economy: This project aims to establish a system to review, determine and monitor the minimum wage in T&T. It is essential groundwork for the creation of a living wage,

one of the commitments of the Workers' Agenda actively being pursued by the Ministry.

- Development of a Modernised Labour Market Information System: Once developed, the System will determine employers' unfulfilled demand for labour and estimate other indicators relative to the Job Vacancy Rate. In FY 2026, the MLSMED plans to undertake job vacancy surveys within the public sector, focusing on the protective services, municipal corporations and regional health authorities. A survey on the informal sector will also be conducted to determine the prevalence and constraints to its formalisations.

Policy:

- Development of a Strategic Plan for the MLSMED 2026-2030: The Strategic Plan is expected to effectively identify the MLSMED'S goals and objectives in alignment with the GoRTT's strategic direction. It will guide the implementation of policies, programmes and projects that seek to achieve these goals and objectives over the prescribed timeframe.

During FY 2026, the MLSMED will pursue the following:

A. Business Accelerator Programme

This programme aims to strengthen the capacity and resilience of micro and small enterprises by supporting entrepreneurs through the full business cycle, from conceptualisation to commercialisation. By enhancing access to technical support, market opportunities, and professional guidance, the programme promotes sustainability and competitiveness within the MSE sector. The programme's activities will include client screening and selection, outreach and workshops, targeted marketing, and the engagement of subject matter experts. This initiative will contribute to economic diversification while expanding

entrepreneurial opportunities and fostering innovation among citizens.

B. Disability is Not Inability: Fostering Workplace Inclusion and Empowerment

The MLSMED will continue to champion inclusive development through the Disability ≠ Inability project, which will work to dismantle barriers limiting the participation of persons with disabilities in the labour market. This initiative will directly support the GoRTT's policy of social justice and equal opportunity by creating a more inclusive environment for persons with disabilities to secure decent work. In FY 2026, the ministry will implement key interventions to promote workplace inclusion. These will include a National Stakeholder Consultation, staff training, and a new national award to recognise exemplary inclusive employers.

Public education and sensitisation campaigns will also be launched to shift societal attitudes and build a more equitable and compassionate labour market.

C. HIV Workplace Advocacy Mobile App

The HIV Workplace Advocacy Mobile App will serve as a comprehensive resource platform with information on HIV, legal rights, healthcare tips and supportive organisations. The main goal of this app is to provide a confidential, anonymous platform to promote awareness and education through interactive and virtual workshops. The App will connect users with local healthcare providers, peer support networks and mental health service in alignment with the GoRTT's official policy framework.

D. Junior Achievement Initiative 2026–2028

The Junior Achievement Initiative (2026–2028) will expose students at the primary and secondary levels to key concepts in entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and innovation. By instilling these skills at an early age, it is anticipated that the next generation of business leaders will be equipped with the confidence and tools to become active participants in the economy. This initiative fosters a culture of self-reliance and community building, directly addressing youth unemployment by providing a clear pathway for young people to contribute to national development. By empowering young people to become entrepreneurs and innovators, the programme intends to support social mobility.

E. Youth Entrepreneurship Hub (YEH)

The YEH initiative is designed to foster sustainable environments for young entrepreneurs between the ages of 18 and 35. The initiative focuses on providing connections with service providers at the local, regional, and international levels and will also provide physical hubs that offer co-working spaces, Wi Fi, discounted services and access to entrepreneurial resources and referrals. Its core objectives include the promotion of business registration and sustainability and reduction in youth unemployment. The programme creates opportunities for young professionals and entrepreneurs, directly supports economic diversification and fulfils the government's commitment to investing in youth innovation and skill development.

Box 7: Legislative Agenda for the Ministry of Labour, Small and Micro- Enterprise Development

- Employment Standards Bill
- Industrial Relations Act, Chapter 88:01 (Amendment) Bill
- Retrenchment and Severance Benefits Act (Amendment) Bill
- Workmen's Compensation Act, Chapter 88:05

4.7 MINISTRY OF THE PEOPLE, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES (MPSDFS)

The MPSDFS remains the lead arm of Government in delivering comprehensive social protection to T&T's most vulnerable citizens in alignment with the National Development

Policy and the United Nations SDGs. With an expanded mandate now including Gender and Child Affairs, the ministry continues to protect the rights and improve the well-being of older persons, persons with disabilities, socially displaced individuals, children, families in crisis, and victims of violence.

A. Facilitating Innovative Measures Through ICT Solutions

As the ministry aims to expand its technology platform and ecosystem for better service delivery, its existing ICT initiatives will continue. These include a digital archiving project to convert its significant client files into digital format as part of the Integrated Social Enterprise Management System (ISEMS). The MPSDFS will also continue its development of the Social Benefits Wallet which seeks to streamline the distribution of social benefits

through a personalised digital wallet. In addition to the existing initiatives, the following will be undertaken in the FY 2026 towards the modernisation of the ministry's ICT operations.

- **MPSDFS Enterprise Business Continuity Solution:** This project ensures business continuity, backup, and disaster recovery for all critical systems within the ministry. Once implemented, this business solution will ensure that the ministry's sensitive data is protected from loss or cyber threats, thereby ensuring uninterrupted support for citizens.
- **Website and Online Recruitment Portal Development:** The MPSDFS will commence development of a new main website and a job recruitment portal to enhance access to its services and public information. This online presence is designed to serve clients 24/7 and reduce the need for in-person interfaces.

B. Caring for the Socially Displaced, Persons with Disabilities, and Other Vulnerable Individuals and Groups

- **Strengthening the Social Protection System:** The ministry will continue to update the existing poverty thresholds with a view to revising its SMT. This will allow for the fair and transparent allocation of social grants, in keeping with the present realities of vulnerable households.
- **Parenting and Suicide Prevention Workshops:** Spearheaded by the NFSD, these workshops, which are delivered both virtually and in person, aim to build positive parenting skills, strengthen family relationships, and promote non-violent, developmentally supportive parenting practices. Additionally, the NFSD will train 50 Family Service Social Workers in parenting

education and counselling and launch a new series of workshops focused on educating the public about suicide prevention. The new series is designed to raise national awareness about mental health challenges and equip communities with the knowledge and tools needed to address suicide risks effectively.

- **In the Know – On the Go:** Train the Trainer Sessions: This initiative will equip 100 frontline workers and community leaders with the skills and resources to independently deliver child abuse prevention education within their constituencies. The programme will feature training in child protection laws, abuse identification, and response pathways; techniques for community mobilisation and interactive facilitation and tools for monitoring and impact tracking.
- **Caregiver Training and Development:** This is a national capacity-building initiative to

strengthen the skills of 200 caregivers in areas such as child rights, protection and mental health, in alignment with the National Child Policy (2020–2030) and the United Nations Child Rights Convention (UNCRC). The programme will provide user-friendly guides and practical tools to improve care quality. The initiative is expected to foster safer, more nurturing environments for children at home, in schools, and in communities.

- **Establishment of an Inclusive Sporting Arena for Persons with Disabilities in T&T:** This initiative proposes the development of a universally accessible sporting complex tailored to meet the diverse needs of persons with disabilities such as athletes, spectators, staff, and volunteers. This arena is expected to strengthen national inclusion goals by supporting competitive engagement and community participation. It will also be a key

venue for Special Olympics T&T, promoting physical health and social cohesion among persons with disabilities.

- **Construction of Houses for Persons with Disabilities:** This initiative aims to construct 60 low-cost, universally designed housing units for persons with disabilities. The construction of these housing units promotes dignity, stability, and security for individuals and families with disabilities, improving quality of life and enhancing social integration.

C. Facilities for Children:

In FY 2026, the CATT intends to undertake the following infrastructural development activities that represent a critical investment in strengthening the continuum of care; enhancing outcomes for children and families;

and reinforcing the Authority's leadership role in child protection:

- Acquire and retrofit four (4) residences to serve as Reception Centres in Trinidad.
- Refurbish and Upgrade South Regional Office and Assessment Centre (SROAC) & Chaguanas Assessment Centre (CAC) & car park to address maintenance issues and improve functionality.
- Upgrade facilities at Assessment Centres to meet operational needs and align with the CATT Workplace Charter.
- Physical Infrastructure Upgrades - Enhance building security; ensure compliance and provide facilities that allow ease of access for persons with disabilities.

Box 8: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of the People, Social Development and Family Services

The following major policy and research projects will be undertaken by the Ministry during FY 2026:

- **Development of a Shock Responsive Social Protection Policy:** The policy will ensure timely, predictable and equitable support during natural and other disasters. It will serve to better align our social protection system with disaster risk management and build resilience for the most vulnerable households.
- **Operationalisation of the Integrated Social Indicator Registry of T&T** (formerly National Register for Vulnerable Persons for T&T).
- **Development and implementation of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy (NPRS) for T&T.**

4.8 MINISTRY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (MPAAI)

The MPAAI was established in May 2025 through the merger of the former Ministry of Public Administration and Ministry of Digital Transformation. This strategic move reflects the GoRTT's recognition of the critical link between modernising public institutions and advancing digital capabilities to create a more efficient, inclusive, and citizen-centred public service. Aligned with the National Policy Framework and Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals, the MPAAI's core mission is to transform the public sector by modernising its systems, expanding digital access, and improving the delivery of services.

A. Enhanced Service Delivery

To ensure effective and citizen-centric governance, the ministry will implement two key strategic frameworks focused on enhancing public service operations and delivery.

- **Service Delivery Policy Framework:** In FY 2026, the GoRTT will implement a new framework for public service delivery. Based on human-centred design and e-services, this framework will ensure that all government services, including social benefits, are consistent, convenient, easy to use, and reliable across all delivery channels.
- **Framework for Public Sector Modernisation (2025-2030):** This new framework will focus on service delivery and process re-engineering, supported by an enhanced Government Performance Management System. The goal is to modernise the Public Service for the 21st

Century, ensuring a more skilled and certified public service and delivering improved service outcomes for all citizens.

B. Digital Service Delivery Framework

The ministry will advance initiatives to build national digital resilience, promote financial inclusion, and create high-value employment opportunities, directly benefiting the social sector through job creation and enhanced security.

- **Cybersecurity Workforce Development Programme (CWDP):** This pilot initiative will address the critical shortage of cybersecurity professionals by training participants to meet international industry standards. The programme will assess the local job market to ensure training is aligned with employer demand, thereby delivering benefits such

as: Job Creation and Career Growth for local talent; Enhanced National Security and Digital Resilience; Strong foundation for a Sustainable Talent Pipeline; and Stronger Industry-Education Partnerships.

- **Digital Government Solutions and Services (Less Cash):** This initiative will establish a robust, real-time, and interoperable digital payment system, modelled on India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI). The goals are to promote financial inclusion and reduce dependency on cash by supporting: Person-to-Person (P2P) Transactions - simplifying everyday payments; Person-to-Merchant (P2M) Transactions - enabling instant payments to businesses and Government-to-Person (G2P) Transactions - facilitating the direct, transparent, and efficient distribution of government benefits and social grants.

4.9 MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

A. Service Delivery:

- **Service Delivery Enhancement Initiative:** For FY 2026, the ministry will be implementing a Service Delivery Enhancement Initiative (SDEI) aimed at improving the ministry's customer service and interactions with members of the public. The initiative seeks to strengthen trust, build confidence, and improve service delivery by building the skills and capacity of the ministry's staff to deliver quality service and respond effectively to customer concerns. It will also help citizens better understand their rights when accessing services.
- **Service Delivery Monitoring Framework:** The framework will create a system for gradual

improvements to service delivery and will be aimed at enhancing accountability, coordination, and performance monitoring across the ministry and its Agencies. It aims to identify key service deliverables and agree on performance indicators for these services. This framework seeks to promote greater clarity around response timelines, escalation protocols, and performance expectations.

B. Improvement Works to Major Water Treatment Plants (WTPs):

Works are proposed to refurbish water treatment plants at the Caroni, Courland, Maraval, Carlsen Field (Ravine Sable) as well as the commencement of the two (2) new Packaged WTPs at Arouca and Sangre Grande. The refurbishment works will improve the reliability of service, sustain production levels, and achieve the minimum service standard

of 24/3 water supply to over 42,400 persons. 12,000 persons will be provided with a minimum service of 24/4. The two (2) new Packaged Treatment Plants will improve the level of service to approximately 19,900 residents in their respective supply zones.

4.10 MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MRDLG)

A. Disaster Management

The MRDLG, through its Disaster Management Units (DMUs), remains committed to strengthening national resilience through a comprehensive disaster preparedness programme. In FY 2026, this commitment continues with targeted projects and initiatives

across all 14 Municipal Corporations, focusing on public awareness, capacity-building, and emergency response equipment.

- **Public Education and Awareness:** Public education, especially in schools, remains a key priority. DMUs will conduct outreach in primary and secondary schools to promote hazard awareness and safe practices during emergencies. These efforts aim to foster a culture of preparedness, reduce disaster-related losses, and build long-term risk awareness within communities.
- **Emergency Equipment Procurement:** To enhance emergency response capacity, the ministry proposes to acquire essential equipment. These include 100 Community Flood Early Warning System (CFEWS) cameras for flood monitoring; eight rescue boats; and two lowboy trailers for hauling heavy vehicles and large generators.

- **Community-Based Training:** The Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) programme will be expanded in FY 2026 to include simulation exercises. This will build hands-on skills in emergency coordination and strengthen volunteer capacity in rural communities.
- **Shelter and Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) Training:** Training in Shelter Management and EOC protocols will also be conducted to improve shelter operations, strengthen coordination, and ensure timely and efficient responses during emergencies.

B. Digital Transformation

- **Local TT:** The ministry is seeking to develop a more robust mobile-centric platform for both Internal staff, temporarily branded as 'LocalMC' and external (public) users, temporarily branded as 'LocalTT. The

platforms will allow for real-time data collection and seamless complaint tracking and resolution. Consequently, citizens will benefit from more responsive and transparent local governance, improved service accessibility, better civic engagement, and reporting.

4.11 MINISTRY OF SPORT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS (MSYA)

The MSYA plays a critical role in the nation's development by guiding and investing in sport, recreation, and youth. The ministry's core mandate is to promote the holistic growth of the sports sector, drive policies that support skills development and leadership, and maintain national infrastructure for youth and sport initiatives. Through its dedicated divisions

and entities, the MSYA implements a range of programmes and projects guided by the National Policy on Sport (2017-2027) and the National Youth Policy 2020-2025, all of which contribute to the country's economic growth, social well-being, and national identity.

A. Youth Empowerment

The MYSA will make a deliberate and strategic investment in youth empowerment by implementing new, high-demand skills training programmes. These initiatives are designed to address critical gaps in youth employability, support economic diversification, and ensure that young people are equipped to contribute meaningfully to the nation's technological and economic advancement. The following are key initiatives to be implemented in FY 2026.

1. Construction Sector Skills Training:

The Construction Sector Skills Training initiative offers technical and vocational programmes to equip young people with certifiable skills for immediate employment and entrepreneurship within the construction industry.

- **Skills Certification for Young Entrepreneurs:** This programme (formerly known as PLAR) will assess, document, and certify the prior learning of youth in technical and vocational areas, allowing them to gain official recognition and advance their careers. The ministry intends to certify approximately 150 youths aged 18 to 35.
- **Training for All-Round Plumbing Skills (TAPS):** This course will train 100 participants in onshore pipeline design, fabrication, construction, and maintenance, producing

certified entry-level workers who adhere to industry standards (CVQ Levels 1, 2, and 3).

- **SPARK (Electrical and Wireman's Training):** This initiative is a three-tiered programme providing basic electrical installation, supplementary instruction, and preparation for the national Wireman Examination.

2. Energy Sector Skills Training:

This programme will improve efficiency and create a more sustainable future by equipping individuals with highly specialised skills:

- **Drill Rig Operator (DROP):** This programme will impart essential knowledge and skills for the safe and effective operation of foundation drilling rigs. Approximately 80 participants will benefit from training in drilling rig

operations and safety management (NESC Certificate of Completion).

- **Industrial Maintenance Apprenticeship Programme (IMAP):** Targeting young nationals aged 18 to 35, this programme provides technical training and hands-on experience in industrial maintenance, electrical, mechanical engineering, and welding technology (CVQ Levels 1, 2, and 3).
- **Tower Crane Operations:** This programme provides comprehensive theoretical and practical training for careers as proficient tower crane operators, enhancing youth employability and supporting their transition into adulthood (CVQ Levels 1, 2, and 3).
- **Maritime Operations:** This training stream is designed to build local capacity and provide youth with access to viable careers within the marine industry.

Cultivating Skills for the Digital Future: In response to the growing demand for specialised, digital capabilities, the ministry also proposes:

- **Tech Skills for the 21st Century:** The introduction of new training streams focused on Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and digital innovation. This training will equip individuals with the digital literacy and technical skills necessary to thrive in the rapidly evolving technological landscape, boosting both individual and national competitiveness.

B. Sporting Facilities

In its effort to encourage ongoing participation in sport, the MSYA will continue refurbishment works to several sport facilities, recreation grounds, parks, swimming pools and multi-purpose stadia.

- **Upgrade and Rehabilitation of Former Caroni Sport Facilities:** In alignment with its strategic goals, which includes provision of modern state-of-the-art sport facilities, the ministry propose to undertake refurbishment and upgrading works to the Sevilla, and Ste. Madeline sports facilities. These facilities will complement the ministry's existing sport plan as they offer several disciplines including golf, tennis and swimming to Central and South Eastern Trinidad.
- **Upgrading of Recreation Grounds, Parks and Corporation Grounds:** The MYSA will develop and upgrade several facilities and grounds in communities across the country. This is a key strategy in achieving the GoRTT's national policy objective for developing a fit and healthy nation through sport and recreation. During FY 2026, works will be

undertaken at 55 community recreation grounds across the country.

- **Upgrade of Multi-Purpose Stadia:** The ministry continues to pursue its strategic thrust to develop potential athletes for competitions at the national and international levels, provide the country's athletes with modern, user friendly facilities and encourage sport tourism. In this regard, the MYSA proposes to continue developmental works at the Jean Pierre Complex, and the following stadia: Hasley Crawford, Larry Gomes, Mannie Ramjohn and Ato Boldon.

4.12 MINISTRY OF TERTIARY EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING (MTEST)

The MTEST is responsible for shaping and overseeing the development of the national tertiary education and skills training ecosystem. The ministry, created in May 2025 with the installation of the new administration, has the mission to develop and maintain a high-quality tertiary education and skills training system that is accessible, relevant and responsive to economic and societal needs. This will serve to empower individuals to contribute effectively to national development. Its main objective is to provide accessible, high-quality education and training opportunities that align with labour market needs, promote social mobility, ensure quality and support innovation and

workforce readiness. For FY 2026, the MTEST will pursue the following initiatives via the various institutions under its remit.

A. Advancing Tertiary Education

- **Capacity Building in Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics:** The initiative will deliver short courses and certifications in AI, data ethics and other technological training at the UTT. The initiative is intended to build national digital capacity, improve public service delivery and support emerging employment opportunities in technology.
- **College of Science Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT) HealthEd Hub:** This proposed initiative seeks to establish an integrated health and education facility at COSTAATT's campus in Chaguanas. Designed on the teaching hospital model, the project aims to

offer aftercare and medical outpatient care services for national and regional markets while providing opportunities for healthcare trainees to gain experience from expert practitioners.

B. Advancing On-the-Job Training (OJT) for Workforce Development

The On-the-Job Training Programme will implement several enhancements to improve its effectiveness, better align with labour market demands, and strengthen its contribution to national workforce development. These include:

- **Reviewing Eligibility Criteria:** A comprehensive review of eligibility guidelines will ensure that training opportunities remain relevant and accessible, while maintaining high standards for all participants.

- **Standardising Job Descriptions:** The programme will align trainee positions with occupational standards to enable consistent performance monitoring and support the certification of competencies gained during training.
- **Expanding Private Sector Engagement:** A targeted strategy will engage private sectors experiencing labour shortages. This will expand opportunities for young graduates and better match them to available placements.

C. STEM Initiatives

- **Teen TVET:** Vacation Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Hybrid Programme: This proposed initiative aims to introduce secondary school students to TVET through a hybrid-format STEM programme. The programme will be delivered during the

July-August vacation period and is designed as an immersive orientation to key TVET areas.

- **FIRST® Tech Challenge:** The National Institute for Higher Education, Research Science and Technology (NIHERST) will implement the FIRST® Tech Challenge as its new national robotics flagship initiative for students aged 12–18. This programme will foster innovation, problem-solving, and entrepreneurship, ensuring continuity in national robotics competitions and preparing youth for future-of-work demands.
- **NASA International Internship:** NIHERST will actively seek to re-engage with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for its prestigious International Internship Programme. This initiative will support tertiary-level students' participation in advanced STEM research, promoting global scientific exposure and

building national capacity in key areas like aerospace, AI, and climate science.

- **Enhancing Agriculture Through Technology:** In collaboration with the UTT, NIHERST will establish a container-based vertical farm to introduce advanced agritechnologies to students, farmers, and entrepreneurs. The project will promote sustainable food production, rural empowerment, and climate resilience.
- **Resilient TnT:** This Green Fund-supported initiative will focus on community-based climate adaptation through environmental education, rainwater harvesting, and climate data collection. The project will build community resilience to climate-related risks and support the integration of community-sourced data into national planning.

Box: 9: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training

- **Development of a National TVET Policy and Implementation Plan:** This policy under the purview of the National Training Agency will provide strategic guidance, improve coordination and enhance quality across the TVET sector. It will establish national standards for curricula and certification, create inclusive mechanisms for stakeholder collaboration and promote TVET as equivalent to traditional academic pathways.

4.13 TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY (THA)

In June 2025, the THA unveiled its FY 2026 Budget under the theme “Accelerating Growth; Anchoring Fiscal Stability.” This budget outlines

the Assembly's commitment to driving economic activity and sustainable growth through key investments in several sectors. These include education and training, tourism and the creative industries, agriculture, digital technologies, human capital development, and the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) sector. These initiatives are directly aligned with several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically Goal 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), Goal 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), and Goal 4 (Quality Education). Taken together, these measures are designed to transform Tobago's development trajectory and advance its vision of becoming "The Greatest Little Island on the Planet." During FY 2026, the THA will pursue the following:

A. Agriculture

The THA is making strategic investments in agriculture to strengthen food security, improve livelihoods, and build a more resilient farming sector. Key initiatives under this plan include:

- **Farm-to-Market Connectivity:** Under the Agricultural Access Road Programme the THA is projected to open 15 new access roads to improve connectivity to farmlands. By opening new roads and enhancing drainage, this initiative enables more timely harvests and increases profitability for farmers, while also supporting food security and agricultural resilience.
- **Support for Fisheries:** Ongoing upgrades to beaches and landing facilities, including the provision of cold storage and ice making facilities, will improve working conditions for fisher folk. Additionally, this will improve

the quality of local seafood and create new income opportunities for fishing communities.

- **Boosting Crop Production:** The Root and Tuber Planting Materials Project at the Lure Estate will increase the availability of high-quality planting stock. By providing farmers with disease-free materials, the project will reduce reliance on imports and strengthen the island's agricultural base.

B. Infrastructure Modernisation and Resilience:

The THA is committed to modernising the island's infrastructure to enhance safety, improve connectivity, and build resilience against natural disasters. Taken together, these infrastructure investments will strengthen community resilience, improve the overall

quality of life, and create local employment opportunities, ensuring a stable and prosperous life for all residents. Key initiatives under this plan include:

- **Community-Level Projects:** The “Leh We Fix Dis” programme will provide improved road infrastructure to reduce flood damage to homes and increase accessibility for residents and communities.
- **Disaster Preparedness:** Rehabilitation of the Disaster Risk Management Centre will strengthen the island’s capacity to respond to natural disasters.

C. Tourism and the Creative Sector

The THA is making strategic investments to transform the island’s tourism sector into a key driver of socio-economic development. By empowering local communities and

celebrating Tobago's unique cultural identity, these initiatives ensure that tourism growth benefits everyone. Key initiatives include:

- **Sustainable Community Tourism Grant Programme:** This programme will establish 15 community-run attractions (one per electoral district) to stimulate local micro-enterprises, create jobs, develops skills in hospitality and management while developing each community's unique heritage.
- **Infrastructure and Heritage Preservation:** Several projects will be undertaken including: construction of an observation deck at Fort King George, redevelopment of Store Bay & King's Bay Beach Facilities and the Scarborough Beautification Project: These projects aim to upgrade these popular beach facilities, improve amenities and accessibility, sustain livelihoods for

vendors and enhance experiences for both residents and tourists.

- **Cultural and Economic Hubs:**
Development of Bloody Bay Festival Grounds:
The creation of this dedicated festival venue will support cultural events like the Blue Food Festival, stimulating local economies through event-driven spending and providing opportunities for artisans, performers, and entrepreneurs.

D. Human Capital Development, Education and Training

The THA'S commitment to modernising the island's education system to deliver 21st-century learning opportunities is a direct investment in socio-economic development. The focus is on building an innovative, skilled, and inclusive population to drive Tobago's sustainable development and global competitiveness. Key

initiatives under this plan include:

- **Improvement, Refurbishment, and Extensions to Secondary Schools:** The annual School Repair Programme will continue to provide routine repairs to secondary schools, ensuring a safe and functional learning environment while creating seasonal employment for local contractors and tradesmen.
- **Reconstruction of Scarborough Secondary School:** The school will be relocated to a new, safer site in Bacolet due to coastal erosion. This project will not only ensure student and staff safety but also provide a modern facility with upgraded classrooms and technology, generating employment during construction.
- **Construction of an Education Campus for Special Needs Students:** This landmark initiative will fill a critical service gap by

providing a dedicated, fully accessible education facility for children and adults with moderate to severe disabilities. It will offer education, therapy, and vocational training, promote social cohesion and equip learners for independence and employability.

- **Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute (THTI) Upgrades:** These upgrades include the refurbishment of classrooms, dormitories, and existing technology platforms. These investments are crucial for maintaining accreditation and will ensure a steady pipeline of local and international students, as well as skilled graduates to drive tourism growth and innovation.

E. Empowering Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) for Socio-Economic Growth

The Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise (MSME) sector is the cornerstone of Tobago's economy, making up over 90% of all businesses on the island. Recognising this, the THA is making strategic investments to strengthen MSMEs and drive socio-economic development through initiatives that expand access to financing, technology, and training. Key initiatives under this plan include:

- **Tobago Development Fund (TDF):** The Fund will focus on the medium to long-term development of Tobago's economy and provide specialised funding to drive private sector growth, financial inclusion, and sustainable employment on the island.
- **Venture Capital Programme:** This programme offers seed capital to high-

potential companies, stimulating entrepreneurship, innovation and job creation in existing and emerging industries.

- **Business Incubator Programme:** This initiative supports entrepreneurs at advanced stages of business development with assistance for market research and export readiness. It is intended to enhance business competitiveness, generate employment, attract investment and promote economic diversification
- **Enterprise Assistance Grant & Enterprise Development Programme:** These initiatives provide direct grant funding to entrepreneurs operating MSMEs in the agriculture, fishing and tourism sectors. It is envisaged that the support will foster economic growth, job creation and stimulate local communities.

F. Community Development, Youth Development and Sport

The THA is committed to using sport and recreation as key drivers for social and economic development. By providing modern, safe, and accessible facilities, the THA will empower communities, enhance youth development, and contribute to crime reduction. The following initiatives are among several projects being pursued in FY 2026:

- **Upgrades to Sporting Facilities:** The THA will upgrade key sporting facilities in communities such as Roxborough and Mt. Pleasant to support elite athlete development and expand opportunities for high-level play. This initiative, which includes the acceleration of hardcourt rehabilitations, will provide a positive outlet for youth and serve as a powerful tool for crime reduction.

- **Construction of Parks and Recreational Sites:** In addition to improving security, the THA will upgrade play parks with modern equipment and family-centred facilities. These will include exercise and play equipment for parents and children.
- **Enhancing Community Safety Through Upgraded Lighting:** The THA will extend the use of recreational grounds by retrofitting lighting with energy-efficient systems to enhance community safety, and drive economic activity.

G. Strengthening Settlements and Rural Livelihoods

The THA is making strategic investments in settlements and public utilities to support sustainable rural development. These initiatives are a direct investment in socio-economic development, providing residents with secure,

affordable, and resilient housing solutions. Key initiatives include:

- **Affordable Housing Project:** The Home Ownership Made Equal (HOME) programme will deliver affordable, climate-resilient homes to vulnerable groups such as the elderly and low-income families. Approximately 20 compact, affordable housing units will be delivered to low-income households at strategic locations across the island.
- **Land Development at Adelphi and Courland Estates:** These projects will transform greenfield lands into serviced residential lots for middle and low-income families. This will not only provide secure land tenure but also stimulate job creation for small contractors.
- **Home Improvement Grant (HIG):** This programme will provide financial assistance to householders for the upgrade or completion

of existing homes with the aim of reducing housing vulnerability. It is expected that 500 persons will benefit from the grant in FY 2026.

Beneficiary Owned Land (BOL): This initiative supports families with secure tenure but insufficient capital to begin construction, by providing a one-time grant for material purchase. In FY 2026, funding will be provided particularly to beneficiaries in disaster-prone and underdeveloped rural communities.

- **Public Officers Subsidised Housing (POSH):** This pilot project will provide subsidised residential lots for officers of the THA. It is envisaged that during FY 2026, 90 parcels of land will be distributed to qualified officers for housing development.

H. Healthcare Service Delivery

The TRHA continues to prioritise high-quality, accessible healthcare for all Tobagonians as it is

key to Tobago's socio-economic growth. This will involve the acquisition of advanced diagnostic equipment, the expansion of oncology services, the upgrading of primary healthcare facilities, and the procurement of a new ambulance fleet. Additionally, the introduction of digital health systems will strengthen the continuity of care throughout the island. These initiatives are designed to improve early diagnosis and treatment, reduce hospital stays, and enhance emergency response times.

4.14 CONCLUSION

Anchored in the National Development Policy and aligned with the SDGs, in FY 2026, ministries will deliver data-driven programmes, digital transformation, safer communities, accessible

housing, resilient health systems, and youth skills development. Disciplined implementation, partnership, and clear measurement and accountability will convert plans into equitable outcomes for all households.

4.15 REFERENCES

Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago (2025) *Monetary Policy Report, Volume XXVII, Number 1: May 2025*. Port of Spain: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago. Available at: https://www.central-bank.org.tt/cbtt_storage/2025/06/monetary_policy_report_may_2025_final-1.pdf

International Monetary Fund (2025) *World Economic Outlook: A Critical Juncture amid Policy Shifts, April 2025*. Washington, DC: International Monetary Fund. Available at: <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2025/04/22/>

[world-economic-outlook-april-2025](#)

Ministry of Finance (2024) *Budget Statement 2025*. Port of Spain: Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Available at: <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Budget-Statement-2025.pdf>

Ministry of Finance (2025) (a) *Details of Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial Year 2025*. Port of Spain: Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Available at: <chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgclefindmkaj/https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Details-of-Estimates-of-Recurrent-Expenditure-for-the-Financial-Year-2025-1-1.pdf>

Ministry of Finance (2025) (b) *Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2025*. Port of Spain: Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

Available at: <chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgiclfindmkaj/https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Estimates-of-Development-Programme-for-Financial-Year-2025-1.pdf>

APPENDICES



2026

APPENDIX I

Methodology for Comparing National Expenditure to SDG Goals

To effectively compare national expenditure to SDG goals, a structured approach was considered. This method involves several steps to ensure that the analysis is comprehensive and aligned with the specific targets of each SDG. The methodology is detailed hereunder:

- **Mapping National Budget to SDG Targets:**
 - i. Categorise Budget Items: Break down the national budget into detailed categories and subcategories, matching them to relevant SDG targets. For example, education expenditures would align with SDG 4 (Quality Education), while

health expenditures align with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being).

- ii. Cross-Referencing: Use SDG indicators and targets to cross-reference each budget category. This ensures that all expenditures are correctly attributed to the appropriate SDG.

- **Data Collection and Analysis:**

- i. Gather Budget Data: Collect detailed budget data from national and sub-national sources. Ensure the data covers the necessary fiscal years for a meaningful analysis.
- ii. Identify SDG-Related Programmes: Identify specific programmes and projects within the budget that directly contribute to achieving SDG targets. This involved a detailed examination of

programme objectives, outcomes, and beneficiaries.

- **Quantitative & Qualitative Analysis:**

- i. **Allocate Expenditure:** Assign each identified expenditure to its corresponding SDG and target. This may require allocating portions of expenditures that contribute to multiple SDGs.
- ii. **Calculate Proportions:** Calculate the proportion of the total budget dedicated to each SDG. This helps in understanding the government's financial commitment towards each goal.
- iii. **Assess Alignment:** Evaluate the alignment of budget allocations with national SDG priorities and strategies. Evaluate whether the expenditures are sufficient to meet

the targets outlined in the national SDG action plan.

- iv. Identify Gaps and Overlaps: Identify any gaps where SDG targets are underfunded and any overlaps where multiple programmes are addressing the same target, potentially leading to inefficiencies.

- **Reporting and Visualisation:**

- i. Create Visualisations: Use charts, graphs, and tables to represent the allocation of national expenditure across SDGs visually. Visual tools facilitate effective communication of findings to stakeholders.
- ii. Prepare Reports: Compile the analysis into comprehensive reports that include both quantitative and qualitative

findings. Provide recommendations for improving alignment and addressing funding gaps.

By following this structured approach, a robust system was developed that compared national expenditure to SDG goals.

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

APPENDIX II

Social Sector Investment Programme Expenditure for Fiscal 2025 Mapped Against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 2030

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2025	REMARKS
End poverty in all its forms everywhere	1	1.1 By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day.	1.1.1 Proportion of the population living below the international poverty line by sex, age, employment status and geographic location (urban/rural).	\$ -	Given the cross-cutting nature of the target the nil figure indicates that there was no direct spending on this area of the SDGs
		1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.	1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age.	\$ 325,000,000.00	
		1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.	1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/ systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable.	\$ 5,145,354,000.00	
		1.4 By 2030 ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.	1.4.1 Proportion of population living in households with access to basic services.	\$ 531,174,000.00	
		1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters.	1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population.	\$ -	
		1.a Ensure significant mobilisation of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions.	1.a.1 Total official development assistance grants from all donors that focus on poverty reduction as a share of the recipient country's gross national income.	\$ -	
		1.b Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions.	1.b.1 Pro-poor public social spending.	\$ -	
TOTAL			\$ 6,001,528,000.00		

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2025	REMARKS
End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	2	2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.	2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES).	\$ 416,543,700.00	
		2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.	2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment.	\$ -	
		2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment.	2.3.1 Volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming/pastoral/forestry enterprise size.	\$ 1,250,000.00	
		2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.	2.4.1 Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture.	\$ 12,000,000.00	
		2.5 By 2030, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilisation of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed	2.5.1 Number of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium- or long-term conservation facilities	\$ -	
		2.a Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries.	2.a.2 Total official flows (official development assistance plus other official flows) to the agriculture sector.	\$ 100,000.00	

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2025	REMARKS
End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	2	2.b Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round	2.b.1 Agricultural export subsidies.	\$ -	
		2.c Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility.	2.c.1 Indicator of food price anomalies.	\$ -	
	TOTAL			\$ 429,893,700.00	

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2025	REMARKS
Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all ages	3	3.1 By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births.	3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio.	\$ -	Given the cross-cutting nature of the target the nil figure indicates that there was no direct spending on this area of the SDGs
		3.2 By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births.	3.2.1 Under-5 mortality rate. 3.2.2 Neonatal mortality rate.	\$ 3,140,000.00	
		3.3 By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.	3.3.5 Number of people requiring interventions against neglected tropical diseases.	\$ -	
		3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being.	3.4.1 Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease.	\$ -	
		3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.	3.5.1 Coverage of treatment interventions (pharmacological, psychosocial and rehabilitation and aftercare services) for substance use disorders.	\$ 18,950,000.00	
		3.6 By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents.	3.6.1 Death rate due to road traffic injuries.	\$ -	
		3.7 By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes.	3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15–49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods.	\$ -	
		3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.	3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services.	\$ 73,690,400.00	
		3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination.	3.9.2 Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services).	\$ 625,000,000.00	
		3.a Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate.	3.a.1 Age-standardised prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older.	\$ -	

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2025	REMARKS
Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all ages	3	3.b Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all.	3.b.3 Proportion of health facilities that have a core set of relevant essential medicines available and affordable on a sustainable basis.	\$ -	
		3.c Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States.	3.c.1 Health worker density and distribution.	\$ 3,000,000.00	
		3.d Strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks.	3.d.1 International Health Regulations (IHR) capacity and health emergency preparedness.	\$ -	
TOTAL				\$ 723,780,400.00	

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2025	REMARKS
Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	4	4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.	4.1.1 Proportion of children and young people (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex.	\$ 900,000.00	
		4.2 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.	4.2.1 Proportion of children aged 24-59 months who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being, by sex.	\$ 16,200,000.00	
		4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university education.	4.3.1 Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex.	\$ 510,086,800.00	
		4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.	4.4.1 Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill.	\$ 126,883,600.00	
		4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.	4.5.1 Parity indices (female/male, rural/urban, bottom/top wealth quintile and others such as disability status, indigenous peoples and conflict-affected, as data become available) for all education indicators on this list that can be disaggregated.	\$ 4,331,700.00	
		4.6 By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy.	4.6.1 Proportion of population in a given age group achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional (a) literacy and (b) numeracy skills, by sex.	\$ 250,000.00	
		4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development..	4.7.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment.	\$ 210,980,000.00	
		4.a Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all	4.a.1 Proportion of schools offering basic services, by type of service.	\$ 171,400,000.00	

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2025	REMARKS
Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	4	4.b By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries	4.b.1 Volume of official development assistance flows for scholarships by sector and type of study.	\$ 5,582,800.00	
		4.c By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing States	4.c.1 Proportion of teachers with the minimum required qualifications, by education level	\$ -	
	TOTAL			\$ 1,046,614,900.00	
Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	5			\$ 7,000,000.00	Budget Allocation ftp 2024/2025 for the Gender Affairs division under 04/005/06 NPI GAD for Programming, projects and initiatives to promote gender equality is \$7,000,000.00.
		5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.	5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and nondiscrimination on the basis of sex.	\$ -	
		5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.	5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age.	\$ -	
			5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence.	\$ -	
		5.3 Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.	5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20–24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18.	\$ -	
			5.3.2 Proportion of girls and women aged 15–49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/ cutting, by age	\$ -	

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2025	REMARKS	
Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	5	5.4	Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.	5.4.1 Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location.	\$ 25,000.00	
		5.5	Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.	5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliaments and (b) local governments.	\$ -	
				5.5.2 Proportion of women in managerial positions.	\$ -	
		5.6	Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences.	5.6.1 Proportion of women aged 15–49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care.	\$ -	
				5.6.2 Number of laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education.	\$ -	
		5.a	Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws	5.a.1 (a) Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and (b) share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure	\$ -	
		5.b	Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women.	5.b.1 Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex.	\$ -	
		5.c	Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels.	5.c.1 Proportion of country with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment.	\$ -	
	TOTAL			\$ 7,025,000.00		

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS		INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2025	REMARKS
Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all	6	6.1	By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.	6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services.	\$ -	Given the cross-cutting nature of the target the nil figure indicates that there was no direct spending on this area of the SDGs
		6.2	By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.	6.2.1 Proportion of population using (a) safely managed sanitation services and (b) a hand-washing facility with soap and water.	\$ 4,000,000.00	
		6.3	By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimising release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.	6.3.1 Proportion of domestic and industrial wastewater flows safely treated.	\$ -	
		6.b	Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management.	6.b.1 Proportion of local administrative units with established and operational policies and procedures for participation of local communities in water and sanitation management.	\$ -	
	TOTAL				\$ 4,000,000.00	
Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	7	7.1		7.1.1 Proportion of population with access to electricity.	\$ -	Given the cross-cutting nature of the target the nil figure indicates that there was no direct spending on this area of the SDGs
			By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services.	7.1.2 Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology.	\$ -	
TOTAL					\$ -	

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2025	REMARKS
Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment	8	8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries.	8.1.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita.	\$ -	Given the cross-cutting nature of the target the nil figure indicates that there was no direct spending on this area of the SDGs
		8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors.	8.2.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person.	\$ 2,600,000.00	
		8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalisation and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services.	8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in total employment, by sector and sex.	\$ 480,238,000.00	
		8.4 Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, with developed countries taking the lead.	8.4.1 Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP.	\$ 100,000.00	
		8.4	8.4.2 Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP.	\$ -	
		8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.	8.5.1 Average hourly earnings of employees, by sex, age, occupation and persons with disabilities	\$ -	
		8.5	8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	\$ -	
		8.6 By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training.	8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15–24 years) not in education, employment or training	\$ -	
		8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.	8.7.1 Proportion and number of children aged 5–17 years engaged in child labour, by sex and age.	\$ -	
		8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.	8.8.1 Fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries per 100,000 workers, by sex and migrant status. 8.8.2 Level of national compliance with labour rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on International Labour Organisation (ILO) textual sources and national legislation, by sex and migrant status.	\$ - \$ -	
TOTAL				\$ 482,938,000.00	

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS		INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2025	REMARKS
Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation	9	9.1	Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.	9.1.1 Proportion of the rural population who live within 2 km of an all-season road.	\$ -	Given the cross-cutting nature of the target the nil figure indicates that there was no direct spending on this area of the SDGs
		TOTAL			\$ -	
Reduced inequality within and among countries	10	10.1	By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average.	10.1.1 Growth rates of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40 per cent of the population and the total population.	\$ -	Given the cross-cutting nature of the target the nil figure indicates that there was no direct spending on this area of the SDGs
		10.2	By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.	10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by sex, age and persons with disabilities.	\$ 45,486,500.00	
		10.3	Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.	10.3.1 Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law.	\$ -	
		10.4	Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality.	10.4.1 Labour share of GDP.	\$ -	
				10.4.2 Redistributive impact of fiscal policy.	\$ -	
		TOTAL				\$ 45,486,500.00
Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	11	11.1	By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums.	11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing	\$ -	Given the cross-cutting nature of the target the nil figure indicates that there was no direct spending on this area of the SDGs
		11.2	By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.	11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities.	\$ 18,000,000.00	
		11.3	By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanisation and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries.	11.3.1 Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate.	\$ 100,000.00	
				11.3.2 Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operate regularly and democratically.	\$ -	No information received

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2025	REMARKS
Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	11	11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.	11.4.1 Total per capita expenditure on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by source of funding (public, private), type of heritage (cultural, natural) and level of government (national, regional, and local/ municipal).	\$ 4,000,000.00	
		11.5 By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations.	11.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population.	\$ -	
			11.5.2 Direct economic loss attributed to disasters in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP).	\$ -	
			11.5.3 (a) Damage to critical infrastructure and (b) number of disruptions to basic services, attributed to disasters.	\$ -	
		11.7 By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities.	11.7.1 Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age and persons with disabilities.	\$ -	
		11.a Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning.	11.a.1 National urban policies or regional development plans that (a) respond to population dynamics; (b) ensure balanced territorial development; and (c) increase local fiscal space.	\$ 4,900,000.00	
		11.b By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels.	11.b.1 The implementation of a national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030.	\$ -	
			11.b.2 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies.	\$ -	
TOTAL				\$ 27,000,000.00	

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2025	REMARKS
Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	13	13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.	13.1.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population.	\$ -	Given the cross-cutting nature of the target the nil figure indicates that there was no direct spending on this area of the SDGs
			13.1.2 Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030.	\$ -	
			13.1.3 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies.	\$ 13,500,000.00	
		13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.	13.3.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment.	\$ \$1,790,000.00	
		13.a Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to a goal of mobilising jointly \$100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation, and fully operationalise the Green Climate Fund through its capitalisation as soon as possible.		\$ 287,229,100.00	
		13.b Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalised communities.		\$ 75,000.00	
TOTAL				\$ 302,594,100.00	
GRAND TOTAL				\$9,070,860,600.00	

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

Appendix III
Key Social Programmes and Structural / Institutional
Initiatives Funded by the Public Sector Investment
Programme (PSIP) 2024–2026

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2024 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026 (TT\$)
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES (NOW MINISTRY OF THE PEOPLE, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES)				
Development Centre for Persons with Challenges	1,287,941	7,000,000	535,300	6,292,000
Establishment of an Integrated Social Enterprise Management System	3,986,941	3,000,000	0	3,500,000
Establishment of Social Displacement Centres	2,952,379	5,000,000	2,656,300	1,500,000
Implementation of a Social Mitigation Plan	538,819	500,000	89,900	0
Total	8,766,080	12,500,000	3,281,500	11,292,000
MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE				
Implementation of the National Youth Policy	1,049,436	3,000,000	2,276,500	0
*Refurbishment of Youth Training Facilities	22,743,564	0	15,300,000	0
Youth Employment Policy	0	500,000	0	0
*Refurbishment of the Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centre	27,301,738	0	2,074,000	0
Total	51,094,738	3,500,000	19,650,500	0
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT				
Refurbishment of the Community Education, Training, Information and Resource Centre	0	4,000,000	200,000	0
Support to Mediation Services	0	300,000	0	0
*Construction of Community Centres	59,829,975	55,000,000	54,836,000	0
*Refurbishment of Community Centres	4,320,237	6,000,000	5,150,400	0
*Implementation of Self-Help Programme (NCSHL)	23,999,597	15,000,000	15,000,000	0
*Development and Upgrading of Recreational Grounds, Parks and Spaces	1,183,996	8,000,000	1,465,100	0
*Upgrading of Corporation Grounds	699,541	5,000,000	168,900	0
Total	90,033,346	93,300,000	76,820,400	0

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2024 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026 (TT\$)
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT				
*Development of Rural Communities	8,866,798	31,500,000	5,000,000	20,000,000
Total	8,866,798	31,500,000	5,000,000	20,000,000
MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (NOW MINISTRY OF PLANNING, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT)				
Conduct of the 2019 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS)	0	0	0	0
Conduct of the 2018 - 2019 Household Budgetary Survey / Survey of Living Conditions	3,354,611	629,000	880,000	0
Total	3,354,611	629,000	880,000	0
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER				
Refurbishment of two (2) Safe Houses	0	1,900,000	0	0
Establishment of a National Children's Registry	192,165	0	0	0
Finalisation, Launch and Dissemination of the National HIV and AIDS Policy	138,617	300,000	0	0
*Refurbishment of St. Dominic's Home for Children- Old Bethlehem	272,288	0	0	0
*Implementation of Self-Help Programme (NCSHL)	0	0	0	25,000,000
Total	603,070	2,200,000	0	25,000,000
MINISTRY OF HEALTH				
Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children- Refurbishment Works	999,991	800,000	470,000	2,919,000
Special Programme - Renal Dialysis	88,442,164	150,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Special Programme - Treatment of Adult Cardiac Disease	15,065,543	20,000,000	14,000,000	20,000,000
Waiting List for Surgery	6,963,436	6,000,000	6,000,000	10,000,000
President's Emergency Programme for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)	9,378,419	4,000,000	4,000,000	11,771,000
Total	120,849,553	180,800,000	124,470,000	144,690,000
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION				
MIC Training Subsidy (Legacy Project)	1,999,998	1,000,000	300,000	0
National Skills Development Programme Center at Macoya (MIC)	2,262,249	3,000,000	500,000	0

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2024 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026 (TT\$)
*Early Childhood Care and Education	61,650	3,000,000	82,200	0
*Development of a School for Special Education at Point-a-Pierre	187,311	1,000,000	0	1,500,000
*Repairs and Maintenance for Special Schools	157,561	1,000,000	641,300	9,000,000
Total	4,668,769	9,000,000	1,523,500	10,500,000
TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY				
Community Awareness Programme	1,000,000	100,000	100,000	500,000
Construction of School for the Deaf	300,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Construction of a Wellness/Fitness Centre	300,000	0	0	0
Domestic Violence Project	600,000	0	0	0
Emergency Medical Alert System	100,000	0	0	0
Enterprise Assistance Grant Programme	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Establishment of Community Unit and Development of Programme for Social Behaviour Change	100,000	0	0	0
Establishment of Parenting in Student Support Services Unit	100,000	0	0	0
Establishment of Probation Hostels	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Expansion of Mardon House Youth Development Centre	1,000,000	300,000	300,000	200,000
Gender Management System & Gender Mainstreaming Programme	100,000	100,000	100,000	200,000
Golden Apple Adolescents Partnership Programme (GAAPP)	2,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	900,000
Home Completion Programme, Tobago	0	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Home Improvement Grant, Tobago	2,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Home Improvement Subsidy, Tobago	1,800,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Implementing Family Remedial Therapy/ Thinking	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Life Management and Parenting Education Programme	200,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Programme for Adolescent Mothers	200,000	300,000	300,000	300,000
Programme for Rural Electrification	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Project for the Realisation of Economic Achievement (REACH)	1,000,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Roving Care Givers Programme	200,000	0	0	0
Social Services and Prison Integrated Network (SPINE)	200,000	0	0	0
Tobago Elderly Housing and Rehabilitative Centre	400,000	0	0	0

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2024 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026 (TT\$)
Tobago HIV/AIDS Strategic Response	500,000	500,000	500,000	0
Tobago Rehabilitation Programme	400,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Upgrade of Happy Haven School	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Vocation Centre for Persons with Mental Retardation	200,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Positive Behaviour Modification Student Support Services Unit	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Total	15,200,000	8,800,000	8,800,000	8,600,000
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (NOW MINISTRY OF HOUSING)				
Housing Grants	11,992,500	12,000,000	7,200,000	12,000,000
Surveys of Squatter Sites	210,656	3,000,000	1,700,000	0
Housing and Village Improvement Programme	34,014,108	50,000,000	44,500,000	0
Regularisation and Regeneration of Communities - Greater POS Region	5,891	3,000,000	700,000	0
Regularisation of Squatter Communities	15,915,444	11,000,000	11,000,000	0
Social and Economic Programme for East Port of Spain	10,000,000	4,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
*Accelerated Housing Programme	155,056,446	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Total	227,195,045	283,000,000	267,100,000	214,000,000
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES				
Water Management and Flood Control Programme	0	1,500,000	0	2,300,000
Total	0	1,500,000	0	2,300,000
MINISTRY OF LAND AND LEGAL AFFAIRS				
Land for the Landless Programme	0	0	0	11,000,000
Surveys of Squatter Sites	0	0	0	10,000,000
Regularisation of Squatter Communities	0	0	0	11,000,000
Total	0	0	0	32,000,000
GRAND TOTAL	530,632,010	629,729,000	507,525,900	468,382,000

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

APPENDIX IV
Allocations and Expenditure for Social Programmes
and Initiatives for Fiscal 2025 and 2026 and Actual
Expenditure for Fiscal 2024 under Recurrent
Expenditure by Ministry

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2024 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026 (TT\$)
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT				
Community-Based Environment Protection & Enhancement Programme (CEPEP)	499,235,300	466,000,000	490,000,000	0
Debit Card System for URP Employees	0	0	0	1,500,000
Total	499,235,300	466,000,000	490,000,000	1,500,000
MINISTRY OF FINANCE				
Food Price Support Programme	114,247,280	130,000,000	99,900,000	110,000,000
Government's Contribution to the Children's Life Fund	20,000,000	22,000,000	22,000,000	30,000,000
Government Assistance for Tertiary Expenses (GATE)	350,000,000	450,000,000	350,000,000	450,000,000
Unemployment Relief Programme	300,798,555	310,000,000	284,000,000	310,000,000
Employment Fund	0	0	0	475,000,000
Total	785,045,835	912,000,000	755,900,000	1,375,000,000
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER				
Non-Profit Institutions – Ecclesiastical Bodies	0	50,000	50,000	50,000
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions (Children's Homes)	7,723,988	7,000,000	7,000,000	0
St. Mary's Children's Homes	13,422,540	12,000,000	15,070,000	0
St. Dominic's Children Home	14,500,000	13,300,000	13,300,000	0
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions (Gender Affairs)	5,673,816	5,000,000	7,000,000	0
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions PRP- Child Development	376,743	900,000	900,000	0
Heroes Foundation	420,000	320,000	320,000	420,000
St. Michael's School for Boys	2,294,555	2,400,000	2,400,000	0
St. Jude's Home for Girls	14,500,000	13,000,000	13,000,000	0
Foster Care Expenses	3,060,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	0

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2024 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026 (TT\$)
Children's Authority	100,000,000	85,000,000	97,706,660	0
National Commission for Self-Help Limited	0	0	0	10,737,000
Total	161,971,642	141,970,000	159,746,660	11,207,000
MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT				
Debit Card System for URP Employees	1,758,476	1,600,000	1,000,000	0
Total	1,758,476	1,600,000	1,000,000	0
TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY				
Education, Research and Technology:				
Adult Education Extension Services (Adult Classes)	0	100,000	100,000	100,000
Basic Grants	11,433,186	13,000,000	13,000,000	15,000,000
Building Grants to Assisted Schools	0	100,000	100,000	100,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organisations	80,342	100,000	100,000	100,000
Early Childhood Care	105,612	300,000	300,000	300,000
Grants to Necessitous Students Attending Public Schools	611,341	800,000	800,000	800,000
Grant – Trinidad & Tobago National Council of Parent Teacher Association Inc.	26,100	50,000	50,000	50,000
Grants for Students attending conferences, seminars and competitions	79,125	100,000	100,000	100,000
School Feeding Programme	30,955,455	26,543,700	26,543,700	32,000,000
Special Education Resources Programme	4,106	100,000	100,000	100,000
Student Support Services Unit	65,545	150,000	150,000	150,000
Happy Haven School – Tobago Council for Handicapped Children	914,169	1,684,100	1,684,100	1,669,500
Tobago School for the Deaf, Speech and Language	1,829,740	2,547,600	2,247,600	2,175,600
Food Security, Natural Resources, the Environment and Sustainable Development:				
Agricultural Incentive Programme	759,325	800,000	800,000	1,500,000
Subsidy for Fishermen	0	450,000	322,288	450,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organisations	47,400	100,000	100,000	100,000
Tourism, Culture, Antiquities and Transportation:				
Assistance to Cultural Groups	234,025	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
National Days and Festivals	646,564	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2024 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026 (TT\$)
Community Development, Youth Development and Sport:				
Assistance to Community Organisations	189,262	200,000	200,000	200,000
Community Action for Renewal and Empowerment (CARE)	0	200,000	200,000	100,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organisations	33,500	100,000	100,000	100,000
Export Centres	2,307,051	2,300,000	2,300,000	2,300,000
National Service	21,530	100,000	100,000	100,000
Regional Complexes	4,482,555	4,500,000	4,500,000	5,500,000
Small Grants	142,700	100,000	100,000	200,000
Special Community Programme	1,947,220	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Assistance to Sporting Organisations	695,512	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,500,000
Youth Development Programme	46,859	250,000	250,000	200,000
Assistance to Youth Organisations	279,480	200,000	200,000	300,000
Health, Wellness and Social Protection:				
Assistance to Home for the Aged	1,004,500	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,100,000
The Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Emergency Cases Fund	2,550,803	1,600,000	2,638,889	3,000,000
Foster Care Services	664,372	600,000	600,000	700,000
Non-Profit Institutions – Special Social Programmes	1,631,731	1,700,000	1,700,000	2,000,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organisations	115,186	200,000	200,000	200,000
Grants towards Necessitous Patients	3,807,668	2,000,000	3,361,111	6,000,000
Total	67,811,964	67,075,400	69,047,688	82,295,100
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY				
Vision on Mission	5,000,000	5,000,000	7,200,000	0
Criminal Injuries Compensation	2,257,296	2,200,000	1,650,000	0
Emergency Cases Fund (Probation Services)	9,972	0	0	0
Crime Stoppers Trinidad & Tobago Limited	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,500,000	0
Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management	15,654,651	13,500,000	13,500,000	0
National Drug Council	328,581	500,000	3,750,000	0
The Morvant/Laventille Initiative	377,678	400,000	480,000	0
National Crime Prevention Programme	156,881	300,000	225,000	0
Total	25,785,059	23,900,000	29,305,000	0

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2024 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026 (TT\$)
MINISTRY OF HOMELAND SECURITY				
Vision on Mission	0	0	0	7,200,000
Crime Stoppers Trinidad & Tobago Limited	0	0	0	2,000,000
Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management	0	0	0	13,500,000
National Drug Council	0	0	0	500,000
The Morvant/Laventille Initiative	0	0	0	400,000
National Crime Prevention Programme	0	0	0	300,000
Total	0	0	0	23,900,000
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE				
Criminal Injuries Compensation	0	0	0	2,000,000
Emergency Cases Fund (Probation Services)	0	0	0	10,000
Total	0	0	0	2,010,000
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE				
Civilian Conservation Corps	0	0	0	39,200,000
Military Led Academic Training (MILAT)	0	0	0	16,900,000
Military-Led Programme of Apprenticeship and Re-orientation (MYPART)	0	0	0	3,000,000
Total	0	0	0	59,100,000
MINISTRY OF LABOUR (NOW MINISTRY OF LABOUR, SMALL AND MICRO ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT)				
Non-Profit Institutions	1,776,506	1,790,820	1,790,000	3,000,000
On the Job Training Programme	229,949,009	309,395,000	261,361,000	59,100,000
HIV/AIDS Advocacy and Sustainability Centre	51,579	75,000	18,200	50,000
National Entrepreneurship Development Company (NEDCO)	0	0	0	22,900,000
Total	308,469,574	289,094,100	335,721,923	24,776,820
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES				
Agricultural Incentive Programme	13,973,943	12,000,000	9,000,000	20,000,000
Incentive Programme	299,589	300,000	202,000	1,500,000
Forestry Incentive Programme	2,500	100,000	0	300,000

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2024 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026 (TT\$)
Relief of Flood Damage	608,033	4,000,000	1,420,000	5,000,000
4H Young Farmers Club	8,257	50,000	24,200	470,700
Rural Women Producers Network	0	25,000	0	25,000
Total	14,892,322	16,475,000	10,646,200	27,295,700
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION				
Early Childhood Care and Education	15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000
National Schools Dietary Services Limited	268,546,129	260,000,000	260,000,000	250,000,000
School Transportation Services	21,203,757	17,000,000	18,000,000	23,000,000
SERVOL Junior Life Centres	10,000,000	3,680,000	3,680,000	3,680,000
Student Support Services Programme	117,000	265,000	230,000	265,000
Grant – Trinidad & Tobago National Council of Parent/ Teachers Associations	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Retraining Programme for Displaced Workers	6,956,800	6,956,800	6,956,800	0
Higher Education Loan Programme	4,466,246	5,332,800	3,999,600	0
MIC Craft Programmes	9,500,000	8,000,000	8,000,000	0
Helping Youth Prepare for Employment Programme (HYPE)	15,350,300	15,000,000	15,000,000	0
Multi-Sector Skill Training Programme (MUST)	16,259,800	16,000,000	16,000,000	0
SERVOL Hi-Tech & Advanced Skills Training Programme	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	0
SERVOL's Human Development and Skills Training	14,000,000	14,000,000	14,000,000	0
Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme Ltd (YTEPP)	41,410,600	41,410,600	41,410,600	0
Metal Industries Co Ltd (National Skills Development Programme)	45,923,000	33,923,000	33,923,000	0
Total	473,983,632	441,818,200	441,450,000	292,195,000
MINISTRY OF TERTIARY EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING				
Retraining Programme for Displaced Workers	0	0	0	6,956,800
Higher Education Loan Programme	0	0	0	5,332,800
MIC Craft Programmes	0	0	0	8,000,000
Helping Youth Prepare for Employment Programme (HYPE)	0	0	0	15,000,000
Multi-Sector Skill Training Programme (MUST)	0	0	0	16,000,000
SERVOL Hi-Tech & Advanced Skills Training Programme	0	0	0	5,000,000
SERVOL's Human Development and Skills Training	0	0	0	14,000,000

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2024 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026 (TT\$)
Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme Ltd (YTEPP)	0	0	0	41,410,600
Metal Industries Co Ltd (National Skills Development Programme)	0	0	0	33,923,000
On the Job Training Programme	0	0	0	286,911,500
Total	0	0	0	432,534,700
MINISTRY OF HEALTH				
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions	16,668,770	18,300,000	18,300,000	18,300,000
National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention	115,006	150,000	60,000	150,000
Medical Treatment of Nationals in Institutions	30,676,358	35,000,000	35,000,000	35,000,000
Children's Life Fund Authority	3,600,000	3,140,000	3,140,000	3,936,660
School Health Programme (Audio test, hearing aid, service and eyeglasses)	1,320	0	0	0
Drugs and Other Related Materials and Supplies	448,766,874	625,000,000	800,000,000	700,000,000
Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children	12,414,077	13,190,400	13,190,400	13,274,200
Total	512,242,405	694,780,400	869,690,400	770,660,860
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES				
Utilities Assistance Programme	1,265,667	2,000,000	4,473,000	3,800,000
Total	1,265,667	2,000,000	4,473,000	3,800,000
MINISTRY OF TOURISM, CULTURE AND THE ARTS				
Non-Profit Institutions	9,043,777	7,394,000	7,527,000	0
Hosting of Cultural Camps	0	100,000	0	0
Music Schools in the Community	87,360	50,000	0	0
National Days and Festivals	3,691,275	4,000,000	5,000,000	0
Queens Hall	12,083,474	12,210,600	12,004,500	0
Naparima Bowl	6,030,793	6,002,700	6,000,100	0
National Carnival Commission of T & T	146,093,000	140,542,400	134,539,300	0
Total	177,029,679	170,299,700	165,070,900	0

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2024 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026 (TT\$)
MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT				
Non-Profit Institutions	0	0	0	39,259,000
Hosting of Cultural Camps	0	0	0	100,000
Music Schools in the Community	0	0	0	50,000
National Days and Festivals	0	0	0	4,000,000
Queens Hall	0	0	0	11,289,700
Naparima Bowl	0	0	0	6,080,300
National Carnival Commission of T & T	0	0	0	137,173,100
Community Action for Revival and Empowerment (CARE)	0	0	0	4,000,000
Export Centres	0	0	0	9,100,000
Total	0	0	0	211,052,100
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT				
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions (Sporting Organisations)	21,705,247	16,000,000	17,971,920	0
Community Action for Revival and Empowerment (CARE)	3,672,127	5,000,000	4,000,000	0
Export Centres	12,934,000	9,100,000	15,600,000	0
National Commission for Self-Help Limited	13,624,152	10,737,000	14,189,100	0
Indoor Sporting Arenas/ Hockey Facility	1,683,993	1,300,000	615,000	0
The Sport Company of Trinidad & Tobago	159,205,687	170,000,000	120,000,000	0
Total	212,825,206	212,137,000	172,376,020	0
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS				
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions (Sporting Organisations)	0	0	0	13,000,000
Retirees Adolescent Partnership Programme	0	0	0	1,500,000
Indoor Sporting Arenas/ Hockey Facility	0	0	0	1,300,000
The Sport Company of Trinidad & Tobago	0	0	0	147,000,000
Total	0	0	0	162,800,000

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2024 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026 (TT\$)
MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE				
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions (Youth Organisations)	325,879	110,000	82,500	0
National Service – Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme	20,842,459	22,965,000	24,000,000	0
Civilian Conservation Corps	40,225,881	39,200,000	27,000,000	0
Military-Led Academic Training (MILAT)	17,121,032	16,900,000	10,800,000	0
Military-Led Programme of Apprenticeship and Re-orientation (MYPART)	604,324	1,000,000	300,000	0
Retirees Adolescent Partnership Programme	1,683,999	1,450,000	2,750,000	0
National Entrepreneurship Development Company (NEDCO)	22,801,369	22,100,000	22,864,000	0
Total	103,604,943	103,725,000	87,796,500	0
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT				
Other transfers:				
Trinidad and Tobago Housing Development Corporation	791,438,768	515,437,000	518,568,000	488,916,000
Total	791,438,768	515,437,000	518,568,000	488,916,000
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES TOBAGO				
Non-Profit Institutions				
Contribution to Non-Profit Organisations	28,200	25,000	28,200	28,200
Total	28,200	25,000	28,200	28,200
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE				
Transfers:				
Non-Profit Institutions-Police Youth Clubs	980,237	1,300,000	1,299,828	1,300,000
Total	980,237	1,300,000	1,299,828	1,300,000
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES				
Other Social Programmes	24,740	270,000	189,800	270,000
Senior Citizens' Homes	0	500,000	0	500,000
Senior Citizens' Centres	73,000	200,000	0	200,000

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2024 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026 (TT\$)
Social Programmes (Ageing)	5,000	60,000	75,300	60,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions	3,924,504	4,134,000	2,927,400	4,000,800
President's Award of Trinidad & Tobago	0	60,000	0	0
Young Women's Christian Association	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Young Men's Christian Association	156,000	156,000	78,000	156,000
Scouts Association of Trinidad and Tobago	126,000	126,000	126,000	126,000
Girl Guides Association	84,000	84,000	42,000	84,000
Non-Profit Institutions (Other Social - Parenting)	131,104	600,000	190,700	600,000
Non-Profit Institutions (Other Social - Family)	213,980	500,000	46,600	500,000
Adult Education Programme	0	200,000	0	0
Senior Citizens' Grant	4,429,480,139	4,463,090,000	4,463,090,000	4,594,253,000
Social Assistance	291,029,646	325,000,000	321,600,000	325,000,000
Urgent Temporary Assistance	9,981,625	25,000,000	11,500,000	25,000,000
Rehabilitative Programme	758,476	1,500,000	1,013,800	1,500,000
Payments to Registrars of Births and Deaths	0	0	0	0
Disability Grant	625,035,965	640,000,000	620,500,000	640,000,000
Assistance to National Heroes	1,158,308	1,500,000	1,000,000	1,500,000
National Social Development Programme	3,338,593	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Community Care Programme	3,664,582	4,000,000	3,300,000	4,000,000
Adoption Board Expenses	314,148	300,000	300,000	300,000
Lady Hochoy Centres of Trinidad and Tobago	14,454,100	16,363,900	16,363,900	15,690,610
Trinidad and Tobago Association for the Hearing Impaired	12,500,000	12,371,200	12,371,200	12,085,518
Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association	13,400,000	12,451,400	12,451,400	13,599,480
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions (Children's Homes)	0	0	0	7,000,000
St Mary's Children's Homes	0	0	0	13,000,000
St Dominic's Children's Home	0	0	0	13,300,000
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions (Gender Affairs)	0	0	0	5,000,000
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions PRP- Child Development	0	0	0	900,000
St Michael's School for Boys	0	0	0	0
St Jude's Home for Girls	0	0	0	13,000,000
Foster Care Expenses	0	0	0	3,000,000
Children's Authority	0	0	0	97,700,000

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2024 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025 (TT\$)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026 (TT\$)
National Service - Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme	0	0	0	23,000,000
Total	5,409,883,910	5,512,496,500	5,471,196,100	5,819,355,408
GRAND TOTAL	9,548,252,819	9,572,133,300	9,583,316,419	9,789,726,888

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

APPENDIX V

List of Non-Governmental Organisations Receiving Government Subventions & One-Off Grants for Fiscal 2024 & 2025

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2024 TT\$	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
MINISTRY OF THE PEOPLE, 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
Lady Hochoy Centres of T&T	15,230,000	15,640,650	410,650
T&T Association for the Hearing Impaired	12,500,000	12,261,206	-238,794
T&T Blind Welfare Association	13,400,000	12,451,400	-948,600
T&T Chapter of Disabled People International	133,200	0	-133,200
Sub-Total	42,626,973	41,717,029	-909,944
Socially Displaced			
Court Shamrock Centre for the Socially Displaced	430,390	439,530	9,140
Sub-Total	430,390	439,530	9,140
Family Life and Counselling Service			
Family Planning Association	1,000,000	696,800	-303,200
Rape Crisis Society of Trinidad and Tobago	300,000	0	-300,000
T & T Red Cross Society	730,000	0	-730,000
Sub-Total	2,030,000	696,800	-1,333,200
Homes for Senior Citizens			
Chaguanas Senior Citizen Home	144,187	144,187	0
Point Fortin Senior Citizen Home	200,880	200,880	0
La Brea Senior Citizen Home	77,674	77,674	0

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2024 TT\$	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
Mayaro Senior Citizen Home	44,194	44,194	0
Couva Home for the Aged	148,800	148,800	0
JC McDonald Home for the Aged	239,382	239,382	0
Siparia Home for the Aged	110,707	110,707	0
Sangre Grande Home for the Aged	133,920	133,920	0
Toco Home for Senior Citizens	44,640	44,640	0
Sub-Total	1,144,384	1,144,384	0
Hostels/Halfway Houses			
Shelter for Women and Children	90,000	90,000	0
The Halfway House	65,000	65,000	0
Sub-Total	155,000	155,000	0
Youth NGOs			
Girl Guides Association of T&T	84,000	0	-84,000
President's Awards of T&T	60,000	0	-60,000
Scout Association of T&T	126,000	126,000	0
Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)	156,000	0	-156,000
Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)	30,000	30,000	0
Sub-Total	456,000	156,000	-300,000
Gender and Child Affairs Division			
Family Life and Counselling Service			
ChildLine	1,743,198	1,743,198	0
Network of Non-Governmental Organisations of Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women	200,000	200,000	0
New Life Ministries for the Establishment and Administration of a Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre	900,000	900,000	0
Child Welfare League of Trinidad and Tobago	516,216	516,216	0

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2024 TT\$	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
The Heroes Foundation	420,000	320,000	-100,000
Sub-Total	3,779,414	3,679,414	-100,000
Children's Homes*			
A Bridge of Hope	750,550	735,035	-15,515
Adonna Institution for Orphans	176,400	163,200	-13,200
Amica House	512,300	568,818	56,518
Casa de Corazon	367,900	377,750	9,850
Chickland Children's Home	350,200	331,500	-18,700
Couva Children's Home & Crisis Nursery	330,200	270,209	-59,991
Credo Foundation for Justice - Credo Development Centre	296,525	196,803	-99,722
Credo Foundation for Justice - Sophia House	210,520	200,000	-10,520
Society of St. Vincent De Paul - Cyril Ross Nursery	78,600	86,399	7,799
Dar-Ul-Aman Freeport Children's Home	180,050	188,700	8,650
El Shaddai Restoration Home for Children	284,300	265,720	-18,580
Ezekiel Home for Abandoned Children	590,600	580,750	-9,850
Ferndean's Place Children's Home	249,900	326,150	76,250
Haven of Hope	266,225	243,800	-22,425
Jairah House	49,600	0	-49,600
Joshua House	241,500	217,100	-24,400
Mary Care Centre- North	93,275	145,900	52,625
Mary Care Centre- South	393,175	349,450	-43,725
Mothers' Union Children's Home	224,200	334,075	109,875
Living Water Community - Our Lady of the Wayside	365,368	434,430	69,062
Operation Smile Home for Children	0	16,700	16,700
Raffa House	384,847	404,004	19,157

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2024 TT\$	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
Rainbow Rescue	339,525	335,531	-3,994
Sri Jayalakshmi Children's Home Ltd	445,850	501,078	55,228
The Hope Centre	375,950	437,500	61,550
The Islamic Home for Children Inc.	503,200	473,213	-29,987
Vishok Bhavan	231,050	220,878	-10,172
Sub-Total	8,291,810	8,404,693	112,883
St. Dominic's Children's Home	14,500,000	13,300,000	-1,200,000
St. Jude's School for Girls	14,500,000	13,000,000	-1,500,000
St. Mary's Children's Home	13,423,090	12,000,000	-1,423,090
Sub-Total	42,423,090	38,300,000	-4,123,090
Ministry of The People, Social Development and Family Services' Total Subventions	101,337,061	94,692,850	-6,644,211
MINISTRY OF HEALTH			
Chronic Diseases			
Diabetes Association of Trinidad and Tobago	600,000	600,000	0
Heartbeat International	865,000	865,000	0
Living Water Community	2,601,350	2,601,350	0
The Just Because Foundation	300,000	300,000	0
Trinidad and Tobago Cancer Society	1,750,000	1,750,000	0
Trinidad and Tobago Heart Foundation	150,000	150,000	0
Subtotal	6,266,350	6,266,350	0
Drug and Rehabilitation Services			
HEAL (Helping Every Addict Live)	220,000	220,000	0
Rebirth House and Oasis Drop-In-Centre	935,000	935,000	0
Serenity Place	200,000	200,000	0

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2024 TT\$	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
Trinidad and Tobago National Council on Alcoholism	300,000	300,000	0
Subtotal	1,655,000	1,655,000	0
Services to Persons with Disabilities			
Autistic Society	600,000	600,000	0
Horses Helping Humans	500,000	500,000	0
Subtotal	1,100,000	1,100,000	0
Services to Children			
Christ Child Convalescent Home	700,000	700,000	0
Cotton Tree Foundation	385,300	385,300	0
Subtotal	1,085,300	1,085,300	0
HIV & AIDS			
Medical Research Foundation	6,200,000	6,200,000	0
Subtotal	6,200,000	6,200,000	0
Maternal & Neonatal Care			
Breastfeeding Association of Trinidad & Tobago	275,000	275,000	0
Mamatoto Centre	275,000	275,000	0
Subtotal	550,000	550,000	0
Other Health-Related Services			
Society for Inherited Severe Blood Disorder	100,000	100,000	0
Subtotal	100,000	100,000	0
Ministry of Health's Total Subventions	16,956,650	16,956,650	0
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SMALL AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT			
International Labour Organisation (Grant for rent assistance)	389,115	432,350	43,235
Grant to the International Labour	1,134,068	1,286,903	152,835

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2024 TT\$	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
Voluntary Contribution Fund for the IAN for Labour Administration (RIAL)	0	0	0
Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development's Total Subventions	1,523,183	1,719,253	196,070
MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT			
Santa Rosa First Peoples Community	1,050,000	1,050,000	0
Transformation and Development Centres (TDCs)	2,129,022	1,951,603	-177,418
The Art Society of Trinidad & Tobago	100,000	0	-100,000
National Dance Association of Trinidad & Tobago	100,000	0	-100,000
National Drama Association of Trinidad & Tobago	100,000	0	-100,000
National Parang Association of Trinidad & Tobago	100,000	0	-100,000
Secondary Schools Drama Association	100,000	0	-100,000
Secondary Schools Sanskritik Sangam	100,000	0	-100,000
Trinidad Theatre Workshop	100,000	0	-100,000
Trinidad and Tobago Music Festival Association	100,000	0	-100,000
The Little Carib Theatre and Folk House	100,000	0	-100,000
The Bocas Lit Fest	100,000	0	-100,000
Ministry of Culture and Community Development's Total Subvention	4,179,022	3,001,603	-1,177,418

**T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS
THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES**

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2024 TT\$	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY			
Crime Stoppers Trinidad and Tobago	2,000,000	2,500,000	500,000
Vision on Mission	5,000,000	7,200,000	2,200,000
Ministry of National Security's Total Subventions	7,000,000	9,700,000	2,700,000
GRAND SUBVENTIONS TOTAL	130,995,916	126,070,356	-4,925,559
* In November 2016, the Cabinet agreed to the Financial Assistance to Community Residences on the Payment per Child System (PPC).			

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ORGANISATION	GRANTS PAID 2024 TT\$	GRANTS PAID 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN GRANTS IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS			
Sport and Physical Education Department			
Special Olympics Trinidad & Tobago	800,000	782,200	-17,800
Trinidad & Tobago Cheer Federation	9,000	0	-9,000
Trinidad & Tobago Chess Association	280,800	0	-280,800
Sub-Total	1,089,800	782,200	-307,600
Elite Athlete Assistance Programme			
Funding for Athletes - EAAP	3,000,000	875,000	-2,125,000
Individual	2,613,937	1,689,700	-924,237
Sub-Total	5,613,937	2,564,700	-3,049,237
Sports Company of Trinidad & Tobago (SPORTT)			
NATIONAL GOVERNING BODIES (NGB's)			
Amateur Swimming Association of Trinidad and Tobago	2,376,065	2,500,000	123,934
National Association of Athletics Administrations of Trinidad and Tobago (NAAATT)	1,710,003	2,564,440	854,437
National Basketball Association of Trinidad and Tobago	17,000	0	-17,000
National Amateur Boxing Association	2,260,345	288,672	-1,971,674
Trinidad and Tobago Cricket Board	1,070,601	2,310,566	1,239,965
Trinidad and Tobago Cycling Federation	1,389,840	799,771	-590,069
Trinidad and Tobago Football Association	2,294,685	9,790,000	7,495,315
Trinidad and Tobago Golf Association	609,096	508,145	-100,951
Trinidad and Tobago Amateur Gymnastics Association	0	0	0
Trinidad and Tobago Hockey Board	1,890,848	1,579,299	-311,549
Trinidad and Tobago Rugby Union	1,420,889	643,576	-777,313

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

ORGANISATION	GRANTS PAID 2024 TT\$	GRANTS PAID 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN GRANTS IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
Trinidad and Tobago Yachting Association	0	202,900	202,900
Trinidad and Tobago Netball Association	693,556.38	0	-693,556
Sub-Total	15,732,930	21,187,369	5,454,439
Youth Division			
Children Rights and Restorative Justice Organisation	3,000	0	-3,000
Christian Parks	5,000	0	-5,000
Clarke Rochard Sports Club	3,000	0	-3,000
Colour Splash Trinidad and Tobago Foundation	5,000	0	-5,000
Dasia Edwards	5,000	0	-5,000
Diatonic Pan Institute	15,000	0	-15,000
Dr. Clive P Dottin	10,000	0	-10,000
En To To	10,000	0	-10,000
Firenation International Rhythm Empire	5,000	0	-5,000
Global Shapers of Port of Spain	20,000	0	-20,000
Heroes Foundation	8,000	0	-8,000
Jamel Bartholemew	3,000	0	-3,000
Joshua Regrello	12,000	0	-12,000
Josiah Robinson and Tashana Figara	5,500	0	-5,500
Network of Rural Women Producers of Trinidad and Tobago	0	0	0
Planting Seeds	20,000	0	-20,000
Premier Sports Club	20,000	0	-20,000
Rent My Tutor	2,000	0	-2,000
San Fernando Mayor's Cup	20,000	0	-20,000
Selah House	23,675	0	-23,675
Simone Ms Shine Academy of Dance for Children, Teens and Adults	15,000	0	-15,000
St. Margaret's Youth Steel Orchestra	15,000	0	-15,000

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ORGANISATION	GRANTS PAID 2024 TT\$	GRANTS PAID 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN GRANTS IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
Steel Pan Authority	5,000	0	-5,000
Stephon Issac	5,000	0	-5,000
The Caribbean Royal Youth Council (CRYC)	0	0	0
Trinidad and Tobago Community for Positive Women	25,000	0	-25,000
Why Farm	15,000	0	-15,000
Women's Magnate Development Ltd.	12,600	0	-12,600
Sub-Total	287,775	0	-287,775
Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs' Total Grants	22,724,442	24,534,269	1,809,827
MINISTRY OF THE PEOPLE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES			
Caribbean Kids and Family Therapy Organisation	0	10,000	10,000
Cause an Effect	0	50,000	50,000
Down Syndrome Family Network	5,000	6,000	1,000
Gospel Light Church	3,000	0	-3,000
Network of NGOs in Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women	4,800	0	-4,800
Revival Mission			0
Shelter for Women and Children	7,500	0	-7,500
Ministry of the People, Social Development and Family Services' Total Grants	20,300	66,000	45,700
MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT			
Culture and Creative Arts Fund			
Individual Grants	0	0	0
14 1/4 mm Penal Rock Road, Community Council	0	0	0

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

ORGANISATION	GRANTS PAID 2024 TT\$	GRANTS PAID 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN GRANTS IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
Astor Johnson Repertory Dance	0	0	0
BACK-AH-YARD	0	0	0
Banjela Muzik Productions and Media Services Limited	0	0	0
Benoit Academy of Steelpan	85,000	0	-85,000
Birdsong	30,000	0	-30,000
Breath of Dance Theatre	17,000	0	-17,000
Burrokeet's Cultural Foundation	10,000	0	-10,000
CALDATT	0	0	0
Contemporary Choreographers' Collective	0	0	0
Crowns & Sashes	80,000	0	-80,000
Denyse Plummer Foundation	90,000	0	-90,000
Diatonic Pan Institute	14,000	0	-14,000
Divas Calypso Cabaret International	0	70,000	70,000
E. Gilbert Lung Cancer Foundation	0	0	0
En To To	40,000	0	-40,000
Engine '77 Limited	0	0	0
Film and Folklore Limited	0	0	0
Filmmakers Collaborative of Trinidad and Tobago (FILMCO)	0	0	0
First Impression Trading Co. Ltd	0	0	0
Fonclaire Steel Orchestra	0	0	0
Fusion Steel	0	0	0
Gem Radio Five Ltd.	0	0	0
Giovanni Toussaint	0	0	0
Grimrock Family Productions	150,000	0	-150,000
I AM Productions	75,000	0	-75,000
IBIS T&T Performers	45,000	0	-45,000
Icons Calypso Tent	300,000	250,000	-50,000
Ile Egbe Yemoja	0	0	0
Ile Ljosin Otura Meji-Awon Osun	30,000	0	-30,000

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ORGANISATION	GRANTS PAID 2024 TT\$	GRANTS PAID 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN GRANTS IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
Jaiso the Band	0	0	0
Kalypso Revue	300,000	250,000	-50,000
KMC Music Limited	0	0	0
La Brea Nightingales Steel Orchestra	15,000	0	-15,000
Los Angeles de San Miguel Parang Band	15,000	0	-15,000
Maccometre	50,000	50,000	0
Mersu Caribbean Consulting Limited	0	0	0
Metamorphosis Dance Company	36,064	0	-36,064
Million Laffs Productions	0	0	0
MOED School of Dance	10,000	0	-10,000
National Action Cultural Committee	700,000	600,000	-100,000
National Chutney Foundation of Trinidad and Tobago	0	50,000	50,000
New Butler Associate College	20,000	40,000	20,000
Olokun Business Solutions Limited	0	0	0
Parsan Production	35,000	0	-35,000
Patrons of the Arts Foundation	10,000	0	-10,000
Point Fortin Development Group	0	0	0
Point Fortin Improvement Committee	20,000	0	-20,000
RG's Musical Production and Services	0	0	0
Riddums Productions Co. Ltd	24,000	0	-24,000
Rotary Club of Central Port of Spain	10,000	0	-10,000
Simone Mc Shine Academy of Dance	0	0	0
Spektakula Promotions	165,000	250,000	85,000
Stagexenterprise Ltd.	0	0	0
Teatro Journee	2,500	0	-2,500
The Alpha Theatrical Dance Company	7,500	0	-7,500

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

ORGANISATION	GRANTS PAID 2024 TT\$	GRANTS PAID 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN GRANTS IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
The Ethnic Jazz Club Ltd.	0	0	0
The Mahatma Gandhi Charitable Organisation	0	0	0
The Quays Foundation	0	0	0
The Rose Foundation	37,500	0	-37,500
The Woodbrook Residents Committee	20,000	0	-20,000
Traditional Afrikan Women's Organisation	0	0	0
Trinbago Woodwind & Brass Orchestra	20,000	0	-20,000
Trinidad & Tobago Red Cross Society	50,000	100,000	50,000
Trinidad All Stars Steel Orchestra	0	0	0
Trinidad and Tobago Best Village	0	0	0
United We Stand Promotions 868	0	0	0
ZigBoi Trinidad and Tobago	0	0	0
Total for Culture and Creative Arts Fund	2,513,564	1,660,000	-853,564
National Days and Festivals Fund			
14 1/4mm Penal Rock Road Community Council	7,000	0	-7,000
Academy of Grace Institute of the Holy Spirit	60,000	60,000	0
Ahmadiyya Anjuman Isha-at-I-Islam	150,000	150,000	0
Anjuman Sunnat ul Jamaat Association	228,800	228,800	0
Autorama Desi Krew Int'l	150,000	6,500	-143,500
Barrackpore Islamic Centre	81,000	80,934	-66
Birdsong	8,000	0	0
Bon Air Full Gospel Baptist Church	5,000	0	-5,000
BWEE Invaders Steel Orchestra	40,000	0	-40,000
Caribbean Historical Society	29,000	0	-29,000
Cashew Tree Foundation	20,000	0	-20,000

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ORGANISATION	GRANTS PAID 2024 TT\$	GRANTS PAID 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN GRANTS IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
Cecilia Salazar	15,000	0	-15,000
Cedar Hill Youth Social & Cultural Organisation	30,000	20,000	-10,000
Chaguanas Women and Youth Group	0	0	0
Council of Elders of the Spiritual Shouter Baptist Faith	0	0	0
Cunjai Community Council	8,000	7,500	-500
Curepe Pentecostal Empowerment Ministries International	6,000	0	-6,000
Diatonic Pan Institute	0	0	0
Dow Village Ramleela and Cultural Organisation Inc.	0	20,000	20,000
Eastern Performing Arts Fraternity	122,500	10,000	-112,500
El Dorado Youth Group	0	0	0
Emancipation Support Committee	1,400,000	0	-1,400,000
Empress Aje Music	55,000	0	-55,000
Engine 77' Limited	0	0	0
Eniyan Wa	40,000	0	-40,000
Enterprise Community Masjid	0	20,000	20,000
Ethiopian Orthodox Church St. Peter's Parish	50,000	0	-50,000
Fanny Village Community Council	30,000	0	-30,000
First Felicity Ramleela & Cultural Group	0	0	0
Garden Jewelz Foundation	20,000	18,000	-2,000
Glen Roshan Birsingh	6,000	0	-6,000
Hindu Dhaarmik Paishad Incorporated	23,200	0	-23,200
Holy Nazarene Spiritual Church	20,000	20,000	0
H.O.P.E Foundation	8,000	0	-8,000
Indo-Caribbean Cultural Centre Co. Ltd	3,850	3,600	-250

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

ORGANISATION	GRANTS PAID 2024 TT\$	GRANTS PAID 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN GRANTS IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
Industrial Park Improvement Committee	8,000	0	-8,000
Islamic Resource Society	0	63,700	63,700
Judah Healing Temple	3,500	0	-3,500
Kabir Updesh Universal Ashram Inc. 2007	13,000	7,000	-6,000
La Baja Village	3,000	0	-3,000
La Brea Development Association	0	0	0
La Brea Nightingales Steel Orchestra	50,000	0	-50,000
La Romaine Residential Association	0	8,000	8,000
Lady Fatima Zahra (as) Education and Research Foundation	14,850	14,850	0
La Ciudad De Brazil Christmas Society	5,000	0	-5,000
Laventille Enrichment Community Organisation	0	7,500	7,500
Let Our Vision Evolve	8,800	0	-8,800
Metronomes Sports and Cultural Club	7,000	7,000	0
Matelot Police Youth Club	0	0	0
National Action Cultural Committee	100,000	0	-100,000
National Council of Indian Culture NCIC Nagar	250,000	0	-250,000
National Congress of Incorporated Spiritual Baptist Organisations in Trinidad and Tobago (NCOIBOTT)	335,000	360,000	25,000
Nakita Gadsby	8,000	0	-8,000
Necessary Art School	7,825	0	-7,825
Paramin Development Committee	15,000	0	-15,000
Penal Rock Road 2m Village Council	6,500	6,700	200
Perception Management	15,000	30,000	15,000
Pierre Road Ramleela Committee	0	0	0
Renewing Hope Foundation	8,000	0	-8,000

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ORGANISATION	GRANTS PAID 2024 TT\$	GRANTS PAID 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN GRANTS IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
Sadhu Shakti Satsangh Mandir	0	6,000	6,000
Sal Tarrae Sustainable Development Foundation	33,000	0	-33,000
San Fernando JAMA Masjid Abdul	40,042	69,500	29,458
Sanatan Dharma Maha Sabha	395,000	350,000	-45,000
Sangre Grande Ramleela Committee	0	0	0
Satya Drishti Spiritual and Sporting Group	5,000	0	-5,000
Shiva Gana Organisation	75,000	23,000	-52,000
Shri Parameshawari Durga Devi Ashram	15,200	9,500	-5,700
St. Augustine South Community Council	6,500	6,500	0
St. Helena Development Corporation	75,400	40,700	-34,700
St. Luke's Spiritual Baptist Church	0	100,000	100,000
SWAHA Incorporated	102,000	88,000	-14,000
Tackveeyatul Islamic Association	165,000	165,000	0
Takaaful T&t Friendly Society	28,875	28,875	0
Tarouba Ramleela and Phagwa Committee	15,000	9,500	-5,500
Tassa Association of Trinidad and Tobago	25,000	0	-25,000
The Ark of Salvation	3,000	0	-3,000
The Barakah Foundation	67,925	67,925	0
The IGBEGA Foundation	3,000	0	-3,000
The Maynard Foundation of Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things	6,000	0	-6,000
The NAAG Foundation	15,000	18,000	3,000
The National Council of Indian Culture	500,000	600,000	100,000

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

ORGANISATION	GRANTS PAID 2024 TT\$	GRANTS PAID 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN GRANTS IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
The National Parang Association of Trinidad and Tobago	60,000	85,000	25,000
The Penal/Debe Foundation	0	10,500	10,500
The Spiritual Baptists Sanctuary	0	25,000	25,000
Three Roads Seva and Cultural Group	0	18,000	18,000
Trinidad Muslim League	137,500	137,500	0
University of the Southern Caribbean	0	0	0
Warp Crew	8,900	0	-8,900
Winfield Aleong Broadcasting Company (103FM) Ltd	65,000	60,000	-5,000
Wing It Holdings Company Limited	10,000	0	-10,000
Zachary and Friends	8,000	0	-8,000
Total National Days and Festivals Fund	5,340,167	3,068,584	-2,271,583
Sponsorship			
Individual Sponsorships	26,000	0	-26,000
103 FM	10,000	0	-10,000
Africa Film Trinidad and Tobago	0	40,000	40,000
Andrew Sport and Entertainment Consultancy	0	0	0
Andrew Sport and Entertainment Consultancy (A.S.E.C.)	0	0	0
Art Society of Trinidad and Tobago	0	14,000	14,000
Bacchacs Collective	25,000	0	-25,000
Banwari Experience	0	30,000	30,000
Blawssumm Can Foundation	30,000	0	-30,000
Boundless Production Co. Ltd	70,000	0	-70,000
Canboulay Productions	15,000	15,000	0
Caribbean Vizion	100,000	0	-100,000
CLD Charu Lochan Dass	80,000	200,000	120,000
Crowns and Sashes	0	60,000	60,000

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ORGANISATION	GRANTS PAID 2024 TT\$	GRANTS PAID 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN GRANTS IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
Diatonic Pan Institute	15,000	0	-15,000
Dingole E-Commerce Services Ltd	200,000	0	-200,000
DivasCalypso Cabaret International	40,000	0	-40,000
Desperadoes Steel Orchestra	0	10,000	10,000
Dream Weekend LLP	0	1,700,000	1,700,000
Engine 77' Limited	40,000	0	-40,000
Entertainment Management Quarters	0	90,000	90,000
Fareid Carvalho	10,000	0	-10,000
Filmmakers Collaborative of Trinidad and Tobago	100,000	0	-100,000
Hamidullah Wahid	6,000	0	-6,000
Idakeda Group Ltd.	100,000	0	-100,000
Iere Theatre Productions Limited	0	75,000	75,000
Invaders Steel Orchestra C.G.	0	25,000	25,000
Itz Rome	0	150,000	150,000
Johnson Greenidge	10,000	0	-10,000
Laventille Steelband Foundation	100,000	0	-100,000
Magical Experience Ltd	800,000	0	-800,000
National Chutney Foundation	0	50,000	50,000
Pan Trinbago	0	300,000	300,000
Prestige Past Students Foundation	0	40,000	40,000
Scorch Limited	420,000	0	-420,000
Trinbago Unified Calypsonians' Organisation	420,000	180,000	-240,000
Trinibashment Limited	10,000	0	-10,000
Trinidad All Stars Steel Orchestra	15,000	0	-15,000
Ultimate Events	0	3,403,000	3,403,000
Winston Young and Associates	80,000	0	-80,000
Woodbrook/St. James Community Association	0	150,000	150,000
ZigBoi Trinidad and Tobago Limited	20,000	0	-20,000

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

ORGANISATION	GRANTS PAID 2024 TT\$	GRANTS PAID 2025 TT\$	DIFFERENCE IN GRANTS IN 2025 FROM 2024 TT\$
Total Sponsorship	2,742,000	6,532,000	3,790,000
Community Development - CARE	15,000	11,000	-4,000
Ryu Dan Empowerment Foundation	15,000	11,000	-4,000
Sub-Total	30,000	22,000	-8,000
Ministry of Culture and Community Development's Total Grants	10,625,731	11,282,584	656,853
MINISTRY OF HEALTH			
One-off Grants			
University of the West Indies	5,000	5,000	0
Society of Radiographers of Trinidad and Tobago	5,000		5,000
Trinidad and Tobago Association of Psychologists	5,000		5,000
Trinidad and Tobago National Nursing Association	10,000	10,000	0
Trinidad and Tobago Medical Associaton		5,000	-5,000
Caribbean Association for Onocology and Hematology		5,000	-5,000
Sub-Total	25,000	25,000	0
Ministry of Health's Total Grants	25,000	25,000	0
GRAND GRANTS TOTAL	33,395,473	35,907,853	2,512,380

ABBREVIATIONS AND GLOSSARY



2026

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

ABBREVIATIONS	
800-COPE	National Suicide Prevention Hotline
ACP	Adult Cardiac Programme
AGLA	Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs
AI	Artificial Intelligence
AJIPA	Administration of Justice (Indictable Proceedings) Act
ALH	Augustus Long Hospital
ALTA	Adult Literacy Tutors Association
ART	Antiretroviral Therapy
ASSEP	After School Support Education Programme
AVM	Arteriovenous Malformation
AY	Academic Year
BENEFITT	Social Benefits Wallet (Trinidad and Tobago)
BOL	Beneficiary-Owned Land
CAC	Chaguanas Assessment Centre
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CARPHA	Caribbean Public Health Agency
CATT	Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago
CCM	Case Care Management
CCP	Community Care Programme
CCS	Country Cooperation Strategy
CCSAWP	Commonwealth / Caribbean Seasonal Agricultural Workers Programme
CD4	Cluster of Differentiation 4 (Immune System Marker, Used in HIV Monitoring)
CDAP	Chronic Disease Assistance Programme
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CDEMA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
CEPEP	Community-Based Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programme
CERT	Community Emergency Response Teams

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ABBREVIATIONS	
CFEWS	Community Flood Early Warning System
CI	Crisis Intervention
CICAD	Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (<i>known by its Spanish language acronym, CICAD</i>)
COC	Certificate of Comfort
COPOLAD III	Cooperation Programme between Latin America, the Caribbean, and the European Union on Drug Policy (Phase III)
COSTAATT	College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
CPGs	Clinical Practice Guidelines
CPIMS+	Child Protection Information Management System Plus
CPR	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
CRs	Community Residences
CSEC	Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate
CSGCP	Comprehensive School Guidance and Counselling Programme (CSGCP)
CSO	Central Statistical Office
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CT	Computed Tomography
CVQ	Caribbean Vocational Qualification
CWDP	Cybersecurity Workforce Development Programme
CXC	Caribbean Examinations Council
DAG	Disability Assistance Grant
DAGM	Disability Assistance Grant for Minors
DART	Dead Animal Removal Team
DAU	Disability Affairs Unit
DERT	Disaster and Emergency Response Team
DMUs	Disaster Management Units

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

ABBREVIATIONS	
DOA	Division of Ageing
DROP	Drill Rig Operator
DRRD	Disability Resource and Referral Database
DSA	Digital Subtraction Angiography
ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education (Learners with Special Needs / Disabilities)
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
EFT	Electronic Funds Transfer
ELDAMO	Elderly and Differently Abled Mobile Service
EMA	Environmental Management Authority
EMS	Electronic Monitoring System
EMT	Emergency Medical Technician
EMU	Electronic Monitoring Unit
EP	Electrification Programme
EPOS	East Port of Spain
EPOSDC	East Port of Spain Development Company Limited
EPP	External Patient Programme
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FBA	Functional Behavioural Assessments
FBOs	Faith-Based Organisations
FEMCoL	Facilities and Estate Management Company Limited
FIRSTT	First Year Infant Registration System
FY	Fiscal Year
G.U.I.D.E.	Growth, Understanding, Inclusion, Development, and Empowerment
G2P	Government-to-Person
GAD	Gender and Child Affairs Division
GAG	General Assistance Grant

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ABBREVIATIONS	
GAPP	Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme
GATE	Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GCAD	Gender and Child Affairs Division
GCR	Global Competitiveness Report
GDP (r/p)	Gross Domestic Product (r – Revised, p – provisional)
GFPs	Gender Focal Points
GGGR	Global Gender Gap Report
GGLP	Good Governance and Leadership Programme
GII	Global Innovation Index
GIS	Geographic Information System
GIY	The Grow It Yourself
GOI	Global Opportunity Index
GoRTT	Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
GPI	Gender Parity Index
HDI	Human Development Index
HELP	Higher Education Loan Programme
HIG	Home Improvement Grant
HIS	Health Information System
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HOME	Home Ownership Made Equal
HYPE	Helping You Prepare for Employment
IACP	ICT Access Centres Programme
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IDEVAW	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
IEP	Institute for Economics and Peace

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

ABBREVIATIONS	
IEPs	Individualised Education Plans
IFD	International Financing/ Finance Division
IGDS	Institute for Gender and Development Studies
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMAP	Industrial Maintenance Apprenticeship Programme
IMD	International Men's Day
IMD	Institute for Management Development
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INL	International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs Section (U.S. Embassy)
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ISEMS	Integrated Social Enterprise Management System
ISIRTT	Integrated Social Indicator Registry of Trinidad and Tobago
ISO	International Organisation for Standardisation
IWD	International Women's Day
JICA	Japan International Corporation Agency
JNSC	Joint National Steering Committee
LEAD	Leadership, Empowerment and Development Programme
LEC	Learning Enrichment Centre
LED	Local Economic Development
LIPs	Litigants in Person
LIS	Laboratory Information System
LocalIMC	Temporary Internal Staff Platform (Mobile-Centric)
LocalTT	Temporary External/ Public Platform (Mobile-Centric)
LSA	Land Settlement Agency
MAGLA	Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs
MALF	Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries
MCCD	Ministry of Culture and Community Development

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ABBREVIATIONS	
MDAs	Ministries, Departments, and Agencies
MDT	Ministry of Digital Transformation
MHS	Ministry of Homeland Security
MIC-IT	MIC Institute of Technology
MLI	Morvant Laventille Initiative
MLSMED	Ministry of Labour, Small and Micro Enterprise Development
MNS	Ministry of National Security
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoHo	Ministry of Housing
MoHS	Ministry of Homeland Security
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MoTCA	Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoWI	Ministry of Works and Infrastructure
MPAAI	Ministry of Public Administration and Artificial Intelligence
MPEAD	Ministry of Planning, Economic Affairs, and Development
MPI	Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index
MPOWERTT	Men's Personal, Organisational and Workforce Empowerment – Trinidad and Tobago
MPSDFS	Ministry of the People, Social Development and Family Services
MPU	Ministry of Public Utilities
MRDLG	Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government
MRI	Magnetic Resonance Imaging
MSDFS	Ministry of Social Development and Family Services
MSE	Micro and Small Enterprise

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

ABBREVIATIONS	
MSME	Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise
MSYA	Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs
MTEST	Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training
MTI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
MTIT	Ministry of Trade, Investment, and Tourism
MuST	Multi-Sector Skills Training
MWT	Ministry of Works and Transport
MYDNS	Ministry of Youth Development and National Service
NACC	National AIDS Coordinating Committee
NADAPP	National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme
NAMDEVCO	National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation
NAP	National Action Plan
NAPA	National Academy for the Performing Arts
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NCD	Non-Communicable Disease
NCEC	National Care and Empowerment Centre
NCP	National Centenarian Programme
NCP	National Child Policy
NCRHA	North Central Regional Health Authority
NDC	National Drug Council
NDTS	National Digital Transformation Strategy
NEP	National Empowerment Programme
NES	National Employment Service
NESC	National Environmental Skills Certification
NESC-TI	NESC Technical Institute
NFSD	National Family Services Division
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations

ABBREVIATIONS	
NIHERST	National Institute for Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology
NLCB	National Lotteries Control Board
NPCTT	National Payment Company of Trinidad and Tobago
NPF	National Policy Framework
NPGD	National Policy on Gender and Development
NPP	National Parenting Programme
NSDP	National Social Development Programme
NSDSL	National Schools' Dietary Services Limited
NTRC	National Therapeutic and Resource Centre
OAS	Organisation of American States
OAS/CICAD	Organisation of American States / Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OECS	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
OJT	On-the-Job Training
OPIC	Older Persons Information Centre
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
P2M	Person-to-Merchant
P2P	Person-to-Person
PACS	Picture Archiving and Communication System
PADF	Pan American Development Foundation
PAG	Public Assistance Grant
PAHO	Pan American Health Organisation
PAYE	Pay-As-You-Earn (Tax System)
PCI	Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (Angioplasty)
PLAR	Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother-To-Child Transmission (of HIV)

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

ABBREVIATIONS	
POS	Port-of-Spain
POSGH	Port-of-Spain General Hospital
POSH	Public Officers' Subsidised Housing
PSA	Public Service Academy
PSC	Project Steering Committee
PSG	Parental Support Groups
PYCs	Police Youth Clubs
R.E.A.P	Residential Electrification Assistance Programme
R.I.S.E.	Re-Integration, Support and Empowerment
RAPP	Retirees Adolescent Partnership Programme
RDC	Rural Development Company
RHA	Regional Health Authority
RITTR	Rehabilitating Inmates through Training and Retraining
SAFE	Securing Access, Fairness, and Efficiency Project
SAFFL	Spanish as the First Foreign Language
SCP	Senior Citizens' Pension
SDEI	Service Delivery Enhancement Initiative
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SDU	Social Displacement Unit
SEA	Secondary Entrance Assessment
SEED	Sowing Empowerment through Entrepreneurial Development
SEN	Special Education Needs
SEOs	Special Education Officers
SFGH	San Fernando General Hospital
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SMT	Standard Means Test
SNP	School Nutrition Programme

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ABBREVIATIONS	
SPARK	Electrical and Wireman's Training
SROAC	South Regional Office and Assessment Centre
SSIP	Social Sector Investment Programme
SSM	Social Sector Ministry
SSSD	Student Support Services Division
STEEP	Student Enhancement and Empowerment Programme
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
STEPS	Students Transitioning Effectively from Primary to Secondary
SWD	Social Welfare Division
SWRHA	South-West Regional Health Authority
T&T	Trinidad and Tobago
T&TEC	Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission
TAPS	Training for All-Round Plumbing Skills
TATT	Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago
TCCTP	Targeted Conditional Cash Transfer Programme
TDF	Tobago Development Fund
THA	Tobago House of Assembly
TIP	The Insight Project
TLIs	Tertiary Level Institutions
TnT	Trinidad and Tobago
TRHA	Tobago Regional Health Authority
TSTT	Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago
TT Card™	Trinidad and Tobago Card
TT\$	Trinidad and Tobago Dollar
TTAHI	Trinidad and Tobago Association for the Hearing Impaired
TTFS	Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services
TTMA	Trinidad and Tobago Medical Association

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

ABBREVIATIONS	
TTNCP	Trinidad and Tobago National Child Policy
TTNVQ	Trinidad and Tobago National Vocational Qualification
TTPrS	Trinidad and Tobago Prison Service
TTPS	Trinidad and Tobago Police Service
TTT	Trinidad and Tobago Television (TV Network)
TTWiFi	Trinidad and Tobago WiFi initiative
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UAP	Utilities Assistance Programme
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
UK	United Kingdom
UMBONO	Central Registry for Gender-Based Violence
UN	United Nations
UN MSDCF	United Nations Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNCRC	UNCRC – United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund
UNLIREC	United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNSCR 1325	United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (on Women, Peace and Security)
UPI	Unified Payments Interface
USA	United States of America
USSOUTHCOM	U.S. Southern Command

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ABBREVIATIONS	
UTT	University of Trinidad and Tobago
UWI	University of the West Indies
VWSU	Victim and Witness Support Unit
WADPC	World AIDS Day Pan Crawl
WAN	Wide Area Network
WASA	Water and Sewerage Authority
WEF	World Economic Forum
WHO	World Health Organisation
WHR	World Happiness Report
WPS	Women, Peace and Security
WTA	Water Tank Assistance
WTPs	Water Treatment Plants
YEH	Youth Entrepreneurship Hub
YEI	Youth Employment Initiative
YTEPP	Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

Term	Definition
Agricultural Incentive Programme (AIP)	The program provides grants and incentives to farmers for the adoption of equipment and technology, aiming to increase food security.
Agri-tech	The application of digital and technological tools to agriculture.
AI Math Project	MoE project training teachers in AI-powered maths tools to boost student performance.
Anansi (National AI Assistant)	A government-developed artificial intelligence platform that centralises citizen access to services across 32 ministries, departments, and agencies.
Annual Literacy and Numeracy Series (ALaNS)	National remediation initiative to close learning gaps through targeted educator training and parental engagement.
Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education	Use of AI-driven systems to improve teaching, learning, and personalisation.
Basic Requirements (GCR)	Foundational pillars of competitiveness include institutions, infrastructure, health, and primary education.
Beneficiary Owned Land (BOL) Initiative	The program provides grants to households with land but no capital to build on it.
Business Accelerator Programme	MLSMED initiative strengthening micro and small enterprises across the business cycle.
Caribbean Regional Peers	Other Caribbean nations (e.g., Barbados, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Suriname, and Haiti) were used as comparators for Trinidad and Tobago's performance.
Child Reception Centre	A specialised facility that provides initial care, assessment, and protection for children taken into state custody.
Childzonett Digital Resources	Digital platform (via GCAD & PADF) with courses, games, videos, and service directories for child protection.
Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (CATT)	A statutory body that protects children and coordinates care and child-protection services.
Climate Resilience	The capacity of systems, communities, and economies to anticipate, absorb, and adapt to climate-related shocks.
Co-operative Development Training Programmes	Programmes that build skills to establish, manage, and strengthen co-operatives.
Community Action for Revival and Empowerment (CARE)	The initiative supports civil society participation in local development projects.
Community Awareness and Sensitisation Programme (CASP)	The outreach programme uses lectures and workshops to raise awareness of social issues.
Community-based Rehabilitation	A holistic approach that delivers rehabilitation services within community settings, emphasising inclusion, empowerment, and participation.

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

Term	Definition
Community-based Organisations (CBOs)	Grassroots groups organised at the community level to support local development.
Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)	Volunteer teams are trained to support disaster preparedness and response.
Community Flood Early Warning System (CFEWS)	Camera-based flood monitoring system for disaster response and management.
Community Mediation Services Programme (CMSP)	A community-level conflict resolution mechanism promoting social cohesion.
Cybersecurity Workforce Development Programme (CWDP)	A pilot project to train professionals in cybersecurity aligned with industry standards.
Digital Government Solutions (Less Cash)	A UPI-modelled payment platform to reduce cash use and expand financial inclusion.
Digital Inclusion	Policies and initiatives that ensure all individuals, especially vulnerable groups, have access to and can effectively use digital technologies.
Digital Literacy	The ability to use digital tools effectively and responsibly for communication, learning, and work.
Digital Service Delivery Framework	A government approach to making public services accessible online in a user-friendly manner.
Digital Transformation Programme	Government-led initiative to modernise public services through technology.
Disability ≠ Inability Project	This Labour ministry initiative promotes workplace inclusion of persons with disabilities.
Drill Rig Operator (DROP)	This training initiative is preparing youth for rig operations and safety management.
Drug Demand Reduction	Strategies and programmes that aim to prevent, treat, and reduce the harmful consequences of drug use.
Economic Diversification	The process of diversifying a country or region's economy by developing multiple industries and markets to reduce dependence on a single income source or industry.
Economic Empowerment	The process whereby skills, resources and opportunities are given to persons of disadvantaged groups to make informed financial decisions.
Economic Participation (GGGR)	Measures women's engagement in the workforce and economy.
Educational Attainment (GGGR)	Tracks gender parity in access to education.
Efficiency Enhancers (GCR)	Competitiveness drivers include higher education, efficient markets, technology adoption, financial systems, and market size.

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

Term	Definition
Electronic Monitoring System (EMS)	A national offender supervision tool that uses electronic devices and software to track compliance with court orders and reduce recidivism.
Entrepreneurial (Micro-Enterprise) Management and Development Programme (EMDP)	The program provides mentorship and training to support the development of micro and small businesses.
Entrepreneurship	Designing, launching and managing a new business.
EPOS Community Youth Lead Programme	Empowers youth in vulnerable communities through training, entrepreneurship, and crime prevention.
Farm to Agro-Processing Project	Uses geospatial technology and UAVs to estimate crop production and strengthen food security.
Farm to Table Project	A Ministry of Agriculture initiative to promote Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and support farmers in meeting food safety and export standards.
Financial Inclusion	Ensuring individuals and businesses have access to affordable financial products and services.
FIRST® Tech Challenge	Robotics competition to build innovation and STEM skills.
First Year Infant Registration System (FIRSTT)	The MoE's online system enables parents to apply to multiple primary schools, replacing the previous paper-based processes.
Forestry Incentive Programme (FIP)	The initiative promotes alternatives to slash-and-burn agriculture and encourages sustainable land use.
Fruit Ripening Facility	Infrastructure to extend the shelf life of crops and reduce post-harvest losses, aligned with the WHO food safety guidance.
Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)	Standards and procedures that ensure safe and sustainable farming.
G.U.I.D.E. Panel Discussion	Support framework for parents of children with disabilities (Growth, Understanding, Inclusion, Development, Empowerment).
Gender Parity Index (GPI)	Ratio measuring male–female access to education: >1.0 = higher female participation.
Global Happiness / Well-being (WHR)	Assessed through the World Happiness Report, which measures life satisfaction and well-being.
Global Peace Index (GLPI)	The Institute for Economics and Peace ranking measures peacefulness based on violence, crime, militarisation, and political instability.
Governance and International Cooperation	The processes and institutions through which global and regional actors coordinate to address common challenges.
Handicraft Training for Special Students (HATTSS)	Social outreach using handicrafts for vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities and the incarcerated.

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

Term	Definition
Health and Survival (GGGR)	Evaluates gender equality in life expectancy and health outcomes.
Heritage and Culture Projects (Pan Theatres Refurbishment)	EPOS projects supporting cultural preservation are aligned with SDG 11.4.
Heritage Preservation	Efforts to conserve cultural and natural heritage sites for future generations.
HIV Workplace Advocacy Mobile App	Provides anonymous resources on HIV awareness, rights, and services.
Home Ownership Made Equal (HOME) Programme	Affordable housing programme for vulnerable families in Tobago.
Household Budgetary Survey (HBS)	The Central Statistical Office conducted a national survey to collect data on household income, expenditure, and living conditions.
Human Development and Social Progress	Broad improvements in health, education, equality, and inclusion.
Inclusive Sporting Arena for Persons with Disabilities	A universal access sports complex designed for athletes and spectators with disabilities.
Industrial Maintenance Apprenticeship Programme (IMAP)	Apprenticeship training in industrial maintenance and engineering.
Individualised Education Plan (IEP)	A tailored plan that outlines learning goals and support services for students with special needs.
Innovation and Sophistication (GCR)	Advanced competitiveness drivers related to technological readiness, business sophistication, and innovation capacity.
In the Know – On the Go	A “train the trainer” initiative equipping frontline workers with child protection and abuse prevention tools.
Integrated Social Enterprise Management System (ISEMS)	A digital system to streamline social welfare case management and services.
Inter-Ministerial Committee	A group of representatives from various ministries coordinating policies.
Inter-RHA Network	An ICT project linking Regional Health Authorities to enable digital prescriptions and record sharing.
Junior Achievement Initiative (2026–2028)	Teaches entrepreneurship and financial literacy at primary and secondary levels.
Labour Market Participation	The proportion of working-age individuals who are employed or actively seeking employment.
Latrine Eradication Project	The EPOS project aligns with SDG 6 to expand equitable access to sanitation.

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

Term	Definition
Learning Poverty	A child's inability to read and understand a simple story by the end of elementary school.
Life Skills Training	Education is designed to equip individuals with psychosocial abilities for adaptive and positive behaviour.
Local Economic Development (LED) Booths	Community-based entrepreneurship booths in Arima to stimulate small business growth.
LocalTT Platform	A mobile app for citizens to track and report complaints in real time.
Means Test (Standard Means Test – SMT)	Assessment of household income/living standards to determine eligibility for social aid.
Migration and Human Mobility	Movement of people across borders driven by conflict, climate change, and economic opportunity; includes remittances and labour-market effects.
Monitoring and Evaluation	A systematic process that tracks progress, measures outcomes, and assesses the effectiveness of policies, programmes, and projects.
MPowerTT Programme	Youth male empowerment initiative (18–40 years) providing life skills training, mentorship, apprenticeships, and psychosocial support.
MPSDFS Enterprise Business Continuity Solution	An ICT initiative ensuring data security and disaster recovery for social services.
Multilateral Cooperation	Collaboration among multiple states and international institutions to address global issues such as SDGs, climate change, and finance.
National Mental Health Awareness Campaign	Public education campaign to reduce stigma and promote access to mental health services.
National Seed Bank Project	Enhances seed quality and availability, reducing reliance on imported planting material.
Pandemic	The global spread of a new infectious disease that affects large populations across countries or continents.
Pathways to Progress	The program provides customised learning pathways for underperforming students to improve academic performance and employability.
Political Empowerment (GGGR)	Assesses women's representation in decision-making and leadership positions.
Poverty and Inequality	Persistent disparities in income, resources, and opportunities within and between countries.
Poverty Line	The minimum income level is considered sufficient to meet basic needs, including food, shelter, and clothing.

2026 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

Term	Definition
PowHer Programme	The women's empowerment and entrepreneurship training initiative is aimed at fostering economic independence and resilience.
Primero Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS+)	A digital platform that manages and safeguards information on at-risk children, supporting agencies in tracking cases and protecting their well-being.
Public Officers Subsidised Housing (POSH)	Pilot housing scheme providing subsidised lots for THA officers.
Remediation Programme	An education intervention designed to support students at risk of academic failure.
Resilient TnT Project	Green Fund-supported initiative to strengthen climate adaptation at the community level.
Restorative Practices	Structured processes that repair harm and rebuild relationships in schools or communities.
School Priority Project	A targeted intervention in 56 schools to improve achievement, behaviour, governance, and technology use.
School Sensitisation on Disability Awareness	Pilot in 22 schools to build inclusion and reduce stigma.
Security Sector Reform	Institutional reforms to improve security governance, reduce crime, and strengthen peace.
Spanish as the First Foreign Language (SAFFL) Programme	A national initiative to introduce Spanish as the primary foreign language in schools.
SPARK (Electrical and Wireman's Training)	Multi-tiered training for electrical installation and wireman exams.
Social Benefits Wallet (SBW)	A digital platform developed by the Government to unify the distribution of social benefits, increase transparency, and reduce inefficiencies.
Social Cohesion	Trust, solidarity, and connectedness within society that support resilience and well-being.
Social Displacement	Lack of stable housing/family support due to poverty, unemployment, or health issues.
Social Inclusion	The assurance that all persons in a society, regardless of status, race, gender, etc., have equal opportunities and access to resources.
Social Protection	Public measures ensuring income security and access to services for vulnerable groups.
Social Services	Publicly provided services are designed to support individuals and communities in areas such as health, education, housing, and social protection.

T&T FIRST: BUILDING ECONOMIC FAIRNESS THROUGH ACCOUNTABLE FISCAL POLICIES

Term	Definition
Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework	The UN's main agreement with a host government outlines strategic support for national development and the achievement of the SDGs, focusing on partnership, alignment with national priorities, and inclusive growth.
Squatter Regularisation	Government-led process of granting tenure and upgrading infrastructure in informal settlements.
TT Moves Junior NCD Academies	School-based initiative promoting physical activity and healthier lifestyles.
Trailblazers National Youth Apprenticeship Programme	The program provides apprenticeships and mentorship for at-risk youth.
Transitional Facility	Temporary centre offering housing, training, and psychosocial support to vulnerable persons.
Trauma-informed Care	An approach in service delivery that recognises the impact of trauma and seeks to avoid re-traumatisation while supporting recovery.
Vulnerable Citizens	High-risk individuals or groups in society due to socioeconomic status, social exclusion, disability, or other factors.
Women, Peace and Security National Action Plan (WPS NAP)	T&T's first national framework to implement UN Security Council Resolution 1325, promoting women's participation in peacebuilding and security.
Youth Empowerment	Equipping young people with skills and opportunities to participate in society.
Youth Entrepreneurship Hub (YEH)	Provides co-working spaces and support networks for young entrepreneurs.

2026 **SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME**

Design & Layout: Paria Publishing Co. Ltd.
Cover Artwork: Anthony Edwards
Printing: The Office Authority Limited

**A Publication of the Ministry of the People,
Social Development and Family Services**

Colonial Life Building
39–43 St. Vincent Street
Port of Spain
www.social.gov.tt

All Rights Reserved (2025)