



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

# SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2024

Building Capacity for  
Diversification and Growth



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (GoRTT) Social Sector Investment Programme (SSIP), continues to be of paramount importance in meeting the social protection needs of the vulnerable population. Consequently, the SSIP works to transform Government’s vision for the sustainable development of the society into tangible programmes and projects. These projects and programmes are designed to realise the goals set out in Government’s overarching national planning framework namely the National Development Strategy 2016-2030 (Vision 2030). During fiscals 2019-2023, Government allocated \$100 billion<sup>1</sup> to key social sector Ministries and social divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly (THA), demonstrating its ongoing obligations to social protection.

Moreover, the SSIP **2024** examines the social economic climate of Trinidad and Tobago, and the developments made toward attaining social transformation. It also provides an overview of the national social context by analysing existing and new social sector initiatives, as well as investments made by the key social sector Ministries, and the Tobago House of Assembly (THA) toward social development, during the **2023** fiscal year.

**Chapter One- The National Social Situation** provides an overview of the major advancements made within the social sector for fiscal **2023**. The Chapter consists of three (3) main sections, which focus on two (2) critical Thematic Areas of Vision 2030- *Theme 1: Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset, and Theme II: Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence*. Under these Themes the data is reflective of Government’s various efforts aimed at enhancing Trinidad and Tobago’s social capital and human development profile from a multi-sectoral perspective. Some of the key initiatives undertaken for each Goal in fiscal 2023 were as follows:

Table I: Summary of Initiatives/Achievements across various Ministries/Agencies/Institutions		
THEME I: PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST, NURTURING OUR GREATEST ASSET		
Goals	Some Major Achievements	Ministry/Agency/Institution Responsible
1. Persons living in absolute poverty will be reduced	A draft Interim-National Poverty Reduction Strategy was prepared with an accompanying Action Plan and a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan to support its implementation	Ministry of Social Development and Family Services
2. The Healthcare System will be efficient and provide quality services	Completion of the WHO and UNICEF External Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative Assessment by the Mt Hope Women’s Hospital, NCRHA and the other RHAs are advanced towards achieving similar status.	Ministry of Health
3. Citizens will lead healthy lifestyles	From January 2023, each Regional Health Authority had at least one Diabetes Wellness Centre staffed and outfitted with equipment.	Ministry of Health

<sup>1</sup> Ministry of Finance Draft Budgetary Estimates for the Fiscal Years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023



<b>Table I: Summary of Initiatives/Achievements across various Ministries/Agencies/Institutions</b>		
<b>THEME I: PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST, NURTURING OUR GREATEST ASSET</b>		
4. The foundation of Trinidad and Tobago will be strong families and safe sustainable communities	13th Edition of the Parental Support Group Symposium was launched in May 2023.	Ministry of Sport and Community Development
5. Trinidad and Tobago will have a seamless reformed, high-quality education and training system	Developed a Regulatory Instrument for Measuring and Monitoring Quality Standards across the ECCE Sector.	Ministry of Education
<b>THEME II- GOOD GOVERNANCE AND SERVICE EXCELLENCE</b>		
<b>Goals</b>	<b>Some Major Achievements</b>	<b>Ministry/Agency/Institution Responsible</b>
Goal 1: Public Institutions will be high performing entities meeting the needs of all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Change Management Training Programme was launched in March 2023</li> <li>▪ The Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property Act, No. 1 of 2015 was fully proclaimed on April 26, 2023.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ministry of Public Administration</li> <li>▪ Office of Procurement Regulation</li> </ul>
Goal 2: Citizens will have confidence in the justice system	The JUSTconnect platform, which is an innovative approach to judicial education through an online community learning and sharing platform for Caribbean judges and judicial officers and professionals, was launched	Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago
Goal 3: An efficient and effective law enforcement system	Regional training course under the OAS' Inter-American Programme for Strengthening Gender Equality in the Counterdrug Law Enforcement Agencies (GENLEA), took place for female officers from OAS Caribbean member states	Ministry of National Security

The Chapter concludes with a comparative analysis of social sector investments in the attainment of the United Nations SDGs 2030 for the fiscal years 2022, and 2023 respectively. Findings revealed that for fiscal 2023 the sum of \$9.1B was expended across 13 SDGs compared to \$7.9B for fiscal 2022. Additionally, 95% of all social sector budgetary allocations in fiscal 2023 which represent a 16% decrease from fiscal 2022 were heavily targeted on five (5) SDGs - *Goal 1- No Poverty (64 % or \$5.8B)*; *Goal 4- Quality Education (11% or \$963M)*; *Goal 8- Decent Work and Economic Growth (8% or \$721M)*; *Goal 3-Good Health and Wellbeing (7% or \$663M)*; and *Goal 2-Zero Hunger (\$470 M or 5%)*. These early outcomes provide the platform for the capturing of baseline data which will inform future trend analyses.



**Chapter Two – Overview of the Social Sector, and the Review of Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2023**, reviews the budgetary allocations made by GoRTT towards Social Sector development during the last five (5) fiscal years (2019-2023). During fiscal 2023 total revenues and budgeted expenditures were estimated at TT\$56.175 billion and TT \$57.685 billion respectively resulting in a fiscal deficit of TT\$1.510 billion or 0.8 % of GDP (Ministry of Finance, 2022). During the mid-year budget review, adjusted revenue was reported at TT\$55.17 billion, which was \$1 billion less than the initial projection for fiscal 2023. However, the revised budgeted expenditure was TT\$61.53 billion, leaving a budget deficit of TT\$6.36 billion.

Moreover, the Chapter indicates that social sector allocations were focused on three (3) main areas: Health and Health Care, Education and Social Services. Whereas the average allocation rate over the five-year period 2019-2023 is 33.4%, in fiscal 2023 the rate increased slightly to 37% from 32% in fiscal 2022. Data also showed that the Ministries of Health (26%), Education (25%), and Social Development and Family Services (22%) continued to receive the largest rates in allocation among all social sector Ministries and the social sector Divisions of the THA.

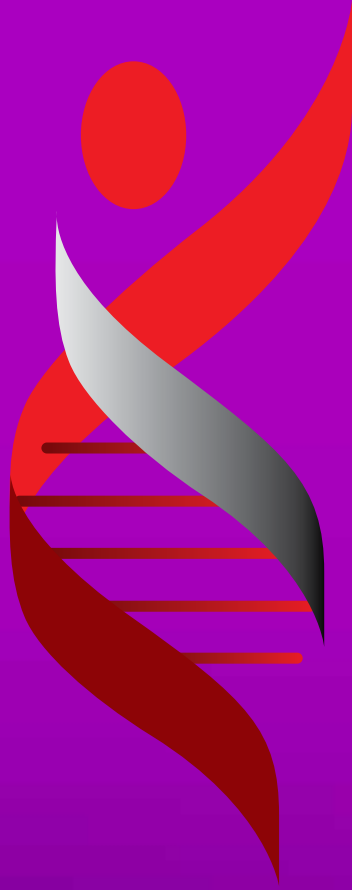
Concurrently, a review of more than 110 social programmes implemented across 14 Ministries and in three Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly in fiscal 2023 showed a decrease in the number of programmes being implemented during fiscal 2023. These programmes address a wide range of socio-economic issues including but not limited to: ageing; community development and the arts; child protection; culture; disability affairs; education; employment and entrepreneurship; environmental protection; family support; gender issues; literacy; poverty reduction; skill development; social protection; and substance abuse. Some of the new programmes and projects developed, and research undertaken by Ministries and Agencies were as follows:

### Programmes/Projects/Policies/Research Initiatives

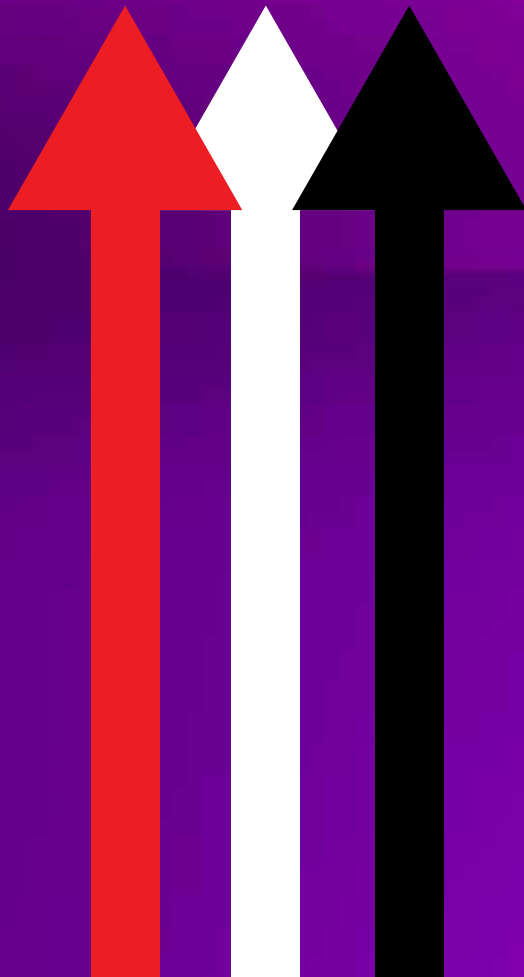
- School Climate Study – Primary and Secondary Schools - MOE
- Utility Cash Card Policy – MPU
- 24-Hour Suicide Prevention Hotline, 800 – COPE (2673) - MSDFS
- Public Sector Job Vacancy Census – MOL
- Private Sector Job Vacancy Census – MOL
- Household Efficiency Survey - MPU

**Chapter Three – The Social Sector Plans for Fiscal 2024**, identifies the planned initiatives of the Ministries within the social sector, and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for implementation. Such initiatives are to be viewed within the Themes and goals of the National Development Framework (Vision 2030) and are monitored and evaluated to measure progress towards the achievement of the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. Some key initiatives to be implemented in fiscal **2023/2024** are outlined below:

<p><b>Ministry of Agriculture</b></p> <p>Construction of a Tomato Ripening Facility in East Trinidad.</p>	<p><b>Ministry of Digital Transformation</b></p> <p>TTWIFI is an initiative to provide Wi-Fi access at no cost to citizens in public spaces</p>
<p><b>Ministry of Education</b></p> <p>Digital Literacy programme for primary level students to develop both the competency to use, access and communicate information using digital tools and forms.</p>	<p><b>Ministry of Health</b></p> <p>Medical Equipment Upgrade Programme at the various Public Health Institutions and expansion of critical services at the respective Regional Health Authorities.</p>
<p><b>Housing and Urban Development</b></p> <p>Commencement of development works on 27 projects under the Regularisation and Regeneration of Squatter Communities – Greater Port of Spain</p>	<p><b>Ministry of Labour</b></p> <p>Launch of the National Employment Online Network (NEON) to promote the awareness of the NEON Portal on the Ministry’s official recruitment website</p>
<p><b>National Security</b></p> <p>Construction of a dormitory for female officers at the Youth Transformation and Rehabilitation Centre (YTRC). This infrastructural inclusion is expected to create an atmosphere which can assist in prison reformation, and inclusion within members of the wider society</p>	<p><b>Office of the Prime Minister-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development and implementation of a Child Poverty Reduction Strategy that outlines activities and recommendations to reduce child poverty, and improve access to social services.</li> <li>• Retraining survivors of domestic violence in small and micro- enterprise development and provision of grant funding to establish a small/ micro business</li> </ul>
<p><b>Public Utilities</b></p> <p>Provision of Solar Panel Assistance to approximately 60 low-income households that are without access to the electricity grid</p>	<p><b>Rural Development and Local Government</b></p> <p>Expansion of Disaster Surveillance to improve the responsiveness of the Disaster Management Unit in times of crises, natural disasters and other extraordinary events</p>
<p><b>Sport and Community Development</b></p> <p>Community Development Partnership Forum - 6th edition (CDPF-VI) The proposed theme of CDPF-VI is “Sport as a tool for Development in Communities and Schools</p>	<p><b>Youth Development and National Service</b></p> <p>Establishment of a National Service Programme to engage young individuals up to the age of 35 in a comprehensive and inclusive initiative</p>
<p><b>Social Development and Family Services</b></p> <p>Integration of the systems and databases of the MSDFS with the Government’s interoperability framework, in order to efficiently extend the benefits of the E-ID system to the most vulnerable members of society.</p>	<p><b>Tobago House of Assembly</b></p> <p>Upgrade and modernise schools towards smart-school classification and certification</p>



# INTRODUCTION



## INTRODUCTION

Over the last three years the social sector in Trinidad and Tobago remained a pillar of strength in spite of the ongoing global socio-economic realities. The World Health Organization in May 2023 declared that the COVID-19 pandemic was no longer a global health emergency, marking a symbolic end to the pandemic that in three years resulted in the deaths of nearly seven million people globally and negatively affected the health of billions. Despite this declaration, world economies continued to grapple with the multiple shocks due to the pandemic. For instance, the outlook for several developed and developing countries post-COVID - within the United Nations categories of high human development to low development - shows troubling signs, including derailing the advancement of the sustainable development goals.<sup>1</sup> According to ECLAC in its 2023 report, the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean are facing a complex external scenario in 2023, marked by low growth in economic activity and global trade. Due to the context of growing external uncertainties and domestic restrictions, ECLAC projected the slowdown in economic growth to deepen in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2023, reaching a rate of 1.2%.

Correspondingly, the ongoing war between Russia and the Ukraine has forced the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) to make a statement on its deep concern about the severe impact of the war on citizens of the region. Consequentially, the region has experienced high fuel prices and disruptions in trade which resulted in notably high inflation rates reflected in increased prices for goods and services<sup>2</sup>.

Conversely in the domestic market, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) pointed to the ongoing broad-based momentum of recovery of the economy with a projected growth for 2023 at 3.2% GDP expansion following 2.5% in 2022. The IMF also indicated the importance of continuing to provide targeted and temporary support to alleviate the rising living costs among the most vulnerable, and noted that the pace and composition of the adjustment should continue to preserve the spending power for the most vulnerable and for essential capital.<sup>3</sup>

Within the social sector, continued strategic focus is being placed on achieving the medium term (2016-2025) objectives as outlined in Vision 2030. For this phase, more than 16 goals were identified in keeping with five (5) Thematic Areas. However, the following two (2) Thematic Areas are germane to the sector:

- **Theme I: Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset**
- **Theme II: Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence**

**Themes I and II** include a number of strategic goals critically aligned to the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**.

Concomitantly, the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the Roadmap to Recovery and the Community Recovery Report are also pertinent to the performance of the social sector. The former is being designed to assist Government in effectively aligning interventions to national results; track performance; encourage collaboration among stakeholders; report on progress; and guide new project, programme and policy development towards “recovery” and “transformation” over the medium term (2022-2025). Additionally, the Roadmap to Recovery *Report’s Pillar 3: Leaving No One Behind* is relevant to the social sector as Government seeks to enhance its social protection system, to ensure that at-risk groups receive the required support, and that community businesses benefit from increased financial opportunities and other offerings. Ultimately, this pillar is intended to empower each vulnerable person to pursue opportunities to

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<sup>1</sup> “Accelerating Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals in Trinidad and Tobago: Sustainable and Green Recovery Opportunities Post-COVID-19”

<sup>2</sup> CARICOM HEADS CALL FOR END TO RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR- [HTTPS://CARICOM.ORG/CARICOM-HEADS-CALL-FOR-END-TO-RUSSIA-UKRAINE-WAR/](https://CARICOM.ORG/CARICOM-HEADS-CALL-FOR-END-TO-RUSSIA-UKRAINE-WAR/)

<sup>3</sup> International Monetary Fund “Mission Concluding Statement: Trinidad and Tobago: Staff Concluding Statement of the 2023 Article IV Mission”,





make them self-sufficient, and improve their prospects for a better future. Under the concept of Community Recovery, the social sector plays an integral role in keeping with the following four (4) dimensions:

1. Community pride and ownership
2. Social support and cohesion
3. Human Development
4. Business and Economic Development

### *Social Protection and the Sustainable Development Goals*

Social protection continues to be a global priority together with the right to social security. Both measures are integral elements of the International Labour Organization's mandate since its creation in 1919 and are guided by its set of international labour standards. The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by all UN Member States has reaffirmed the global commitment, which prioritizes social protection as a means to achieve several SDGs. Most prominently, SDG 1.3 calls upon countries to implement nationally appropriate social protection systems for all, for reducing and preventing poverty. Concomitantly, social protection is regarded as an investment with high return given its key role in accelerating progress towards achieving the 2030 SDGs and in leaving no one behind. It is also a key element of national strategies which seek to promote human development, political stability, and inclusive growth. At the global level, the commitment for social protection is reflected in many international organisations' agendas<sup>4</sup>. This was quite evident at key international and regional fora during the fiscal year 2023.

At the Fourth Session of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in October 2021, it was articulated that the existing social protection frameworks were not designed to treat with the protracted nature and magnitude of the crisis created by the pandemic. Accordingly, there is now the need for rethinking of the social development agenda to incorporate new and emerging standards given that the pandemic has impacted vulnerable groups differently. These groups have different coping capacities, which must be considered in redesigning the social protection strategy, as one size does not fit all.

In keeping with the concept of emerging trends impacting on social development, the 5th Meeting of Ministers and High Level Authorities of Social Development of the Organisation of American States (V REMDES) sought to generate a space for dialogue on the role that social protection must play to overcome the challenges posed by inclusion and integral development in the Hemisphere. The meeting, which was held in the Dominican Republic, also sought to confront the crises and natural disasters that affect the region through greater institutional and social resilience, based on social and fiscal pacts that make protection strategies financially sustainable. One consideration is the continued impact of climate change on sustainable development. Social protection initiatives are as much at risk from this phenomenon as from other challenges to development.

Given the aforementioned, these initiatives are unlikely to succeed in reducing poverty if adequate consideration is not given to both short and long-term shocks and stresses associated with climate change. An alternative approach to combatting this, is the emerging concept of 'adaptive social protection' (ASP). Developed by researchers in the United Kingdom, this concept explores linkages between climate change adaptation and social protection. Adaptive social protection helps build the resilience of poor and vulnerable households by investing in their capacity to prepare for, cope with, and adapt to shocks, ensuring that they do not fall (deeper) into poverty. The ASP framework consists of four building blocks - programs, data and information, finance, and institutional arrangements and partnerships as the cornerstones for building household resilience.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---ddg\\_p/documents/briefingnote/wcms\\_732720.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---ddg_p/documents/briefingnote/wcms_732720.pdf)  
Towards Universal Social Protection and achieving SDG 1.3

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/human-capital/publication/adaptive-social-protection-building-resilience-to-shocks-key-findings#:~:text=Adaptive%20social%20protection%20\(ASP\)%20helps,fall%20\(deeper\)%20into%20poverty.](https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/human-capital/publication/adaptive-social-protection-building-resilience-to-shocks-key-findings#:~:text=Adaptive%20social%20protection%20(ASP)%20helps,fall%20(deeper)%20into%20poverty.)

Trinidad and Tobago, like other small island developing and coastal states is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, given that approximately 70 percent of the population live on the coast and 50 percent of the population in Tobago live within 1.5 km of the coastline, which significantly contributes to the island's vulnerability. Furthermore, approximately 80 percent of the country's socioeconomic activities are located along the coastline.<sup>6</sup> Consequently, as a country heavy focus and effort are required to mitigate the economic impacts of climate change by adopting climate resilient practices; implementing sustainable agricultural practices; and investing in infrastructure resilience, among others<sup>7</sup>.

### *Some Major Events and Achievements in Fiscal 2023*

The social sector played a key role in the recently concluded Regional Crime Symposium on Violence as a Public Health Concern held on 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> April, 2023. At this symposium, the social outlook centred on how social determinants affect families and their likelihood to engage in criminal activities. Theory has shown that targeted social development acts as a crime prevention measure which includes interventions designed to remedy criminogenic social conditions such as poverty, inadequate housing, and unhealthy family influences. Given the direct relationship between crime and mental disorders, the Ministry of Health has identified mental health as a priority area, and has taken steps to transform existing mental health services from a predominantly centralized, large psychiatric hospital model to a balanced care model, with most services decentralized to the community. On the other hand, the Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago has sought to not only build awareness of the features of the child justice system but also address challenges and identify solutions to improve the justice sector.

In July 2023, the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services and by extension the social sector accepted the Vice Chair of the Organization of American States' Inter-American Committee On Social Development (CIDES) *Working Group 1: "Measurements of multidimensional poverty and the design of public policies intended to guarantee the well-being and the enjoyment of a good quality of life"*. The main objective of this Group is to promote and/or strengthen the institutional capacities of OAS member states in the implementation of multidimensional poverty measurements; the design of effective policies to eradicate it, as well as the need to develop advanced tools to evaluate policies which seek to eradicate poverty and aid progress towards the achievement of SDG 1 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: *"End poverty in all its forms everywhere."*

In August 2023, the MSDFS, as the lead social sector Ministry, collaborated with the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Economic Studies of the University of the West Indies, and the Caribbean Development Bank to conduct a series of workshops to focus on the preliminary findings of a study to assess the situation of persons with disabilities in Trinidad and Tobago. Data emanating from the research indicated that according to the 2011 Population and Housing Census, approximately 52,243 persons or 4% of the population consisted of persons with disabilities living in Trinidad and Tobago. It is envisaged that the final report when completed will enable the social sector to formulate more robust policies, programmes, initiatives and legislation to address the contemporary issues affecting persons with disabilities.

September 6, 2023, marked a significant milestone as the Sod Turning Ceremony for a \$55.6M assessment centre and temporary shelter to house street dwellers, took place in East Port of Spain. The issue of finding humane solutions for street dwellers has plagued the country for over four decades, and the intended facility which is expected to accommodate approximately 200 persons will be more than just a shelter, as it seeks to offer skills training, access to jobs and healthcare to the homeless.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> [IMA .2016. State of the Marine Environment]

<sup>7</sup> Britney Nurse: Improving climate resiliency in Trinidad and Tobago calls for strategic action, August 4, 2023 <https://climatetracker.org/improving-climate-resiliency-in-trinidad-and-tobago-calls-for-strategic-action/#:~:text=The%20effects%20of%20climate%20change,coastal%20erosion%20and%20biodiversity%20loss.>

<sup>8</sup> "Ministers turn sod for \$55m centre to house street dwellers" Daily Express, Thursday 7 September 2023 , page 4



### *Social Sector Landscape in Fiscal 2024 and Beyond*

The social sector remains focused in its human and social development efforts to achieve Government's mandate for societal transformation. Such measures are expected to be heightened further in fiscal 2024 through the implementation of e-government strategies and the employment of automated tools, new business processes and organisational design.

These objectives are also consistent with GoRTT's thrust for building capacity for diversification and growth given that digital technologies are argued as facilitating the output diversity and economic growth of countries since their ability to innovate, create knowledge and share information generates a plethora of opportunities that promote the sustainable development of the countries<sup>9</sup>. Additionally, the sector is also cognizant of the need for green and sustainable recovery planning, which aims to build capacity through technical assistance necessary to strengthen policy coherence to advance the achievement of the SDGs<sup>10</sup> in collaboration with key sector partners. Consequently, consideration will be given to the latter and other approaches as the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services seeks to develop its Strategic Plan (2024-2029) in light of the prevailing and new global technological, environmental, health and economic conditions likely to impact the social sector in the future.

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<sup>9</sup> Do Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and Financial development contribute to economic diversification? Evidence from sub-Saharan Africa <https://journalofeconomicstructures.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40008-023-00299-7#:~:text=Digital%20technologies%20are%20argued%20as,sustainable%20development%20of%20the%20countries>

<sup>10</sup> Training Workshop "Accelerating Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals in Trinidad and Tobago: Sustainable and Green Recovery Opportunities Post COVID-19"





# CHAPTER 1:

# The National Social Situation





## CHAPTER 1: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

Chapter 1 focuses on major initiatives and advancements made within Trinidad and Tobago's social sector during fiscal 2023 towards the achievement of the *National Development Strategy of Trinidad and Tobago (Vision 2030)*. The information in this chapter highlights the government's ongoing efforts to stabilize, protect and stimulate the economy, as the country continues to mitigate its post-COVID recovery. Despite exogenous factors impacting the local economy, the GoRTT maintained its support of the social sector evidenced by the initiatives detailed in this chapter that seek to enhance Trinidad and Tobago social capital and human development profile. This chapter is aligned to the themes of the National Development Strategy, specifically *Theme I: Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset* and *Theme II: Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence* as detailed in Table 1 hereunder.

**Table 1: Vision 2030 Themes and Medium Term Goals**

Section 1.1	Theme I	Putting People First: Nurturing our Greatest Asset
Section 1.2.1	Goal 1	Persons living in absolute poverty will be reduced
Section 1.2.2	Goal 2	The Healthcare System will be efficient and provide quality services
Section 1.2.3	Goal 3	Citizens will lead healthy lifestyles
Section 1.2.4	Goal 4	The foundation of Trinidad and Tobago will be strong families and safe, sustainable communities
Section 1.2.5	Goal 5	Trinidad and Tobago will have a seamless, reformed high-quality education and training system
Section 1.3	Theme II	Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence
Section 1.3.1	Goal 1	Public Institutions will be high performing professional entities, meeting the needs of all
Section 1.3.2	Goal 2	Citizens will have confidence in the justice system
Section 1.3.3	Goal 3	An efficient and effective law enforcement system

### Theme I: Putting People First: Nurturing our Greatest Asset

The first thematic area of the National Development Strategy of Trinidad and Tobago recognizes that central to the development of society is the citizenry, having identified them as the nation's greatest assets. Thus, the attainment of sustainable development necessitates the creation of a society in which the basic needs of all are met and each individual is afforded an equal opportunity to contribute and self-actualise. The 5 goals aligned to this thematic area speaks to building a society on the foundation of principles such as equality, community spirit, honesty, tolerance and respect amongst others whilst simultaneously eradicating societal ills such as poverty, discrimination, inequity, social marginalisation, disease and poor health. Consequently, the GoRTT in fiscal 2023 continued to pursue the development of this idealised nurturing environment that will empower individuals to become creative and productive citizens.

#### Goal 1: Persons Living in Absolute Poverty Will Be Reduced

The GoRTT continued its thrust towards digitization and modernisation of its social protection system to better serve the poor and vulnerable groups in society. This, all in the desire to provide a modern, client-centered approach in the delivery of transformative and empowering initiatives aimed at the eradication of multi-dimensional poverty. These initiatives are expected to assist in developing resilience and sustainability among the poor and vulnerable and reduce the transmission of intergenerational poverty.



During fiscal 2023, there have been a number of activities intended to addressing poverty reduction, as outlined below.

### **A. National Poverty Reduction Strategy**

In fiscal 2023, the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services continued to work diligently towards the development of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy (NPRS). The Ministry is of the view that the NPRS has strategic implications for a number of policies and initiatives both within the Ministry and across the social sector. As a result, the MSDFS has decided to proceed with the development of an Interim-NPRS using secondary data and inputs from key stakeholders. The Interim-NPRS will be designed to achieve its objectives through a range of strategies situated under five (5) core thematic areas, namely:

- Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building,
- Harmonisation of the Social Services Delivery System,
- Data-Driven Social Protection System,
- Improving access by the poor and vulnerable to digital infrastructure, technology, and services, and
- Addressing Poverty and Vulnerability Multi-dimensionally.

In fiscal 2023, a draft Interim-NPRS was prepared with an accompanying Action Plan and a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan to support its implementation. The Interim-NPRS is expected to be strengthened and finalised when data from the impending Survey of Living Conditions becomes available in 2024.

### **B. Creation of a National Register of Vulnerable Persons (NRVP) for Trinidad and Tobago**

Recognising that effective poverty alleviation requires the targeted orientation of development activities (national and local levels) toward the poor and vulnerable, the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services continued to work assiduously towards the establishment of a National Register of Vulnerable Persons (NRVP). The Register is intended to be a cutting-edge computerised database that will be used to collect, store, and process vital information on vulnerable people on a single platform. It would improve the coordination of activities within the social sector, enhance the overall efficiency of the country's social protection system, and facilitate the rapid response to emergencies/shocks and adverse situations of vulnerable groups. Some key achievements undertaken in fiscal 2023 for the completion of the NRVP include:

- completion of the inception report,
- review and gap analysis conducted,
- development of the draft design,
- review/recommendation on vulnerability measurements and process,
- virtual high level stakeholder sensitization session,
- meeting of high-level technical committee and demonstration of the implementation of the register.

### **C. Establishment of the National, Migrants and Refugee Minimum Expenditure Baskets (MEBs).**

In fiscal 2023, the GoRTT in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund commenced work on the establishment of a National, Migrants and Refugee Minimum Expenditure Baskets (MEBs). The MEBs form part of the government's efforts to strengthen the social protection system in Trinidad and Tobago. A MEB is an operational tool to identify and quantify, in a particular context and for a specific moment in time,

the average cost of the regular or seasonal basic needs of a household that can be covered through the local market. The established MEBs aim to support recommendations for new, evidence-informed average cash transfer values that can be used for the new food support programmes and other interventions within the national social protection and parallel support systems. In addition, the MEBs will contribute to vulnerability analysis and the establishment of a common multi-sectoral reference for monitoring impacts. The project's final report was completed in April 2023, and as of June 2023, the Social Investigations Division (SID) of the MSDFS continued assisting the UNICEF and the relevant consultant in developing a communication plan to support the implementation of the MEBs. Implementation of this project is expected to continue into fiscal 2024.

### D. Household Budget Survey/ Survey of Living Conditions

In February 2023, the Central Statistical Office of the Ministry of Planning and Development commenced the data gathering aspect of the Household Budget Survey/ Survey of Living Conditions (HBS/SLC). The 2023 HBS/SLC is a nationally representative survey with coverage across all cities, boroughs and regions in Trinidad and Tobago and is undertaken with the objective of providing detailed information on household expenditure, income, and the living conditions of citizens. Such initiatives highlight the GoRTT's ongoing commitment towards the development of strategies/policies/programmes that are data/research driven. It is envisioned that this data will influence government's poverty reduction strategies, educational initiatives, social interventions, health and wellness strategies and more in keeping with goals of Trinidad and Tobago's National Development Strategy Vision 2030, as well as the global SDGs. The main objectives of the HBS/SLC are to:

- Collect information to develop a current basket of household goods and services. This data forms the basis for the revision of the Index of Retail Prices which is used to monitor the inflation rate.
- Provide detailed data on household expenditure and income.
- Facilitate the construction of poverty lines and produce indicators of deprivation to benefit social research and poverty analyses.
- Assess, gauge and monitor national progress towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

### E. Interventions for the Socially Displaced

The GoRTT recognises the crucial importance of providing care and social support measures to those living in complete destitution such as the street dwelling population. In this regard, the following measures were undertaken in fiscal 2023 in an effort to eradicate street dwelling at the national level:

#### Development of an Assessment Centre

The development of an assessment centre for socially displaced persons depicts the GoRTT commitment and responsibility towards an effective strategy in providing reliable accommodation for the street dwelling population. Apart from providing socially displaced persons with suitable accommodation, the Centre will also facilitate the assessment of clients for relevant treatment, rehabilitation and essential life skills training. In fiscal 2023, construction of the proposed facility commenced and is expected to continue into fiscal 2024.

#### Creation of Additional Transitional Facilities

During fiscal 2023, work on the establishment of additional transitional facilities continued. The transitional facilities are intended to provide emergency shelter for persons who have been displaced by crises such as natural disasters, fire, and eviction amongst other reasons. Additionally, these centres will also deliver a



number of services to vulnerable and marginalized groups such as the provision of psychiatric/psychological support and counselling, social work, social assessment, training for employment and any other interventions/activities they may require. Over the fiscal the MSDFS continued refurbishment/outfitting works at the following facilities:

- i. Penal Transitional Facility
- ii. Mary Jenny Poole Transitional Facility
- iii. Hernandez Place Transitional Facility
- iv. Couva Transitional Facility for Women (CTFW)

In tandem, the Ministry of Youth, Development and National Service (MYDNS) over this fiscal also conducted refurbishment, upgrade works to its existing transition homes, and commenced construction of its new transition homes. MYDNS completed the refurbishment for the Children in Need of Supervision (CHINS) project at the St. Michael School for the Boys. This upgraded facility will now be able to provide a divergent and residential restorative development programme for its occupants. Similarly, expansion of the Ste Madeline Transition Home was conducted during the fiscal and is expected to be completed by the end of fiscal. Additionally, the Ministry commenced the construction and refurbishment of the Sevilla Transition Home for young women in fiscal 2023. To date, overall works are 30% completed and it is estimated that the project will be completed in November 2023. Upon completion, 50 young women between the ages of eighteen (18) and twenty-four (24) will be provided with supported housing for two years, while equipping them with the necessary skills and tools needed to transition into adulthood.

## Goal 2: The Healthcare System will be Efficient and Provide Quality Services

The Ministry of Health's (MOH) Strategic Plan 2021-2025 is based on the Government's Recovery Plan 2021-2025 and the National Development Strategy 2016-2030 to promote and protect the health and wellbeing of current and future generations. As outlined in the Recovery Plan, the overall improvement in the health sector will be based on diversification through medical tourism; digitisation using telemedicine; health information systems; and patient portals and initiatives to prevent Communicable and Non-Communicable diseases. The successful implementation of these health initiatives will lay the foundation for navigating the country back to socio-economic prosperity by the year 2030 and ensure sustainability and resilience of the health system. During the fiscal year 2023, the MOH has been focusing on several strategic initiatives aimed at re-positioning and re-invigorating key aspects of the health care delivery system. These include:

### A. Major Healthcare Achievements

- Continued implementation of the perinatal information system (SIP) in all public health facilities, with a focus on implementing the electronic version, SIP Plus, in all RHAs.
- The upgrade of equipment and facilities in the re-positioning of antenatal and postnatal programmes;
- Greater management and monitoring of maternal services with the use of the perinatal information system.
- Successful completion of the WHO and UNICEF External Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative Assessment by the Mt Hope Women's Hospital, NCRHA and the other RHAs are advanced towards achieving similar status.
- Ongoing construction of the Sangre Grande Hospital (76% completed)
- Ongoing construction of the POSGH Central Block (32% completed)
- Continued efforts towards the re-purposing of the National Blood Bank System to achieve 100% voluntary non-remunerated blood donation (VNRD) by the end of 2024 using a donor-oriented approach with an adequate supply of safe, quality blood and blood components.

- Continued development of the following key strategic policies:
  - The updated National Blood Transfusion Services Policy (80% completed);
  - The Health Digitalization Policy (80% completed);
  - The Health Research Ethics Policy (90% completed);
  - The National Policy for the Prevention, Management & Control of NCDs (75% completed)
  - National Policy on Electronic Nicotine and Non Nicotine Delivery Systems (75% completed)
  - Policy for the Management, Control & Regulation of Pesticide and Toxic Chemicals (90% completed)
  - National Health Laboratory Policy (90% completed)

### Goal 3: Citizens will lead Healthy Lifestyles

As the country moves closer to its Sustainable Development Goals, the health and well-being of the citizenry continues to be a fundamental component. The ministry continues in its mandate of promoting and securing the health of all through the provision of quality healthcare services as well as providing information to citizens on various healthy lifestyle choices. The MoH continues to implement a number of initiatives and programmes that directly and indirectly encourage healthy lifestyles. For fiscal 2023, the following are some of the major initiatives that were implemented:

#### A. Non-Communicable Diseases

Globally and locally, non-communicable diseases (NCD's), namely heart disease, diabetes, cerebrovascular disease and cancer, remain the leading causes of morbidity and mortality. Consequently, the MOH continued to diligently implement programmes and initiatives aligned to its National Strategic Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non Communicable Diseases (NSP NCD). The model to be used for the prevention, management and control of NCDs in Trinidad and Tobago, is an integrated approach to addressing the problem of NCDs by recognizing the important of role of the community, the health system, self-management support, delivery system design, clinical information systems and communication and behaviour change. The following are some of the main initiatives and activities undertaken by the MoH in combatting NCDs:

- **The TT moves Behavioural Change Campaign:** This is a NCD Risk Factor Reduction behavioural change communication campaign aimed at addressing the increasing prevalence of NCDs in Trinidad and Tobago and in particular the associated risk factor behaviours. The Ministry of Health has commenced the strategic installation of TT Moves signage at health facilities across the country, to display key messages, which encourage members of the public to engage in a healthier lifestyle by Drinking Water, Eating Fruits and Vegetables; and to Get Moving through physical exercise. Some of the more notable achievements include:
  - Procurement, branding and retrofitting of six (6) Mobile Units to serve as mobile NCD screening units. Procurement is underway to equip the Units to function as full NCD mobile screening units; and
  - Building Signage was completed at the ERHA, NCRHA, and NWRHA.
- **Formation of the National NCDs Steering Committee:** The NCD Steering Committee is responsible for overseeing the implementation of activities related to the National Policy and Strategic Plan for the Prevention and Control of NCDs. The Ministry has taken an integrated approach to addressing the problem of NCDs by recognizing the importance of having a Whole of Government and Whole of Society approach





- **Standardization and Restructuring of Diabetes Wellness Clinics across all RHAs:** This initiative aims to improve care of persons living with uncontrolled diabetes to prevent the development of the long term effects of diabetes such as foot ulcers, loss of eye sight, wound care and healthy lifestyles. A Diabetes Wellness Clinic was operationalised at each RHA as follows:
- **Ongoing implementation of the Gestational Diabetes Management Programme:** This programme is aimed at managing diabetes in pregnancy with the goal of reducing maternal mortality rates. This programme includes guidelines and standard operating procedures with supporting training being completed on the use of improved quality control procedures in laboratory management and the use of an interactive online platform for medical staff within all Regional Health Authorities. Also, the procurement of laboratory equipment and supplies and ICT Devices has commenced.
- **Ongoing implementation of the Lung Cancer/Thoracic Enhancement Project at EWMSC:** This is a Cancer Clinic equipped and staffed to deliver National Lung Cancer Early Detection and Management. Phase 1 and 2 of the project has been completed with equipment already delivered. The project is in Phase 3.
- **Launch and Implementation of the Health Initiative for Men:** The main objectives of this initiative is to increase gender-sensitive healthcare initiatives at the MOH and RHA levels, increase awareness and uptake of cancer screenings for men and improve health-seeking behaviour among men in the population.

## B. Mental Health

Trinidad and Tobago has the third highest prevalence rate of mental disorders including schizophrenia, mood disorders, behavioural disorders, substance use and suicide in the Caribbean. In addition, adolescent mental health is a critical national priority due to increasing incidence of behavioural disorders and self-harm behaviours. Having identified mental health as a priority area, steps have been taken to transform existing mental health services from a predominantly centralized, large psychiatric hospital model to a balanced care model, with most services decentralized to the community. To this end, the government has approved the *Mental Health Policy 2019-2029* with its decentralization service delivery model on par with international best practices. The implementation plan for the decentralization of mental health is currently being finalised with a view to strengthen governance and leadership at all levels of the mental health sector. It also seeks to prevent mental health disorders and reduce the stigma and discrimination associated with mental health disorders.

In tandem, some other key activities undertaken over the last fiscal to promote mental health in T&T includes:

- Mental Health GAP Action Programme - mhGAP “training of trainers” workshop was held in collaboration with PAHO/WHO. Nineteen (19) primary care and mental health professionals were trained across the five (5) Regional Health Authorities.
- Rollout of The Suicide Prevention Campaign with the commencement of Radio and Poster campaign.
- Suicide Surveillance in the RHAs - Distribution of computers to RHAs for Suicide Surveillance was completed.
- Development of a standardised digital data collection tool (using the updated ISS form) for use at A+E departments for the collection and reporting of suicide and self-harm data.
- Do Your Share Campaign launch and the launch of wellness benches at three locations, NALIS Library Port of Spain (Young Adult Library), Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex and University of the West Indies, St. Augustine.
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.
- Launch and commissioning of the Couva Extended Care Facility as a Hospital for the care and treatment of children and adolescents who require long term in-patient mental health services.
- Training of staff recruited for the Couva Extended Care Centre in Child and Adolescent Mental Health
- Training in Mental Health and Law Enforcement for Police Officers.

### C. Healthy Lifestyles through Sport

During fiscal 2023, the MOH continued its promotion of the concept 'Sport for Development' a method of increasing physical activity amongst citizens. This is aligned to priority area 1,4 of the MOH's NSP NCD which highlights the need for increased physical activity, thereby reducing the proportion of adults and adolescents engaging in insufficient physical activity by 20%. The following initiatives were undertaken during the fiscal to encourage participation in sports, recreational and physical activity:

- **The Pink Reign Campaign:** The Pink Reign Campaign seeks to facilitate the development of women and girls by providing opportunities to increase awareness and participation in the key aspects of sport and physical activity. During the fiscal, the campaign was executed in the following ways:
  - **Conversations with Women and Girls:** This provided an intimate, first-hand insight into the highs and lows of girls and women who strive, thrive and succeed in sport in T&T for the purpose of motivating other girls and women to follow their path.
  - **GirlsRunTT Challenge:** The #GirlsRunTT Challenge focused on encouraging more women and girls to be physically active and increase their involvement and participation in sport.
  - **Let Her Play:** This project encouraged sedentary women and girls to adopt a healthy outlook on physical activity and to see physical activity as something enjoyable.
  - **Girl Defend YuhSelf:** This program served to introduce women and girls to basic self-defense techniques and also various karate and physical activity skills.
  
- **Adaptive Physical Education - 'PlayAble School Days':** This project engaged children and young persons of varying abilities in parasports through a variety of adaptive sporting activities. The programme aimed to create awareness and understanding about persons with disabilities through sport, and educate children and youth about parasports, individual differences and disability issues in a safe, fun and all-inclusive learning environment. The programme was conducted at various primary and secondary schools across Trinidad and Tobago.
  
- **The Community-Based Healthy Youth Wellness TT initiative:** As part of its ongoing Healthy Youth Wellness Initiative, the MOH is currently in the process of installing physical activity equipment for sixteen (16) Youth Centres. This initiative is 75% completed. During fiscal 2023, seven (7) centres were fully equipped, six (6) have been partially equipped and three (3) are in progress. The list below details the centres: -
  - a. St. James Youth Facility - Completed
  - b. Bagatelle Community Centre - Completed
  - c. Los Bajos Youth Facility - Completed
  - d. Cantaro Community Centre - Completed
  - e. Upper El Dorado Community Centre - Completed
  - f. Mayaro Sport Facility, Plum Mitán Community Centre - Completed
  - g. Carenage Community Centre – Partially Complete
  - h. Diego Martin Central Community Centre – Partially Complete
  - i. Mt Hope/ Mt Lambert Community Centre – Partially Complete
  - j. Bon Air West Community Centre – Partially Complete
  - k. Plum Mitán Community Centre – Partially Complete
  - l. Maloney Indoor Sports Arena – Partially Complete
  - m. Plaisance Park Regional Complex – Partially Complete
  - n. Roxborough Sporting Complex – In progress
  - o. Canaan Bon Accord Multi Propose Facility – In Progress
  - p. Shaw Park Recreation Facility – In Progress



### D. Supply of Physical Equipment to both Primary and Secondary Schools

In order to promote healthy lifestyles among youths, physical activity equipment have been procured and delivered to schools throughout T&T. To date 478 primary schools, 134 secondary schools and 12 special education schools have received physical activity equipment.

### Goal 4: The Foundation of Trinidad and Tobago will be Strong Families and Safe, Sustainable Communities

As the cornerstone of society, families have a critical role in the nurturing and socialisation of all individuals and must be protected against the various endogenous and exogenous factors that continue to threaten it. The GoRTT remains committed to protecting and supporting the family as the primary socialisation unit and allowing citizens to raise families in a safe, secure and peaceful environment. Across the social sector the following initiatives geared towards family development and integration were undertaken in 2023:

#### A. Policy Development towards Family Empowerment and Support

In fiscal 2023, the MSDFS continued the formulation of the National Family Policy (NFP), which seeks to mainstream family issues into sector policies in an attempt to promote a family-friendly society. The GoRTT hopes that such policy changes will facilitate increased sensitivity at all levels of Government on the importance of supporting and strengthening families. The framework of the NFP is built on the following 12 key Themes: Family Relations; Caregiving; Poverty/Vulnerability; Health and Wellness; Education; Housing; the Environment; Foster Care and Adoption; Safety; Religion; Research and Programme Planning; and the Media. The draft of the NFP was submitted to the Ministry of Planning and Development during the fiscal and it is anticipated that following this review, the draft NFP will be sent to Cabinet for approval as a Green Paper to facilitate the hosting of Public consultations.

Inextricably linked to the NFP is the National Parenting Policy (NPP), which is also being developed by the MSDFS. The objective of the NPP is to encourage, support and empower parents, guardians and caregivers to effectively fulfil their parenting responsibilities. It is envisioned that the policy will implement responsive strategies that will promote resilient and empowered parents, guardians and caregivers across Trinidad and Tobago. In the first quarter of the fiscal, the draft NPP was submitted for review by Cabinet and referred to the Ministry of Planning and Development for additional review and feedback. The policy is currently being finalised for Cabinet's approval as a White Paper.

#### B. Family Empowerment and Support

As the cornerstone of society, families have a critical role in the nurturing and socialisation of all individuals and must be protected against the various endogenous and exogenous factors that continue to threaten it. To this end, in fiscal 2023 the National Family Services Division (NFSD) remained steadfast in advancing its mandate of promoting healthy family functioning through preventive, developmental, and remedial programmes and services. In addition to its ongoing community workshops; its Radio Programme: It's Family Time, Let's Talk; outreaches; and lectures, the NSFD launched **its National Suicide Prevention Hotline 800-COPE (2673)**. This 24-Hour Crisis hotline is operated by specially trained personnel to efficiently address crisis issues related to suicidal ideations and other critical issues faced by citizens. As part of the 'Whole- of- Government, Whole- of- Society' approach, collaboration with several stakeholders are being upheld through a referral system. It is envisaged that the monitoring of this new Hotline will also facilitate data collection regarding the number of persons who attempted suicide, experience suicidal thoughts, as well as family crisis issues. Such data will inform policy development and initiatives, identify gaps to be filled and the relevant interventions and strategies to be identified.

Concomitantly, in fiscal 2023, the Community Mediation Services Division of the Ministry of Sport and Community Development continued to provide parenting/family support through the Parenting Support Group Programme as well as the Co-Parenting Programme. These initiatives assist in building resilient families that can address the various challenges facing them. To this end, the 13th edition of the Parental Support Group Symposium was rolled out to provide parents and caregivers with the guidance and support needed to maintain a safe living environment for their children. Among the issues addressed were:

- Establishing a framework for Effective Parenting
- The influences on your child
- Maintaining a balance in the parent-child relationship
- Establishing structure and limits in your household

Additionally, the delivery of psychosocial and behavioural services to both students and parents remained an ongoing component of services provided by the Student Support Services Division of the Ministry of Education (MOE). This unit is tasked with providing a comprehensive and well-coordinated array of psychosocial support services to students to foster holistic social development. During the fiscal, the Division facilitated the conduct of psychosocial assessments, counselling sessions, parenting guidelines and networking services.

### C. Protection, Care and Rights of Women and Children

As a signatory to various UN Conventions that seek to promote the protection of vulnerable groups, the GoRTT in fiscal 2023, continued to fulfil this mandate by developing and promoting initiatives that protect the rights of the vulnerable members of society. One such noteworthy programme implemented over the fiscal by the Gender Affairs Division of the Office of the Prime Minister was the “Survivors Transformation and Empowerment Programme (STEP). The STEP programme seeks to empower women who are victims of domestic violence through the following three key activities:

- retraining survivors of domestic violence in small and micro- enterprise development and provision of grant funding to establish a small/micro business
- provision of a scholarship programme for victims and survivors of domestic violence
- an outreach programme aimed at linking victims and survivors with job and career opportunities.

This programme is aimed at increasing financial independence amongst survivors of domestic violence and reduces the likelihood that victims of domestic violence remain in abusive relationships. Developed in alignment with the Roadmap to Recovery for Trinidad and Tobago, the STEP programme is founded on concepts such as building self-reliance amongst vulnerable persons, protecting the position of women and children in the society, and creating gender equality and equity.

Additionally, as part of its commitment towards the all-round development of children in Trinidad and Tobago, the Child Affairs Division of the Office of the Prime Minister continues to work assiduously towards the development of a National Children’s Registry. This registry will provide a more efficient and effective method of monitoring child development, whilst assisting in reducing incidences of child abuse, neglect, and exclusion. Furthermore, this registry will help service providers to quickly identify whether a child client is receiving the essential services (e.g. education, primary health care, etc.) to which he or she is entitled. Overall, it is envisioned that this registry will protect and monitor the growth, care and development of children throughout Trinidad and Tobago.



### D. Training, Advocacy, Inclusion and Rights of Persons with Disabilities

During this fiscal, the GoRTT continued to demonstrate its resolution to protect the human rights of persons with disabilities, evident by the following initiatives that seek to promote inclusion and equal opportunities for such individuals in all aspects of society:

- **Community Therapeutic Services Survey for Persons with Disabilities**

Conducted by the MSDFS, this survey was undertaken to assist the ministry with designing a suitable therapeutic programme for persons with disabilities. The proposed programme will be executed in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, to provide quality, coordinated, affordable, safe, and sustainable therapeutic services in a community setting to meet the needs of persons with temporary or permanent disabilities, the ageing population and persons experiencing physical trauma. Additionally, the MSDFS revised the scope of the study to include a qualitative component to supplement the results of the survey conducted in 2022. The relevant focus group sessions were completed in May 2023, with the report of the findings to be completed by the end of the fiscal.

- **Operationalisation of the National Therapeutic and Resource Centre**

In January 2023, the Technical Oversight Committee for the operationalisation of the National Therapeutic and Resource Centre was established. This committee is tasked with achieving the following key objectives:

- Provision of overall insight and management of the Commissioning of the NTRC and its operationalisation.
- Preparation of an Implementation Plan.
- Collaborate and facilitate with relevant parties and stakeholders.
- Prepare procurement list with requisite fixtures and equipment to furnish facility.
- Identify existing or emerging gaps and provide recommendations for implementations of service delivery.

Since its establishment, the Committee has determined the services that are to be implemented within the first phase of the operationalisation which includes occupational, speech, physio and behavioural therapies. Additionally, the Committee also compiled a list of necessary equipment and resources essential for the successful implementation of these programmes.

- **Assessment of the Disability Sector**

The MSDFS in collaboration with the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) has supported the conduct of a study to assess the situation of persons with disabilities in Trinidad and Tobago. The study was commissioned by the Caribbean Developmental Bank (CDB) to assess the situation of persons with disabilities in four borrowing member countries of the CDB namely Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Lucia, Grenada, and Jamaica. During this fiscal, the MSDFS assisted in hosting consultative workshops in August 2023, in Trinidad and Tobago for persons with disabilities, and Non-Governmental organizations that provide services to them.

### E. Youth Empowerment and Development

The GoRTT through the MYDNS remains dedicated to the development of youth and infusing in them the values and attributes of national service, self-sufficiency, and entrepreneurship. During this fiscal, the MYDNS continued to make strides towards the full implementation of the National Youth Policy 2020-2025 which re-affirms the value of empowering and strategically engaging the country's diverse youths as co-creators of sustainable development. In fiscal 2023, some key youth development programmes which were undertaken to achieve this goal included:



- **National Leadership Training**

This programme facilitates the development and strengthening of the leadership capacities of youth within the executive arms of youth-led and youth-serving organizations, promoting positive attitudes, knowledge and skills to make informed choices while meaningfully participating in problem-solving and decision-making at the group, community and national levels.

- **Re-establishment of the National Youth Council**

In fiscal 2023, virtual and in-person consultations were conducted in Port of Spain and San Fernando between June and July.

- **Youth Career Education Roving Caravan:**

The Youth Career Education Roving Caravan is a strategic intervention that allows the Ministry to interact with youth stakeholders within the various districts; enhancing awareness of the Ministry, its programmes, and the opportunities available to youth. It is envisioned that this caravan will act as a bridge to reach the subset of the youth population in underserved communities.

### **A. Promotion of safe communities**

The GoRTT remains resolute in empowering communities by focusing on the social/human, economic, cultural, and environmental aspects of community development. As such, the GoRTT, through its various ministries/ agencies continued the execution of a number of initiatives that aim to encourage the adoption of behaviours that promote the development of sustainable communities.

- **Community Mediation Services:**

The Community Mediation Services Initiative encourages individuals to resolve disputes through the provision of civil and family mediation services, conducted by certified mediators. One of key services that continued over the fiscal is the *Behaviour Change Workshops*. These workshops were designed to address common responses to conflict delivered in communities across Trinidad and covered nine (9) topic areas inclusive of: Anger Management, Stress Management, Conflict De-escalation, Emotional Intelligence, Conflict Management, Effective Communication, Time Management, Effective Leadership and Managing Social Isolation. These workshops were delivered within the communities to facilitate ease of access and shared learning experiences to members of the respective communities.

- **Empowering Sustainable Communities (ESC)**

During the fiscal, the Trinidad and Tobago Solid Waste Management Company Limited (SWMCOL) commenced a new initiative entitled Empowering Sustainable Communities (ESC). The ESC project seeks to assist neighbourhoods by the empowering volunteer groups, alumni associations, and corporate Trinidad and Tobago. The ESC project consists of three (3) components:

- Environmental Community Fairs that focus on pollution awareness, conservation, and preservation practices.
- Waste diversion activities that promote composting, recycling and upcycling.
- Creating green spaces and refurbishing common areas within communities.



### • **Community & Youth Outreach Programme (CYOP)**

SWMCOL, in fiscal 2023, continued the roll-out of its Community & Youth Outreach Programme (CYOP) themed *'My Community, My Responsibility'*. The Programme worked with schools and communities across Trinidad and Tobago to sensitise participants on the importance of proper waste management to the health of people, animals, and the environment. The objectives of the CYOP include:

- Generating awareness of the dangers of poor waste management and the benefits that can be derived from waste reduction and recycling;
- Sensitizing local communities on the need to protect and conserve the environment, particularly where there are threats to delicate eco-systems, watersheds, or areas of historical value;
- Encouraging community leaders, teachers and mass media to use their influence to address local environmental issues;
- Encouraging youths to be part of the solution to some of the problems within their immediate communities and, ultimately, the national environment;
- Transforming the attitudes within the wider community to one of civic pride, responsibility, and respect for the environment; and
- Building capacity within each community so that citizens are empowered with the knowledge and resources to sustain their environmental conservation programmes.

### **Goal 5: Trinidad and Tobago will have a seamless, reformed, high-quality education and training system.**

As a fundamental human right, education remains a key priority of the GoRTT having categorized it as a primary medium for economic and social development and transformation. Education contributes to employability, skill improvement, and enhancement, the opportunity to earn higher income, and the general improvement of citizens' social status. The Ministry of Education (MOE) remains committed to ensuring that its programmes and projects remain aligned to the following three strategic goals:

- Effective Governance and Administration of the Education System,
- Access to Educational Opportunities by All Learners, and
- Quality Education provided at all levels

In fiscal 2023, the Ministry, along with other relevant stakeholders, undertook the following initiatives aimed at broadly meeting the development needs of society:

#### **A. Teacher Professional Development**

In fiscal 2023, the MOE continued its provision of professional development opportunities for teaching staff to facilitate the upgrading of their skills and keeping abreast of innovations in the sector. Toward this end, assessment and remedial training was provided for all teachers in 80 primary schools, whilst all teachers in 26 secondary schools received training in classroom management skills/lesson preparation. In addition, 200 new teachers (ECCE, primary, secondary) were trained in several topics including, "examining the needs and strategies for effective teaching of students with learning disabilities", "differentiating between assessment and evaluation", "implementing useful tools to enhance assessment and evaluation" and "implementing offline and online ICT tools effectively in the classroom".

Furthermore, as part of its New Teacher Induction and Mentorship Programme, the MOE hosted 13 workshops. This programme is designed to orient and provide initial professional development for new teachers entering ECCE, primary, and secondary school. It provides a full year of professional support via workshops and a curated online repository, aimed at developing the whole teacher. It is envisaged that this

programme will contribute to: improvements in the administrative and classroom practices that are aligned with the standards of the MOE; enhance teachers' confidence in the classroom; classroom management and lesson presentation; quality teaching and creation of a network of support, guidance and feedback for new teachers.

### **B. Development of a Regulatory Instrument for Measuring and Monitoring Quality Standards across the ECCE Sector**

Over the fiscal, the MOE, in collaboration with the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) and Rutgers National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER), developed a child development assessment instrument that can be implemented reliably by teachers within ECCE centres. The instrument will focus on predictive outcomes such as school success and essential learning outcomes and provide data that can inform teaching, professional development, and policy. It is envisioned that this initiative will assist in determining the strengths and challenges of children in the attainment of basic skills and competencies while at the ECCE level, along with improving the quality of ECCE services accessed by children and their families. Over the fiscal, both the teacher guide and a training manual was developed, as well as, the instrument was pilot tested at 34 Government/Government Assisted and SERVOL Centres within the seven (7) educational districts.

#### **School Climate Study**

Subsequent to a sample climate survey conducted in 2019, the Ministry of Education, in its school improvement efforts, commenced a school climate study at twenty-six secondary schools and eighty primary schools identified for deep intervention. This multidimensional research study is a construct that takes into account several aspects of the academic and social environment in the school. Research garnered from this study will assist in identifying areas for intervention toward improvement of school outcomes. The primary school study commenced in March 2023. The administration of the Survey was completed, and data entry is underway. Data analysis and compilation of a report will be undertaken with a view to developing resources for use by principals and staff to improve the climate at these schools. Similarly, the secondary school climate study was also conducted in fiscal 2023, and a report of findings has already been completed and submitted. Additionally, during the fiscal, a School Climate Committee was established and charged with developing a toolkit of resources. The results of the survey were also communicated to principals and a data use workshop was conducted to equip principals to transform the data into actionable plans and projects.

### **C. Re-engagement for success**

In fiscal 2023, the MOE launched its 'Re-engagement for success' programme. The MOE identified eighty (80) primary and twenty-six (26) secondary schools in Trinidad that will receive specific focus during the academic year 2022-2023. The programme which has been approved for the next three (3) years involves the development of a comprehensive, multifaceted, and cohesive system of support, which will enable students to overcome barriers to learning and re-engage them in classroom instruction. The overall aim is to ensure safe and healthy students in all schools, who are achieving their full potential. The Programme involves several tenets including

- enhancing regular classroom strategies to enable learning,
- assisting students and families as they negotiate school and class changes and many other transitions,
- responding to, and where feasible, preventing crises

In seeking to action these areas, the MOE has, over the course of the fiscal, initiated a number of projects which included:



- Provision of learning support assistants (LSAs) to support classroom instruction. In addition, after-school classes were provided at 95% of the primary schools during terms 2 and 3 to facilitate increased learning time for students.
- Provision of training in Mathematics, English Language Arts, and English Language Writing to 600 teachers by the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) .
- Provision of Guidance and Social Work Services.
- Conduct of 5-week Vacation Revision Programmes (VRP) focusing on numeracy and literacy inter alia in July 2023, with the aim of increasing learning time for students.

### D. Student Support

The Ministry recognises that effective management of the Education Sector begins with the health and well-being of all learners. The psychosocial, physical, and special needs of learners must be met in order to ensure optimum performance. The Ministry therefore offers a range of services to students, some of which are detailed below:

- **Continuation of the Early Detection and Intervention Initiative**

The aim of this project is to enhance the MOE's capacity to screen students for early detection of special needs/disabilities. The early identification of special education needs will provide the data to inform effective policy and programme development, and the design of targeted interventions. Additionally, the screening and assessment will ensure the provision of specialised services for students with special education needs. To this end, in fiscal 2023, a special education needs identification exercise was conducted involving the dissemination of a digitised form to all Public ECCE Centres, and all schools at the primary and secondary levels. Thereafter collation, analysis and verification of the data received by special education officers was done via scheduled schools visits. Further, case consultation/conferencing as required ensued to identify students to be formally referred. In this regard, 124 students were identified at the ECCE level for follow up and intervention, 6,815 students identified at primary level for follow-up and intervention and 1,394 students identified at secondary level for follow-up and intervention. In seeking to address student needs, resources for screening, assessment and intervention for identified learners were acquired and sensitisation and training of personnel, inclusive of ECCE Administrators, Teachers, and Special Education Personnel was rolled out.

- **Continuation of the National Comprehensive School Guidance and Counselling Programme**

The Comprehensive School Guidance and Counselling Programme is available to all primary and secondary school students in Trinidad. The delivery of the programme is done via both universal and targeted, direct and indirect types of intervention. Processes involved in the delivery of this programme includes: group guidance; information dissemination; counselling; consultation; assessment; referral; and accountability. The intended impact of this project is to increase student's motivation toward learning, equip students with strategies to succeed at school, enhance students' development of life skills to successfully negotiate their various Developmental Tasks and prepare students for the transition from school to the world of work.

### E. Technical Vocational Education and Training

The ministry continues its efforts to improve Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) by focusing primarily on the key challenges affecting TVET and Technology Education (TE) implementation in secondary schools. For fiscal 2023, the following are some of the activities that were undertaken:

- **Technical Vocational Education and Training / Technology Education Revitalisation Programme at Secondary Schools**

This Programme seeks to increase the number of persons in the workforce with TVET skills and promote creativity and innovation among youth. The beneficiaries of the Programme are the primary and secondary students and TVET teachers at both levels. In seeking to conceptualise this Programme in fiscal 2023, the MOE has produced a Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) National Report and CVQ Implementation Report 2022/2023. For fiscal year 2023, the MOE conducted a range of professional development and teacher upgrade sessions targeting 142 schools, 493 teachers and 11 Heads of Departments.

- **Marketing and Rebranding of TVET**

Major activities aimed at marketing and rebranding TVET included the development and review of a TVET Career Pathways Marketing document and implementation of Innovation Entrepreneurship Agro-processing Technology (IEAT) Agricultural Science Competition, TVET/TE Photo Competition 2023 and the Youth Innovative Entrepreneurship competition and Award Ceremony 2023 targeting primary and secondary students respectively. Additionally, the Ministry is in the process of negotiating a developmental loan with the CAF Development Bank as part of its efforts towards strengthening TVET offerings.

### **A. WeLearnTT**

The GoRTT remains committed to building the digital capacity of all citizens to ensure 'No One is Left Behind' as it moves towards the implementation of more e-government services. In this regard, the Digital Skills Development Programme branded "WeLearnTT," commenced over the fiscal as a comprehensive training programme aimed at building national digital literacy. Encompassed in an online e-learning platform, it is designed to foster digital literacy learning for all; and, in the medium to long term, provide a systematic and consistent supply of technical expertise to meet the labour market demands of our evolving, local industries. The roll out of the programme is segmented into three (3) distinct target groups:

- Group 1 - Citizens needing foundational digital skills
- Group 2 - Citizens needing technical expertise to meet labour market demands
- Group 3 - Citizens needing technical and business acumen to create ICT businesses and export such solutions for businesses

## **Theme II: Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence**

The second thematic area of the National Development Strategy focuses on the principles of good governance and service excellence. There exists a positive correlation between governance structures and the quality of life of citizens thereby underscoring the need for the promotion of strong and effective public institutions. As such, this theme is centred on strengthening Government structures as well as building the public's trust in them. This can only be achieved by ensuring that our democratic institutions operate on the principles of transparency, value for money, accountability, equity, morality, and integrity in public life, which are all necessary for achieving sustainable development. Consequently, the GoRTT in fiscal 2023 has remained resolute in its assurance to improving the service delivered at public institutions, which is evident by the undertaking of several initiatives that are outlined below.

### **Goal 1: Public Institutions will be High Performing Professional Entities, Meeting the Needs of All**

Effective and efficient public institutions comprising proficient individuals, processes, and technology are key prerequisites for achieving sustainable development. As society continues to transform, there is an ever-demanding need for public institutions to evolve from the old ways of doing business and take a fresh,





innovative approach towards achieving better results. In this regard, the quest for achieving an efficient Public Service goes beyond merely ensuring public servants are highly skilled and productive employees, to demanding a cultural shift where public servants exude qualities such as compassion, respect, and tolerance when interacting with the general public. As a catalyst for societal transformation, improving service delivery and pursuing service excellence within the Public Sector is an ongoing commitment of the GoRTT and to this end, in fiscal 2023, there was continued bolstering in the quality of services rendered at all public institutions evidenced by the following initiatives:

### **A. Change Management Training for Public Service**

As the ministry mandated to improve the quality of the public service, the Ministry of Public Administration (MPA) launched a Change Management Training Programme in keeping with its ongoing promotion of a more proactive, customer-focused public service. The MPA envisions that this transformative training programme will ensure a strategic and coordinated approach to preparing and equipping the leadership and staff of the various ministries to effect change in public service delivery. With the end goal being service excellence across the entire public service, it is envisaged that this programme will foster a proactive cultural framework within the service that is results-oriented and performance-driven.

The first cycle of this programme entitled 'Change Management Strategic Framework for A Transformation-Enabled Trinidad and Tobago Public Service' had participants from several Ministries including the Ministries of Health, Planning, and Development, Youth Development and National Service, Sport and Community Development, Social Development and Family Services, Agriculture, Land and Fisheries and Public Administration. The Programme will run for three-months and the sessions will include interactive working groups and multi-faceted modules for managers and staff. It is anticipated that all Government Ministries will take part in the transformative initiative.

### **B. Local Government Reform**

As outlined in the National Development Strategy, greater participation in national decision making by the citizenry is needed to strengthen the local democratic institutions. As such, in fiscal 2023, the GoRTT continued to assiduously pursue this national initiative of closing the gap between communities and governance through the promotion of local government reform. Strengthening local governance within the concept of democratic principles implies getting citizens involved in the decision-making process, especially grassroots participation, to ensure a bottom-up approach to governance. This reform aligns with the Government's overall mission of improving the quality of life in this country as it will greatly improve the delivery of local government services since burgesses will now have greater management of their own affairs. With the new system, the focus will be on ten pillars of reform: security and funding; executive authority; new responsibilities; local contractors; more effective municipal policing; developmental control; infrastructure works; disaster management; involvement of civil society; and regional development. It is envisioned that local government reform will address major issues by removing constraints, red tape and bureaucracy that prevent the respective municipal corporations from effectively carrying out their responsibilities.

To this end in June 2023, the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government (MRDLG) conducted a three-day training initiative for the 140 newly established change agents. This initiative aims to strengthen the staff at the Municipal Corporations to facilitate the improvement and digitalization of their operations, in support of the implementation of other Local Government Reform initiatives. Accordingly, these officers would act as change agents in the Corporations, responsible for mapping existing processes to facilitate subsequent Business Process Reengineering, in support of the implementation of new modalities at the corporations, in the context of the reform initiative and need to entrench a new culture in the Corporations.

### C. Procurement Legislation

The Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property Act, No. 1 of 2015 was fully proclaimed on April 26, 2023. To allow for the establishment of the Office of the Procurement Regulation (OPR), along with the performance of certain key functions of the OPR, and the drafting of Regulations, the Act was partially proclaimed by way of Legal Notice 150 of 2015. However, during this fiscal the full proclamation of the remaining sections of the act came into effect. Having taken effect, this act seeks to reform the procurement laws of Trinidad and Tobago in accordance with the principles of good governance, namely accountability, transparency, and integrity. Additionally, this newly proclaimed legislation will save the government revenue as it brings into accountability the public funds on expenditure so there is a reduction of bad spending. It is envisioned that this legislation and its accompanying regulatory framework will improve the efficiency of public institutions as it will govern the public procurement process with Ministries and Departments.

### D. Implementation of the Digital Strategy and National E-ID System

In fiscal 2023, the government continued to prioritise digital transformation as an urgent need for national development, which is evident by this ongoing collaborative project between the Ministry of Digital Transformation (MDT) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Commencing in the previous fiscal, UNDP conducted a Digital Readiness Assessment (DRA) of Trinidad and Tobago, on behalf of the GORTT. The DRA, which is a non-representative digital survey-based tool that highlights insights into the country's digital strengths and opportunities, underscored that Trinidad and Tobago is systematically advancing in key areas of digital transformation. Utilizing the outputs from the DRA, the MDT with the support of the UNDP commenced the development of a National Digital Strategy for the period 2023 – 2026. This Strategy will outline the digital vision of the country, and the key enablers for successful transformation, which include the establishment of a National Digital Identity, National Data Strategy, Cyber-Security Framework, and a supporting Policy and Legal Environment. Concomitantly, in December 2022 the MDT requested the technical assistance of the UNDP to achieve the following strategic initiatives:

- Oversee the efficient operationalization of the National Digital Strategy,
- Enhance the technical capacity of the national public service to utilize digital technology
- Support the implementation of the National Electronic Identification Initiative, and
- Support the digital transformation activities of the Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) which may provide the greatest benefit for all of society through the provision of digital services.

The project will focus on three key outputs:

- **The implementation of a Project Management Guidance and Oversight Dashboard for supporting the rapid and transparent implementation of the diverse projects under the purview of the MDT**

The MDT will receive support from the UNDP via the provision of tools and methodologies required to oversee the efficient deployment of the multi-agency projects associated with the national digital transformation approach. The institutional knowledge and expertise gleaned from this international body will be utilized to implement an integrated project management platform and an associated results monitoring dashboard. The overarching goal is to ensure alignment of the project portfolio with the strategic agenda of the GORTT.

- **The implementation of the National Electronic Identification System (E-ID)**

Under this project, the GoRTT intends to develop a National Electronic Identity (E-ID) which is a digital identification (ID) credential that can be used for accessing government services. A national E-ID precludes



the need for a physical ID card thereby eliminating the risk of physical ID card duplication, loss, and human error in registering for government services. EID will inclusively and sustainably enhance the welfare of society by enabling access for all to the benefits of government services provided digitally in ways that are remote, simple, and cost-effective.

- **The digital transformation of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services**

As a chief provider of services to vulnerable populations, MDT and UNDP have identified the MSDFS as a key ministry that provides significant services to citizens, especially the most vulnerable individuals. As such, the MDT and the UNDP will provide technical expertise and guidance to the MSDFS for the digitization of records and re-engineering of its processes. Additionally, the complementary activities of establishing a whole-of-government project management platform and interoperability framework will enhance the connection of the MSDFS with the rest of the Government, streamline the implementation and integration of systems such as the ISEMS and provide access to important data which is needed to eliminate duplicate records and reduce the occurrence of inconsistent and fraudulent data.

## Goal 2: Citizens will have Confidence in the Justice System

An effective judicial system is a necessary cornerstone for building a developed nation. A strong system not only assists in the reduction of corruption but also protects citizens from injustices large and small. As such, the GORTT remains committed to strengthening the justice system, which will ultimately assist in bolstering public trust and confidence in the system. During fiscal 2023, the Government continued its thrust to improve the perception of the judicial system via the following initiatives:

### A. Ongoing Collaborative Initiatives

In July 2023, the Judiciary held its first meeting with the Cabinet-appointed Child Protection Committee as part of its commitment towards fostering collaboration and cooperation within the justice sector. This initial meeting sought to not only build awareness of the features of the child justice system but also address challenges and identify solutions to improve the justice sector. This engagement focused on the importance of all agencies in the child justice sector understanding and employing multi and inter-agency protocols, to improve communication and coordination efforts across justice sector agencies when treating with children in conflict with the law. It is envisioned that the Judiciary will continue with such inter-agency engagements in keeping with its goal of furthering the objectives of child-justice in Trinidad and Tobago.

### B. Launch of JUSTconnect

During the third quarter of fiscal 2023, the JUSTconnect platform, which is an innovative approach to judicial education through an online community learning and sharing platform for Caribbean judges and judicial officers and professionals, was launched. This platform was developed with the assistance of the Anti-Crime Program, of the Department of State of the United States of America and is being funded by the United States' Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs. It is envisioned that this project will improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the criminal justice sector, enhance the capacity to deter drug trafficking and smuggling, and improve citizen security by increasing the effectiveness of law enforcement institutions. Starting with a pilot featuring the judiciaries of Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, and Guyana, judicial professionals from thirteen Caribbean territories, will be able to share content with each other, conduct regional meetings of judiciaries, undertake online training and participate in online discussion forums. The E-learning Unit of the Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago's Department of Court Administration is tasked with hosting and managing the platform and its associated courses. It is envisioned that this project will promote increased participation in judicial education courses thereby enhancing the skillset and capabilities of judicial professionals which will ultimately assist in improving the delivery of justice in the Caribbean.

## C. Whistleblowing Platform -SpeakUp Line

In the last quarter of fiscal 2023, the government reinforced its commitment towards building public trust in judicial system, evident by the launch of the whistleblowing platform through the Office of Public Procurement Regulation. This platform entitled SpeakUp, is a confidential, anonymous and secure platform whereby any individual who wishes to inform on corruption, waste, fraud and /or abuse of public spending can now discreetly communicate their concerns. This service is provided through IntegrityCounts, this online facility can accommodate approximately 150 languages and is available 24/7. To ensure the success of this initiative, the OPR remains committed to not only investigating all complaints lodged on the platform but protecting all whistleblowers and/or individuals involved in the process. This is a key initiative in Government’s desire to improve public perception of judicial system as whistleblowing promotes concepts such as justice, accountability and transparency which provide the foundation for building trust in the system.

## D. Legislative Agenda for the Social Sector

The section identifies some of the pressing national issues for legislative or regulatory action within fiscal 2023.

Ministry/Agency	Action Required	Status
Ministry of Social Development and Family Services	Amendments to Senior Citizens’ Pension Act, Chapter 32:02	The Miscellaneous Provisions (Senior Citizens’ Pensions and Public Assistance) Bill and Regulations, 2023 has been approved by the Legislative Review Committee (Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs). The next step, subject to Cabinet’s final approval, is for the Bill to be laid in Parliament to be debated
	Amendments to Public Assistance Act, Chapter 32:03	Currently under review by an internal Ministerial Team.
	Amendments to Socially Displaced Persons Act, Act No. 59 of 2000	The Street Dwellers Draft Policy is being reviewed internally by the MSDFS.
	The Homes for Older Persons Act (No. 20 of 2007)	Currently under review by the internal Ministerial Team
Ministry of Education	Amendment of the Education Act, Chapter 39:01	Currently under review by the internal Ministerial Team

## Goal 3: An Efficient and Effective Law Enforcement System

An efficient and effective law enforcement system is essential to a country’s development agenda as it promotes public safety and national peace through the maintenance of law and order. The establishment of such a system requires the continuous review, modernisation, and strengthening of all the agencies that comprise the national security apparatus thereby promoting greater operational efficiency through the targeted allocation of resources. This must be done in tandem with reform efforts across the criminal justice system that seek to address both the current and future development needs. In this regard, the Ministry of National Security continues to work towards the fulfilment of its mission of creating a safe and secure society and advancing national development via enhanced collaboration among all stakeholders, intelligence-



based decision-making and strengthened inter-agency structures and systems. The following initiatives were embarked on during fiscal 2023 in continuation of the GoRTT's thrust toward improving the efficiency of the law enforcement systems:

### A. Crime as A Public Health Issue

The Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago along with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) hosted a Regional Symposium addressing Crime and Violence as a Public Health Issue, on 17-18 April 2023. Under the theme, 'Violence as a Public Health Issue – The Crime Challenge', the symposium sought to promote dialogue and regional action aimed at violence reduction and crime prevention. The topics discussed over the two days included:

- Violence in the Region;
- Violence as a Public Health Issue – The Crime Challenge;
- Transnational Organised Crime: Challenges with small arms and light weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- Using Litigation to Protect Gun Violence – Global Action on Gun Violence;
- Trans-Border Crime;
- Economic Perspective on Crime and Violence;
- Social Perspective on Crime and Violence
- Education and Youth,
- Community Approaches;
- Judicial Perspective and Private Sector Perspective.

At the Symposium, the Heads of Government agreed to explore greater collaborative initiatives both regionally and internationally in the fight against the illegal gun trade. These collaborative initiatives will include, amongst others, the strengthening of regional forensic capabilities among national forensic agencies with a view to improving the quality of evidence, as well as, preparing regional model legislation to bring greater harmonization and efficiency to the development and revision of national laws.

### B. Control of illicit Drug Trafficking Training

In fiscal 2023, the GoRTT continued to make strides in strengthening law enforcement through collaborative initiatives. One such collaborative initiative was the regional training course under the OAS' Inter-American Programme for Strengthening Gender Equality in the Counterdrug Law Enforcement Agencies (GENLEA), which took place during the third quarter of fiscal 2023 for female officers from OAS Caribbean member states. The GENLEA programme endeavours to support and empower women at all levels of counter-drug law-enforcement agencies by increasing their leadership skills and reducing internal and external barriers hindering their equal access to careers in the field. Funded by organisations in Canada and France, the first instalment of this training programme took place at the Police Training Academy in St James, with 10 officers from Trinidad and Tobago participating. The Government intends to further develop such cooperative initiatives and thus benefit from the exchange of information from all its partners regionally and internationally.



### C. Strengthening of Coast Guard capabilities

In fiscal 2023, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Government of Canada, through the Anti-Crime and Capacity Building Programme from Global Affairs Canada donated items comprising operational gear, tactical equipment, and spare parts consumables for capital assets to the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard (TTCG). It is anticipated that these donated items will be used to facilitate hands-on and practical learning experiences for maritime law enforcement officers, who will have access to modern equipment, with a view to enhancing their skills and capacity. Additionally, these organisations intend to provide support for training exercises aimed at bolstering maritime search and seizure operations. Such initiatives underscore the commitment of the Ministry of National Security to developing collaborative security initiatives with international partners as it promotes capacity enhancement for law enforcement officials. It is envisaged that such activities would redound to up-skilling and professionalization opportunities, as well as joint learning and joint operations platforms.

### D. Carisecure 2.0

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago in collaboration with the U.S. Embassy launched the second phase of the Strengthening Evidence-Based Decision Making for Citizen Security in the Caribbean (CariSECURE) 2.0 under the auspices of the United States Agency for International Development Eastern and Southern Caribbean (USAID/ESC). Launched in October, 2022, this regional program which is being implemented in Trinidad and Tobago and five (5) other Caribbean States, is designed to improve how government and non-government partners collect, analyze, manage, and use crime and violence data to improve policy-making and citizen security programs. In coordination with the Ministry of National Security, CariSECURE 2.0 will focus on addressing trafficking in persons (TIP), by providing support to the GoRTT's response to TIP and addressing its adverse impact on young people. It is envisioned that this program will bolster the capacity of national security personnel to identify, screen, investigate, and effectively prosecute cases. The program will also build capacity regarding the availability and use of standardized, timely, disaggregated, and reliable TIP data. By strengthening both the data and processes to prosecute human trafficking cases, the CariSECURE 2.0 program's assistance will help reduce the incidence of trafficking in Trinidad and Tobago.



### SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENTS AND THE ATTAINMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE GOALS, 2030

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted by the United Nations in 2015, are a universal roadmap to address a wide range of global challenges and build a more sustainable and equitable world by 2030. Comprising 17 interlinked objectives, the SDGs tackle pressing issues such as poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice.

These goals provide a comprehensive framework for governments, organizations, and individuals to work together, locally and globally, towards common objectives. They emphasize the integration of economic, social, and environmental dimensions of development to ensure progress of national development as well as people the planet.

The SDGs encompass critical areas like eradicating poverty and hunger, ensuring quality education and healthcare, fostering gender equality, promoting sustainable economic growth, and taking urgent action to combat climate change. They are a blueprint for a more inclusive, prosperous, and environmentally responsible world.

As one of the member states of the United Nations, Trinidad and Tobago has actively pursued the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This commitment is clearly demonstrated by the government's efforts to incorporate and prioritize all 17 SDGs within the national framework for economic, social, and environmental development, as outlined in Vision 2030. This strategic approach aims to advance progress towards the SDGs while concurrently addressing the country's specific developmental requirements.

Additionally, the GoRTT in partnership with the United Nations has undertaken the development of the Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UN MSDCF) 2022-26. Through this partnership, the Country Implementation Plan (CIP) was developed and represents a comprehensive national plan of action that is tied to both the SDGs and National Development Strategy 2016-2030 (Vision 2030). In the last quarter of fiscal 2023 the Joint National Steering Committee of the Multi Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022-2026 (MSDCF) held a meeting to discuss several objectives including:

- An analysis of the delivery of implementation of the Country Plan and the effectiveness of Results Groups with key action points identified in areas such as migrant support, building capacity in the agricultural sector, sexual reproductive health, gender responsive financial support and more.
- Progress towards the intended deliverables of CIP 2023 was assessed, as well as changes in the national context with partnerships and resources identified.
- Success and failure factors, challenges and opportunities were analyzed, with lessons learned and recommendations made to improve performance.
- Guidance was provided in terms of prospects for the remainder of the year 2023, particularly in relation to the strategic priorities and key actions to improve CIP visibility and delivery.

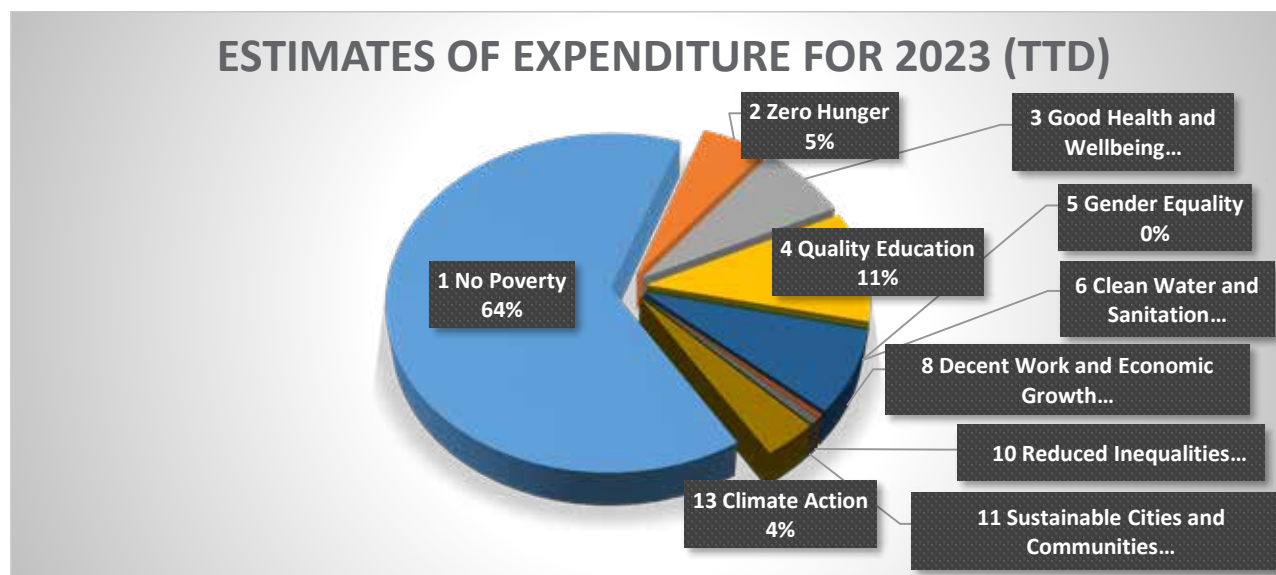
In fiscal 2023, the process of examining the correlation between investments in social sector programs, and the corresponding SDGs, continued. The approach also involved a comparative analysis of these investments across 13 SDGs pertaining to the social sector for fiscal years 2022 and 2023 respectively. It also includes an evaluation of the sector's mandate, budget allocations for each initiative, and categorization of the initiatives based on their alignment to the SDGs.

The Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for fiscal 2023 showed that a total of \$9.1 billion was allocated towards the achievement of targeted initiatives in keeping with the relevant SDGs. Table 1.3 provides a breakdown of expenditure effected by Ministries across the 13 SDGs.

**Table 1.3: Summary of Expenditure in effecting the Sustainable Development Goals based on Estimates of Expenditure for Fiscal 2023**

SDG	SDG	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2023 (TTD)
1	No Poverty	\$5,839,500,108.00
2	Zero Hunger	\$470,416,800.00
3	Good Health and Wellbeing	\$663,395,620.00
4	Quality Education	\$963,872,040.00
5	Gender Equality	\$25,000.00
6	Clean Water and Sanitation	\$5,000,000.00
8	Decent Work and Economic Growth	\$721,200,000.00
10	Reduced Inequalities	\$39,300,000.00
11	Sustainable Cities and Communities	\$57,300,000.00
13	Climate Action	\$327,721,920.00
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$9,087,731,488.00</b>

Based on the levels of expenditure reported, the majority sum of \$5.8B or 64% was effected on initiatives, programmes and projects targeted towards SDG *Goal 1- No Poverty*. This was followed by *Goal 4- Quality Education* (\$964M or 11%); *Goal 8-Decent Work and Economic Growth* (\$721M or 8%); *Goal 3-Good Health and Wellbeing* (\$663M or 7%); *Goal 2-Zero Hunger* (\$470 M or 5%) and *Goal 13- Climate Action* (\$328M or 4%). A graphical depiction of the findings is also presented at Figure 1:



**Figure 1. Summary of Expenditure in effecting the Sustainable Development Goals based on Estimates of Expenditure for Fiscal 2023**



A more detailed breakdown of the Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for fiscal year 2023 aligned to the SDGs, Targets, and Indicators, is provided in **Appendix I**.

However, it is noteworthy that seven (7) SDGs, which did not receive direct funding in fiscal year 2022 were also not allocated funds in fiscal 2023. These include:

- *Goal 7- Affordable and Clean Energy*
- *Goal 9 - Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure*
- *Goal 12 Responsible Consumption and Production*
- *Goal 14-Life Below Water*
- *Goal 15- Life on Land*
- *Goal 16- Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions*
- *Goal 17- Partnerships for the Goals*

Given that SDGs tend to intertwine with each other one may infer that expenditures on the aforementioned SDGs might have been subsumed under other SDGs with which they share a strong interrelationship.

In summary, Trinidad and Tobago's budget allocations for the SDGs in 2023 exemplify a holistic approach to achieving development objectives while making substantial progress toward the SDGs. The noteworthy funding allocated to the SDGs grew from a total of \$7.9 billion in 2022 to \$9.09 billion in 2023. Funding allocations to SDGs such as No Poverty, Quality Education, and Good Health and Wellbeing underscore a strong commitment to enhancing the well-being of the population and reducing disparities. Furthermore, investments in climate action and sustainable cities reveal a keen awareness of environmental and urban challenges. However, it was observed that other goals, such as Gender Equality, may benefit from increased investments. These initial observations underscore the significance of regular monitoring of the SDGs, which not only enhance the analysis of fiscal expenditures but also provide insights on areas that require heightened attention to promote national development.

Furthermore, the emphasis on the SDGs should expand beyond financial indicators and shift towards enhancing program planning and development, in accordance with the principles of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. To accomplish this, it becomes imperative to specify distinctly the intended SDGs and their beneficiaries at the outset of the budgeting process. Through a close alignment of budgeted expenses with the overarching themes articulated in Vision 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals Agenda 2030, the anticipation is to establish more accurate and timely mechanisms for monitoring, evaluating, and reporting on investments aimed at realizing these objectives.

Given that the SDGs are cross-cutting in scope and dependent on a broad inter-ministerial collaboration as well as the cooperation of all stakeholders, it will require strong commitment from all levels of government, the private sector, and civil society. Despite the current and potential future challenges, it is evident that the GoRTT remains dedicated to achieving the SDGs, as reflected in the level of funding allocated to the Social Sector Investment Programme.





# CHAPTER 2:

## Overview of the Social Sector & Review of Social Programmes and Initiatives



**TT MOVES**

**RIP**

**turn UP**  
Don't give up!  
Caravan

### CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR AND REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES FOR 2024

Chapter 2 outlines the Government's 2023 budgetary allocations for social sector development and reviews the allocations made over the last five (5) fiscal years (2019-2023). It also identifies the new programmes implemented, policies developed, and the research and evaluations undertaken during the fiscal year. The Chapter further provides a review of the achievements of social sector programmes and aligns these to the national outcomes of Vision 2030.

#### 2.1 BUDGETED ALLOCATIONS TO THE SOCIAL SECTOR

In its World Economic Outlook, for April 2023 the International Monetary Fund (IMF) reported that global growth stood at **2.8 %** in 2023 before being set to rise modestly to **3.0 %** in 2024. Global inflation was projected to decrease, although more slowly than initially anticipated, from **8.7 %** in 2022 to **7.0 %** in 2023 and then to a further **4.9 %** in 2024 (International Monetary Fund, 2023). Furthermore, in the World Economic Outlook (WEO) Report, Emerging Market and Developing Economies (EMDEs) were predicted to be the main driver of global growth in 2023. Growth was forecasted to expand by **3.9 %** while output in the Advanced Economies (AEs) was projected to grow by **1.3 %** (Central Bank, Monetary Policy Report May 2023).

In Trinidad and Tobago, there was an increase in energy output in the fourth quarter of 2022 on a year-on-year basis. According to available data, overall energy production was fairly steady in the first quarter of 2023 however, there was some sluggishness in non-energy output during that period. Conversely, there were improvements in the labour market conditions as there was a decrease in the unemployment rate and labour force participation rose in the fourth quarter of 2022. Retail price pressures continued to decline in 2023 with inflation in April recorded at **6.0 %** (year-on-year) after peaking at **8.7 %** in December 2022 (Central Bank, Monetary Policy Report May 2023).

Total revenue for fiscal 2023 was estimated at **TT \$56.175 billion** and total budgeted expenditure was estimated at **TT \$57.685 billion** with a fiscal deficit of **TT \$1.510 billion** or **0.8 %** of GDP (Ministry of Finance, 2022). In the mid-year budget review however, adjusted revenue was reported at **TT \$55.17 billion**, 1 billion less than the initial projection for fiscal 2023 and the revised budgeted expenditure was **TT \$61.53 billion**, leaving a budget deficit of **TT \$6.36 billion**.

For fiscal 2023, an estimate of **TT \$22.94 billion** was allocated to the key SSM and the Social Services Divisions of the THA. See **Table 2.1** for details of these budgeted allocations.

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



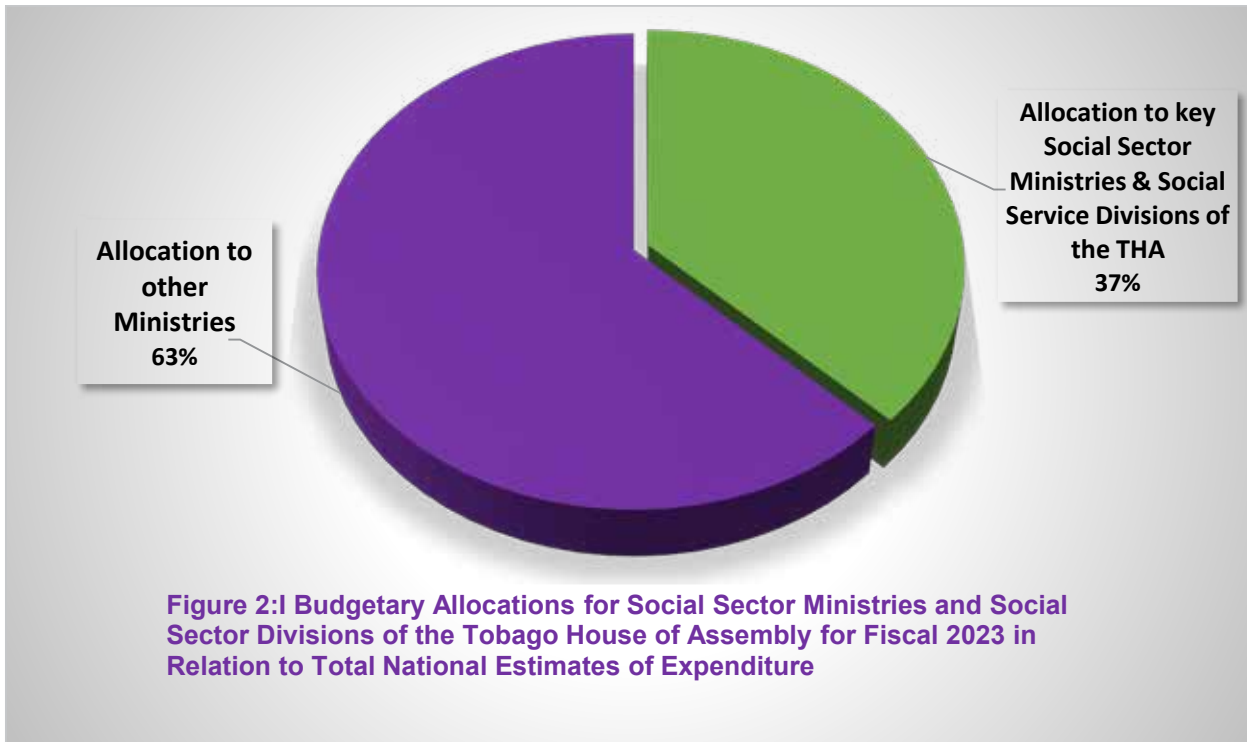
## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

**Table 2. I: Budgeted Allocations for the Key Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2023**

Key Social Sector Ministries & THA	Development Programmes TTD	Recurrent Expenditure TTD	Total TTD
<b>Health</b>	511,609,000.00	5,505,729,654.00	6,017,338,654.00
<b>Education</b>	528,653,000.00	5,186,381,600.00	5,715,034,600.00
<b>Social Development and Family Services</b>	35,350,000.00	5,383,283,000.00	4,963,845,000.00
<b>Housing and Urban Development</b>	333,967,000.00	798,923,000.00	1,132,890,000.00
<b>Youth Development and National Service</b>	177,926,000.00	2,633,872,200.00	2,811,798,200.00
<b>Sport and Community Development</b>	303,841,000.00	459,762,000.00	763,603,000.00
<b>Tobago House of Assembly (THA)</b>	300,000,000.00	1,230,626,832.00	<u>1,530,626,832.00</u>
<b>Total</b>			<b><u>22,935,136,286.00</u></b>
<b>Tobago House of Assembly (THA)*</b>			
<b>Social Services Divisions</b>			
<b>Health, Wellness and Social Protection</b>		739,843,432.00	
<b>Community Development, Youth Development and Sport</b>		99,966,000.00	
<b>Education, Research and Technology</b>		361,957,900.00	
<b>Sport and Youth Affairs</b>		0.00	
<b>Settlement, Public Utilities and Rural Development</b>		28,859,500.00	
<b>Social Infrastructure</b>	300,000,000.00	1,230,626,832.00	1,530,626,832.00

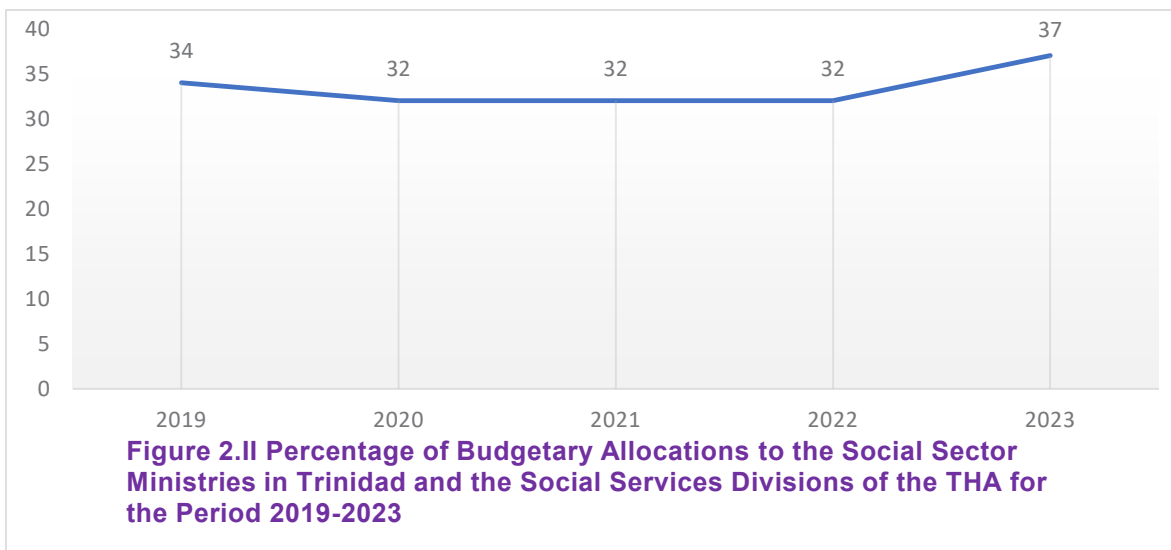
Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2023

For fiscal 2023, the aggregated sum of **TT \$22.94** billion allocated to the key SSM and social sector divisions of the THA equates to **37%** of the revised national budgeted expenditure **TT \$61.53 billion**. **Figure 2.1** illustrates this percentage allocation.



Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2023

Generally, the allocations made towards the sector have remained relatively consistent with slight fluctuations. Over the five-year period 2019-2023, the average allocation has been **33.4%**. In fiscal 2023, there was a slight increase of **5%** from **32%** in fiscal 2022 to **37%**.



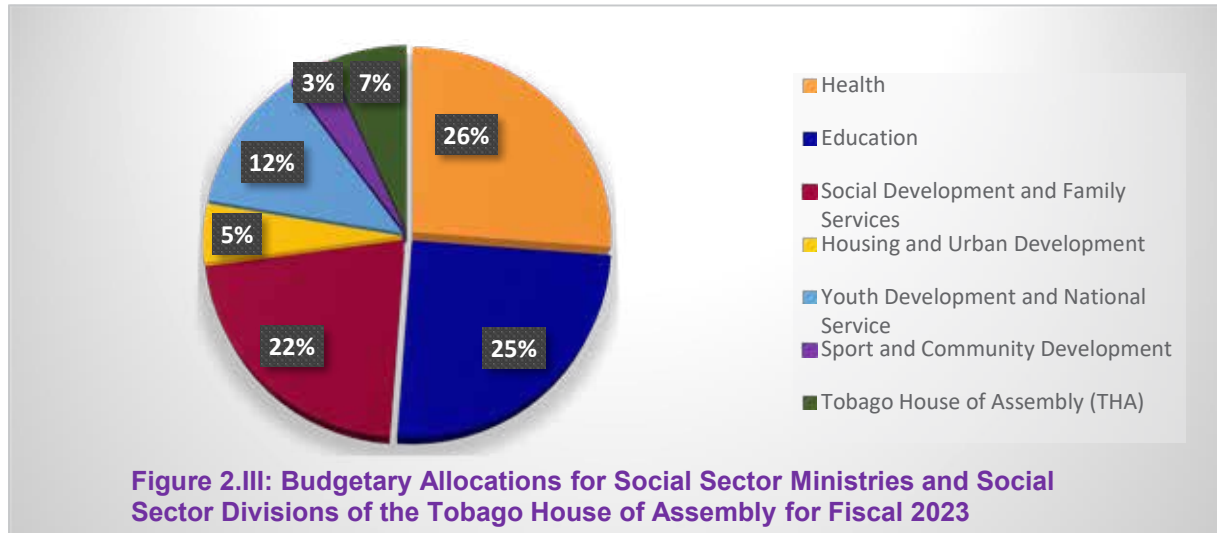


# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

Improving the well-being of citizens through quality healthcare, improved education access, enhanced social opportunities and reduction in poverty and inequalities contribute harmoniously to enhancing key dimensions of human development. Reviewing the last five fiscal years 2019-2023, the Ministries of Health, Education and Social Development and Family Services continued to receive the largest allocations. In fiscal 2023, these Ministries received the largest share of allocations at **26%**, **25%** and **22%** respectively. **Figure 2.III** details these percentage allocations to the key SSM and the Social Services Divisions of the THA.



**Figure 2.III: Budgetary Allocations for Social Sector Ministries and Social Sector Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2023**

Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2023

A review of social sector allocation to GDP shows that there was a decrease in the percentage allocation in fiscal 2022 to 10 % in comparison to the previous fiscal year 2021, which was 12%. Despite the increase in the social sector allocation for FY 2022, there was also a significant increase, of 34.3 billion TTD, in GDP for the fiscal year. As such., over the last five fiscal years the GoRTT allocated an average of 12.2% of GDP to SSM and the social sector divisions of the THA. Table 2.II and Figure 2.IV recap the social sector allocations to GDP from fiscal 2018-2022.

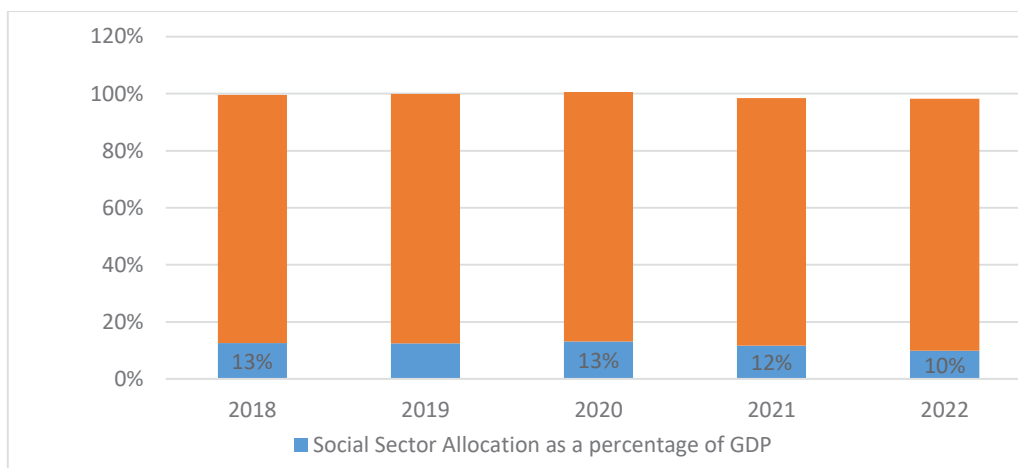
**Table 2.II: Budgetary Allocations for the Key Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly and Gross Domestic Product for 2018-2022**

Fiscal Year	Social Sector Allocation (TT\$ Billion)	GDP <sup>1</sup> at Market (Current) Prices (TT\$ Billion)	Social Sector Allocation as a % of GDP
2018	19.88	161.3 <sup>r</sup>	13%
2019	19.73	161.3 <sup>r</sup>	13%
2020	19.34	146.9 <sup>r</sup>	13%
2021	18.6	159.3 <sup>r</sup>	12%
2022	19.15	193.6 <sup>p</sup>	10%

r – revised  
p – provisional

<sup>1</sup> Central Statistical Office’s (CSO) and Ministry of Finance calculations - revised GDP at Market (Current) Prices for the period 2021- 2022 and provisional estimates are based on CSO’s revised GDP data for 2021 and provisional estimates for 2022.





**Figure 2.IV: Percentage Allocations to the Key Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly and Gross Domestic Product for fiscals 2018-2022**

**Table 2.III: Budgetary Allocations for Social Infrastructure and Programming for Fiscal Years 2020-2024**

Year	Social Infrastructure TTD	Social Programming TTD	Total TTD
<b>2020</b>	2,189,359,000	8,318,258,320	10,507,617,320
<b>2021</b>	1,639,602,000	8,072,090,956	9,711,692,956
<b>2022</b>	1,807,866,000	8,068,458,409	9,876,324,409
<b>2023</b>	2,187,621,000	9,012,844,686	11,200,465,686
<b>2024</b>	2,500,208,000	9,827,318,419	12,327,526,419

## 2.2 NEW PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS DEVELOPED OR IMPLEMENTED IN FISCAL 2023

Social programmes and projects are at the heart of boosting human capital and empowering individuals. These projects and programmes aim to enhance persons' standard of living through improving productivity, employability, education level, health and wellness of citizens and also by assisting individuals and families, especially the poor and vulnerable, cope with crises and shocks.



Box 2.I highlights the new programmes and projects developed/implemented during fiscal 2023.

### **Box 2.I: New Programmes and Projects /Initiatives developed/implemented in Fiscal 2023**

- National Employment Online Network (NEON) – MOL
- National tri-lingual Helpline (800-CAAD) to address sexual harassment in the workplace – MOL
- 24-Hour Suicide Prevention Hotline, 800 – COPE (2673) - MSDFS

## 2.3 SOCIAL POLICIES DEVELOPED IN FISCAL 2023

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The policies that were developed, for fiscal 2023, are listed in Box 2.II.

### **Box 2.II: Policies Developed and/or Implemented in Fiscal 2023**

- Utility Cash Card Policy - MPU

## 2.4. RESEARCH CONDUCTED IN FISCAL 2023

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Research is critical given its role in facilitating evidence-based social policy and programme planning and development. Key research activities conducted by social sector ministries during fiscal 2023 are highlighted in Box 2.III.

### **Box 2.III: Research conducted and/or finalised in Fiscal 2023**

- Public Sector Job Vacancy Census – MOL
- Private Sector Job Vacancy Census – MOL
- Household Efficiency Survey - MPU

## 2.5 REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES

Despite setbacks brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, Ministries continued to focus on achieving set targets. During fiscal 2023, several Social Sector Ministries expended approximately 88% to 100% or more of their budgeted allocations. **Table 2.IV** compares the percentages of estimates of recurrent expenditure that social sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the THA spent on social programmes and initiatives for fiscals 2022 and 2023 (**Appendix II refers**).

**Table 2.IV: Comparison of the percentages of estimates of recurrent expenditure that social sector Ministries and the social services Divisions of the THA spent on social programmes and initiatives for fiscals 2022 and 2023**

MINISTRY	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2023 (TTD)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2023 (TTD)	% OF ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE	
			2022	2023
Ministry of Education	500,527,100	439,388,654	132	88
Ministry of Health	325,553,300	329,716,900	102	101
Ministry of Housing & Urban Development	671,699,908	687,340,000	117	102
Ministry of Social Development and Family Services	5,183,578,740	5,518,648,000	105	106
Office of the Prime Minister *Social services Divisions <sup>1</sup>	137,904,000	198,404,000	130	144
Tobago House of Assembly* Social Services Divisions <sup>2</sup>	51,730,400	51,356,460	94	99
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,870,993,448</b>	<b>7,224,854,014</b>		

*Source: Figures supplied by the Budget Division, Ministry of Finance, September, 2023*

Over the fiscal periods 2018 to 2023, Government's expenditure on major social safety net programmes averaged a little over TT \$6.7 Billion annually. Table 2.V outlines expenditure on these programmes over the 6-year period. The Senior Citizens' Pension continued to record the highest expenditure during the period under review. In fiscal 2018, total expenditure was TT \$3.5 Billion and in 2023, the revised expenditure was TT \$4.4 Billion. It was also the highest expenditure for the SCP over the six-year period. The Disability Affairs Grant recorded the second highest expenditure overall. In fiscal 2018, total expenditure for the DAG was recorded at TT \$513 Million and in 2023, the revised expenditure was TT \$643 Million, an increase of TT \$29 Million over fiscal 2022's expenditure. The revised expenditure for fiscal 2023 was also the highest for the DAG over the six-year period. The Community-based Environment and Enhancement Programme (CEPEP) recorded the third highest overall programme expenditure during the 6-year period. In fiscal 2018, expenditure totalled TT \$447 Million. However, the revised estimates for fiscal 2023, totalling TT \$456 Million, was the highest expenditure for the Programme during the period.

<sup>1</sup> OPM Social Services Divisions comprise the Gender & Child Affairs Divisions and National AIDS Coordinating Committee (NACC).

<sup>2</sup> THA Social Services Divisions comprise: Education, Research and Technology; Community Development, Youth Development and Sport; Health, Wellness and Social Protection and Food Production, Forestry and Fisheries Divisions.

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

**Table 2.V: Actual Expenditure for Selected Programmes for the years 2018-2022 and Revised Estimates of Expenditure for 2023**

PROGRAMME	Actual Expenditure 2018	Actual Expenditure 2019	Actual Expenditure 2020	Actual Expenditure 2021	Actual Expenditure 2022	Revised Estimates of Expenditure for 2023
Community-based Environment Protection & Enhancement Programme (CEPEP)	447,997,789	353,540,125	400,400,000	443,873,623	426,593,000	456,500,000
Disability Assistance Grant (DAG)	513,471,887	565,697,681	613,074,082	622,603,199	614,681,188	643,972,000
Government Assistance for Tertiary Expenses (GATE)	434,300,000	435,000,000	435,000,000	320,000,000	396,484,600	400,000,000
National Schools Dietary Services Limited	203,301,570	239,200,000	179,557,905	12,000,000	88,908,449	270,746,800
On the Job Training (OJT) Programme	175,895,662	237,721,728	313,595,184	271,803,675	229,949,009	261,361,000
Public Assistance Grant (PAG)	391,385,916	356,875,829	488,250,684	353,121,459	320,006,856	328,000,000
Senior Citizens' Pension (SCP)	3,553,245,345	3,846,556,192	4,062,735,944	4,236,563,433	4,239,885,107	4,463,090,000
Food Support Programme	139,930,450	153,125,151	314,033,570	217,949,603	174,601,511	150,000,000
Unemployment Relief Programme (URP)	272,154,782	281,472,096	281,472,096	258,719,287	274,432,429	310,636,175
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,131,683,401</b>	<b>6,469,188,802</b>	<b>7,088,119,465</b>	<b>6,736,634,279</b>	<b>6,765,542,149</b>	<b>7,284,305,975</b>

*Source: Figures supplied by the Budget Division, Ministry of Finance, September 2023*

## REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES

This section highlights over 110 new and ongoing social sector programmes spanning 14 Ministries and the 3 Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly. These programmes address a wide range of socio-economic and other pertinent issues including: ageing; community development; child protection; culture; disability affairs; education; employment and entrepreneurship; environmental protection; family support; gender issues; health care and services; housing; information technology; literacy; poverty reduction; skill development; social protection; and substance abuse. This section also outlines where these programmes align to national outputs and outcomes.

### Box 2.IV: Ministries/Divisions highlighted in this Chapter

1. Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries (MALF)
2. Division of Health, Wellness and Social Protection, Tobago House of Assembly (THA)
3. Division of Community Development, Youth Development and Sport (THA)
4. Division of Education, Research And Technology (THA)
5. Ministry of Education (MoE)
6. Office of the Prime Minister (Gender and Child Affairs) (OPM)
7. Office of the Prime Minister (Communications) (OPM-C)
8. Ministry of Health (MoH)
9. Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MoHUD)
10. Ministry of Labour (MoL)
11. Ministry of National Security (MNS)
12. Ministry of Public Utilities (MPU)
13. Ministry of Works and Transport
14. Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government (MRDLG)
15. Ministry of Sport and Community Development (MSCD)
16. Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS)
17. Ministry of Youth Development and National Service (MYDNS)



# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES	<p><b>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES:</b></p> <p><b>AGRICULTURAL INCENTIVE PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>This programme is geared towards supporting the agricultural sub-sectors through increased access to low-cost technology and with a renewed focus on increased food production and food security.</p>	Farmers	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approximately <b>1,968 farmers</b> benefitted.</li> </ul>	Improved Environment that Promotes Innovation
	<p><b>FORESTRY INCENTIVE PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>This programme initiative is geared toward reversing the cycle of deforestation and land degradation and simultaneously providing economic, social and environmental benefits.</p>	Communities, environment, farmers, general public	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>4,936 persons (3,789 children, 630 youths and 517 adults) benefitted from this programme.</b></li> </ul>	Effective Natural Resource Management
	<p><b>FISHERIES INCENTIVE PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>Provision of incentives to fisher-folk to assist in harvesting, processing and enhancing livelihoods.</p>	Communities, environment, fisher-folk, general public	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>364 persons benefitted from this programme.</b></li> </ul>	Improved Environment that Promotes Innovation
DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND SOCIAL PROTECTION (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)	<p><b>DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND SOCIAL PROTECTION (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY):</b></p> <p>The Division of Health, Wellness Social Protection, seeks to be an integrated entity spearheading the THA's thrust for improved health service delivery and social development.</p>	Families	<p>The following programmes were undertaken by the Division of Health, Wellness and Family Development for the period October 2022 to March 2023:</p>	

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p>DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND SOCIAL PROTECTION (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)</p>	<p><b>DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND SOCIAL PROTECTION (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <i>The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme (ADAPP)</i></li> </ul> <p>The Programme has the specific responsibility of providing substance (alcohol and other drugs) demand reduction services in Tobago through psychoeducation and intervention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <i>Programme For Adolescent Mothers (PAM)</i></li> </ul> <p>The programme assists adolescent mothers who are school dropouts to acquire the skills of mothering while continuing their education. The programme is intended to decrease the number of repeated pregnancies among young women and break the cycle of inter-generational poverty which may emerge among the target group due to early pregnancy.</p> <p>The Programme also provides counselling, day-care services and training in pre-post-natal childcare.</p>	<p>Substance abusers</p> <p>Adolescent Mothers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of <b>27 Psychoeducation Sessions</b> were conducted with a total of <b>168 students reached</b>.</li> <li>• <b>6 Health Centres were visited and a total of 147 individuals</b> reached.</li> <li>• <b>8 clients</b> enrolled in outpatient treatment for substance misuse.</li> </ul> <p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>23 participants</b> benefited from the sessions on sexual and reproductive health and academic and skills training.</li> <li>• <b>160 secondary school students participated</b> in the School Intervention Prevention Programme.</li> <li>• <b>Two (2) mothers returned to school</b> during the period and continuous follow-up is being done to assess their progress.</li> <li>• <b>Six (6)</b> participants completed the programme and transitioned into the world of work.</li> </ul>	<p>Healthy Lifestyles Adopted</p> <p>Enhanced Effectiveness of the Social Safety Net</p>



# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p>DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND SPORT (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)</p>	<p><b>DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND SPORT (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY):</b></p> <p>The Division of Community Development, Enterprise Development and Labour is the vehicle and catalyst through which the social and economic development of the people of Tobago revolve. Further, the Division has a pivotal role to play in supporting the realisation of the Assembly's Vision.</p> <p>❖ <b>Centenarian Awareness Programme</b></p> <p>The Centenarian Awareness Programme (CAP) is one of the Division's Community Outreach Programmes. It seeks to recognise citizens of Tobago who have reached the Milestone age of One Hundred (100) years. The individuals are visited by the Secretary of the Division and her team and are presented with hampers with non-perishable items as well as a certificate of life.</p>	<p>Older persons</p>	<p>The following programmes were undertaken by The Division of Community Development, Enterprise Development and Labour during fiscal 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>11 Centenarians (2 males and 9 females)</b> benefited from this programme.</li> </ul>	<p>Enhanced Effectiveness of the Social Safety Net.</p> <p>Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care and Protection Services</p>

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</b>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION: GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE FOR TUITION EXPENSES (GATE)</b></p> <p>The Programme seeks to provide financial assistance, to cover the cost of tuition fees, to all qualified citizens of Trinidad and Tobago pursuing approved tertiary level programmes at local and regional public and private institutions. On completion of their studies, persons benefiting from the programme are required to complete a period of national service commensurate with the value of the grant.</p> <p>The implementation of a Means Test is now in effect to determine access to the GATE Programme.</p> <p>Undergraduate students are to be funded as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. where the household income is \$10,000 per month or less, students will be eligible for 100% funding;</li> <li>ii. where the household income is above \$10,000 per month but less than \$30,000, students will be required to pay 25% of their tuition fees;</li> <li>iii. where the household income is \$30,000 per month or more, students will be required to pay 50% of tuition fees.</li> </ol> <p>Postgraduate students are to be funded as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. persons who qualify and whose household income is \$30,000 per month or more, will receive 25% of tuition fees;</li> <li>ii. persons who qualify and whose household income is less than \$30,000 per month, will receive 50% of tuition fees.</li> </ol>	<p>Persons under 50 years of age pursuing undergraduate or graduate level programmes at public, pre-approved private and regional Tertiary Level Institutions (TLIs)</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>20,488 students</b> in post-secondary and tertiary education benefitted from the GATE Programme.</li> <li>• Additionally, GATE funding was expanded to <b>one (1) more</b> discipline that supports national priority needs - <b>(Entrepreneurship and Innovation)</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Education and Training</p>



# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	<p><b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION:</b></p> <p><b>HELPING YOU PREPARE FOR EMPLOYMENT (HYPE)</b></p> <p>The HYPE programme is a nine (9) month entry-level training which provides unskilled persons with introductory practical exposure to a variety of technical skills. Trainees are exposed to two (2) core complementary skill areas, together with a range of foundational training, to equip them for entry into the world of work and entrepreneurship. Based on a "learn to work" model, trainees receive 80% practical exposure and 20% theory whilst on the programme.</p>	<p>Unemployed Nationals between the ages of 16 and 25 years</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>208 trainees were enrolled in the HYPE programme</b> and received hands-on experience at external projects.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Quality Education and Training</p> <p>Decent Work Opportunities Created</p>
	<p><b>HIGHER EDUCATION LOAN PROGRAMME (HELP)</b></p> <p>The Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP) was established with the aim of providing financial assistance to citizens of Trinidad and Tobago desirous of pursuing tertiary education, by expanding equitable access to tertiary education and consequently increasing the national participatory rate in tertiary education. The programme offers a low-interest loan facility, accessible at local commercial banking institutions to qualifying students. The programme covers tertiary expenses such as tuition, accommodation, airfare/transportation costs and books.</p>	<p>Qualifying students of undergraduate and postgraduate level programmes at tertiary level institutions</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>440 loans were approved</b> for students (313 youth between 15 to 24 years and 127 adults between 25 to 59 years).</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Quality Education and Training</p>



INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p><b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION:</b></p> <p><b>NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED: (SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMME)</b></p> <p>The School Nutrition Programme provides deserving students throughout Trinidad and Tobago with breakfast and lunch to ensure that they achieve a head start in their quest for academic excellence. The programme seeks to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improve the nutritional status of the needy child thereby enhancing the child's ability to learn; and</li> <li>2. Further, stimulate the agricultural sector by utilizing local produce wherever possible in the meal plan.</li> </ol>	<p>Primary and Secondary School Students</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023 the following was achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>119,574 breakfast meals and 149,537 lunches were provided.</b></li> <li>• <b>Two 20-day menu cycles</b> (regular and vegetarian) were nutritionally analysed.</li> <li>• <b>Virtual nutrition education sessions</b>, with a focus on the basics of healthy eating and the promotion of local foods, were conducted for <b>approximately 3,652 participants</b> from <b>42 schools.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Additionally:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality Assurance Officers and Zonal Managers conducted routine visits to contracted kitchens to assist them with the execution of menus or recipe standardisation.</li> <li>• Independent random microbial testing of food items, to ensure that the standards of food quality were consistent and in keeping with requirements was continued.</li> <li>• Institutional strengthening occurred in the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nutritional Education Training - Caterers and Suppliers received ongoing training to ensure safe meal production and quality assurance.</li> <li>- Recipe testing and development - via menu trials and ongoing work with caterers towards greater meal acceptance by students.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care and Protection Services</p>
<p><b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</b></p>			

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</b></p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION:</b></p> <p><b>MULTI-SECTOR SKILLS TRAINING (MuST) PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>The MuST Programme is a “Work to Learn” programme designed for unemployed nationals of Trinidad and Tobago between the ages of 17 to 50 years. The programme seeks to develop self-awareness and self-confidence in citizens.</p>	<p>Unemployed Nationals between the ages of 17 and 50 years</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023, the following was achieved under the MuST:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>190 trainees were enrolled</b> in the Programme and received training in Hospitality and Tourism, Construction, and Crop Production.</li> <li>• Additionally, the MIC-Institute of Technology received Centre and Programme Approval by the National Training Agency to operate as a training provider for the National Vocational Qualification (TTNVQ)/ Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) for an additional 3-year term.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Quality Education and Training</p> <p>Decent Work Opportunities Created</p>
	<p><b>STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (SSSD)</b></p> <p>This initiative covers the following areas within the education system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Evaluations and Assessments</li> <li>- Teacher Education Sessions</li> <li>- Parenting in Education</li> <li>- School Social Work</li> <li>- Counselling</li> <li>- Special Education</li> </ul>		<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023 the following was achieved:</p>	<p>Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care Protection Services</p>
	<p>❖ <b>Evaluations and Assessments</b></p> <p>This programme assesses students presenting emotional and behavioural issues affecting their learning and development.</p> <p>The objective is to apply standardized testing principles and procedures to investigate students’ academic, social emotional and behavioural functioning. It is also intended to apply psychometric principles to determine students’ performance in comparison to the norm population.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>87 psychoeducational evaluations were completed.</b></li> <li>• <b>Twenty-four (24) Functional Behavioural Assessments (FBA) were completed.</b></li> <li>• <b>Twenty-four (24) Behavioural Intervention plans were completed.</b></li> <li>• <b>Eleven (11) Psychotherapeutic Support sessions were completed online.</b></li> </ul>	<p>Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care Protection Services</p>

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</b>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Teacher Education Sessions</b> The psychologists conduct successive teacher training sessions to inform specific features of Psychoeducational and functional behavioural assessments. The objectives are to provide strategies for teachers to treat with specific behavioural challenges within the classroom and to train teachers in de-escalation of challenging situations.</li> </ul>	Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>5,246 Teachers, benefited from 22 sessions on “Teacher Education Sessions”.</b></li> </ul>	Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care Protection Services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Parenting in Education</b> This programme is geared to increasing parental support, developing productive partnerships between home and school and sensitizing parents to their role in parenting and supporting their children. It aims to improve the low parental and community involvement in the school environment to contribute to the development of children’s personal academic achievement.</li> </ul>	Teachers and Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>19,122 parents benefited from 728 sessions on “parenting in education”.</b></li> <li>• <b>26,055 parents benefited from “parent education sessions” - 11,798 parents at the primary level and 14,257 at the secondary level.</b></li> </ul>	Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care Protection Services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Counselling &amp; Consultations</b> The school social workers counselling programme aims to provide best practice clinical services to students that may be experiencing mental health challenges psycho-social barriers to education, challenges with cognitive processing or other psycho—therapeutic needs as assessed by a series of assessment tools employed.</li> </ul>	Teachers and Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>7,848 students benefited</b> from in-person individual counselling. Additionally, <b>406 students benefited</b> from in-person individual counselling via telephone or online.</li> <li>• <b>4,969 students benefited from in-person group counselling.</b> Additionally, <b>345 students benefited</b> from in-person group counselling via telephone or online.</li> <li>• <b>1,440 students benefited from pro-active counselling and guidance interventions</b> for students who present as being “at risk” of academic failure due to behavioural challenges or challenges of motivation/negative attitudes toward learning.</li> <li>• <b>21,745 consultation sessions</b> were held with parents, teachers and the administrative staff of primary and secondary schools.</li> </ul>	Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care Protection Services

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	<p><b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION:</b></p> <p><b>STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (SSSD) –</b></p> <p>Other services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Teacher Information Programme</li> <li>❖ Networking and External Referrals</li> <li>❖ Home Visits</li> <li>❖ Hotline</li> <li>❖ Crisis Intervention</li> <li>❖ Special Education Intervention</li> </ul>	Teachers and Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>4,915</b> teachers benefitted from over <b>381</b> teacher information sessions.</li> <li>• <b>1,347</b> external referrals and <b>807</b> stakeholder engagements.</li> <li>• <b>6096</b> home visits were conducted to address the psychosocial barriers to learning.</li> <li>• The Student Support Services Division (SSSD) hotline recorded <b>246 hotline calls</b> and <b>158</b> referrals.</li> <li>• A total <b>388</b> students received crisis intervention, <b>437</b> critical incidents received and <b>374</b> required crisis intervention on various topics such as: suicide, student shot by police, injury, sexual misconduct, anxiety, abuse and teenage pregnancy.</li> <li>• <b>445</b> applications for Special Concessions were approved for Special Education Intervention</li> </ul>	Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care and Protection Services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Group Guidance</b></li> </ul> <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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>337,048</b> students benefited from group guidance sessions, in career development, academic progress and personal development. <b>200,239</b> students at the primary level and <b>137,287</b> at the secondary level.</li> </ul>	Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care and Protection Services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Career Fair/World of Work</b></li> </ul> <p>This programme seeks to provide students with an opportunity to interact with persons from within various career clusters – to understand the requirements (academic, skills, attitudes and experience) needed to enter these areas of work.</p>	Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>11,505</b> students participated in career fairs, <b>459</b> at the primary level and <b>11,046</b> at the secondary level.</li> </ul>	Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care and Protection Services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Early Childhood Intervention For Learners With Special Needs/Disabilities</b></li> </ul> <p>This programme involves the provision of special education services and individualised education plans for students enrolled at the primary levels who have been identified as having developmental delays/special needs.</p>	Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>16,602</b> students benefited from early childhood intervention for learners with special needs/disabilities, <b>13,601</b> students at the primary level and <b>2,759</b> at the secondary level.</li> </ul>	Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care and Protection Services

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</b></p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Special Education</b></li> </ul> <p>This project seeks to improve levels of discipline, safety and security in schools identified. The objective is to assess the learning needs of students at school, provide guidance, training and support for the school-based intervention process, identify the special education needs/learning gaps of individual students and provide targeted intervention and support for learner with special education needs.</p>	<p>Students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1,132 students receiving intervention and 208 students</b> enrolled in the ALTA programme.</li> </ul>	<p>Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care Protection Services</p>
	<p><b>YOUTH TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (YTEPP)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Youth Training Programme</b></li> </ul> <p>This programme aims to provide technical and vocational skills training to prepare graduates for employment opportunities and articulation to higher levels of training. The Programme targets a broad category of at-risk, unskilled and unemployed youth, as well as under-served communities, by offering a suite of relevant demand-driven courses, and incorporates Life Skills and Entrepreneurial Training interventions.</p> <p>The benefits of this programme include an:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in the number of young and at-risk youth that are skilled and certified in occupational areas that are in demand;</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<p>Young persons between the ages of 15 and 35 years particularly “at risk” youth</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2,655 persons</b> were enrolled in programmes under Youth Training. This represented an average 67% achievement of the enrolment target for the Youth Training Department.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Quality Education and Training</p> <p>Decent Work Opportunities Created</p>



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	<p><b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Rehabilitating Inmates through Training and Retraining (RITTR)</b></li> </ul> <p>The Rehabilitating Inmates through Training and Retraining (RITTR) is an intervention geared towards providing training to convicted inmates with the intent of reducing reoffending and recidivism and targets inmates in all of the prison institutions who have 6 to 18 months of their sentence remaining. Trainees in the 3 prison institutions are exposed to training in 3 areas, namely, Technical and Vocational Skills Training, Life Skills, and Information Technology at Levels 1 and 2.</p>	<p>Prison inmates who have 6-18 months of sentencing remaining</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>61 persons</b> were enrolled in five (5) courses under the RITTR programme.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Education and Training. Decent Work Opportunities Created. Vulnerable Groups Rehabilitated and Reintegrated.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Community Based and Special Projects / Initiatives</b></li> </ul> <p>The Community Based and 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 &amp; Persons with Disabilities</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>531 persons</b> were enrolled in AutoCAD and digital enhancement training. Courses included; MS PowerPoint 2013, digital literacy and animation, advanced MS Excel 2013, graphic design, mobile phone repairs, tablet repairs, and computer maintenance.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Education and Training. Decent Work Opportunities Created.</p>



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	<p><b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Retraining Programme</b> The Retraining Programme aims to:                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 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</li> <li>2. Certify trainees to National or Regional Occupational Standards through the Trinidad and Tobago National Vocational Qualifications (TTNVQ) or Caribbean Vocational Qualifications (CVQ) framework.</li> <li>3. 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.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	Persons between the ages 25-50 years	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>216 persons</b> were enrolled in Cycle 36 (Phases 1 and 2) of the Retraining programme.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Quality Education and Training.</p> <p>Decent Work Opportunities Created.</p>

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)	<p><b>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS):</b></p> <p><b>NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE</b> 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 initiative is a mechanism implemented to promote increased reporting of gender based violence and a strategy to prevent, treat and alleviate the occurrence of domestic violence events. The objectives are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reduce the incidence of violent acts related to domestic violence;</li> <li>2. Provide support for victims and perpetrators of violence;</li> <li>3. Provide a facility for anyone to access help in a situation of crisis;</li> <li>4. Facilitate the collection of data, which can be analysed for informing the development of policies, programmes and projects to deal with issues.</li> </ol>	All victims of domestic violence	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Hotline received domestic violence reports from <b>176 persons: 24 children and youth</b> (21 female and 3 male) <b>150 adults - 25-59</b> (138 female and 12 male) and <b>two (2) female older persons</b> (60+).</li> </ul>	Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes
	<p><b>INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (IDEVAW)</b></p> <p>This Annual International Campaign was designed to inform the general public about violence against women and girls and provide information on building healthy relationships between men, women, boys, girls and families to targeted groups specifically the youth population. It is also an opportunity to provide information on where help is available for GBV and other related issues.</p>	Women	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>90 young persons (aged 15- 25), 30 adults, (aged 25-59) 4 (four) older persons (60+) and 13 non-Governmental Organisations</b> benefited from the programme.</li> </ul>	Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes

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## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)	<p><b>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS):</b></p> <p><b>INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY (IWD)</b></p> <p>This was designed to increase public engagement on the gendered issues (with emphasis on women in leadership) that continue to negatively affect the lives of women and girls of Trinidad and Tobago, via social media.</p>	Women	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>102 persons</b> (81 females and 21 males) benefited from this programme.</li> </ul>	Greater Awareness of Positive Values and Information on the Family
	<p><b>INTERNATIONAL MEN'S DAY</b></p> <p>International Men's Day focuses on improving gender relations, promoting gender equality, and encouraging responsible and positive male role models. It also seeks to address issues such as parenting, improving family life and healthy life choices for men.</p>	Men	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>151 males benefited from this programme.</b> (109 males received information on various health related topics and 42 males received a variety of health tests).</li> </ul>	Improved knowledge and attitude towards personal health
	<p><b>FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITY RESIDENCES - (PAYMENT PER CHILD SYSTEM)</b></p> <p>This System involves the GoRTT providing financial assistance to meet the direct and a certain percentage of the indirect needs of children living in Community Residences (CRs) and State Residences. The direct needs are food, clothing, schooling, medical care and transportation, whilst the indirect needs being met are psychosocial care, administration, utilities, building and fixtures. The objectives of the initiative are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enhance the quality of care provided to children at Community Residences</li> <li>2. Aid in the attainment of the licenced status of CRs.</li> </ol>	Children up to 18 years living in Community Residences	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payments were made to cover the needs of <b>340 residents</b> (<b>184 females and 156 males</b>) in Community Residences. Of the total residents, 237 were children 14 years and under and 103 were young persons 15 to 18 years.</li> </ul>	Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care and Protection Services and Information

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)	<p><b>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS):</b></p> <p><b>CHILD RIGHTS AMBASSADORS PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>The Child Rights Ambassadors (CRA) Programme seeks to provide a platform upon which children are ambassadors for their rights in keeping with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Objectives include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To educate children on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and its relevance to their lives;</li> <li>2. To equip children with creative art skills that can be used to educate their peers and adults about child rights;</li> <li>3. To empower students with a platform to speak out on issues that affect them that may be used to inform policy; and</li> <li>4. To increase public awareness of the role and function of the Child Affairs arm of the Office of the Prime Minister.</li> </ol> <p><b>THE HIV HELPLINE</b></p> <p>The HIV helpline is a collaboration between the National AIDS Coordinating Committee (NACC) and the Ministry of Health HIV and AIDS Coordinating Unit (HACU).</p>	<p>Children and youth under 24 years</p> <p>Youths</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <p><b>173 persons (42 children under 14 years and 131 youths between the age of 15-24 years) representing primary and secondary schools, youth and the migrant population participated in a Child Rights Ambassadors Child Protection Animated Educational Quick Quiz.</b></p> <p>For Fiscal 2023, <b>1,616 persons</b> received information about HIV, AIDS and STIs including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>250 university students</b></li> <li>• <b>150 children (under 14 years).</b></li> </ul>	<p>Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care and Protection Services and Information</p> <p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p>

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)	<p><b>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS):</b></p> <p><b>TRAINING WARDS FOR SELF SUFFICIENCY</b></p> <p>This programme will strengthen the Transition Programme for wards, so that in addition to a Secondary School education, they are equipped with vocational and life skills which will increase their employability, or enable them to engage in some entrepreneurial endeavours.</p> <p><b>ONE-OFF GRANT FOR COMMUNITY RESIDENCES</b></p> <p>This project will provide financial grants and technical support to Community Residences, so that they are able to complete necessary projects and attain the status of licensed Community Residences. This is based on specified criteria developed by Gender and Child Affairs, in association with the Children's Authority of T&amp;T.</p> <p><b>DISBURSEMENTS OF (ONE OFF) GRANTS</b></p> <p>Grant disbursement was initiated to provide national civil society organisations (CSO), or individual applications with financial assistance in order conduct of gender or child development services and initiatives.</p>	<p>Youths ages 14 to 24</p> <p>Youths ages 14 to 24</p> <p>Civil Society Organisations</p>	<p>For Fiscal 2023:</p> <p><b>80 youths</b> between the ages of 14 to 24 benefited from this programme.</p> <p>For Fiscal 2023:</p> <p><b>13 children's homes</b> were renovated and approximately 126 youths benefited from this programme.</p> <p>For Fiscal 2023:</p> <p>11 Civil Society Organisations (CSO's) received grants.</p>	<p>Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care Protection Services and Information</p> <p>Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care Protection Services and Information</p> <p>Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care Protection Services and Information</p>



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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GCA)	<p><b>SUPPORT TO CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS LIVING WITH HIV</b></p> <p>Psychosocial support intervention to Children and Adolescents living with HIV experiencing mental health issues which can potentially progress to risk of suicide if not addressed. The initiative also provides support to St. Vincent de Paul with the establishment, furnishing as a Transition Facility for outgoing residents of Cyril Ross Children Home (CRCH).</p>	Children and Adolescents living with HIV	<p>For Fiscal 2023:</p> <p><b>22 Persons (10 children and 12 adults)</b> benefited from this programme.</p>	<p>Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care and Protection Services and Information.</p> <p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p>
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (COMMUNICATIONS)	<p><b>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (COMMUNICATIONS):</b></p> <p><b>DIGITAL LITERACY FOR SENIORS</b></p> <p>The Digital Literacy for Seniors seeks to create a digitally literate and independent Trinidad and Tobago senior citizenry, with the ability to stay socially connected, access information, and perform everyday tasks using digital resources. Objectives include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To create a digitally literate and independent senior citizenry;</li> <li>2. To equip seniors 50+ with the tools required to operate in a digitally literate society;</li> <li>3. To help seniors stay connected and have access to information in order to perform everyday tasks using digital resources;</li> <li>4. To expand NALIS's brand and highlight our unique and client-centred service delivery.</li> </ol>	Senior Citizens	<p>For the Fiscal 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This programme provided a total of <b>500 citizens</b> with the tools needed to function in a digitally literate society, keep them linked and provide them with knowledge to complete everyday tasks via digital resources.</li> <li>• With the programme shifting from virtual instruction to in person teaching, it was expanded and implemented across all Public Libraries.</li> </ul>	<p>Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care and Protection Services and Information.</p> <p>Improved Access to Education and Training.</p>

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INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p><b>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (COMMUNICATIONS):</b></p> <p><b>BOOK CLUB</b></p> <p>The Book Club is a staple library programme where a group of people read and discuss books based on a topic or an agreed-upon reading list.</p>	Senior Citizens	<p>For Fiscal 2023:</p> <p>278 persons participated in Book Club activities. Additionally, via 22 online sessions, 6,248 persons were reached.</p>	Children and Elderly will have greater access to Care Protection Services and Information
<p><b>ONE BOOK, MANY SCHOOLS</b></p> <p>One Book, Many Schools is hosted yearly to expose our school community to the rich literature of our Trinidad and Tobago authors. This initiative aims to increase reading levels and enhance the literacy skills of secondary school students by utilising material from local and other West Indian authors.</p> <p>The Library and Information Literacy Skills Programme is designed to equip students with the relevant skills and resources to manage the vast amount of information today.</p>	Students	<p>For Fiscal 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>76,865 persons (Administration, teaching, and non-teaching staff and students) participated in “One Book, Many Schools (OBMS)” and the Library and Information Literacy Curriculum (LILC).</li> </ul>	Improved Access to Quality Education and Training.
<p><b>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (COMMUNICATIONS)</b></p> <p><b>GENDER SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES FOR FEMALES AND MALES</b></p> <p>This initiative comprises a series of activities that are meant to highlight the contributions and importance of females and males in society. Activities include physical displays and exhibitions, virtual displays, workshops, panel discussions and seminars.</p>	Citizens	<p>For Fiscal 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>27,094 persons participated on-line in Gender Specific Activities for Females.</li> <li>5,212 persons participated on-line in Gender Specific Activities for Males.</li> </ul>	Improved Access to Quality Education and Training.

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (COMMUNICATIONS)	<p><b>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (COMMUNICATIONS):</b></p> <p><b>SERVICES TO VISUALLY IMPAIRED PERSON (VIP)</b></p> <p>NALIS facilities provides a range of resources for VIP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The creation of videos to sensitize the VIP's, their families and the general public about issues surrounding the visually impaired community.</li> <li>Training by two (2) Visually Impaired Library Assistants, to evaluate the current services and recommend improvements.</li> <li>Facilities and the resources including, brailers, computers with upgraded software and hardware specially designed for VIP patrons, braille printers, page magnifiers, access to audio books and braille books.</li> </ul> <p><b>DIGITAL LITERACY</b></p> <p>There is still a 'digital divide' in society where some children and adults lack the skills needed to live, learn, and work in a society where individual communication and access to information is increasingly accessed through digital technologies like internet platforms, social media, and mobile devices. The overarching objective of this initiative is to create equitable digitally literate citizenry, with the ability to stay socially connected, access information, and perform everyday tasks using digital resources.</p>	Visually Impaired Persons	<p>For Fiscal 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>7,371 persons</b> (7,229 on-line and 142 in-person) participated in Services to Visually Impaired People (VIP) at Public Libraries Division – NALIS.</li> </ul>	Improved Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities
		Citizens	<p>For Fiscal 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>2,065 participants</b> engaged in in-person Literacy Related Initiatives and <b>645 persons</b> participated in Zoom sessions. Literacy related programming is designed to help participants acquire literacy skills such as reading fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, and phonemic awareness.</li> </ul>	Improved Access to Quality Education and Training.

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (COMMUNICATIONS)	<p><b>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (COMMUNICATIONS):</b></p> <p><b>LEARNING THROUGH GAMING</b></p> <p>"Learning Through Gaming" is using games to provide stories and information, in a new format that encourages critical thinking and problem solving. The benefits of gaming as a whole include improved powers of concentration, creativity, memory, and teamwork.</p> <p><b>NALIS</b></p> <p>The <b>National Library and Information System Authority (NALIS)</b>, governed by Act 18 of 1998, is responsible for providing equitable and inclusive library and information services to all citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. The creation of safe spaces to foster innovation and creativity, supporting lifelong learning, bridging the digital divide, and supporting various forms of literacy. NALIS continues to offer online services, in addition to in-house activities.</p>	Children, Youth and Adults	<p>For Fiscal 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>3,255 persons (2,102 children and 1,153 youths and adults)</b> participated in "Learning Through Gaming". These methods are inclusive of kinaesthetic learners and incorporate the need for tactile contact and body movement to make it easier for these learners to absorb and retain literary and educational contents and develop cognitive skills.</li> </ul> <p>Programmes conducted for Fiscal 2023 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>22,377 persons (1,454 children, 1,278 seniors and 19,618 youths and adults)</b> benefited from Free Public WiFi.</li> <li>• <b>577 persons</b> participated in "Digital Literacy for Others".</li> <li>• <b>139 persons participated in Programmes/Activities for Seniors.</b></li> <li>• <b>618 persons participated in the programme "Anti-Recidivism at Correctional Institutional Libraries".</b></li> <li>• <b>13,465 males participated</b> in World Day of the Boy Child (WBDC) an initiative which seeks to inspire, motivate and inspire young men.</li> <li>• <b>47 youths participated in the "Hodder World Poetry Day Competition".</b></li> <li>• <b>25 persons participated in the "Researching Historical Stories" at the Heritage Library Division.</b></li> <li>• <b>3348 children participated in Camps.</b> This programme provides educational activities to occupy children during school breaks. Activities included craft, drama, readings and field trips.</li> <li>• <b>3,390 persons (2,974 children and 416 youths and adults) participated in Storytelling sessions.</b></li> <li>• <b>55 persons participated in the First Time Authors Appreciation Programme</b> designed to motivate nationals to write and publish their works.</li> </ul>	Improved Access to Education and Training.

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF HEALTH	<p><b>MINISTRY OF HEALTH:</b></p> <p><b>ADULT CARDIAC PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>In addition to cardiac care provided at public sector hospitals, the Ministry of Health, through its Adult Cardiac Programme, also procures cardiac services from private health care providers on behalf of citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. These services include Angiograms, Angioplasties, Transoesophageal Echocardiograms and Open-Heart Surgeries.</p>	Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago	<p>For Fiscal 2023:</p> <p>A total of <b>737 patients</b> (male and female) in the public health care system accessed medical procedures from private institutions through the Ministry of Health. Additionally, <b>1,173</b> patients were approved for cardiac procedures as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Angiograms: <b>717</b></li> <li>• Angioplasty/PCI procedures: <b>110</b></li> <li>• Coronary Artery Bypass Grafts: <b>241</b></li> <li>• Electrophysiology procedures: <b>37</b></li> <li>• Other cardiac procedures: <b>68</b></li> </ul>	Improved Health Service Delivery
	<p><b>CHILDREN'S LIFE FUND AUTHORITY</b></p> <p>The Children's Life Fund Authority (CLFA) is the body bestowed with the responsibility to operate, manage and administer the Children's Life Fund. The vision of the CLFA is to provide the most vulnerable in our society with access to life-saving medical treatments not available locally. The CLFA facilitates this provision by ensuring that all eligible applicants to the Fund are carefully assessed by a team of highly Specialised Doctors and Medical Social Workers to ensure that the best care plan is determined and carefully executed. The CLFA's priority is the well-being of the children and their families.</p>	Children 15 years and under	<p>For fiscal 2023:</p> <p>A total of <b>15</b> children (1 month - 15 years) benefitted from the Fund with a 90% survival rate recorded for the period.</p>	Improved Health Service Delivery





	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF HEALTH	<p><b>MINISTRY OF HEALTH: HIV COUNSELLING AND TESTING PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>The Programme offers HIV Counselling and Testing via Public Health Facilities and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) that have a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Health to provide the service. The overall objective of this initiative is to increase the percentage of the population that has received an HIV test and know the results.</p>	Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago	<p>As at March 2023: Approximately <b>35,535 persons</b> (male and female) received HIV testing and counselling and became aware of their HIV status. Of this total:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>407 were (14 years and under);</b></li> <li>• <b>6,544 were between (15 and 24 years);</b></li> <li>• <b>19,965 were between (25 to 49 years);</b></li> <li>• <b>3,476 were between (50 to 59 years);</b></li> <li>• <b>5,069 were (60+ years); and</b></li> <li>• <b>74 persons</b> fell into the Other and (<i>age not stated</i>) category</li> </ul>	Improved Health Promotion
	<p><b>HIV AND AIDS TREATMENT AND CARE PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>The Programme offers HIV Treatment and Care to all persons who receive an HIV-positive test result following access to the HIV Counselling and Testing service via Public Health Facilities and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) that have a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Health to provide the service. The Treatment and Care Programme also offers diagnostic screening to determine CD4 count and viral load suppression.</p>	Persons living with HIV and AIDS	<p>As at March 2023, approximately <b>(7,144)</b> were reported to be receiving Antiretroviral therapy. The breakdown is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Children (14 years and under) - 36</b></li> <li>• <b>Youth (15-24 years) - 247</b></li> <li>• <b>Women (25-49 years) – 2,244</b></li> <li>• <b>Men (25-49 years) – 2,073</b></li> <li>• <b>50 years and older – 2,640</b></li> </ul> <p>Additionally, the SFGH Ward 2 Clinic participated in a one-day session on the Guidelines for the Stepwise Process for Improving the Quality of HIV Rapid and Recency Testing (SPI-RRT) audit and received an overall rating of 98.4%. The SPI-RRT evaluates quality assurance processes for HIV rapid testing, establishing minimum standards against which HIV testing sites measure their performance.</p>	Improved Health Promotion

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF HEALTH	<p><b>MINISTRY OF HEALTH: MEDICAL AID PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>This programme aims to provide medical financial assistance to patients through the public-patient initiative.</p> <p>Its objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet the demands of the public health care system; and</li> <li>• Provide an efficient system to patients of the public health care system.</li> </ul>	All citizens	<p>For Fiscal 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>155</b> patients applied for Eye Surgeries and other services deemed urgent and necessary.</li> <li>• <b>392</b> requests for assistance were received for External Radiation Treatment.</li> <li>• <b>96</b> patients were sent to service providers to undergo eye surgery.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Health Service Delivery</p> <p>Improved Organisation and Management of the Health System</p>
	<p><b>PREVENTION OF MOTHER TO CHILD TRANSMISSION PROGRAMME (PMTCT).</b></p> <p>This initiative provides care and support to HIV-positive pregnant women and offspring infected with HIV to prevent Mother to Child Transmission of HIV.</p>	Pregnant women, new attendees, and HIV-exposed infants treated after birth.	<p>As at March 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4,471 pregnant women were screened for HIV. Of the <b>46</b> live births to HIV infected women, 20 infants received a virological test for HIV within two months of birth. Results received at the time of reporting indicated that <b>one (1)</b> infant tested positive.</li> <li>• From a total of <b>46</b> HIV-infected mothers attending antenatal clinics, approximately <b>37</b> women received anti-retroviral drugs during the period.</li> </ul> <p><i>(NB: Data represents the public sector only).</i></p>	Improved Health Service Delivery
	<p><b>NATIONAL DRUG ABUSE AND PREVENTION PROGRAMME (NADAPP)</b></p> <p>The National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme (NADAPP) is the central coordinating agency with responsibility for Drug Demand Reduction in Trinidad and Tobago.</p> <p>NADAPP liaises with State agencies as well as the NGO and private sectors, to develop programmes geared towards reducing the use and abuse of licit and illicit drugs, through treatment and rehabilitation.</p>	General population of Trinidad and Tobago	For Fiscal 2023:	Healthy Lifestyles Adopted

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<b>MINISTRY OF HEALTH</b>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF HEALTH:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>National Primary and Secondary School Drug Prevention Initiatives</b></li> </ul> <p>This Initiative facilitates outreach activities that are designed to share information on the use and abuse of drugs, with a view to preventing and reducing risk among primary and secondary school students.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prevent and/or reduce the negative impact of alcohol, drug abuse and HIV on the lives of students and youth by utilizing a wide range of media;</li> <li>2. Educate and equip all primary and secondary school students with the necessary knowledge and skills to resist the temptation to use/abuse drugs; and</li> <li>3. Encourage participants to take responsibility for their health.</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Pre-School Prevention Initiative</b></li> </ul> <p>Through this initiative, NADAPP aims to provide public education materials for use by children, teachers and parents.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To sensitize the nation's preschool stakeholders (Parents, teachers and students) of the adverse effects of alcohol and other drugs;</li> <li>2. To equip the teaching staff of preschools with the basic knowledge to detect pupils who are exposed to licit and illicit substances</li> <li>3. To fulfil NADAPP's policy mandate of the implementation of a School Prevention Programme as a pivotal component of its Drug Reduction Strategy.</li> </ol>	<p>Students of Primary and Secondary Schools and Tertiary Level Institutions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>4,995</b> students benefited from sessions conducted at Schools to address substance use issues.</li> <li>• Preparation continued for the commencement of Phase II training for <b>165</b> Guidance Officers /III and Counsellors attached to the Student Support Services Division (SSSD) to develop a programme in the field of Drug Prevention in accordance with the Universal Prevention Curriculum.</li> </ul>	<p>Healthy Lifestyles Adopted</p>
		<p>Pre-schoolers ages 2 – 5 years</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In order to increase infants' awareness about the use and effects of drugs, broadcasting of video materials continued via Trinidad and Tobago Television (TTT).</li> <li>• Distribution of educational resource packages continued to Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) schools.</li> </ul>	<p>Healthy Lifestyles Adopted</p>

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<b>MINISTRY OF HEALTH</b>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF HEALTH:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation</b></li> </ul> <p>The objective of this initiative is to assist treatment and rehabilitation programmes with opportunities for capacity building in various areas, as well as to provide technical support and assistance to policy makers concerning alcohol and substance abuse issues in substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation programmes.</p>	<p>Adults 18 years and over</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendations for drug treatment was made for <b>eight (8) persons</b>.</li> <li>• Work continued on the development of a Standard of Care document for drug treatment and rehabilitation centres.</li> </ul>	<p>Healthy Lifestyles Adopted</p> <p>Improved Health Service Delivery</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Public Education and Information Campaign</b></li> </ul> <p>The overall objective of this initiative is to disseminate relevant information via the Media, through advertising and support for programmes via radio, television and social networks. Distribute posters, brochures and drug fact sheets, deliver mini-lectures/discussions and provide information centres/special library services.</p>	<p>National Population</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2,088 persons</b> at the community level, benefitted from face-to-face and virtual sessions on drug education.</li> <li>• The Webinar Series 2020: <b>Youth and Substance Use</b> continued to attract viewership. <b>To date a total 1,574 persons viewed the Series.</b></li> <li>• To date, the Webinar Series 2022: <b>Substance Use- Health and Psychosocial Issues</b> had a total of <b>886</b> YouTube views and <b>6,200</b> Facebook views.</li> <li>• Distribution of information brochures also continued upon request online.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Health Promotion</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Workplace Education and Institutional Strengthening</b></li> </ul> <p>This initiative seeks to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promote the development of a drug-free culture in the workplace through education and technical assistance and</li> <li>2. Facilitate, through training, the effective and efficient operations of the therapeutic and caregiving community to ensure acceptable standards of care for persons in treatment and rehabilitation programmes.</li> </ol>	<p>National Population</p>	<p>During the period, NADAPP conducted several workplace sensitization sessions. <b>207 employees (88 males and 119 females)</b> benefitted from both virtual and face-to-face sessions on substance abuse.</p>	<p>Improved Health Promotion</p>

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF HEALTH	<p><b>MINISTRY OF HEALTH: RENAL DIALYSIS PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>This programme is a component of the External Patient Programme which is aimed at ensuring that quality and timely healthcare is delivered to all citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. It provides medical financial assistance through the Public Patient Initiative and aims to meet the demands of the public health care system by providing an efficient service to patients whilst reducing the patient waiting list at public health institutions.</p>	All citizens	<p>For Fiscal 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The total number of clients receiving monthly dialysis services ranged <b>between 729 to 1090 persons monthly</b>.</li> <li><b>270 patients</b> received approval for treatment and were sent to institutions.</li> <li><b>295</b> new applications were received to access Dialysis services).</li> </ul> <p><b>NB:</b> (This is a continuous programme with the same patients appearing on the listing for consecutive months. Patients will fall off the list due to death or upon receiving organ transplants.</p>	Improved Health Service Delivery
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT	<p><b>MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT: HOME IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>This programme is delivered by the Housing Policy Facilitation and Implementation Unit. The main objective is to improve the existing housing stock through the provision of grants to low-income families and persons with disabilities (up to a maximum of \$15,000) to undertake improvement works on their homes. Clients must show proof of legal land tenure or permission to occupy with their gross monthly household income not exceeding \$5,000.</p>	Families and physically challenged persons	<p>During the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>711 grants were disbursed to families/households</b> to facilitate housing repairs.</li> </ul> <p><b>NB:</b> Increased cost of construction materials during the period impacted the utility of the Grant in conducting repair works</p>	Improved Quality of Housing Stock



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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT	<p><b>MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT:</b></p> <p><b>HOUSING AND VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>The Housing and Village Improvement Programme (HVIP) was established in the fiscal year 2017/2018 to improve housing and living conditions. This programme is an affordable and high-quality housing initiative, whereby targeted villages with neglected infrastructure and poor-quality housing are provided with housing subsidies and upgraded infrastructure.</p>	Low-income citizens	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 162 households benefitted from the completed construction of housing units.</li> <li>• Over 40 projects were completed during the fiscal with 1600 persons receiving employment during the three phases of this initiative.</li> <li>• Additionally, social surveys were conducted in a number of villages across the island to assist in identifying areas in which village and individual intervention were required.</li> </ul> <p><b>Constraint:</b> Limited works were undertaken over the reporting period as a result of the increasing cost of construction material.</p>	Improved Quality of Housing Stock  Enhanced Effectiveness of the Housing System
	<p><b>LAND SETTLEMENT AGENCY - GOVERNMENT AIDED-SELF-HELP HOUSING PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>The Government Aided Self-Help Housing Programme (GASHHP) is administered under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and its Agencies, as part of an affordable, and high-quality housing initiative. Citizens will benefit from fully developed lots at subsidized prices (30% of the market value) supported by subsidized mortgage loans from the Trinidad and Tobago Mortgage Finance Company Limited as well as pre-approved house plans, technical assistance and oversight for the construction of affordable, high-quality homes. The actual construction of the houses will be achieved through a combination of self-help and the engagement of small contractors.</p>	Low-income citizens	<p>As at June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14 Sale Agreements were signed by lessees.</li> <li>• Three (3) Sales Agreements were executed by the Commissioner of State Land (COSL).</li> <li>• 54 Deeds of Lease were issued.</li> <li>• One (1) interview was conducted for the selection of House Plans.</li> <li>• 114 Financial Assessments were processed by the Trinidad and Tobago Mortgage Finance Company Ltd (TTMF)</li> <li>• 47 beneficiaries' names were forwarded to the COSL for preparation of their Deeds of Lease.</li> </ul>	Improved Access to Affordable Housing

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT</p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT:</b></p> <p><b>LAND SETTLEMENT OF SQUATTER COMMUNITIES</b></p> <p>The State Land (Regularisation of Tenure) Act, No. 25 of 1998, Chapter 57:05, defines regularisation as "the incremental physical upgrading of and provisions of services to, designated areas and land settlement areas and provision of leasehold title thereto." Squatter Regularisation has two (2) main components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tenure Regularisation – The Act outlines a threefold process beginning with the granting of Certificates of Comfort (COC), then to a Statutory Lease (30 years) and then to a Deed of Lease (199 years); and</li> <li>2. Infrastructure Development - Infrastructure Development refers to improvement in the physical infrastructure of squatting settlements.</li> </ol>	<p>Squatter communities</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 75 Certificates of Comfort were granted to families.</li> <li>• <b>Road Rehabilitation Works at</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Picton Extension, Sangre Grande - 50% completed</li> <li>- Jacob Hill, Wallerfield was 60% complete.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Infrastructure Upgrade Works at :</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bois Bande, Sangre Grande (Site A) was 98% complete; water works were 33% complete</li> <li>- Bois Bande, Sangre Grande (Site B) were 85% complete.</li> <li>- Calvary Hill, Arima were 95% complete.</li> <li>- Demerara, (Package A) were 5% complete and</li> <li>- Demerara, (Package B) were 9% complete</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Affordable Housing</p> <p>Improved Management of the Housing System</p>

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INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p><b>MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT:</b></p> <p><b>LAND SETTLEMENT AGENCY: REGULARISATION &amp; REGENERATION OF COMMUNITIES – GREATER PORT OF SPAIN REGION</b></p> <p>The project focuses on the neglected squatter communities in the city of Port of Spain and the highly urbanised areas surrounding the main capital of Trinidad. The scope is intended to support the regularisation of squatters and tenants on State Lands, provide relief by the development of much needed infrastructure and provide access to potable water, sewage disposal, electricity and upgraded toilet facilities as well as micro-enterprise and community development to address employment, education, crime, low self-esteem, and other deep seated social issues.</p> <p><b>LAND SETTLEMENT AGENCY – TENANCY PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>In accordance with this Policy, Short-term Tenancy Agreements for a term of three (3) years will be issued by the Commissioner of State Lands (COSL) to eligible squatters/occupants. A recipient of this Tenancy Agreement will then be regularised by the LSA under Section 14 of the State Lands (Regularisation of Tenure) Act. New tenants will benefit from subsidised payment terms under the Statutory Leases, with lots priced at 40% of the market value as determined by the Commissioner of Valuations. Upon completion of payments within the Statutory Lease period, eligible tenants will be granted a Deed of Lease for 199 years.</p>	<p>Port of Spain (POS) communities</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Infrastructure development projects were undertaken in nine (9) communities</b> inclusive of Upper Haig Street, Carenage (Package A and B), Blue Basin Road, Diego Martin and Zion Road in Belmont.</li> <li>• Projects undertaken included road upgrades, staircase and footpath construction, and drainage infrastructure/upgrades.</li> <li>• Ninety (90) persons received employment as a result of the projects.</li> <li>• Bids are currently being evaluated for works scheduled to be undertaken in Cizan Trace and Isaac Trace, Blue Basin and Upper Haig Street, Carenage (Package C).</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Management of the Housing System.</p>
<p><b>MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT</b></p>	<p>Squatters/ occupants</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of <b>60</b> applicants from several communities including: Ackbarali Trace, Arima; KP Lands, Valencia; Pine Settlement, Sangre Grande; Cashew Gardens; Brazil Village and Springle Street, Point Fortin were recommended for Tenancy Agreements.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Management of the Housing System</p>

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p><b>MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT:</b></p> <p><b>SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRAMME FOR EAST PORT OF SPAIN</b></p> <p>This programme helps design and implement social and economic programmes throughout East Port of Spain in partnership with key stakeholders, including the community, to improve the quality of life of its residents and create sustainable opportunities by introducing and upgrading existing skills.</p>	<p>Low-income citizens</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>113 persons</b> benefitted from the programme. This included contractors engaged by the EPOSDC to undertake the infrastructural programme in the communities participating in its contractor training programme.</li> <li>• <b>19 communities</b> of East Port of Spain benefitted from the programme.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Decent Work Opportunities Created</p>
<p><b>URBAN UPGRADING AND REVITALISATION PROGRAMME – HOME CONSTRUCTION SUBSIDY</b></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>	<p>Low-income citizens</p>	<p>For fiscal 2023, <b>377 persons across 29 communities</b> received the Home Construction Subsidy.</p>	<p>Improved Quality of Housing Stock</p>
<p><b>URBAN UPGRADING AND REVITALISATION PROGRAMME – HOME IMPROVEMENT SUBSIDY</b></p> <p>The main objectives for this initiative are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enhance housing conditions for low-income households</li> <li>2. Improve the habitability in urban settlements on State-owned lands</li> </ol>	<p>Low-income households</p>	<p>For fiscal 2023, <b>744 persons across 14 communities</b> received subsidies towards enhancing their homes.</p>	<p>Improved Quality of Housing Stock</p>

MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p><b>MINISTRY OF LABOUR</b></p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF LABOUR:</b></p> <p><b>HIV WORKPLACE ADVOCACY UNIT</b></p> <p>The HIV Workplace Advocacy Unit seeks to advocate and provide technical support for the adoption and implementation of the National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS in all workplaces in Trinidad and Tobago, including the public, private and informal sectors, as well as civil society organisations. It carries out its mandate by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sensitising workplaces in the public, private and informal sectors and the general public about the National Workplace Policy, and</li> <li>2. Advocating for and assisting with the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of workplace policies and programmes on HIV/AIDS.</li> </ol>	<p>General public</p>	<p>For October 2022 – March 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of 25 organisations (15 Public Sector, 2 Civil Society and 8 Private sector) developed Draft Workplace policies on HIV and AIDS.</li> <li>• The HWAU conducted 12 sessions during the period. <b>A total of 1,019 officers were sensitised</b> on the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS; and</li> <li>- The services offered by the HIV Workplace Advocacy Unit.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Sensitization sessions were conducted by the Ministry at two malls in commemoration of World AIDS Day 2022. A total of 190 persons (vendors, proprietors, members of the public) were engaged.</li> <li>• Additionally, the Unit also conducted training in Skills Building in HIV Policy Development for representatives of Government Ministries and Statutory Bodies. A total of 25 participants benefitted.</li> </ul>	<p>Healthy Lifestyles Adopted</p> <p>Improved Health Promotion.</p>

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## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF LABOUR	<p><b>MINISTRY OF LABOUR:</b></p> <p><b>ON-THE-JOB-TRAINING PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>The On-the-Job Training Programme (OJTP) is a pre-employment programme which offers participants between the ages of 16-35 an induction into the world of work and focuses on the acquisition of occupational skills.</p> <p>The OJTP was integrated as a Division of the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development with effect from May 31, 2017.</p>	<p>Persons aged 16-35 who are graduates of secondary and technical/ vocational or tertiary institutions without work-based experience</p>	<p>During the period October 2022 to March 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1,602 trainees (1160 females and 442 males) received placements in the Programme.</b></li> <li>• <b>937 trainees (284 males and 653 females) successfully completed the Programme.</b></li> <li>• The OJT Division conducted a 12-week Leadership Development series for trainees. This was geared to increase their awareness of leadership responsibilities and critically examine leadership practices at the intrapersonal, interpersonal and organisational levels.</li> <li>• A webinar was hosted in commemoration of International Women's Day Webinar and <b>73 trainees participated (3 males and 70 females).</b></li> <li>• <b>Eleven (11) outreach sessions</b> were held, including trainee orientation and, psychological support, to provide increased opportunity for trainee placement.</li> <li>• A quality management framework was introduced as a means to monitor and evaluate the acquisition of trainees skills in the workplace.</li> </ul>	<p>A Modern, Relevant, Quality and Accessible Education and Training System</p> <p>Improved Access to Quality Education and Training.</p>
	<p><b>SHORT-TERM EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>The Short-Term Employment Programme is an initiative, which supplies staff to Ministries in Professional, Administrative/Managerial, Clerical, Secretarial and Manipulative classes for periods of three (3) to six (6) months in a financial year. Staff is provided from the National Employment Service (NES) database of registrants.</p>	<p>Persons 17 years and over</p>	<p>During the period October 2022 to March 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>118 persons (25 males and 93 females) were employed</b> via this initiative throughout Trinidad as evident from the information received by the Port of Spain, Sangre Grande, Chaguanas, San Fernando, Siparia and Point Fortin offices.</li> </ul>	<p>A Modern, Relevant, Quality and Accessible Education and Training System</p> <p>Improved Access to Quality Education and Training.</p>



# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<b>MINISTRY OF LABOUR</b>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF LABOUR:</b></p> <p><b>O'LEVEL / NON GRADUATE PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>To address staffing needs for employment of persons in a Clerical capacity at various Ministries. This programme is geared toward assisting persons with a passing grade in at least one (1) O'Level subject. Employment under this programme is for a period not exceeding three (3) months. Staff is provided from the National Employment Service (NES) database of registrants.</p>	<p>Persons 17 years and over and in possession of at least 1 CXC subject pass</p>	<p>During the period October 2022 to March 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>29 persons were employed</b> under this programme at the various Manpower units of the MOLSED.</li> </ul>	<p>A Modern, Relevant, Quality and Accessible Education and Training System</p> <p>Improved Access to Quality Education and Training.</p>
	<p><b>SUPPORT SERVICES RELIEF PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>To address staffing needs for employment of persons under the Support Services Relief Programme for a maximum of (12) months inclusive of vacation leave. The initiative is intended to provide relief to unemployed persons.</p>	<p>Persons 17 years and over Graduates and Non-Graduates</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to March 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>446 persons</b> received employment under this programme.</li> </ul>	<p>A Modern, Relevant, Quality and Accessible Education and Training System</p> <p>Improved Access to Quality Education and Training.</p>
	<p><b>COMMONWEALTH/CARIBBEAN SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL WORKERS PROGRAMME (CCSAWP)</b></p> <p>To address the temporary seasonal needs of the Canadian agricultural producers during the peak harvesting and planting periods when there are shortages of qualified workers. In addition to the financial benefit, workers develop agricultural skills and techniques.</p>		<p>For the period October 2022 to March 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>203 persons</b> (188 males and 15 females) received employment under this programme.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Quality Education and Training.</p> <p>Decent Work Opportunities Created.</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY	<p><b>MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY:</b></p> <p><b>POLICE YOUTH CLUBS</b></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 - 24 years in activities that guide them away from crime and criminal activities. The initiative is founded on the premise that early intervention in shaping the minds of the youth would ultimately lead to a productive lifestyle that would be beneficial to themselves, their families, the communities and ultimately the country.</p> <p>Objectives of the PYC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting a feeling of nationalism amongst the youth of the nation;</li> <li>• Encouraging the nation's youth to participate fully in physical, cultural, sporting, educational and spiritual activities;</li> <li>• Preparing youths for a positive role in the nation's development;</li> <li>• Providing effective machinery through which the youths would be appreciative of the value of good discipline, self-respect, and respect for others; and</li> <li>• Preparing youths for the responsibilities of adulthood.</li> </ul>	Youth between the ages of 15-24 years	<p>During the period October 2022 to March 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1,629 persons</b> (1,090 Children, 320 Youths, 179 Adults and 40 seniors).</li> <li>• Other Initiatives include; Shelter/Hostel, sporting Programme, Agricultural Programme, Soup Kitchen Programme and Christmas Dinner and Award Function. <b>4551 persons</b> (2,835 Children, 1,614 youths and 102 Adults) benefited from this programme.</li> </ul>	<p>Vulnerable Groups Rehabilitated and Reintegrated.</p> <p>Greater Awareness of Positive Values and Information on the Family.</p>

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY:</p> <p><b>OTHER INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMMES</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Case Care Management (CCM) Pilot Project</b> seeks to enhance coordination among the justice, health, social and other systems to assist persons with substance use disorders with their recovery and structured re-integration into society. During the fiscal, <b>54 persons</b> benefited from this project.</li> <li>• <b>Thinking for A Change Intervention</b> at the Learning Enrichment Centre (LEC) - <b>325 persons</b> benefited from this intervention.</li> <li>• <b>Criminal Injuries Compensation Board</b> - financial assistance for victims of crime and their dependents <b>133 persons</b> benefited.</li> <li>• <b>ALTA</b> (On-line Adult Literacy Programme - <b>11 inmates</b> benefited from literacy classes</li> <li>• <b>YTEPP</b> - <b>50 persons</b> (40 males and 10 females) benefited from this programme.</li> <li>• <b>Commonwealth of Learning Programme</b> – The programme provides online classes to inmates in vocational and tertiary level courses in preparation for the workforce, self-employment and personal development. <b>During the fiscal, 30 persons (22 males and 8 females) benefited from this programme</b> which was facilitated by YTEPP.</li> <li>• <b>Inmate Development Programme</b> - <b>74 persons</b> participated.</li> <li>• <b>The Insight Project (TIP) – 52 persons participated.</b></li> <li>• <b>Transforming Lives through Life Skills</b> – The programme, managed by the Trinidad and Tobago Prison Service is geared to equip inmates with relevant life skills to navigate daily life in society. During the fiscal, <b>76 male inmates participated in the programme.</b></li> <li>• <b>Vision on Mission Preparation for Release Programme</b> - <b>60 males were enrolled in the programme</b> during the fiscal with <b>14 males completing the programme.</b></li> <li>• <b>Family Picnic Visit</b> - <b>855 persons</b> (155 children, 100 youths and 600 adults) participated.</li> <li>• <b>Women’s Wellness Workshop 2023</b> - <b>71 females</b> participated.</li> </ul>	<p>A Modern and Effective Law Enforcement System</p> <p>Vulnerable Groups Rehabilitated and Reintegrated.</p> <p>Greater Awareness of Positive Values and Information on the Family.</p> <p>Improved Access to Quality Education and Training.</p> <p>Decent Work Opportunities Created</p>
<p>MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY</p>			

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY	MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY: <b>VICTIM AND WITNESS SUPPORT UNIT</b>  The Victim and Witness Support Unit initiative, a civilian unit, was developed in 2008 as part of the transformation of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS). It aims to bridge the gap between the Police Service and the victims and witnesses of crime. Its efforts also focus on improving the relationship between the Police Service and communities thereby raising the levels of trust and public confidence.  The Objectives of the Initiative are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educate clients and other stakeholders with the intention of minimising the risks of secondary victimisation;</li> <li>Collaborate with other agencies with the aim of enhancing the Unit's policies and programmes;</li> <li>Develop a network system to harmonise governmental and non-governmental initiatives which promote victim and witness support; and</li> <li>Assist in promoting respect for the human dignity of victims through their interaction with all elements of the Police Service and by extension the Criminal Justice System</li> </ul>	CATEGORY Victims and witnesses of crime	OUTCOME Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes
	<p>During the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Victim and Witness Support Unit provided psychosocial and investigative support to victims of crime making reports to the police, which benefitted <b>approximately 2,496 persons</b>.</li> <li><b>Six (6) families</b> of community members of the North Eastern, Port of Spain, Western and Southern Divisions received grocery and personal care items from the VWSU.</li> <li><b>150</b> participants took part in the Mentorship Programme themed '<b>Education Gives You Choices</b>'.</li> <li>Under the '<b>Give to Live</b>' Hamper Drive, a total of <b>60</b> families benefitted received grocery and personal items.</li> <li>A presentation on '<b>Freedom from Exploitation, Violence and Abuse</b>' was given to <b>50</b> women of the TTPS.</li> <li><b>Four (4) women</b> were empowered with resources needed to obtain psychosocial and investigative support through the Victim and Witness Support Unit.</li> <li><b>85 persons</b> (36 males and 49 females) benefitted from an educational booth held at the Scarborough Secondary School Outreach. The booth sought to inter alia, provide students with a deeper understanding of the Unit work and how to develop healthy coping skills if impacted by a crime or trauma.</li> <li>Additionally, Officers of the VWSU hosted <b>Addressing Victims Anywhere (AVA) Community Outreach Projects – 350 persons in Tobago, 300 persons in Arouca and 302 in Arima were engaged</b>. The projects sought to inter alia: educate visitors and citizens on crime prevention strategies, afford individuals the opportunity to learn the scope of services offered by the VWSU, and connect with persons who may be suffering in silence after some form of criminal victimisation.</li> </ul>		



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY	<p><b>MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY:</b></p> <p><b>PROJECT PHOENIX</b></p> <p>This programme, launched in April 2023, seeks to promote the importance of mental health and literacy; while simultaneously providing free counselling services, and life skills training for participants.</p> <p><b>WHO IS WRITING YOUR STORY</b></p> <p>The programme will be made up of 4 components.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phase 1: A youth development programme aimed at building, developing and empowering all participants.</li> <li>Phase 2: Focuses on the relationship between mentoring and positive life outcomes as defined by the Five Cs (competence, character, confidence, connection and compassion).</li> <li>Phase 3: Focuses on integration of the participants at VWSU events and TTPS outreaches.</li> <li>Phase 4: Aims at providing support to the parents of participants through developmental and empowerment workshops.</li> </ul>	<p>Residents of the Belmont Community</p> <p>General Public</p>	<p>During fiscal 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>55 participants were impacted</b> via the programme.</li> <li>Additionally, <b>358 persons were impacted</b> via a Career Expo which provided knowledge on academic and career opportunities for members of the community and public at large.</li> </ul> <p><b>During fiscal 2023:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>73 persons (40 children, 23 adults and 10 teachers)</b> participated in the programme.</li> <li>Coping skills workshops were conducted with Standard 4 &amp; 5 students of Rose Hill RC School. Follow-up evaluations revealed that 80% of participants reported using healthy coping mechanisms learned during the programme in their daily lives.</li> <li>Participants also exhibited a greater understanding of push-pull factors relative to criminal activities.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Greater Awareness of Positive Values and Information on the Family.</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES	<p><b>MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES:</b></p> <p><b>RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (REAP)</b></p> <p>The Programme is targeted at low-income households and is aimed at improving their social and economic welfare. It also seeks to accelerate residential access to an adequate supply of electricity in a safe and reliable manner, by providing house wiring assistance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homeowners whose homes have never been wired;</li> <li>• Homeowners whose homes are at risk of electrical fires and are in urgent need of rewiring as a pre-requisite to accessing electricity.</li> </ul>	Low-Income Homeowners	<p>During the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>34 applications were considered by the Technical Advisory Committee during the period. 27 homes were wired for electricity. This impacted 77 beneficiaries.</b></li> <li>• <b>81 new jobs were created.</b></li> <li>• <b>The homes of 22 fire victims were rewired.</b></li> <li>• Additionally, approval was received from Cabinet for expansion of the REAP.</li> </ul>	Improved Energy Efficiency





	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES</p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES:</b></p> <p><b>UTILITIES ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (UAP)</b></p> <p>The UAP is a social intervention, introduced by the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in 2010, which provides financial assistance to eligible citizens to ensure their continued access to basic utilities such as water and electricity. The major components of the Programme are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Bill Assistance Programme</b> provides financial assistance through the provision of a subsidy to low-income customers of the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) and the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&amp;TEC) to ensure that they have continued access to these basic utilities;</li> <li>2. <b>Solar Panel Assistance:</b> this is aimed at providing solar panels to low-income households in remote communities that are unable to access the electricity grid; and</li> <li>3. <b>Water Tank Assistance (WTA):</b> This provides a water tank and fittings to low-income households and community-based facilities to ensure access to safely stored water.</li> </ol>	<p>Low-income Customers of WASA and T&amp;TEC who are also recipients of Senior Citizens Pension, Disability and other specific Grants</p>	<p>For fiscal 2023: The UAP assisted 13,603 beneficiary households with <b>43 new clients</b> being registered under the <b>Bill Assistance Programme</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>84 projects under the Water Tank Assistance Programme</b> were pending implementation with 19 applications pending review by the Technical Advisory Committee.</li> <li>• <b>2 Solar Panel Projects</b> were approved.</li> <li>• Additionally, a review of the programme is being undertaken to address challenges.</li> <li>• Due to rising costs of supplies, an interim ceiling price increase for the supply of water tanks by service providers under the (WTA) component was approved.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Energy Efficiency</p> <p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p>

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<b>MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES</b>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES:</b></p> <p><b>COMMUNITY WATER IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME (CWIP)</b></p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Underprivileged communities without water supply; areas with inadequate water supply</p>	<p>During the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>71, 254 persons</b> benefitted from the CWIP initiative. Of this total 16, 227 were new beneficiaries.</li> <li>• <b>19 projects were completed</b> while <b>25 projects were pending implementation.</b></li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p>
	<p><b>ELECTRIFICATION PROGRAMME (EP)</b></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&amp;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"> <li>1. Stimulating employment and equality of opportunity;</li> <li>2. Combatting poverty and significantly improving the quality of life of citizens, especially the vulnerable, by its positive impact on health and living standards; and</li> <li>3. Providing greater access to telecommunication services, including high-speed internet service.</li> </ol>	<p>Households without an electricity supply; communities without an electricity supply</p>	<p>During the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>101 new beneficiaries</b> received assistance under the initiative.</li> <li>• A total of <b>22 jobs</b> were completed during the period with 23 projects earmarked to be completed in the upcoming quarter.</li> <li>• The EP Project Unit embarked upon a month long training seminar with the Ministry of Energy.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Energy Efficiency</p> <p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p>

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT</p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT:</b></p> <p><b>COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME (CEPEP) COMPANY LIMITED</b></p> <p>The CEPEP Company Limited, is one of the main pillars of the National Strategy for Development of the Green Economy of Trinidad and Tobago. It is responsible for managing the Community-Based Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programme (CEPEP) and provides services including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Environmental Clean-up, Beautification and Maintenance,</li> <li>2. Waste Removal, Dead Animal Removal (DART)</li> <li>3. Coastal Maintenance</li> <li>4. Disaster and Emergency Response (DERT)</li> </ol>	<p>Communities Unemployed citizens</p>	<p>For Fiscal 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A total of 9,771 (semi-skilled and unskilled) persons</b> were employed on the programme as follows: <b>4,102 men, 4,354 women</b>. This included <b>517</b> persons aged (18 - 24 years) and <b>827</b> older persons.</li> <li>• An average of <b>334</b> small and microenterprises (contractors) have been engaged under the Programme in the cleaning and maintenance of roads; open spaces; and watercourses and waterways.</li> <li>• Approximately <b>184,500</b> bags of waste was removed.</li> </ul>	<p>Enhanced Waste Management Improved Pollution Management Systems Decent Work Opportunities Created</p>
<p>MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:</b></p> <p><b>COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMME: ENTREPRENEURIAL (MICRO-ENTERPRISE) MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (EMDP)</b></p> <p>The EMDP provides training and know-how in entrepreneurship which augment technical and handicraft skills acquired by participants through the Community Education Domestic Short Skill Courses and other training programmes. This Programme seeks to utilize a best practice approach to support the development of new entrepreneurial and innovative micro and small businesses.</p>	<p>Members of Communities</p>	<p>During the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activities focused on the sharpening of participants' creative skills and business acumen, finalization of participants' business proposals and selection of investment opportunities that will provide seed funding of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00TT) each.</li> <li>• A total of 54 persons participated in the programme with 42 business proposals received for review. <b>Five (5) entrepreneurs were selected for seed funding.</b></li> </ul>	<p>Decent Work Opportunities Created Improved Access to Quality Education and Training Entrepreneurship Development System Strengthened</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p><b>MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</b></p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: SPORT HEALTH ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE EMPOWERMENT (SHAPE) IN COMMUNITIES</b></p> <p>The SHAPE Programme is an initiative designed to develop and empower communities and various stakeholders through sport and physical activity. The holistic community sport programme comprises a series of capacity building initiatives geared toward strengthening sporting institutions while fostering education and certification of coaches and administrators via a virtual platform. Courses are facilitated by the Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee (TTOC) and the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT). The programme will recognise Community Sport Titans (an initiative in which a person has dedicated their time to developing sports in communities).</p>	<p>Youth (15-24 years), adults, communities, NGOs</p>	<p>During the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2,275 persons (1,065 children, 880 youths and 280 adults and 50 older persons) in 100 communities</b> across the country benefitted from the SHAPE initiative.</li> <li>• <b>110 NGOs</b> also benefitted from the programme.</li> </ul>	<p>Healthy Lifestyles Adopted</p>



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:</b></p> <p><b>PINK REIGN CAMPAIGN</b></p> <p>The Pink Reign Campaign was developed to encourage and support the development of women and girls in communities by providing opportunities to engage in key aspects of sport and physical activity.</p>	<p>Women and girls in communities</p>	<p>During the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2,384 participants</b> benefitted from the various components of this programme as follows:</li> <li>• <b>Keep on Moving (Aerobics and Zumba) – 1,460 women and girls participated.</b> Instructors were sourced from within the communities.</li> <li>• <b>Girls Run TT– 300 beneficiaries</b></li> <li>• <b>Girl, Defend Yourself: 179 beneficiaries</b></li> <li>• <b>Let Her Play – Jump Rope: 120 beneficiaries</b></li> <li>• <b>Let Her Play – Dance: 133 beneficiaries</b></li> <li>• <b>Let Her Play – Cheer: 172 beneficiaries</b></li> <li>• <b>Conversations with Women and Girls: 20 beneficiaries.</b> The conversations video series sought to highlight the highs and lows of girls and women who strive, thrive and succeed in sport in Trinidad and Tobago.</li> <li>• Facilitators from National Governing Bodies were employed as well as qualified persons from within communities.</li> </ul>	<p>Healthy Lifestyles Adopted</p>
	<p><b>NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SELF HELP</b></p> <p>The National Commission for Self Help Limited (NCSHL) is a state-owned enterprise that addresses poverty alleviation and community empowerment through the distribution of Minor Repairs and Reconstruction Grants (MRRG), Emergency Repair and Reconstruction Assistance Grants (ERRAG) and Infrastructure Development Projects.</p>	<p>Vulnerable families and communities</p>	<p>During the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial and technical assistance were provided for the implementation of <b>8 projects</b> to improve rural community infrastructure;</li> <li>• <b>67 ERRAG projects</b> were undertaken.</li> <li>• <b>119 minor repair projects</b> were implemented.</li> <li>• <b>The various projects</b> provided relief to applicants who experienced damage due to natural disasters and; assisted deserving individuals in the renovation of their homes and improvement of their living conditions. These projects benefitted a total of <b>644</b> persons.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Quality of Housing Stock</p> <p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes.</p>

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p><b>MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</b></p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:</b></p> <p><b>PRIME MINISTER'S BEST VILLAGE TROPHY COMPETITION (PMBVTC)</b></p> <p>The Prime Minister's Best Village Trophy Competition is designed to partner with communities; to identify, promote and implement programmes and projects, whilst preserving Traditional Folk Art through competition between communities.</p> <p><b>COMMUNITY MEDIATION SERVICES</b></p> <p>The initiatives implemented by the Community Mediation Services Division are intended to encourage the adoption of behaviours that are consistent with the underpinning philosophy of mediation, restoration and peace building. These initiatives include peer mediation, conflict management training, leadership skills development, anger management, communication and interpersonal skills, these are among other programmes which are specially designed according to the needs of the particular organisation or community. These initiatives are supported by the practices of mediation, social work and other therapeutic interventions as well as the facilitation of difficult conversations in communities and special interest groups.</p>	<p>Children, Youth and Communities</p> <p>Families, Communities, Individuals</p>	<p>During the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3,005 persons (762 children, 1,176 youth, 819 adults and 248 over 60 years) were beneficiaries under the PMBVTC.</li> <li>The PMBVTC provided training opportunities to community Sports and Cultural Groups in various disciplines of music, dance, drama, etc.</li> </ul> <p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023 these sub-initiatives were undertaken as part of the programme and the following were achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Men's Symposium 2023:</b> This new initiative conceptualised in 2020 to bring together the men of the Parent Support Group as well as the general public to address critical issues which impact the male perspective and men in Trinidad and Tobago. The theme for the 3-day workshop was "A Men's Intervention Forum where Real Men Talk on Real Issues." <b>A total of 159 men were in attendance.</b> The following issues were discussed over the 3 days: The Myth of the Invulnerable Man; Consent, Getting it Right; and Accessing support for Success.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Quality Education and Training.</p> <p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes.</p> <p>Greater Awareness of Positive Values and Information on the Family.</p>





	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <i>Mediation and Social Work Intervention Cases Programme</i></li> </ul> <p>This programme offers mediation and social work services to clients presented at Mediation Centres, through self-referrals or Court-referrals, in matters classified as civil or family.</p>	<p>Families, Communities, Individuals</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2,492 clients</b> (874 males and 1618 females) were served at the various <b>Community Mediation Centres</b>;</li> <li>• <b>376 total cases were managed</b> – (33 Civil and 343 Family cases). From the total cases referred, <b>67 were referred by the Court and 309 were self-referred.</b></li> <li>• <b>A total of 44 Court referred cases and 31 self-referred cases were mediated.</b></li> <li>• <b>75 cases yielded Mediation outcomes as follows:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>27 Full agreements</b></li> <li>- <b>5 Partial agreements</b></li> <li>- <b>18 Non-Agreements</b> and</li> <li>- <b>24 Ongoing matters</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>A total of 1,186 persons received counselling</b> during the period. Of this total <b>247 were new clients and 939 were repeat clients.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Constraints:</b> Ongoing staff recruitment challenges have continued to impede the Division's work.</p>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes.</p> <p>Greater Awareness of Positive Values and Information on the Family</p>

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Parental Support Groups</b></li> </ul> <p>Membership in the Parental Support and Men Support Group is voluntary. Members comprise clients from mediation and social work interventions, referrals from other ministries and agencies, and members of the public. These groups provide therapy as members are allowed a secure space to enhance their parenting skills; seek out support, information and supportive relationships to cope and better manage domestic situations.</p> <p>Under this initiative parents and grandparents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• are equipped with information and skills to improve their confidence and competence in parenting;</li> <li>• access support and develop coping skills and mechanisms in a non-threatening and supportive environment; and</li> <li>• experience enhanced quality of family life in their communities.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Public Education and Sensitization: Grief and Loss Support Group</b></li> </ul> <p>These groups are therapeutic and members experience a secure space to express hurt, seek out support, information and supportive relationships to cope and better manage situations. Participants comprise clients, for mediation and social work interventions, persons referred from other agencies and other members of the public who experience difficulties in coping with grief and loss.</p>	<p>Families/ Communities</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>645 persons</b> participated in 3 workshops entitled “Parenting in the 21st Century”.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes.</p> <p>Greater Awareness of Positive Values and Information on the Family.</p>
		<p>Families/ Communities</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>223 persons participated in 4 sessions</b> held on Grief and Loss. Topics discussed were as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Impact of Grief and Loss</li> <li>- A New Dawn: Embracing New Beginnings</li> <li>- When Men Grieve: Understanding Male Grief</li> <li>- Children Grieve too</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes.</p> <p>Greater Awareness of Positive Values and Information on the Family</p>



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:</b></p> <p><b>GRANT FUNDING – COMMUNITY ACTION FOR REVIVAL AND EMPOWERMENT</b></p> <p>This funding is intended to support the active and innovative involvement of civil society in pursuit of national development goals. It is provided as a stimulus to local and individual initiative and creativity as distinct from public sector efforts.</p> <p><b>GRANT FUNDING – SPORT NON-PROFIT INSTITUTIONS</b></p> <p>The Sports Grants are offered to National Governing Bodies for sport, community groups and individuals in support of their plans, programmes and activities that foster sports development, facilitate athletic performance and engender a spirit of community living. There is also a specific grant for elite athletes in keeping with the National Sport Policy, which provides financial assistance to outstanding athletes in support of their preparation for, and participation in international competition.</p>	<p>Communities</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023: 34 applications were received with a total of <b>23</b> approvals.</p> <p>For the period October 2022 – June 2023: <b>61 applications</b> were received with a total of <b>45 approvals</b>.</p>	<p>Promote civic mindedness.</p> <p>Promote civic mindedness.</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES:</b></p> <p><b>DISABILITY AFFAIRS</b></p> <p>The Disability Affairs Unit (DAU) was established in 1999 and serves as a resource and referral centre for information pertaining to disability matters. In addition to coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the National Policy on Persons with Disabilities, the Unit also coordinates, develops and implements comprehensive programmes to assist citizens of Trinidad and Tobago with disabilities.</p> <p>❖ <b>Community Therapeutic Services (CTS)</b></p> <p>This initiative is a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services. The decision to pursue Community Therapeutic Services is in keeping with Articles 25 and 26 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2015.) which state that: <i>"PWDs should be mainstreamed in institutions that already offer therapy and rehabilitation services, rather than the construction of institutions which promote segregated rehabilitation."</i></p>	<p>Persons with disabilities</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to March 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Disability Affairs Unit (DAU) engaged in a data collection exercise geared towards recipients of the Disability Assistance Grant and the Disability Assistance Grant for Minors. This exercise sought to: (a) evaluate the clients' experiences when interacting with the Ministry; and (b) address issues that may have occurred when applying for the Grant; as well as the impact of these grants on their living situations. <b>The exercise has been completed with 6 Social Welfare Offices (Local Boards)</b> and the remaining Boards are to be completed by the end of fiscal 2023.</li> <li><b>Assessment of the Disability Sector:</b> The assessment of the disability sector is a project being led by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) to assess the situation of persons with disabilities in four Borrowing Member Countries. In fiscal 2023, the MSDFS continued to support this strategic project and partnered with the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) to host consultative workshops for PWDs towards finalisation of the project.</li> </ul> <p>The following was also achieved by the Division during the period:</p> <p>The Report on the findings of the study was completed. The data is complementing the Ministry operationalization of the Therapeutic centre. The physical remedies were completed on this building at Carsen Field, outfitting of the Centre commenced in June, and the tender will shortly be issued for the management of the facility.</p>	<p>Improved Management of Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Improved Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities</p>



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES:</b></p> <p><b>AGEING:</b></p> <p>The Division of Ageing is the umbrella agency with overall responsibility for the coordination and monitoring of initiatives on ageing in Trinidad and Tobago.</p> <p>❖ <b>Older Persons Information Centre (OPIC)</b></p> <p>The OPIC Help Desk was originally established in 2005 to serve as a referral facility for information on activities, initiatives, programmes, services and products for older persons in Trinidad and Tobago. The facility has evolved into an entity that also deals with welfare issues, elder abuse and social work cases on a regular basis. Given the spectrum of cases now recorded by OPIC, it has developed significantly into an information hub concerning the needs, issues and impact of social change and public policy on the elderly community in Trinidad and Tobago. Among its key functions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing information about Homes for the Aged;</li> <li>• Referring older persons to age-related goods and services;</li> <li>• Offering information on legislation related to older persons;</li> <li>• Following up on elder abuse cases.</li> </ul>	<p>Senior Citizens</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Division of Ageing received <b>373 information requests</b> on matters such as: the Senior Citizens Grant, Home Placement for older persons, referrals for geriatric services, COVID-19 information and questions about ageing.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Children and Elderly will have Greater Access to Care and Protection Services and Information</p> <p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Children and Elderly will have Greater Access to Care and Protection Services and Information</p>

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## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Community Care Programme (CCP)</b> This programme was first established in 2007 to de-institutionalize Levels 1-3 patients aged 60 years and over (from the Port of Spain General Hospital, San Fernando General Hospital, St. James Infirmary and the St. Ann's Mental Hospital), who required social care. The Programme, which was formerly administered by the Ministry of Health was placed under the ambit of the MSDFS in 2010. It is jointly administered by the Division of Ageing and the Social Displacement Unit of the MSDFS.</li> <li>❖ <b>National Centenarian Program</b> Launched in 2021, the National Centenarian Programme is designed to recognise and honour citizens of Trinidad and Tobago who achieved the milestone of reaching the age of 100 years and above. This program is two-fold as it is to be used as a recognition tool to allow the centenarians to feel valued for their contributions to the overall success of our nation.</li> </ul>	Senior Citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of <b>85</b> clients are currently in this programme with a monthly average cost of <b>\$277,167</b> being dispensed to cover their care and support.</li> <li>• Additionally, there were <b>15</b> new placements in the programme with <b>12 persons decanted from homes</b> due to substandard conditions and closure.</li> </ul>	Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes Children and Elderly will have Greater Access to Care and Protection Services and Information
		Senior Citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since the relaunch of the programme, <b>64 centenarians</b> have been recognised and celebrated.</li> </ul>	Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes Children and Elderly will have Greater Access to Care and Protection Services and Information.



# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Homes for Older Persons</b> The Ministry currently supports the operations of nine (9) Homes for Senior Citizens, which are managed by management committees. The Homes are located in Chaguanas, Couva, La Brea, Mayaro, Point Fortin, Sangre Grande, Siparia, Toco and San Fernando, and are sustained through the provision of annual subventions. The Homes aim to provide safe accommodation to older persons as well as care and support.</li> </ul>	<p>Older persons aged 60 years and over who may be socially-isolated and/or indigent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approximately <b>100</b> socially-isolated and/or indigent older persons, aged 60 years and over, were provided residential accommodation care at six (6) Homes supported by the Ministry. These homes are located in Toco, Couva, La Brea, San Fernando, Siparia, and Chaguanas.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Children and Elderly will have Greater Access to Care and Protection Services and Information.</p>
<p><b>HIV/AIDS COORDINATION</b></p> <p>The HIV Coordinating Unit executes its programmes/initiatives in accordance with the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services' mission and vision which are highlighted in the Ministry's quest of helping, empowering and transforming lives (particularly the vulnerable) in our society. The Unit's initiatives/programmes are also premised on the national expanded response to the HIV and AIDS epidemic as articulated in the National HIV and AIDS Strategic Plan (NSP) 2013-2018 which highlights the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reducing new infections and mitigating the impact of the epidemic among persons infected and affected by HIV;</li> <li>2. Engaging a coordinated and multi-sectoral approach for addressing HIV and AIDS;</li> <li>3. Acknowledging the role of Public Service Agencies in the response.</li> </ol>	<p>Members of staff of the MSDFS and members of the Public</p>	<p>During fiscal 2023, the Unit facilitated several educational initiatives as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>HIV &amp; Me</b>- An education programme geared toward increasing knowledge on HIV-related topics. The programme aimed to foster a positive outlook on the way individuals see persons living with HIV by way of provoking or encouraging behaviour and attitude change. <b>Seven (7) sensitizations</b> were done for the period April-May for staff at the various Social Welfare Offices (Local Boards) of the MSDFS.</li> <li><b>Movie and Chat Event</b>- the Movie and Chat programme was adopted to promote awareness and knowledge of the challenges of persons living with HIV/AIDS.</li> <li><b>External Sensitization Initiatives</b> - external sensitization activities to assist in reaching and educating the wider public about the pressing social issue of HIV/AIDS and other STIs.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Health Promotion</p>

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES:</b></p> <p><b>NATIONAL FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION (NFSD)</b></p> <p>The National Family Services Division (NFSD) is the primary institution in Trinidad and Tobago providing a range of programmes and services to promote healthy family functioning. The NFSD provides rehabilitation through group, family and individual counselling and other support with its ultimate goal being the empowerment of vulnerable individual/s and families in order to sustain healthy social functioning.</p> <p>❖ <b>Community Parenting Workshops</b></p> <p>The National Parenting Programme (NPP) seeks to strengthen and support families in Trinidad and Tobago through the provision of information, education and support. The NPP is a strategic response to various issues and concerns that involve parenting practices and behaviour in Trinidad and Tobago.</p>	<p>Individuals, Couples, Children and Families</p>	<p>During the period October 2022 to September 2023: <b>6,508</b> clients received psychosocial support in the form of counselling services.</p>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Greater Awareness of Positive Values and Information on the Family</p>
		<p>Individuals, Couples, Children and Families in Vulnerable situations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Division hosted eight (8) two-hour Virtual Parenting Workshops during October and November 2022.</b> Themes for the workshops were 'Parenting and Family Violence' and 'Parenting for Men'. <b>41 participants</b> benefitted.</li> <li>• <b>Community Parenting Workshop 2022/2023 - 68 participants</b> benefitted over two rollouts of the Workshop. Eight (8) two hour sessions were conducted for each programme.</li> <li>• <b>The NFSD also held In-House Parenting Workshops and Cycle 2 of its Co-Parenting Workshop 2022.</b> A total of <b>42 clients</b> benefitted from seven (7) two-hour sessions.</li> <li>• <b>The Division hosted its virtual Parenting for Grandparents Workshop.</b> The workshop consisted of six (6) two hour sessions and <b>benefitted 81 participants</b>.</li> <li>• The Parenting Unit, in collaboration with several stakeholders, including the Trinidad and Tobago Prison Service (TTPrS), Families in Action and the National Financial Literacy Programme- Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, hosted its Inmate Development Programme (IDP). The eight (8) module workshop focused on Life Skills with <b>80 participants</b> benefitting.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Greater Awareness of Positive Values and Information on the Family</p>

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</b>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>National Suicide Prevention Hotline 800-COPE</b></li> </ul> <p>The Ministry's NFSD officially launched its National Suicide Prevention Hotline 800-COPE (2673). Under the remit of the NFSD, this 24-Hour Crisis hotline will be operated by specially trained personnel to efficiently address crisis issues related to suicidal ideations and other critical issues faced by citizens.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since its commencement in November 2022 to September 2023, <b>the Hotline has received 1,628 calls.</b></li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes.</p> <p>Greater Awareness of Positive Values and Information on the Family</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Radio Programme – “It’s Family Time: Let’s Talk”</b></li> </ul> <p>This programme is a key component of the messaging campaign to families and is designed to disseminate information on issues of importance to healthy family functioning to a wide cross section of society and to encourage dialogue with and provide a forum for fellow citizens on various aspects of family life.</p>	<p>Individuals, Couples, Children, Families, Parents, Senior Citizens, Persons living with Disabilities, the Disadvantaged</p>	<p>For fiscal 2023: For the <b>It’s Family Time, Let’s Talk</b> radio series, the NFSD conducted both Radio and TV programmes during National Family Month in June/July 2023.</p>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes.</p> <p>Greater Awareness of Positive Values and Information on the Family</p>	
<p><b>NATIONAL SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME</b></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. This is all in an effort to raise the standard of living and quality of life of vulnerable citizens. The NSDP officially began its operations in the Ministry in October 2012.</p>	<p>Vulnerable persons and communities</p>	<p>The following was achieved during fiscal 2023 (as at September 26, 2023):</p>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes.</p>	

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</b>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Minor House Repair Assistance</b> This initiative provides persons with materials and/or labour for roof repairs and other minor structural repairs to their homes.</li> <li>❖ <b>Sanitary Plumbing Assistance</b> 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.</li> <li>❖ <b>House Wiring Assistance</b> This initiative provides electrification for households throughout Trinidad and Tobago</li> <li>❖ <b>Sowing Empowering through Entrepreneurial Development (SEED)</b> 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 Ministry of Social Development and Family Services who are receiving welfare grants to start mini/micro enterprises and become more independent and self-sufficient.</li> </ul>	<p>Vulnerable persons and communities</p> <p>Vulnerable persons</p> <p>Vulnerable persons</p> <p>Vulnerable persons</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under the Minor House Repair Assistance, a total of <b>42 grants were approved. 132 persons</b> benefitted at a cost of <b>\$662,898.11.</b></li> <li>• Under the Sanitary Plumbing Assistance, <b>17 applications were approved</b> with a total of <b>55 persons</b> benefitting at a cost of <b>\$211,929.95.</b></li> <li>• Under the House Wiring Assistance, <b>11 grants were approved with 44 persons</b> benefitting at a cost of <b>\$139,423.25.</b></li> <li>• Under the SEED programme, <b>59 persons</b> benefitted from <b>15 grants were approved</b> at a cost of <b>\$188,284.25.</b></li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes.</p> <p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes.</p> <p>Improved Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Utilities</p> <p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes.</p> <p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes.</p> <p>Entrepreneurship Development System Strengthened</p>

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Disaster Relief</b> Disaster relief is provided to victims whose items were destroyed beyond repair as a result of natural or man-made disasters. The Ministry collaborates with the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM), to coordinate disaster relief to families affected by floods.</li> </ul>	<p>Vulnerable persons</p>	<p>During the fiscal period, <b>2,765 applications for Disaster Relief were approved. A total of 8,820 persons benefitted and \$19,600,000.00 was expended.</b> The breakdown is listed hereunder:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Household Items - 2,504 applications were approved with 8,444 beneficiaries.</b></li> <li><b>School Supplies – A total of 258 applications were approved with 367 beneficiaries.</b></li> <li><b>Rental Assistance – A total of 3 applications were approved with 9 beneficiaries.</b></li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Increased Resilience of Climate Vulnerable Communities</p>
<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND ASSISTANCE TO NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs)</b></p> <p>The NGO Unit was established in May 2013 to manage the Ministry's relationship with partner NGOs in the delivery of social services in communities. This is facilitated through the management of contractual relationships with service delivery NGOs, the promotion of knowledge sharing and capacity building initiatives with NGOs to better serve the delivery mandate; the processing and assessing of requests by NGOs for various types of assistance such as grants and subventions and ensuring compliance by NGOs in accordance with established criteria for service delivery</p>	<p>Organisations serving Vulnerable Populations</p>	<p>For fiscal 2023 the following was achieved: Virtual Knowledge Sharing Initiatives (KSI) to engage NGOs for the purpose of information exchange and experiential learning. Three (3) KSIs were conducted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>“Navigating Virtual Spaces Safely – Together We’re Safer”</b>: with Get Safe Online UK Ambassadors Scheme where <b>27 youth, disability, gender and education related NGOs participated.</b></li> <li><b>Sign Language Sensitization in collaboration with TTAHI:</b> Sensitization for NGOs and Front Line Staff- <b>21 NGO and staff representatives participated.</b></li> <li><b>Measuring Programme Success:</b> How NGOs can measure programme impact through monitoring and evaluation. <b>15 NGO representatives attended.</b></li> <li><b>World NGO Day 2023:</b> Key coordinating support for virtual NGO Showcase in collaboration with The Cropper Foundation. The Unit facilitated and moderated NGO showcase presentations by 41 NGO participants over a 2-day period.</li> <li><b>National Risk Assessment of the NPO Sector:</b> Key contributions made for the National Risk Assessment of the Non-Profit Organisations (NPO) Sector for Trinidad and Tobago, led by the FIUTT and AGLA. Technical input on data gathering and analysis and data cleaning to inform the report on the NPO sector is in progress.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p>



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## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES:</b></p> <p>❖ <b>Financial Assistance to NGOs (One-off Grants under \$10,000)</b></p> <p>This facility provides one-off financial assistance to qualifying Community-Based, Faith Based or Non-Governmental organisations for a specific social programme, project or activity in support of an identified vulnerable community of persons.</p>	<p>Non-Governmental, Faith-Based, or Community-Based Organisations</p>	<p>As at September 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NGOs received <b>\$39,500 in one-off grant funding</b> to support key programmatic areas. The areas include support for persons with disabilities; assistance for transitional housing programmes; education and wellness initiatives targeted to senior citizens; family intervention programming with a special focus on marriages; support for victims of domestic violence; and grief support for widows.</li> <li>The following NGO beneficiaries were awarded One-Off Grants for the period 2023: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Down Syndrome Family Network</li> <li>Bridges to the Heart</li> <li>Is There Not A Cause</li> <li>Network of NGOs for the Advancement of Women</li> <li>Revival Mission</li> <li>The Shelter for Women and Children</li> <li>Widows Association of Trinidad and Tobago</li> <li>Kids In Need of Direction</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p>
<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</b></p> <p>❖ <b>Subventions to NGOs</b></p> <p>Under this initiative, a measure of financial assistance is provided to NGOs for recurrent expenditure and outreach costs in some cases, payable over a specified period for the purpose of facilitating service delivery to vulnerable clients.</p>	<p>Non-Governmental Organisations</p>	<p>As at September 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subventions were dispensed to NGOs and Statutory Boards as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Three (3) Statutory Boards - \$33,830,170</b></li> <li><b>Four (4) Youth Organizations - \$396,000</b></li> <li><b>Ten (10) NGOs - \$4,059,728</b></li> </ul> </li> <li><b>The total clients served by the subvented organisations was approximately 16,200.</b></li> <li><b>Total funds spent during the fiscal - \$38,285,898.00.</b></li> <li>The NGO Unit also undertook several knowledge sharing initiatives with NGOs to facilitate the transfer of knowledge on best practices for the operational and programmatic development of these organisations.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p>



# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES:</b></p> <p><b>INITIATIVES ON STREET DWELLING: - SOCIAL DISPLACEMENT UNIT</b></p> <p>The Social Displacement Unit of the MSDFS plans and coordinates activities pertinent to the empowerment and rehabilitation of socially displaced persons. The Unit currently provides direct social work services to the client population and ensures that the services and programmes provided by treatment and care centres are appropriate to the needs of the socially displaced.</p>	<p>Socially displaced persons</p>	<p>For fiscal 2023 the following was achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>5 persons were referred for rehabilitation</b></li> <li>• <b>48 persons were referred for shelter and care;</b></li> <li>• <b>27 persons were referred for additional social programme assistance</b></li> <li>• <b>353 social work interventions</b> were conducted; and</li> <li>• <b>1164 engagements/investigations</b> of persons living on the streets were undertaken.</li> </ul>	<p>Vulnerable Groups Rehabilitated and Reintegrated</p>
	<p>❖ <b>Street Outreach Programme</b></p> <p>This programme seeks to provide street dwellers with access to the various services offered by the Ministry of the People and Social Development, as well as any emergency support necessary. Field Officers of the SDU carry out regular street outreach visits to advise the displaced on services available.</p>	<p>Socially Displaced persons</p>	<p>For fiscal 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Street Head Counts were conducted on the streets of San Fernando (Marabella) and Port of Spain and environs. A total of <b>376 street dwellers</b> were counted during the exercises.</li> </ul>	<p>Vulnerable Groups Rehabilitated and Reintegrated</p>
	<p>❖ <b>Deportee Reception and Integration</b></p> <p>This programme provides assistance to deported persons with relocation and family reintegration into society. The SDU also assists deportees in finding employment.</p>	<p>Deported persons</p>	<p>For fiscal 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Five (5)</b> deportees were provided with counselling</li> </ul>	<p>Vulnerable Groups Rehabilitated and Reintegrated</p>

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES:</b></p> <p><b>SOCIAL WELFARE DIVISION</b></p> <p>The Social Welfare Division (SWD) is concerned with reducing the incidence of poverty among vulnerable groups and offers a range of financial assistance/grants to persons in need. The core services provided are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senior Citizens Pension</li> <li>• Public Assistance Grant</li> <li>• Disability Assistance Grant</li> <li>• General Assistance Grant</li> </ul>	<p>Vulnerable citizens of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>For the period October 2022, to September 2023, the following Grants were distributed:</p>	
<p>❖ <b>Disability Assistance Grant</b></p> <p>This grant of TTD 1,800.00 is intended for persons who have a disability and are unable to earn an income as a result. A person is entitled to receive Disability Assistance if, in the opinion of the Local Board, he/she is so disabled that he/she is unable to earn a livelihood and has been certified by a Government Medical Officer as being so disabled. The disability must be permanent in nature.</p>	<p>Persons 18-64 years of age who have been certified by a Government medical officer as having a disability and as a consequence unable to earn a livelihood.</p>	<p><b>21,828</b> persons were in receipt of the Disability Assistance Grant, with an expenditure of <b>\$551,955,238.00</b>.</p> <p><i>Of this total, 1,745 were new beneficiaries of the DAG.</i></p>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Improved Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities</p>
<p>❖ <b>Disability Assistance Grant for Minors (DAGM)</b></p> <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>	<p>Persons under 18 years of age who have been certified by a Government medical officer as having severe or complete levels of disability</p>	<p>The Social Welfare Division (SWD) distributed a total of <b>3,483</b> Disability Assistance Grant Minors (DAGM), which amounted to a total of <b>\$64,299,945.00</b>.</p> <p><b>756 persons were recorded as new clients of the programme.</b></p>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Improved Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities</p>

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>General Assistance Grant</b></li> </ul> <p>This grant was established to assist persons/households traumatised and rendered needy as a result of natural/other disasters. The grants are currently used to provide assistance to individuals/households living in poverty and 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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Food Support Programme</b></li> </ul> <p>This is 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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Long Term Food Support Card</b> This is the cash transfer component of the TCCTP, which is currently implemented via a debit card (TT Card™). It aims to enable families in need to purchase nutritious basic food items;</li> <li><b>2. Temporary Food Card</b> 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.</li> </ol>	<p>Victims of natural disasters and clients of the Ministry</p> <p>Indigent and vulnerable households</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of <b>1,632 clients</b> received assistance under the General Assistance Grants programme with expenditure totalling <b>\$28,812,130.00</b>.</li> </ul> <p>As at September 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>number of households</b> benefiting from the enhanced Food Support Programme (FSP) totalled <b>17,235</b>.</li> <li>• The total payments for the fiscal period (October 2022 to September 2023) amounted to <b>\$132,679,420.00</b>.</li> <li>• <b>A total of 10,720 clients were receiving monthly payments via the new debit card</b> while <b>6,515 were clients receiving payments via cheques</b>.</li> <li>• During the fiscal period <b>737 persons were recorded as new clients</b>.</li> <li>• A total of <b>2,820 Temporary cards were distributed</b> during the fiscal period at a cost of <b>\$1,471,738.00</b>. The value breakdown of cards distributed was as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$250.00 – <b>220 distributed</b></li> <li>• \$510.00 – <b>95 distributed</b></li> <li>• \$550.00 – <b>2,505 distributed</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>N.B. Clients on payrolls are recurring monthly</b></p>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Public Assistance Grant (PAG)</b></li> </ul> <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.</p> <p>The Public Assistance Grant is an essential social 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"> <li>1. Individuals - \$1,300.00 TTD</li> <li>2. Two (2) persons - \$1,550.00 TTD</li> <li>3. Three (3) persons - \$1,750 TTD</li> <li>4. For four (4) persons and more - \$1,900 TTD</li> </ol>	<p>Unemployed, persons unable to work, or who have little means of financially supporting themselves and guardians of necessitous children.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of <b>16,269</b> clients were in receipt of the PAG totalling <b>\$324,616,411.00</b>.</li> <li>• Of the total clients in receipt of the PAG, <b>2,410</b> were <b>new beneficiaries enrolled</b> in this programme.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p>



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME										
<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Senior Citizens' Pension (SCP)</b></li> </ul> <p>The Senior Citizens' Pension (SCP) provides financial assistance to persons aged 65 years and over who meet the qualifying criteria for the grant. With effect from January 01, 2019 the cap for SCP was increased to \$5,500.00 thus allowing a person in receipt of both an NIS pension and a Senior Citizens' Pension to receive \$3,000.00 a month from the NIS and up to a further \$2,500.00 per month in the Senior Citizens' Pension.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="639 1465 768 1854"> <thead> <tr> <th>Income Band</th> <th>Pension</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>\$0-\$2,500</td> <td>\$3,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>&gt;\$1,500.01 - \$3,500</td> <td>\$2,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>&gt;\$3,500.01 - \$4,500</td> <td>\$1,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>&gt;\$4,500.01 - \$5,500</td> <td>\$500</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Income Band	Pension	\$0-\$2,500	\$3,500	>\$1,500.01 - \$3,500	\$2,500	>\$3,500.01 - \$4,500	\$1,500	>\$4,500.01 - \$5,500	\$500	<p><b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Senior Citizens' Pension (SCP)</b></li> </ul> <p>The Senior Citizens' Pension (SCP) provides financial assistance to persons aged 65 years and over who meet the qualifying criteria for the grant. With effect from January 01, 2019 the cap for SCP was increased to \$5,500.00 thus allowing a person in receipt of both an NIS pension and a Senior Citizens' Pension to receive \$3,000.00 a month from the NIS and up to a further \$2,500.00 per month in the Senior Citizens' Pension.</p>	<p>Eligible Senior Citizens</p>	<p>A total of <b>111,735</b> senior citizens were in receipt of the Senior Citizens' Pension grant at a total cost of <b>\$4,462,606,073.00</b>.</p> <p><i>Of this total, 9,814 persons were added to the database as new beneficiaries.</i></p>	<p>Children and Elderly will have Greater Access to Care and Protection Services and Information</p>
Income Band	Pension													
\$0-\$2,500	\$3,500													
>\$1,500.01 - \$3,500	\$2,500													
>\$3,500.01 - \$4,500	\$1,500													
>\$4,500.01 - \$5,500	\$500													

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE</p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE:</b></p> <p><b>CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS (CCC)</b></p> <p>The CCC, which operates through the Ministry of National Security, offers introductory training, life skills development and on-the-job training to at-risk youth.</p> <p>The programme aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Raise the self-esteem of young persons deemed to be at-risk;</li> <li>2. Initiate interventions that would assist in fostering socially desirable behaviours among youth;</li> <li>3. Train and develop unemployed/unemployable persons in the target group to prepare them for employment;</li> <li>4. Foster a sense of national pride in participants;</li> <li>5. Provide temporary employment for unemployed young persons.</li> </ol>	<p>Young persons between the ages of 16-35 years</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of <b>863 trainees were enrolled</b> in the programme.</li> </ul> <p>Additionally,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>76 persons (50 females 26 males)</b> from past cycles of the programme were employed by the Corps as Team Supervisors, Assistant Team Commanders and Junior Team Commanders.</li> <li>• The Corps assisted 5 senior citizens with daily meals, 16 families received food, furniture and other assistance, provided 20 communities with maintenance, painting and repairs and provided meals for 863 children in collaboration with NGOs.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Improved access to quality education and training</p>





	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE</p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE:</b></p> <p><b>GERIATRIC ADOLESCENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (GAPP)</b></p> <p>The Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme (GAPP) is an intensive short-term intergenerational Training Programme that imparts knowledge and skills in elder care to young persons. It also aims at empowering young persons to respond to the growing and complex needs of an ageing population. Its objectives include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sensitizing young people to the needs of the elderly and understanding of the ageing process.</li> <li>2. Equipping young persons with basic skills in caregiving.</li> <li>3. Instilling discipline in young persons through training and service to the elderly.</li> <li>4. Improve intergenerational relationships and the quality of life of the elderly.</li> </ol> <p>Students receive training at two levels. Level I (for young persons between the ages of 17-30) and Level II (for young persons between the ages of 18-35). Graduates provide elder care to older persons.</p>	<p>Young persons and adults between the ages of 17-35 and older persons 60 years and over</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1,503 clients received monthly caregiving services</b> on a rotational basis from Programme.</li> <li>• <b>Approximately 500 caregivers were employed</b> during the period.</li> <li>• A GAPP Policy Framework and Standard Operating Procedure continue to be developed to assist with standardising the operations of the Programme.</li> <li>• A blended Training Curriculum on Care for the Elderly was developed with the guidance of a Curriculum specialist from the MoE.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Children and Elderly will have Greater Access to Care and Protection Services and Information</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE	<p><b>MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE: NATIONAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED (NEDCO)</b></p> <p>The National Entrepreneurship Development Company Limited (NEDCO) has the mandate to develop Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) in Trinidad and Tobago whose needs cannot be met by traditional lending agencies. NEDCO offers a wide suite of entrepreneurial development services to help MSEs transition from business concept to successful commercialization: small business financing; entrepreneurial training; business assessment; mentorship; business advisory; and client-focused services.</p>	Persons 17 years and over Small and Micro Enterprises (SMEs)	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>104 persons</b> benefited from 215 Business Advisory sessions.</li> </ul>	An Improved Business Environment that Fosters Entrepreneurship
	<p>❖ <b>Business Accelerator Programme</b></p> <p>The Business Accelerator Programme (BAP) 2020-2024 is an entrepreneurial development programme that aims to create a grouping of exceptional businesspersons and risk-takers that will lead to the next generation of entrepreneurs in the 2021 decade. The BAP was launched in December 2019 and NEDCO has partnered with Tertiary Institutions to assist with the development of entrepreneurs by providing a comprehensive practical approach to doing business, injection of capital and funding, training in effective marketing initiatives, and promoting locally produced marketable products and services. The creation of new markets/ niches both locally and internationally are the desired outcomes of the programme.</p>	Persons 17 years and over Small and Micro Enterprises (SMEs)	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The BAP continued with <b>131 participants (54 males and 77 females)</b>.</li> <li>• <b>12</b> Technical Vocational Educational Institutions signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs).</li> </ul>	An Improved Business Environment that Fosters Entrepreneurship

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p align="center"><b>MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE</b></p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Entrepreneurial Skills Training</b> Entrepreneurial Training is designed to:                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Equip entrepreneurs within the Micro and Small Enterprise (MSE) sector to be successful within each business segment; and</li> <li>2. Provide training that will equip existing and upcoming entrepreneurs in key areas such as introduction to entrepreneurship, steps to starting your business, recordkeeping and cash management, savings and investments and costing and pricing.</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p><b>MILITARY-LED ACADEMIC TRAINING (MILAT) PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>This two-year residential programme seeks to ensure the holistic development of young at-risk males and allow them the opportunity to qualify themselves academically and become productive citizens by providing a safe structured and regulated setting.</p> <p>The objectives of the programme are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reduce the loss of potentially productive human capital from the national skills base;</li> <li>2. Create a rehabilitative intervention that strengthens the success capacity of the education system;</li> <li>3. Transform the attitudes and behaviours of at-risk youth between the ages of 15-24, in a routine, military-led programme.</li> </ol>	<p>Persons 15 years and over Small and Micro Enterprises (SMEs)</p> <p>Young persons at-risk between the ages of 15 - 24 years</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of <b>46 Training Programmes and Outreach seminars</b> were conducted.</li> <li>• Approximately <b>1,274 persons benefitted</b> from the following courses: Developing a Business Plan, Record keeping and Cash Management, Marketing, Digital Transformation of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).</li> <li>• A learning management system to enable further online training and engagement will soon be introduced.</li> </ul> <p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of <b>299 young males were enrolled</b> in the programme. Of that number, 64% were prepared in eleven subject areas for CSEC certification.</li> <li>• Additionally, 90% of cadets enrolled showed positive social development and attitude to learning as well as high levels of discipline, deportment and conduct.</li> </ul>	<p>An Improved Business Environment that Fosters Entrepreneurship</p> <p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Improved access to quality education and training</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE</p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE: RETIREES ADOLESCENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (RAPP)</b></p> <p>This programme is a community-oriented programme which seeks to provide assistance and supervision at the community level to “young, at-risk” persons in order to minimize the delinquency and drop-out rate in the nation’s school population. It seeks to provide 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 with young persons/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). NGOs and ‘at-risk’ Communities also benefit from the programme</p>	<p>For the period October 2022 to June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A total of 457 young persons between 9 to 21 years were enrolled</b> in the programme and received mentoring and academic support.</li> <li>• <b>Approximately 56 retired professionals and skilled persons in the various communities were employed</b> as mentors and supervisors on the programme.</li> <li>• <b>132 families in 19 communities</b> were impacted.</li> <li>• <b>Four (4) NGOs: Shekinah Homework Academy, Guanapo Police Youth Club, Lisas Gardens Welfare Council &amp; the First Church of the Open Bible San Fernando partnered with the programme.</b></li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Children and Elderly will have Greater Access to Care and Protection Services and Information</p>

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTPUT/ OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE</p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE:</b>  <b>YOUTH EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES</b>                      These programmes target young persons to foster innovation, creativity, economic and social growth. The programmes include training in leadership, social media management and technical/vocational skills</p>	<p>Young persons between the ages of 16 - 35 years</p>	<p>During fiscal 2023, the following programmes were provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Skills for a Technological Economy and Youth Productivity in T&amp;T (STEP TT)</b> - 300 persons benefited from training in Web Design, Coding and Mobile Application Development.</li> <li>• <b>Project Trending-Social Media Management. 120 persons</b> enrolled in the 11-module course which was conducted in 4 Cohorts. <b>118 persons graduated.</b></li> <li>• <b>Air Conditioning and Refrigeration and Automotive Electrical (CRISP) &amp; Heating, Ventilation and Air Condition (HVAC) Maintenance Programme.</b> The programme aims inter alia, to provide young persons (18-35) with introductory training in technical/vocational skills. <b>130 persons benefited</b></li> <li>• <b>Alternative Learning and Life Skills Enhancement Training (ALLSET).</b> The Programme provides training in heavy machinery operations. <b>150 persons</b> benefited.</li> <li>• <b>National Leadership Training Programme - 50 young persons</b> from various youth led/serving organisations benefited.</li> <li>• <b>A Music Production and Life Skills Initiative for Youth Development (AMPLIFY)</b> - 37 persons benefited from skills training courses in Music Production.</li> <li>• <b>Project DRIVE - 88 persons</b> benefited from training in automotive servicing.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Improved access to quality education and training</p>
<p>MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT</p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT:</b>  <b>UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF PROGRAMME</b>                      Provides temporary relief to families in employment distress by providing short-term employment relief while developing, maintaining and improving their communities' physical and social infrastructure.</p>		<p>For Fiscal 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over <b>15,000 persons</b> benefited from this programme each quarter.</li> <li>• The programme will begin digitising several of its operational processes including its document and inventory management.</li> </ul>	<p>Improved Access to Social Protection Programmes</p> <p>Decent Work Opportunities Created</p>





# CHAPTER 3:

## Social Sector Plans for 2024



## CHAPTER 3: SOCIAL SECTOR PLANS FOR 2024

This chapter outlines social sector initiatives planned for implementation by ministries and the Tobago House of Assembly for fiscal 2024. The plans and performance frameworks of the various social sector Ministries and agencies continue to be aligned to the themes and goals of the National Development Framework (Vision 2030) and are monitored and evaluated to measure progress towards the achievement of the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.

**Table 3. I: Comparison of Budgeted Allocations for Social Infrastructure & Programming – 2022-2024**

Sector Component	Estimates of Expenditure 2023	Estimates of Expenditure 2024
<b>Social Infrastructure</b>	<b>2,187,621,000</b>	<b>2,500,208,000</b>
• Development Programme	1,125,749,000	1,378,798,000
• Infrastructure Development Fund	1,061,872,000	1,121,410,000
<b>Social Programming</b>	<b>9,012,844,868</b>	<b>9,827,318,419</b>
<b>TOTAL ALLOCATION</b>	<b>11,200,465,868</b>	<b>12,327,526,419</b>

Source: Ministry of Finance

The following section outlines major plans to be implemented in fiscal 2024 by the following Ministries:

1. Agriculture, Land and Fisheries;
2. Digital Transformation;
3. Education;
4. Health;
5. Housing and Urban Development;
6. Labour;
7. National Security;
8. Office of the Prime Minister- Gender and Child Affairs;
9. Public Utilities;
10. Rural Development and Local Government;
11. Social Development and Family Services;
12. Sport and Community Development;
13. Tobago House of Assembly
14. Youth Development and National Service.



### 3.1. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES

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The Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries (MALF) is responsible for leading and managing the implementation of Government Policies for the Agricultural Sector in Trinidad and Tobago. The MALF is committed to working in close collaboration with all key stakeholders to promote greater consensus in achieving its goal of 'Revitalising and Transforming the Agriculture Sector into an Economic Growth Sector.' In fiscal 2024, the Ministry's initiatives will include the following:

#### A. National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation (NAMDEVCO):

- **Fruit Ripening Facility:** This facility will provide the necessary infrastructure to extend the life of produce in storage during periods of glut and allow ripening of produce when there is a deficit. This initiative is expected to bring some measure of price stability and volume control for commodities, particularly during the rainy season. It is expected to keep inflation down and contribute to a reduction in the country's high food import bill. In Fiscal 2024, NAMDEVCO through its facilitative role aims to construct a Tomato Ripening Facility in East Trinidad.
- **Digital Transformation:** Digital Transformation (DT) is a priority area for the fiscal year 2024. Therefore, based on the MALF's ongoing assessment of its digital needs and in keeping with the Government's mandate to invest in areas of Information Communication Technology (ICT) and mechanisation, the Ministry has prioritised key projects which, when undertaken, will greatly advance its thrust towards DT. Some projects include:
  - Upgrade of Infrastructure and Information Systems
  - Establishment of a Spatial Information Management System (SIMS)

### 3.2 MINISTRY OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

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The mandate of the Ministry of Digital Transformation (MDT) is to oversee an integrated national digital transformation strategy for Trinidad and Tobago. The strategy will facilitate the development of a digital Trinidad and Tobago (T&T) that promotes digital access and inclusion for all citizens. It will also advance the contribution of ICT to the national gross domestic product and provide direction for technology-enabled economic activity. It will also work towards improving government service delivery and public value through citizen satisfaction and operational efficiencies.

A major priority of Government's Digital Transformation Agenda for 2023 is to ensure that adequate resources are in place to support the implementation of the National Digital Transformation Strategy 2023-2026. The Ministry continues to align all of its key stakeholders with the goal of making T&T a friendly and successful country with which to do business.

#### A. Connected Communities:

**TTWIFI** – This is an initiative of the GORTT to provide Wi-Fi access, at no cost to citizens, in public spaces. The goal of this initiative is to increase access to and utilisation of the Internet by all citizens of Trinidad and Tobago helping to bridge the digital divide. It aims to provide full access to government online services, remote working capabilities, improved productivity, online bill payment and applications, and ease of access to information that can enhance educational pursuits, entertainment opportunities and other social benefits. In Fiscal 2024, the TTWIFI project will be

expanded with the operationalisation of 26 sites, six (6) of which will be done in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism.

### B. Community ICT Access Programme:

The Ministry remains committed to provide access to digital technology and training to ICT-underserved communities in Trinidad and Tobago. The establishment of ICT Access Centres builds the capacity of citizens in digital skills development and promotes the expansion of the range of services offered under the programme. A target of thirty (30) ICT Centres are to be established by the end of Quarter 4, 2023. MDT in collaboration with other MDAs such as NALIS, Ministry of Sports, Ministry of Community Development, Ministry of Youth Development and National Service, and the Tobago House of Assembly will utilise existing facilities to establish ICT Access Centres in order to meet its aforementioned target.

With this thrust, it is anticipated that by the end of 2024, there will be one hundred and four (104) active ICT Access Centres throughout the country.

### C. Digital Skills Training:

- **WeLearnTT:** The Development Programme branded “WeLearnTT,” is envisaged as a comprehensive training programme aimed at building national digital literacy. It is designed to foster learning and provide a systematic and consistent supply of technical expertise to meet labour market demands of our evolving, local industries. In Fiscal 2024, WeLearnTT will:
  1. Provide opportunities akin to scholarships to selected individuals (random draw);
  2. Expand the service offerings of the platform;
  3. Widen its reach through academic institutions such as UWI, UTT, COSTAATT etc; and
  4. Launch a face-to-face and tutor-led e-learning solution.
- **Developers’ Hub (D’Hub):** The Developers’ Hub seeks to develop a critical mass of local software developers that will collectively increase the contribution of the ICT Sector to GDP. D’Hub is designed to encourage, enable, support and host the collaborative development of innovative open source/open standard mobile and web applications, of specific interest to the Government that will quickly expand the range, utility and quality of the existing and new e-services provided to citizens and businesses. Key activities earmarked for Fiscal 2024 include:
  - Launch of Innovation Spaces with the UTT;
  - Establishment of a Private Sector-focused D’Hub Challenge.

### D. Establishment of a National e-Identity and Inter-Operability Programme:

MDT has been actively pursuing the establishment of a Digital ID/e-identity solution for improving citizen’s access to Government services and their ability to complete transactions. The programme will facilitate the seamless delivery and personalization of Government service delivery to citizens.

The National e-Identity and Inter-Operability Programme will enable a secure mechanism to support the sharing of data. This solution will allow the GoRTT to function as an integrated whole, enabling Government systems to work together so that data only needs to be requested from the citizen once in order to enable the delivery of services from multiple agencies. UNDP has been engaged to procure the e-identity solution. MDT has acquired technical assistance from India for the e-id solution and Estonia for the interoperability solution.

In Fiscal 2024, MDT will pursue the following:





- Launch of a viable Mobile App solution by December 2023;
- Establish a National Trust Solution (database of e- ID profiles);
- Develop a web-based government portal with capability to allow management of a user's e-ID profile and permissions; and
- Pilot the integration with the X-Road interoperability solution.

*NB: Information sourced from the MDT - Suggested narrative for inclusion in the fiscal 2024 National Budget Speech.*

### 3.3 MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

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The Ministry of Education continued its mandate in fiscal 2023 with the resumption of in person education after the closure of schools in Trinidad and Tobago due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the challenges posed with the return of face-to-face interaction and threat posed by virus, the Ministry ensured that the SEA, CSEC and CAPE examinations were administered. The Ministry will continue to pursue its mandate of providing a quality education system that is modern, inclusive, accessible and relevant. Accordingly, the following initiatives will be pursued in fiscal 2024:

#### A. Early Detection and Intervention Initiative

The Ministry is seeking to build capacity to screen students for early detection of special needs/disabilities. The early identification of special education needs will provide the data to inform effective policy and programme development, and the design of targeted interventions. Additionally, the screening and assessment will ensure the provision of specialised services to address the needs of students with special education needs for example, the provision of student aides.

In fiscal 2024, in-person training is scheduled for personnel in selected ECCE and primary level schools on the use of the Special Needs Assessment Profile (SNAP) assessment tool, and data analysis. Additionally, procurement of standardised assessment and intervention tools and engagement in targeted assessment and intervention planning will also take place. The Ministry will commence data collection on newly enrolled children ages 3 to 8 within the Government and Government-Assisted ECCE Centres and the commencement of research to draft a prototype-screening instrument.

#### B. Student Digital Literacy

The Ministry will introduce a self-directed programme in the fundamentals of digital literacy for primary level students. The Digital Literacy programme will develop both the competency to use, access and communicate information using digital tools and forms, as well as the ability to comply with the necessary standards of behaviours expected in online environments. It is intended to impart an understanding of the shared social issues created by digital technologies including modules on netiquette, cyber safety and cyber security.

In fiscal 2024, the MOE proposes to commence the tender process for the provision of an online, self-paced micro credential on digital literacy for primary students. Required features of the programme will include typing, pedagogy to support online learning, assessment, advancement based on achievement level, and certificate of completion that specifies modules completed and a rating.

### C. Technical Vocational Education and Training Revitalisation

This Programme stems from the national initiative on Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Revitalisation that focuses primarily on the key challenges affecting TVET and Technology Education (TE) implementation in secondary schools. The Key Areas of Focus include Reengineering TVET Education, TVET Teacher Recruitment, Teacher Professional Development, Certification and Upgrade, Marketing and Rebranding of TVET and Strengthening TVET offerings including the establishment of Specialist TVET Schools. This Programme seeks to increase the number of persons in the workforce with TVET skills and promote creativity and innovation among youth. The intended beneficiaries of the Programme will be the primary and secondary students and TVET teachers at both levels. This project will be financed through a loan agreement with the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF).

In fiscal 2024, the CAF TVET Revitalisation project will be developed and finalised based on the data collected on (a) the TVET implementation and (b) Form III students' survey on the interest of TVET. A CVQ training and assessment audit for selected schools will be conducted. Proposals will also be prepared for the establishment of TVET Departments as hubs, the expansion of TVET offerings and the development of TVET Career Pathways. Teachers of TVET/Tech Ed will receive training on the implementation of the curriculum and the School Based Assessment.

#### Box 3.1: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Education for Fiscal 2024

##### Policy:

- **Draft Education Policy 2023-2027:** MOE finalised the Draft Education Policy 2023-2027 to establish the strategic direction for the Education Sector for the next five-year period. It is envisaged that the policy will be approved by Cabinet in the upcoming year.
- **MOE is expected to formally launch four policies approved during Fiscal 2023:**
  - **Policy on Homeschooling,**
  - **Patriotism Policy,**
  - **Policy for the Registration of Private Schools, and**
  - **Cultural Transformation Policy**

#### Box 3.2: Legislative Agenda of the Ministry of Education for Fiscal 2024

- **Amendment of the Education Act, Chap. 39:01: Finalisation of Draft Amendment Bill for approval by Cabinet**





### 3.4. MINISTRY OF HEALTH

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As the ministry responsible for the delivery of quality healthcare to citizens of Trinidad and Tobago, the Ministry of Health continues to play a key role in the prevention and treatment of diseases in the country. On May 5, 2023 the World Health Organisation declared the COVID 19 pandemic no longer a public health emergency, however, local health surveillance will be maintained to monitor and detect other viruses, including Monkey pox currently impacting countries in the region, and implement preventative measures and regulations in keeping with the WHO's guidelines. Additionally, the Ministry continued its regular healthcare services and will focus on the following in fiscal 2024 in keeping with its strategic priorities:

#### A. Medical Equipment Upgrade Programme:

This programme entails the procurement and upgrading of medical equipment at the various Public Health Institutions and expansion of critical services at the respective Regional Health Authorities. The upgrade programme also involves the expansion of critical services.

- **North Central Regional Health Authority:** Procurement of sixteen (16) Ventilators, thirty two (32) wall-mounted Cardiac Monitors for High Dependency Unit and Adult Intensive Care Unit CU, one (1) Mobile X-ray Machine, two (2) Echo machines.
- **South West Regional Health Authority:** Replacement of two (2) C-Arms for Occupational Therapy, three (3) Blood Gas Machines, two (2) operating tables, twenty (20) vital signs monitors.
- **North West Regional Health Authority:** three (3) X-ray Machines, one (1) Neonatal Resuscitation Unit, six (6) Haemodialysis Machines, five (5) Diathermy Machines.
- **Eastern Regional Health Authority:** two (2) portable Dialysis Machines, two (2) Ultrasound machines, twenty (20) patient trolleys, five (5) crash carts, five (5) defibrillators.

#### B. Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children – Refurbishment Works:

##### Phase 2 Orthopaedic Wing:

The project will entail the continuation of civil works for the Walk-in Clinic, including demolition and reconstruction to accommodate the reception area, administration office and examination rooms.

#### C. Other Programmes for Implementation:

##### Establishment of a Disaster Preparedness Coordinating Unit (DPCU)

To develop and enhance the Health Emergency Operations Centre (HEOC), the DPCU will provide a coordination centre for the management of information and crisis decision making. The procurement of radio and ICT equipment will allow more efficient coordination of health disaster and emergency response activities.

### Box 3.3: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Health for Fiscal 2024

#### Policy:

- **The National Policy for the Prevention, Management & Control of NCDs**
- **National Policy on Electronic Nicotine and Non-Nicotine Delivery Systems**
- **Policy for the Management, Control & Regulation of Pesticide and Toxic Chemicals**
- **National Health Laboratory Policy**

## 3.5. MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

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The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MHUD) is charged with the provision of adequate housing to the population and development of urban environments. The Ministry will pursue the following Projects in fiscal 2024:

### A. Social Housing/Rental Sites:

Social Housing/Rental Sites are sites earmarked by the Housing Development Corporation (HDC) for allocation to low income earners. These locations will offer rental housing to families and people in the Affordable/Low Income Housing Band of (TT\$ 250K - TT\$ 749 K). For Fiscal 2024, four (4) sites have been identified with the potential yield of 334 units.

### B. Home Improvement Grants:

For fiscal 2024, the MHUD has requested an increased allocation of TT\$20 Million to distribute approximately 1,333 grants to successful applicants. These grants equip households with the ability to carry out basic structural repairs, that would modestly enhance their living conditions and by extension lead to their improved social condition. Employment is generated in the local construction sector for Small Contractors, Builders and Tradesmen within communities.

### C. East Port of Spain Development Company Limited (EPOS):

In its ongoing mandate to improve the economic, social and physical environment within the Port of Spain area and empower individuals and families with needed skills to bring about progressive change to their communities, the EPOS will undertake the following:

- **Latrine Eradication Programme** : To achieve its strategic objective of Environmental Sustainability and improving the quality of life to residents in East Port of Spain, the EPOS's Latrine Removal Programme reduces the number of pit latrines and provides residents in need with flush toilets and showers. For fiscal 2024, EPOS will embark on its Latrine Eradication Programme Phases 11 & 12 with assistance provided to 100 units.



- **Community Maintenance Micro- Projects Phase 1:** (70 locations-cutting/ clearing grass, bush, specified types of trees and vegetation, collecting solid waste/debris and removing to an approved facility, maintenance).

### D. Land Settlement Agency (LSA):

- **Regularisation of Squatter Communities:** In fiscal 2024, the LSA proposes to undertake development works on eighteen (18) projects under the Regularisation of Squatter Communities Programme in several communities including: Sahodeen Trace, Vega de Oropouche, Bois Bande, Sangre Grande, Guido Point Fortin, Blitz Village, Pleasantville, Five Rivers, Arouca, Dundonald Hill, Belmont Guayaguayare Old Road Brickworks and Maturita, Arima.
- **Housing and Village Improvement Programme:** For the fiscal Year 2023/2024, the LSA will commence construction of units at a cost of TT\$58 Million to assist in ongoing and new projects under the HVIP Programme in 21 targeted villages including: Arima, Beetham Gardens, Belmont, Claxton Bay, Diego Martin, Embacadere, Guayaguayare, La Brea, Point Fortin, Princes Town, San Fernando, St. Augustine and Wallerfield.
- **Regularisation and Regeneration of Squatter Communities – Greater POS Programme:** In fiscal 2024, the LSA proposes to commence development works on 27 projects under the Regularisation and Regeneration of Squatter Communities – Greater POS Programme: These include the following communities: Sapodilla Drive, Blue Basin Road, Diego Martin, LP #21/3 Upper Haig Street, Carenage Package A, LP #21/3 Upper Haig Street, Carenage Package B, Zion Road, Belmont, Coconut Lane, Blue Basin Road Bagatelle, Cizan Trace, Blue Basin Road Diego Martin, Zion Road, Belmont Package; LP #82B Upper Abbe Poujade Carenage LP#50 Savannah Road, Maracas Bay.

## 3.6. MINISTRY OF LABOUR

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During fiscal 2024, the Ministry of Labour will pursue the following:

### A. Launch of the National Employment Online Network (NEON):

This project will promote the awareness of the NEON Portal, the official recruitment website of the MOL. The project will be undertaken on a phased basis within the period of two (2) years from January 2023 to January 2025. In Fiscal 2024, the MOL will finalise the communications campaign and commence implementation on a phased basis.

### B. Hosting an Inaugural Trinidad and Tobago Labour Conference:

The Ministry of Labour will host an inaugural Labour Conference in 2024. The conference will provide the forum to discuss emerging issues in employment trends particularly in the post COVID 19 economy. The proposed theme of the first conference is “Making Social Dialogue Work – Towards Building a Resilient, Inclusive and Innovative Workforce”. The Conference which will be hosted annually thereafter, will provide a new approach to share experiences, best practices and devise solutions drawing from the expertise of academia, employers, workers representatives and international organisations.

### Box 3.4: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Labour for Fiscal 2024

#### Research:

- **National Baseline Survey on Knowledge, Attitudes, Beliefs and Practices on HIV in the Workplace.** A contract was awarded to a consultant on July 5, 2023 to conduct this study, which is scheduled for completion in Fiscal 2024.
- **Stakeholder Analysis: Stakeholder Readiness for the impact of a Just Transition on the labour market in Trinidad and Tobago.**

#### Policy:

- **National Policy for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in Trinidad and Tobago:** This project is targeted at developing a national policy aimed at preventing incidences of child labour and contributing to the eventual elimination of child labour in Trinidad and Tobago. It is proposed that the Committee be reconstituted and continue its work with key stakeholders, utilising primary and secondary data to prepare a National Policy and Action Plan on the prevention and elimination of child labour in Trinidad and Tobago.
- **Implementation of the National Workplace Policy on Sexual Harassment:** This policy aims to sensitise, guide and advise stakeholders on the National Workplace Policy on Sexual Harassment. It is a regulatory policy, designed to prohibit and address sexual harassment in the workplace and prevent such behaviours that endanger society. The MOL proposes to undertake a national survey and study on Sexual Harassment within the public and private sectors of the economy. This will seek to establish a baseline and raise awareness of its prevalence across workplaces within the country.

### Box 3.5: Legislative Agenda of the Ministry of Labour for Fiscal 2024

- **Industrial Relations Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019**
- **Legislation to Govern HIV/AIDS in the Workplace;**
- **Employment Standards Bill;**
- **Sexual harassment Bill: and**
- **Retrenchment and Severance Benefits Act (Amendment) Bill, 2019**



### 3.7. MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY

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The Ministry of National Security (MNS) has the mandate for ensuring public safety and security through the maintenance of law and order and the commitment of all available resources to the protection of life and property and defence against aggression. In addition, the Ministry oversees the coordination of disaster preparedness and emergency relief, and monitoring the flow of persons into and out of the country. In its ongoing commitment to treat with both traditional and emergent national security issues and challenges, the MNS continues to work with Government, civil society and international partners to develop focused and innovative solutions.

The MNS remains committed to ensuring that its Divisions are adequately furnished with the required resources to effectively execute the Ministry's mandate. In fiscal 2024, the following initiatives will be pursued:

#### A. Improvement Works to Buildings:

- **Construction of a dormitory for female officers at the Youth Transformation and Rehabilitation Centre (YTRC)** - In keeping with Vision 2016- 2030, infrastructural inclusion creates an atmosphere which can assist in prison reformation, inclusion within members of the wider society. Impact: Increased security and effective management of the inmate population.
- **Improvement Works to Crown Point Fire Station** - To upgrade and standardize all existing Fire Stations to meet the needs of the organization and be in compliance with OSH standards. Impact: Improved fire coverage.

#### **Box 3.6: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of National Security for fiscal 2024**

##### **Policy:**

- **Development of a Prison Management Policy:** In Fiscal 2024, funds will be allocated to expose Senior Prison Staff to international best practices, review the vision and mission of the TTPrS, and develop an organisational wide Strategic Plan

### 3.8. OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

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In fiscal 2024, the following initiatives will be undertaken by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) through the its Divisions/Agencies: Gender Affairs Division, Child Affairs Division and the National AIDS Coordinating Committee.

#### A. Child Affairs Division:

- **NCP Child Poverty Reduction Strategy:** In keeping with the implementation of the National Child Policy, the Child Affairs Division in collaboration with key stakeholders, will pursue the development and implementation of a strategy that outlines activities and recommendations to reduce child poverty, and improve access to social services. Among the different expected benefits, the project seeks to:
  - Reduce the extent and impact of intergenerational poverty on children;
  - Improve food security for children; and
  - Provide equitable access to social support services and programmes for all children.

#### B. Children’s Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (CATT):

- **Establishment of a Reception Centre in Tobago:** This project will establish a fit-for-purpose facility dedicated to the care and protection of children in need of supervision (CHINS), children with behavioural challenges and children with mental health issues. The Authority expects to realize the following benefits by conducting this project:
  - A targeted Reception Centre in Tobago which will allow for appropriate placement opportunities;
  - Improved service delivery in the treatment of children classified as CHINS, children with behavioural challenges and mental health issues in Tobago.
  - Appropriate and targeted interventions through appropriate training of staff.

#### C. Gender Affairs Division (GAD):

For fiscal 2024, the GAD will implement the following new initiatives:

- **The Survivors Transformation and Empowerment Programme (STEP):** This programme, approved by Cabinet in June 2023 aims to increase financial independence amongst survivors of domestic violence, and reduce the likelihood that victims of domestic violence remain in abusive relationships. The programme consists of three main elements:
  - Retraining survivors of domestic violence in small and micro- enterprise development and provision of grant funding to establish a small/ micro business.
  - Provision of a scholarship programme for victims and survivors of domestic violence.
  - An outreach programme aimed at linking victims and survivors with job and career opportunities.

In fiscal year 2024, seven (7) outreaches will be held at strategic locations in East, West, North, South, and Central Trinidad as well as Tobago East and West. The cost of this project at completion is expected to be \$625,000.

- **Renovation of Property For Establishment of a Shelter For Male Survivors of Domestic Violence:** In Fiscal 2024, GAU will oversee the renovation of one residential property to be





established as a safe house for male survivors of domestic violence, in south Trinidad. The shelter, once operational, will provide a safe space for male survivors of domestic violence. At this facility, the residents will be afforded accommodation and support as they prepare for reintegration into society. The project will cost \$840,000.00.

- **Implementation of The National Strategic Action Plan (NSAP) on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Violence (SV) 2023-2027 in Trinidad And Tobago:** The NSAP on GBV and SV 2023-2027 in Trinidad and Tobago was reviewed and revised under the Spotlight Initiative. Cabinet approved the NSAP on GBV and SV 2023-2027 on June 29th, 2023. The Action Plan will serve as the primary GoRTT policy tool in the implementation and coordination of policies and programmes aimed at reducing gender-based violence.
  - Outcome 1: Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago will demonstrate increased awareness and intolerance towards all forms of GBV and SV;
  - Outcome 2: Effective, inclusive and gender-responsive services delivered to victims and survivors of GBV and SV;
  - Outcome 3: Robust legislation implemented by knowledgeable and effective duty bearers, delivering the consistent administration of justice that is underpinned by GBV and SV victim and survivor-centred principles and is accessible to all;
  - Outcome 4: Improved mechanisms for opportunities for redress and reparations for victims and survivors of GBV and SV, as well as appropriate penalties and rehabilitative resources for perpetrators; and
  - Outcome 5: Strengthened and effective gender-responsive interventions through enhanced multi-stakeholder coordination and synergetic applications that address GBV and SV in Trinidad and Tobago, including the rehabilitation of perpetrators.

### D. National AIDS Coordinating Committee Secretariat:

- **Positive Connections Programme at Cyril Ross Children's Home (CRCH)**  
In Fiscal 2024, the NACC will seek to improve the quality of care and service delivery at the Cyril Ross Children's Home, particularly with targeted interventions such as life skills, mental health and psychosocial engagement for clients to improve their outcome in life after transitioning out of the institution. To implement this programme, the NACC will engage two NGOs to conduct and support the intervention for clients at CRCH. It is envisaged that this intervention will support the life-long care and quality of life of CRCH residents.
- **Capacity Building:** The NACC in an effort to develop the capacity of non-governmental organisations to better serve in the national response to HIV and AIDS, has partnered with the University of the West Indies (UWI) to provide training with programmes development. Additionally, the NACC intends to empower and support People Living with HIV (PLHIV) negatively impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic through retraining initiatives in collaboration with NEDCO, MIC and YTEPP.

### Box 3.7: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Office of the Prime Minister: for fiscal 2024

#### Policy:

- **Draft National Policy on HIV/AIDS.** In Fiscal 2024, the NACC will conduct public consultations with stakeholders on the Draft National HIV/AIDS Policy. The feedback received will be used to revise and finalise the document for submission to Cabinet.

#### Research:

- **FOOD SECURITY FOR PLHIV:** Food Security for Persons Living with HIV (PLHIV) is a major challenge because the Antiretroviral drugs are ineffective if PLHIV are not properly nourished. The COVID19 pandemic and attendant consequences such as unemployment has resulted in the population of PLHIV, who are living below the poverty line, seeking assistance from the NACC for increased access to food. The NACC views the need for an intervention to support the development of a sustainable Food Bank for the PLHIV Community. This intervention for food security will facilitate client empowerment of PLHIV by creating employment opportunities in the agricultural sector. In pursuing this need, the NACC intends to conduct research into the design of the PLHIV Food Bank Agricultural Project. The front-end consultancy study is projected to cost \$50,000. Once the proposal is developed, UNAIDS has indicated that they will explore options within UN for supporting a pilot implementation.

## 3.9. MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

The Ministry of Public Utilities (MPU) is charged with the responsibility for ensuring the delivery of quality electricity, water, wastewater, waste management, telecommunications, meteorological and postal services in an efficient, affordable and reliable manner to the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. The Ministry is charged with the operational mandate to: provide strategic leadership and governance of the public utilities sector; facilitate the delivery of affordable quality public utility services through the stewardship of its Agencies and Divisions; and administer the delivery of utility-based social interventions to segments of the population challenged with accessing public utilities services. The services offered by the various agencies under the MPU's remit directly affect the quality of life enjoyed by the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago and provide a foundation for the development of the country's industrial, commercial and residential landscape.

For fiscal 2024 the MPU will pursue the following:

### A. Utilities Assistance Programme (UAP):

For fiscal 2024, the Ministry of Public Utilities intends to continue fulfilling its responsibility to provide social intervention to low income and underprivileged beneficiaries, through the following programmes:



- **Provision of Utility Bill Assistance:** Approximately 13,000 low income customers of the WASA and Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC) will receive water and electricity subsidies at an estimated cost of \$3,750,000.
- **Provision of Solar Panel Assistance:** Approximately 60 low-income households that are without access to the electricity grid, will benefit from the installation of solar panels.
- **Provision of Water Tanks:** Under the Programme, the MPU will distribute approximately 300 (800 gallon tanks) and 70 (1,000 gallon tanks) to households and five (5) 1,000 gallon tanks to five (5) community facilities.
- **Public Education Campaign:** The campaign will be continued by the MPU to increase awareness of the UAP in areas that are most affected by utility issues. Outreach events will be used to increase accessibility to target applicants (the elderly and persons with disabilities) and persons residing in remote rural communities who may experience tremendous challenges in accessing these amenities and information.

### **B. Residential Electrification Assistance Programme (REAP):**

This Programme will facilitate the provision of house wiring services to approximately 150 households at an estimated budget of \$4,500,000.

### **C. Electrification Programme (EP):**

The Ministry of Public Utilities intends to provide electrical infrastructure to fifty (50) Households at an estimate of \$3,000,000.00. The expected number of beneficiaries is 1,500.

### **D. Community Water Improvement Plan (CWIP):**

The Ministry will undertake Phase Five of the CWIP. During this Phase pipeline projects, tank farms, booster installation and upgrade and well refurbishment will be undertaken. In fiscal 2024, it is estimated that approximately 8,000 persons will benefit from a more reliable supply of water.

### **E. Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago (TSTT):**

- **Mobile Wallet:** The Mobile Wallet product will provide TSTT with the opportunity to rapidly diversify its legacy telecom offerings and introduce a new revenue stream in the Fintech space. The Mobile Wallet will provide the citizenry of Trinidad and Tobago a digital means to store value, receive, and make payments without cash using the mobile network. The application provides an ideal, completely touchless alternative to traditional hard cash and plastic cards. The Mobile wallet is the first phase of TSTT's FinTech journey.

### **F. Trinidad and Tobago Solid Waste Management Company Limited (SWMCOL):**

- **Implementation of the Trinidad & Tobago Beverage Containers Deposit Return System:** The Ministry of Public Utilities and SWMCOL recognized that the development and implementation of the Beverage Containers Deposit Return Policy 2023 was one contributing factor to achieving the national agenda of increased circularity in the management of the country's resources. Therefore, the introduction of a deposit return system (DRS) for beverage containers will serve as a key mechanism to return valuable resources to the supply chain.

In this regard, in fiscal 2024, the MPU and SWMCOL propose to implement the deposit return system for single-use beverage containers as outlined in the Beverage Containers Deposit Return Policy 2023 and consistent with the National Recycling Policy 2023.

### 3.10. MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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The Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government functions as the coordinating agency that guides Municipal Corporations and Special Purpose Enterprises in providing assistance to communities via the pooling of resources in targeted areas such as infrastructure development, disaster management, public health and sanitation. The Ministry is also responsible for organising, promoting and implementing rural development policies and strategies and plays a critical role in bringing much needed goods and services to the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. As a service-oriented Ministry, it continues to ensure that the essential services offered by the Corporations remain operational and efficient.

#### A. Disaster Management:

- **Expansion of Disaster Surveillance:** In order to improve the responsiveness of the Disaster Management Unit (DMU) in times of crises, natural disasters and other extraordinary events, expansion of the CCTV camera network is proposed for an additional 50 communities. This expansion, estimated to cost \$500,000 is expected that this expansion will further bolster the preparedness and response capabilities of the DMUs at all Municipal Corporations.
- **Acquisition of Rescue Boats:** The activities of the DMUs are critical and greatly contribute to the resilience and preparedness of our communities. The Ministry plans to purchase eight (8) rescue boats, which will play a crucial role in emergency situations. The estimated cost for acquiring these essential assets is Three Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000).
- **Capacity Building:** In fiscal 2024 the Ministry plans to train Two Hundred (200) Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) volunteers and equip them with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). This will ensure the effectiveness of the response efforts of the emergency response teams at the various DMUs.

#### B. Latrine Eradication Programme:

- Poor sanitation contaminates drinking water sources, rivers, beaches and food crops and can spread deadly diseases among the wider population. The Ministry is committed in fiscal 2024 to address this public health threat via continued implementation of the National Latrine Eradication Programme (LEP). It is expected that approximately one hundred and ninety (190) toilet facilities will be constructed for households with existing pit latrines.
- Additionally, the Ministry will pursue the formation of an Advisory Committee to finalize a policy direction for the LEP. The Committee will also assist the Ministry in the conduct of a nationwide assessment to identify the remaining households in Trinidad that require upgraded facilities and determine the way forward for the Programme.



### C. Community-Based Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programme (CEPEP)

In Fiscal 2024, the CEPEP will undertake the following initiatives as outlined in its Strategic Plan 2021-2025:

- **Core Business and Entrepreneurship:** CEPEP's Dry Season Programme will comprise the following: -
  - Cleaning and maintaining of 10 new fire trails.
  - Cleaning and maintaining of 50 new watercourses within the EWAs.
  - Enhancing 60 green spaces within communities.
- **Business Transformation:** The Company will commence digitisation of its operational processes to improve operational efficiency and reduce costs. This initiative will comprise projects such as: -Improved methodology for sorting and disposal of the waste generated utilising the Waste Removal Operators.
- **Electrical consumption and reduction project.**
- **Community and Stakeholder Relations:** In fiscal 2024, CEPEP will aim to accomplish the following:
  - Lobby for the incorporation of five (5) community based social enterprises within the CEPEP programme annually.
  - Beautification of three (3) new parks.
  - Identify and beautify one (1) Rural/Local Development Tourism Site annually.
  - Coastal Clean Up programme – 5 beaches.
  - Development of a Community Sports League in the communities CEPEP serve.
  - Education Bursary for children.
  - Increase in the number of strategic partnerships.

## 3.11. MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES

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The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS) is the core social sector Ministry responsible for coordinating the implementation of Government's initiatives for achieving social and human development objectives. This mandate has become more pertinent in light of the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on livelihoods and standards of living in the country. In order to ensure that those most affected receive the necessary support, the Ministry focused efforts on reshaping its social service delivery system in keeping with the Government's Roadmap to Recovery framework to ensure that, 'no one is left behind'.

The Ministry will continue its efforts to bolster its social protection framework through the following measures in fiscal 2024.

### A. Facilitating Innovative Measures through ICT Solutions:

As the Ministry seeks to expand its technology platform and ecosystem for improved service delivery, current ICT initiatives will continue in fiscal 2024. These initiatives are congruent with the Government's digital strategy and the Ministry's ongoing collaboration with the Ministry of Digital Transformation (MDT) and international bodies. Preliminary discussions have been held with representatives from MDT, Inter-American Development Bank and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on technical assistance for a number of key digital initiatives to

be implemented in the upcoming fiscal year. These projects include but are not limited to the following:

- **Support for process redesign and digitalisation initiatives at Ministry of Social Development and Family Services:** The UNDP and MDT will support the MSDFS to digitise its records and processes in order to streamline its service offering to citizens.
- **Integration of the MSDFS Systems and Processes with the National Interoperability Framework for E-ID:** The UNDP will support the integration of the systems and databases of the MSDFS with the Government's interoperability framework, in order to efficiently extend the benefits of the E-ID system to the most vulnerable members of society.
- **Implementation of digitalised personalised government benefits distribution to citizens:** The UNDP will support the MDT to develop a pilot of the Digital Benefits Wallet, which will be a mobile platform that allows for beneficiaries to digitally access services and entitlements from the MSDFS.
- **Implementation of a TRANSDOC Document Transparency System by UNDP:** This system supports the management of the official documents that enter, go out, or circulate within the institution. It supports effectiveness, traceability, response time, and a "zero paper" policy.<sup>1</sup> Through the use of digitisation and optimisation of back office processes, the system can be used to manage the Ministry's correspondence, communications, and other administrative records and is also expected to complement the MSDFS' ISEMS and Case Management System.
- **Capacity Development, Knowledge Transfer, and Institutionalisation of the Digital Transformation Methodology:** This involves the development of a framework for real time knowledge transfer and training for the Government's project management and development teams to ensure effective change management and fit-for-purpose process redesign to capture the benefits of digitisation.

### B. Caring for the Socially Displaced, Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), and Other Vulnerable Individuals and Groups

- **Facilities for the Socially-Displaced:** In fiscal 2024, the MSDFS will continue its commitment towards the provision of shelters for socially displaced citizens in the form of transitional facilities and an assessment and socially displaced centre. In fiscal 2024, the MSDFS will commence work for the establishment of transitional facilities at Beaumont Hill, Pointe-a-Pierre and the Young Women's' Christian Association (YWCA) in Port of Spain respectively. Additionally, construction of a 5-storey building for use as an Assessment Centre and Temporary Housing Facility for socially displaced persons, in Port of Spain will begin.

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<sup>1</sup> UNDP-SIGOB Innovation in Management for Centres of Government and Key Institutions of the State *regional project of UNDP for Latin America and the Caribbean* TRANSDOC Document Transparency System





### Box-3.8: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services for Fiscal 2024

#### Policy:

- Finalisation of the Administration of Food Support Programme Policy
- Development of a STEP-UP Policy
- Development of a Shock Responsive Social Protection Policy
- Formulation of a Fraud Policy
- Finalisation/Roll out of the National Parenting Policy as a White Paper (contingent on Cabinet approval)
- Formulate the National Family Policy as a Green Paper
- Policy for the Social Displacement Act
- Policy for the Trinidad and Tobago Disabilities Bill

#### Research:

- **Position paper:** Transitioning to multidimensional poverty and vulnerability assessments for enhanced social safety net initiative targeting: a case for the Integrated Social Indicator Registry of Trinidad and Tobago (ISIRTT).
- **Comparative analysis of social registries in Latin America and the Caribbean across several core thematic areas.**
- **An Assessment of the Key Social Sector Ministries/Agencies' COVID-19 Relief Measures in Trinidad and Tobago: Insights and Learnings.**
- **Examination of Poverty and Vulnerability Trends and Analyses.**
- **Quantitative and Qualitative Research on Elderly Abuse.**
- **The Vulnerability of Older Persons to HIV and AIDS: Pre-retirement in Trinidad.**
- **Implementation of the National Register of Vulnerable Persons (NRVP) for Trinidad and Tobago.**
- **Operationalisation of the Minimum Expenditure Baskets (MEBs) for National and Migrant Populations.**
- **Development of the Interim-National Poverty Reduction Strategy for Trinidad and Tobago.**
- **Establishment of a Research Ethics Committee (REC) for the social sector.**
- **Development and operationalisation of research agenda for the social sector.**
- **Strengthening of the MSDFS' Standard Means Test.**
- **Support the conduct of:**
  - **Survey of Living Conditions/Household Budgetary Survey; and**
  - **Analysis of Trinidad and Tobago's multidimensional child poverty to support the development of the National Child Poverty Reduction Strategy.**

## 3.12 MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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With the entrance of the new administration in August, 2020, the community development portfolio was transferred from the former Ministry of Community Development Culture and the Arts to the Ministry of Sport and Community Development (formerly Community Development, Culture and the Arts). This new Ministry represents an intersectionality between community life and physical activity and seeks to build the nation's human capital through the development of athletic talent and community life. Accordingly, the Ministry will undertake the following major initiatives in fiscal 2024:

### A. Community Development:

- **Community Mediation Services Programme:** During fiscal 2024, the following programmes executed under the Community Mediation Services Programme will be delivered: The Community Empowerment Programme; The Peer Mediation Programme; Parenting Support Group Meetings and Symposia; Public Education and Sensitization; Men's support Group; The Co-Parenting Programme; The Community Inclusive Mediation Project and; The Mobile Mediation Unit. The programmes will be enhanced through the procurement of ICT infrastructure to facilitate the execution of its programmes using virtual platforms.

### B. Sport Programmes

- **Community Development Partnership Forum - 6th edition (CDPF-VI):** The proposed theme of CDPF-VI is "Sport as a tool for Development in Communities and Schools". The two (2) day event is expected to provide opportunities for higher-level discussion by Ministers across the region. The Forum's objectives include:
  - presenting and discussing sport as a positive contributor to community and youth development;
  - exploring the Sport for Development concept to achieve crucial outcomes for children and youth including learning, health, empowerment and protection.
- **Elite Athlete Assistance Programme (EAAP) and the Rewards and Incentives Framework:** In fiscal 2024, the EAAP will assist elite athletes with financial support towards expenses related to their training and attendance at competitions. The Rewards and Incentives Framework provides fiscal incentives to athletes seeking to compete at recognised international competitions to medal.



### Box 3.9: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Sport and Community Development for Fiscal 2024

#### Policy:

- **National Policy for the Handicraft Sector of Trinidad and Tobago:** This policy will outline strategies and necessary tools required to improve the varied issues affecting the sector and explore alternatives for revenue expansion. During fiscal 2024, a consultant will undertake a comprehensive survey of the sector.
- **The Policy Guidelines for the Administration of Sport Grants:** The revised Sport Grants Policy will provide a comprehensive approach to providing financial assistance to appropriate entities and individuals in support of sport development and sport for development. In this regard, the grants will be accessible by elite athletes and other individuals and supported by National Government Bodies and Sport Serving Bodies.

## 3.13 TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

As the legislative body responsible for the affairs of the island of Tobago, the Tobago House of Assembly (THA) has identified several areas for its development in fiscal 2024. The following areas were among those included in the THA's 2024 Budget Statement:

### A. Introduction of Online Platform:

In an effort to strengthen and digitise the public administrative processes and procedures in Tobago, The THA proposes the introduction of an e-government platform called "TOBAGO ONLINE", of which "My-THA" is the first phase. The strategic goal is to bring all the public service delivery functions into a high-security, high-speed, single digital space that will allow remote online access from the comfort of their homes, apply for and receive the decisions on their applications with respect to issues such as:

- Social Assistance;
- Pensions;
- Home Improvements Grants;
- Housing Applications;
- Financial Assistance Loans for Tertiary Education;
- Business Development Loans;
- Business Development Grants; and,
- Application for State Lands.

### B. Food Security:

The Division of Food Security, Natural Resources, the Environment and Sustainable Development proposes a number of initiatives aimed at boosting Tobago's agricultural production and food sovereignty agenda. One critical initiative is the development of two (2) mega farms. These farms will provide benefits from economies of scale, and make food available to Tobagonians at cheaper

prices. The main objective of the mega farms is to put a minimum of two hundred (200) acres into productive usage, under a scientifically and technologically informed engineering design to promote cross-fertilization effectiveness and efficiency.

### C. Education and Human Capital Development:

In fiscal 2024, the Division of Education is seeking to upgrade and modernise the learning and teaching infrastructures, and build the capacity and capability of educators in Tobago. Some of the initiatives for fiscal 2024 will include:

- Upgrading and modernising schools towards smart-school classification and certification.
- Special and targeted intervention programmes to deal with the COVID19 induced learning losses.
- Commencement of pre-construction works for the new Scarborough Secondary Smart-school.
- Continuous teacher - instructor training and capacity enhancement towards the delivery of 21st century education and skills.
- Construction of a modern school for the hearing impaired at Signal Hill.
- Repurposing of the School Nutrition Programme (School Feeding) into a significant component of a general school health programme. This is to address the rising level of obesity and other non- communicable diseases (NCDs) among children.
- Introduction of a dual-track system of education and training by establishing at least two technical training institutions. The conversion of the existing Roxborough Secondary School into a technical training institution is under consideration.

### D. Tourism:

The Division of Tourism, Culture, Antiquities and Transportation will embark on a Customer Service Programme to improve the Tourism industry. This will be undertaken in collaboration with the Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute (THTI). It is also proposed that a Tourism Services Bureau of Standards be established and mandated to inspect the condition of resorts and food and beverage establishments.

### E. Social Protection:

The COVID-19 pandemic placed significant stress on Tobago's social support systems, making it necessary to widen the safety net to protect the vulnerable. To build resilience, efficiency, and effectiveness into its social protection programme in fiscal 2024, the following will be undertaken:

- intensifying efforts to fully digitise the social protection processes, as part of the My-THA project, to ensure greater accessibility and more timely delivery of support to the most vulnerable;
- reviewing policies and streamlining processes of the Social Protection Department to ensure diversity, equity, and inclusion and, more importantly, to ensure that no one is left behind;
- instituting a robust community engagement programme across the island where staff of the Social Protection Department are available at community-based facilities to deliver greater access to the services of the Department; and,
- reviewing and streamlining access to the Social Emergency Card and Food Card Unit to ensure greater public accountability and transparency.



### Box 3.10: Research Initiatives of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2024:

#### Research:

- **Rental Assistance Programme (RAP).** The Division of Health, Wellness and Social Protection is in the programme design phase and will conduct a study to determine the feasibility of introducing a Rental Assistance Programme to bring relief to families struggling to pay monthly rent and enable them to re-direct disposable income, toward the purchase of other essentials items such as groceries and personal care products. If deemed sustainable, a pilot will be initiated for low-income single mothers and single fathers.

## 3.14 MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE

Established in August 2020, the Ministry of Youth Development and National Service (MYDNS) will serve as the entity to focus resources on youth development, training and service. The Ministry has the mandate to ensure that the youth of Trinidad and Tobago achieve their full potential and become productive members of society. The MYDNS also has the mandate of building a National Service System (NSS) that imbues life skills, values and principles, such as national pride and commitment to country that promotes social cohesion, integrity and solidarity among the youth, their peers, families and communities. The NSS will also equip the youth with basic artisan, technical and digital 21st century skills and enhance their resilience.

The MYDNS has six (6) Youth Training Facilities under its purview at St. James, Basilon Street, Laventille, Malick, California, and Los Bajos. There are also two (2) Youth Development Apprenticeship Centres (YDACs) at Chatham and Persto Praesto.

### A. Youth Development Centres:

In fiscal 2024, the MYDNS will continue with the initiative of upgrading and refurbishing the Youth Development Centres in Malick, Point Fortin, Palo Seco and Basilon Street. In addition, the MYDNS proposes to construct new YDCs throughout Trinidad in the vicinities of La Horquetta, Enterprise, Malabar, Belmont, Sangre Grande and Morvant. The MYDNS will continue the construction of the Chaguaramas YDAC and will begin the construction of the new YDAC in Wallerfield.

### B. Youth Health and Career Education Caravan:

The MYDNS proposes to implement new youth development projects such as the Youth Health, and Career Education Caravan. This project is formulated to highlight the different resource types available within Ministries, State Agencies, and the Private Sector that provide the youth population with opportunities for their personal and professional development.

### C. Skills for Work Programme:

To promote and foster employability through technical/vocational training as a means of filling the employment gap, the MYDNS intends to implement the Skills for Work Programme. The programme will implement traditional skills development in skills such as Plumbing, Welding, Carpentry, Masonry, Machine Shop, Cabinet Making and Garment Construction.

### D. National Service:

**National Service Centres:** The MYDNS has established the National Service Centres (NSCs) with the objective of fostering civic minded, self-reliant graduates, who are fully productive members of society ready to make meaningful contributions to national development. Subsequently, for fiscal 2024, the Ministry intends to complete the construction of the Mausica NSC and begin Phase 1 for the Beach Camp, Palo Seco NSC.

### E. Establishment of a National Service Programme:

Cabinet approved the establishment of the National Service Programme for Trinidad and Tobago (NSP-TT) under the management and coordination of the National Youth Development Agency of Trinidad and Tobago (NYDATT). The NSP-TT aims to engage young individuals up to the age of 35 in a comprehensive and inclusive initiative, aimed at leveraging the talents of various clusters of youth from all backgrounds. With a primary focus on civics, personal development and the enhancement of technical and soft skills to navigate the 21st-century environment, the NSP-TT programme will support service opportunities that are community-oriented, inclusive and collaborative, as well as facilitate volunteerism, service learning, and nation building. In fiscal 2024, to initiate this holistic national youth oversight programme, Cabinet agreed to the allocation of \$2,000,000 to implement the short-term action plan for NSP-TT which includes the launch of the communication campaign, curriculum development, national service project start-ups and the establishment of a Volunteer Corps.

### F. Entrepreneurship

- **Youth Agricultural Homestead Programme (YAHP):** Cohort 2 for both part-time and full-time participants of the YAHP is scheduled to begin in February 2024.
- **Youth Aquaculture Project:** Another agricultural entrepreneurship programme is the Youth Aquaculture Project, which is a one (1) year aquaculture certificate training programme for nationals, ages 16 to 35, in the field of Tropical Aquaculture Production and Management, which will commence in October 2024.
- **Youth Agricultural Shade House Project:** The MYDNS will also continue with the, with Cohort II targeting hundred (100) participants for the fiscal 2024.
- **Youth Entrepreneurship Hub:** The MYDNS intends to establish a Youth Entrepreneurship Hub for the nation's youth to engage in entrepreneurial retail activities in fiscal 2024. Funding was requested to customize and equip two (2) facilities.
- **Youth Business Incubator Programme:** The MYDNS will develop the Youth Business Incubator programme which will provide a physical space for youth entrepreneurs with intellectual property guidance, product development planning, marketing and legal services. The Ministry, therefore, requested the sum of six million dollars (\$6,000,000) for fiscal 2024 for the implementation of this project.





- **Youth Business Parks:** The Ministry in fiscal 2024 proposes to establish the Youth Business Parks where the nation's youth can conduct light manufacturing and other trade-related activities. In light of this, it is expected that for fiscal 2024 two (2) customized YBPs facilities will be completed.

### **Box 3.11: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Youth Development and National Service for Fiscal 2024**

#### **Policy:**

- **Youth Employment Policy** - The MYDNS proposes to develop a comprehensive Youth Employment Policy that will promote the rights of young people in the workplace, quality job creation, education and training and youth entrepreneurship.





**APPENDICES**



## APPENDIX 1 - SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023 MAPPED AGAINST THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS 2030

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	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	\$ 360,000,000.00	
		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	\$ 4,786,920,000.00	
		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	1.4.1 Proportion of population living in households with access to basic services	\$ 692,580,108.00	

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS
End poverty in all its forms everywhere		services, including microfinance			
	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 mobilization 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	\$ -	"
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 5,839,500,108.00</b>	

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS	
End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	2	2.1	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)	\$ 457,246,800.00	
		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	2.2.1 Prevalence of undernourishment	\$ -	"
		2.3	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	\$ 1,150,000.00	"





GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS
End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture		2.4	2.4.1 Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture	\$ 12,000,000.00	
		2.5	2.5.1 Number of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium- or long-term conservation facilities	\$ -	

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS	
End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	2.a	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	\$ 20,000.00	"
		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	\$ -	"
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 470,416,800.00</b>		



GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS
Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all ages	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	\$ 2,400,000.00	
	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	\$ 329,871,920.00	

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS
Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all ages	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	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	\$ 87,428,000.00	
	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)	\$ 241,195,700.00	
	3.a	Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate	3.a.1 Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older	\$ -	"

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS
Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all ages	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 recruiting, 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	\$ 2,500,000.00	
	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	\$ -	"
	<b>TOTAL</b>				\$ 663,395,620.00

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	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	\$ 500,000.00	
		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.	\$ 16,500,000.00	
		4.3	By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university	4.3.1 Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex	\$ 462,540,600.00	
		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	\$ 142,579,700.00	
		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	\$ 3,730,000.00	





GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS
Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	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	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	\$ 157,821,740.00	
	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	\$ 171,600,000.00	

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	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	\$ 8,250,000.00
		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	\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 963,772,040.00</b>	
Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	5	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 non-discrimination on the basis of sex	\$ -



GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS
Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	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	\$ -	"
	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	Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliaments and (b) local governments	\$ -	"	

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS
Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls		decision-making in political, economic and public life	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	\$ -	"

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS
		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	\$ -	"
<b>TOTAL</b>				\$ 25,000.00	
<b>Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</b>	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	\$ 5,000,000.00	
	6.3	By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing 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	\$ -	"

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS
		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	\$ -	"
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 5,000,000.00</b>	
Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	7	7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services	7.1.1 Proportion of population with access to electricity	\$ -	"
			7.1.2 Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	\$ -	"
		<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	
Promote sustained, inclusive and productive economic growth, full and	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	\$ -	"
		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	\$ 2,500,000.00	
		<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	



# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS
Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment	8.3	Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization 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	\$ 718,600,000.00	
	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 10-Year 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	
	8.5	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	\$ -	Given the cross-cutting nature of the target the nil figure indicates that there was no direct spending on this area of the SDGs
	8.7		8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	\$ -	"

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS
Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment	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 Organization (ILO) textual sources and national legislation, by sex and migrant status	\$ -	"
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 721,200,000.00</b>	

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS
Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization 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	\$ -	Given the cross-cutting nature of the target the nil figure indicates that there was no direct spending on this area of the SDGs
			9.1.1 Proportion of the rural population who live within 2 km of an all-season road		
<b>TOTAL</b>				\$ -	
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		
		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	\$ 39,300,000.00	

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS
Reduced inequality within and among countries	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	\$ -	"
		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 <sup>2</sup>	\$ -	"
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 39,300,000.00</b>	
Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	11	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	\$ -	"
		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	\$ 50,000,000.00	

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS
Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	11.3	By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization 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	\$ 3,500,000.00	
	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)	\$ -	
	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	\$ -	Given the cross-cutting nature of the target the nil figure indicates that there was no direct spending on this area of the SDGs
			11.5.2 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	\$ 3,700,000.00	"

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

GOALS	SDG #	TARGETS	INDICATORS	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2023	REMARKS
		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	\$ -
Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	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	\$ -	
			11.b	By 2030, 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	\$ -	
<b>TOTAL</b>				\$ 57,300,000.00	





## APPENDIX II

### KEY SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND STRUCTURAL/INSTITUTIONAL INITIATIVES FUNDED BY THE PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME (PSIP) 2022-2024

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2022 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2024 (TTD)
<b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</b>				
Development Centre for Persons with Challenges	879,283	2,000,000	500,000	5,500,000
Establishment of an Integrated Social Enterprise Management System	2,093,400	3,500,000	2,000,000	3,500,000
Establishment of Social Displacement Centres	1,781,510	4,000,000	2,500,000	8,000,000
Implementation of a Social Mitigation Plan	1,055,790	3,000,000	500,000	500,000
Refurbishment of Hernandez Place	524,116	0	0	0
Refurbishment of Older Person's Home	39,241	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,373,340</b>	<b>12,500,000</b>	<b>5,500,000</b>	<b>17,500,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE</b>				
Implementation of the National Youth Policy	841,685	5,000,000	3,000,000	5,000,000
Refurbishment of Youth Training Facilities	1,347,175	0	0	0
Development of a Youth Employment Policy	0	0	0	0
Youth Employment Policy	0	0	0	1,000,000
Refurbishment of the Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centre	14,227,419	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,416,279</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>	<b>6,000,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</b>				
Refurbishment of the Community Education, Training, Information and Resource Centre	0	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Support to Mediation Services	0	800,000	0	1,000,000

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2022 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2024 (TTD)
Conduct of a National Sport and Recreational Census	0	0	0	0
Sport Social Programmes	652,407	5,000,000	1,500,000	0
*Construction of Community Centres	50,002,410	60,000,000	65,000,000	60,000,000
*Refurbishment of Community Centres	3,960,789	15,000,000	1,000,000	10,000,000
*Implementation of Self-Help Programme (NCSHL)	15,000,000	21,000,000	9,000,000	30,000,000
*Development and Upgrading of Recreational Grounds, Parks and Spaces	432,383	5,000,000	1,000,000	10,000,000
*Upgrading of Corporation Grounds	3,357,720	12,000,000	5,000,000	10,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>73,405,709</b>	<b>119,800,000</b>	<b>83,500,000</b>	<b>122,000,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT</b>				
*Development of Rural Communities	12,099,342	35,000,000	12,000,000	40,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,099,342</b>	<b>35,000,000</b>	<b>12,000,000</b>	<b>40,000,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT</b>				
Conduct of the 2019 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS)	1,882,809	1,984,000	1,504,000	0
Conduct of the 2018 - 2019 Household Budgetary Survey / Survey of Living Conditions	720,448	7,881,000	4,720,000	4,338,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,603,257</b>	<b>9,865,000</b>	<b>6,224,000</b>	<b>4,338,000</b>
<b>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER</b>				
Refurbishment of Two (2) Safe Houses	128,181	905,000	0	2,157,000
Establishment of a National Children's Registry	134,127	250,000	150,000	0
Finalization, Launch and Dissemination of the National HIV and AIDS Policy	0	134,000	134,000	100,000
*Reconstruction of St Mary's Home for Children	145,493	0	0	0
*Refurbishment of St. Dominic's Home for Children-Old Bethlehem	809,317	1,500,000	0	900,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,217,118</b>	<b>2,789,000</b>	<b>284,000</b>	<b>3,157,000</b>

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2022 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2024 (TTD)
<b>MINISTRY OF HEALTH</b>				
Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children-Refurbishment Works	594,539	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Special Programme - Renal Dialysis	79,857,548	90,000,000	70,000,000	160,382,000
Special Programme - Treatment of Adult Cardiac Disease	5,002,536	20,000,000	14,000,000	20,000,000
Tissue Transplant	0	0	0	0
Waiting List for Surgery	3,305,900	9,700,000	700,000	7,000,000
President's Emergency Programme for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)	5,776,246	500,000	6,943,600	3,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>94,536,769</b>	<b>121,200,000</b>	<b>92,643,600</b>	<b>191,382,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</b>				
Seamless Education System Project	24,871	0	0	0
Metal Industries Company - Training Subsidy (Legacy Project)	1,626,324	2,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
National Skills Development Programme Center at Macoya (MIC)	657,311	1,500,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
*Early Childhood Care and Education	0	5,000,000	500,000	5,000,000
*Development of a School for Special Education at Point-a-Pierre	0	500,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
*Repairs and Maintenance for Special Schools	428,970	1,500,000	150,000	2,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,737,476</b>	<b>10,500,000</b>	<b>3,650,000</b>	<b>12,000,000</b>
<b>TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY</b>				
Community Awareness Programme	1,000,000	500,000	500,000	1,000,000
Construction of School for the Deaf	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	300,000
Construction of a Wellness/Fitness Centre	200,000	200,000	200,000	300,000
Domestic Violence Project	500,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	600,000
Emergency Medical Alert System	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Enterprise Assistance Grant Programme	2,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	1,000,000

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2022 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2024 (TTD)
Establishment of Community Unit and Development of Programme for Social Behaviour Change	100,000	200,000	200,000	100,000
Establishment of Parenting in Student Support services Unit	100,000	0	0	100,000
Establishment of Probation Hostels	500,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	500,000
Expansion of Mordon House Youth Development Centre	200,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Gender Management System & Gender Mainstreaming Programme	100,000	200,000	200,000	100,000
Golden Apple Adolescents Partnership Programme (GAAPP)	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Home Completion Programme, Tobago	4,000,000	0	0	0
Home Improvement Grant, Tobago	3,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	2,000,000
Home Improvement Subsidy, Tobago	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	1,800,000
Implementing Family Remedial Therapy/Thinking	100,000	300,000	300,000	200,000
Life Management and Parenting Education Programme	100,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Programme for Adolescent Mothers	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Programme for Rural Electrification	500,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	500,000
Project for the Realisation of Economic Achievement (REACH)	300,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,000,000
Roving Care Givers Programme	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Seamless Education Programme	1,500,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	0
Social Services and Prison Integrated Network (SPINE)	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Tobago Elderly Housing and Rehabilitative Centre	300,000	500,000	500,000	400,000
Tobago HIV/AIDS Strategic Response	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Tobago Rehabilitation Programme	200,000	200,000	200,000	400,000
Upgrade of Happy Haven School	100,000	0	0	200,000
Vocation Centre for Persons with Mental Retardation	100,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Positive Behaviour Modification Student Support Services Unit	100,000	0	0	100,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,200,000</b>	<b>26,200,000</b>	<b>26,200,000</b>	<b>15,200,000</b>

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2022 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2024 (TTD)
<b>MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT</b>				
Housing Grants	7,972,500	12,000,000	9,000,000	12,000,000
Surveys of Squatter Sites	867,848	3,000,000	500,000	3,000,000
Residential Lots Programme ( Land for the Landless)	0	0	0	0
Housing and Village Improvement Programme	27,699,319	58,000,000	22,000,000	100,000,000
Regularisation and Regeneration of Communitites- Greater POS Region	1,761,184	3,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
Regularisation of Squatter Communities	7,605,852	20,000,000	10,000,000	30,000,000
Home Improvement and New Housing Subsidies Programme	0	0	0	0
Social and Economic Programme for East Port of Spain	438,992	9,000,000	5,500,000	10,000,000
*Accelerated Housing Programme	3,767,512	0	0	150,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>50,113,207</b>	<b>105,000,000</b>	<b>48,000,000</b>	<b>307,000,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES</b>				
Water Management and Flood Control Programme	745,269	3,000,000	450,000	2,500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>745,269</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>	<b>450,000</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>282,447,766</b>	<b>450,854,000</b>	<b>281,451,600</b>	<b>721,077,000</b>

\* Infrastructure Development Fund

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

## APPENDIX III

### ALLOCATIONS AND EXPENDITURE FOR SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES FOR FISCAL 2023 AND 2024 AND ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR FISCAL 2022 UNDER RECURRENT EXPENDITURE BY MINISTRY

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2022 (TTD)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2023 (TTD)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2023 (TTD)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2024 (TTD)
<b>MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT</b>				
Community-Based Environment Protection & Enhancement Programme (CEPEP)	426,593,000	410,000,000	456,500,000	430,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>426,593,000</b>	<b>410,000,000</b>	<b>456,500,000</b>	<b>430,000,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF FINANCE</b>				
Food Price Support Programme	174,601,511	169,000,000	150,000,000	169,000,000
Government's Contribution to the Children's Life Fund	10,683,000	20,000,000	20,000,000	15,000,000
Government Assistance for Tertiary Expenses (GATE)	396,484,600	400,000,000	400,000,000	400,000,000
Unemployment Relief Programme	274,432,429	280,000,000	310,636,175	300,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>856,201,540</b>	<b>869,000,000</b>	<b>880,636,175</b>	<b>884,000,000</b>
<b>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER</b>				
Non-Profit Institutions – Ecclesiastical Bodies	0	500,000	0	100,000
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions (Children's Homes)	9,552,353	10,000,000	10,000,000	9,550,000
St Mary's Children's Homes	13,500,000	13,500,000	13,500,000	13,500,000
St Dominic's Children Home	15,511,785	15,000,000	15,000,000	14,500,000
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions (Gender Affairs)	5,651,820	6,400,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions PRP- Child Development	471,093	1,200,000	1,100,000	1,200,000
Heroes Foundation	420,000	420,000	420,000	420,000
St Michael's School for Boys	2,980,609	3,284,000	3,284,000	3,389,000
St Jude's Home for Girls	14,690,888	14,500,000	14,500,000	14,500,000
Adoption Board Expenses	0	0	0	0
Foster Care Expenses	1,700,000	3,100,000	3,100,000	3,060,000
Children's Authority	90,213,000	70,000,000	132,500,000	100,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>154,691,548</b>	<b>137,904,000</b>	<b>198,404,000</b>	<b>165,219,000</b>



# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2022 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2024 (TTD)
<b>MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT</b>				
Debit Card System for URP Employees	729,546	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>729,546</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>
<b>TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY</b>				
<b>Education, Research and Technology:</b>				
Adult Education Extension Services (Adult Classes)	0	100,000	100,000	100,000
Basic Grants	13,343,556	9,500,000	9,500,000	9,500,000
Building Grants to Assisted Schools	0	100,000	100,000	100,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	48,475	100,000	100,000	100,000
Early Childhood Care	176,006	300,000	300,000	300,000
Grants to Necessitous Students Attending Public Schools	643,673	400,000	400,000	600,000
Grant-Trinidad & Tobago National Council of Parent Teacher Association Inc.	0	50,000	50,000	50,000
Grants for Students attending conferences, seminars and competitions	42,700	60,000	60,000	60,000
School Feeding Programme	18,612,839	17,500,000	18,000,000	20,000,000
Special Education Resources Programme	0	100,000	100,000	100,000
Student Support Services Unit	85,205	150,000	150,000	150,000
Happy Haven School-Tobago Council for Handicapped Children	1,244,473	1,504,100	1,454,100	1,809,100
Tobago School for the Deaf, Speech and Language	1,518,863	2,275,900	2,151,960	2,577,600
<b>Sport and Youth Affairs:</b>				
Assistance to Sporting Organisations	528,907	0	0	0
Assistance to Youth Organisations	144,524	0	0	0
Youth Development Programme	179,287	0	0	0
<b>Food Security, Natural Resources, the Environment and Sustainable Development:</b>				
Agricultural Incentive Programme	746,241	700,000	700,000	700,000
Subsidy for Fishermen	0	450,000	450,000	450,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	12,600	20,000	20,000	20,000
<b>Tourism, Culture, Antiquities and Transportation:</b>				

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2022 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2024 (TTD)
Assistance to Cultural Groups	0	1,000,000	500,000	1,000,000
National Days and Festivals	754,201	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
<b>Community Development, Youth Development and Sport:</b>				
Assistance to Community Organisations	115,350	200,000	200,000	200,000
Community Action for Renewal and Empowerment (CARE)	0	200,000	0	200,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	0	100,000	100,000	100,000
Export Centres	2,301,311	2,300,000	2,300,000	2,300,000
National Service	0	100,000	0	100,000
Regional Complexes	4,641,280	3,300,000	3,800,000	4,000,000
Small Grants	0	100,000	100,000	100,000
Special Community Programme	1,373,668	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
Assistance to Sporting Organisations	0	1,000,000	600,000	1,000,000
Youth Development Programme	0	250,000	250,000	250,000
Assistance to Youth Organisations	0	200,000	200,000	200,000
<b>Health, Wellness and Social Protection:</b>				
Assistance to Home for the Aged	509,984	500,000	500,000	510,000
The Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago	0	100,000	100,000	100,000
Emergency Cases Fund	1,538,823	1,600,000	1,600,000	1,600,000
Foster Care Services	327,814	600,000	600,000	600,000
Non- Profit Institutions - Special Social Programmes	1,201,918	2,170,400	2,170,400	2,170,400
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	100,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Grants towards Necessitous Patients	1,876,081	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>52,067,779</b>	<b>51,730,400</b>	<b>51,356,460</b>	<b>55,747,100</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY</b>				
Vision on Mission	3,000,000	7,200,000	6,500,000	5,000,000
Criminal Injuries Compensation	1,997,495	1,200,000	1,200,000	2,000,000
Emergency Cases Fund (Probation Services)	7,818	20,000	0	50,000
Crime Stoppers Trinidad & Tobago Limited	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management	17,105,348	16,500,000	16,500,000	17,000,000
National Drug Council	292,030	150,000	150,000	300,000
The Morvant/Laventille Initiative	90,958	250,000	391,300	600,000

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2022 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2024 (TTD)
National Crime Prevention Programme	299,111	600,000	188,800	600,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,792,760</b>	<b>27,920,000</b>	<b>26,930,100</b>	<b>27,550,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF LABOUR</b>				
Non Profit Institutions	1,776,506	1,790,820	1,790,000	1,790,000
On the Job Training Programme	229,949,009	309,395,000	261,361,000	266,479,400
HIV/AIDS Advocacy and Sustainability Centre	6,000	36,100	36,000	100,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>231,731,515</b>	<b>311,221,920</b>	<b>263,187,000</b>	<b>268,369,400</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES</b>				
Agricultural Incentive Programme	18,725,046	12,000,000	15,000,000	14,000,000
Incentive Programme	127,145	200,000	200,000	300,000
Forestry Incentive Programme	33,765	100,000	100,000	100,000
Relief of Flood Damage	2,485,511	5,000,000	9,500,000	4,000,000
4H Young Farmers Club	0	65,000	65,000	50,000
Rural Women Producers Network	0	25,000	25,000	25,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,371,467</b>	<b>17,390,000</b>	<b>24,890,000</b>	<b>18,475,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</b>				
Early Childhood Care and Education	15,000,000	15,000,000	13,800,000	15,000,000
National Schools Dietary Services Limited	88,908,449	270,746,800	270,746,800	268,746,800
School Transportation Services	2,636,433	50,000,000	11,000,000	15,000,000
SERVOL Junior Life Centres	17,520,000	14,600,000	10,216,000	10,600,000
Student Support Services Programme	771,430	669,000	265,000	265,000
Grant – Trinidad & Tobago National Council of Parent/Teachers Associations	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Retraining Programme for Displaced Workers	6,956,804	6,956,800	6,956,000	6,956,800
Higher Education Loan Programme	6,767,893	8,000,000	1,850,000	5,332,800
MIC Craft Programmes	7,000,000	7,000,000	7,000,000	7,000,000
Helping Youth Prepare for Employment Programme (HYPE)	13,787,000	13,787,000	12,687,000	13,787,000
Multi-Sector Skill Training Programme(MUST)	12,286,800	12,286,800	11,286,800	12,286,800
SERVOL Hi-Tech & Advanced Skills Training Programme	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
SERVOL's Human Development and Skills Training	14,000,000	14,000,000	12,900,000	14,000,000
Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme Ltd (YTEPP)	41,410,600	41,410,600	38,010,600	41,410,600

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2022 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2024 (TTD)
Metal Industries Co Ltd (National Skills Development Programme)	40,820,069	40,820,100	37,420,454	33,923,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>273,115,478</b>	<b>500,527,100</b>	<b>439,388,654</b>	<b>449,558,800</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF HEALTH</b>				
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions	18,566,751	18,300,000	18,300,000	18,300,000
National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention	3,500	200,000	60,000	200,000
Medical Treatment of Nationals in Institutions	33,289,373	50,000,000	20,000,000	35,000,000
Children's Life Fund Authority	2,400,000	2,400,000	2,913,000	3,955,000
School Health Programme (Audio test, hearing aid, service and eyeglasses)	5,135	500,000	20,000	100,000
Drugs and Other Related Materials and Supplies	251,845,953	241,195,700	276,196,000	574,006,100
Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children	11,677,374	12,957,600	12,227,900	13,330,700
<b>Total</b>	<b>317,788,086</b>	<b>325,553,300</b>	<b>329,716,900</b>	<b>644,891,800</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES</b>				
Utilities Assistance Programme	4,105,809	7,555,000	7,555,000	7,929,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,105,809</b>	<b>7,555,000</b>	<b>7,555,000</b>	<b>7,929,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF TOURISM, CULTURE AND THE ARTS</b>				
Non-Profit Institutions	10,446,471	12,371,900	14,766,900	13,449,600
Hosting of Cultural Camps	0	100,000	100,000	100,000
Music Schools in the Community	0	100,000	20,000	100,000
National Days and Festivals	3,268,698	4,000,000	5,717,300	4,000,000
Queens Hall	11,000,000	12,843,000	12,841,000	12,553,000
Naparima Bowl	5,268,275	6,207,800	6,202,000	6,030,800
National Carnival Commission of T & T	110,912,024	146,371,000	146,371,000	140,803,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>140,895,468</b>	<b>181,993,700</b>	<b>186,018,200</b>	<b>177,036,400</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</b>				
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions (Sporting Organisations)	12,300,767	5,000,000	17,200,000	16,000,000
Community Action for Revival and Empowerment (CARE)	1,715,982	2,000,000	3,500,000	2,000,000
Export Centres	9,600,000	10,000,000	10,400,000	9,100,000
National Commission for Self-Help Limited	10,299,999	10,225,200	12,200,000	10,737,000
Indoor Sporting Arenas/ Hockey Facility	941,539	2,000,000	1,300,000	1,300,000

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2022 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2024 (TTD)
The Sport Company of Trinidad & Tobago	138,245,926	169,600,000	132,500,000	177,013,919
<b>Total</b>	<b>173,104,213</b>	<b>198,825,200</b>	<b>177,100,000</b>	<b>216,150,919</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE</b>				
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions (Youth Organisations)	65,000	100,000	50,000	80,000
National Service - Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme	25,277,281	26,600,000	22,700,000	22,965,000
Civilian Conservation Corps	45,586,208	45,000,000	39,200,000	39,200,000
Military Led Academic Training (MILAT)	11,792,849	15,000,000	16,900,000	16,900,000
Military-Led Programme of Apprenticeship and Re-orientation (MYPART)	717,363	1,000,000	1,150,000	2,000,000
Retirees Adolescent Partnership Programme	1,550,278	1,600,000	1,600,000	1,600,000
National Entrepreneurship Development Company (NEDCO)	18,476,789	24,765,600	24,001,000	22,100,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>103,465,768</b>	<b>114,065,600</b>	<b>105,601,000</b>	<b>104,845,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT</b>				
<b>Other transfers:</b>				
Trinidad and Tobago Housing Development Corporation	449,170,888	671,699,908	687,340,000	843,878,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>449,170,888</b>	<b>671,699,908</b>	<b>687,340,000</b>	<b>843,878,000</b>
<b>CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES TOBAGO</b>				
Non-Profit Institutions				
Contribution to Non-Profit Organizations	26,000	30,000	21,000	30,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>21,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>
<b>TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE</b>				
<b>Transfers:</b>				
Non-Profit Institutions-Police Youth Clubs	880,818	2,000,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>880,818</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</b>				
Other Social Programmes	50,839	270,000	270,000	270,000
Senior Citizens' Homes	38,837	1,200,000	800,000	1,000,000
Senior Citizens' Centres	36,000	1,200,000	0	1,300,000

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2022 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2023 (TTD)	2024 (TTD)
Social Programmes (Ageing)	32,419	1,200,000	500,000	950,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions	5,001,745	8,000,000	4,900,000	4,200,000
President's Award Scheme	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
Young Women's Christian Association	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Young Men's Christian Association	156,000	156,000	156,000	156,000
Scouts Association of Trinidad and Tobago	126,000	126,000	126,000	126,000
Girl Guides Association	84,000	84,000	84,000	84,000
Non-Profit Institutions (Other Social - Parenting)	429,075	1,452,740	500,000	800,000
Non-Profit Institutions (Other Social - Family)	364,560	1,000,000	360,000	500,000
Adult Education Programme	0	2,000,000	0	1,700,000
Senior Citizens' Grant	4,239,885,107	4,118,000,000	4,463,090,000	4,463,090,000
Social Assistance	320,006,856	360,000,000	328,000,000	329,000,000
Urgent Temporary Assistance	14,405,108	15,000,000	32,000,000	30,000,000
Rehabilitative Programme	1,435,540	2,500,000	1,500,000	2,000,000
Payments to Registrars of Births and Deaths	0	0	0	0
Disability Grant	614,681,188	625,000,000	643,972,000	643,972,000
Assistance to National Heroes	1,354,148	2,000,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
Target Conditional Cash Transfer Programme - Development Component for Recipients	0	0	0	0
National Social Development Programme	7,214,403	5,000,000	1,500,000	4,000,000
Community Care Programme	3,646,311	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Adoption Board Expenses	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000
Lady Hochoy Centres of Trinidad and Tobago	15,007,680	12,000,000	12,000,000	15,200,000
Trinidad and Tobago Association for the Hearing Impaired	13,299,544	10,000,000	10,000,000	12,500,000
Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association	13,482,405	13,000,000	13,000,000	13,400,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,251,127,765</b>	<b>5,183,578,740</b>	<b>5,518,648,000</b>	<b>5,530,138,000</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>8,481,859,448</b>	<b>9,012,994,868</b>	<b>9,356,792,489</b>	<b>9,827,318,419</b>





## APPENDIX IV

### LIST OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS RECEIVING GOVERNMENT SUBVENTIONS AND GRANTS FOR FISCAL 2022 AND 2023

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE		DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2023 FROM 2022 TT\$
	2022	2023	
	TT\$	TT\$	
<b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</b>			
<b><u>Services for Persons with Disabilities</u></b>			
Goodwill Industries of the West Indies	564,413	564,413	0
National Centre for Persons with Disabilities	799,360	799,360	0
T&T Association for Retarded Children (Lady Hochoy Homes)	16,633,621	12,000,000	-4,633,621
T&T Association for the Hearing Impaired	13,500,000	10,000,000	-3,500,000
T&T Blind Welfare Association	15,444,806	13,000,000	-2,444,806
T & T Chapter of Disabled People International	133,200	133,200	0
<b><u>Sub-Total</u></b>	<b>47,075,400</b>	<b>36,496,973</b>	<b>-10,578,427</b>
<b><u>Socially Displaced</u></b>			
Court Shamrock Centre for the Socially Displaced	452,000	452,000	0
St. Vincent De Paul Centre for Socially Displaced Persons	2,896,800	0	-2,896,800
St. Vincent De Paul Society Nazareth Halfway House	147,600	0	-147,600
<b><u>Sub-Total</u></b>	<b>3,496,400</b>	<b>452,000</b>	<b>3,044,400</b>
<b><u>Family Life and Counselling Service</u></b>			
Family Planning Association	1,000,000	1,000,000	0
Islamic Community Services	48,000	0	-48,000
Rape Crisis Society of Trinidad and Tobago	300,000	300,000	0
T & T Innovative Parenting Support	290,000	0	-290,000
T & T Red Cross Society	730,000	730,000	0
<b><u>Sub-Total</u></b>	<b>2,368,000</b>	<b>2,030,000</b>	<b>-338,000</b>
<b><u>Homes for Senior Citizens</u></b>			
Couva Home for the Aged	148,000	148,000	0
JC McDonald Home for the Aged	239,382	239,382	0
Siparia Home for the Aged	110,707	110,707	0
Toco Home for Senior Citizens	44,640	44,640	0
<b><u>Sub-Total</u></b>	<b>542,729</b>	<b>542,729</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>Hostels/Halfway Houses</u></b>			
Salvation Army Hostel for Young Women	73,200	73,200	0
Shelter for Women and Children	90,000	90,000	0

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE
	2022	2023	IN 2023 FROM 2022
	TT\$	TT\$	TT\$
The Halfway House	65,000	65,000	0
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>228,200</b>	<b>228,200</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Youth NGOs</b>			
Girl Guides Association of T&T	84,000	84,000	0
President Awards of T&T	60,000	60,000	0
Scout Association of T&T	126,000	126,000	0
Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)	156,000	156,000	0
Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)	30,000	30,000	0
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>456,000</b>	<b>456,000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Ministry of Social Development and Family Services' Total Subventions</b>	<b>54,166,729</b>	<b>40,205,902</b>	<b>-13,960,827</b>
<b>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)</b>			
<b>Family Life and Counselling Service</b>			
ChildLine	1,743,196	1,743,196	0
Network of Non-Governmental Organisations of Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women	200,000	0	-200,000
New Life Ministries for the Establishment and Administration of a Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre	900,000	900,000	0
The Heroes Foundation	420,000	420,000	0
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>3,263,196</b>	<b>3,063,196</b>	<b>-200,000</b>
<b>Children's Homes*</b>			
A Bridge of Hope	1,073,800	979,944	-93,856
Adonna Institution for Orphans	37,150	209,270	172,120
Allison's Children's Home	37,150	0	-37,150
Amica House	553,170	628,852	75,682
Casa de Corazon	389,350	299,782	-89,568
Chickland Children's Home	301,800	326,648	24,848
Couva Children's Home & Crisis Nursery	463,141	457,225	-5,915
Credo Foundation for Justice - Credo Development Centre	319,331	397,537	78,206
Credo Foundation for Justice - Sophia House	341,029	300,780	-40,249
Society of St. Vincent De Paul - Cyril Ross Nursery	215,400	209,109	-6,291
Dar-UI-Aman Freeport Children's Home	223,800	298,785	74,985
El Shaddai Restoration Home for Children	329,850	289,209	-40,642
Ezekiel Home for Abandoned Children	519,550	602,357	82,807
Ferndean's Place Children's Home	377,425	351,752	-25,673

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE
	2022	2023	IN 2023 FROM 2022
	TT\$	TT\$	TT\$
Haven of Hope	341,000	372,134	31,134
Jairah House	195,450	246,250	50,800
Joshua House	252,250	272,052	19,802
Mary Care Centre- North	225,250	329,607	104,357
Mary Care Centre- South	608,675	454,262	-154,414
Mothers' Union Children's Home	281,947	210,150	-71,797
Living Water Community - Our Lady of the Wayside	508,100	476,606	-31,495
Operation Smile Home for Children	105,700	109,758	4,058
Raffa House	230,956	190,808	-40,148
Rainbow Rescue	370,577	397,845	27,268
Sri Jayalakshmi Children's Home Ltd	278,700	435,442	156,742
The Hope Centre	397,250	470,654	73,404
The Islamic Home for Children Inc.	386,575	560,132	173,557
The Margaret Kistow Children's Home	751,875	0	-751,875
Vishok Bhavan	187,876	180,455	-7,422
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>10,304,127</b>	<b>10,057,402</b>	<b>-246,725</b>
<b><u>Industrial Schools</u></b>			
St. Dominic's Children's Home	15,511,733	15,000,000	-511,733
St. Jude's School for Girls	14,690,000	14,500,000	-190,000
St. Mary's Children's Home	13,500,000	13,500,000	0
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>43,701,733</b>	<b>43,000,000</b>	<b>-701,733</b>
<b><u>Office of the Prime Minister's (Gender and Child Development) Total Subventions</u></b>	<b>57,269,056</b>	<b>56,120,598</b>	<b>-1,148,458</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF TOURISM, CULTURE AND THE ARTS</b>			
The Art Society of Trinidad & Tobago	20,000	100,000	80,000
National Dance Association of Trinidad & Tobago	130,000	100,000	-30,000
National Drama Association of Trinidad & Tobago	100,000	100,000	0
National Parang Association of Trinidad & Tobago	120,000	100,000	-20,000
Secondary Schools Drama Association	30,000	100,000	70,000
Secondary Schools Sanskritik Sangam	40,000	100,000	60,000
Trinbago Unified Calypsonians' Organisation	50,000	100,000	50,000
Trinidad Theatre Workshop	30,000	100,000	70,000
Trinidad and Tobago Music Festival Association	10,000	100,000	90,000
The Little Carib Theatre and Folk House	100,000	100,000	0
The Bocas Lit Fest	0	100,000	100,000

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE
	2022	2023	IN 2023 FROM 2022
	TT\$	TT\$	TT\$
<b><u>Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts' Total Subventions</u></b>	<b>660,000</b>	<b>1,200,000</b>	<b>540,000</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF HEALTH</b>			
<b><u>Chronic Diseases</u></b>			
Diabetes Association of Trinidad and Tobago	400,000	400,000	0
HEAL (Helping Every Addict Live)	220,000	220,000	0
Heartbeat International	865,000	865,000	0
Living Water Community	2,601,350	2,601,350	0
Rebirth House and Oasis Drop-In-Centre	935,000	935,000	0
Serenity Place	179,160	179,160	0
The Just Because Foundation	240,000	240,000	0
Trinidad and Tobago Cancer Society	1,500,000	1,500,000	0
Trinidad and Tobago Heart Foundation	150,000	150,000	0
Trinidad and Tobago National Council on Alcoholism	300,000	300,000	0
<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b>7,630,510</b>	<b>7,630,510</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>Services to Persons with Disabilities</u></b>			
Autistic Society	500,000	500,000	0
Horses Helping Humans	500,000	500,000	0
<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>Services to Children</u></b>			
Christ Child Convalescent Home	613,000	613,000	0
Cotton Tree Foundation	385,300	385,300	0
<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b>998,300</b>	<b>998,300</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>HIV &amp; AIDS</u></b>			
Medical Research Foundation	5,985,157	5,985,157	0
<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b>5,985,157</b>	<b>5,985,157</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>Maternal &amp; Neonatal Care</u></b>			
Breast Feeding Association of Trinidad & Tobago	275,000	275,000	0
Mamatoto Centre	275,000	275,000	0
<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b>550,000</b>	<b>550,000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>Other Health Related Services</u></b>			
Society for Inherited Severe Blood Disorder	100,000	100,000	0
<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>Ministry of Health's Total Subventions</u></b>	<b>16,263,967</b>	<b>16,263,967</b>	<b>0</b>

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE
	2022	2023	IN 2023 FROM 2022
	TT\$	TT\$	TT\$
<b>MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT</b>			
International Labour Organisation (Grant for rent assistance)	518,820	518,820	0
Grant to International Labour	1,084,746	1,272,000	187,254
Voluntary Contribution Fund for the IAN for Labour Administration (RIAL)	30,000	70,000	40,000
<b><u>Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development's Total Subventions</u></b>	<b>1,633,566</b>	<b>1,860,820</b>	<b>227,254</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</b>			
Santa Rosa First Peoples Community	1,400,000	1,400,000	0
<b><u>Ministry of Sport and Community Development's Total Subvention</u></b>	<b>1,400,000</b>	<b>1,400,000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY</b>			
Crime Stoppers Trinidad and Tobago	2,000,000	2,000,000	0
Vision on Mission	5,400,000	7,200,000	1,800,000
<b><u>Ministry of National Security's Total Subventions</u></b>	<b>7,400,000</b>	<b>9,200,000</b>	<b>1,800,000</b>
<b>GRAND SUBVENTIONS TOTAL</b>	<b>138,793,318</b>	<b>126,251,287</b>	<b>-12,542,031</b>

\* In November 2016, Cabinet agreed to the Financial Assistance to Community Residences on the Payment per Child System (PPC)

# 2024 SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

ORGANISATION	GRANTS PAYABLE	GRANTS PAYABLE	DIFFERENCE IN GRANTS
	2022	2023	IN 2023 FROM 2022
	TT\$	TT\$	TT\$
<b>MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</b>			
<b><u>Sport and Physical Education Department</u></b>			
Trinidad & Tobago Chess Association	471,170	176,400	-294,770
Special Olympics Trinidad & Tobago	150,000	500,000	350,000
T&T Draughts and Checkers	28,400	44,723	0
Trinidad and Tobago Canoeing and Rowing Federation	100,000.00	0	-100,000
Trinidad & Tobago Cheer Federation	9,088	0	-9,088
<b><u>Sub-Total</u></b>	<b>758,658</b>	<b>721,123</b>	<b>-37,535</b>
<b><u>Elite Athlete Assistance Programme</u></b>			
Funding for Athletes - EAAP	1,625,000.00	3,350,000.00	1,725,000.00
Individual	1,255,077.00	2,372,792.31	1,117,715
<b><u>Sub-Total</u></b>	<b>2,880,077</b>	<b>5,722,792</b>	<b>2,842,715</b>
<b><u>Community Development</u></b>			
Community Development - CARE	1,590,381.37	3,733,297.00	2,142,916
Transformation and Development Centres (TDCs)	2,129,022	2,790,570	661,548
Ryu Dan Dojo	0	10,000	10,000
<b><u>Sub-Total</u></b>	<b>3,719,403</b>	<b>6,533,867</b>	<b>2,814,464</b>
<b><u>Ministry of Sport and Community Development's Total Grants</u></b>	<b>7,358,138</b>	<b>12,977,782</b>	<b>5,619,644</b>
<b>Sports Company of Trinidad &amp; Tobago (SPORTT)</b>			
<b><u>NATIONAL GOVERNING BODIES (NGB's)</u></b>			
Amateur Swimming Association of Trinidad and Tobago	251,576.53	679,920	428,343
National Association of Athletics Administrations of Trinidad and Tobago (NAAATT)	1,028,268	2,427,927	1,399,659
National Basketball Association of Trinidad and Tobago	33,752	0	-33,752
National Amateur Boxing Association	\$175,610.00	2,224,973	2,049,363
Trinidad and Tobago Cricket Board	14,320,630	9,226,878	-5,093,752
Trinidad and Tobago Cycling Federation	958,158	1,452,496	494,338
Trinidad and Tobago Football Association	0	5,620,480	5,620,480
Trinidad and Tobago Golf Association	350,960	1,291,346	940,386
Trinidad and Tobago Amateur Gymnastics Association	\$60,369.85	107,916	47,546
Trinidad and Tobago Hockey Board	2,017,630	0	-2,017,630



# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



ORGANISATION	GRANTS PAYABLE	GRANTS PAYABLE	DIFFERENCE IN GRANTS
	2022	2023	IN 2023 FROM 2022
	TT\$	TT\$	TT\$
Trinidad and Tobago Rugby Union	295,642	1,375,305	1,079,663
Trinidad and Tobago Yachting Association	338,412	0	-338,412
Trinidad and Tobago Netball Association	661,994.75	228,555	-433,440
<b><u>Sports Company of Trinidad &amp; Tobago's Total Grants</u></b>	<b>20,493,003</b>	<b>24,635,796</b>	<b>4,142,793</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE</b>			
<b><u>Youth Division</u></b>			
Colour Splash	0	4,223	4,223
Network of Rural Women Producers of Trinidad and Tobago	0	5,000	5,000
The Caribbean Royal Youth Council (CRYC)	0	18,371	18,371
Voice of Tunapuna Foundation (VOT)	0	10,000	10,000
<b><u>Ministry of Youth Development and National Services' Total Grants</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>37,594</b>	<b>37,594</b>
<b>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</b>			
Bethesda – For Persons with Disabilities	10,000	0	-10,000
Bridges to the Heart	0	4,000	4,000
Caribbean Kids and Family Therapy Organisation (CKFTO)	0	10,000	10,000
Cerebral Palsy Society of Trinidad and Tobago	7,500	0	-7,500
Companions of the Transfigured Christ	10,000	0	-10,000
Down Syndrome Family Network	15,000	5,000	-10,000
Is There Not A Cause (ITNAC)	0	10,000	10,000
Kids in Need of Direction	0	26,000	26,000
Network of NGOs in Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women	0	3,000	3,000
Revival Mission	0	5,000	5,000
Shelter for Women and Children	0	5,000	5,000
Widows Association of Trinidad and Tobago	0	7,500	7,500
<b><u>Ministry of Social Development and Family Services' Total Grants</u></b>	<b>42,500</b>	<b>75,500</b>	<b>33,000</b>
<b>GRAND GRANTS TOTAL</b>	<b>27,893,642</b>	<b>37,726,673</b>	<b>9,833,031</b>

These Ministries assist organisations via grants as requested by the organisations and subject to availability of funds.





## LIST OF ACRONYMS

CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CDB	Caribbean Developmental Bank
CDPF-VI	Community Development Partnership Forum - 6th edition
CEPEP	Community-based Environment Protection & Enhancement Programme
CHINS	Children in Need of Supervision
CIDES	Inter-American Committee On Social Development
CIP	Country Implementation Plan
CRCH	Cyril Ross Children Home
CSO	Central Statistical Office
CVQ	Caribbean Vocational Qualification
CWIP	Community Water Improvement Programme
DAG	Disability Assistance Grant
DCDYDS	Division of Community Development, Youth Development and Sport
DERT	Division of Education, Research and Technology
DHWSP	Division of Health, Wellness and Social Protection
ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
E-ID	National Electronic Identity
ERHA	Eastern Regional Health Authority
GAPP	Golden Apple Adolescent Partnership Programmes - THA
GAPP	Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme
GATE	Government Assistance for Tertiary Expenses
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GENLEA	Gender Equality in the Counterdrug Law Enforcement Agencies
GoRTT	Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
HBS/SLC	Household Budget Survey/ Survey of Living Conditions
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
IMF	International Monetary Fund
ISEMS	Integrated Social Enterprise and Management System
MALF	Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries
MDT	Ministry of Digital Transformation
MEB	Minimum Expenditure Baskets
MOE	Ministry of Education

MOF	Ministry of Finance
MOH	Ministry of Health
MoHUD	Ministry of Housing and Urban Development
MOL	Ministry of Labour
MNS	Ministry of National Security
MoWT	Ministry of Works and Transport
MPD	Ministry of Planning and Development
MPA	Ministry of Public Administration
MPU	Ministry of Public Utilities
MSCD	Ministry of Sport and Community Development
MSDCF	Multi Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022-2026
MSDFS	Ministry of Social Development and Family Services
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises
MRDLG	Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government
MYDNS	Ministry of Youth Development and National Service
NACC	National AIDS Coordinating Committee
NADAPP	National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme
NALIS	National Library and Information System Authority
NCDs	Non-Communicable Diseases
NCRHA	North Central Regional Health Authority
NDS	National Development Strategy of Trinidad and Tobago (Vision 2030)
NEDCO	National Entrepreneurship Development Company Limited
NEON	National Employment Online Network
NFP	National Family Policy
NFSD	National Family Services Division
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NPP	National Parenting Policy
NPRS	National Poverty Reduction Strategy
NRVP	National Register of Vulnerable Persons
NSP	National Strategic Plan
NWRHA	North West Regional Health Authority
OAS	Organization of American States
OJTP	On-the-Job Training Programme
OPM-C	Office of the Prime Minister (Communications)
OPM (GCA)	Office of the Prime Minister (Gender and Child Affairs)
OPR	Office of the Procurement Regulation
PAG	Public Assistance Grant

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH



## LIST OF ACRONYMS

PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
PSIP	Public Sector Investment Programme
PwDs	Persons with Disabilities
REAP	Residential Electrification Assistance Programme
RHA	Regional Health Authority
SALISES	Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies
SCP	Senior Citizens Pension
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SID	Social Investigations Division
SIP	Perinatal Information System
SSIP	Social Sector Investment Programme
STEP	Survivors Transformation and Empowerment Programme
THA	Tobago House of Assembly
TTPS	Trinidad and Tobago Police Service
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UAP	Utilities Assistance Programme
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNSAID	United States Agency for International Development
UTT	University of Trinidad and Tobago
UWI	University of the West Indies
WHO	World Health Organisation
YTRC	Youth Transformation and Rehabilitation Centre

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
<b>Budget Allocation</b>	A budget allocation is the amount of funding designated to each expenditure line. It designates the maximum amount of funding an organization is willing to spend on a given item or program. <sup>1</sup>
<b>Evidence-Based Decision-Making</b>	Evidence Based Decision-Making is a process for making decisions about a program, practice, or policy that is grounded in the best available research evidence and informed by experiential evidence from the field and relevant contextual evidence. <sup>2</sup>
<b>Food Security</b>	Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, [social] and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life". (FAO, 1996) The term "Social" was added to the 1996 definition in 2002. (World Food Summit, 1996). <sup>3</sup>
<b>Health and Wellness</b>	Health and Wellness - Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Wellness is the process of becoming aware of and making choices which optimizes one's well-being. <sup>4</sup>
<b>HIV/AIDS</b>	The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) targets the immune system and weakens people's defense against many infections and some types of cancer that people with healthy immune systems can more easily fight off. As the virus destroys and impairs the function of immune cells, infected individuals gradually become immune-deficient. Immune function is typically measured by CD4 cell count. The most advanced stage of HIV infection is acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), which can take many years to develop if not treated, depending on the individual. AIDS is defined by the development of certain cancers, infections or other severe long-term clinical manifestations. <sup>5</sup>
<b>Human Development</b>	This involves expanding the richness of human life, rather than simply the richness of the economy in which human beings live. It is an approach that is focused on creating fair opportunities and choices for all people. <sup>6</sup>
<b>Information and Communication Technology (ICT)</b>	Diverse set of technological tools and resources used to transmit, store, create, share or exchange information. These technological tools and resources include computers, the Internet (websites, blogs and emails), live broadcasting technologies (radio, television and webcasting), recorded broadcasting technologies (podcasting,

<sup>1</sup> <https://smallbusiness.chron.com/budgetary-allocation-31340.html>

<sup>2</sup> Sourced on March 20, 2020 from: [https://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/apps/evidence/docs/EBDM\\_82412.pdf](https://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/apps/evidence/docs/EBDM_82412.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> World Food Summit, 1996 from: <https://www.fao.org/>

<sup>4</sup> National Social Mitigation Plan 2017 – 2022. Building Resilience to Restore Our Nation. Ministry of Social Development June 27, 2017. Pp 3

<sup>5</sup> World Health Organisation (WHO) - <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/hiv-aids>

<sup>6</sup> National Social Mitigation Plan 2017 – 2022. Building Resilience to Restore Our Nation. Ministry of Social Development June 27, 2017. Pp 3





Term	Definition
	audio and video players and storage devices) and telephony (fixed or mobile, satellite, visio/video-conferencing, etc.). <sup>7</sup>
<b>Integrated Social Enterprise Management System (ISEMS)</b>	Integrated Social Enterprise Management System (ISEMS) is a comprehensive, automated information system that will be used to administer the various programmes, grants and services of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services. <sup>8</sup>
<b>Monitoring and Evaluation</b>	Monitoring can be defined as continuous process of systematic data collection on pre-specified indicators. Evaluation process is an ongoing dynamic function which seeks to objectively and systematically assess the design, implementation, relevance and sustainability of a plan, project or programme. <sup>9</sup>
<b>National budget</b>	The National budget is the Government's financial plan for a given period. The budget states how much money the Government intends to spend during a year (expenditure), what it intends to spend it on (appropriation), and where it expects to get the money to pay for that spending (revenue). The budget usually covers one year which is known as the fiscal year. In Trinidad and Tobago, the fiscal year begins on October 1 and ends September 30. <sup>10</sup>
<b>Non-Communicable disease</b>	Non-communicable diseases (NCDs), also known as chronic diseases, tend to be of long duration and are the result of a combination of genetic, physiological, environmental and behaviours factors. <sup>11</sup>
<b>Pandemic</b>	A pandemic is defined as "an epidemic occurring worldwide, or over a very wide area, crossing international boundaries and usually affecting a large number of people." <sup>12</sup>
<b>Sustainable Development Goals</b>	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 – Otherwise known as the Global Goals, these are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. These 17 Goals build on the successes of the Millennium Development Goals, while including new areas such as climate change, economic inequality, innovation, sustainable consumption, peace and justice, among other priorities. <sup>13</sup>
<b>Socio-economics</b>	Socioeconomic status profoundly impacts an individual or family's reputation and standing in the community. Socioeconomic issues include the ethics, fairness and results of policies, theories and institutions that may result in a different standard of treatment and

<sup>7</sup> UNESCO Institution for Statistics from: [Information and communication technologies \(ICT\) | UNESCO UIS](#)

<sup>8</sup>Ministry of Social Development and Family Services from: [http://social.gov.tt/aiovg\\_videos/integrated-social-enterprise-management-system/#](http://social.gov.tt/aiovg_videos/integrated-social-enterprise-management-system/#)

<sup>9</sup> National Social Mitigation Plan 2017 – 2022. Building Resilience to Restore Our Nation. Ministry of Social Development June 27, 2017. Pp 3

<sup>10</sup> Guide to the Budget for 2021-/2020 Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago – Financial Scrutiny Unit Office of the Parliament October 2019 <http://www.ttparliament.org/documents/news/mr5C4D1F.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/noncommunicable-diseases>

<sup>12</sup> World Health Organisation (WHO) 2020 - <https://www.publichealth.com.ng/world-health-organization-who-pandemic-definition/>

<sup>13</sup> National Social Mitigation Plan 2017 – 2022. Building Resilience to Restore Our Nation. Ministry of Social Development June 27, 2017. Pp 4

Term	Definition
	opportunities based on income and background. Poverty is a major socioeconomic issue because lack of money for basic necessities is the source of many other socioeconomic concerns. <sup>14</sup>
<b>Social Protection</b>	Social Protection is defined as a set of policies and programs designed to reduce poverty and vulnerability by promoting efficient labour markets, diminishing people’s exposure to risks, and enhancing their capacity to protect themselves against hazards and interruption/loss of income. <sup>15</sup>
<b>Unemployment</b>	Unemployment occurs when a person who is actively searching for employment is unable to find work. Unemployment is often used as a measure of the health of the economy. <sup>16</sup>
<b>Vision 2030 – The Vision 2030 National Development Strategy (2016-2030)</b>	Vision 2030 – The Vision 2030 National Development Strategy (2016-2030) for Trinidad and Tobago, aims to provide a broad socio-economic development framework to the year 2030. It is intended to provide for an orderly long-term development process, inclusive of the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). <sup>17</sup>
<b>Vulnerable Groups (household/persons/populations)</b>	Vulnerable Groups are defined as those Groups or communities which experience social exclusion, discrimination, inequality and marginalization. <sup>18</sup>

<sup>14</sup> [Effects of Crime on Society \(theclassroom.com\)](https://www.theclassroom.com/effects-of-crime-on-society)

<sup>15</sup> <https://socialprotection.org/learn/glossary/what-is-social>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/u/unemployment.asp>

<sup>17</sup> National Social Mitigation Plan 2017 – 2022. Building Resilience to Restore Our Nation. Ministry of Social Development June 27, 2017. Pp 4

<sup>18</sup> Official Statistics and Vulnerable Groups in Trinidad and Tobago, 2021 - <https://cso.gov.tt/official-statistics-and-vulnerable-groups-in-trinidad-and-tobago>



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