



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Priority: **HIGH**

Social Development Ministry Conducts Survey to Assess Civil Society Sector

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS) has engaged The Cropper Foundation to conduct an assessment of the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) Sector of Trinidad and Tobago. This activity forms part of the Ministry's implementation of the National Social Mitigation Plan for Trinidad and Tobago. Some of the aims of this assessment are to better identify which CSOs are working in areas highlighted as priority by the Ministry, quickly connect with CSOs and CSO networks to mobilise on the ground action and to better understand issues that impact CSO resilience and sustainability.

The assessment will also assist the Ministry in determining how the Social Sector CSOs can be strengthened to contribute to national development. Approved by Cabinet in 2017, the National Social Mitigation Plan for Trinidad and Tobago is designed to cushion and mitigate the impact of the economic climate on the vulnerable populations in our society. Among other things, the Plan is intended to equip persons affected by the economic downturn with resources and tools to cope with the short-term consequences and overcome these in the medium to long term. This includes promoting community and civil society action and resilience planning.

The data collected will be used to identify opportunities to increase the capacity of CSOs providing priority services. **Additionally, every organisation that completes the survey is eligible to win 1 of 2 Samsung Galaxy tablets courtesy of The Cropper Foundation.** To access the survey, persons can visit <https://Forms.Office.Com/R/A3pAnbLkXD>. The deadline for submission is September 19th, 2021.

For more information, organizations may contact The Cropper Foundation via 221-5751, visit http://thecropperfoundation.org/survey/?fbclid=IwAR0Tr-14EegJfn32PIIRCVCWC51QngQw-Em_ABxm-OkFWo2a6VUXRuUdI3Mw or call the Ministry's NGO Unit at 623-2608 ext. 5031.

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For more information:

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