



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

2022

**Resilience in the face
of a Global Pandemic**



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Social Sector Investment Programme (SSIP) 2022 examines the social setting of Trinidad and Tobago and it highlights all progress made toward attaining social transformation and development. It also provides an overview of the national social context by scrutinizing existing and new social sector initiatives. This includes investments made by the key social sector Ministries and the Tobago House of Assembly (THA) toward social development and social protection, during the 2021 fiscal year. The major Social Sector Plans for the fiscal year 2022 are also outlined in the document.

This year's SSIP 2022 comprises three (3) Chapters and four (4) Appendices. Consequently, the document continues to highlight peculiar circumstances attributed to the current global COVID-19 pandemic, which has and continues to have a significant negative impact on economic and social development locally, regionally and internationally. It also provides a snapshot of achievements for the period 2016-2020 as well as socio-economic events that are planned nationally through myriad lenses, as the Social Sector navigates its way on the road to economic recovery. The Chapters are summarised as follows:

CHAPTER ONE: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

This Chapter provides an overview of the major advancements made within the Social Sector for fiscal 2021. The Chapter comprises two (2) main sections, which focuses on two (2) critical thematic areas of the National Development Strategy (NDS) 2016–2030: Vision 2030. These are *Theme 1: Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset*, and *Theme II: Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence*. 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. The Chapter is also informed by the Social Sector efforts to realise the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Chapter concludes with features on Trinidad and Tobago's Social Sector's developmental response to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the recent stratagems achieved in accordance with Phases I and II of the Roadmap for Trinidad and Tobago Post COVID-19 Pandemic reports.

THEME I: PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST: NURTURING OUR GREATEST ASSET**Goal 1: Persons living in absolute poverty will be reduced**

Caring for the nation's vulnerable remains a significant priority of the MSDFS. This involves strengthening the social protection system, promoting positive community and civil society action and enhancing productivity and innovation. In fiscal 2021, the Government determinedly undertook efforts to cushion the socio-economic effects of the economic downturn on citizens of Trinidad and Tobago in keeping with the National Social Mitigation Plan (2017–2022) (NSMP). The MSDFS moved with alacrity to actionize two (2) key projects out of nineteen (19) strategic projects identified for immediate execution. Currently, the MSDFS is on the cusp of rolling out some of these major projects including: The Establishment of a Social Services and Empowerment Unit (SSEU) to be piloted at two (2) Regional offices. This 'One- Stop -Shop' approach for all social sector services, will also incorporate the Social Transformation and Empowerment Program-Uplifting People (STEP-UP) developmental model, for social programmes together with the implementation of the Integrated Social Enterprise System (ISEMS) for improved social services delivery. In addition to these initiatives, the MSDFS also commissioned a number of critical research studies; engaged a consultant for the assessment of Civil Society Organizations and undertook a literature review on the situational analysis of the socio-economic effects of the economic situation of the country.

In fiscal 2021, work continued apace on developing the National Poverty Reduction Strategy (NPRS), which involves the conduct of a Participatory Poverty Assessment (PPA). The PPA is considered a key component for developing the strategy and will constitute various stakeholders in the process. This is expected to generate a high volume of qualitative data to enhance the overall design of the strategy. The development and finalisation of the NPRS is expected to continue in fiscal 2022. The need to build technical capacity to understand and treat with root cause analysis of the issues of multidimensional and intersectionality of poverty is of critical import to the Social Sector. During fiscal 2021 international training was provided to key technical officers in *"Designing a Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)" 2021*. This online training underscored that, *"There is now a global recognition of the importance of having a comprehensive measure of multidimensional poverty that captures the multiple deprivations faced by the poor and provides information related to the intensity and composition of poverty"* (United Nations Development Programme & Oxford Poverty Human Development Initiative, March 2021). The development of a national MPI will assist not only in the identification of persons living in poverty, but also more importantly how they experience poverty.

Complementing the foregoing measures, preliminary steps were taken in fiscal 2021 toward the initiation of a National Register for Vulnerable Persons (NRVP) which is expected to serve as a mechanism to target and respond timely to the poor and vulnerable. The NVRP is also viewed as an essential element in



the overall strategy to address poverty and vulnerability in Trinidad and Tobago and is a specific deliverable identified in the nation's Roadmap to Recovery (2020). To date, a preliminary proposal for the introduction of the NVRP has been developed and work is expected to commence in earnest in fiscal 2022.

In fiscal 2021, interventions for street dwelling were again reviewed as the MSDFS at the Ministerial level engaged in a number of high-level stakeholder consultations with the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS), Tobago House of Assembly (THA), academia, representatives from the business community and other key counterparts to determine and strategize the way forward, on the burgeoning issue of street dwelling and social displacement. The MSDFS also commenced the review of existing legislation on the Socially Displaced Act, 2000 (No. 59 of 2000) and took steps to review and amend the existing policy, which was forwarded to the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs (MAGLA) for consideration.

In January, 2021 an Inter-Ministerial Transitional Housing Working Committee (THWC) was established to collaborate and coordinate efforts for social housing and care facilities for vulnerable groups. In an effort to address the accommodation issues facing the vulnerable, the MSDFS gained possession of several properties to establish transitional and emergency housing facilities for those in need. Refurbishment works have already commenced to facilitate the operationalization of these facilities by fiscal 2022, including Carapo House and Hernandez Place.

Correspondingly, the Housing Development Co-operation (HDC) in fiscal 2021 has drafted the "HDC's Vulnerable Housing Policy" to assist in the provision of housing accommodation to persons who are considered vulnerable members of society. The Policy is developed within the context of the sectoral policies, plans and implementation interventions in support of national goals and targets articulated in the National Strategic Plan of the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (GORTT). It also includes non-discriminatory and equitable access to government-provided social security and economic support programmes, for people living with HIV and other key vulnerable populations.

Goal 2: The Healthcare System will be efficient and provide quality services

In fiscal 2021 the GORTT under the aegis of the Ministry of Health (MOH) remained resolute in its work to provide quality healthcare and services to the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. The MOH by using a "patient-centered approach" has focused on meeting the needs of the entire population and providing equal access to healthcare. Some of the main achievements of the MOH for fiscal 2021 included, introducing a new World Health Organization (WHO) approved treatment for persons exposed to

Hansen's disease and introducing a National Vaccination Program to fight the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in Trinidad and Tobago among others.

Goal 3: Citizens will lead healthy lifestyles

In fiscal 2021 the Ministry of Sport of Community Development (MSCD) pursued a number of initiatives including the *Healthy Lifestyles Through Sport*. Consequently, the *Pink Reign Campaign* was introduced 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. Moreover, as part of its *TT MOVE* campaign, the MOH has strategically collaborated with the Ministry of Education (MOE) and the MSCD for the rollout of the *Healthy Youth TT Initiative*. Correspondingly, refurbishments/upgrade works were undertaken on recreational grounds to encourage and facilitate citizen's participation in sport, recreational and physical activity. Altogether, thirteen (13) recreational grounds and stadia facilities were targeted for upgrades as at the close of fiscal 2021.

On September 22, 2021 the Ministry of National Security (MNS) launched the *Case Care Management (CCM) Pilot Project*. This project seeks to enhance the existing coordination and integration systems at the Probation Services Division and streamline interventions to non-violent offenders with substance use disorders in a more efficient manner. The CCM project aims to promote the reintegration and rehabilitation of drug offenders as opposed to incarceration and also seeks to enhance coordination among the justice, health, social and other services that could be accessed by this group of persons to assist with their recovery and structured re-integration into society.

Goal 4: The foundation of Trinidad and Tobago will be strong families and safe, sustainable communities

In fiscal 2021, the MSDFS continued the formulation of the National Family Policy of Trinidad and Tobago as well as the finalization of the National Parenting Policy (NPP) (Green Paper). The NPP is also inextricably linked to the proposed National Family Policy and advocates for the requisite and/or improved social support and services from the State, to enable parents and guardians to manage better their duties and responsibilities. The NPP will be submitted for approval as a White Paper by the end of the calendar year. In January 2021, the new Trinidad and Tobago National Youth Policy (2020-2025) was approved by the Government. This policy provides the Government and other key youth development stakeholders, with a guiding framework to influence positively and transform the youth development landscape, support the institutional strengthening and strategic repositioning of youth development agencies and support the mainstreaming of youth in development processes in Trinidad and Tobago.



Family empowerment was further augmented through the launch of online parenting programmes, in addition to the inclusion of the Grandparenting Programme. This programme is expected to provide support to grandparents raising their grandchildren in parent-absent homes. On the other hand, the MOE Student Support Services Division (SSSD) and the Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago delivered an array of psycho-social and behavioural services to students and parents with the overall objective of fostering environments that support healthy development. Additionally, the MSDFS continued its formulation of the National Ageing Policy and the Rights of the Child were also considered in the **National Child Policy (2020-2030) (NCP)**, which was laid as a White Paper in Parliament in November 2020 by the Office of the Prime Minister. The NCP is vital in providing long-term guidance and sets the framework to support suitable legislation, interventions and infrastructure that would further ensure the well-being of each children. In fiscal 2021 the MSDFS also engaged the NGO and Civil Society Organisations in a series of online information-sharing and discussion sessions aimed at ensuring that the public is aware of its role and more importantly its services to the vulnerable.

In fiscal 2021, the MSCD, in keeping with its National Policy on Sustainable Community Development (NPSCD) 2019-2024 successfully accomplished a number of initiatives including but not limited to:

Establishment of the institutional mechanisms for Policy implementation including:

- a. The National Committee on Sustainable Community Development (NCSCD)
- b. Four (4) Municipal Committees on Sustainable Community Development in the municipalities of Diego Martin, Chaguanas, San Fernando and Siparia
- c. Five (5) Community Committees on Sustainable Community Development (CSCDs) in Beausejour, Perseverance Village, Marabella and San Fernando
- d. The hosting of sensitisation/training sessions with the CSCDs

Concomitantly, the MSCD remained steadfast in promoting safe communities through the provision of community mediation services. Community Mediation promotes environments that encourage individuals to resolve disputes through the provision of Civil and Family mediation services, conducted by certified mediators. Such services reduce the incidences of family and community conflict and the subsequent escalation of violence in communities, while simultaneously equipping individuals with the skills and aptitudes necessary to enhance the individual, family and community's ability to manage conflicts positively. Correspondingly, the MSDFS in keeping with its mandate to protect the nation's most vulnerable has outlined its desire to create a Community First Responder System (CFRS) as part of its

plan to improve the services it offers. In fiscal 2021, preliminary research into international best practices was undertaken by the MSDFS and a brief outlining the information garnered was subsequently completed. It is anticipated that additional steps will be taken in fiscal 2022 to roll out this initiative.

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

In fiscal 2021 the Ministry of Education (MOE) hosted a National Virtual Consultation on Education, themed: “*Transforming Education*” to stimulate public discussion on emerging issues in education. During the period November 2020 to December 2020, key stakeholders in the education system, came together to discuss specific issues related to the conduct of the Secondary Entrance Examination (SEA), the transition to secondary school, the Concordat, curricular reform, blended learning, the role of parents/guardians in education, the role of the Teaching Service Commission and teacher training and development. This national consultative process is extremely important in policy-making as it allows for an evidence-based mechanism to be built to ensure transparency in the process and give stakeholders ownership of the eventual outcome.

Commensurate with this strategy, the MOE in keeping with its thrust for the development of 21st century competencies in online teaching and learning, pursued training initiatives to integrate teacher education, teacher performance and continuous professional development. This training is expected to equip teachers with the knowledge, attitudes, behaviours, and skills they require to perform their tasks effectively in the classroom, school, and wider community. Moreover, in fiscal 2021 the National Training Agency (NTA), which is the regulatory body for Technical and vocational education and training (TVET), undertook the following key projects with a view to ensure that the human capital of the country is effectively developed in specific areas of technical and vocational skills:

- Provision of Demand-Driven Labour Market Information and Occupational Standards to support TVET.
- Implementation of the Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) and Tobago National Vocational Qualification (TTNVQ) and the Development of a National Qualifications Framework.
- Other institutions involved in the advancement and promotion of TVET include MIC Institute of Technology Limited (MIC-IT) and the National Energy Skills Centre (NESC).



THEME II: GOOD GOVERNANCE AND SERVICE EXCELLENCE

Goal 1: Public institutions will be high performing professional entities meeting the needs of all

The GORTT's thrust towards the digitization of the public service to improve its engagement with citizens and deliver better public services, remained on target in fiscal 2021. In February 2021, a Cabinet-appointed Digital Transformation Advisory Committee was established with the mandate to "Provide an external review of GORTT's proposed ICT investments and provide feedback on the impact of active investments on the quality of life and standard of living of citizens." On July 12, 2021 'Digital Transformation' was delinked from the Ministry of Public Administration and has since been formally established as the Ministry of Digital Transformation (MDT) to execute the Government's digital agenda as part of the new paradigm to ensure that transformation is citizen-centric.

Correspondingly, on March 29, 2021 the Automated Senior Citizens' Pension (ASCP) process was launched by the MSDFS in collaboration with iGovTT, as part of the Ministry's agenda for digital transformation. This new service allows senior citizens to apply for their Senior Citizens' Pension via an online platform, thereby reducing the need for this vulnerable population to visit Local Boards.

In fiscal 2021, the drive for greater efficiency continued pertaining to the Public Sector Performance Management System (PSPMS), previously known as the Ministerial Performance Management Framework (MPMF). The PSPMS was launched on December 16, 2020 and is managed by the Ministry of Public Administration. The programme aims to improve the overall effectiveness of the State by establishing a sustainable mechanism for results-based management and service delivery, to aid in achieving the goals articulated in the Vision 2030. In tandem, the Housing Development Corporation (HDC) in fiscal 2021 also introduced its enhanced Customer Centre. This centre is operational between 8 a.m.- 4.p.m and has the capacity to respond to critical matters after hours and on weekends, which has resulted in the HDC recording improvements in its communication with clients, and its ease of doing business. The Corporation also plans to introduce a *ManageEngine* software to improve the response time for addressing queries and concerns.

Additionally, in March 2021, the Municipal Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) was established as a central command for logistics, planning and operations during disasters, with the capacity to capture data in real time from all Municipal Corporations. It is expected that disaster preparedness and response will be more enhanced.

Goal 2: Citizens will have confidence in the justice system

In December 2020 the Senate of Trinidad and Tobago passed the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property (Amendment) Bill 2020. This was followed by the laying in Parliament of the Procurement Regulations on July 2, 2021. This key legislation is a strategic mechanism to improve the efficiency of public institutions, and it is expected that the amendment and enactment of this new legislation and regulatory framework will be beneficial to all Ministries and Departments as it seeks to foster greater transparency in public procurement.

In fiscal 2021, a number of pieces of legislation constituted the legislative agenda for several Ministries, which included but were not limited to the following:

- **Ministry of Social Development and Family Services:**
 - Amendments to Senior Citizens' Pension Act, Chapter 32:02
 - Amendments to Public Assistance Act, Chapter 32:03
 - Amendments to Socially Displaced Persons Act, Act No. 59 of 2000
- **Ministry of Labour**
 - Submitted the Draft Policy Position Paper on the Industrial Relations Act to Cabinet in May 2021
 - Finalisation of the Draft Cipriani College of Labour and Co-operative Studies Bill 2021
 - Amendments to Occupational Safety and Health Act, Chap. 88:08
- **Office of the Attorney General**
 - The Miscellaneous Provisions (Administration of Justice) Bill, 2020 - to amend the Supreme Court of Judicature Act, Chap. 4:01, the Summary Courts Act, Chap. 4:20, the Coroners Act, Chap. 6:04 and the Sexual Offences Act, Chap. 11:28 to provide for the procedural matters of the Courts and for matters related thereto.
 - The Evidence (Amendment) Bill, 2020 - to amend the Evidence Act, Chap. 7:02.
 - The Anti-Gang Bill, 2021.

Goal 3: An efficient and effective law enforcement system

In fiscal 2021, the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) boosted its fight against crime with the establishment of three (3) new strategic and operational Units, which included the Legal Research and Policy Unit, and the Coastal and Riverine Patrol Unit (CRPU). The CRPU is envisaged to supplement other measures undertaken by the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard in the fight against the illegal entry of drugs, ammunition, and persons entering the country. Additionally, the Ministry of National Security



(MNS) set up an Electronic Monitoring Unit (EMU) which provides for 24/7 real-time tracking and response to any breaches by the wearer of an Electronic Monitoring System (EMS). The EMS is intended to contribute to the overhaul of the penal system in TT as a more effective offender management system. Consequently, the MNS in an attempt to protect the survivors of gender-based violence procured 250 electronic monitoring devices to administer to offenders.

Furthermore, on March 3, 2021, the TTPS launched its state-of-the-art crime scene stimulation facility at the Police Academy, which is designed to reflect typical environments where crimes tend to occur such as a home, bank, classroom, or a bar etcetera. It is anticipated that this facility will enhance the training received by police recruits in the use of modern technology and techniques to process crime scenes thereby ultimately improving the detection rate.

Finally, the MNS has also computerized its Head Office, the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment and the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force with a view to upgrade its information security management. This is necessary to ensure secure and efficient information sharing platform across all MNS Divisions, as well as the development of ICT security framework and implementation of disaster recovery solution among other things.

SPECIAL FEATURE: TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO'S SOCIAL SECTOR RESPONSE TO THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

This section presents a rapid look at the data for the COVID-19 pandemic one year later, given that the virus has spread to every continent affecting and changing the lives of billions across the globe. It also highlights, from a sociological perspective the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the education system, and gender-based violence as well as the cost of the GORTT's social relief initiatives, which as at May 2021, would have entered into its Second Phase of COVID-19 social support measures. These measures included an Small and Medium Enterprise Stimulus Loan Facility, Salary Relief Grant (SRG) offered by the MOF, and the Income Support Grant (ISG) offered by the MSDFS, which were extended to citizens during this second period of lockdown at a budgetary allocated sum of \$440 million dollars.

In tandem, an analysis of the COVID-19 pandemic ISG by sector and sex has indicated that out of the 6,713 applications received by the MSDFS, 52% or (3,486) were male applicants and 48% or (3,227) were females. Additionally, the majority of persons (43%) were between the ages of 31–45 years followed by 27% of applicants falling within the 18–30 age group

Special mention is also made on Phase II of the GORTT's Roadmap to Recovery initiatives, which focus on medium/long term development aimed at restructuring and transforming the economy, and creating a more resilient, equitable, and self-sufficient society. The Committee in its Phase II Report articulated the need for a new economy and society by:

- Embarking on new areas of activity;
- Adopting new ways of doing things; and
- Bringing an end to some things which we are currently doing.

It is envisioned that the successful attainment of these objectives will facilitate the reigniting of economic activity whilst ensuring social stability for all citizens.

CHAPTER TWO: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR, AND THE REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES FOR FISCAL 2021

Reviews of the budgetary allocations made by GORTT towards Social Sector development, highlight the performance of selected economic indicators during the reporting period and identifies, *inter alia*, policies developed, and research undertaken. It further examines the initiatives undertaken by the key social sector Ministries for fiscal 2021 and puts the spotlight on social issues relating to community development, education and training, health, gender and child affairs, housing and labour. The major achievements within the social sector are also presented as a feature of the chapter.

The national expenditure for fiscal 2021 was **TT\$49.573 billion** which represented a decline from **TT\$53.036 billion** for fiscal 2020. According to the National Budget Statement 2021, Social Sector allocations focused on three (3) main areas: Health and Health Care, Education and Social Services. Albeit the decreases in allocations compared to fiscal 2020 the Ministries of Health, Education, and Social Development and Family Services received the largest budgetary rates of allocation of **30%**, **28%** and **27%** respectively. This is a direct reflection of Government's continuous commitment to building human capital through its investment in education and training, public healthcare services and its efforts to eradicate social ills such as poverty, inequality and social exclusion. The combined budgeted allocations decreased from **TT\$19.4 billion** in fiscal 2020 to **TT\$18.5 billion** in 2021.

A review of more than 140 social programmes implemented across 15 Ministries and Agencies, and the Tobago House of Assembly in fiscal 2021 indicated a slight decrease in the number of programmes being implemented due to the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, whereas several of the nation's



social programmes were maintained though with some adjustments in their operations. These new operations notwithstanding the nation's adherence to the Public Health physical distancing measures, have reflected that the programmes implemented continued to benefit a significant number of the population of vulnerable persons. Some of the new programmes and projects which were developed and research undertaken by ministries and agencies were as follows:

- Grow-it-Yourself (MSCD)
- Entrepreneurial Development Packages (MYDNS)
- Fashion TT online training (MYDNS)

The policy development and research initiatives are as follows:

- National Drug Policy and Operational Plan (2021-2025)
- Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) Planning Ahead for Local Government Reform (MRDLG)
- National Tourism Policy (MTCA)
- SWIMCOL's Strategic Plan 2021-2025 Pathway to Sustainability (SWIMCOL)
- National Consumption Survey (NADAPP)
- Evaluation of the Be Trinity Smart Programme for Preschools and Primary Schools in Trinidad and Tobago (NADAPP)

CHAPTER THREE: THE SOCIAL SECTOR PLANS FOR FISCAL 2022 ARE OUTLINED IN THIS CHAPTER

This chapter identifies the planned initiatives of the Ministries in the Social Sector, and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly, for implementation in fiscal 2022. Such initiatives are to be viewed within the context of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the NSMP (2017-2022 and other plans and frameworks in keeping with the National Development Strategy (Vision 2030) and Phase II of the "Roadmap for Trinidad and Tobago Post COVID-19 pandemic" report.

To this end, the upcoming fiscal 2022 will see the Government's ongoing impetus to maintain high levels of investment in the social sector in order to alleviate the negative impact of the pandemic and sustain the gains made over the years.

Some key initiatives to be implemented in fiscal **2021/2022** are outlined in the following table:

	AREA OF FOCUS	SECTOR PLANS FOR FISCAL 2022
1	Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Service to Farmers and the General Public: ▪ Training to equip entrepreneurs with the requisite skills, knowledge and capacity to operate small to medium ornamental horticulture-based business enterprises. ▪ 4H/ Young Farmers Clubs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establishment of School Gardens ○ Hosting of 'Good Agricultural Practices' Quiz ○ Experiential Learning Art & Craft projects focusing on agriculture ○ Agricultural training of Voluntary Leaders, etcetera.
2	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improvement of Online Education in Trinidad and Tobago: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop e-books for mathematics and English at both primary and secondary levels as well as secondary level Spanish; ○ Develop and deliver 500 toolkits; ○ Conduct train-the-trainer workshops for primary and secondary school educator ▪ In-Service Professional Development - Special Needs-Blind/Visual Impairment Awareness Training. ▪ Literacy and Numeracy Plans 2020-2025 to facilitate the establishment of an environment and supportive structures to enable the school community to provide more effective support to students' acquisition of core literacy and numeracy skills. ▪ Relaunch of the School and Learning Management System – Assessment and Implementation
3	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Operationalization of the Couva Medical and Multi-Training Facility and the San Fernando General Hospital. ▪ Medical Equipment Upgrade Programme: <p>Procurement and upgrade of medical equipment at the various Regional Health Authorities.</p> ▪ Health Information System for the Arima and Point Fortin Hospitals with the functionalities of registration, scheduling, ward and bed management, pharmacy, lab information system and integration with existing PACS
4	Housing and Urban Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ East Port of Spain Development Company Limited (EPOS): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Upgrade to Heritage and Cultural Facilities ○ Improvement to Sports, Recreation and Community Facilities ○ Community Enhancement and Emergency Relief Projects ○ Latrine Eradication Programme ▪ Land Settlement Agency (LSA): <p>Increase in Subsidy – Housing and Village Improvement Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regularisation of Squatter Communities ○ Starter Home Construction Programme ▪ Social and Economic Programme for East Port of Spain:

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	AREA OF FOCUS	SECTOR PLANS FOR FISCAL 2022
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community Engagement and Marketing ○ Community Festivals ○ Education to Production: ○ Youth Entrepreneurial Programme ○ Construction Skills Training
5	Labour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Digital Transformation Plan of the Ministry of Labour to improve accessibility to the Ministry's services through online and mobile platforms and digitalize internal processes and systems to meet critical requirements and significantly improve the Ministry's operation. ▪ Operationalisation of the National Tripartite Advisory Council (NTAC) to promote and encourage tripartite dialogue as an essential and integral part of all aspects of national social and economic development
6	National Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improvement Works to Prison Buildings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Construction of a Girl's Rehabilitation Centre on the compound of the Youth Transformational and Rehabilitation Centre (YTRC) (formerly known as the Youth Training Centre). ○ Upgrade and improvement of the dormitories at the Youth Transformational and Rehabilitation Centre. ○ Re-purposing of Nursery at the Women's Prison to accommodate a Youth Training Rehabilitation Centre for Females (YTRCF). This is a transitional measure pending the completion of the main facility on the YTRC compound. ▪ Disaster Management Policy
7	Office of the Prime Minister- Gender and Child Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CHILD AFFAIRS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Establishment of a National Child Policy (NCP) Cross-Sectorial Committee to monitor the NCP and its Implementation Plan. In fiscal 2022. ● Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (CATT): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Establishment of a Consolidated Child Support Centre to allow the Authority to provide more appropriate and targeted care to children at a facility designed specifically to ensure their safety and the safety of staff. ○ Outbound Call Centre-a significant resource for persons requesting information on family support services, as well as the primary point of contact for the general public to log reports. ○ Establishment of a Reception Centre in Tobago for Children in Need of Supervision (CHINS), Children with Behavioural Challenges and Children with Poor Mental Health: This project will seek to improve service delivery to children and by extension their families in Tobago and ensure adequate care and attention is received. ▪ GENDER AFFAIRS DIVISION:

	AREA OF FOCUS	SECTOR PLANS FOR FISCAL 2022
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Refurbishment of two (2) Safe Houses to be used as safe houses for parents and their children who survived domestic violence and are in need of temporary, alternative accommodation. ○ The Spotlight Programme- - a Model will be designed to build service delivery and change behaviours on family violence at the level of communities nationally. <p>▪ NATIONAL AIDS COORDINATING COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT: Finalisation, Launch and Dissemination of the National HIV and AIDS Policy</p>
8	Public Utilities	<p>Utilities Assistance Programme (UAP):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provision of Utility Bill Assistance re: water and electricity subsidies ○ Provision of Solar Panel Assistance ○ Provision of Water Tanks <p>▪ Residential Electrification Assistance Programme (REAP)- Assistance to households for electrical wiring/rewiring and relevant electrical pole installation.</p> <p>▪ Electrification Programme (EP)- Provision of assistance for the installation of electrical infrastructure (Transformers, Low Voltage lines).</p> <p>▪ Implementation of MPU's Customer Service Charter, Service Standards and Internal Customer Service Improvement Plan (2021-2023).</p> <p>▪ Community Water Improvement Plan (CWIP)</p> <p>▪ Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago:</p> <p>▪ Expansion of the Mobile FDD 4G LTE Network</p> <p>▪ Zero-Rated Data Access to TTPS App</p> <p>▪ Water Resources Agency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New Water Sources- Thirteen (13) new wells will be drilled in Trinidad <p>▪ Regulated Industries Commission (RIC):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conduct price reviews for the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission and the Water and Sewerage Authority
9	Rural Development and Local Government	<p>▪ Disaster Management:</p> <p>Provision of ten (10) customized, 40 ft containers to store disaster relief equipment and supplies. Each container will store approximately \$200,000 worth of equipment including cots, generators, pumps, and jackhammers</p>

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	AREA OF FOCUS	SECTOR PLANS FOR FISCAL 2022
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Latrine Eradication Programme: Phase I of the programme will continue in four (4) Corporations- (Port of Spain City Corporation, San Juan/Laventille Regional Corporation, Sangre Grande Regional Corporation and Mayaro/Rio Claro Regional Corporation). Approximately, 40 additional units will be constructed.
10	Social Development and Family Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implementation of Consultancy -National Social Mitigation Plan (NSMP) Phase II: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Implementation of a Nationwide Public Education Campaign on Financial Security ○ Collaboration with the Ministry of Labour (MOL) to strengthen the A2O Programme ○ Development of a nationwide campaign on strategies to ensure personal food security ○ The establishment of two (2) pilot projects for Community Health and Wellness Centres ▪ Improvement in Service Delivery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community First Responder System: ○ Citizens Engagement and Outreach Unit ○ Establishment of MSDFS Call Centre ▪ Establishment of Assessment Centre and Transitional Facilities <p>▪ Curbing Offender Recidivism through Entrepreneurship (CORE)- collaboration between the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services and the Ministry of Education.</p>
11	Sport and Community Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community Mediation Services ▪ Adoption of a Distance Learning Model ▪ Community Education Programme – Skills Training and Handicraft Development ▪ Sport Programmes ▪ Pink Reign Campaign ▪ SHAPE in Communities Programme: This programme will target the development of sport in communities for the purpose of establishing a strong platform for its development locally. ▪ National Athlete Development Programme ▪ April Pools Learn to Swim Project
12	Tourism, Culture and the Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tourism and Health Programme (THP) ▪ Cultural Initiatives

	AREA OF FOCUS	SECTOR PLANS FOR FISCAL 2022
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishment of Fellowship between UTT and the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts ▪ Development of Apprenticeship Programmes - National Performing Ensembles ▪ National Inventorying Exercise ▪ 60th Anniversary J.A.V.A. Spectacular ▪ 60th Anniversary of Independence
13	Youth Development and National Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Youth Agricultural Homestead Programme ▪ Moruga Farm School Project ▪ National Service Programmes ▪ MY-Suite Success Programme (MYSSP): Designed to contribute to meeting the needs of youth in a transformed global job market

The document also contains four (4) Appendices as follows:

- Appendix I: Conceptual Framework for National Resilience
- Appendix II: Key Social Programmes and Structural/Institutional Initiatives funded by the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP).
- Appendix III: Expenditure and Allocations for Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscals 2021 and 2022 and Actual Expenditure for Fiscal 2020 under Recurrent Expenditure by Ministry.
- Appendix IV: A List of Non-Governmental Organisations receiving Government Subventions for Fiscals 2020 and 2021

INTRODUCTION



INTRODUCTION

The Social Sector Investment Programme (SSIP) aims to meet the social protection needs of the population. It 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 the overarching National Development Strategy 2016-2030; *Vision 2030*. The outlay of approximately TT\$32.4 billion dollars between 2015 and 2019, with an additional expectation of some TT\$ 7.1 billion in 2021, suggests an immense commitment to social protection.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic continues to be the main issue affecting the social protection system in both in Trinidad and Tobago and globally. This has resulted in the increasing number of more than 230 million cases and over 4.7 million deaths recorded worldwide (World Health Organization, 2021). As at September 27th 2021, Trinidad and Tobago was had 50,055 confirmed cases and 1,464 deaths respectively (Ministry of Health, September 27th 2021).

The country's macroeconomic climate suffered substantial contraction due to the prolonged pandemic. As a consequence, the social sector experienced significant challenges and changes due to measures implemented to reduce spread of the virus, such as unemployment and service delivery. According to the Annual Economic Survey of 2020, conducted by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, data on retrenchment notices filed at the Ministry of Labour amounted to 2,744 for the year 2020.

The Survey also indicated that the Energy Commodity Price Index (ECPI) fell to an average of 61.4 in 2020, representing an overall decline of 26.2 %. Natural gas prices declined last year on account of the following:

- Increased shale gas supply
- Downturn in demand due to the pandemic

Furthermore, the gross public sector debt outstanding as at September 2020 amounted to \$133.4 billion, compared to \$131.0 billion recorded at the end of September 2019 (Daily Express, May 5th 2021). The impact of the ECPI on an energy-dependent economy like Trinidad and Tobago is significant.

In addition to the medical and socio-economic implications of COVID-19, the moral issue of vaccine equity (or vaccine apartheid), particularly for small island developing states (SIDS), emerged as a challenge of our



time. In relation to this, World Health Organization Chief, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, stated that “*the unequal distribution of vaccines is not only a moral outrage, but economically and epidemiologically self-defeating*” (United Nations : UN News - Global Perspective Human Stories, April 16th 2021).

As at September 27th 2021, 479 905 persons were fully vaccinated for the virus (Ministry of Health, September 27th 2021) and more than one millions doses of various vaccines had been administered to the public (Perez-Sobers, 2021). Government’s procurement cost to vaccinate the population was estimated between \$120 million and \$130 million dollars (Daily Express, 2021). As at June 2021, the cost of the social sector’s fight against the pandemic since its onset in March 2020, amounted to \$341.1 million and COVID - 19 relief thus far is \$5 billion dollars and counting (Daily Express, 2021).

Amidst this socio-economic setting, Trinidad and Tobago entered the medium term of its National Development Strategy (NDS) (2016-2030), also referred to as Vision 2030. For this phase, more than 16 goals over the medium-term (2016-2025) were identified and aligned to the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These goals are built upon the three (3) pillars of sustainable development which are the economic, social and environmental spheres (Ministry of Planning & Development, Socio-Economic Policy Planning Division, 2015). This phase is also linked to the following five (5) Thematic Areas:

- **Theme I:** **Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset**
- **Theme II:** **Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence**
- **Theme III:** Improving Productivity through Quality Infrastructure and Transportation
- **Theme IV:** Building Globally Competitive Businesses
- **Theme V:** Placing the Environment at the Centre of Social and Economic Development

Themes I and II are germane to the Social Sector and include the following goals:

<p>Theme I: “Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset”</p>	<p>Persons living in absolute poverty will be reduced</p> <p>The Healthcare System will be efficient and provide quality services</p> <p>Citizens will lead healthy lifestyles</p>
	<p>The foundation of Trinidad and Tobago will be strong families and safe, sustainable communities</p>

	Trinidad and Tobago will have a seamless, reformed high quality education and training system.
Theme II – “Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence”	Public institutions will be high performing professional entities, meeting the needs of all Citizens will have confidence in the justice system An efficient and effective law enforcement system

Source: *Vision 2030*: Ministry of Planning & Development, Socio-Economic Policy Planning Division, 2015

Resilience of the Social Sector

Resilience in the social sector is critical in an era of the COVID-19 pandemic and economic vulnerability. According to a 2020 article reported in the World Economic Forum (WEF), resilience is defined as “*society’s ability to withstand and recover from economic, social and climate shocks when they occur*” (World Economic Forum, 2021). On the other hand, economic vulnerability is defined as “the exposure of an economy to exogenous shocks, arising out of economic openness” (Cordina, et al., 2009). The local social sector’s capacity to remain resilient was evident during the virtual participation at the Ministerial level at various international fora during the current fiscal year.

At the XII Ministerial Forum for Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Fourth Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the theme covered was, “*COVID-19-Beyond Recovery. Towards a new social contract for LAC.*” This forum addressed social protection and fiscal systems for more inclusive and resilient societies. It was also inclusive of digital transformation as a mechanism for productivity, inclusion and resilience, social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and effective governance beyond recovery.

The Commission for Social Development (CSocD) 59th Session held in February 2021 also identified a similar priority theme, that is; ‘*Socially Just Transition Towards Sustainable Development: The Role of Digital Technologies on Social Development and Well-Being of All*’ (United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, 2021). *In relation to the achievement of Vision 2030*, the emerging issue based on the current social landscape was ‘*Social policy to promote a more inclusive, resilient and sustainable recovery: building back better post-COVID-19.*’ Regionally, CARICOM’s Council for Trade and Economic Development



(COTED) indicated that prior to the pandemic, steps were being taken to finalise a Regional Strategic Implementation Plan for the Services Sector. This was based on the Community Resilience Model and is expected to be refined further to include a strategy for pandemics, particularly COVID-19.

From a philosophical perspective, *“the threat of COVID-19 presents Trinidad and Tobago with the opportunity to reconsider the manner in which we do business, to find innovative solutions and to embrace our resilience to overcome it”* (Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development, 2020). The social sector remains poised on the trajectory of implementing the National Social Mitigation Plan (NSMP) 2017-2022. Phase I of this Plan involves the implementation of nineteen (19) projects, which are expected to revolutionise the delivery and efficiency of social services, across the social sector.

Concurrently, the social sector, as the focal point in the Government’s agenda to build resilience among the nation’s vulnerable, is cognizant of food security as a fundamental issue for reducing poverty. According to the latest Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) estimates, 805 million people are affected by hunger in the world (2012-2014). In LAC, hunger affects 37 million people (6.1% of the population), which is a significant increase from the 68.5 million (15.3%) from the period 1990 – 1992.

On the global scale, the World Bank (2020) highlights that many people who had barely escaped extreme poverty could be forced back into it by the convergence of COVID-19 in addition to conflict and climate change. It is projected that an additional 88 million to 115 million people will be pushed into extreme poverty, bringing the total to between 703 and 729 million (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2021). The social sector also recognises the overlap between vulnerability, poverty and food insecurity. Food insecurity tends to exacerbate vulnerability and conversely, vulnerable populations are more prone to becoming food insecure. Consequently, the Sector has devised the necessary resilience frameworks to meet head-on with these fundamental issues.

Social Sector and the Complex Issue of Poverty

Fundamental to building resilience is the social sector’s persistent need to understand and treat with the complex issue of poverty. Traditionally, poverty has always been measured by comparing an individual’s/region’s/country’s income against an established poverty threshold. However, recent poverty studies have underscored the need to expand this methodology. As poverty is essentially a multi-dimensional

concept, purchase behaviour is just one aspect of the defining characteristics of poverty. Other dimensions of poverty that were not included in traditional poverty assessments such as food insecurity, unemployment, inadequate housing, poor sanitation, lack of healthcare and limited access to education are now being included.

At the 2021 joint United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and Oxford University's - Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), online course; *Designing a Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)*, it was articulated, "*there is now a global recognition of the importance of having a comprehensive measure of multidimensional poverty that captures the multiple deprivations faced by the poor and provides information related to the intensity and composition of poverty*" (United Nations Development Programme & Oxford Poverty Human Development Initiative, March 2021).

These new changing aspects in understanding and measuring poverty are instructive, as the social sector prepares to undertake a Participatory Poverty Assessment (PPA) in fiscal 2022. This iterative, qualitative, participatory research process will assist in understanding poverty from the perspective of a range of stakeholders and is expected to inform the National Poverty Reduction Strategy (NPRS). It will address the issues surrounding intersectionality (the multiple social categories, the dynamics of power within social categories and its link to personal identity and instructional practices and structural systems) vulnerability and resilience.

Response of the Social Security System

The issue of social protection is of paramount importance to the social sector as it undergirds the foundation for social and human development, as well as the maintenance of social stability. Trinidad and Tobago has been described as a model in social insurance for other countries in the LAC region. This is because the National Insurance Board of Trinidad and Tobago provides protection for over 50% (634,381) of the population, with 23 benefits in seven categories (United Nations Trinidad and Tobago, 2020). However, it has been reported that there are various factors that threaten the sustainability of the social protection system.

The Development Bank of Latin America's Report on the Economy and Development (RED) 2020, titled, "*Pensions and Healthcare Systems in Latin America: Challenges posed by Aging, Technological*



Change and Informality”, identified several challenges faced by social protection. These included the risk of reserve exhaustion, low level of financial literacy, low fertility, net migration and the growing ageing population due to low mortality rate (Development Bank of Latin America, 2020). By the year 2025, 17.7 % of Trinidad and Tobago’s population is expected to consist of persons 60 years and older (Rouse, 2017). These critical issues together with the tools for building quality and financially sustainable social protection services for the elderly, are being noted by the social sector, which is in the process of revising the National Policy on Ageing for Trinidad and Tobago.

Some Developments in the Social Sector in Fiscal 2021

Despite the significant challenges that threatened the Sector in fiscal 2021, deliberate measures were undertaken to improve the level of responsiveness in alignment with effective social development and social protection. These included the implementation of measures to mitigate the negative effects of the pandemic on the vulnerable in society and the roll-out of initiatives for vulnerable clients to promote resilience among families. Such measures were the Grandparenting Programme, the Community First Responder System and the establishment of a Citizens Engagement Outreach Unit.

Additionally, the MSDFS strengthened its human resource capacity by participating in international training in the development of multidimensional poverty indices to gain a more comprehensive perspective on the evolving dynamics of poverty measurement. In tandem, the sector advanced further to bridge the gap in social/transitional housing for vulnerable clients including but limited to street dwellers, wards of the state and victims of disasters. This was done by the establishment of the Inter-Ministerial Transitional Housing Working Committee in January, 2021. It is also noteworthy that steps have commenced to draft policy for the provision of housing for the vulnerable in society, by the Housing Development Corporation (The Trinidad and Tobago Housing Development Cooperation , July 2021).

Correspondingly, the Government’s digital transformation thrust continued apace with the development and introduction of technologies such as SMS text messaging to increase dissemination of information which in turn aided the timely delivery of social services. Other substantial strategies included the establishment of the Cabinet-appointed Digital Transformation Advisory Committee. Their mandate is to provide an external review of GORTT’s proposed ICT investments and provide feedback on the impact of active investment on the quality of life and standard of living of citizens.

From a policy outlook, the Trinidad and Tobago National Youth Policy 2020-2025 was approved by Cabinet in January, 2021, and the policy on Social Displacement was reviewed and amended for further legislative consideration. Additionally, a policy library and baseline research into the policy functions across GORTT was also developed to serve as a repository for all policies and policy-related documents thereby increasing access to information.

Social Sector in Fiscal 2022 and Beyond

The social sector is mindful of the various global strategies including the UN's global framework, which set out a strategy for urgent socio-economic responses based on five pillars as follows:

- *Protecting health services and systems*
- *Social protection and basic services*
- *Protecting jobs and small and medium-sized enterprises and the most vulnerable productive actors*
- *Macroeconomic response and multilateral collaboration*
- *Social cohesion and community resilience.*

This '*Framework for Immediate Socio-Economic Response to COVID-19*', already provides the basis for the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) to support GORTT in undertaking multi-dimensional, conflict-sensitive, and gender-responsive analysis and forecasting. These are expected to further enhance the quality of socio-economic recovery initiatives, catalyse targeted investments in resilience-building and livelihoods support, strengthen the food value chain and supply logistics and protect the most vulnerable groups on a higher scale than in the pre-COVID-19 Phase (United Nations Trinidad and Tobago , August 2020).

In 2022, the social sector will continue to play a pivotal role as outlined in the '*Government's Roadmap for Trinidad and Tobago Post Covid-19 Pandemic*', which identifies key strategic pillars; people-centred; nation building; prosperity and resilience. This will incorporate inter alia; funding to women and other organisations, addressing affordability and equity of digital access to every single segment of the population, re-engineering the delivery of social services and support for vulnerable persons to propel them to self-sufficiency. In support of these measures the MSDFS in collaboration with the National Information and Communication Technology Company Limited (iGovTT), will continue to work diligently on developing an online application system to effectively manage and streamline the current service delivery processes. This online solution is expected to improve accessibility and facilitate the business process to mitigate the challenges of clients applying for social grants, especially during crisis events.



Rebranding of the Social Sector

Ultimately, the social sector in looking towards the horizon and beyond, remains buoyed and adaptable in times of crisis and economic turbulence. As a result, steps are being taken to rebrand the sector as an entity. This will include, higher evidence based research outputs for improved overall efficiency, creation of strategic partnerships with academia to build organisational capacity for socio-economic policy formulation, future resource planning, evaluation, and decision making. The social sector should be in a better position to assess its performance through the requisite longitudinal studies for measuring the impact of strategic initiatives and programmes to allow for greater accountability and transparency to its key stakeholders.

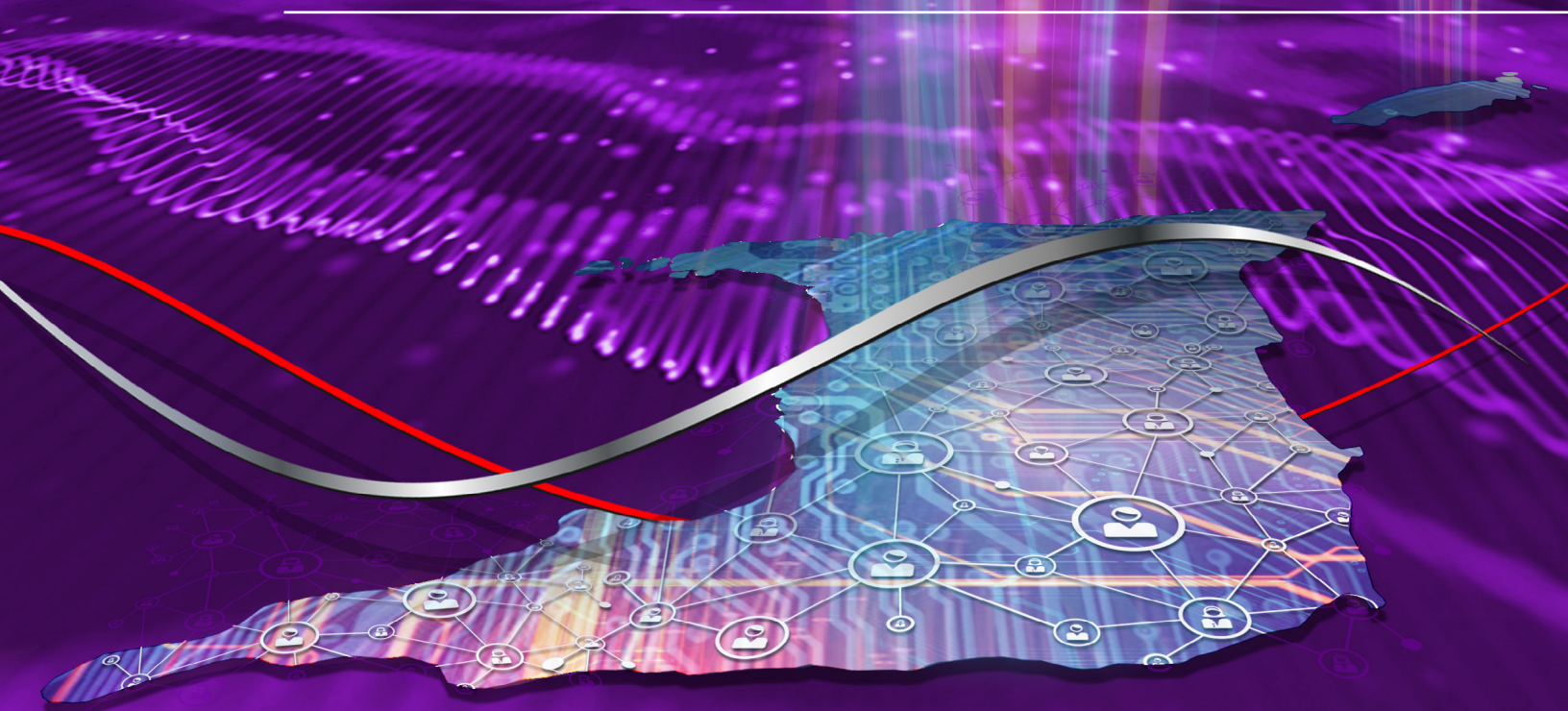
As a consequence of the foregoing objectives, rigorous efforts will also be effected by the social sector to identify and utilise appropriate technologies. These include artificial intelligence and business intelligence tools as well as robust and agile platforms to allow for digital literacy and the expansion of ICT architecture. This will also include mechanisms provided through e-government for the efficient delivery of services for social protection and poverty alleviation. It is therefore envisaged that these strategies, coupled with synergistic partnerships, can only augur well for the social sector's desired scale of social transformation. Such transformation is aimed at reducing and preventing poverty and vulnerability, while promoting self-sustainability and enhancing vulnerable citizens' capacity to manage economic and social risks, keeping in mind the tenet of '*leaving no one behind.*'

2022

SOCIAL SECTOR
INVESTMENT PROGRAMME



THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION



CHAPTER 1

CHAPTER 1: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

1.1 Introduction¹

This chapter presents an overview of the major initiatives and achievements within the social sector for fiscal 2021. It is set against the context of Government's continued efforts to stabilise, protect and stimulate the economy, as the country continues to mitigate the socio-economic impact of the ongoing pandemic, while implementing its strategic measures for national recovery. This socio-economic review of the sector is guided by Themes I and II of the *National Development Strategy of Trinidad and Tobago 2016–2030 (Vision 2030)*, as follows:

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

The thematic review is further analysed in keeping with national directives outlined under the Medium-Term Goals (2016-2025) as per Table 1 hereunder. These goals are aligned to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs) and are developed upon two of the three pillars of sustainable development, namely the economic and social spheres. Accordingly, the initiatives detailed in this Chapter are aimed at enhancing Trinidad and Tobago's social capital and human development profile from a multi-sectoral perspective. Detailed programme information will be provided in Chapter 2: *Overview of the Social Sector and Review of Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2021*.

Table 1.1: Vision 2030: Themes and Medium-Term Goals (2016-2025)

Section 1.2	Theme 1	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 2	Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence.
Section 2.2.1	Goal 1:	Public institutions will be high performing professional entities, meeting the needs of all.

¹ The main information sources for this chapter are the Budget Input documents from the relevant Ministries submitted to the Ministry of Finance.

RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

CHAPTER 1: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION



Section 2.2.2	Goal 2:	Citizens will have confidence in the justice system.
Section 2.2.3	Goal 3:	An efficient and effective law enforcement system.

In the last edition of the National Social Situation (Social Sector Investment Programme 2021) emphasis was placed on reporting achievements associated with the short-term goals, which spanned the period 2016 – 2020. In its first Voluntary National Review (July 2020), the GoRTT highlighted some key achievements towards fulfilling the UNSDGs as follows²:

Table 1. II: Snapshot of Achievements 2016-2020

Key Achievements in keeping with UNSDGs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protection of the Vulnerable ▪ Implemented the National Social Mitigation Plan 2017-2022 ▪ Commenced the development of an Integrated Social Enterprise Management System ▪ Conducted a 'Diagnostic Assessment and Service Improvement' Project for the Social Welfare Division ▪ Developed a National Policy on Persons with Disabilities (PWDs). ▪ Recommissioned the National Enrichment Centre for Persons with Disabilities for the provision of rehabilitation and therapeutic services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gender Equality ▪ Proclaimed the Marriage Act, 2017 which abolished child marriages, and the establishment of a National Workplace Policy on Sexual Harassment ▪ Established Gender Focal Points across all Government ministries to advance the consideration of gender-related issues. ▪ Launched the Pink Reign Programme to facilitate the development of women and girls, and to raise awareness about the opportunities and benefits associated with participation in sports and physical activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Education ▪ Modernised the education system through the introduction of a School Learning Management System and School-Based Management Standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Decent Work ▪ Fostered decent working conditions, strengthened labour oversight bodies, modernised labour legislation and further developed policies and initiatives toward the realisation of the Decent Work Agenda.
<p>Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Developed the Policy for Treating with Non-Nationals with respect to the Provision of Public Healthcare Services and outlines the services made available to migrants. ▪ Developed the National Strategic Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (2017-2021). ▪ Implemented several improvement measures to the Chronic Diseases Assistance Programme (CDAP) ▪ Established the Women's Health Directorate within the Ministry of Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Peace and Safety ▪ Provided greater protection by the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service by establishing the Gender-Based Violence Unit while the Judiciary established the Children Court System. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Civil Society Partnerships ▪ Commenced initiatives such as the CSOs for Good Governance Project, SDG Catalyst Network and the SDG Knowledge Platform

² Trinidad and Tobago's first Voluntary National Review was presented to the United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, July 2020. [26730VNR_2020_Trinidad_Report.pdf \(un.org\)](https://www.un.org/development/desa/dest/2020/07/2020-Trinidad-Report.pdf)

The GoRTT also highlighted the continued critical challenges associated with data, capacity and data sharing:

“Challenges of data collection and assessment, and the persistent shortage of statistical personnel and monitoring and evaluation specialists in the public sector, continue as areas for urgent attention. Capacity gaps have been identified in the national statistical system that prohibit the collection and timely dissemination of data; even disaggregation remains a challenge. When combined with the difficulties caused by sub-optimal collaboration and information-sharing within Government, and with the private sector and civil society, it becomes starkly evident that Trinidad and Tobago must continue working to remove such hindrances to the advancement of the 2030 Agenda. This will become even more relevant during the 2020–2030 Decade of Action to accelerate delivery of sustainable solutions for development.”

Accordingly, to ensure that hard-won development gains are not lost, the collaborative, whole-of-government, whole-of-society approach must be sustained for stronger socio-economic recovery. Additionally, addressing the above challenges continue to be prioritised within the sector. Moreover, this period of reporting provides a second edition to the special feature on the national response to the COVID-19 pandemic in fiscal 2021. It also provides a brief status update on the role of social sector Ministries on the Roadmap to Recovery initiatives, where available.

1.2 Theme 1: Putting People First: Nurturing our Greatest Asset

The first Theme of the National Development Strategy for Trinidad and Tobago focuses on the country's commitment to place people first in the development process and acknowledges the essential contribution of citizens to their own advancement. This Theme stresses the importance of providing basic services to empower the nation's “greatest asset”. It underscores the strategic importance of a healthy, industrious and enterprising society in the fight against poverty and social inequalities. In this regard, the policies, programmes and other initiatives advanced under this Theme highlight the invaluable role of empowered individuals in the country's progress. Some of the major achievements, which contributed to social sector advancements in fiscal 2021 are outlined in the undermentioned sections.

1.2.1 Goal 1: Persons Living in Absolute Poverty will be Reduced

Goal one of the seventeen (17) UNSDGs speaks to ‘Ending poverty in all its forms everywhere.’ According to the United Nations, the socio-economic crisis resulting from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic will hinder progress towards the achievement of this goal, unless immediate and substantial policy actions are implemented. The COVID-19 crisis has demonstrated the importance of social protection systems to the defense of people's health, jobs and income. Trinidad and Tobago's social protection system is very

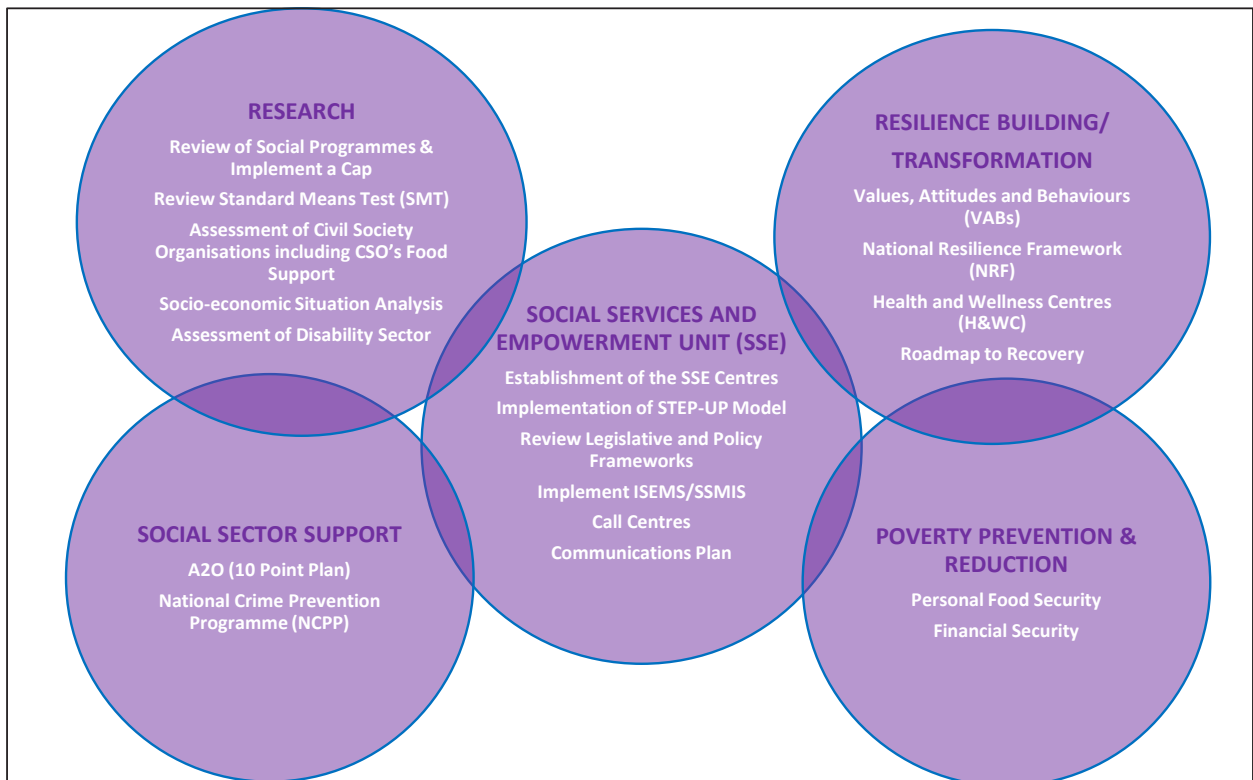


comprehensive and covers vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities (PWDs), older persons, the homeless, persons living with HIV/AIDS or chronic illnesses, women, children, the unemployed and the indigent. As the GoRTT moves towards enhancing social services delivery, the aim is to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of its operating systems to ensure that vulnerable persons are targeted and no one is left behind. Accordingly, the priorities related to poverty reduction are as follows:

A. Continued Implementation of the National Social Mitigation Plan (NSMP)

In fiscal 2021, the Government remained resolute in its efforts to cushion the socio-economic effects of the economic downturn on citizens of Trinidad and Tobago via the ongoing implementation of the National Social Mitigation Plan (2017–2022) (NSMP). This Cabinet-approved Mitigation Plan was conceptualised as the foundation for building resilience within vulnerable households and communities to cope with socio-economic shocks. Building on the foundational activities undertaken in the last fiscal, the MSDFS in 2021 placed focus on defining the projects that would provide varying forms of support and benefits to the vulnerable in the society. Phase I comprised nineteen (19) projects, which were outlined for immediate implementation and in the upcoming years based on priority. Figure 1 illustrates a conceptualisation of the project clusters.

Figure 1. I: Nineteen NSMP Phase 1 Projects Categorised into Clusters



At present, the primary clusters are the Social Services and Empowerment Unit (SSEU) and Research. However, the projects are integrative in nature, with synergised objectives. As such, several projects are being executed simultaneously for greater efficiency and effectiveness. Two (2) of the main projects are as follows:

i. Social Services and Empowerment Unit

a. Establishment of a Social Services and Empowerment Unit

The Social Services and Empowerment Unit (SSEU) will be the interface between the public and all Ministries that provide social services within the social sector. It will revolutionise the service delivery model to one which is integrated, multifaceted and responsive. The Unit is designed to be a 'One-Stop-Shop' that reflects the philosophy of a 'single-door approach' and thus embraces the rebranded image: "No door is a wrong door, every door is the right door". The Unit is expected to holistically address the complex needs of households and families that confront varying socio-economic challenges and hardships. In fiscal 2021, the MSDFS has achieved significant milestones in this project and is expected to operationalise two of its regional offices in Rio Claro and Tunapuna with this new operational design in October 2021. To enable these transformations, inter alia, the MSDFS has refurbished the office spaces, implemented a change management plan, upgraded the ICT infrastructure and software, as well as conducted staff sensitisation and training. It is anticipated that this redesign will greatly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery but more importantly enhance the overall customer experience.

b. Implementation of the Social Transformation and Empowerment Programme – Uplifting People (STEP-UP) Development Model for Social Programmes

Integral to the establishment of the SSEU is the introduction of the developmental model referred to as the Social Transformation and Empowerment Programme Uplifting People (STEP-UP). This model is essentially a programme of psychosocial support designed to operationalise the social protection framework with a defined case management plan from entry to exit to build resilience in clients. The programme is worked through eight (8) pillars to assist families to graduate from dependency to self-sufficiency and empowerment. In fiscal 2021, the Case Management Modules and Workbook were finalised and training was provided to staff through a STEP UP orientation, as well as counselling and case management principles. During the pilot programme, commencing in October 2021, the MSDFS will monitor and evaluate the programme implementation and make refinements that will redound to the benefits of clients.



Complementary to this strategic approach, the MSDFS' as the lead social sector Ministry also developed a proposed **Conceptual Framework for National Resilience (CFNR)**. As outlined in the NSMP, a National Resilience Framework would best set out a programme of activities for the GoRTT to lead in building and enhancing individual, family and community resilience. This framework will provide an integrated approach to building community capitals and empower communities for collective action in the areas of disaster risk reduction, conflict migration, social protection, natural resource management and the management of public goods. The Ministry envisages that this framework will act as a commonality that connects Vision 2030, the MSDFS' Strategic Plan 2018-2023, Roadmap Strategies and the NSMP 2017-2022. This new synergetic approach will facilitate the overall streamlining of social services for greater efficiency and effectiveness. An illustration of the proposed CFNR is depicted in **Appendix I**.

ii. Conduct of Critical Research Studies

To ensure a robust evidence-based foundation for several of the NSMP projects, as well as to assist the MSDFS in its transformation agenda of the social sector, the Ministry commissioned several critical research studies in fiscal 2021. The statuses of some of these studies are detailed below.

a. Assessment of Civil Society

The MSDFS recognizes the important role of civil society as the 'third sector' in human and social development. In July 2021, a Consultancy for the assessment of the sector was initiated with the Cropper Foundation, for a period of three (3) months. The overall objective of this assessment is to gain an increased understanding of the civil society sector in Trinidad and Tobago. Emphasis is placed on its composition, resilience and responsiveness of key priority sub-sectors to major shocks, while building the MSDFS' capacity to utilise digital tools and methodologies to access the sector for the provision of services. It is also intended to integrate the sector holistically in decision-making around national development. One of the key deliverables of the consultancy is to design an easy-to-use Microsoft-based database and visualisation interface for use by the MSDFS, compatible with the existing Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) infrastructure.

b. Situational Analysis of the Socio-Economic Effects of the Economic Downturn

In fiscal 2021, through the NSMP Phase I consultancy, the MSDFS undertook a literature review of the current social situation, which included an analysis of local literature on the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The analytical review concluded that the MSDFS must continue to lead the charge for social transformation, social security and development in such a way that the Ministry functions more efficiently, effectively and timely. However, in responding to and mitigating the challenges facing the citizenry, recommendations posited were as follows:

- Implement support measures through the MSDFS' National Family Services (NFS) to address gender-based violence given the drastic rise in domestic violence reports triggered by the COVID-19 crisis.
- Increase the number and quality of counselling services and parenting workshops available to clients of the NFS.
- Adopt a disability-inclusive response to COVID-19.
- Conduct capacity building programmes that will assist persons in poor households to develop skills to attain their goals.
- Strengthen the capabilities of policy and research divisions in collecting and processing data, as well as generating and analysing statistical indicators.

In this regard, the MSDFS has finalised a Draft Action Plan to address the gaps/shortcomings identified.

c. Assessment of the Disability Sector

In fiscal 2021, the MSDFS continued to provide technical support to facilitate the Assessment of the National Disability Sector conducted by the Caribbean Development Bank. A twelve -member National Disability Assessment Committee was also established to support this Assessment, which includes representatives from the Ministry of Planning and Development (Central Statistical Office) and the MSDFS respectively. During this fiscal, the Desk Review was completed, research instruments were developed and elite interviews commenced in April 2021. Concomitantly, the draft Country Report is due for revision based on the feedback gathered at these interviews.

B. Conduct of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy (NPRS)

During fiscal 2021, the MSDFS continued to work diligently on the development of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy (NPRS). Consequently, the Ministry made significant progress regarding this initiative evident by the completion of a Situational Analysis of poverty, a comprehensive Action Plan and a Proposal for the conduct of a National Participatory Poverty Assessment (NPPA). The NPPA is a key component for developing the strategy that inter alia, seeks to involve various stakeholders in the process and generate a volume of qualitative data to enhance the overall design of the strategy. Presently, the methodology for conducting the NPPA is being finalised to include several additional key components including the 'community transect walk' which will be conducted in communities that are significantly impacted by poverty across Trinidad and Tobago. This approach is in keeping with the bottom-up strategy that has been adopted to ensure full participation of those communities in the development process of the NPRS. The Ministry recognizes that participation at the community level is indispensable to achieving



holistic solutions to addressing poverty in Trinidad and Tobago. The development and finalisation of the NPRS is expected to continue in fiscal 2022.

C. Multidimensional Poverty Index Training

Poverty is recognised as a multi-dimensional concept, where persons experience multiple disadvantages and deprivations, not just a lack of income. As the country strengthens its capacity to facilitate this measurement approach, training was provided to technical officers across the public sector to gain knowledge and competence in the designing of Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI). The online training programme was provided by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Oxford University.

The development of a national MPI will assist not only in the identification of persons living in poverty, but also more importantly how they experience poverty. Such indices have been proven to be successful in highlighting the overlapping deprivations within and across groups in different geographical locations within a country. This information garnered from this course is anticipated to assist the social sector agencies and policymakers in understanding what deprivations are faced by vulnerable citizens and how they change over time; thereby allowing for more targeted and tailored services to treat with these various deprivations.

D. National Register of Vulnerable Persons (NRVP)

The MSDFS has embarked on the creation of a social registry, i.e. a National Register of Vulnerable Persons (NRVP), as a mechanism for improving its targeting and timely response to the poor and vulnerable. The NRVP was a specific deliverable identified in the Roadmap to Recovery (2020) under the remit of the MSDFS towards integrated service delivery. The Ministry has outlined in its initial brief that the NRVP, inter alia, will provide a repository of information on vulnerable individuals and households, geographic locations and basic needs and/or interventions. It will facilitate data integration and information management across social programmes towards greater sector coordination and efficiency. The Register is also expected to enhance the role of the SSEU, as well as the NPRS. Accordingly, there are several policy and operational advantages to establishing the Register, which the MSDFS will articulate as it further develops its initial proposal and finalises an implementation plan in fiscal 2022.

E. Intervention for the Socially Displaced

In light of the ongoing global pandemic, there is an amplified need to provide additional support to the street dwelling population as they comprise one of the most at-risk vulnerable groups within the nation³. The GoRTT acknowledges the precarious situation of these citizens and in fiscal 2021 took decisive measures toward the rehabilitation and reintegration of street dwellers to reduce the number of persons living in absolute poverty as evident by the following initiatives:

i. Stakeholder Engagement Meetings

The MSDFS at the Ministerial level engaged in several high-level stakeholder consultations with the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS), Tobago House of Assembly (THA), academia, representatives from the business community and fellow government counterparts amongst others, to determine and strategise the way forward. Core discussions were centered on the establishment of shelters and transitional and emergency facilities for socially displaced persons. To date, several potential facility has been identified, while others are being refurbished in Port of Spain and other communities for accommodating the socially displaced.

ii. Review of Legislation

Complementary to the high-level consultations and discussions, the Ministry also commenced the review of legislation on the Socially Displaced Act, 2000 (No. 59 of 2000), and the completion of the Policy Amendment document, which was submitted to the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs. Cabinet will also be approached for the approval of the new policy to commence the drafting of amendments to the legislation prior to the proclamation of the Act.

Overall, these measures inter alia are expected to allow for a more comprehensive and responsive system that promote the establishment and implementation of progressive reforms as regards the removal, assessment, rehabilitation and reintegration into society of socially displaced persons.

iii. Establishment of the Transitional Housing Working Committee (THWC)

The provision of transitional housing facilities remains an important priority of the social sector, which is to dispense support to vulnerable persons who are homeless or on the verge of becoming homeless. Notwithstanding, the MSDFS is cognisant of the challenges faced in the provision of adequate accommodation/care facilities for the various categories of vulnerable individuals. Consequently, in January 2021 the MSDFS established the Inter-Ministerial Transitional Housing Working Committee (THWC) to serve as a platform for the collaboration and coordination of efforts for social housing and

³ <https://medicine.yale.edu/news-article/homeless-people-are-among-the-most-vulnerable-to-the-coronavirus-yale-psychiatry-is-making-sure-they-still-receive-care-amid-the-pandemic/>



care facilities in Trinidad and Tobago for vulnerable groups. To date, the Committee has successfully acquired Cabinet approval for the transfer of a State-owned property in Carapo to the MSDFS for instituting a transitional facility for women and children. Refurbishment works have already commenced, and it is anticipated that the facility will be operationalised by fiscal 2022. Additionally, the Committee is assiduously working on the setting up of an additional transitional and emergency housing facilities to cater for its other clientele requiring such assistance.

F. HDC's Policy for the Provision of Housing for the Vulnerable in Society

The Trinidad and Tobago Housing Development Corporation (HDC) has commenced the drafting of its Policy for the Provision of Housing for the Vulnerable. This Policy is expected to formally establish the process to be applied in the provision of housing accommodation to persons who are considered as defenseless members of society. Consequently, the policy will also include non-discriminatory and equitable access to government-provided social security and economic support programmes. Its target includes, but not limited to at-risk individuals such as persons living with HIV, sex workers, substance users, prisoners, migrant workers, persons with physical and mental challenges/disabilities. Significantly, the proposed policy will seek to address the gap in the provision of housing for such vulnerable groups as the existing Social Housing Policy did not cater to nor captured all affected cohorts within the 5% allocation for senior citizens and persons with physical challenges. However, the new objectives as outlined in the Draft policy will inter alia seek to:

- Collaborate with stakeholders to cater to the needs of the vulnerable in society
- Provide suitable access to viable housing accommodation to the vulnerable in society
- Ensure that the vulnerable population has equal access to the Government's Housing Program
- Foster the growth and development of safe spaces for the vulnerable population
- Create a framework for the further provision of assistance to the vulnerable in society as the need arises
- Provide an opportunity whereby stigma, discrimination or violence towards the vulnerable in society may be mitigated
- Define the procedure relative to access to housing accommodation to the vulnerable population.
- Establish and strengthen the linkage between the HDC and the various stakeholders involved with the vulnerable population

Goal 2: The Healthcare System Will Be Efficient and Provide Quality Services

In fiscal 2021, the GoRTT continued its work towards the provision of quality healthcare and services to the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. The advancement of the Health Sector Strategy (2021-2025) by the Ministry of Health (MOH), is fabricated on the Government's Recovery Plan (2021-2025), the National Development Strategy (2016-2030) and strategic areas of focus for the MOH. These areas of focus include: Maternal and Child Health; Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases; Management of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Decentralisation of Mental Health, Leadership and Governance; and Policy and Regulation.

The major focus of the Government's Recovery Plan (2021-2025) is the overall improvement in the health sector. The Plan is centred on diversification through medical tourism; digitisation using telemedicine; health information systems and patient portals; and initiatives for the prevention of non-communicable and communicable diseases. This provides the stimulus for the delivery of a national health programme focused on the necessary public health goods and actions taken in the best interest of the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago.

A. Healthcare Achievements

Achievements of the MOH for fiscal 2021 included:

- Maintaining a parallel health care system specifically for the treatment and care of COVID-19 patients and ensuring continued and uninterrupted Health Care Services
- The continued performance of a Multi-Sectoral Committee to guide public health mitigation of the COVID-19 pandemic
- The development of guidelines for the operations of various public facilities, educational institutions, and businesses such as schools, restaurants, fitness centres, public Homes for Children, as well as the Aged
- The development of a Vaccination Deployment Plan inclusive of procurement strategies, logistics and supply chain, distribution and sites location and monitoring and evaluation
- Ensuring no shortages of Pharm and No-Pharm items
- Expansion of renal dialysis treatment and organ transplant programmes
- Continued provision of the Adult Cardiac Programme, both at public sector hospitals and private health care providers
- Continued provision of relief through the External Patient Programme
- Access to health programmes through the Children's Life Fund
- Recruitment of foreign health care professionals through bilateral agreements to work in the public health sector
- Development of the strategic planning framework and operationalisation of the National Mental Health Policy



- Continued implementation of the Insect Vector Control strategies, National Action Plan for Malaria and Standard Operating Procedures, as well as the Expanded Immunisation Programme
- Introduced a new World Health Organisation (WHO) approved treatment for persons exposed to the Hansen's disease
- Opening of the Diego Martin Health Centre

Goal 3: Citizens will lead healthy lifestyles

The health of the population is one of the primary indicators on the quality of life enjoyed by the citizens of that country. Health is therefore a determinant of development as it directly influences expenditure, productivity, and the overall attainment of a nation's sustainable developmental goals. In Trinidad and Tobago, the leading cause of morbidity and mortality among citizens is Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) because of poor lifestyle choices. As such, the GoRTT continues to recognize and fulfill its pivotal role of disseminating timely information to influence and promote healthy lifestyle choices.

In tandem, during fiscal 2021, Government remained resolute to address the domestic occurrence of health challenges that have the potential to undermine socioeconomic advancement, such as HIV infection, NCDs (namely diabetes, hypertension, obesity and cancer) and mental well-being, among others. The following initiatives were advanced in fiscal 2021 in the achievement of this goal:

A. Non-Communicable Diseases

Globally and locally, NCDs such as heart disease, diabetes, and cancer, continue to be the predominant cause of morbidity. Subsequently, the MOH has outlined its goal of reducing NCDs by 25% by 2025 in its National Strategic Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non -Communicable Diseases: Trinidad and Tobago (2017 – 2021). To this extent, the MOH has been focusing on the promotion of healthy lifestyle choices through Behavioural Risk Factor Reduction of tobacco use, alcohol consumption, unhealthy diets and physical inactivity. These risks contribute to sustained increases in prevalence of overweight/obesity, hypertension, diabetes, and heart disease. Through its NCD Programme the MOH has successfully executed various key initiatives to reduce the national burden of NCDs, some of these include:

- The prohibition of the sale or serving of sugar sweetened, nonalcoholic beverages with added sugars by manufacturers and other producers in all government and government assisted schools. This initiative has over 95% compliance rate in both primary and secondary schools
- The HEARTS initiative, which was launched in July 2019, provides a set of practical step-by-step modules that operationalise the chronic care module for an integrated approach to the management of NCDs. Currently, the modules are implemented in 46

health centers across Trinidad and Tobago with supporting guidelines and treatment protocols for hypertension

- The strengthening of the early screening, diagnosis and treatment within the primary care institutions for cancer, diabetes and cardiac care as to prevent the burden on the secondary and tertiary care health institutions

The Ministry further fortified its commitment to the reduction of NCDs across Trinidad and Tobago by outlining the following specific strategic steps it intends to embark on during 2021 – 2025:

- (a) Aggressive promotion of preventive care through healthy eating and habits, physical activity with a focus on sports and health wellness and self-empowerment to reduce adult obesity, strokes and heart disease.
- (b) Implementation of National Nutrition Standards, increase physical activity and health education in schools to reduce childhood obesity.
- (c) Develop Self-Management and Reporting of NCDs to health professionals through ICT and health-Apps to foster great empowerment of one's health.
- (d) Implementation of an aggressive health care screening programme for cancer, diabetes, heart and hypertension to reduce their prevalence and incidence rates.
- (e) Develop education campaigns promoting the benefits of locally produced alternatives to cater to lifestyles such as veganism, gluten-free and pescatarian to reduce the incidence of non-communicable diseases as well as the burden on the health care system.

B. Mental Health

According to Caribbean Public Health Agency, mental health disorders is a major contributor to the burden of NCDs in the Region.⁴ The GoRTT remains committed to the decentralisation of mental health services in Trinidad and Tobago, which will further aid the Government's thrust to reduce the stigmatisation associated with mental health. This move is aligned to recommendations outlined in the WHO Comprehensive Mental Health Action Plan 2020-2030, which encourages provision of community-based mental health care that is both respectful of human rights and focused on recovery.⁵ The MOH is currently in the process of restructuring its delivery of mental health services by regionalising mental health care for ease of access within communities. Development of the strategic planning framework for the successful operationalisation of decentralised mental health services is currently ongoing.

⁴ <https://carpha.org/More/Media/Articles/ArticleID/364/Investing-in-Mental-Health>

⁵ <https://www.who.int/news/item/10-06-2021-new-who-guidance-seeks-to-put-an-end-to-human-rights-violations-in-mental-health-care>



Additionally, as the MOH embarks on the roll-out of the National Mental Health Policy (2019-2029), some of the highlighted priority areas of implementation include:

- A. Decentralisation and integration of behavioural health and wellness services into primary health care (A&E and School Health Programme) and the promotion of community-based approaches with a clear communication strategy. This is to ensure mental health is included in the basic package of health care services to the public.
- B. Establishment of a Community Based Recovery Oriented Approach supported with the training of health care professionals, technology through counselling and promotion of social engagement. The intention is to have at least one (1) trained nurse or practitioner to detect mental health issues in each health centre, district health facility and hospitals.
- C. Integration of mental health in the ‘Whole of Government and Whole of Society’ e.g. schools, communities and faith-based organisations through the training of gatekeepers in mental health literacy.

C. Healthy Lifestyle through Sports

Sport and physical activity are important components to ensuring healthy lifestyles for citizens. According to the WHO, “regular participation in appropriate physical activity and sport provides individuals, including PWDS, with a wide range of physical, social and mental health benefits.”⁶ Sports has the unique capability of motivating and inspiring individuals and is regarded as an exceedingly effective means of empowering and engaging citizens to improve their overall health. Accordingly, a priority area for the Ministry of Health in its National Strategic Plan is “increased levels of physical activity”, where the target is to reduce the proportion of adults and adolescents engaging in insufficient physical activity by 20%⁷. To this extent, the Ministry of Sport and Community Development (MSCD) continued its implementation of the National Sport Policy (2017-2027), which seeks to promote the concept of ‘Sports for Development’. Through the implementation of this policy the GoRTT has continued to develop and implement initiatives to encourage participation in sport, recreational and physical activity as follows:

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. The need for such a campaign is highlighted by the increasing mortality rate among women who suffer from diabetes as compared to their male counterparts. During fiscal 2021, the MSCD strategically

⁶ https://www.un.org/sport/sites/www.un.org.sport/files/ckfiles/files/Chapter2_SportandHealth.pdf

⁷ <https://health.gov.tt/sites/default/files/pdf/20170501-National-Strategic-Plan-Prevention-NCDs-2017-2021.pdf>

reconfigured this campaign in light of the ongoing global pandemic and Public Health Regulations and a successful relaunch occurred on International Women’s Day (March 8, 2021). In this new format, the campaign will now be executed using the following comprehensive, four-pronged approach examining all areas of sport:

- i. Monthly panel discussions – This will provide a platform for athletes and key players to share experiences and allow key stakeholders to impart knowledge on relevant topics such as women as leaders in sport, physical activity, diet and nutrition, mental health and well-being, non-communicable diseases and risk factors amongst others.
- ii. Social media stories highlighting and celebrating women in sport– this video series will feature 20 local women and girls excelling in various areas of sport, be it at the athlete, administrative or executive level.
- iii. Sport training videos series –These videos introduce women to fundamental knowledge and skills to apply to various game situations and encourage participation in sport as fun rather than entirely competitive.
- iv. Virtual races - “GirlsRunTT” Challenge- The #GirlsRunTT Challenge seeks to encourage more women and girls to be physically active and increase their involvement and participation in sport. In recognition of International Women’s Day 2021 (#IWD2021), the MSCD enrolled and sponsored 340 women and girls to participate in several virtual road races covering 70 miles between the months of March and August 2021.

Healthy Youth TT Initiative

As part of its *TT MOVE* campaign, the Ministry of Health has strategically collaborated with the Ministry of Education (MOE) and the MSCD for the rollout of the *Healthy Youth TT Initiative*. The successful execution of this initiative will result in the establishment of free gym facilities across the country for all citizens. In the first installment, the MOH has identified suitable sporting facilities/ community centers for the installation of gym/ exercise equipment to assist in increasing the overall levels of physical activity by the citizenry. During the second quarter of fiscal 2021, the MOH began the rollout of this initiative and presently the following thirteen (13) facilities have been outfitted with physical equipment:

- i. St. James Youth Facility
- ii. Bagatelle Community Centre
- iii. Los Bajos Youth Facility
- iv. Cantaro Community Centre,
- v. Upper El Dorado Community Centre
- vi. Mayaro Sport Facility
- vii. Plum Mitan Community Centre



- viii. Carenage Community Centre
- ix. Diego Martin Central Community Centre
- x. Mt Hope/ Mt Lambert Community Centre
- xi. Bon Air West Community Centre
- xii. Plaisance Park Community Centre
- xiii. Ministry of Health Gym

Additionally, as part of the rollout of this initiative, there is an ongoing strategic collaboration between the MOH and the MOE for the outfitting of physical activity equipment in every school across Trinidad and Tobago. The GoRTT anticipates that this initiative will lead to an increase in that national level of physical activity, impacting not only the reported obesity rates but also reducing the risks and levels of lifestyle diseases within the population.

Infrastructure and Facilities

In fiscal 2021, the GoRTT under the aegis of the MSCD continued to undertake refurbishments/upgrade works at the following facilities:

- Bourg Mulatresse
- Aranguez
- Grand Riviere
- Honeymoon
- Marac
- Park Street
- Todds Road
- Caroni Sports facility at Sevilla
- Hasley Crawford Stadium
- Woodbrook Youth Facility
- Ato Boldon Stadium
- Larry Gomes Stadium
- Mannie Ramjohn Stadium

D. Alcohol and Drug Abuse

The MOH, through its National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme (NADAPP) remained committed in fiscal 2021 to ridding the nation of the scourge of drug abuse. In its capacity as the coordinating body for drug abuse prevention, NADAPP continued to fulfill its mandate of educating citizens of the health and social consequences of substance abuse and the benefits of a healthy lifestyle while simultaneously extending support to NGOs committed to substance abuse prevention. Drug abuse prevention and demand reduction initiatives of NADAPP for fiscal 2021 included:

- The conduct of a 'Caribbean Mapping' exercise on behalf of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) to ascertain a current profile of all the prevention and treatment services offered in Trinidad and Tobago. This information will subsequently be incorporated into the ongoing production of the Caribbean Directory of Treatment and Prevention services
- The 'Be Trinity Smart' workshop for sensitisation of pre-school managers/principals and teachers on drug-related issues relevant to the care and education of their students
- The continuation of the National Primary and Secondary School Drug Prevention Initiative, which utilises a wide range of media to sensitise children on the deleterious effects of all drugs, including marijuana and alcohol
- Overseeing the ongoing efforts of the Inter-agency Substance Use Prevention Working Group in its development of a Standard of Care document for drug treatment and rehabilitation centres
- The continuation of its webinar series entitled '*Youth and Substance Abuse: A Parental Workshop for understanding the effects of Drug Use*' which attempts to sensitise and educate the national community, specifically vulnerable groups on the dangers of the use and misuse/abuse of licit and illicit substances

Additionally, on September 22, 2021 the Ministry of National Security launched the **Case Care Management (CCM) Pilot Project** at the Probation Services Division. This pilot project seeks to enhance the existing coordination and integration systems at the Probation Services Division and streamline interventions to non-violent offenders with substance use disorders in a more efficient manner. The CCM Project promotes the reintegration and rehabilitation of drug offenders as opposed to incarceration. The CCM seeks to enhance coordination among the justice, health, social and other services that could be accessed by this group of persons and assist with their recovery and structured reintegration into society. Prior to the launch, CICAD hosted a three-day training programme in January 2021 for key stakeholders. This training advised policymakers and professionals in the justice, health and social service sectors on the advantages of the CCM as a tool able to support the justice system in providing treatment-based alternatives to incarceration at different points for this category of offenders.

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

The strength of the individual family unit usually correlates with the strength of communities and the nation. Families are generally recognised as having a critical role in the nurturing and socialization of all individuals. According to the International Federation for Family Development, "*families bear the primary responsibility for the education and socialization of children as well as instilling values of citizenship and*



*belonging in the society.*⁸ Despite its great significance, many endogenous and exogenous factors threaten the fabric of the family unit. Under such pressures, the collapse of any family unit results in far-reaching repercussions that are felt throughout society. Furthermore, under international law, Governments have an obligation to adopt laws and policies that, as much as possible, provide conditions conducive to family formation and stability⁹. Accordingly, the GoRTT affirmed its objective to protect and support the family unit as a paramount goal during fiscal 2021. Across the social sector the following initiatives geared toward family development and integration were undertaken:

A. Policy Development towards Family Empowerment and Support

In fiscal 2021, the MSDFS continued the formulation of the **National Family Policy (NFP)** and commenced the development of its associated Monitoring and Evaluation framework. The framework will accompany the draft NFP for submission to Cabinet for approval as a Green Paper by the end of the second quarter of the fiscal year 2022. The NFP framework is built on the following twelve (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 Media. The NFP seeks to outline measures to promote a family-friendly society and the mainstreaming of family issues into sector policies as well as increase sensitivity at all levels of Government on the importance of supporting and strengthening families in all its actions.

The **National Parenting Policy (NPP)** is also inextricably linked to the proposed NFP. This policy advocates for the requisite and/or improved social support and services from the State to enable parents and guardians to manage better their duties and responsibilities. In fiscal 2021, the Ministry conducted twelve (12) virtual focus group sessions to inform the revision of the NPP as a Green Paper. Sessions were conducted with critical and sensitive vulnerable groups such as, children in homes/orphanages, children in conflict with the law and parents who are incarcerated. The findings from these sessions facilitated the revision of the Report which summarized the key points that emanated from the discussions. Subsequently, the Draft Policy was revised with emphasis on the refinement of the policy statements of the various thematic areas. It is envisaged that the Policy will be submitted to Cabinet for approval before the close of the calendar year 2021.

⁸ <https://www.un.org/ecosoc/sites/www.un.org.ecosoc/files/files/en/integration/2017/IFFD.pdf>

⁹ https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2019/02/Belarus_The-Importance-of-Family-Stability-to-Achieve-Sustainable-Development-on-12-February.pdf

Additionally, in fiscal 2021 the MSDFS continued its review of the **National Ageing Policy**, which the Ministry initially launched in 2007. This initiative was birthed out of the nation's ratification of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, which the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (T&T) became a signatory to following the United Nation's Second World Assembly on Ageing. Since the launch and implementation of the Policy, there has been no official review of its contents. Given the dynamic nature of T&T's social milieu, there is the need to update the policy to ensure that it is reflective of current socio-economic and projected trends. Emergent issues during the COVID-19 pandemic, which have significantly affected the wellbeing of older persons across the globe, are also to be addressed. Ageing affects every living person, and it begins from conception to the end of life. As such, the main principle that will guide the revised policy is the emphasis on ageing as a lifelong process. The revised policy is expected to chart a course for healthy, lifelong ageing that is consistent with the achievement of the UNSDGs and the country's Vision 2030. The overall goal of the Policy is to promote a sustainable well-being of older persons and provide them with the opportunities to seamlessly integrate into mainstream society. It is expected that this Policy will be submitted to Cabinet as a Green Paper in fiscal 2022.

Concomitantly, in January 2021 Cabinet approved the new **Trinidad and Tobago National Youth Policy (2020-2025)**. This policy provides the Government and other key youth development stakeholders, with a guiding framework and is expected to positively influence and transform the youth development landscape; support the institutional strengthening and strategic repositioning of youth development agencies; support the mainstreaming of youth in development processes in Trinidad and Tobago; facilitate stakeholder engagement and participation in youth development initiatives; and provide a vital tributary in Trinidad and Tobago's Post-COVID-19 Recovery Plan and the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

In tandem, the **National Child Policy (2020-2030) (NCP)** was laid as a White Paper in Parliament in November 2020. The NCP is vital in providing long-term guidance and sets the framework to support suitable legislation, interventions and infrastructure that would further ensure the well-being of each child. As outlined in its Mission statement, the NCP seeks to promote and safeguard the positive development, well-being, best interests and empowerment of all children in Trinidad and Tobago. This policy is also rooted in eight (8) guiding philosophies and outlines six outcomes for children— that they are loved, valued, nurtured, protected, empowered and supported. During fiscal 2021, the following was achieved in keeping with the implementation of the NCP:



- A NCP Cross-Sectorial Committee was established and have conducted monthly meetings to monitor the implementation of the NCP.
- A Child Ambassadors Alumni Sub-committee to the NCP was also established and has been meeting regularly.
- Sub-Committees were also established for Children with Disabilities, Poverty Reduction and Child Protection.
- The terms of reference (TOR) for the National Child Safeguarding Strategy was approved and a Consultant was identified by UNICEF.
- Draft TORs were completed for the National Strategy for Children with Disabilities and Special Needs, as well as for a National Child Poverty Reduction Strategy.
- Child and adult versions of the Policy were completed, as well as the draft NCP animation was developed.

The National Framework for children comprises myriad laws and policies that are continuously amended, updated and revoked if necessary to ensure that the fundamental rights of children are advanced. In 2016, the establishment of a **National Children's Registry** was initiated. The Registry is envisioned to be a government data management and sharing system that would capture and hold information on all children (persons under 18 years) and in special cases, persons up to age 25 years, with the aim of monitoring their growth, care and development. During fiscal 2021, the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) continued to progress with the design and build phase of the Registry. Once established this registry will facilitate greater efficiency and effectiveness in the monitoring of child development, reducing child abuse, neglect and exclusion in Trinidad and Tobago.

B. Family Empowerment and Support

The MSDFS' **National Family Services Division (NFSD)**, continued to fulfill its remit for providing psychosocial support to citizens in fiscal 2021 in the form of counselling, advice, advocacy, referrals and placements. Correspondingly, the NFSD routinely disseminated information on healthy family life through its Radio Programme '*It's Family Time, Let's Talk*' outreaches and via lectures upon request by various organisations (Governmental and Non-Governmental). The Division in compliance with Government's Public Health Regulations, restructured its annual Parenting Workshops to a virtual format and tailored the content to address newly burgeoning social issues resulting from the onset of the pandemic.

Additionally, in August 2021, the MSDFS launched its **Grand Parenting Programme** to provide support to grandparents raising their grandchildren in parent-absent homes. Under this new programme,

grandparents will have access to specialized training designed for individualistic needs, counselling services, and access to support groups. This initiative is a collaborative venture between the Ministry's Division of Ageing and the NFSD and recognizes the tremendous importance of grandparents, and the fundamental role they still play in the development of the family unit. Furthermore, this programme ensures that the library of wisdom possessed by grandparents is not lost to future generations.

In tandem, the Ministry of Education (MOE) via its **Student Support Services Division (SSSD)** delivered an array of psycho-social and behavioural services to students and parents with the overall objective of fostering environments that support healthy development. In fiscal 2021, this division provided both individual and group counselling to persons requiring psycho-therapeutic services and mental health support. Additionally, the SSSD instituted a Student Support Services Division Hotline to address the need for urgent assistance to individuals, during the COVID-19 pandemic. This hotline service is available to all students, principals, school administrators, parents, external help agencies and other concerned citizens seeking support and assistance.

C. Protection, Care and Rights of Women and Children

A robust social protection system necessitates that the most vulnerable among us must be protected and cared for. A strong, healthy and protected family and its members remain the bedrock of a strong society. The GoRTT recognizes the importance of protecting women and children from harm, mistreatment, violence and exploitation. In fiscal 2021, the protection and rights-based agenda towards women and children were achieved through the following:

Gender, Violence and Development

The OPM is the arm of Government responsible for the implementation of the **National Policy on Gender and Development**. The policy identifies gender-based violence and by extension domestic violence (DV) as one of the major issues affecting women's development. Data obtained from the **Central Registry on Domestic Violence** shows that for the period 2018 to 2020, there was a total of 3,116 reported cases of domestic violence, which mainly represents cases affecting women and girls. This figure also reflected an increase of 43 percent between 2019 and 2020 due mainly to the restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, the OPM provides secure accommodation for parents and their children who survive DV, but who have no safe alternative accommodation. Additionally, survivors are given support towards achieving independent living and reintegration into society in a 'wrap-around' type of service delivery model.

RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

CHAPTER 1: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION



In 2020, the Government (led by the OPM), in partnership with the United Nations and the European Community launched the Spotlight Initiative in Trinidad and Tobago. The programmes seek to ensure that all women and girls, particularly those most marginalized, live free from violence, through prevention strategies and strengthened multi-sectoral responses. Family violence and violence against women and girls are considered major public health and development issues to be addressed with urgency. Implementation of this Initiative and its programmes is occurring in three communities: Tunapuna/Piarco, Mayaro/Rio Claro and Tobago. The range of interventions under the Spotlight Initiative seeks to change and influence laws and policies, individual behaviour and the wider negative stereotypes and social norms which perpetuate all forms of family violence, key among them being domestic violence and child abuse. It is anticipated that the Initiative will not only strengthen government institutions' responses but also serve to improve the delivery of essential services to victims of violence and perpetrators of such violence. The pillars upon which these responses stand are Policies and Legislation, Institutions, Prevention, Services, Data, and the Women's Movement. The programmes and projects executed during the reporting period of 2021 include:

- The work on the National Clinical Guidelines on Family Violence commenced and included guidance on care and support for survivors during health emergencies such as COVID-19
- Within the three communities previously identified, a Gap Analysis of the Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) curriculum of the MOE was conducted, with a view to incorporating a comprehensive age appropriate sexuality education curriculum, family violence modules and to facilitate teacher training. This was completed by the Institute of Gender and Development Studies of the University of the West Indies (UWI)
- An assessment of women's movements and grassroots organisations within each targeted community was conducted. It provided a snapshot of the operational, financial, and technical capacity of the groups to mobilise resources and deliver services and programmes for survivors of violence
- Funding and technical support were provided for the digitization of the National Child Policy which was laid as a White Paper, as well as its monitoring of implementation of the Policy

- The Inter-Agency Child Abuse Protocol commenced and is targeted for completion by September 2021
- In December 2020 the Spotlight Programme partnered with the Judiciary to provide training programmes to strengthen access to justice and support case management on domestic violence matters. Over 75 judges and judicial officers as well as more than 200 interdisciplinary team members participated in the training
- The Gender-Based Violence Unit and the Victim and Witness Support Unit of the TTPS also benefit from technical support in the form of training and the design of its accountability measures to bolster its service delivery
- A Multi-Stakeholder Case Management Coordination Committee, led by the Coalition against Domestic Violence, was convened in 2021 to focus on appropriate systems to manage cases of domestic violence
- In collaboration with OPM several public messages were created targeting parents aimed at the prevention of violence against girls and boys in the home and community settings, in view of the pandemic. These messages/vids were placed on social media and television
- A Response Plan was developed for the National AIDS Coordinating Committee to ensure uninterrupted services for survivors of families impacted by HIV/AIDS during the pandemic
- The Family Planning Association received technical services to improve its accessibility to vulnerable populations (such as sex workers and rural and urban poor women), improving its package of sexual and reproductive health services to its clients wishing to delay pregnancy

Maternity Protection Campaign

The Ministry of Labour's unique "Maternity Matters" Campaign is a direct form of sensitisation, which provides an opportunity for information on maternity protection in the workplace to be shared with pregnant employees. It is an open forum whereby the Ministry's Labour Inspectors respond to specific questions as they seek to raise awareness of pregnant employees' rights and obligations. In fiscal 2021, the Campaign included Virtual Outreach Services for Spanish Speaking Migrant Workers, sensitisation



sessions on the National Workplace Policy on Sexual Harassment in Trinidad and Tobago, discussions on several radio programmes, as well as a virtual “Know Your Rights” Q&A Session in collaboration with Living Water Community. Topics discussed included: rights and responsibilities of the employer, rights and responsibilities of the worker, terms of contract employment, migrant rights, NIS Contributions, job injuries, late pay, work disputes, sexual harassment in the workplace, non-payment of wages, fears of reporting infractions, seeking assistance for workplace infractions and overtime.

Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour

In fiscal 2021, the Ministry of Labour (MOL) sustained its commitment to the prevention and elimination of child labour in Trinidad and Tobago. The MOL commenced the tendering process for the engagement of a Consultant to research child labour in Trinidad and Tobago. The research findings are expected to assist and inform the National Steering Committee for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in Trinidad and Tobago with the development of the draft Policy. Additionally, the year 2021 was declared by the United Nations as International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour. World Day Against Child Labour is also commemorated on June 12, 2021. Consequently, the MOL implemented a Child Labour Campaign and hosted a series of events towards commemoration including public education initiatives, launching a virtual video and puppet show, a pledgeton and a Virtual Art Exhibition. A ‘Free to be Me Child Labour E-Activity Pack’ was also launched at www.labour.gov.tt/endchildlabour2021. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) is also sponsoring a Video Monologue Competition. Capacity-building activities have also been provided for staff, as well as students and Child Rights Ambassadors are being trained and empowered to join the fight against child labour. Furthermore, the MOL and the Ministry of National Security (MNS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding on March 12, 2021, to solidify the collaboration between the Labour Inspectorate Unit (and the Counter Trafficking Unit) in preventing and combatting trafficking in persons including children for forced labour.

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

Persons with disabilities are an important group in the national family of Trinidad and Tobago. In keeping with the tenets of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), the GoRTT continues to recognize the valuable contribution and potential of this community. Consequently, the GoRTT, through the MSDFS and its collaborators are focused on promoting inclusion, integration, and the rights of persons with disabilities by implementing the following initiatives, in fiscal 2021:

Sign Language Training

Inclusion and equal participation of the Deaf and hard of hearing in society require sign languages to be accessible, respected and supported. People with hearing loss experience and navigate society differently from their peers. They experience fewer employment opportunities, social withdrawal, lack of privacy and access to information. This is mainly due to the inability to communicate freely with other members of society with the use of Sign language. The current COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the communication challenge for persons who are deaf with the mandatory use of face masks especially those who with hearing loss to use their lip-reading skills or to understand facial expressions. As such, it is even more critical now for public and private sectors organisations, other civil society groups and members of society, in general, to be encouraged to learn.

In February 2021, the Ministry in collaboration with UWI Open Campus commenced basic sign language training to a cohort of officers in the Social Welfare Division to facilitate communications with persons who are Deaf or hard of hearing to ensure they receive the highest standard of service. Fifteen (15) officers successfully completed the training in May 2021. A second batch of officers has commenced training in September 2021 and will conclude this training within twelve (12) weeks.

In September 2021, in commemoration of the Deaf Awareness Week, the MSDFS in collaboration with the Caribbean Sign Language Centre expanded this initiative to improve communication with clients or citizens who are deaf or hard of hearing. The virtual training is targeted to the selected staff of financial organisations, customer service representatives of the communication sector and frontline public officers from selected Government Ministries.

MSDFS Recommissioned Website and Disability Microsite

Access to information and communication are key tenets of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the National Policy on Persons with Disabilities. On October 22, 2020, the MSDFS recommissioned its website, www.social.gov.tt, making it more accessible to persons with disabilities. This entailed the launch of a micro-site that includes an online directory for persons with disabilities. This directory will serve as an online resource available to all citizens, particularly persons with disabilities and their caregivers seeking information on organisations that assist or provide services to persons with disabilities. The directory also includes emergency contact information for local law enforcement, fire services and district health facilities. The online directory has enhanced features to allow persons to search organisations by disability, organisational type and location. All entities that



appear in the directory have been created by an Act of Parliament or is registered with a relevant State body. This directory is accessible to persons with disabilities using screen readers.

National Policy for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)

The National Policy on Persons with Disabilities was approved by the Cabinet as a White Paper on May 16, 2019. The Policy is designed to promote and protect the human rights and equal participation of persons with disabilities in all aspects of society. It is a human rights instrument that is accompanied by an action plan, to assist in making the country compliant with the articles of the UNCRPD. Persons with disabilities should be able to experience a more barrier-free society. In fiscal 2020, an Inter-Agency Committee was established to promote and monitor the implementation of the Policy and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). The Committee's Action Plan was also developed in December 2020 and sent to all stakeholders for Action.

In Fiscal 2021, Trinidad and Tobago's Initial Country Report was approved and submitted to the UN Committee through the Ministry of Attorney General (MAGLA). A review of legislation was also undertaken to provide recommendations to the MAGLA. A Strategic Plan for the Operationalisation of the National Therapeutic and Resource Centre for Persons with Disabilities was also developed.

UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Grant Funding Project (Collaboration with PAHO)

In August 2020, the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) launched its fourth Call for Proposals, inviting UN Country Teams (UNCTs) to submit proposals for joint country-level programmes. One hundred and twenty countries applied, and 26 were selected. Trinidad and Tobago was the only English speaking country selected from the Latin America and Caribbean region. To support the delivery of the above objectives of this proposal, successful country teams were allocated a budget to deliver an Induction Training workshop, conduct a country situational analysis and complete a full joint programme proposal.

To initiate the process for the development of the situation analysis in Trinidad and Tobago, an Induction Training Workshop was convened over the period May 18 - June 9, 2021. The Workshop was successfully hosted with approximately sixty (60) participants from representatives of Government Ministries and Agencies, Academia, Organisations of and for PWDs and persons with disabilities.

The objectives of the Workshop were to enable participants to:

- 1) develop a basic understanding of CRPD implementation and SDGs,

- 2) gain an understanding of the UNPRPD's theory of change to support disability inclusion at the country level, focusing on government policy and system changes; and
- 3) gain an understanding of the preconditions for disability inclusion to prepare UN Country Teams to complete the Situational Analysis and *develop* strong joint country-level programmes in line with UNPRPD's strategy and funding call requirements.

E. Youth Empowerment and Development

It is axiomatic to suggest that there is a direct correlation between youth development and national sustainable development. Youths comprise not only the leaders of tomorrow, but they represent the primary social actors for change and progress. Consequently, the GoRTT continues to nurture, safeguard and encourage youth through educational access, personal development, healthcare, and employment opportunities. In fiscal 2021, the Government continued its efforts towards this strategic mandate via the following initiatives:

Infrastructure and Facilities

A key aspect of the Ministry of Youth and Development National Service's (MYDNS') plans for youth development and national service is the implementation of a portfolio of projects that are focused on the construction, expansion, maintenance, and upgrade of existing youth facilities. In fiscal 2021, the Ministry commenced the assessment, refurbishment, and upgrade of six (6) Youth Facilities. This initiative seeks to better position these facilities as their operations are realigned and their service offerings modified and adjusted to accommodate the growing demand for online training courses. Concomitantly, the MYDNS is also focused on refurbishing and modernising its existing Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centres (YDACs) at Freeport and Chatham. In addition, to the refurbishment works to existing youth facilities, in fiscal 2021 the Ministry commenced developmental works on the following new facilities:

- *Construction of Two (2) New Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centres-*

To expand and enhance the quality of service in the youth training and skills development programmes, the MYDNS has embarked on the preparatory works for the construction of two (2) new YDACs, in the Wallerfield and Chaguaramas regions, which will target the nation's youths between the ages of 15-25 years old.

- *Establishment of a Farm School*

Plans are currently underway at the MYDNS to construct a residential training institution in Moruga for approximately **150 students**. Through the Farm School, students will be exposed to modern techniques, which can enhance the quality and quantity of agriculture production.



- *Construction of the Salvation Army Josephine Shaw House*

The Ministry is currently undertaking the construction of the Salvation Army-Josephine Shaw House (SAJSH). The SAJSH project includes the design, construction, and outfitting of a three (3) storey building with a roof framing that is designed to support an additional floor for future expansion. On completion of this project, the Josephine Shaw House will provide transitional living and interim support and services to young women, who are 'Wards of the State' leaving Children's Homes.

Youth Training and Development

As part of the implementation process of the new National Youth Policy (2020-2025), the MYDNS during fiscal 2021 developed programmes in alignment with the Policy's eight (8) strategic pillars. Whilst the full execution of the following youth-centric empowerment programmes have been delayed due to the ongoing global pandemic and the associated public health regulations, the MYDNS is committed to the successful roll-out of these programmes:

- ***Modernisation and Revitalisation of the Youth Resource and Information Centres (YRIC)*** - Youth Resource and Information Centres are an established space, uniquely designed for youth to foster development, empowerment, and conversations/discourse among youths. The initiative is divided into two phases: Phase I is the creation of a webpage and supporting apps for the YRIC; whilst Phase II is the upgrading of the physical space for in-person use by the YRICs' clientele.
- ***Advance Proficiency Entrepreneurship Excellence (APEX)*** - This programme seeks to address the misalignment between training and employment experienced by many young individuals, as well as boost their entrepreneurial capacities. The APEX will enhance innovation and creativity and spark entrepreneurship and business development by providing youths with the necessary business acumen, skills and knowledge, experiential learning, mentorship, innovative and creative insight, and civic education, towards positively charting their life trajectory.
- ***National Service Community Partnership Project*** - The National Service Community Partnership Programme will partner on community projects with youths between the ages of 16 to 35 years, who already possess skills and/or experience in trades such as masonry, welding, plumbing, carpentry, and electrical installation. Additionally, young persons who are interested in learning these skills will also be invited to enroll in a vigorous on-the-job training programme. After the training is completed, participants are also engaged in community projects.

F. Promotion of Safe Communities

The formation of stable family units within society depends on the foundation of safe and sustainable communities within a nation. Community safety goes beyond crime prevention but rather entails the creation of strong, cohesive, resilient, participatory communities. To this extent, the GoRTT in fiscal 2021 engaged in the following initiatives in its thrust to advance safe and resilient communities across Trinidad and Tobago:

Implementation of the National Policy on Sustainable Community Development for Trinidad and Tobago 2019-2024

The National Policy on Sustainable Community Development (NPSCD) 2019-2024 is a comprehensive 'bottom-up' whole of government and whole of society strategic planning approach to community development. The Policy provides the pathway for a significantly strengthened methodology to community development and adopts a participatory, evidence and asset-based framework to achieve this development. Additionally, local level committees comprising residents are empowered in leading the process to achieving sustainable communities by focusing on the four (4) pillars of sustainable development namely: the social and human, economic, cultural and environmental aspects of community development. In fiscal 2021, the MSCD, under whose remit is the execution of this policy, successfully accomplished the following initiatives:

- i. Establishment of the institutional mechanisms for Policy implementation including:
 - a. The National Committee on Sustainable Community Development (NCSCD).
 - b. Four (4) Municipal Committees on Sustainable Community Development in the municipalities of Diego Martin, Chaguanas, San Fernando and Siparia.
 - c. Five (5) Community Committees on Sustainable Community Development (CSCDs) in Beausejour, Perseverance Village, Marabella and San Fernando.
- ii. The hosting of sensitisation/training sessions with the CSCDs.
- iii. Provision of ongoing training and sensitisation for Community Development Officers implementing the NPSCD in the pilot communities and chairing the NCSCDs.
- iv. Support to the THA regarding the establishment of the Tobago Divisional CSCD.

Community Mediation Services

In fiscal 2021, the MSCD sustained its thrust in promoting safe communities through the provision of community mediation services. Community Mediation promotes an environment that encourages individuals to resolve disputes through the provision of Civil and Family mediation services, conducted



by certified mediators. Such services reduce the incidences of family and community conflict and the subsequent escalation of violence in communities, while simultaneously equipping individuals with the skills and aptitudes necessary to enhance the individual, family and community's ability to manage conflicts positively. Furthermore, the provision of these services throughout the country enhances the socio-economic stability of communities and promote healthy functioning families and resilient communities. The current suite of proactive programmes being executed by the Community Mediation Services Division include:

- i. The Community Empowerment Programme (CEP).
- ii. The Community Inclusive Mediation Project.
- iii. The Mobile Mediation Unit.
- iv. The Peer Mediation Programme.
- v. Hosting of Monthly Support Group Meetings.
- vi. Hosting Annual Support Group Symposia.
- vii. The Co-Parenting Programme.

In accordance with Public Health Regulations and the recent thrust towards digitisation of services, the MSCD is currently transforming this initiative into a virtual platform. Additional detailed information on these initiatives is provided in Chapter 2.

Community First Responder System

The MSDFS in keeping with its mandate to protect the nation's most vulnerable has outlined its desire to create a Community First Responder System (CFRS) as part of its plan to improve the services it offers. In fiscal 2021, preliminary research into international best practices was undertaken by the ministry and a brief outlining the information garnered was subsequently completed. It is anticipated that additional steps will be taken in fiscal 2022 to roll out this initiative. With the establishment of this system, the Ministry will position itself as a first responder in the event of a crisis occurring in the community or home. It is anticipated that the CFRS will seek to:

- i. mitigate critical incidents within communities in collaboration with key stakeholders namely Police, Fire Services, Defense Force and Community Based Organizations; and
- ii. offer a psychosocial support to families/communities experiencing crises such as bereavement, critical illness, or family disputes.

Goal 5: Trinidad and Tobago will have a Seamless, Reformed, High-Quality Education and Training System

To achieve its mandate of building the human resource capacity of Trinidad and Tobago, the Ministry of Education (MOE) has adopted a strategy that incorporates three (3) pillars. This includes the effective

management and administration of the education system; access to educational opportunities by all learners; and quality education provided at all levels. The MOE is committed to meeting the needs of the 21st Century Learner by ensuring efficient operations of the Ministry at all levels.

A. Effective Management and Administration

Effective management and administration of the education system continue to be pursued through problem solving and innovativeness that adhere to international best practices. Within this fiscal, emphasis has been placed on acquiring knowledge of up-to-date teaching methods with the use of ICTs and compulsory teacher skills upgrade and training at all levels of the education system. Instrumental to this initiative were stakeholder consultations, review of the legislative framework, and the conduct of research to inform policy development. As such, the MOE undertook the following initiatives for fiscal 2021:

National Consultation on Education

The MOE hosted a National Virtual Consultation on Education, themed: “Transforming Education” to stimulate public discussion on emerging issues in education. The Consultation brought together key stakeholders in the education system during the period November 2020 to December 2020. This national consultative process is extremely important in policy-making as it builds an evidence base, ensures transparency in the process, and gives stakeholders ownership of the eventual outcome. The objectives of the National Consultation on Education 2020 are to:

- Develop strategies and recommendations for treating various issues and problems occurring in the education system
- Inform the reform of curricula content, instructional practices, and assessment frameworks in the context of COVID-19 pandemic and beyond
- Examine sector-based systems, processes, policies, regulations, and programmes to arrive at increased relevance and efficacy
- Bring into discussion the expertise, perspectives, and ideas for alternative actions of those directly affected through increased transparency
- Identify and find solutions for unintended effects and practical problems post COVID-19 concerning the areas of focus of the consultations

Overall, the discussions were intended to address the gaps in the current policy and further guide planning and decision-making.



Curriculum Reform 2021 – 2023

The MOE via its Curriculum Reform Project continued to demonstrate its commitment towards the needs of the 21st Century Learner. Consequently, during fiscal 2021, the Ministry embarked on a re-examination of both the primary and secondary curricula and proposed adjustments in alignment with international best practices. It is envisioned that this will contribute towards preparing all national students to be productive, global citizens. The achievements to date are as follows:

- Reviewed national policy documents (Education Policy Paper 2017-2022, Vision 2030, Life Skills (UNESCO), The Ideal Caribbean Person, CARICOM)
- Reviewed regional and international curricula (Mauritius, Jamaica, Singapore, Ontario, New Zealand)
- Engaged in a comparative study of national, regional, and international curriculum documents.
- Conducted a Gap Analysis of the Primary Curriculum
- Prepared a report on the “Overview of the conceptualisation of the Primary Curriculum (2013)”
- Provided detailed response to 17 proposed action steps, including recommendations for:
 - the integration of ICT at the primary and secondary levels
 - the inclusion of the project-based approach to teaching and learning
 - creative authentic assessments
 - more pronounced inclusion of values, civic-mindedness, and patriotism within the curriculum
 - skills, values, attitudes and behaviours (VABs) for the ideal citizen
 - strategies for the development of skills and VABs

Teacher Professional Development Initiatives

As part of the thrust for the development of 21st century competencies in online teaching and learning, the Ministry has sought to transform its teacher training initiatives to a more strategic focused approach that integrates teacher education, teacher performance and continuous professional development. This training is designed to equip teachers with the knowledge, attitudes, behaviours, and skills they require to perform their tasks effectively in the classroom, school, and wider community. Subsequently, the following projects have been undertaken to facilitate overall teacher development:

- In-Service Continuous Professional Development - this component ensures that teachers, school administrators and supporting monitoring and evaluation officers are equipped with the

necessary pedagogies and aligned competencies to facilitate online/blended instruction and assessment and to effectively navigate online platforms

- In-Service ECCE Continuous Professional Development – this component provides early childhood educators with the necessary skills and abilities to deliver content-appropriate lessons
- In-Service Induction - this programme provides new teachers with the necessary skills, knowledge and resources that contribute to teacher efficiency and performance in the classroom and school environment
- In-Service Special Needs– this training for special education teachers and administrators aims to provide support to special needs students in their transition to online learning

ICT Infrastructural Upgrade

In fiscal 2021, the MOE continued its drive towards process automation and digital transformation as evident by the procurement and implementation of the ICT Network and Infrastructure Centralised Solution. It is envisioned that this initiative will enable effective electronic communication, network resiliency, reliability and security throughout the Ministry. This solution will also have the latest technology that will manage user access, storage, security, backups, internet distribution, and application deployment within the MOE corporate offices. It consists of the installation and configuration of supported equipment inclusive of servers, switches, security appliances, storage devices, structured cabling, data storage device, and wireless access points.

Education Statistics Analysis and Reporting (EduStar)

The EduStar project is an additional component of the MOE's digital transformation agenda whereby technology is utilised in the collection and management of data towards more effective data-based decision-making. This project will digitalise data collection and analysis whilst simultaneously educating school supervisors and principals on the management and use of data in decision making. With virtual learning being the predominant feature of fiscal 2021, the EduStar was instrumental in monitoring student attendance and mode of curriculum delivery to further inform strategies to be used at the level of the school and district to improve student attendance, as well as teaching and learning.

B. Access to Education and Equality of Opportunity

As a signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the GoRTT affirms its commitment to the fundamental principle of equal opportunity by acknowledging the right of all children to receive an education without discrimination on any grounds. The educational landscape of Trinidad and Tobago has significantly changed with the onset of the ongoing global pandemic evident by the closure of physical



schools since March 2020. With the growing shift towards virtual learning, the MOE has bolstered its commitment to the provision of safe, inclusive and effective learning environment for all. In fiscal 2021, the following initiatives were undertaken to achieve this mandate:

Inclusive Education Project

Inclusive education occurs “when all students, regardless of any challenges they may have, are placed in age-appropriate general education classes that are in their neighborhood schools to receive high-quality instruction, interventions, and supports that enable them to meet success in the core curriculum.”¹⁰ The Ministry of Education, adhering to its numerous international commitments, is dedicated to ensuring the establishment of an inclusive education system from early childhood to the tertiary level. The MOE launched its Inclusive School Project (ISP) in January 2020 with the intent to deliver safe, inclusive and effective learning environments for all students, regardless of physical, intellectual, social, emotional or other needs and has made the following achievements in fiscal 2021:

- increased the number of schools/centres on the project to 8 ECCE Centres, the 14 primary schools and 7 secondary schools in Trinidad, and 2 primary schools and 1 secondary school in Tobago
- hosted:
 - 3-day Principals Leadership Webinar Series on; *Achieving Inclusive Education*;
 - external stakeholder engagement meetings; and
 - internal stakeholder engagement meeting
- provided online training for approximately 350 teachers on *Inclusion*

The Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Initiative

The Ministry embarked on this initiative to address the needs of students whose learning and development may be impacted by Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in schools. In fiscal 2021, MOE successfully trained 40 officers in Autism and Applied Behaviour to support learners on the ASD Spectrum and additional training was provided to all Special Education Officers. Additionally, through this initiative over 600 students with learning and behavioural challenges were screened using Special Needs Assessment Profile (SNAP). The Ministry intends to continue this initiative in fiscal 2022 with the acquisition of screening and assessment tools for early identification and ongoing special education intervention.

¹⁰ <https://resilienteducator.com/classroom-resources/inclusive-education/>

Provision of ICT Learning Devices

With the transitioning of schools from physical to online, the MOE deemed it imperative to conduct a needs survey to ascertain the number of students in need of ICT services and/or devices. It was subsequently determined that 63,369 students required devices and/or internet services. Consequently, the Ministry through its “No Child Left Behind” project implemented the Adopt-a-School initiative whereby private sector entities were invited to contribute to the supply of devices. It is envisaged that this initiative will ultimately foster a long-term meaningful partnership between the MOE and the private sector. One such collaboration in fiscal 2021 occurred between the MOE and Huawei Technologies, for the installation of Ideahub platforms at ten (10) schools across Trinidad and Tobago and 100 tablets to vulnerable students. The Ideahub has features that allow for content sharing and video conferencing, along with a built-in whiteboard— and is expected to enhance the teaching and virtual communications capability in schools. The undermentioned schools benefited from this initiative, as well as the National Centre for Persons with Disabilities in San Fernando.

Table 1. III: Installation of Ideahub Platforms in Primary and Secondary Schools

Primary schools	Secondary schools
Belmont Government Primary School	Russell Latapy Secondary School
Carenage Boys Government Primary School	San Juan North Secondary School
La Horquetta South Government Primary School	Bon Air Secondary School
Guaico Government Primary School	Chaguanas North Secondary School
Fanny Village Government Primary School	

Through its ‘Adopt-a-School’ initiative, the Ministry has facilitated 22,000 students receiving laptop devices to access online classes. Concomitantly, to further address the issue of lack of devices, the Ministry procured laptop computers for distribution to vulnerable students attending primary and secondary Government and Government-assisted schools. Commencing on April 12, 2021, the MOE utilised a means test to determine eligibility for the allocation of these laptop computers to students. Through this initiative, the Ministry successfully acquired 20,000 laptop devices from international suppliers and to date has distributed 11,800 laptop devices to eligible students who were without devices.

C. Student Development and Quality Education

A key component to sustainable human development is the availability and accessibility of a quality education system to all students within a nation. The MOE remains committed to facilitating the holistic development of all students in Trinidad and Tobago through the provision of a quality education system



that allows students to reach their fullest potential. Targeted interventions of programmes and projects, which seek to increase the self-awareness and empowerment of students in positive outlook and behaviour will redound to the benefit of the citizenry. In this regard, the following programmes and projects were undertaken by the Ministry in fiscal 2021:

Parenting in Education Sessions

The Parenting in Education initiative focuses on increasing parental support, developing productive partnerships between home and school, and sensitising parents to their role in parenting and supporting their children. It aims to improve the low parental and community involvement in the school environment to contribute to the development of children's personal and academic achievement. In fiscal 2021, over 3200 parents benefitted from sessions held on issues such as parental involvement in online learning; nurturing children's mental health and communication for adolescents amongst others.

Promoting Mental Health in Education

A 2018 Joint Select Committee report highlights that 21.5 % of students expressed possible depressive symptoms, with specific indications of female students being more likely than males to be affected by mental health issues. The ongoing global pandemic has further exacerbated this situation and consequently, it is against this backdrop that the project, '*Promoting Mental Health in Education*' (PMHE) was implemented. This PMHE project endeavours to reinforce the importance of assessing and sustaining student mental health both during and post COVID-19 management. Through this initiative, the MOE endeavours to bolster the student population knowledge on mental health and increase its targeted intervention programmes within the school environment. During fiscal 2021, some major achievements included:

- Establishment of Interdivisional Committee
- Development of Proposal, Student and Parent Survey
- Dissemination of Parent Survey
- Development and dissemination of mental health sensitisation material

D. Technical Vocational Education and Training

According to the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), "Technical and Vocational Education and Training" (TVET) is understood as comprising education, training and skills development relating to a wide range of occupational fields, production, services, and livelihoods. TVET,

as part of lifelong learning, can take place at secondary, post-secondary and tertiary levels and includes work-based learning and continuing training and professional development which may lead to qualifications.” The GoRTT recognizes TVET as a driving force in sustainable development and remains committed to supporting and developing this sector.

In Trinidad and Tobago, the **National Training Agency (NTA)** is the regulatory body for TVET and has responsibility for planning, coordinating and administering the national training system to ensure that the human capital of the country is effectively developed in the areas of technical and vocational skills for the benefit of the advancement of Trinidad and Tobago. During fiscal 2020/2021, the NTA undertook the following key projects:

Provision of Demand-Driven Labour Market Information and Occupational Standards to support TVET

This project generates labour market data to support planning and decision-making in the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sector. The labour market research on current and future skills needs informs the development of Occupational Standards which is further utilised by training providers for the development of their training programmes. The NTA via this project has accomplished the following during fiscal 2021:

- Creation of an electronic template to store supply-side labour market data
- Consolidation of all existing supply-side data into one dataset
- Completion of the draft labour market supply-side interactive online report
- Finalised the survey instrument to assess TVET Providers’ readiness for online /blended learning
- Establishment of a Sector Advisory Committee for the Manufacturing Sector

Implementation of the CVQ and TTNVQ and the Development of a National Qualifications Framework

The Caribbean Association of National Training Authorities (CANTA) developed a mechanism for the establishment of a regional certification framework to award the Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) and the Trinidad and Tobago National Vocational Qualification (TTNVQ). These certifications are based on learning outcomes that are derived from Occupational Standards developed by the industry. The goal of this project is to allow for the development of a pool of competent and certified workers for national and regional development, as well as promote and implement the CARICOM Model for Workforce Training Assessment and Certification and Lifelong Learning. In fiscal 2021, 64 secondary



schools were approved to offer CVQ's with 2,037 students registered. Other institutions involved in the advancement and promotion of TVET included MIC Institute of Technology Limited (MIC-IT) and the National Energy Skills Centre (NESC).

MIC Institute of Technology Limited

MIC-IT is the current industry leader in TVET and has taken strategic steps to expand its training to reflect the needs of local manufacturers with a greater focus on technological advancements. Additionally, this institution has also made great strides in the expansion of its reach in rural communities. MIC-IT boasts of cutting-edge German technology and German-trained instructors, this ensures that upon graduation, students can competently represent MIC-IT, and by extension Trinidad and Tobago, on an international scope. MIC-IT is the first TVET institution to be accredited by the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago (ACTT). Additionally, it is an approved NTA Training Provider and a City and Guilds Approved Centre. MIC-IT offers a wide range of training under the following:

- National Skills Development Programme (NSDP): 17 – 25 years
- Industrial Craft Programme (ICP): 16 years and over
- Multi-Sector Skills Training (MuST) Programme: 17 – 50 years; and
- Helping You Prepare for Employment (HYPE): 16 – 25 years
- Engineer in Training Programme (EIT): graduate engineers.

National Energy Skills Centre

Established in 1997, the National Energy Skills Centre (NESC) is a lead training provider that currently operates eleven (11) campuses across Trinidad and Tobago. The NESC is accredited by the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago and is ISO 9001:2015 certified and offers journeyman programmes in the areas of Automotive and Heavy Equipment; Building Construction and Maintenance; Plant Operations and Maintenance; Welding; Information and Music Technology and Drilling Rig. In August 2021, the NESC launched the Centre for Entrepreneurship which is designed to provide guidance and support to NESC students with business ideas on how to start their businesses. Following this successful launch, a MoU was signed on September 1st, 2021. between NESC and NEDCO. Through this MoU, NEDCO will offer entrepreneurial training and support to NESC students with viable business ideas. The MoU will provide even greater support to young entrepreneurs through NEDCO's Business Accelerator Programme.

Theme II: Good Governance and Service Excellence

This development Theme focuses on improving the public's trust in Government structures via the promotion of strong and independent public institutions. Good governance and service excellence are the pillars of a strong and effective public service and are crucial for the achievement of high quality of life for all citizens. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago remains steadfast in the continuous improvement in service delivery to citizens. During fiscal 2021 several of the initiatives undertaken were aligned to the medium-term goals of Vision 2030 which demonstrates commitment towards the attainment of the goals outlined below.

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

An efficient and effective public service relies on an integrated mixture of modern technology, innovation, and contemporary rules and regulations. The development and promotion of strong, high-performing public institutions facilitate the attainment of the country's development needs while simultaneously instilling a culture in which citizens respect authority and the rule of law. Within the social sector, service excellence, improved customer satisfaction, and greater efficiency remained key focal points in the provision of public services as evidenced by the following major efforts as stated below.

A. Digital Transformation of Public Institutions

Digital Transformation within the public service is essential for the seamless identification and implementation of dynamic solutions to respond to the changing social and economic landscape of the local economy. The GoRTT has committed to the digitisation of the public service to improve its engagement with citizens and deliver better public services. The following initiatives were executed in fiscal 2021 in keeping with this initiative:

Establishment of the Ministry of Digital Transformation

On July 12, 2021, the Ministry of Digital Transformation was formally established with the mandate to execute the Government's digital agenda. The GoRTT has envisaged that the establishment of this Ministry dedicated to the creation of a digital society is the foundation necessary for the successful creation of a digital public service. Consequently, this Ministry has embarked on both private and public sector collaborations to assess the digital needs of Trinidad and Tobago, these included:

- Collaboration with telecommunication company Flow to develop a digital transformation plan for Trinidad and Tobago
- Engagement with the THA to inform and influence the national approach to digital transformation in Tobago



- Discussions with the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government (MRDLG), to chart the way forward in the Digital Transformation of Local Government, a precursor to local government reform

Digital Transformation Advisory Committee

The Cabinet-appointed Digital Transformation Advisory Committee held its inaugural meeting on February 24, 2021. This Committee was established in keeping with the Government's thrust to deliver on its promise of a citizen-centric digital transformation initiative. This cabinet-appointed committee has been tasked with conducting an external analysis of the Government's proposed ICT investments, as well as, providing feedback on the impact of active investment on the quality of life and the standard of living of citizens in Trinidad and Tobago.

Digital Transformation Survey of Ministries and Department Services

In the second quarter of fiscal 2021, the then Ministry of Public Administration and Digital Transformation (MPADT) in collaboration with iGovTT administered its data collecting instrument to all Ministries and Departments (MD) to gather information regarding their use of ICT. Once collected, the data gathered from this survey will facilitate a more comprehensive understanding of the MDs current operations and allow the MPADT to improve the support and services provided to these organisations. In addition to ensuring that Government ministries and division's ICT solutions are aligned to the National ICT Plan (2018-2022), this exercise will highlight any duplication of efforts among ministries which will reduce wastage of government's limited expenditure.

Launch of the Automated Senior Citizens' Pension Process

The Automated Senior Citizens' Pension Process was launched by the MSDFS on March 29, 2021. This new initiative was formalised via a MOU between the MSDFS and iGovTT as part of the Ministry's agenda for digital transformation. This new service allows senior citizens the ability to apply for their Senior Citizens' Pension (SCP) via an online platform and ultimately reduces the need for this vulnerable population to visit Local Boards. This represents the Ministry's and by extension the Government's commitment to the delivery of quality services to this cohort of individuals.

B. Drive for Greater Efficiency and Improved Customer Satisfaction

Sustainable development demands a modern, competent public service that provides quality services to its clientele. Accordingly, the GoRTT continued to demonstrate its resolve to improving efficiency and customer satisfaction throughout the public service. The ongoing cultural paradigm shift across the public

service driven by enhanced evidence-based policy-making decisions and the introduction of modern technology has significantly contributed to improved efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of government services to citizens. In fiscal 2021, this strategic mandate was executed via the following initiatives:

Launch of the Public Sector Performance Management System (PSPMS)

Previously known as the Ministerial Performance Management Framework the Public Sector Performance Management System (PSPMS) was launched on December 16, 2020. This programme aims to improve the overall effectiveness of the State by establishing a sustainable mechanism for results-based management and service delivery, which will aid in achieving the Vision 2030 Strategic Development Plan goals. Similar to its predecessor, the PSMS entails the same overall goals and objectives of measuring and improving the delivery of services to citizens. This initiative is a move towards making the public sector and more specifically, the social sector, more transparent, accountable, efficient, citizen-centric, and focused on staff recognition and development.

The Integrated Social Services Delivery System and the Integrated Social Enterprise Management System

The MSDFS in its drive to improve the delivery of social services to citizens continued to aggressively develop and implement its integrated social services delivery system in fiscal 2021. Within the social sector, there is a multiplicity of ministries and NGOs providing similar social services to the same target beneficiaries. This duplication increases the burden on government expenditure and undermines the effectiveness of the overall delivery system. Through the introduction of the previously identified SSEU and the Integrated Social Enterprise Management System, the sector will have an enhanced technological platform to manage the suite of social services as it will facilitate the digitisation of grant processing. The transition to the integrated service delivery model will allow for greater interconnectivity with other government Ministries and agencies, as well as improved efficiencies in service delivery. This is expected to increase customer benefits and overall experience.

Improved Efficiency at the Housing Development Corporation

In the second quarter of fiscal 2021, the Housing Development Corporation (HDC) introduced its Enhanced Customer Care Centre. This centre is operational between 8 a.m.- 4.p.m and can respond to critical matters after hours and on weekends which has resulted in the HDC recording improvements in its communication with clients. Additionally, the HDC continued this drive of improving efficiency through the launch of its decentralised services, which unveiled improvements in the ease of doing business. In tandem, additional payment options were also created for individuals unable to visit physical offices. Steps are also being taken to work with the National Lotteries Control Board (to expand its payment



options to the public, as payments will soon be facilitated directly via the company's website. The Corporation is also looking forward to introducing soon a ManageEngine software to improve the response time for addressing queries and concerns.

Community of Practice for Policy Development and Management in the Civil Service

In fiscal 2021, the Community of Practice whose main objective is to develop a more coordinated, cohesive and standardised approach to policy formulation and management proved to be an exceptional strategy by which the MPADT was able to build the capacity of the public service. From its inception in 2019 to the present, the Community of Practice has made some significant strides, including the establishment of a policy library via data.gov.tt; baseline research into the policy functions across GoRTT, and the creation of Policy Development Guidelines which are in motion to be Cabinet-approved for use across all Ministries. The standardization of policy formulation across the social sector facilitates the streamlining of policies and programmes to efficiently target the most vulnerable in society.

Launch of the Municipal Emergency Operations Centre

In March 2021, the Municipal Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) was established as a central command for logistics, planning and operations during disasters, with the capacity to capture data in real-time from all Municipal Corporations. This ultimately results in enhanced disaster preparedness and response. The Municipal EOC uses a system, which comprises equipment, personnel, procedures and communications that work in tandem in an emergency to react, understand and respond. During a disaster, the Centre manages the combined assets of the Municipal Corporations, prioritising where to deploy these assets to ensure that the most pressing needs are met and that precious resources are used without duplication or waste.

Goal 2: Citizens will have Confidence in the Justice System

According to the National Development Strategy, negative perception along with citizens' disregard for the laws of the land has the potential to hinder national development. In fiscal 2021 the Government continued its thrust to improve the perception of the Judicial system via the following legislative amendments:

A. Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property (Amendment) Bill 2020

One of the key strategic mechanisms needed to improve the efficiency of public institutions and boost confidence in the justice system is the implementation of modern laws and regulations. One such initiative undertaken in fiscal 2021 is the new procurement legislation and regulatory framework to govern public

procurement within Ministries and Departments. On December 8, 2020, the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property (Amendment) Bill 2020 was passed in the Senate, and the Procurement Regulations were laid subsequently in the House of Representatives on July 2, 2021. It is envisaged that this critical piece of legislation will benefit all Ministries, inclusive of those in the Social Sector, as it fosters greater transparency in public procurement.

B. Legislative Agenda for the Social Sector 2020 – 2021

The section identifies some of the pressing national issues for legislative or regulatory action within fiscal 2021.

Table 1. IV: Legislative Action and Status by Ministry – Fiscal 2021

Ministry/Agency	Action Required	Status
Ministry of Social Development and Family Services	Amendments to Senior Citizens' Pension Act, Chapter 32:02	Under review by internal Ministerial Team.
	Amendments to Public Assistance Act, Chapter 32:03	Under review by internal Ministerial Team.
	Amendments to Socially Displaced Persons Act, Act No. 59 of 2000	The Street Dwellers Draft Policy is being finalised internally by the MSDFS.
	Proclamation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Homes for Older Persons Act (No. 20 of 2007) The Homes for Older Persons Regulations 2009 	
Ministry of Labour	Submitted the Draft Policy Position Paper on the Industrial Relations Act to Cabinet in May 2021.	Under review at Financial and General Purposes Committee (F&GP) of Cabinet.
	Finalisation of the Draft Cipriani College of Labour and Co-operative Studies Bill 2021.	Under review by the MOL and the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs.
	Amendments to Occupational Safety and Health Act, Chap. 88:08	Policy Position Papers for the Act and Regulations are under review by the Occupational Safety and Health Agency. Virtual consultation on the Welfare Regulations were scheduled for September 2021.
	Amendments to the Trade Unions Act Chap. 88:02.	The Draft Policy Position Paper was submitted to Cabinet for consideration in June 2021.
	Consultation on Employment Standards Bill (formerly Basic Terms and Conditions of Work Code)	A Report of the Industrial Relations Advisory Committee is under consideration.
	Repeal of the Foreign Labour Contracts Act, Chap. 88:11.	The Bill was laid in Parliament and Published in Gazette on February 4, 2021.

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Ministry/Agency	Action Required	Status
	Amendment to Recruiting of Workers Act, Chap. 88:10	A Draft Report on the sessions conducted by the Working Group established to draft a Policy Position Paper is being finalised.
Office of the Attorney General ¹¹	The Miscellaneous Provisions (Administration of Justice) Bill, 2020 - to amend the Supreme Court of Judicature Act, Chap. 4:01, the Summary Courts Act, Chap. 4:20, the Coroners Act, Chap. 6:04 and the Sexual Offences Act, Chap. 11:28 to provide for the procedural matters of the Courts and for matters related thereto.	Proclaimed on 24 December 2020.
	The Evidence (Amendment) Bill, 2020 - to amend the Evidence Act, Chap. 7:02.	Assent: 25 February 2021. Awaiting Proclamation.
	The Anti-Gang Bill, 2021.	Assent: 28 April 2021. Awaiting Proclamation.
	The Firearms (Amendment) Bill, 2021 - to amend the Firearms Act, Chap. 16:01	Assent: 6 July 2021.
	The Gambling (Gaming and Betting) Control Bill, 2021.	Assent 12 July 2021. Awaiting Proclamation.
	The Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill, 2021 - to amend the Sexual Offences Act, Chap. 11:28.	Assent: 19 July 2021. Awaiting Proclamation.

Goal 3: An Efficient and Effective Law Enforcement System

According to this Goal, the attainment of Vision 2030 will require both the modernisation and the strengthening of the local law enforcement systems to improve its efficiency and effectiveness. For the last two decades, high rates of serious crimes have been a burgeoning issue plaguing Trinidad and Tobago despite the consistently high levels of government expenditure allocated to this social issue. Consequently, the Ministry of National Security, through the varying arms of law enforcement has strategically implemented various initiatives to reduce the occurrence of serious crime across the nation. Significant strides have been recorded with 2020 recording a 23% drop in serious crimes when compared to 2019. Additionally, such initiatives continued to bear fruit in 2021 where a further 14% decline in serious crime was recorded when compared to 2020.¹² The following additional initiatives were made during fiscal 2021 in continuation of the GoRTT thrust towards improving the efficiency of the law enforcement systems.

A. Establishment of New Units

In fiscal 2021, the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) boosted its fight against crime with the establishment of four (4) new operational and strategic Units. In January 2021, both the new Legal, Research and Policy Unit and the Ballistics Unit was established. The latter is intended to provide a more

¹¹ Acts of Parliament – 12th Republican Parliament, 2nd Session, Parliament of Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

¹² <https://newsday.co.tt/2021/04/25/police-boast-of-lowest-crime-in-two-decades/>

secure and scientific environment for the testing of firearms and ultimately speed up the process of forensic testing, thereby reducing the workload on the Trinidad and Tobago Forensic Sciences Centre (TTFSC). Additionally, on July 1, 2021, the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service commissioned the Carenage Police Station and the new TTPS Coastal and Riverine Patrol Unit. This unit is also housed at the Carenage Police Station because of its strategic location in the Western Peninsula. It is anticipated that these efforts of the TTPS will supplement other measures also undertaken by the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard in the fight against the illegal entry of drugs, ammunition, and persons entering the country.

B. Introduction of New Technology in Law Enforcement

The Ministry of National Security (MNS) in tandem with the above initiatives has also established an Electronic Monitoring Unit (EMU) providing 24/7 real-time tracking and responding to any breaches by the wearer. Complementary to the EMU is the introduction of the Electronic Monitoring System (EMS). The EMS is intended to contribute to the overhaul of the penal system in Trinidad and Tobago as a more effective offender management system. Additionally, the Ministry to protect the survivors of gender-based violence, procured 250 electronic monitoring devices to administer to offenders. Additionally, the Ministry of National Security has also computerised its Head Office, the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment (TTR) and the Trinidad and Tobago Defense Force (TTDF) with a view of upgrading the information security management system that can enable secure and efficient information sharing across all MNS Divisions.

C. Operationalisation of the Crime Scene Simulation Facility

On March 3, 2021, the TTPS launched a state-of-the-art crime scene stimulation facility at the Police Academy. This facility boasts of multiple rooms that have been designed to reflect typical environments where crimes tend to occur, these include: a home, a bank, a classroom, and a bar, as well as a simulated police station with mock interview rooms, a lab, and carport. It is anticipated that the introduction of this facility will enhance the training received by police recruits as they will now be trained in the use of modern technology and techniques to process crime scenes, specifically evidence recovery and crime scene management. The GoRTT envisages that the addition of this training component will improve the overall capabilities of the police service and ultimately improve the detection rate.



D. Strengthening of the Police Service

The efficiency and effectiveness of the law enforcement system hinge on the underlying knowledge and ability of officers to remain up to date on modern crime-fighting techniques. Consequently, the TTPS in fiscal 2021, undertook the following training initiatives to improve the overall capabilities of its officers in the fight against crime:

- Homicide investigation techniques – to assist the TTPS in identifying and conducting complete homicide investigations, inclusive of gang-related ones
- Ethics in Law Enforcement – in September 2021, officers attending this session was refreshed on the issues of public perception of law enforcement and police brutality
- Customer Service training – this two-day workshop entitled “Executing Fruitful Customer Service through Potent Communication”, aimed to improve the customer service skill set of officers. This training is key to the ongoing organisational drive to improve its public perception

E. Trinidad and Tobago Municipal Police Service

The Trinidad and Tobago Municipal Police Service (TTMPS) was established in 2014 and is fully incorporated by the Municipal Corporations Act of 1990. Each borough, city and regional corporation has its cadre of dedicated and hardworking municipal police. To facilitate a greater understanding of its role in the national law enforcement landscape, in April 2021, the Municipal Police successfully launched its campaign for members of the public, to gain a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities.

Special Feature: Social Sector Response to the impact of COVID-19

A. COVID-19 Pandemic – A Year Later

On March 11, 2020, the WHO declared the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) a pandemic, a designation that has not been proclaimed in the last decade. A year later, this pandemic has spread to every continent affecting and changing the lives of billions across the globe. Globally, over 229 million individuals have contracted COVID-19 and more than 4.7 million deaths have been subsequently recorded. The latest statistics indicate that there are currently over 18.5 million active cases. In the Caribbean, as of September 2021, recorded confirmed cases were more than 1.8 million resulting in over 23,000 deaths, whilst Trinidad and Tobago recorded over 49,000 confirmed cases with over 1400 deaths¹³.

¹³ <https://covid19.who.int/>

According to the WHO, “When a virus replicates or makes copies of itself, it sometimes changes a little bit and these changes are called mutations. A virus with one or more new mutations is referred to as a variant of the original virus.” Over the last year, the SARS-CoV-2 has continuously mutated resulting in the subsequent manifestation of various variants globally. The development of these new variants, coupled with the premature relaxation of COVID-19 protocols, have seen spikes develop in countries that previously experienced a downward trend in the pandemic and it is, for this reason, the WHO believes that COVID-19 is far from over.

The unparalleled and unprecedented strain of this pandemic on global healthcare systems and their economies resulted in unconventional measures being deployed for the development of a global immunization initiative. On December 31, 2020, the WHO authorized the first vaccine for emergency use and since then, almost two dozen vaccines have been authorized for use around the globe with many more in development.

While emphasis has been placed on the unprecedented impact on the world’s health system, this global phenomenon negatively affected global economic growth in 2020 beyond anything experienced in nearly a century. According to the April 2021 World Economic Outlook Report published by the IMF, the global economy contracted by 3.5 per cent in 2020, with economic downturn being more pronounced in the poorest parts of the world. The removal of lockdown measures coupled with the continuous imposition of stringent preventative measures and mass vaccination rollouts have facilitated the slow recovery of the global economy.

However, inequalities amongst the global economies have prolonged the economic effects of the pandemic and dampened the recovery in many developing countries^[3]. The progression of the virus has had a more adverse economic and social effect on groups in the most vulnerable situations. According to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), “the pandemic has shown that vulnerability goes beyond just individual and biological characteristics, rather, it’s determined by the social, economic, and political context.” Accordingly, the need arises for the development of inclusive social policies that factor in both equity issues and the social determinants of health.

As time progresses, it is evident that COVID-19 is enduring and subsequently world governments must adapt to continue to preserve both lives and livelihoods. Concomitantly, the experience of this pandemic has emphasised the need for strong fiscal, social, and health policies to improve the resiliency of citizens and equip them with the capabilities to manage and overcome future shocks.



B. The Effects of the Pandemic in Trinidad and Tobago

Since the arrival of the first case of COVID-19 on March 12, 2020, Trinidad and Tobago has experienced various epidemiological fluctuations with the steepest spike in cases occurring in May 2021. Like countries worldwide, the GORTT implemented various public health regulations designed to curb the spread of the virus and preserve lives. The inherent cost of these restrictions exacerbated the impact of COVID-19 on an already fragile local economy. According to 2021 data released by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, there was a reduction in economic activity in fiscal 2020 that has continued in fiscal 2021. Many of the public health regulations established at the onset of the pandemic continued or were re-established in fiscal 2021; with a state of emergency eventually being declared on May 16, 2021.

The prevailing conditions resulted in the GORTT taking definite steps to preserve the lives and livelihoods of citizens. Strong international relationships allowed the Government to enter into loan agreements to help mitigate the effects of the pandemic, these included:

1. CAF Development Bank of Latin America – this loan provided the financial support required for the continuation of the government’s economic program as well as provided the financial boost needed to improve the capacity of the health system to combat the pandemic
2. Inter-American Development Bank – this loan agreement allowed the government to continue to fund its social support programs for vulnerable members of society

With the introduction of vaccines in the latter part of 2020, the GORTT was now tasked with procuring and administering enough vaccines to attain, for the minimum, herd immunity. Notwithstanding the inequitable distribution of vaccines among developing countries, Trinidad and Tobago entered into multiple agreements for the procurement of vaccines resulting in the availability of four WHO-approved vaccines - Sinopharm, Pfizer, Oxford/AstraZeneca and Johnson and Johnson. On February 17, 2021, the Ministry of Health commenced its vaccination drive and as at September 24, 2021, over 1 million vaccine doses have been administered with over 473,000 individuals completing their vaccination regimen.¹⁴ Beyond the economic and health impacts it has had on Trinidad and Tobago, COVID-19 has altered numerous aspects of society such as:

¹⁴ <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/59226cacd2b441c7a939dca13f832112/>

1. Increase in school dropouts – since the closure of all schools and teaching institutions across Trinidad and Tobago, online and distant learning has been the predominant option for students. Data released from the Ministry of Education has indicated that nearly 2,000 students have dropped out of the school system since the pandemic began.¹⁵
2. Increase in gender-based violence- A comparative analysis of gender-based violence from 2019 to 2021 has illustrated a marked uptick in cases from 2020 onward.
3. Reduction in serious crime- There was a 30 percent reduction in serious crimes in 2020 when compared to 2019. The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service has noted that this is the highest percent reduction in crime from one year to another in over 30 years¹⁶.
4. Digitization of services in the private and public sector- adapting to the “new normal” resulted in both the private and public sector increasing the number of online services available to citizens.
5. Increase in unemployment - during the period January 2020 to October 2020, the Ministry of Labour received 2,262 retrenchment notices but noted that due to underreporting by the informal sector the unemployment rate may be higher.¹⁷

Furthermore, during fiscal 2021 the GORTT in collaboration with United Nations entity for gender equality and the empowerment of women (UNWOMEN) undertook a Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) of the COVID-19 pandemic in Trinidad and Tobago. This assessment was conducted during the period December 2020 to May 2021 and sought to determine the differential effects and impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic as experienced by men and women; and how did women and men cope with the challenges presented by the pandemic. The OPM successfully executed this undertaking with strategic assistance from other government agencies and the civil society.

The GIA concluded that everyone in Trinidad and Tobago has been affected by COVID-19. However, the degree to which individuals have been affected depended on the nature of their vulnerability. The differential impact between women and men was visible through loss of income, the burden of care, Gender-based Violence (GBV) and the skills and assets which each group brought into the experience. The subsequent report on the assessment advanced the following conclusions:

¹⁵ <https://www.guardian.co.tt/news/gadsbydolly-almost-2000-school-dropouts-since-pandemic-began-6.2.1333668.29272e8fe0>

¹⁶ https://trinidadexpress.com/news/local/griffith-highest-reduction-in-crime-in-over-30-years/article_221c1830-4d62-11eb-8622-b33fec853766.html

¹⁷ <https://www.guardian.co.tt/news/minister-confirms-2262-lost-jobs-but-it-could-be-more-6.2.1233610.6849405496>



- COVID-19 tends to widen the inequality gap. This gap has been felt deeply by poor women who head households and their children – suggesting that without effective mitigation, a perpetuating cycle of structural poverty, inequality, stigma and discrimination and its attendant ills, particularly violent crime – and increasing vulnerability, will prevail. The poor elderly female pensioner has borne a heavy burden of care and share during this pandemic, displaying amazing resilience
- Households that existed within communities that exhibited robust social capital fared better than households within communities that exhibited frail social capital. The capacity to identify as a cultural unit with shared values that bind increases the strength of social capital
- Where household cohesiveness appeared durable, individuals whether from the LGBTQI+, PLWD, PLWHIV communities, proved more resilient than where household cohesiveness was fragile
- Members of the Migrant Community, despite being very vulnerable and exposed to severe challenges, displayed much resilience as is the norm with migrant communities worldwide. Members benefited from their robust social capital and that which existed within members of communities in Trinidad and Tobago

C. The “Whole of Government” response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Trinidad and Tobago

From the onset of the pandemic, the GORTT has adopted a “Whole of Government” approach to effectively manage and mitigate the ensuing effects of this virus. Various Ministries have subsequently implemented strategic initiatives to this end, these include:

1. Ministry of Education – ‘No Child Left Behind’

The Ministry of Education (MOE) has collaborated with various stakeholders through its “No Child Left Behind” Project to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the education system and deliver quality education to the nation’s children through various modalities. One such area of collaboration was the Ministry’s ‘Adopt-A-School’ initiative which was previously highlighted under Theme I – Goal 5.

2. Ministry of Health – ‘Vaccinate to Operate’

Commencing in June 2021, the Ministry of Health collaborated with various private sector entities for the roll-out of mass vaccinations as part of its ‘vaccinate to operate’ campaign. In this decentralized initiative, the ministry allocated specified quotas of vaccines to various sectors of the economy, such as the Supermarket Association, Manufacturer’s Association and the Contractor’s Association amongst others to reach a wider cross-section of citizens. This method

along with the procurement of substantial quantities of vaccines has allowed for the introduction of mass vaccination sites thereby allowing the GORTT to exceed its original vaccine target goals. Additionally, the Ministry of Health from the onset of the pandemic established a comprehensive communication strategy whereby the citizens were provided with daily updates as well as health guidelines and reminders.

3. Ministry of Labour

The Ministry of Labour continued its endeavour to protect and inform employees during these unprecedented times. In addition to the policies and guidelines developed in fiscal 2020, the Ministry of Labour (MOL) launched an e-sensitisation campaign titled 'Combat COVID-19, Toolkit Series for Employers/Employees'. Utilising its New Media Platforms, the Ministry published a 12-part info-graphic series that reflected and highlighted the procedures that should be implemented and adopted by employers and employees who are working from offices across Trinidad and Tobago, during this global pandemic.

4. Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs

Realising the need for COVID-19 specific regulations to combat the pandemic, the GORTT through the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs introduced new legislation as well as amended existing ones. This Ministry was instrumental in the development of the numerous Public Health Regulations utilised to enforce the Government's COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

5. Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government

The MRDLG partnered with Pan American Health Organisation/World Health Organisation (PAHO/WHO) for a COVID-19 risk reduction campaign. The campaign consisted of COVID-19 educational posters being disseminated throughout the fourteen (14) Municipal Corporations. This served as a reinforcement of the implemented COVID-19 protocols, which provided information on how to properly wear masks, the steps to washing of hands properly and overall information on the measures persons should take to stay safe during the pandemic. Posters were made available both in English and Spanish.

6. Ministry of Social Development and Family Services

The MSDFS, as the lead in the Government's social protection framework, continued to collaborate with different Government Ministries, Civil Societies, Non-



Governmental Organisations, and Faith-Based Organisations to provide the necessary support services to citizens in need. Emergency relief efforts received from other organisations involved the donation of vouchers and foodstuff, which facilitated the preparation of hampers for distribution to citizens in urgent need. Additionally, the NFSD embarked on a campaign to provide much-needed psychosocial support to citizens. The NFSD also utilized various media sources to inform citizens on tips to cope with this pandemic.

D. Support Measures for Individuals and Households

- **Phase I**

The initial COVID-19 wave in Trinidad and Tobago resulted in the Government implementing 'stay at home' measures from March 30, 2020. After this, various safety net measures were implemented to cushion the socio-economic impacts due to these restrictions. To date, an estimated total of 271,637 individuals have benefited from the support measures. Table 1.1 below provides a comprehensive breakdown of support initiatives and associated beneficiaries.

Table 1.V: COVID-19 Support Phase 1

Ministry	COVID-19 Intervention	Description	Beneficiaries
Ministry of Social Development and Family Services	Food Support	Additional support to existing beneficiaries of food support	25,101
		Food and Income Support-Retrenched/Terminated/Income Reduced	54,724
		The provision of Food Support to households that receive meals from the School Feeding Programme but who are not current beneficiaries of food support.	20,497
	Income Support	Support to current beneficiaries of the Public Assistance Disability Assistance Grant	17,824
		Support to current beneficiaries of the Disability Assistance Grant	24,627
	Senior Citizens Pension (outstanding)	Food support to persons who applied for Senior Citizens Pension but their applications were pending.	2,818
	Disability Assistance Grant (outstanding)	Food Support to persons who applied for Disability Assistance Grant but their matters were pending	488
	Hampers	Emergency Hampers were provided to families in urgent need during the stay-at-home period.	1,400
	Food Vouchers	Food Vouchers/Market Boxes provided to families, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture during the stay-at-home period and continuing. This included a basket of fresh produce, inclusive of two chickens, and a grocery voucher. This initiative aims to provide support to 30,000 families	24,999
	Rental Assistance	Rental Assistance to a family where a member was retrenched/terminated/reduced	4,322

Ministry	COVID-19 Intervention	Description	Beneficiaries
Ministry of Community Development Culture & the Arts	One Off Emergency Relief Grant	A one-off Emergency Relief Grant in the sum of \$5,000.00 to artists and creatives, who have lost income due to cancelled exhibitions, classes, conferences, workshops and other cultural related events.	1,055
Ministry of Youth Development and National Service- NEDCO	Entrepreneurship Relief Grant	A Grant Facility to assist micro and small enterprises earning less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00), to recover from the effects of COVID-19.	416
Ministry of Finance - National Insurance Board	Salary Relief Grants	A grant available to persons who contributed to NIS and experienced retrenchment/termination/income reduced.	91,393
Ministry of Works and Transport	Maxi - Taxi Owners Fuel Relief Grant (Diesel Grant)	The Maxi - Taxi Owners Fuel Relief Grant was provided to mitigate the economic impacts faced by Taxi Owners. This was due to the measures implemented by the Government for maxi-taxi drivers to operate at half capacity when plying their trade on the nation's roads. The Ministry of Works and Transport in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance issued a one-time payment valued at \$2,000 as a Relief Grant to qualified, registered owners of operational H-Taxis only	1973
Total			271,637

- Phase II

A substantial spike in coronavirus cases during May 2021, resulted in the tightening and reintroduction of lockdown measures by the GoRTT. Consequently, the GoRTT extended additional social support to individuals negatively affected by the imposition of new lockdown measures. On May 10, 2021, the Ministry of Finance listed the social support measures that extended to citizens during this second lockdown period¹⁸ which are outlined in the Table 1.2 below.

¹⁸ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ad2TMvNI7E>

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Table 1.VI: COVID-19 Support Phase 2

Ministry	Covid-19 Intervention	Description	Budgeted Allocation (\$)
Ministry of Finance - National Insurance Board	SME Stimulus Loan Facility	The SME Stimulus Loan Facility is a government-sponsored loan programme to help micro, small and medium-sized businesses impacted by the pandemic. Loans will be facilitated via participating Commercial Banks.	230 Million
	Credit Union COVID-19 Emergency Loan	The Credit Union COVID-19 Emergency Loan is government-financed and is intended to provide funds to members to mitigate any losses incurred because of the pandemic.	100 Million
	Salary Relief Grants	A grant available to persons who contributed to NIS and experienced retrenchment/termination/income reduced	30 Million
Ministry of Social Development and Family Services	Income Support Grant	A grant available to persons who were not in the NIS system and experienced retrenchment/termination/income reduced.	
	Food Card	This initiative involved the provision of 50 food cards for each member of Parliament for distribution to their most vulnerable constituents.	20 Million
	Collaboration with Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs)	The government collaborated with FBOs to provide much food support to vulnerable members of society.	10 Million
Ministry of Youth Development and National Service- NEDCO	Entrepreneurship Relief Grant	A Grant Facility to assist micro and small enterprises earning less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00), to recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.	20 Million
Ministry of Agriculture - NAMDEVCO	Food Baskets	The provision of food boxes to vulnerable families. In this initiative, NAMDEVCO provided 25,000 families in all forty-one (41) constituencies with these food boxes.	30 Million

In both Phases of the COVID-19 support initiative, the Government partnered with Faith-based Organisations to support the distribution of food hampers and food vouchers to those in need within the communities of these organisations. In COVID Phase 1, TT\$30 million dollars was distributed to 134 major religious organisations whilst \$TT10 million was provided in COVID Phase II. Approximately 81,000 hampers were distributed through 2002 religious sites located in communities throughout Trinidad and Tobago. This impacted over 75,000 individuals and families during the period May to October 2020 and February to May 2021.

F. Analysis of COVID-19 Grant Support

The two main individual/household-based grants were the Salary Relief and Income Support Grants. This section provides a brief analysis of data available for these grants as of September 2021. In total, **30,742** applications for assistance were received.

Salary Relief Grant (SRG)

Commencing in May 2021, the Ministry of Finance (MOF) facilitated the receipt of online applications for the SRG until the deadline for submission on July 9, 2021. At the close of the application period, the MOF received **24,000** applications. The screening of applications to determine eligibility is currently underway and as at August 16, 2021, the MOF has screened 14,747 applications and disbursed payments to 4,070 individuals.

Income Support Grant (ISG)

Income Support Grant (ISG)

The Income Support Grant commenced in May 2021 and facilitated online applications until July 15, 2021. On September 23, 2021 the MSDFS successfully completed the validation and processing of all grant applications and recorded receipt of 6,742 applications.

- ***Gender Disaggregation***

A disaggregation of the data by sex highlighted no significant disparity between males and females as 3,227 (48%) were female applicants and 3,486 (52%) were males applicants. Of those totals, 10% (643) of female applicants had their applications approved, with 9% (598) male applicants receiving approval. Table 1.3 hereunder provides further details.



Table 1.VII: COVID-19 Grant Support Categorised by Application Status and Gender

Gender	Applicants Applied	Applicants Approved	Applicants Rejected
Female	48%	10%	39%
	3,227	643	2584
Male	52%	9%	43%
	3,486	598	2,888
Total	6,713	1,241	5,472

- **Age Disaggregation**

An analysis of the age structure of applicants displayed that most persons (43 %) were between the ages of 31–45 years; followed by 27% of applicants falling within the 18–30 age group. Table 1.4 below provides a comprehensive breakdown of the age structure of applicants.

Table 1.VIII - COVID-19 Grant Applicants - Categorised by Age Groups

Age Range	No. of Applications	Percentage
Invalid Date of Birth and National ID	2	0.03%
<18	4	0.06%
>=18 and < =30	1784	26.58%
>31 and < =45	2906	43.29%
>46 and < =55	1257	18.72%
>55	760	11.32%
Total	6,713	

- **Current Status**

Upon completion of the validation process, the MSDFS conducted a final analysis on the process and highlighted the following noteworthy observances:

- Based on the established criteria outlining eligibility, the system automatically rejected 3,730 applicants who did not meet the approved criteria, whilst 809 applicants were automatically queried
- Additionally, 855 applicants possessed a NIS number and were automatically rejected
- A further 576 applicants did not supply an NIS number when completing their application but subsequent checks to NIBTT confirmed that they did possess a number and as such were rejected

F. Roadmap to Recovery for Trinidad and Tobago Post COVID-19 Pandemic

The International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook (April 2021) anticipates that "the global economy will recover in 2021 and 2022 with a projected GDP growth of 6% and 4.4% respectively. This growth, however, is not projected to be shared equally across countries or industries."¹⁹ Additionally, the World Bank further postulates that it anticipates that advanced economies will recover faster than its developing and emergent counterparts with the latter per-capita GDP expected to remain below COVID-19 levels for an extended period²⁰. Regionally, the Caribbean is projected to record moderate economic growth based on the realisation of the following conditions:

- i. Moderate progress regarding vaccine rollouts in most countries
- ii. Eased mobility restrictions
- iii. Positive spillovers from advanced economies
- iv. A rise in commodity prices

The materialisation of the aforementioned socio-economic conditions will facilitate projected growth of 3.8% in 2021 and 2.6% in 2022, with aggregate output expected to reach its pre-crisis level only by the end of 2023.²¹ It is against this backdrop that the UN World Economic Situation and Prospects 2021 report stated, "Without decisive policy action, the crisis could have a lasting negative impact on the region's labour markets and investment in physical and human capital. This, in turn, could further stifle innovation and productivity growth, holding back living standards."

In fiscal 2021, the foresight and preparedness of the GORTT's strategic steps to ensure the safety, security, and welfare of the citizenry, via the establishment of the Roadmap to Recovery Committee in May 2020 is beginning to bear fruit. The primary objective of this Committee was the development of a strategic 'way forward' for the return of the country to social and economic viability. Since its formation, the Committee has developed two reports which collectively set out the direction for Trinidad and Tobago, in the short, medium, and long term.

The Phase I report focused on the impact of COVID-19 on Trinidad and Tobago and emphasized the following three (3) immediate priorities:

- Addressing and mitigating the hardship inflicted by COVID-19
- Restarting the economy
- Laying the foundation for sustained economic recovery

Accordingly, the Phase I Report mapped out a course of action to achieve its short-term objectives of social protection; protection and creation of jobs; boosting aggregate demand; and minimising supply



disruptions. Conversely, the Phase II report focused on medium/long term development and is aimed at restructuring and transforming the economy, to create a more resilient, equitable, and self-sufficient society. As such, the Committee in its Phase II Report articulated the need for a new economy and society by:

- Embarking on new areas of activity
- Adopting new ways of doing things
- Bringing an end to some things which we are currently doing

The Committee outlined numerous recommendations in both Phase I and Phase II reports and has envisioned that the successful attainment of these suggestions, will facilitate the reignition of economic activity whilst concurrently ensuring the social stability of all. The GoRTT anticipates that strong collaborations with the private sector, civil society, and academia amongst others will be required for the efficacious execution of the Roadmap. As such, an “all hands-on deck” approach is being utilised for the implementation of this key initiative. Table 1.5 outlines key recommendations identified for achieving social protection.

¹⁹ <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2021/03/23/world-economic-outlook-april-2021>

²⁰ <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2021/06/08/the-global-economy-on-track-for-strong-but-uneven-growth-as-covid-19-still-weighs>

²¹ https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/wp-content/uploads/sites/45/WESP2021_CH3_LAC.pdf

Table 1.IX: Roadmap to Recovery Recommendations for Social Protection

ROADMAP TO RECOVERY		
SOCIAL PROTECTION: LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND		
Protecting the Vulnerable and the Displaced and Using the Social Safety Net to build a stronger T&T		
Expanding the Scope and Focus of Social Protection Programmes	Deepening the involvement of Civil Society Organisations in the Delivery of Social Protection Programmes	Making Equity and Empathy Central
<p>Food Support</p> <p>Review the extensive food support programme to ensure, with the support of NGOs, that no one in the country is going without food.</p>	<p>Collaboration & Capacity Building</p> <p>Build the capacity of CSOs and promote multi-partner collaborations to execute social services on behalf of the Government thereby increasing public confidence and accountability in the dissemination of these services.</p>	<p>Financing to SMEs</p> <p>Develop a small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) Investment Fund co-sponsored by Banks, Insurance Companies and Mutual Funds to provide non-debt financing to the SME sector.</p>
<p>Funding to the Vulnerable</p> <p>Provide funding to women and other vulnerable persons who have become unemployed or lost their livelihood because of COVID-19 mitigation measures.</p>	<p>Targeted Subventions</p> <p>Increase subventions to targeted charities, particularly those charities that are already providing services to some of the groups that are disproportionately impacted by the crisis i.e. women, children and unemployed youth.</p>	<p>Financing for Housing</p> <p>Provide financing for lower-income housing, priced TT\$1,000,000 and below.</p>
<p>Sustainable Employment Opportunities</p> <p>Provide incentives to businesses to develop initiatives that create sustainable employment for vulnerable groups.</p>	<p>Greater NGO Support</p> <p>Expand the support now being given to churches to include other CSOs such as United Way, the International Red Cross, FEEL and the Salvation Army to name a few.</p>	<p>Access to Capital Funding</p> <p>Introduce legislation to facilitate venture or private equity funding and increase access to capital for start-ups.</p>
<p>Facilities for At-Risk Groups</p> <p>Provide incentives to encourage individuals/businesses to support the establishment and maintenance of existing facilities and homes for at-risk children, youth and women.</p>	<p>Access to Grant Funding</p> <p>Facilitate CSOs' access to grant funding from multilateral developmental partners (including IDB, EU, UN – USAID and GEF, CDB, CIDA, DFID, and JICA).</p>	<p>Strengthen DevelopTT</p> <p>Strengthen the DevelopTT initiative to facilitate greater effectiveness and better-quality decisions to serve a wider national development agenda.</p>
<p>Social Services Re-engineering</p> <p>Reengineer the delivery of Family Services through the introduction of a coordinated mechanism supported by a Data Management System and one-stop mechanism that can identify those households, women and children that may require support.</p>	<p>Incentives for Employment Creation</p> <p>Provide incentives to the private sector to support CSOs involved in creating employment opportunities at the community level with the focus on women, children and unemployed youth.</p>	<p>National Youth Training</p> <p>Expand national youth training programmes—residential and non-residential.</p>
<p>Rental Support</p> <p>Review the Rental Support programme and develop a register of landlords willing to collaborate with the programme.</p>	<p>Reduced Bureaucracy</p> <p>Reduce the bureaucracy in the processing of CSO subvention applications and offer subventions for qualifying NGOs, which should not be more than 30% of their annual budget.</p>	<p>Covid-19 Protection</p> <p>Provide continued protection from COVID-19 for all persons in the face of the reopening of the economy.</p>
<p>Social Care Measures</p> <p>Implement a suite of social care delivery measures targeting, inter alia, women and men affected by violence, elderly women living alone, female</p>	<p>Violence-Impact Support</p> <p>Fund Government initiatives and support civil society organizations (NGOs, CBOs, FBOs) that provide social support for women and children and where</p>	<p>Primary Health Care Services</p> <p>Enhance the provision of readily available primary care (diagnostic and pharmaceutical) services for every</p>

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CHAPTER 1: THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION



ROADMAP TO RECOVERY		
heads of households, women and men with disabilities and mental health challenges.	appropriate men, particularly those impacted by violence and those in need of day and night care child services because of extended hours of work and shift work.	citizen or resident, perhaps via a universal health care system.
<p>Policies and Measures for the “New Normal”</p> <p>Devise policies and measures to operate in the new environment by reorganising ways of doing business and doing work, taking cognizance of the need to create equity in the care and supervision of children and families.</p>	<p>Promote Self-Sufficiency</p> <p>Work with CSOs to foster enabling environments that build the ability and capacity of women to help themselves and their children/families and transition them to a point of self-sustainability.</p>	<p>Funding For Anti-Violence Initiatives</p> <p>Fund domestic violence shelters, transitional facilities and family planning programmes at the community level and improving strategies to end gender-based violence.</p>
<p>End Gender-Based Violence</p> <p>Pursue and fund the implementation of existing strategies aimed at reducing all forms of violence in families and communities, in particular gender-based and youth violence. These strategies include the National Strategy to End Gender-based Violence, strategies to reduce violence in schools and communities and gang violence.</p>		

In fiscal 2021, the GoRTT prioritised the implementation of the Roadmap towards national growth, recovery and protection of the citizens, particularly the most vulnerable. The Ministry of Planning and Development (MPD) is mandated to monitor the implementation of these objectives and recommendations. As at June 2021, the MPD has identified the following achievements in keeping with recommendations outlined in the reports:

1. The implementation of safe back-to-work protocols following guidelines established by the Ministry of Health, which saw improvements in remote and virtual working arrangements.
2. The execution of evidence-based policy decisions that facilitated the \$1 billion budget allocation in fiscal 2021 to the agriculture sector to assist in greater food production via the increased production of raw materials, agro-processing, and the use of agricultural technology.
3. The provision of additional financial support to the private sector through tax refunds, accelerated VAT refunds, zero-interest government-guaranteed loans, grants for micro-enterprises amongst others.

The MSDFS, given its central role in coordinating the social protection system, continues to lead the charge in this transformative and recovery agenda. In fiscal 2021, as part of the implementation of its sector responsibilities, the MSDFS conducted a critical analysis of both reports vis a vis its strategic plan and identified the following seven (7) action areas under its remit in keeping with the recommendations highlighted above:

- a. Provide funding to women and other vulnerable persons
- b. Reengineer the delivery of Family Services through the introduction of a coordinated mechanism supported by a Data Management System and one-stop mechanism
- c. Work with CSOs to foster enabling environments that build the ability and capacity of women to help themselves and their children
- d. Build the capacity of CSOs and promote multi-partner collaborations
- e. Develop and implement policies to address affordability and equity of digital access to every segment of the population
- f. Expand the support of vulnerable persons, particularly single parents, and implement a programme to propel them to self-sufficiency
- g. Fund domestic violence shelters, transitional facilities, and family planning programmes at the community level, and improve strategies to end gender-based violence

Accordingly, this fiscal 2021 report on the achievements within the National Social Situation has also outlined how social sector ministries, agencies and departments have significantly aligned the above Recovery Mandate to their respective Strategic Agendas and are making significant headway. As such, Ministries continue to be committed to the recovery of Trinidad and Tobago and ensuring, most importantly that *'no one is left behind'*.



OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR AND REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES

CHAPTER 2

CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR AND REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES FOR 2021

This Chapter provides a synopsis of the budgetary allocations made by the Government towards social sector development for fiscal 2021 and provides a comparison of the allocations made over the past five fiscal years (2017-2021). The Chapter identifies new programmes implemented, policies developed and the research and evaluations undertaken by the social sector Ministries (SSM) during the fiscal year. It further reviews the achievements of the social sector programmes implemented and aligns their major achievements to the medium-term goals of the National Development Strategy.

2.1 BUDGETED ALLOCATIONS TO THE SOCIAL SECTOR

The shrinkage of global demand for commodities and supply chain disruptions continued to weigh heavily on the domestic economy. According to the Central Bank's Quarterly Index of Real Economic Activity, domestic economic activity contracted by 9% (year-on-year) in the fourth quarter of 2020 (Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, 2021). Additionally, in the non-energy sector, available indicators showed that economic activity continued to be negatively impacted by the public health restrictions implemented, to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the strength of recovery would vary significantly across countries and is dependent on the severity of the health crisis, access to medical interventions, exposure to cross-border spillovers of the virus variants and the effectiveness of policy support to limit persistent economic damage (International Monetary Fund, 2021).

For fiscal 2021, the Government focused intently on the health and safety of citizens as well as economic recovery to meet developmental and growth objectives. Total expected revenue was estimated at TT\$41.364 billion and total expenditure was budgeted at TT\$49.573 billion (Ministry of Finance, 2020). Allocation towards SSM and social sector Divisions of the THA summed to TT\$18.6 billion.

Table 2.1 below shows the distribution of this TT\$18.6 billion, among SSM and the social sector Divisions of the THA.

RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR



Table 2. I: Budgeted Allocations for Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2021

Social Sector Ministries & THA	Development Programmes TTD	Recurrent Expenditure TTD	Total TTD
Social Development and Family Services	13,620,000.00	4,950,225,000.00	4,963,845,000.00
Education	484,749,000.00	4,769,034,830.00	5,253,783,830.00
Health	597,300,000.00	4,870,980,312.00	5,468,280,312.00
Housing and Urban Development	170,863,000.00	748,528,300.00	919,391,300.00
Youth Development and National Service	57,148,000.00	175,198,729.00	232,346,729.00
Sport and Community Development	120,847,000.00	283,766,209.00	404,613,209.00
Office of the Prime Minister (Gender & Child Affairs & National AIDS Coordinating Committee¹)	2,859,000.00	110,606,000.00	113,465,000.00
Tobago House of Assembly*	200,000,000.00	1,056,764,300.00	<u>1,256,764,300.00</u>
Total			<u>18,612,489,680.00</u>
THA*			
Social Services Divisions			
Health, Wellness and Family Development		567,631,300.00	
Community Development, Enterprise Development and Labour		53,502,500.00	
Education, Innovation and Energy		352,579,300.00	
Sport and Youth Affairs		56,586,600.00	
Settlement, Urban Renewal and Public Utilities		26,464,600.00	
Social Infrastructure	200,000,000.00	1,056,764,300.00	1,256,764,300.00

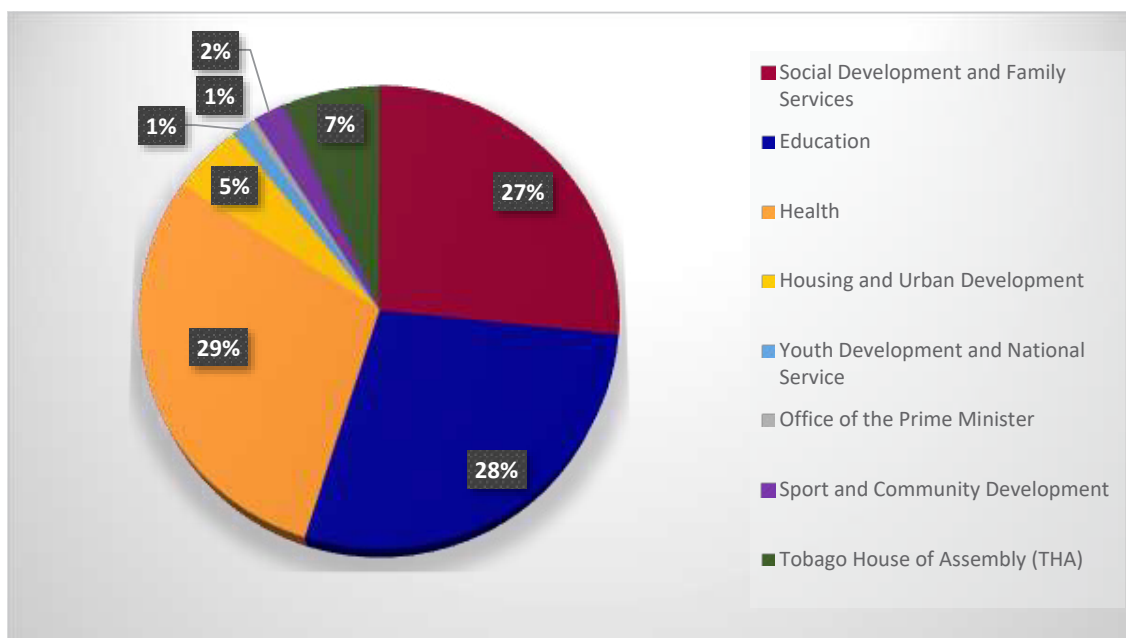
Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2021

The paramount importance of health care systems in preserving health and saving lives was brought to the forefront given the continued unprecedented public health emergency experienced. For fiscal 2021, the Ministry of Health

¹ For fiscal 2021, information pertaining to the social services divisions of the OPM was included in the review of Trinidad and Tobago's social sector.

received the largest budget allocation, at a rate of 29%, of the total social sector allocation. The Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services received the second and third largest allocations at 28% and 27% respectively. Figure 2.1 below illustrates the percentage allocations to the Social Sector Ministries and Social Services Divisions of the THA.

Figure 2.1: Budget Allocations for Social Sector Ministries and Social Sector Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2021

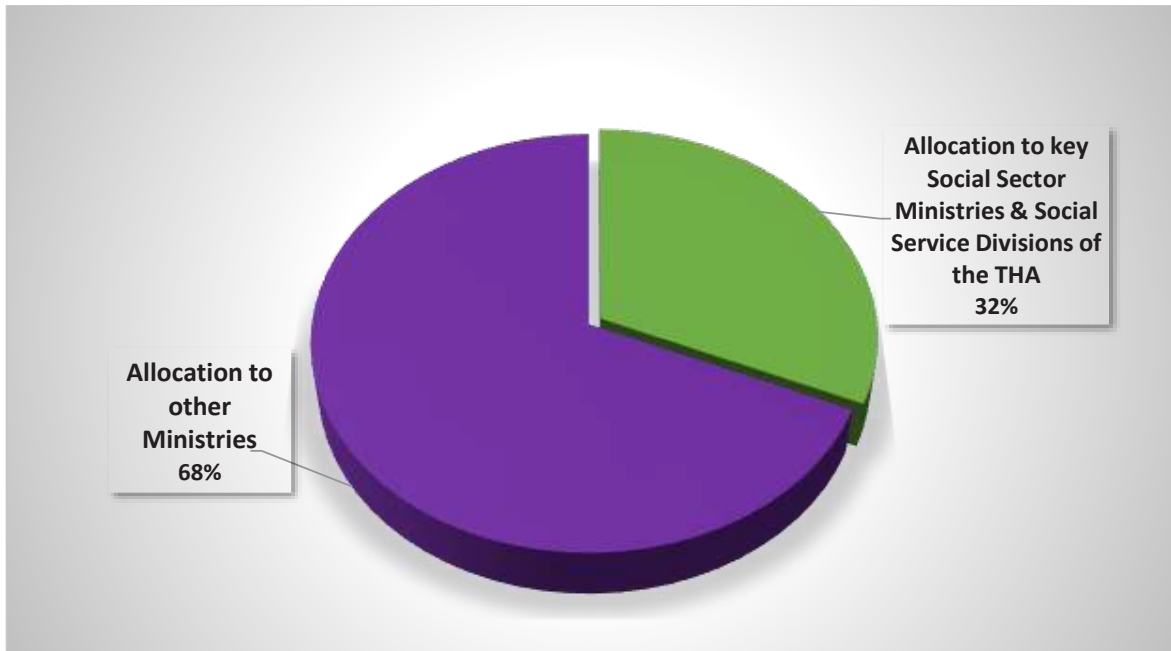


Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2021

The sum of TT \$18.6 billion allocated to the key SSM and the social services Divisions of the THA represents thirty-two percent (32%) of national estimates of expenditure. Figure 2.11 illustrates a comparison of the allocations to SSM and Social Sector Divisions of the THA, and that of other Ministries.



Figure 2.II: Budget Allocations for Social Sector Ministries and Social Sector Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly for Fiscal 2021 in Relation to Total National Estimate of Expenditure

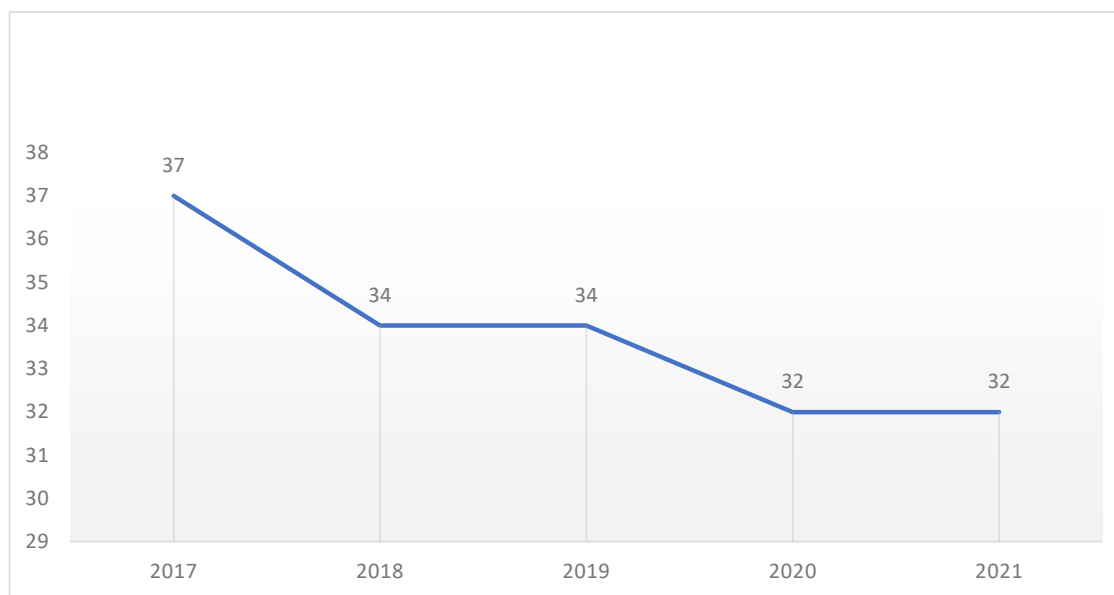


Source: Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2021

Figure 2.III displays the Government's investment in the country's social sector over the five years 2017-2021.

There has been an overall downward trend in investment in the social sector. Whereas investment peaked at 37% in 2017 (the highest allocation over the five year review period) it declined to 34% in fiscals 2018 and 2019 and then to 32% in fiscals 2020 and 2021.

Figure 2.III: Percentage of Budgeted Allocations to the Social Sector Ministries in Trinidad and the Social Services Divisions of the THA for the Period 2017- 2021



For the period 2015-2019, social sector allocations have been consistent at approximately 13% of GDP, except for fiscal 2016 where the allocation peaked at 15%. Table 2.II and Figure 2.IV show the allocations made to SSM and social services Divisions of the THA as a percentage of GDP for the 2015-2019 fiscal periods.

Table 2.II: Budgeted Allocations for the Key Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly and Gross Domestic Product for 2015-2019

Year	Social Sector Allocation (TT\$ Billion)	GDP ² (TT\$ Billion)	Social Sector Allocation as a % of GDP
2016	22.95	149.2 ^r	15%
2017	19.69	157.2 ^r	13%
2018	19.88	161.3 ^r	12%
2019	19.73	161.3 ^r	12%
2020	19.34	144.4 ^p	13%

Key

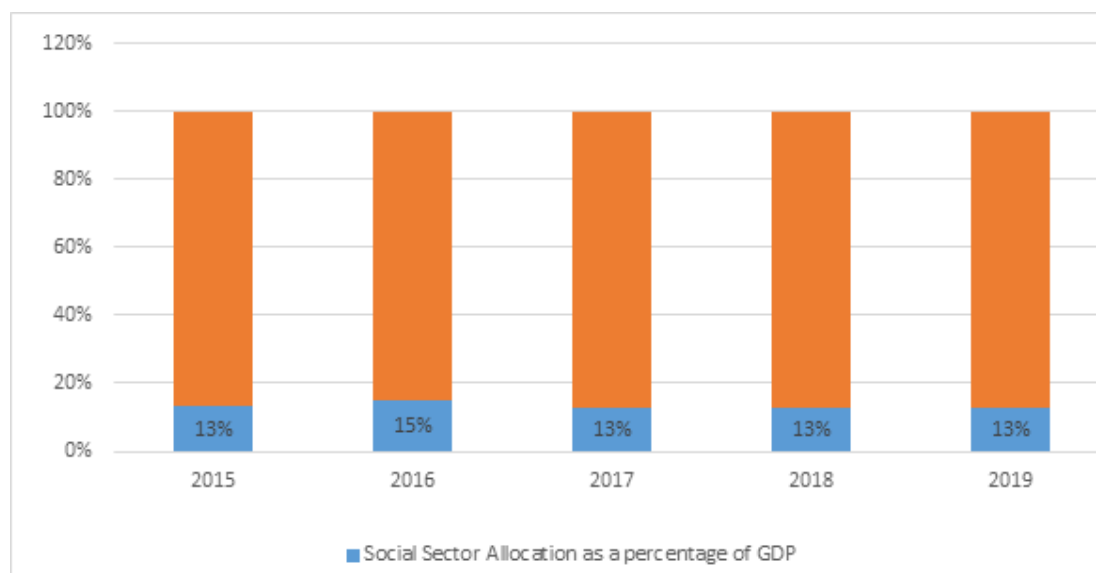
r – revised

p – provisional

² Central Statistical Office's (CSO) revised GDP at Market (Current) Prices for the period 2016 to 2019 and provisional estimates for 2020.



Figure 2.IV: Percentage Allocation for the Social Sector Ministries and the Social Services Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly and Gross Domestic Product for 2017-2021.



In fiscal 2021 there was a 7.6% decrease in the total budgeted allocations for Social Infrastructure and Social Programming. The total allotted for fiscal 2021 summed to TTD 9.7 billion compared to TTD 10.5 billion in fiscal 2020. Table 2.III provides the details of the total allocations for social infrastructure and programming over the period 2017-2021.

Table 2.III: Budgeted Allocations for Social Infrastructure and Programming for Fiscal Period 2017-2021

Year	Social Infrastructure ⁶ TTD	Social Programming TTD	Total TTD
2017	2,250,180,000	8,660,937,562	10,911,117,562
2018	2,008,378,000	8,117,055,000	10,125,433,000
2019	2,164,193,000	8,785,888,057	10,950,081,057
2020	2,189,359,000	8,318,258,320	10,507,617,320
2021	1,639,602,000	8,072,090,956	9,711,692,956

2.2 NEW PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN FISCAL 2021

As the Pandemic continues to affect and alter how society operates, the programmes and projects developed by Ministries and State Agencies were also modified to meet the emerging needs. Despite these new adaptations in the delivery mechanism, the overall impacts and contributions towards the achievement of the National

Development Goals remain consistent. Box 2.I highlights the new programmes and projects developed/implemented during fiscal 2021.

Box 2.I: New Programmes and Projects /Initiatives developed/implemented in Fiscal 2021

- **Early Childhood Intervention for Learners with Special Needs (MOE)**
- **The Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Initiative (MOE)**
- **Blended/Hybrid Learning Material (MOE)**
- **Conduct of Teacher Education Sessions on Psychoeducational Needs of Students (MOE)**
- **Student Support Services Division (SSSD) Hotline (MOE)**
- **Counselling Programmes (MOE)**
- **National Comprehensive School Guidance and Counselling Programme (MOE)**
- **Curriculum Reform 2021 – 2023 (MOE)**
- **CVQ Expansion (MOE)**
- **Grow-It-Yourself (MSCD)**
- **Grand Parenting Programme (MSDFS)**
- **Entrepreneurial Development Packages (MYDNS)**
- **FashionTT online training programme (MYDNS)**
- **Public Sector Performance Management System (MPADT)**

2.3 SOCIAL POLICIES DEVELOPED IN FISCAL 2021

Public policies provide the Government's principal course of action towards managing a particular issue that will result in positive outcomes, which will ultimately improve the well-being of the citizenry. The policies that were developed, for fiscal 2021, are listed in Box 2.II.



Box 2.II: Policies Developed and/or Implemented in Fiscal 2021

- Roadmap for Trinidad and Tobago Post COVID-19 Pandemic (MPD)
- National Drug Policy and Operational Plan (2021-2025) (MNS)
- Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) *Planning Ahead for Local Government Reform* (MRDLG)
- Phase I Implementation of the National Policy on Sustainable Community Development for Trinidad & Tobago 2019 -2024 (MSCD)
- National Tourism Policy (MTCA)
- National Youth Policy (2020-2025) (MYDNS)
- SWMCOL's Strategic Plan 2021 – 2025 *Pathway to Sustainability* (SWMCOL) (MPU)
- National Policy for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in Trinidad and Tobago (MOL)
- HDC's Policy for the Provision of Housing for the Vulnerable Society (MHUD)

2.4 RESEARCH CONDUCTED IN FISCAL 2021

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 2021 are highlighted in Box 2.III.

Box 2.III: Research scheduled to be conducted and/or finalised in Fiscal 2021

- Learning Loss Survey (MOE)
- Promoting Mental Health in Education) (MOE)
- National Consumption Survey (NADAPP) (MOH)
- Evaluation of the Be Trinity Smart programme for Preschools and Primary Schools in Trinidad and Tobago (NADAPP) (MOH)
- Gender Impact Assessment of COVID-19 (OPM)
- Gap Analysis fo the Health and Family Lide Education Curriculum (MOE/Spotlight)
- Assessment of Women's Movement and Grassroots Organisations in Targeted Communities (OPM/Spotlight)
- Situational Analyss of the Socio-Economic effects of the Economic Downturn (MSDFS)
- Assessment of Civil Society (MSDFS)

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 2021, several social sector Ministries expended approximately 97% 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 fiscal 2021 and 2020 (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 fiscal 2021 and 2020

MINISTRY	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2021 (TTD)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2021 (TTD)	% OF ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE	
			2021	2020
Ministry of Education	4,769,034,830	4,652,582,900	97	100
Ministry of Health	4,870,980,312	5,123,693,722	105	88
Ministry of Housing & Urban Development	748,528,300	742,898,636	99	100
Ministry of Social Development and Family Services	4,950,225,000	4,982,340,876	100	104
Office of the Prime Minister * social services Divisions³	127,268,750	165,955,750	130	110
Tobago House of Assembly* social services Divisions⁴	1,916,000,000	1,917,854,768	100	89
TOTAL	17,382,037,192	17,585,326,652		

Source: Figures supplied by the Budget Division, Ministry of Finance, September 30, 2021

Over the period 2016 to 2021, Government's expenditure on major social safety net programmes averaged a little over TT\$ 7 Billion annually. Table 2.IV 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 2016, total expenditure amounted to TT\$ 3.69 Billion and in 2021, expenditure was estimated at 3.81 Billion. The highest expenditure to the SCP during the period was TT\$ 4.1 Billion in 2020. The Disability Affairs Grant recorded the second highest expenditure overall. In 2016, total expenditure for the DAG was recorded at TT\$ 517 Million and in

³ OPM social services Divisions comprise of Gender & Child Affairs & National AIDS Coordinating Committee (NACC)

⁴ THA social services Divisions comprise of Education, Innovation and Energy, Sport and Youth Affairs, Food Production, Forestry and Fisheries, Community Development, Enterprise Development and Labour and Health, Wellness and Family Development Division

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2021, TT\$ 523 Million was estimated. The highest expenditure for the DAG during the 6-year period was TT\$ 614 Million in 2020. The Community-based Environment and Enhancement Programme (CEPEP) recorded the third highest overall programme expenditure during the 6-year period. In 2016, expenditure totalled TT\$ 532 Million (highest) and in 2021, TT\$ 442 million was the estimated expenditure.

Table 2.V: Actual Expenditure for Selected Programmes for the years 2016 -2020 and Revised Estimates of Expenditure for 2021

PROGRAMME	Actual Expenditure 2016	Actual Expenditure 2017	Actual Expenditure 2018	Actual Expenditure 2019	Actual Expenditure 2020	Revised Estimates of Expenditure for 2021
Community-based Environment Protection & Enhancement Programme (CEPEP)	531,587,765	450,000,000	447,997,789	353,540,125	400,400,000	442,800,000
Disability Assistance Grant (DAG)	516,847,841	523,754,942	513,471,887	565,697,681	613,074,082	523,000,000
Government Assistance for Tertiary Expenses (GATE)	650,000,000	504,940,251	434,300,000	435,000,000	435,000,000	400,000,000
National Schools Dietary Services Limited	235,500,000	200,000,000	203,301,570	239,200,000	179,557,905	12,000,000
On the Job Training (OJT) Programme	347,820,000	228,083,000	175,895,662	237,721,728	313,595,184	275,071,208
Public Assistance Grant (PAG)	463,991,114	404,253,153	391,385,916	356,875,829	488,250,684	370,000,000
Senior Citizens' Pension (SCP)	3,688,326,325	3,506,374,482	3,553,245,345	3,846,556,192	4,062,735,944	3,819,210,577
Food Support Programme	260,000,000	158,103,630	139,930,450	153,125,151	314,033,570	218,972,513
Unemployment Relief Programme (URP)	349,840,805	299,901,474	272,154,782	281,472,096	281,472,096	266,000,000
TOTAL	7,043,913,850	6,275,410,932	6,131,683,401	6,469,188,802	7,088,119,465	6,315,066,298

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

REVIEW OF SOCIAL PROGRAMMES

The section below highlights over 120 new and ongoing social sector programmes spanning 13 Ministries and the five (5) Divisions of the Tobago House of Assembly. These programmes address a wide range of socio-economic and other pertinent issues including: ageing; community development and the arts; child protection; culture; disability affairs; education; employment and entrepreneurship; environmental protection; family support; gender issues; health care and services; housing; information technology; literacy; poverty reduction; skill development; social protection; and substance abuse. The section also outlines the ways in which these programmes impact on sustainable human, social and community development.

Box 2.IV: Ministries/Divisions highlighted in this chapter

- Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries (MALF)
- Division of Health, Wellness and Family Development, Tobago House of Assembly (THA)
- Division of Food Production, Forestry And Fisheries (THA)
- Division of Community Development, Enterprise Development And Labour (THA)
- Division of Settlements, Urban Renewal And Public Utilities (THA)
- Division of Education, Innovation and Energy (THA)
- Ministry of Education (MoE)
- Office of the Prime Minister (Gender and Child Affairs) (OPM)
- Ministry of Health (MoH)
- Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MoHUD)
- Ministry of Labour (MoL)
- Ministry of National Security (MNS)
- Ministry of Public Utilities (MPU)
- Ministry of Public Administration and Digital Transformation (MPADT)
- Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government (MRDLG)
- Ministry of Sport and Community Development (MSCD)
- Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS)
- Ministry of Youth Development and National Service (MYDNS)

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES	<p>AGRICULTURAL INCENTIVE PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme is geared towards supporting the agricultural sub-sectors through increased access to low-cost technology and with a renewed focus on increased food production and food security.</p>	Farmers	<p>During Fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Considerable routine in-house training by extension personnel were provided to farmers. Approximately eight hundred and seventy-three (873) farmers benefited. In addition, farmers and homeowners availed themselves of the free courses offered by the Farmers Training Centre, which covered a wide range of topics. <p>Additionally, The Ministry's Agricultural Incentive Programme 2011 was revised during the fiscal and is pending approval.</p>	Improved livelihoods
	<p>FISHERIES INCENTIVE PROGRAMME</p> <p>Provision of Incentives to fisher folk to assist with harvesting, processing and enhancing their livelihoods.</p>	Fisher folk, communities	<p>For the period October 2020 to June 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Six hundred and forty-five (645) applications for VAT exemptions and waivers were processed and granted. Aquaculture training was provided to forty-nine (49) stakeholders. Twenty-two (22) persons (10 females and 12 males) participated in a training course in 'Fish Handling, Processing, Salt Curing and Drying', under the Sustainable Management of By catch in Latin America and Caribbean Trawl Fisheries. 	Improved livelihoods
	<p>FORESTRY INCENTIVE PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme initiative is geared towards reversing the cycle of deforestation and land degradation and simultaneously providing economic, social and environmental benefits.</p>	Communities, environment, farmers, general public	<p>For the period October 2020 to June 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fifteen (15) farmers were advised on good land use practices. The Forestry Division planted approximately 5 hectares of land. Approximately sixteen (16) persons were employed from various communities. 	Sustainable land use practices

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)</p> <p>The Division of Health, Wellness and Family Development, seeks to be an integrated entity spearheading the THA's thrust for improved health service delivery and social development.</p>		<p>The following programmes were undertaken by the Division of Health, Wellness and Family Development during Fiscal 2020/2021:</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p>
<p>❖ <i>Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme (ADAPP)</i></p> <p>This programme is responsible for providing drug demand reduction in Tobago. It is mandated to deliver substance abuse prevention awareness at schools and at the community level with a focus on education and training.</p>	<p>Families, Communities</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six (6) out of 9 Health Centres were visited over the period. • Three (3) Clinics received Substance Abuse information over the period. • Six (6) communities were reached over the period. • Two (2) schools received Substance Abuse and Life Skills sessions and Drug Prevention Education. • 52 school personnel were introduced to the TRINITY Smart Programme. • 62 persons accessed Counselling services. 	<p>Self-reliant and sustainable communities.</p>
<p>❖ <i>Golden Apple Adolescent Partnership Programmes (GAPP)</i></p> <p>This programme, delivered under the Aging Unit is designed to meet the social needs of the elderly in Tobago, through long-term care.</p>	<p>Senior Citizens</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021: The Golden Apple Adolescent Partnership Programme provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services for the social wellbeing of seniors in Tobago and the provision of caregivers to those in need continued. • The Programme provided care to approximately 50 clients via 33 Caregivers, Nine (9) Field Supervisors, and two (2) Social Care Officers also provided support to clients. 	<p>An Enhanced Quality of Life for Older Persons.</p>

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INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>❖ Community Mediation Programme</p> <p>This programme serves as the facilitation and empowerment of individuals, groups and communities by resolving disputes through mediation in a non-threatening environment.</p>	<p>Communities</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021 the following was achieved:</p> <p>Mediation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 57 cases were mediated. • 13 site visits were conducted. <p>Anger Management and Conflict Management Workshop (children and adolescents)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eight (8) 90 minute group sessions; 21 individual anger management sessions; and one (1) whole day session were conducted with 11 residents of the Probation Hostel. <p>Conflict Management (adults workshop) were facilitated as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One (1) session with 56 trainees from the MUST and HYPE Program Tobago. • One (1) session with 14 members of staff from Public Health. • Two (2) sessions with nine (9) members of staff from Probation Hostel. • Two (2) sessions with six (6) members of staff from Children's Residence. 	<p>Self-reliant and sustainable communities.</p>
<p>❖ Establishment of Probation Hostels</p> <p>The Probation Hostel is a place of safety for children 8-18 years of age.</p>	<p>Families</p>	<p>For the Period 2020/2021 the following were achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intake of two (2) residents - one (1) male and one (1) female. • Discharged two (2) residents (1 male and 1 female) • Enrolled one (1) female resident to the Civilian Conservation Corps • Ten (10) Anger Management Sessions were conducted with the Community Mediation Unit. • Case Conference/Management was conducted. • Development of the Standard of Operations for the two (2) community residences. 	<p>Continued safety of children.</p>

DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <i>Establishment of Probation Hostels</i> ❖ <i>Disabilities Affairs Unit</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vocation Centre for Persons with Mental Retardation</i> ❖ This programme aims to provide the differently abled with a safe and secure environment where they can learn and interact with others. 	<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly sporting activities and motivational sessions were held with the Net Ash Foundation. • Referrals of four (4) female residents to Children and Family Services for counselling. • Field Trips to Corbin Wild Life, Movie Towne and Friendship Horse Riding Stables, as well as Movie Nights were provided to the children. • Additionally, one (1) short-term Caregiver was hired, one (1) Family Case Worker was transferred and Monitoring and Supervision of residents with the assistance of the Probation Services Unit was conducted. <p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 persons enrolled at the Vocation Centre for Persons with Mental Retardation. The participants have various disabilities and were provided with academic training (e.g. Computer Studies and Remedial Mathematics and English); vocational training (e.g. food preparation and woodwork); life skills training; and participated in social events. Training and academic assessments are ongoing. <p>Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Unit provided 26 clients with equipment such as wheel chairs. from the Programme's equipment bank. • 23 students continued to be provided with online classes in Computer Studies, Agriculture, Independent Living/Life Skills, Mixed Craft Sessions and Counselling support. • The Technical Vocational Centre received 18 Tablets courtesy the Digicel Foundation for Students to facilitate online class sessions at home. • Staff members attended a One Day Certificate Coaches Training Workshop on development of a new sport, "Floorball", by the T&T National Special Olympics Committee in partnership with the THA's Sports Department. 	<p>Continued safety and education of persons with disabilities.</p>

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT (TORAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <i>Disabilities Affairs Unit</i> • <i>Vocation Centre for Persons with Mental Retardation</i> 	Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Services Officers attended an online Multi-sectoral National Induction Training Workshop hosted through the Pan American Health Organization in collaboration with the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The main focus of the three-week workshop was to help participants better understand the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities relative to the Sustainable Development Goals. • Over 15 home visits were made to clients who needed their equipment serviced during the stay-at-home period; 18 students received food support through the Family Development Department and 10 students received Temporary Food Cards through the Division of Finance. • 12 students received hampers and social support was provided to Three (3) Clients who lacked family support. The Unit also continued monthly provision of one-on-one special personal assistance. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <i>Implementing Family Remedial Therapy/ Thinking</i> <p>This initiative is delivered under the Probation Unit and is targeted to foster the rehabilitation of Offenders, Children in need of Supervision and Probationers. This kind of group therapy engages participants in Cognitive Restructuring, Social Skills Development, Development of Problem-Solving Skills and aims at promoting positive behavioral change.</p>		For fiscal 2021: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A session entitled “Choosing a Better Way than Crime and Drugs” was held. 10 persons between the ages of 15 to 24 benefitted from this Programme during the period under review. 	Reduction in Recidivism in reports regarding deviancy

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>❖ Programme For Adolescent Mothers (PAM)</p> <p>The Programme for Adolescent Mothers is a developmental and Educational programme which provides the necessary support systems for adolescent mothers and their babies. The programme assists adolescent mothers who are school dropouts acquire the skills of mothering, while continuing their education. It also seeks to equip them with technical skills as a means of employment. The programme is intended to decrease the number of repeated pregnancies among young women and break the cycle of inter-generational poverty which may emerge among the target group due to early pregnancy.</p> <p>The programme components include training in Life Management, Moral/Spiritual Education, Parenting Education, Childcare, Mathematics, English Language and Social Studies. Technical skills include: Cosmetology, Food and Nutrition, Computer Literacy and Sewing. The Programme also provides counselling, day care services and training in pre post-natal childcare.</p>	<p>Adolescent Mothers</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developmental Training on Life Management, Family Planning, Moral/Spiritual Development, Parenting Education and Childcare, Health Education as well as Technical Skills Training on Cosmetology, Food and Nutrition, Computer Literacy and Sewing was conducted. Day care services were provided and eight (8) food vouchers were distributed to teenage mothers. Online classes for 22 students in the following areas commenced and continued: Parenting Education, Life Skills, Cosmetology, Computer Literacy, Food and Nutrition, Mathematics, General Paper, Social Studies. 	<p>Continued safety and education of teenage mothers.</p>
<p>❖ Litter Eradication Programme (LEP)</p> <p>The Programme was created to improve the aesthetics of the island through litter collection. The Objective of the programme is to deliver a clean, safe and healthy environment, through the removal of all visible litter across Tobago while expanding employment opportunities for families in need.</p>	<p>Communities</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 24,530 bags of disposable litter and 8,790 bags of recyclable litter were collected. 	<p>Maintenance of a clean environment</p>

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>DIVISION OF FOOD PRODUCTION, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)</p>	<p>DIVISION OF FOOD PRODUCTION, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)</p> <p>The Division of Food Production, Forestry and Fisheries (DFPF) is responsible for the preservation and sustainable management of the island's natural resources, as well as the marketing and distribution of indigenous agro-based products of Tobago. Further, the Division is charged with the responsibility of improving agricultural production and promoting agriculture as a viable business in Tobago, through the delivery of a number of services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <i>Agribusiness Development – Tobago Agribusiness Development Company (TADCO)</i> • <i>National Food Distribution Drive</i> <p>The National Food Distribution Drive is being undertaken for the benefit of families adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in Tobago. On a weekly basis, Two Hundred (200) food packages are prepared and distributed to affected families under the stewardship of the Tobago Agribusiness Development Company (TADCO). TADCO is an amalgamation of Three (3) Special Purpose Companies, of the Tobago House of Assembly. These companies are Tobago Cassava Products Ltd. (TCPL), Tobago Cold Storage and Warehouse Facility Ltd. (TCOSWAF) and Fish Processing Company of Tobago Ltd. (FIPCOT). This new company will also lead the development of the agri-business sector on the island. Activities under this mandate will operationalize the policy directive of the Division of Food Production, Forestry and Fisheries to enhance Tobago's food security and export strategy.</p>	<p>Farmers and families</p>	<p>The following programmes were undertaken by the Division of Food Production, Forestry and Fisheries during fiscal 2021:</p> <p>A total of 3,730 persons received food packages.</p>	<p>Improved Livelihoods and self-sufficiency of persons living in Tobago.</p>

DIVISION OF FOOD PRODUCTION, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
	<p>❖ Home Gardening Initiative</p> <p>This project forms part of the Division's food security program which encourages all citizens to engage in some form of agricultural activity. The overall aim is to stimulate the population to support, purchase and consume more of Tobago's agricultural products.</p>	Home gardeners and community groups	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three (3) virtual training sessions for social media, which provide tips on crop husbandry, pest and disease management, composting were produced. • 181 participants from various groups including - Police Youth Clubs; Tobago Agricultural Society, Signal Hill Community Youth Group; home gardeners and churches received training in crop husbandry.. • One distribution event providing approximately 1,000 seedling packets, 1,984 seedlings of various varieties and 1,976 cassava sticks to home gardeners and the general public was held. 	Improved Livelihoods and self-sufficiency of persons living in Tobago.
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AND LABOUR (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)	<p>DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AND LABOUR (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)</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>❖ Centenarian Awareness Programme</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 hampers with non-perishable items as well as a certificate of life.</p>	Older persons	<p>The following programmes were undertaken by The Division of Community Development, Enterprise Development and Labour during Fiscal 2020/2021:</p> <p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of Nine (9) persons benefitted from this programme. 	Elder Appreciation

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NATIONAL OUTCOME	ACHIEVEMENTS	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	INITIATIVE	DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AND LABOUR (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)
Sustainable communities	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> YZone Online Programmes were offered during July/August 2021. The July/August 2021 cycle was chosen with the intent to foster entrepreneurial, social and educational opportunities to young persons between the ages of 7 to 25 years of age. A total of 144 young persons benefitted. 	Young persons between the ages of 7 to 25 years old	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YZone Online Programmes YZones (Youth Friendly Space) is a safe, nurturing and enabling environment which facilitate and support the holistic development and transformation of young people. 	
Sustainable communities	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 236 persons enrolled in the Programme. However, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 cycle will be extended to 2022, to facilitate the 1800 registered persons. Half of the participants were facilitated in 2021 and the remainder will be facilitated in 2022. 	Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vocation Skills Training Programme The Vocational Skills Training Programme is one of the flagship programmes on the Division's work plan. It is geared towards empowerment, community development and promoting of lifelong learning. These skills training are held annually for six months at community facilities throughout Tobago. Training takes place during the day from 9am to 12 noon, and in the evening from 5pm to 8pm. 	
Sustainable families and communities	<p>For the fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 36 persons between the ages of 60 to 90 received food baskets. 	Families and communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CEPEP's Blissful Baskets The Programme distributes baskets with organic food products and agro-processed items throughout the twelve districts in Tobago. These baskets were created and provided by the Community-based Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programme (CEPEP) staff. 	

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>DIVISION OF SETTLEMENTS, URBAN RENEWAL AND PUBLIC UTILITIES (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)</p> <p>The Division of Settlements, Urban Renewal and Public Utilities was established in 2017, following the realignment of portfolios within the Tobago House of Assembly. The Division is currently engaged in the development of its strategic plan, which will chart the course envisaged for the next three (3) years.</p>	<p>Low and middle income households</p>	<p>The following programmes were undertaken by the Division of Settlements, Urban Renewal and Public Utilities during fiscal 2021:</p>	<p>Improved living conditions of individuals and families</p>
<p>❖ Home Completion Programme 1</p> <p>This Programme is for persons who are in legal possession of residential lands and are in the process of constructing their first home. In cases of emergencies this grant may also be used to assist families who are victims of natural disasters and fire. Persons can either qualify for the sum of \$35,000 or \$50,000. In order to qualify, applicants must not have a combined household income exceeding \$15,000.</p>	<p>Low and middle income households</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021 the following was achieved: A total of 175 persons were assisted during the period under review.</p>	<p>Improved living conditions of individuals and families</p>
<p>❖ Home Completion Programme 2</p> <p>This programme assists persons who began construction/renovation work on their homes but were unable to complete due to inadequate financial resources.</p>	<p>Low and middle income households</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021: • A total of 133 persons were assisted with home construction/renovation.</p>	<p>Improved living conditions of individuals and families</p>
<p>❖ Home Improvement Subsidy</p> <p>This Programme assists persons in improving the conditions of their homes. Applicants in this programme are required to submit bills amounting to \$20,000. The applicant is required to be occupying the dwelling. This grant is disbursed in two tranches to each qualifying family and the applicant's household income must not exceed \$15,000.</p>	<p>Low and middle income households</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021: A total of 49 persons were assisted via the programme.</p>	<p>Improved living conditions of individuals and families</p>

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>DIVISION OF EDUCATION, INNOVATION AND ENERGY (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)</p>	<p>DIVISION OF EDUCATION, INNOVATION AND ENERGY (TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)</p> <p>The Division of Education, Innovation and Energy (DEIE) is charged with the development and implementation of policies and initiatives related to education, innovation and energy in Tobago. The Division, also operates in conjunction with the Ministry of Education and the National Library and Information System (NALIS).</p> <p>❖ <i>Financial Assistance to Necessitous Students</i></p> <p>This programme is administered by the Student Support Services Unit where Financial Assistance to Necessitous students is a service made available by the Division of Education, Innovation and Energy. The Division seeks to assist necessitous (<i>poor enough to need help from others; destitute; impoverished; indigent; needy; poverty-stricken</i>) students within Tobago by supplying school related items which would equip the students and give them an opportunity to perform at their maximum potentials. This Programme occurs during the July/August period. The process includes a financial assessment to determine the severity of the need and seeks to provide some of the items for students to return to school. The items would usually include books, uniform and shoes but with the advent of the Pandemic in 2020, the unit focused on the provision of textbooks.</p>	<p>Necessitous students</p>	<p>The following programmes were undertaken by the Division of Education, Innovation and Energy during Fiscal 2020/2021:</p> <p>For fiscal 2021 the following was achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 545 families were assessed during the Programme which represented 1,032 students. This included: 317 secondary level students; 680 primary level students; 31 early childhood students; and 4 special school students 822 of these students were assisted with textbooks for the 2020/2021 school year. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	<p>GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE FOR TUITION EXPENSES (GATE)</p> <p>The Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses Programme (GATE) is managed by the Funding and Grants Administration Division (FGAD) of the Ministry of Education.</p> <p>The Programme seeks to provide financial assistance, to cover the cost of tuition fees, to all qualified citizens of Trinidad and Tobago pursuing approved tertiary level programmes at local and regional public and private institutions. On completion of their studies, persons benefiting from the programme are required to complete a period of national service commensurate with the value of the grant.</p> <p>The implementation of a Means Test is now in effect to determine access to the GATE Programme.</p> <p>Undergraduate students are to be funded as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. where the household income is \$10,000 per month or less, students will be eligible for 100% funding; ii. where the household income is above \$10,000 per month but less than \$30,000, students will be required to pay 25% of their tuition fees; iii. where the household income is \$30,000 per month or more, students will be required to pay 50% of tuition fees. <p>Postgraduate students are to be funded as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. persons who qualify and their household income is \$30,000 per month or more, will receive 25% of tuition fees; ii. persons who qualify and their household income is less than \$30,000 per month, will receive 50% of tuition fees. 	<p>Students of undergraduate and postgraduate level programmes at public, pre-approved private and regional Tertiary Level Institutions (TLLIs)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the fiscal 2021 period, 21,201 students in post-secondary and tertiary education benefitted from the GATE Programme. • GATE funding was also expanded to two (2) more disciplines that support national priority needs. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens</p>



INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>HELPING YOU PREPARE FOR EMPLOYMENT (HYPE)</p> <p>HYPE Training is a nine (9) month programme with 80% practical and 20% theory. It's based on a "learn to work" model and mainly conducted with the training institution. Trainees are also given the opportunity to visit job sites on field trips to gain hands-on experience.</p>	<p>Unemployed Nationals between the ages of 16 and 25 years</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to June 2021 the following was achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two hundred and fifty-two (252) trainees were enrolled in the HYPE programme and placed at job-sites; • Eighteen (18) trainees were enrolled in the HYPE programme and aligned to mentors in job positions. • A new Programme Initiative was introduced as follows: Success Central Community Skills Training Programme. Career guidance and counselling is ongoing. • Two hundred and nine (209) trainees were enrolled in the HYPE programme but not yet aligned to mentors in job positions. <p>Guidance and Counselling, with an associated life skills component, commenced</p>	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens</p>
<p>HIGHER EDUCATION LOAN PROGRAMME (HELP)</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 2020 to June 2021 Two hundred and ninety-seven (297) loans were approved for students.</p>	<p>Students of undergraduate and postgraduate level programmes</p>

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</p> <p>NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED: (SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMME)</p> <p>The School Nutrition Programme provides deserving students throughout Trinidad and Tobago with breakfast and lunch to ensure that they achieve a head start in their quest for academic excellence.</p> <p>The provision of school meals contributes to 1/4 and 1/3 of the child's recommended dietary allowances for breakfast and lunch, respectively. The programme seeks to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve the nutritional status of the needy child thereby enhancing the child's ability to learn; and 2. Further stimulate the agricultural sector by utilizing local produce wherever possible in the meal plan. 	<p>Primary and Secondary School Students</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to June 2021 the following was achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 156,303 breakfast meals and 169,411 lunches were provided. • Four, 20-day menu cycles (regular and vegetarian) were nutritionally analysed. • 691 farms were visited and data on the crops produced was collected. Preliminary data analysis was also completed. • 15 recipes featuring local produce were developed/modified. • Virtual nutrition education sessions with a focus on the basics of healthy eating and the promotion of local foods, were conducted for approximately 2,750 participants from 26 schools. <p>Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality Assurance Officers and Zonal Managers conducted routine visits to contract kitchens to assist them with the execution of menus or recipe standardisation continued. • Independent random microbial testing of food items, to ensure that the standards of food quality were consistent and in keeping with requirements, were continued. About 24 samples were tested for the period January 2021 to March 2021. • Institutional strengthening occurred: Kitchen staff were exposed to ongoing training in quantity food production and/or food safety. • NB (No meals were produced during the first quarter - October to December 2020 - as schools remained closed due to COVID-19 restrictions.) 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens</p>



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p align="center">MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</p>	<p>MULTI-SECTOR SKILLS TRAINING (MuST) PROGRAMME</p> <p>The MuST Programme is a “Work to Learn” programme designed for unemployed nationals of Trinidad and Tobago between the ages 17 to 50 years. The programme seeks to develop self-awareness and self-confidence in socially displaced citizens.</p>	<p>Unemployed Nationals between the ages 17 and 50 years</p>	<p>For the fiscal 2021 period the following was achieved under the MuST:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One hundred and thirty-three (133) trainees were enrolled in the Programme and placed on job sites. • Ninety-seven (97) trainees completed External Verification (Hospitality and Tourism only). • One hundred and ninety-six (196) trainees were enrolled in the Programme’s online learning (Life Skills, Soft Skills and Theory) <p>Major Constraint: Delivery gaps due to online delivery methods.</p>	
	<p>TEXTBOOK RENTAL LOAN PROGRAMME</p> <p>To provide primary, secondary and special education schools (Government, Government Assisted and Private) with the required quantities and titles of textbooks and learning materials to ensure that all students are provided with the means to access quality education.</p>	<p>All Primary and Secondary School Students</p>	<p>During fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,191 textbooks were redistributed among 42 secondary school • 251 textbooks provided to one (1) primary school . • E-textbooks were published on the Ministry of Education’s website.. 	

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (SSSD)</p> <p>This initiative covers the following areas within the education system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developmental Assessment and Intervention - School Social Work - Guidance and Counselling - Special Education 		<p>During fiscal 2021 the following were achieved:</p> <p>Development Assessment and Intervention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 70 principals and 1,152 teachers were trained on de-escalating challenging behaviours in the classroom. • The Teacher Education, Performance and Professional Development Division conducted five (5) training sessions with Induction and Early Childhood Care and Education Teachers. • A total of 409 students, 230 teachers and 60 curriculum officers benefitted from nine (9) training sessions in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anxiety Awareness in Students (Levels I and II). • Identifying and Managing Anxiety in Students. • Managing Mental Health during the Pandemic (Curriculum Officers and University School Teachers). • Coping with Exam Anxiety (S.E.A.) • A total of 141 psychoeducational evaluations were completed and 105 evaluations are in-progress. • A total of 77 Functional Behavioural Assessments (FBA) were completed with 108 Assessments still in-progress. • 45 Behavioural Intervention plans were completed • 3 flyers on Good Mental Health Practices were uploaded to the MOE Social Media platform. • A Student Mental Health Survey was disseminated. A total of 6,806 students responded. • Two (2) virtual symposia were conducted, ‘Valuing Psychoeducational Assessments’ and ‘Exploring the role of School Psychologist in Trinidad’ which benefitted 557 persons. 	
<p>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</p>			

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (SSSD) Continued		<p>School Social Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 20,230 parents and students benefitted from the Laventille/Morvant School Improvement Project's Parenting in Education sessions. Topics covered included: Coping, Anxiety and Resiliency, Absenteeism and Truancy, and Building Healthy Parent Child Relationships while adapting to the New Normal. The Student Support Services Division (SSSD) hotline recorded a total of 5,092 hotline calls. A total of 408 participants across seven (7) education districts partook in the Community Voices initiative. The breakdown is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 127 critical incidents interventions were provided. 	
			<p>Guidance and Counselling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 42, 501 parents benefitted from parent education sessions. 1,844 teachers benefitted from teacher education sessions. 258, 553 students benefitted from group guidance programmes. 6,203 students benefitted from individual and group counselling. A total of 3,145 consultations were held with parents, teachers and administrative staff at primary schools (847 participants) and secondary schools (2,298 participants). 264 referrals were received at primary schools (68) and secondary (178) schools. 10,389 students benefitted from virtual career fairs. 530 students benefitted from 'World of Work' activities. 1,626 students benefitted from career advising sessions. 	

NATIONAL OUTCOME	ACHIEVEMENTS	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	INITIATIVE	
	<p>Special Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 officers were trained in Autism and Applied Behaviour to support learners on the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Spectrum. • Over 600 students with learning and behavioural challenges were screened using Special Needs Assessment Profile (SNAP). • Approximately 120 students received referrals for internal psychoeducational assessments. • 64 officers were sensitised on Blindness and Visual Impairment. • Approximately 20 officers were trained via virtual conferences and webinars for COVID-19 sensitisation and intervention. • Approximately 68 persons received orientation as Special Education and Student Aides. • Inclusion of ECCE Centres and the Division of Education, Innovation and Energy (Tobago) on the Inclusive School Project (ISP). The total number of ECCE centres on the ISP is eight (8). • Three (3) external stakeholder engagement meetings on Inclusion were held which benefitted approximately 29 persons. • Staff sensitisation workshops were conducted with 12 of the ISP schools, which benefitted 240 participants. Sensitisation workshops were also conducted with internal and external stakeholders. This benefitted 19 participants. 		<p>STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (SSSD) Continued</p>	<p>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</p>



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	<p>YOUTH TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (YTEPP)</p> <p>❖ <i>Youth Training Programme</i></p> <p>This programme aims to provide technical and vocational skills training to prepare graduates for employment opportunities and articulation to higher levels of training. The Programme targets a broad category of at risk, unskilled and unemployed youth, as well as under-served communities, by offering a suite of courses that are relevant, demand-driven and incorporate Life Skills and Entrepreneurial Training interventions.</p> <p>The benefits of this programme includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of young and at risk youth that are skilled and certified in occupational areas that are in demand; • Sector support by the establishment of a competent workforce leading to the satisfaction of the demand for skilled labour; and <p>Increase in the number young entrepreneurs. Participation in this programme would lead to improvement in occupational competence, work habits and attitudes of young persons to enhance their employability.</p>	<p>Young persons between the ages of 15 and 35 years particularly “at risk” youth</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to June 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 445 persons were enrolled in programmes under Youth Training. • 257 persons were enrolled in online classes at the full time Centres. • Training was resumed at the Institute of Culinary Arts with 27 enrolled trainees. • Validation exercises continued to certify trainees in a virtual online training pilot project • Face to face classes were conducted for trainees nearing completion of Cycles 47 and 48a. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens.</p>

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p style="text-align: center;">MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</p>	<p>❖ Retraining Programme</p> <p>This programme aims to provide vocational skills training and certification at Levels 1, 2 and 3, in occupational areas that would enhance opportunities to access viable and lucrative employment and self-employment options. The programme also equips persons with the requisite employability skills required to maintain employment and progress in the workplace.</p> <p>The benefits of this programme include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of displaced persons skilled and certified in occupational areas that are in demand, enabling them to re-enter the workforce; • Sector support by the establishment of a competent workforce that will satisfy the demand for skilled labour; and • Increase in the number of new businesses established. <p>This programme will result in a skilled and certified workforce trained in 26 skill areas and able to access sustainable employment and self-employment opportunities and articulation to higher levels of training. It will also engender improvement in work habits and attitudes of displaced persons to enhance their ability to manage in a dynamic work environment.</p>	<p>Retrenched/ displaced, unemployed and underemployed persons up to 60 years of age</p>	<p>During fiscal 2021, the following was achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eight (8) classes commenced with 154 persons enrolled in the Programme. • The final assessment and external verification of Cohort 3 of the Esthetics class at the Institute of Cosmetology was completed and nineteen (19) trainees commenced training for Cohort 4. 	<p>A well-developed, well-educated, qualified cadre of citizens.</p>

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	<p>❖ Rehabilitating Inmates through Training and Retraining (RITTR) The Rehabilitating Inmates through Training and Retraining (RITTR) is an intervention geared towards providing training to convicted inmates with the intent of reducing reoffending and recidivism and targets inmates in all of the prison institutions who have 6 to 18 months of their sentence remaining. Trainees in the 3 prison institutions are exposed to training in 3 areas, namely, Technical and Vocational Skills Training, Life Skills, and Information Technology at Levels 1 and 2.</p> <p>This project seeks to ensure that participants are trained and certified, can successfully reintegrate into society upon release from prison and are thus less likely to reoffend. The social benefit of this programme is a reduction in the rate of re-offense and recidivism amongst beneficiaries through an increase in the number of graduates in sustainable employment (wage or self) after release from prison.</p>	<p>Prison inmates who have 6-18 months of sentencing remaining</p>	<p>During fiscal 2021 the following was achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thirty (30) inmates were enrolled and completed Cycle 13 at the Maximum Security Prison (MSP) and the Golden Grove Prison (GGP) institutions. 	<p>Improved Reintegration into society</p>
	<p>❖ Community –Based and Special Project/Initiatives</p>		<p>During fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The partnership with BPTT for training on the Mobile Cosmetology Unit resumed with Cohort 4 held in the environs of Palo Seco and Beetham – 54 persons enrolled in the Hair Braiding and Weaving & Barbering courses. • One hundred and fifty-five (155) persons enrolled in online training in SAGE 50 Accounting, Digital Literacy and AutoCAD. 	



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
	<p>FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITY RESIDENCES – (PAYMENT PER CHILD SYSTEM)</p> <p>This System involves the GoRTT providing financial assistance to meet the direct and a certain percentage of the indirect needs of children living in Community Residences (CRs) and State Residences. The direct needs are food, clothing, schooling, medical care and transportation, whilst the indirect needs being met are psychosocial care, administration, utilities, building and fixtures. Payments are based on the various age brackets into which the children fall with a different upkeep cost applicable to each bracket.</p> <p>Objectives of the initiative are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhance the quality of care provided to children at Community Residences 2. Aid in the attainment of licenced status of CRs. 	<p>Children up to 18 years living in Community Residences</p>	<p>As at June 2021, 288 children in Community Residences and 104 youth in Community Residences benefitted from this initiative.</p>	<p>Enhanced quality of care provided to children in Community Residences.</p> <p>Progress towards the attainment of licenced CR status.</p>

NATIONAL OUTCOME	ACHIEVEMENTS	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	INITIATIVE	
	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <p>This fourth instalment of programme featured a webinar where 72 children were educated on the Convention on the Rights of a Child and were taught fundamental graphic and video design. The ambassadors were then tasked with creating 2 graphic designs and 1 video suitable for Social Media</p>	<p>Children 18 years and under</p>	<p>CHILD RIGHTS AMBASSADORS PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Child Rights Ambassadors (CRA) Programme seeks to provide a platform upon which children are ambassadors for their rights in keeping with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).</p> <p>Objectives include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To educate children on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and its relevance to their lives; 2. To equip children with creative arts skills that can be used to educate their peers and adults about child rights; 3. To empower students with a platform to speak out on issues that affect them that may be used to inform policy; and 4. To increase public awareness on the role and function of the Child Affairs arm of the Office of the Prime Minister. 	<p>OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)</p>
<p>Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to March 2021:</p> <p>A total of 648 patients (male and female) of the public health care system accessed medical procedures from private institutions through the Ministry of Health. Additionally, 585 patients were approved for cardiac procedures as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angiograms: 280 • Angioplasty procedures: 85 • Coronary Artery Bypass Grafts: 181 • Electrophysiology procedures: 14 • Other cardiac procedures: 25 	<p>Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>CARDIAC PROGRAMME</p> <p>In addition to cardiac care provided at public sector hospitals, the Ministry of Health, through its Adult Cardiac Programme, also procures cardiac services from private health care providers on behalf of citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. These services include Angiograms, Angioplasties, Transoesophageal Echocardiograms and Open-Heart Surgeries.</p>	<p>MINISTRY OF HEALTH</p>

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INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>CHILDREN'S LIFE FUND AUTHORITY</p> <p>The Children's Life Fund Authority (CLFA) is the body bestowed with the responsibility to operate, manage and administer the Children's Life Fund. The vision of the CLFA is to provide the most vulnerable in our society with access to life-saving medical treatments not available locally. The CLFA facilitates this provision by ensuring that all eligible applicants to the Fund are carefully assessed by a team of highly Specialised Doctors and Medical Social Workers to ensure that the best care plan is determined and carefully executed. The CLFA's priority is the well-being of the children and their families.</p>	<p>Children 15 years and under</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to December 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eleven (11) children from one (1) month to 15 years of age benefitted from the Fund with a 73% survival rate recorded for the period. <p>For the period January 2021 – March 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four (4) children from one (1) month to 13 years of age benefitted from the Fund with a 100% survival rate recorded for the period. <p>For the period April 2021 – June 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of eleven (11) infants from 6 to 7 months of age benefitted with an 80% survival rate recorded for the period. <p>NB: Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, patients were unable to travel to seek medical treatment abroad.</p>	<p>Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.</p>
<p>CHRONIC DISEASE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (CDAP)</p> <p>The objectives of this programme are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To offer patients afflicted with a chronic disease, convenient, faster and improved access to medication. 2. To reduce the burden on public dispensaries and patient waiting time by providing additional private dispensing facilities across the country. 3. To reduce the cost of healthcare to patients. 	<p>Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>As at June 2021,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The total number of patients accessing the programme totalled 84,785 with a total of 170,074 unique transactions being recorded. • Approximately 235 Private Pharmacies were registered on the programme, and two pharmacies exited the programme during the fiscal. <p>Additionally, forty-four (44) pharmaceuticals, four (4) non-pharmaceuticals comprising two (2) brands of diagnostic blood glucose test strips, insulin syringes, needles and spacer devices) were available to treat chronic disease patients.</p> <p>NB: The pharmacy at the Couva Medical Multi-training Facility was temporarily stopped due to the institution operating as a Covid-19 treatment facility.</p>	<p>Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.</p>

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>EXTERNAL PATIENT PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme is aimed at ensuring that quality and timely healthcare is delivered to all citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. It aims to meet the demands of the public health care system by providing an efficient service to patients whilst reducing the patient waiting list at public health institutions. Surgical services are provided in the areas of Cataract removal, Joint Replacements, CT/MRI Scans and Histology services with the Regional Health Authorities.</p> <p>Applicants must be registered patients of a public health facility for a minimum of three (3) months awaiting the service requested.</p>	<p>All citizens</p>	<p>During the period October 2020 to March 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 272 requests for assistance were received. However, zero patient applications were approved during this period. Approvals for certain procedures were on hold due to the unavailability of funding to commit new payments and the suspension in the facilitation of patients at the Couva Medical and Multipurpose Facility (CMMF) due to COVID-19. <p>Additionally, the following medical procedures for patients of the Public Health Care System were conducted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cataract removal surgeries: 11 (4 males; 7 females) CT/MRI scans: 7 (2 males; 5 females) Joint Replacements: 10 (4 males; 6 females) Other procedures deemed urgent and necessary (inclusive but not limited to mammograms and ultrasounds): 74 (8 males; 166 females) 	<p>Efficient Quality Healthcare System.</p>
<p>HIV COUNSELLING AND TESTING PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Programme offers HIV Counselling and Testing via Public Health Facilities and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) that have a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Health to provide the service. The overall objective of this initiative is to increase the percentage of the population that has received an HIV test and know the results.</p>	<p>Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>For the period January to March 2021: Approximately 16,643 persons (male and female) received HIV testing and counselling and became aware of their status. Of this total:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 249 were (14 years and under); 3,048 were between (15 and 24 years); 11,255 were between (25 to 60+ years); and 2,091 fell into the Other and (age not stated) category 	<p>Efficient Quality Healthcare System.</p>
<p>HIV AND AIDS TREATMENT AND CARE PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Programme offers HIV Treatment and Care to all persons who receive an HIV-positive test result following access to the HIV Counselling and Testing service via Public Health Facilities and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) that have a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Health to provide the service. The Treatment and Care Programme also offers diagnostic screening to determine CD4 count and viral load suppression.</p>	<p>Persons living with HIV and AIDS</p>	<p>As at May 25, 2021, approximately seven thousand, three hundred and thirty (7,330) were reported to be receiving Antiretroviral therapy. The breakdown is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children (14 years and under) - 50 (21 males; 29 females) Youth (15-24 years) - 304 (167 males; 137 females) Women (25-49 years) - 2,450 Men (25-49 years) - 2,102 50 years and older - 2,424 (1,442 males; 982 females). 	<p>Efficient Quality Healthcare System.</p>

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INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>MEDICAL AID PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme aims to provide medical financial assistance to patients through the public-patient initiative. Its objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the demands of the public health care system; and • Provide an efficient system to patients of the public health care system. 	<p>All citizens</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to March 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 219 requests for assistance were received for External Radiation Treatment through this programme. Of this number, 79 patients received assistance. • 73 patients applied for financial assistance through this programme for: Eye Surgeries, Prosthesis, and other services deemed urgent and necessary. 	<p>Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.</p>
<p>PREVENTION OF MOTHER TO CHILD TRANSMISSION PROGRAMME (PMTCT).</p> <p>This initiative provides care and support to HIV positive pregnant women and offspring infection with HIV in order to prevent Mother to Child Transmission of HIV.</p>	<p>Pregnant women, new attendees, HIV exposed infants treated after birth.</p>	<p>During the period October 2020 to December 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Of the 36 live births tested for HIV infant exposure, results received at the time of reporting indicated that none of the infants tested positive. • 2,781 pregnant women were screened. Of this total, 2,631 (approximately 95%) knew their HIV status. • From a total of 36 HIV infected mothers attending antenatal clinics, approximately 35 women (97%) received anti-retroviral drugs during the period. • 36 live births to HIV-infected women were recorded with 13 infants (36%) receiving a virological test for HIV within 2 months of birth. 	
<p>NATIONAL DRUG ABUSE AND PREVENTION PROGRAMME (NADAPP)</p> <p>The National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme (NADAPP) is the central coordinating agency with responsibility for Drug Demand Reduction in Trinidad and Tobago.</p> <p>NADAPP liaises with State agencies as well as the NGO and private sectors, to develop programmes geared towards reducing the use and abuse of licit and illicit drugs, through treatment and rehabilitation.</p>	<p>General population of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>(NB: Data represents public sector only).</p> <p>For fiscal 2021 the following was achieved as follows:</p>	

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

NATIONAL OUTCOME	ACHIEVEMENTS	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	INITIATIVE	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 392 primary school teachers were trained in the use of the 'Be Trinity Smart' Programme. • Planning commenced for training of School Social workers in collaboration with the Mental Health Unit at the Ministry of Health and the National Drug Council. 	<p>Students of Primary and Secondary Schools and Tertiary Level Institutions</p>	<p>❖ <i>National Primary and Secondary School Drug Prevention Initiatives</i></p> <p>This Initiative facilitates outreach activities that are designed to share information on the use and abuse of drugs, with a view to preventing and reducing risk among primary and secondary school students.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevent and/or reduce the negative impact of alcohol, drug abuse and HIV on the lives of students and youth by utilizing a wide range of media; 2. Educate and equip all primary and secondary school students with the necessary knowledge and skills to resist the temptation to use/abuse drugs; and 3. Encourage participants to take responsibility for their health. 	<p>MINISTRY OF HEALTH</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 'Be Trinity Smart' training workshop for teachers was conducted via an online platform. • A total of 328 persons from Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Centres, as well as other private preschools, participated in an online workshop. The participants represented the eight (8) Educational Districts in Trinidad, namely: Caroni; North Eastern; St. George East; Port of Spain and Environs; South Eastern; St. Patrick; Victoria and the Division of Education, Innovation and Energy of the Tobago House of Assembly. 	<p>Pre-schoolers ages 2 – 5 years</p>	<p>❖ <i>Pre-School Prevention Initiative</i></p> <p>Through this initiative, NADAPP aims to provide public education materials (toys, puppets, DVDs, puzzles and workbooks (Levels 1-3) for use by children, teachers and parents.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To sensitize the nation's preschool stakeholders (Parents, teachers and students) of the adverse effects of alcohol and other drugs; 2. To equip the teaching staff of preschools with the basic knowledge to detect pupils who are exposed to licit and illicit substances 3. To fulfil NADAPP's policy mandate of the implementation of a School Prevention Programme as a pivotal component of its Drug Reduction Strategy. 	

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF HEALTH	<p>❖ Treatment and Rehabilitation</p> <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>	Adults 18 years and over	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 101 persons presented themselves for treatment at treatment centres. • A Caribbean Mapping exercise was conducted on behalf of the OAS-CICAD in order to produce a Caribbean Directory of Treatment and Prevention services offered in Trinidad and Tobago. 	Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.
	<p>❖ Public Education and Information Campaign</p> <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 the social networks. Distribution of posters, brochures and drug fact sheets, deliver mini lectures/ discussions and provide information centres/ special Library services.</p>	National Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 1,196 persons benefitted from the webinar series conducted on Youth and Substance Use. • The Coordinator of NADAPP presented information on ‘Substance use during the COVID-19 period’ at a press conference hosted by the Ministry of Health. • Electronic copies of brochures on drug abuse and prevention were distributed online. 	Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.
	<p>❖ Workplace Education and Institutional Strengthening</p> <p>This initiative seeks to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote the development of a drug-free culture in the workplace through education and technical assistance <p>Facilitate, through training, the effective and efficient operations of the therapeutic and care-giving community to ensure acceptable standards of care for persons in treatment and rehabilitation programmes.</p>	National Population	NADAPP conducted online workplace sensitization sessions for two organisations. A total of 205 employees benefitted from the sessions.	

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF HEALTH	<p>SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAMME</p> <p>This initiative provides screening of all 1st Year Entrants of all Primary Schools for hearing and vision, and screening of all School Leavers (Std. 4 – 5 students) for vision. Any student found with a problem or potential problem is referred to a health centre to be seen by the medical officer, then for possible evaluation and follow-up.</p>	Children 14 years and under	<p>For the period October 2020 to June 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 819 students received auditory screening. Of this screened population, 31 students were referred to Health Centres to be seen by a medical officer. 1,495 students received vision screening. <p>NB: School closures and health safety regulations due to the COVID-19 pandemic were major constraints to this initiative.</p>	Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.
	<p>RENAL DIALYSIS PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme is a component of the External Patient Programme which is aimed at ensuring that quality and timely healthcare is delivered to all citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. It provides medical financial assistance through the Public Patient Initiative and aims to meet the demands of the public health care system by providing an efficient service to patients whilst reducing the patient waiting list at public health institutions</p>	All citizens	<p>During the period October 2020 to March 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2,377 patients were receiving dialysis services. 179 patients received approval for treatment and were sent to institutions. <p>NB: (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>	Efficient and Quality Healthcare System.
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT	<p>HOME IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAMME</p> <p>This programme is delivered by the Housing Policy Facilitation and Implementation Unit. The main objective is to improve the existing housing stock through the provision of grants to low income families and persons with disabilities (up to a maximum of \$15,000) to undertake improvement works on their homes. Clients must show proof of legal land tenure or permission to occupy with their gross monthly household income not exceeding \$5,000.</p>	Families and physically challenged persons	<p>During the period October 2020 to June 2021,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 389 grants were disbursed to families/households. The Housing Policy Facilitation and Implementation Unit commenced an update of the Programme's database to ensure that the most vulnerable applicants are served under the programme. The online application process for the grant was strengthened to reduce the need for in-person client visits due to the pandemic. 	Access to Adequate and Affordable Housing



NATIONAL OUTCOME	ACHIEVEMENTS	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	INITIATIVE
<p>Access to Adequate Affordable Housing</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 114 contracts were awaiting execution. Of this total, 65 were already approved by the HVIP Committee. Social surveys were also conducted in a number of villages to assist in identifying areas where village and individual intervention were required. <p>NB: Limited works were undertaken over the reporting period as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions implemented by the Government.</p>	<p>Low-income citizens</p>	<p>HOUSING AND VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Housing and Village Improvement Programme (HVIP) was established in fiscal year 2017/2018 to improve housing and living conditions. This programme is an affordable and high quality housing initiative, whereby targeted villages with neglected infrastructure and poor quality housing are provided with housing subsidies and upgraded infrastructure.</p>
<p>Access to Adequate Affordable Housing</p>	<p>As at March 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thirty-three (33) persons have been deemed successful according to the criteria set out in the Policy. Seventeen (17) interviews have been conducted for selection of House Plans. 	<p>Low-income citizens</p>	<p>LAND SETTLEMENT AGENCY - GOVERNMENT AIDED-SELF-HELP HOUSING PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Government Aided Self-Help Housing Programme (GASHHP) is administered under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and its Agencies, as part of an affordable, and high quality housing initiative. Citizens will benefit from fully developed lots at subsidized prices (30% of the market value) supported by subsidized mortgage loans from the Trinidad and Tobago Mortgage Finance Company Limited as well as pre-approved house plans, technical assistance and oversight for the construction of affordable, high quality homes. The actual construction of the houses will be achieved through a combination of self-help and the engagement of small contractors.</p>

MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>LAND SETTLEMENT AGENCY – REGULARISATION OF SQUATTER COMMUNITIES</p> <p>The State Land (Regularisation of Tenure) Act, 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.”</p> <p>Squatter Regularisation has two (2) main components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 2. Infrastructure Development - Infrastructure Development refers to improvement in the physical infrastructure of squatting settlements. It involves the upgrading of roads, drainage system, water system, sewer systems and electricity. 	<p>Squatter communities</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to March 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eight (8) recipients were granted Certificates of Comfort. • Three (3) recipients were granted Deeds of Lease. • 186 families/ households benefitted from Infrastructure Development Works at <i>Bois Bande, Sangre Grande - Site A.</i> • 134 families/ households benefitted from Infrastructure Development Works at <i>Bois Bande, Sangre Grande - Site B.</i> 	<p>Access to Adequate Affordable Housing</p> <p>Provision of security of tenure</p>
<p>LAND SETTLEMENT AGENCY – REGULARISATION & REGENERATION OF COMMUNITIES – GREATER PORT OF SPAIN REGION</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>Port of Spain (POS) communities</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to March 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 220 persons were employed under this initiative. • Thirteen (13) projects with respect to infrastructure upgrade projects inclusive of road upgrades, staircase construction, drainage infrastructure/upgrades and footpath construction were completed in the communities of Belmont, Carenage, Diego Martin and Maracas Bay Village. <p>Nine (9) projects are ongoing and six (6) new projects commenced.</p>	

MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

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MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>LAND SETTLEMENT AGENCY – TENANCY PROGRAMME *NEW INITIATIVE*</p> <p>By Cabinet Minute No. 289 of February 6, 2020, Cabinet approved a Tenancy Programme to provide security of tenure to certain categories of squatters/occupants who have been in occupation of State Lands in the LSA's Designated Areas and Land Settlement Areas prior to June 14, 2014 that were surveyed by the Director of Surveys, and were not regularised in accordance with the State Land (Regularisation of Tenure) Act, (Act No. 25 of 1998.)</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>HIV WORKPLACE ADVOCACY UNIT</p> <p>The HIV Workplace Advocacy Unit seeks to advocate and provide technical support for the adoption and implementation of the National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS in all workplaces in Trinidad and Tobago, including the public, private and informal sectors, as well as civil society organisations.</p> <p>It carries out its mandate by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sensitising workplaces in the public, private and informal sectors and the general public about the National Workplace Policy, and 2. Advocating for and assisting with the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of workplace policies and programmes on HIV/AIDS. 	<p>Squatters/occupants</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to March 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 58 applicants were recommended for Tenancy Agreements. • 23 Tenancy Agreements were prepared. • 12 Tenancy Agreements were executed 	<p>Provision of security of tenure</p>
<p>MINISTRY OF LABOUR</p>		<p>General public</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The HIV Workplace Advocacy Unit engaged and sensitised 219 workers (134 public sector and 85 private sector) on the National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS. • The Unit collaborated with the Ministry of Health in conducting public outreaches. • The Unit in its ongoing collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce (TTCIC), published two (2) articles on the National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS. 	<p>The Elimination of Stigma and Discrimination against Persons Living with or Affected by HIV/AIDS.</p>

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF LABOUR</p> <p>ON-THE-JOB-TRAINING PROGRAMME</p> <p>The On-the-Job Training Programme (OJTP) is a pre-employment programme which offers participants between the ages of 16-35 an induction into the world of work and focuses on the acquisition of occupational skills.</p> <p>The Programme, which was formerly under the purview of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education, under the aegis of the National Training Agency, was re-assigned to the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development with effect from September 2015.</p> <p>The OJTP was integrated as a Division of the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development with effect from May 31, 2017.</p> <p>With effect from December 1, 2019, the OJTP received an increase in stipends as an intent to invest in the youth and allow youth to gain work experience. The increase is also part of the Ministry's mandate to promote decent work practices and provide sustainable employment.</p>	<p>Persons aged 16-35 who are graduates of secondary and technical/vocational or tertiary institutions without work-based experience</p>	<p>As at July 31, 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were 3,792 active trainees participating in the Programme. • Monthly Virtual Trainee Development Sensitization/Orientation Sessions with 1,574 trainees (1,111 female and 463 male) were conducted. • 1,632 trainees (471 male and 1,161 female) were successfully placed through the OJTP in the public, private and NGO sectors across Trinidad and Tobago. • The MOL received 397 applications from members of the public (100 males and 297 females). It must be noted that COVID-19 restrictions reduced the number of applications for OJT placement significantly. • Corporate Citizens were contacted to encourage corporate engagement and ten (10) outreach sessions were held, both face to face and virtual, in order to provide increased opportunity for trainee placement. • The OJTP successfully on-boarded 35 new training providers - (17 public training providers, 13 private training providers and 5 NGOs). • Collaborations were made to increase providers through the signing of Memoranda of Understanding and discussions are currently ongoing with the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT); MIC Institute of Technology (MIC); National Energy Skills Centre (NESC); Cipriani College of Labour and Co-operative Studies (CCLCS); and Nestle Trinidad and Tobago Limited. 	<p>Economic growth, Job Creation, Competitiveness and Innovation.</p>
<p>SHORT-TERM EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Short-Term Employment Programme is an initiative, which supplies staff to Ministries in Professional, Administrative/Managerial, Clerical, Secretarial and Manipulative classes for periods of three (3) to six (6) months in a financial year. Staff is provided from the National Employment Service (NES) database of registrants.</p>	<p>Persons 17 years and over</p>	<p>During the period October 2020 to June 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 156 persons (49 males and 107 females) were successfully employed under this programme throughout Trinidad as evident from the information received by the Port of Spain, Sangre Grande, Chaguanas, San Fernando, Siparia and Point Fortin offices. 	<p>Economic growth, Job Creation, Competitiveness and Innovation.</p>

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INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>O'LEVEL / NON GRADUATE PROGRAMME</p> <p>To address staffing needs for employment of persons in a Clerical capacity at various Ministries. This programme is geared toward assisting persons with a passing grade in at least one (1) O'Level subject. Employment under this programme is for a period not exceeding three (3) months. Staff is provided from the National Employment Service (NES) database of registrants.</p>	<p>Persons 17 years and over and in possession of at least 1 CXC subject pass</p>	<p>During the period October 2020 to June 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 persons were employed under this programme at the various Manpower Units of the MOL. 	<p>Economic growth, Job Creation, Competitiveness and Innovation</p>
<p>SUPPORT SERVICES RELIEF PROGRAMME</p> <p>This initiative provides employment and also addresses employers' staffing needs. Persons are employed for a maximum of (12) months inclusive of vacation leave. This programme started in September 2014.</p>	<p>Persons 17 years and over Graduates and Non-Graduates</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to June 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 169 persons (60 males and 109 females) benefitted from this programme. • All requests received by various Ministries were filled via referrals from National Employment Services (NES). 	<p>Job Creation, Work Opportunities Created.</p>
<p>CURE VIOLENCE PROGRAMME (FORMERLY CITIZEN SECURITY PROGRAMME)</p> <p>This programme involves a three (3) steps health model approach to gun and gang violence prevention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detection and interruption of planned violent activities. • Behaviour Change of high-risk individuals. • Mobilising the Community to Change Norms. <p>Its overall objectives are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce crime and violence; 2. Reduce shootings and woundings; 3. Increase community efficacy; and 4. Promote safer communities. 	<p>Communities deemed to be High Risk</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to March 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 community engagements were conducted which benefitted approximately 1,311 citizens. • 30 violent episodes were responded to in an attempt to prevent/reduce the risk of retaliations/ escalations. • 6 out of 8 (75%) registered participants are involved in positive activities outside of gang activities. 	<p>Reduction in Crime Against Property and Person</p>
<p>MINISTRY OF LABOUR</p>			
<p>MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY</p>			

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>PRISON YOUTH CLUB *NEW INITIATIVE*</p> <p>❖ <i>Donation Distribution Drive and Social Support</i></p> <p>This initiative was implemented to provide support to Prison Youth Club members, needy children in the communities and needy families, through the distribution of laptops, tablets and stationery, as well as hampers.</p>	<p>Youth, needy children and families in communities</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 654 persons in need benefitted from this programme with the following breakdown: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 510 children - 96 young persons between the ages of 15 and 24 years - 30 adults - 18 older persons 60 years and over • Support given to police youth clubs with a total of 29 hampers, school based items (SEA packages) and counselling. 	<p>Efficient Social Service Delivery to better serve the needs of vulnerable groups</p>
<p>TEACH ME TO FISH- ENTREPRENEURS *NEW INITIATIVE*</p> <p>This initiative is delivered by the Community Policing – Southern Division arm of the TTPS and was designed to enable individuals to achieve financial independence through the acquisition of a skill. Products from this project will then be advertised using social media advertising through planting seeds Caribbean.</p>	<p>At risk/vulnerable youth</p>	<p>For the fiscal 2021 period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 210 young persons benefitted from this initiative inclusive of youth members of NGOs. 	<p>Less criminal activities amongst the youth population</p>

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY



NATIONAL OUTCOME	ACHIEVEMENTS	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	INITIATIVE	
	<p>During the period October 2020 to June 2021:</p> <p>Activities undertaken included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laptop and food hamper distributions which benefitted approximately 1,908 children in various communities. • Conduct and Participation in Online Empowerment and Education Programme, Honey Bee Husbandry Project and Agricultural Project which benefitted 711 young persons between the ages of 15 and 24 years. • Conduct of School Suicide and Safety; Domestic Violence Awareness sessions which benefitted 34 adults. • Conduct of Domestic Violence Awareness session and Home Construction which benefitted 15 older persons within various communities. • Women's Sanitary Box distribution which benefitted 1,606 females. • Literacy Programme and Face Mask Distribution in communities which benefitted 484 persons. • 30 students benefitted from lectures on the dangers of bullying, social media, coping during the pandemic and avenues to seek help. • The Greenvale Park Police Youth Club implemented a new initiative entitled "State of Enhancement (SOE) Series" which are a number of enhancement programs such as mentorship, sustainable living, emotional intelligence, entrepreneurship, culture programmes, competitions etc which benefitted 25 at risk children and 20 at risk youth. 	<p>Youth between the ages of 5-29 years</p>	<p>POLICE YOUTH CLUBS</p> <p>The Police Youth Club (PYC), is an initiative of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS). The initiative is designed to positively engage youths between the age 5 - 29 years in activities that guide them away from crime and criminal activities. The initiative is founded on the premise that early intervention in shaping the minds of the youth would ultimately lead to a productive lifestyle that would be beneficial to themselves, their families, the communities and ultimately the country.</p> <p>Objectives of the PYC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting a feeling of nationalism amongst the youth of the nation; • Encouraging the nation's youth to participate fully in physical, cultural, sporting, educational and spiritual activities; • Preparing youths for a positive role in the nation's development; • Providing an effective machinery through which the youths would be appreciative of the value of good discipline, self-respect, and respect for others; and • Preparing youths for the responsibilities of adulthood. 	<p>MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY</p>

NATIONAL OUTCOME	ACHIEVEMENTS	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	INITIATIVE	
	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 57 probationers/ clients were engaged in the Personal Development Programme. The breakdown is as follow: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anger Management – 16 beneficiaries Conflict Management – 5 beneficiaries Thinking for a Change – 20 beneficiaries Self Esteem Building – 6 beneficiaries Remedial Therapy – 10 beneficiaries 	<p>Clients of Probation Services</p>	<p>PROBATION SERVICES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal Development Programme <p>This initiative is a combination of training modules aimed at providing probationers/ other clients with the tools necessary to more successfully navigate a productive life. The primary modules undertaken during this reporting period were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Anger Management Conflict Management Thinking for a Change Self-Esteem Building Remedial Therapy 	<p>MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY</p>
<p>Efficient Social Service Delivery to better serve the needs of vulnerable groups</p>	<p>For the fiscal 2021 period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Victim and Witness Support Unit provided psychosocial and investigative support to victims of crime making reports to the police which benefitted approximately 1,824 persons. Distributed 22 hampers to Homes for the Aged and elderly clients of the Victim and Witness Support Unit who are currently experiencing challenges providing for their families. 14 families of community members of the North Eastern, Port of Spain and Western Divisions received grocery and personal care items 	<p>Victims and witnesses of crime</p>	<p>VICTIM AND WITNESS SUPPORT UNIT</p> <p>The Victim and Witness Support Unit initiative, a civilian unit, was developed in 2008 as part of the transformation of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS). It aims to bridge the gap between the Police Service and the victims and witnesses of crime. Its efforts also focus on improving the relationship between the Police Service and communities thereby raising the levels of trust and public confidence.</p> <p>The Objectives of the Initiative are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate clients and other stakeholders with the intention of minimising the risks of secondary victimisation; Collaborate with other agencies with the aim of enhancing the Unit's policies and programmes; Develop a network system to harmonise governmental and non-governmental initiatives which promote victim and witness support; and Assist in promoting respect for the human dignity of victims through their interaction with all elements of the Police Service and by extension the Criminal Justice System 	

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY	<p>“SISTERS INSPIRING STRENGTH” – DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT GROUP *NEW INITIATIVE*</p> <p>Sisters Inspiring Strength support group delivered by the Victim and Witness Support Unit of the TTPS was initiated to create an environment of mutual support that will enable participants to address their experiences as survivors of violence. The methodology involves an evidenced-based therapeutic framework to support victims of gender based violence. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, the group has transitioned to an online forum. This group therapy intervention was geared towards female clients of the Victim and Witness Support Unit who were victims of Gender Based Violence, as a response to the increased number of cases of this nature.</p>	Female victims of gender based violence	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <p>A total of three (3) young persons between the ages of 15 and 24 years of age and 12 female adults who were survivors of domestic violence benefited from this initiative.</p>	Efficient Social Service Delivery to better serve the needs of vulnerable groups
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES	<p>RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (REAP)</p> <p>The Programme is targeted to low income households and is aimed at improving their social and economic welfare. It also seeks to accelerate residential access to an adequate supply of electricity in a safe and reliable manner, by providing house wiring assistance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeowners whose homes have never been wired; • Homeowners whose homes are at a risk of electrical fires and are in urgent need of rewiring as a pre-requisite to accessing electricity. 	Low Income Home-owners	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite the ongoing pandemic, REAP provided assistance in the form of residential electricity to 330 persons. 	Efficient and Accessible Social System

NATIONAL OUTCOME	ACHIEVEMENTS	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	INITIATIVE	
<p>An Efficient and Accessible Social Protection System</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <p>The UAP provided assistance to 13,515 beneficiaries. The benefits extended under the programme components were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utility Bill Assistance to 13,462 beneficiaries; (12,119 persons benefitted from WASA subsidies and 1,343 persons benefitted from T&TEC subsidies); • Water Tank assistance was provided to 53 households. <p>Public education campaigns to disseminate information to the targeted population about the Programme, were severely affected due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<p>Low-income Customers of WASA and T&TEC who are also recipients of Senior Citizens Pension, Disability and other specific Grants</p>	<p>UTILITIES ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (UAP)</p> <p>The UAP is a social intervention, introduced by the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in 2010, which provides financial assistance to eligible citizens to ensure their continued access to basic utilities such as water and electricity.</p> <p>The major components of the Programme are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Bill Assistance Programme provides financial assistance through the provision of a subsidy to low income customers of the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) and the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC) to ensure that they have continued access to these basic utilities; ❖ Solar Panel Assistance: which is aimed at providing solar panels to low-income households in remote communities that are unable to access the electricity grid; and ❖ Water Tank Assistance: which provides a water tank and fittings to low-income households and community-based facilities to ensure access to safely stored water. 	<p>MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES</p>
<p>Efficient and Accessible Social System</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <p>64,359 residents benefitted from the CWIP initiative. Additionally, two (2) pipeline projects were undertaken to improve the class of supply as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24/3 supply in Champ Fleur, Palo Seco, Diego Martin, Fyzabad, Santa Flora, and Sangre Grande • 24/5 supply in Talparo <p>24/7 supply in Vistabella and Point Fortin</p>	<p>Underprivileged communities without water supply; areas with inadequate water supply</p>	<p>COMMUNITY WATER IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME (CWIP) *NEW INITIATIVE*</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 to 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>	

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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES	<p>ELECTRIFICATION PROGRAMME (EP)</p> <p>The EP is aimed at improving the social and economic welfare of the less fortunate sectors of the population; through the programme T&TEC will offer assistance by way of the installation of poles and other electrical infrastructure to households or communities requesting electrification. The benefits of the programme will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combatting poverty • Stimulating employment and equality of opportunity • Fostering rural-urban equity • Significantly improving the quality of life of citizens, especially the vulnerable, by its positive impact on health and living standards <p>Providing greater access to telecommunication services, including high speed internet service.</p>	Households without an electricity supply; communities without an electricity supply	As at July 2021, 21 electrification projects were completed . The pandemic and the closing of the construction sector impacted the Ministry's ability to deliver on this initiative against its set targets. The Ministry anticipates that its fiscal 2022 targets will be achieved.	Efficient and Accessible Social System
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION	<p>IMPLEMENTATION OF A NATIONAL BROADBAND NETWORK - FREE PUBLIC WI-FI (TT WI-FI)</p> <p>The Free Public Wi-Fi Initiative aims to provide access to a free, island-wide, public broadband wireless network (starting with free public hotspots) in popular areas. The overall objective of the initiative is to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deploy a secure, reliable, high-speed Wi-Fi network for the provision of free broadband internet services to the public. 	General Public	As at August 2021: The TTWiFi was launched in public spaces with the following being achieved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nine (9) transportation hubs and 16 Public Libraries went live. • Assessments for 99 schools have been completed. 	Access to free Wi-Fi in Public Spaces

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>COMMUNITY-BASED ICT ACCESS CENTRES</p> <p>The Access Centres were established to provide access to ICT and related services (most notably high-speed or broadband Internet) in select communities in predominantly unserved and under-served areas throughout Trinidad and Tobago. The overall objectives of the Centres are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enable closing of the digital gap in these communities; 2. Act as a front end channel for government e-services; 3. Foster a collaborative approach between communities and the corporate sector; 4. Encourage corporate citizens to undertake socially responsible projects in the ICT sector, a conduit for social transformation. 	<p>Underserved Communities</p>	<p>As at August 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICT access was provided to approximately 2,742 persons in six (6) targeted communities including Carenage, Penal, Cumana, Marac, Guayaguayare and Todds Road. 		
<p>COMMUNITY-BASED ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME (CEPEP) COMPANY LIMITED</p> <p>The CEPEP Company Limited, an Agency of the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government, is one of the main pillars in the National Strategy for Development of the Green Economy of Trinidad and Tobago. It is responsible for managing the Community-Based Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programme (CEPEP) and provides specifically:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Environmental Clean-up, Beautification and Maintenance, 2. Waste Removal, Dead Animal Removal (DART) 3. CEPEP Marine (Wetlands, Inland Waterways and Marine Space Maintenance) 4. Coastal Maintenance 5. Eco-Sites Management 6. Disaster and Emergency Response (DERT) 	<p>Communities</p>	<p>During fiscal 2021:</p> <p>A total of 9,108 persons were employed on the programme as follows: 3,470 men, 4,221 women, 535 young persons aged (18 – 24 years) and 882 older persons.</p> <p>Additionally, over 500 cleaning and maintenance projects in schools, religious organizations, and community centres were completed.</p>		

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MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)</p> <p>The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is to train communities to recognize, respond and recover for any hazard that impacts their community. Training modules includes Emergency Preparedness, Fire Safety, Emergency Medical Operations, Light Search and Rescue, CERT Organization, Disaster Psychology and Terrorism.</p>	<p>Communities</p>	<p>As at August 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately, 800 persons were trained and received certificates in the various rudiments of disaster management. Additionally, for the first time in Trinidad and Tobago, 45 teenagers received training in Community Emergency Response. 	<p>Resilient Communities in the area of Disaster Management</p>	
<p>SPORT HEALTH ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE EMPOWERMENT (SHAPE) IN COMMUNITIES</p> <p>*NEW INITIATIVE*</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 done via 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 sport in communities).</p>	<p>Youth (15-24 years), adults, communities, NGOs</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <p>1,000 youth and 1,500 adults benefitted from the SHAPE initiative in 10 communities across the country. 36 NGOs also benefitted.</p>	<p>Empowerment through sport to lead healthy lifestyles</p>	

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INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>PRIME MINISTER'S BEST VILLAGE TROPHY COMPETITION (PMBVTC)</p> <p>The Prime Minister's Best Village Trophy Competition is designed to partner with communities; to identify, promote and implement programmes and projects, whilst preserving Traditional Folk Art through competition between communities.</p>	<p>Children, Youth and Communities</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021, the following was achieved under the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The districts of St. George East & West, St. Andrew/ St. David, Nariva/Mayaro, Victoria East & West, Caroni North & South and St. Patrick East & West benefitted from the restructuring in dance, music, drama, directing tassa, drumming. These practitioners will be provided with virtual opportunities moving forward in the Best Village Programme. • 1,300 training classes were conducted for approximately one hundred and ten 110 communities participating in drumming, dance, music, drama and directing. • Approximately 16,020 persons (children, youth and adults) were beneficiaries under the PMBVTC. 	<p>Self-reliant and sustainable communities.</p>
<p>COMMUNITY MEDIATION SERVICES</p> <p>The initiatives implemented by the Community Mediation Services Division are intended to encourage the adoption of behaviours that are consistent with the underpinning philosophy of mediation, restoration and peace building. These initiatives include peer mediation, conflict management training, leadership skills development, anger management, communication and interpersonal skills, these are among other programmes which are specially designed according to the needs of the particular organisation or community. These initiatives are supported by the practices of mediation, social work and other therapeutic interventions as well as the facilitation of difficult conversations in communities and special interest groups.</p>	<p>Families, Communities, Individuals</p>	<p>The following sub-initiatives were undertaken as part of the programme and the following was achieved:</p>	<p>Sustainable social transformation and social justice.</p>
<p>❖ Mediation and Social Work Intervention Cases Programme</p> <p>This programme offers mediation and social work services to clients presented at Mediation Centres, through self-referrals or Court-referrals, in matters classified as civil or family.</p>	<p>Families, Communities, Individuals</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to March 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,590 clients (588 males and 1,002 females) were served at the various Centres; • 812 clients received counselling; • 285 Civil and Family cases were managed; (19 Civil and 266 Family cases) • 43 cases were mediated. 	

MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>❖ Parental Support Groups</p> <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"> are equipped with information and skills to improve their confidence and competence in parenting; access support and develop coping skills and mechanisms in a non-threatening and supportive environment; and experience enhanced quality of family life in their communities. 	<p>Families/ Communities</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to June 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 863 persons attended meetings. 41 Parental Support Group Meetings and four (4) Men's Support meetings were held. <p>The topics discussed included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Services and grants offered by the National Insurance Board Self-care and socialising while social distancing Managing diabetes and stress in times of Covid-19 Financial peace tips in times of uncertainty Pathways to Home Ownership Parenting issues related to safe use of Social Media platforms <p>During this fiscal, there was a 5.4 -7% growth in Parental Support Group membership and one (1) new group was formed..</p> <p>NB: New members may be missed as persons often share devices.</p>		
<p>COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND SENSITISATION PROGRAMME</p> <p>The Community Awareness and Sensitisation Programme provide a forum for the dissemination of public information on a multiplicity of relevant subjects. It brings individuals, groups and communities closer to those issues the consequences of which are either likely to impact or is already having an impact upon their daily lives but about which they possess limited or no prior knowledge. They are therefore provided with tools that allow them to make informed choices and decisions.</p>	<p>Communities</p>	<p>As at March 2021, 38 programmes were implemented in communities which benefitted 1,125 persons.</p>	<p>Self-reliant and sustainable communities.</p>	

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MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>GOOD GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME</p> <p>This initiative provides a training platform to address the competencies of voluntary community leaders. It aims to reinforce the essential elements of group leadership and group management, while at the same time bringing to the fore new knowledge and experiences that promote growth and development.</p>	<p>Community-based organisations</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to March 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26 programmes were implemented which benefitted 153 persons. 	<p>Improved community leadership.</p>	
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p>ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMME (AEP)</p> <p>This Programme provides free educational opportunities to Adults to complete Primary and Secondary Education; Technical Vocational Skills Training and Literacy Skills.</p>	<p>Adult Men and Women</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021, the MSDFS commenced an exercise to review the Adult Education Programme with a view to integrating the education and training with the Social Transformation and Empowerment Programme (Step-Up) which is designed to allow families to build resilience and recover from any socioeconomic shocks. To this end discussions are ongoing to scope a suitable Adult Education Programme aligned with the needs of the vulnerable, supported by the grants system and the other investments made to develop the resilience of individuals and families.</p>	<p>The promotion of lifelong learning among citizens of Trinidad and Tobago.</p>

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>DISABILITY AFFAIRS</p> <p>The Disability Affairs Unit (DAU) was established in 1999 and serves as a resource and referral centre for information pertaining to disability matters. In addition to coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the National Policy on Persons with Disabilities, the Unit also coordinates, develops and implements comprehensive programmes to assist citizens of Trinidad and Tobago with disabilities.</p>	<p>Persons with disabilities</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Unit continued to work in tandem with the Telecommunication Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT) to provide technical support for accessible assistive mobile devices for the blind, visually impaired and hard of hearing. As at July 2021, 88 clients have been approved for accessible devices. <p>Sign Language training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In February 2021, the Ministry in collaboration with UWI Open Campus commenced basic sign language training to a cohort of officers in the Social Welfare Division. 14 officers successfully completed the training in May 2021 <p>The National Policy on Persons with Disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Fiscal 2021, Trinidad and Tobago's Initial Country Report was approved and submitted to the UN Committee through the Ministry of Attorney General (MAGLA). A review of legislation was also undertaken to provide recommendations to the MAGLA. A Strategic Plan for the Operationalization of the National Therapeutic and Resource Centre for Persons with Disabilities was also developed. <p>The following was also achieved by the Division during the period:</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p>
<p>❖ Community Therapeutic Services (CTS)</p> <p>This initiative is a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services. The decision to pursue Community Therapeutic Services is in keeping with Articles 25 and 26 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with a Disability (2015.) which state that: “<i>PWDs should be mainstreamed in institutions that already offer therapy and rehabilitation services, rather than the construction of institutions which promote segregated rehabilitation.</i>”</p>	<p>Persons with disabilities</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021, the CTS Survey was revised and is scheduled to be implemented in the upcoming fiscal. Data collated from this survey will be used to inform decisions in providing additional rehabilitation and therapeutic services to the community of persons with disabilities.</p>	

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES

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INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>AGEING:</p> <p>The Division of Ageing is the umbrella agency with overall responsibility for the coordination and monitoring of initiatives on ageing in Trinidad and Tobago.</p> <p>❖ Older Persons Information Centre (OPIC)</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"> • Providing information about Homes for the Aged; • Referring older persons to age-related goods and services; • Offering information on legislation related to older persons; • Following up on elder abuse cases. <p>❖ Community Care Programme (CCP)</p> <p>This programme was first established in 2007 to de-institutionalize Levels 1-3 patients aged 60 years and over (from the Port of Spain General Hospital, San Fernando General Hospital, St. James Infirmary and the St. Ann's Mental Hospital), who required social care. The Programme, which was formerly administered by the Ministry of Health was placed under the ambit of the MSDFS in 2010.</p>	<p>Senior Citizens</p> <p>Senior Citizens</p> <p>Senior Citizens</p>	<p>During the period October 2020 to July 2021 the following were achieved:</p> <p>As at June 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Division of Ageing received 154 reports of elder abuse - 61 reports against domiciles (private residences) and 32 from Homes for Older Persons. • The Help Desk received an average of 377 calls. These included requests for information about the Senior Citizens Grant, Senior Activity centres, referrals for geriatric services and questions about ageing. <p>For the period October 2020 – July 2021, the number of beneficiaries totalled 99 persons at a cost of \$4.0Mn</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p> <p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p> <p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p> <p>An Enhanced Quality of Life for Older Persons.</p>
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>			

	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p align="center">MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p>❖ Senior Activity Centres Programme The Senior Activity Centres (SACs) are designed to provide the necessary physical, social and mental stimulation, and support mechanisms to enable older persons, aged 55 years and over, to remain active and healthy. The Centres serve as multi-service facilities, which are the focal points for older persons to come together for services and educational and recreational activities that enhance their dignity, support their independence and encourage their involvement in and with the community.</p>	<p>Senior Citizens</p>	<p>As at July 2021: There are five (5) Activity Centres in operation within communities across the country in receipt of subventions in the sum of \$605,090,000</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p>
	<p>❖ Homes for Older Persons The Ministry currently supports the operations of nine (9) Homes for Senior Citizens, which are managed by management committees. The Homes are located in Chaguana, Couva, La Brea, Mayaro, Point Fortin, Sangre Grande, Siparia, Toco and San Fernando, and are sustained through the provision of annual subventions. The Homes aim to provide safe accommodation to older persons as well as care and support.</p>	<p>Older persons aged 60 years and over who may be socially-isolated and/or indigent</p>	<p>As at July 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 150 socially-isolated and/or indigent older persons aged 60 years and over were provided residential accommodation care at Homes. • Ten (10) inspections were conducted at HFOPs (several of which were collaborative visits with MOH) and one compliance meeting was facilitated <p>Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MSDFS in its efforts to establish adequate regulations for Homes for the Aged collaborated with the Ministry of Health (MOH) and other key stakeholders to set standards and to regularize the management of Homes to ensure that the duty of care of older persons is maintained. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>

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MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>HIV/AIDS COORDINATION</p> <p>The HIV Coordinating Unit executes its programmes/initiatives in accordance with the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services' mission and vision which are highlighted in the Ministry's quest of helping, empowering and transforming lives (particularly the vulnerable) in our society. The Unit's initiatives/programmes are also premised on the national expanded response to the HIV and AIDS epidemic as articulated in the National HIV and AIDS Strategic Plan (NSP) 2013-2018 which highlights the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing new infections and mitigating the impact of the epidemic among persons infected and affected by HIV; • Engaging a coordinated and multi-sectoral approach for addressing HIV and AIDS; • Acknowledging the role of Public Service Agencies in the response. 	<p>Members of staff of the MSDFS and members of the Public</p>	<p>During the period, October 2020 to August 2021, the Unit engaged in the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design & Dissemination of Information Education and Communication Materials among staff and the wider public. • External Mainstreaming • Internal Mainstreaming • Life Skills Programme for Adolescents/ Young Persons living with HIV. 	<p>Reduction of Incidence of HIV/AIDS.</p> <p>Reduction in levels of discrimination towards persons living with HIV</p>	
<p>NATIONAL FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION (NFSD)</p> <p>The National Family Services Division (NFSD) is the primary institution in Trinidad and Tobago providing a range of programmes and services to promote healthy family functioning. The NFSD provides rehabilitation through group, family and individual counselling and other support with its ultimate goal being the empowerment of vulnerable individual/s and families in order to sustain healthy social functioning.</p>	<p>Individuals, Couples, Children and Families</p>	<p>During the reporting period October 2020 to September 2021, 7,451 clients received services from the NFSD as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Counselling services – 4,106 ❖ Co-parenting Counselling services – 476 ❖ Referral services – 210 ❖ Advocacy services – 108 ❖ Advice/Information – 2,551 <p>Additionally, The Grandparenting Programme was launched in August 2021 - focus groups and interviews were conducted.</p>	<p>Empowerment of individuals and families.</p> <p>Reduction in family dysfunction, family violence and youth delinquency</p>	

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <i>Community Parenting Workshops</i> <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>As at September 2021:</p> <p>During fiscal 2021, the NFSD hosted three (3) online parenting workshops with a cost of \$82,500.00. The three (3) workshops focused mainly on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Parenting in a Pandemic: this workshop covered strategies for managing during the pandemic, online schooling, support children through COVID-19. A total of 56 parents benefitted. ❖ Workshop for Men: this workshop addressed masculinity and its impact on parenting and looks at fatherhood which benefitted 35 participants. ❖ Co-Parenting Workshop: this workshop addressed challenges in co-parenting and provides strategies to better co-parent including managing anger and stress. A total of 35 parents participated. ❖ Community Lay Responders Workshops were conducted in collaboration with Families in Action for the Prison Inmate Development Programme. A total of 35 male inmates benefitted. 	<p>Increased knowledge of parenting issues and enhanced skills in managing the Parenting Role.</p> <p>Reduction in family dysfunction</p>	

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<p>NATIONAL FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION (NFSDD) (Continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Radio Programme – “It’s Family Time: Let’s Talk” <p>This programme is a key component of the messaging campaign to families and is designed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disseminate information on issues of importance to healthy family functioning to a wide cross section of society. 2. Encourage dialogue with and provide a forum for fellow citizens on various aspects of family life. 	<p>Individuals, Couples, Children and Families</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <p>During the months of May to August 2021 the following sessions were covered on the Radio Programme – “It’s Family Time: Let’s Talk”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Values and Communication within the Family • Family Relationships/Lifestyle Change and Impact on the Family Resilience • Family and Work Life Balance • Domestic Violence • Single Parenting /Co Parenting • Ageing and International Elder Abuse Awareness Day/ Caring for the Elderly • Child Abuse and the Consequential Impact on Stable Family Life • Encouraging Males as Mentors • Money Management/ Financial Literacy • Suicide/ Mental Health during the Pandemic • Substance Abuse and the Impact on Families • Persons living with HIV and the Care needed • Entrepreneurship and Leadership • Supporting Young Adults to become future leaders 	<p>Greater awareness and enhanced ability to improve family life</p>
<p>NATIONAL SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME</p> <p>The National Social Development Programme ensures that needy citizens throughout the country have access in their homes to reliable and sustainable supplies of pipe borne water and electricity and improved sanitary plumbing facilities. It also assists in providing simple, useful recreational facilities in underdeveloped communities. This is all in an effort to raise the standard of living and quality of life of vulnerable citizens. The NSDP officially began its operations in the Ministry in October 2012.</p>	<p>Vulnerable persons and communities</p>	<p>The following was achieved during the period October 2020 to July 2021:</p>	<p>Enhancement in quality of life of citizens</p>

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>❖ Minor House Repair Assistance This initiative provides persons with materials and/or labour for roof repairs and other minor structural repairs to their homes.</p>	<p>Vulnerable persons and communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under the Minor House Repair Assistance, 176 persons benefitted from 60 grants at a cost of \$980,338.28. 	<p>Enhancement in quality of life of citizens</p>	
<p>❖ Sanitary Plumbing Assistance This initiative provides assistance towards the purchase of materials based on an assessment of individual circumstances. With the total material cost to a limit of \$15,000.00.</p>	<p>Vulnerable persons</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under the Sanitary Plumbing Assistance, 67 persons benefitted from 19 grants during the period at a cost of \$224,054.69. 		
<p>❖ House Wiring Assistance This initiative provides electrification for households throughout Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>Vulnerable persons</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 28 grants for House Wiring Assistance were provided at a cost of \$277,622.14. A total of 79 persons benefitted. 		
<p>❖ Sowing Empowering through Entrepreneurial Development (SEED) The SEED grant aims to provide a mechanism to empower those citizens who are considered poor and who have an interest in starting or improving their own business but are unable to gain access to funding on their own. It also seeks to provide an opportunity for existing clients of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services who are receiving welfare grants to start mini/micro enterprises and become more independent and self-sufficient.</p>	<p>Vulnerable persons</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 34 SEED grants benefitting 107 persons were distributed at a value of \$479,301.71 	<p>Enhancement in quality of life of citizens</p>	

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INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>ASSISTANCE TO NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs)</p> <p>The NGO Unit was established in May 2013 to manage the Ministry's relationship with partner NGOs in the delivery of social services in communities.</p> <p>The objectives of the Unit are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote value for money in the delivery of social services; • Partner with the NGO sector towards a decentralised approach for the delivery of social services to vulnerable groups in society; • Foster a collaborative approach to capacity building for the effective delivery of social services in communities; • Promote good governance in the achievement of government policy on Social Sector programmes. 	<p>General population of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021 the following was achieved:</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>
<p>❖ Financial Assistance to NGOs (One-off Grants under \$10,000)</p> <p>This initiative provides one-off financial assistance (Contributions and Donations) from the Ministry to qualifying Community-Based, Faith Based or Non-Governmental organisations for a specific project or activity valuing under \$10,000.</p>	<p>Non-Governmental, or Faith-Based, or Community-Based Organisations</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to September 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five (5) NGOs were approved and received funding totalling \$41,600.00. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>
<p>❖ Subventions to NGOs</p> <p>Under this initiative, financial assistance is given to NGOs for recurrent expenditure payable over a specified period.</p>	<p>Non-Governmental Organisations</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <p>Subventions to twenty-two (22) NGOs. The breakdown is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three (3) Statutory Boards in the sum of forty-one million, one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars (\$41,175,000) were disbursed. • Five (5) Youth Organizations in the sum of four hundred and fifty-six thousand dollars (\$456,000.00) • Fourteen NGOs (14) in the sum of seven million, five hundred and eighty-nine thousand, five hundred and seventy-three dollars (\$7,589,573.00). 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p> <p>PIPARO EMPOWERMENT CENTRE (PEC) The Piparo Empowerment Centre is a Therapeutic Community established as a refuge where recovering substance abusers can be empowered to achieve their fullest potential. The Centre provides rehabilitation and skills training for male substance abusers who are socially displaced, past offenders or requiring long term treatment.</p> <p>Primary Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce Substance Abuse in the Population To reduce the number of socially displaced persons To reduce the incidence of Poverty in society. 	<p>Male substance abusers over the age of 18.</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021 the following was achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Twenty-six (26) new residents were enrolled in the Centre. The following Tutoring/Counselling Sessions were conducted as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 139 Therapeutic Group Counselling Sessions - 147 Educational/Development Seminars - 48 External group sessions - 146 Peer Counselling Group Sessions - 334 Individual Counselling Sessions Seven (7) residents successfully completed the Programme and graduated. 	<p>An efficient and Effective Social System</p>
<p>INITIATIVES ON STREET DWELLING: - SOCIAL DISPLACEMENT UNIT</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>During the period October 2020 to May 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two hundred and twenty-five (225) Social Work Interventions were conducted with clients. Seven hundred and twenty-five (725) technical advice sessions/engagements were held with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other stakeholder/ partners. 	<p>Self-Reliant and Sustainable Communities</p> <p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>
<p>❖ Street Outreach Programme This programme seeks to provide street dwellers with access to the various services offered by the Ministry of the People and Social Development, as well as any emergency support necessary. Field Officers of the SDU carry out regular street outreach visits to advise the displaced on services available.</p>	<p>Socially Displaced persons</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to July 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Street Head Count was conducted. Four hundred and thirty-nine (439) persons are currently sleeping on the streets of the two (2) main towns of Trinidad namely (Marabella/San Fernando and Port of Spain). Additionally: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 45 shelter and care referrals (18-54 years) 34 referrals for accommodation under community care 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>

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INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>❖ Deportee Reception and Integration This programme provides assistance to deported persons with relocation and family reintegration into society. The SDU also assists deportees in finding employment.</p>	<p>Deported persons</p>	<p>As at May 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thirteen (13) deported persons were provided with counselling whilst two hundred and thirty-six (236) received referrals to rehabilitation. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>
<p>❖ Relocation of Elderly Street Dwellers Programme Under this initiative, elderly persons (55 and over) are relocated to Homes for Older Persons where they will receive relevant special care. The Ministry subsidises monthly payments for those clients who have no income or payment is borne by both the client and the Ministry for those in receipt of grants from the Ministry.</p>	<p>Socially displaced older persons</p>	<p>For the period October 2020 to August 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80 older persons were relocated to Homes for Older Persons under the remit of the Community Care Programme. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>
<p>SOCIAL WELFARE DIVISION The Social Welfare Division (SWD) is concerned with reducing the incidence of poverty among vulnerable groups and offers a range of financial assistance/grants to persons in need. The core services provided are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Citizens Pension • Public Assistance Grant • Disability Assistance Grant • General Assistance Grant 	<p>Vulnerable citizens of Trinidad and Tobago</p>	<p>During the fiscal 2021 period, the following Grants were distributed:</p>	<p>An efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable Reduction in the incidence of Poverty</p>
<p>❖ Disability Assistance Grant This grant of TTD 1,800.00 is intended for persons who have a disability and are unable to earn an income as a result. A person is entitled to receive Disability Assistance if in the opinion of the Local Board, he/she is so disabled that he/she is unable to earn a livelihood and has been certified by a Government Medical Officer as being so disabled. The disability must be permanent in nature.</p>	<p>Persons 18-64 years of age who have been certified by a Government medical officer as having a disability and as a consequence unable to earn a livelihood.</p>	<p>As at September 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty-two thousand, nine hundred and thirty-three (22,933) persons were in receipt of the Disability Assistance Grant, and of this number one thousand, eight hundred and eighty-seven (1,887) persons were recorded as new clients of the programme. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p>

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>❖ Disability Assistance Grant for Minors (DAGM)</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>As at September 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Social Welfare Division (SWD) distributed a total of 2,611 Disability Assistance Grant Minors (DAGM), and of this number six hundred and seventy-four persons were recorded as new clients (674). 	
<p>SOCIAL WELFARE DIVISION - Continued</p> <p>❖ General Assistance Grant</p> <p>This grant was established to assist persons/households traumatised and rendered needy as a result of natural/other disasters. The grants are currently used to provide assistance to individuals/households living in poverty and to clients of the SWD and other delivery units of the MSDFS who cannot otherwise help themselves. Cases are assessed by social workers of the Ministry.</p>	<p>Victims of natural disasters and clients of the Ministry</p>	<p>As at September 2021, a total of 1057 clients received assistance under the General Assistance Grants (GAGs) Programme which amounted to a grand total of five million, four hundred and twenty-nine thousand, one hundred and eighty-four dollars and thirty-six cents (\$5,429,184.36). The expenditure was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household items- \$2,188,182.35 Medical Equipment- \$2,700.00 Pharmaceutical- none received to date School Supplies- \$6,138.29 Clothing- \$126,237.47 Home Care Help- none received to date Education- \$0 Special Child- \$36,600.00 Dietary- \$146,500.00 Rent- \$407,150.00 Prostheses- \$0 Burials- \$2,515,676.25 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES



	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p style="text-align: center;">MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Food Support Programme This is a short-term food assistance and developmental programme, aimed at providing social protection by promoting nutritional and food security for vulnerable households. The Programme comprises of the following components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Long Term Food Support Card This is the cash transfer component of the TCCTP, which is currently implemented via a debit card (TT Card™). It aims to enable families in need to purchase nutritious basic food items; ❖ Temporary Food Card This system provides immediate food relief to the extremely vulnerable by bridging the gap between eligibility determination and actual receipt of the TT Card. The Temporary card is valid for up to three months and is also given to victims of disasters and in emergency situations. 	<p>Indigent and vulnerable households</p>	<p>As at September 2021, thirty thousand, nine hundred and thirty-nine (31,547) households were beneficiaries of the enhanced Food Support Programme at a cost of \$173,551,740.00</p> <p>The Ministry in collaboration with the First Citizens Bank has developed a New Debit Card System that is compatible with the latest advancements in technology, to facilitate the efficient and effective execution of the Food Support Programme with enhanced monitoring and evaluation capabilities</p> <p>Effective January 01, 2019 the cash transfer amounts were increased by \$100.00 per month.</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System</p>

INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>SOCIAL WELFARE DIVISION - Continued</p> <p>❖ Public Assistance Grant</p> <p>This grant provides financial aid to persons who are unable to support themselves or to earn a living because of ill health. It is also granted on behalf of necessitous children where the father or both parents is/are dead, incarcerated, disabled from earning or has/have deserted the family and cannot be found. The Public Assistance Grant is an essential social net programme providing financial aid to the nation's vulnerable citizens. Effective January 01, 2019 recipients would have benefitted from an increase in the monthly value of these grants as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Individuals – From \$1,150 to \$1,300.00 TTD 2. Two (2) persons – From \$1,400 to \$1,550.00 TTD 3. Three (3) persons – From \$1,600 to \$1,750 TTD 4. For four (4) persons and more – From \$1,750 to \$1,900 TTD 	<p>Unemployed, persons unable to work, or who have little means of financially supporting themselves and guardians of necessitous children.</p>	<p>As at September, 2021:</p> <p>Eighteen thousand, eight hundred and fifty-one (18,851) clients were in receipt of the Public Assistance Grant. Of this total, two thousand, eight hundred and forty-one (2,841) persons were recorded as new beneficiaries.</p>	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p>
<p>❖ Special Achievers Grant (SAG)</p> <p>The SAG provides support to persons who made significant contribution to the development of Trinidad and Tobago and who were experiencing severe hardship. Support in the areas of health, housing and income is provided. A Special Achiever is considered to be a citizen of Trinidad and Tobago whose record of services and/or performance is publicly distinguishable as an extraordinary contribution to the international profile of Trinidad and Tobago.</p> <p>❖ Disaster Relief (Flooding)</p> <p>Disaster relief is provided to victims whose items were destroyed beyond use due to natural or man-made disasters.</p>	<p>National achievers in need of support</p>	<p>As at September 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 32 persons received financial assistance totalling \$1,510,848.00 under this initiative. 	<p>An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable</p>
<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>	<p>Victims of natural or man-made disasters</p>	<p>During the period October 2020 to September 2021:</p> <p>The total expenditure to date for Flood Relief Grant paid for flood victims for fiscal, 2021 was in the sum of One Million, Thirty-Seven Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,037,500.00).</p>	

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NATIONAL OUTCOME	ACHIEVEMENTS	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	INITIATIVE	NATIONAL OUTCOME																
An Efficient and Effective Social System for the Poor and Vulnerable	As at September 2021, 109,132 senior citizens were in receipt of the new Senior Citizens' Pensions. Of this total, Six Hundred and Sixty Four (664) persons were added to the database as new beneficiaries.	Eligible Senior Citizens	<p>SOCIAL WELFARE DIVISION - Continued</p> <p>❖ Senior Citizens' Pension (SCP)</p> <p>The Senior Citizens' Pension provides financial assistance to persons aged 65 and who meet the other qualifying criteria for the grant. In 2016, the schedule of payment was adjusted resulting in an increase in the SCP. This adjustment resulted in an increase in the total income, (other personal income and SCP) to \$5000. With effect from January 2019 senior citizens would have received the new pension increases ranging from \$500.00- \$3,500.00 in keeping with the relevant Pension Bands</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Income Band</th> <th>Pension</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>\$0-\$1,500</td> <td>\$3,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>>\$1,500.01 - \$2,000</td> <td>\$3,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>>\$2,000.01 - \$2,500</td> <td>\$2,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>>\$2,500.01 - \$3,000</td> <td>\$2,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>>\$3,000.01 - \$3,500</td> <td>\$1,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>>\$3,500.01 - \$4,000</td> <td>\$1,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>>\$4,000.01 - \$4,500**</td> <td>\$ 500</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>** Statutory limit increased in 2016 from \$3,500 to \$4,500 per month.</p>	Income Band	Pension	\$0-\$1,500	\$3,500	>\$1,500.01 - \$2,000	\$3,000	>\$2,000.01 - \$2,500	\$2,500	>\$2,500.01 - \$3,000	\$2,000	>\$3,000.01 - \$3,500	\$1,500	>\$3,500.01 - \$4,000	\$1,000	>\$4,000.01 - \$4,500**	\$ 500	<p>Development of the Creative and Cultural Industries</p>
Income Band	Pension																			
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>\$4,000.01 - \$4,500**	\$ 500																			
Development of the Creative and Cultural Industries	For the period October 2020 to July 2021: 35 new creatives were approved for addition to the database.	Cultural groups and organizations, creative and artistic individuals	<p>NATIONAL REGISTRY OF ARTISTS AND CULTURAL WORKERS</p> <p>The National Registry of Artists and Cultural Workers was established by the government of Trinidad and Tobago, as a requirement of CARICOM countries that are signatories to the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the European Union. (EU). This initiative supports the professional development of nationals of Trinidad and Tobago within the Creative and Cultural Industries. It features an expanding, searchable database highlighting creativity in a variety of fields,</p>	<p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES</p>																
Development of the Creative and Cultural Industries				<p>MINISTRY OF TOURISM, CULTURE AND THE ARTS</p>																

MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p>CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS (CCC)</p> <p>The CCC, which operates through the Ministry of National Security, offers introductory training, life skills development and on-the-job training to at-risk youth.</p> <p>The programme aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raise the self-esteem of young persons deemed to be at-risk; 2. Initiate interventions that would assist in fostering socially desirable behaviours among youth; 3. Train and develop unemployed/unemployable persons in the target group to prepare them for employment; 4. Foster a sense of national pride in participants; 5. Provide temporary employment for unemployed young persons. 	<p>Young persons between the ages of 16-35 years</p>	<p>For fiscal 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 1,036 trainees enrolled in a 10-month cycle of the programme. <p>In compliance with the requirements of the restrictions that were implemented by the Government to address the COVID-19 pandemic, the CCC was digitalised. The adjustment was a success with a 97% daily average participation by the trainees and staff.</p>		
<p>GERIATRIC ADOLESCENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (GAPP)</p> <p>The Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme (GAPP) is an intensive short-term Intergenerational Training Programme that imparts knowledge and skills in elder care to young persons. It also aims at empowering young persons to respond to the growing and complex needs of an ageing population. Its objectives are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Instil in young people a sense of national pride and civic mindedness. 2. Sensitize young people to the needs of the elderly and in so doing, gain knowledge and understanding of the ageing process. 3. Foster national consciousness. 4. Equip young persons with basic skills in caregiving. 5. Provide young persons with the tools to make appropriate life choices. 6. Instil discipline in young persons through training and service to the elderly. 7. Improve intergenerational relationships. 8. Improve the quality of life of the elderly. <p>Students receive training at two levels, Level I (for young persons between the ages of 17-30) and Level II (for young persons between the ages of 18-35). Graduates 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>In fiscal 2021, 1,005 senior citizens received monthly caregiving services on a rotational basis from the Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme. Of this amount, 393 were new clients.</p>		

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NATIONAL OUTCOME	ACHIEVEMENTS	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	INITIATIVE
<p>Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Partnership</p>	<p>The following NEDCO initiatives were undertaken during fiscal 2021:</p>	<p>Persons 17 years and over Small and Micro Enterprises (SMEs)</p>	<p>NATIONAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED (NEDCO)</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>
	<p>For the period October 2020 to June 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The BAP continued with 32 participants (14 Males and 18 Females) who are expected to graduate on July 31st, 2021. Approximately 30-40 participants are expected to join the programme in August 2021. <p>Additionally, 15 Business Development Training sessions and 129 Business Advisory sessions were held.</p>	<p>Persons 17 years and over Small and Micro Enterprises (SMEs)</p>	<p>❖ Business Accelerator Programme</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 into 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>
<p>Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Partnership</p>	<p>During fiscal 2021:</p> <p>A total of 76 fashion designers received online training via the FashionIT programme in the following entrepreneurial development areas: Brand Development, Contract Law, Developing a Business Plan, Record Keeping and Cash Management, Costing and Pricing, Business Taxation/ Know Your Taxes, Excellence in Customer Service, Marketing for SME's and Social Media Strategy for SMEs.</p>	<p>Persons 15 years and over Small and Micro Enterprises (SMEs)</p>	<p>❖ Entrepreneurial Skills Training</p> <p>Entrepreneurial Training is designed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Equip entrepreneurs within the Micro and Small Enterprise (MSE) sector to be successful within each business segment; and 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.

MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE

NATIONAL OUTCOME	ACHIEVEMENTS	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	INITIATIVE	MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE														
Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Partnership	During the Fiscal 2020/2021 period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 72 packages were purchased and a total of TTD \$37,200 in income was generated. A total of 217 persons registered for packages Additionally, the EDP achieved a 33% customer acquisition rate with the following training programmes hosted: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Programmes</th> <th>No. of Participants</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Social Media Strategy for MSE's</td> <td>31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Marketing for MSE's</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Developing a Business Plan</td> <td>36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Record Keeping and Cash Management</td> <td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Costing and Pricing</td> <td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Know Your Taxes</td> <td>27</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Programmes	No. of Participants	Social Media Strategy for MSE's	31	Marketing for MSE's	30	Developing a Business Plan	36	Record Keeping and Cash Management	29	Costing and Pricing	26	Know Your Taxes	27	Small and Micro Enterprises (SMEs)	<p>❖ Entrepreneurial Development Package *NEW INITIATIVE*</p> <p>In September 2020, the Entrepreneurial Development Department with the assistance of the Marketing and Branding Department, NEDCO launched the Entrepreneurial Development Packages (EDP) under the Re-boot Your Business Promotion. This promotion was specifically geared towards addressing the changing dynamics in the MSE sector as a result of measures implemented for the COVID-19 Pandemic and its effect on the sector. The services of Training, Advisory and Webinars (new) were combined into four (4) distinct packages which are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Starter Package; 1-Entrepreneurial Training workshop, 1- Business Advisory Session and 3 Entrepreneurial Webinars LITE Package; 2-Entrepreneurial Training workshops, 1- Business Advisory Session and 3 Entrepreneurial Webinars Advance Package; 3-Entrepreneurial Training workshops, 2- Business Advisory Sessions and 3 Entrepreneurial Webinars Ultimate Package; 4-Entrepreneurial Training workshop, 3- Business Advisory Session and 3 Entrepreneurial Webinar 	
Programmes	No. of Participants																	
Social Media Strategy for MSE's	31																	
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	INITIATIVE	BENEFICIARY CATEGORY	ACHIEVEMENTS	NATIONAL OUTCOME
<p align="center">MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE</p> <p>MILITARY-LED ACADEMIC TRAINING (MILAT) PROGRAMME</p> <p>This two-year residential programme seeks to ensure the holistic development of young at-risk males and allow them the opportunity to qualify themselves academically and become productive citizens by providing a safe structured and regulated setting.</p> <p>The objectives of the programme are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce the loss of potentially productive human capital from the national skills base; 2. Create a rehabilitative intervention that strengthens the success capacity of the education system; 3. Transform the attitudes and behaviours of at-risk youth between the ages of 15-24, in a routine, military-led programme. <p>Trainees may be socially excluded and have an absence of effective parental/guardian influence but display an interest in receiving training and obtaining marketable skills and relevant job experience.</p>	<p>Young persons at-risk between the ages of 15 - 24 years</p>	<p>As at June 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of one hundred and six (106) male young persons were enrolled in the programme. <p>Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, MiLAT developed a blended learning approach (face-to-face classes prior to full restrictions and virtual classroom sessions thereafter) in preparation for the 2021 CSEC examination.</p>		
<p>RETIRES ADOLESCENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (RAPP)</p> <p>This programme is a community-oriented programme which seeks to provide assistance and supervision at the community level to “young, at-risk” persons in order to minimize the delinquency and drop-out rate in the nation’s school population.</p> <p>It seeks to provide a common platform geared towards improving learning skills, developing and enhancing social skills, building self-esteem and finding mutual ground for purposeful and productive living.</p> <p>It also seeks to give retired experts an opportunity to work in partnership with young adults and as a result, bridge the generation gap.</p>	<p>Children (14 years and under) and Youth (15-21 years) identified as ‘at risk’ and retired older persons (60-75 years). NGOs as well as ‘at-risk’ Communities also benefit from the programme</p>	<p>During fiscal 2021: A total of 234 young persons (106 males and 128 females) between 9 to 21 years from 33 primary schools, 39 secondary schools and 4 special schools were impacted by the benefits of the programme.</p>		

2022

SOCIAL SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

CHAPTER 2: OVERVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SECTOR

SOCIAL SECTOR PLANS FOR 2022



CHAPTER 3

CHAPTER 3: SOCIAL SECTOR PLANS FOR 2022

This chapter outlines social sector initiatives planned for implementation by Ministries and the Tobago House of Assembly for fiscal 2022. 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*). They are monitored and evaluated to measure progress towards the achievement of the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. Fiscal 2021 presented ongoing challenges in the social sector due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Once again, Government provided support to affected citizens via the implementation of COVID-19 relief measures for the months of May and June, 2021.

Beyond these measures, the Phase 2 Roadmap to Recovery Report (Office of the Prime Minister, 2020) examines the medium- to long-term recovery strategies necessary to put Trinidad and Tobago in a position to mitigate against similar economic and social shocks in the future. The Roadmap focuses on three Pillars of recovery: Transforming the Economy, Making Food Security a Reality and Leave No One Behind.

The Report acknowledges that economics and the associated policy framework are focused on people, their lives and livelihoods. It supports the ‘whole-of-country’ response in our recovery efforts. The upcoming fiscal 2022, will see the Government’s continued thrust to maintain the high levels of investment in the social sector in order to mitigate the negative impact of the pandemic and sustain the gains made over the years.

Table 3. I: Comparison of Budgeted Allocations for Social Infrastructure & Programming – 2021-2022

Sector Component	Estimates of Expenditure 2021	Estimates of Expenditure 2022
Social Infrastructure	1,639,602,000	1,807,866,000
• Development Programme	873,819,000	1,105,121,000
• Infrastructure Development Fund	765,783,000	702,845,000
Social Programming	8,072,090,956	8,068,458,409
TOTAL ALLOCATION	9,711,692,956	9,876,324,409

Source: Ministry of Finance



The following sections outline major plans to be implemented in fiscal 2022 by the following Ministries:¹

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

3.1 MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES

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.’ The Ministry is also focused on encouraging and building sustainable food security nationwide. In fiscal 2022, the Ministry’s initiatives will include the following:

A. Service to Farmers and the General Public:

- **Training:** Development and support of a revitalised local horticulture industry particularly among rural youth is a key element of socioeconomic development in rural communities. These will serve to equip entrepreneurs with the requisite skills, knowledge and capacity to operate small to medium ornamental horticulture-based business enterprises. The programme to develop young entrepreneurs in Ornamental Horticulture in rural communities, will help to develop public awareness, educational and research programmes anchored on capacity building for the wider population. The programme will target approximately 300

¹ Information for this chapter was obtained from the Ministries’ Budget submissions for fiscal 2022

persons who earn income from small to medium ornamental horticulture business enterprises and an additional 100 persons for annual training. Farmer, staff and mobile training, community outreach, plant clinics, production of technical manuals and factsheets, needs and impact assessments will continue in various areas, to further develop and enhance the agricultural sector.

B. 4H/ Young Farmers Clubs: The following activities will be undertaken during the fiscal 2022:

- Establishment of School Gardens
- Hosting of 'Good Agricultural Practices' Quiz
- Experiential Learning Art & Craft projects focusing on agriculture
- Conduct of four (4) 4H Camps
- Hosting of four (4) 4H Achievement Days
- Agricultural training of Voluntary Leaders
- Team Building Activities
- Fund Raiser
- Field Trips and Agricultural Activities for Club members
- Field Tours of Agricultural Stations and promotion of the 4H agenda to potential 4H members

C. National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation (NAMDEVCO): Among its planned work this fiscal, the Corporation will conduct upgrade works to the Orange Valley Wholesale Fish Market. Planned infrastructural works include the construction of a building equipped with a multi-purpose training and meeting room. This will facilitate knowledge dissemination and information to stakeholders on proper sanitation and value-added/processing initiatives.

- **Construction of a Seafood Processing Facility:** With the potential to create a major avenue for revenue generation and overall growth in the sector, the main objective of the facility's 'Farm to Table' project is to train, guide and support local farmers in the adherence to Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and other globally recognised regulations. A major component of this project is the establishment of a GAP Model Farm, which will be responsible for training and education. The facility will work with stakeholders on raising the safety and quality of domestic food supplies, and promoting local food security.



The MALF has the following legislative agenda for 2022. This agenda is key for the transformation of the agricultural sector, given the initiatives over many years to achieve sustainable growth in the sector and reduce the food import bill.

Box 3.1: Legislative Agenda of the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries for Fiscal 2022

- **Beekeeping and Bee Products Act 28 of 1935**
- **Fisheries Management Act 39 of 1916**
- **Trawling Legislation under the Fisheries Act 39 of 1916**
- **Plant Protection Act 13 of 1975**
- **Animals (Diseases and Importation) Act 19 of 1954, including Regulations**
- **State Lands Act 32 of 1918**
- **Conservation of Wildlife Regulations 1958**
- **Regulations regarding Teak and Pine Sales/Export**
- **Conservation and Wildlife Act 1958**

Source: The Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries

3.2 MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

The Ministry of Education continued its mandate in fiscal 2021 with mainly online education being conducted due to the continued closure of schools because of COVID-19 in Trinidad and Tobago. Despite the challenging circumstances and several setbacks, the Ministry was able to once again ensure that the SEA, CSEC and CAPE examinations were administered. With the beginning of the new academic year 2021-2022, it is anticipated that schools will reopen to a hybrid approach in the conduct of classes. 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 2022:

- A. Improvement of Online Education in Trinidad and Tobago:** During the upcoming fiscal, the Ministry will develop e-books for mathematics and English at both primary and secondary levels as well as secondary level Spanish; develop and deliver 500 toolkits; conduct train-the-trainer workshops for primary and secondary school educators and acquire laptop devices for distribution to the neediest students in keeping with its aim to improve online education.

In-Service Professional Development - Special Needs-Blind/Visual Impairment Awareness

Training: This programme was developed in conjunction with the Ministry's Teacher Education Performance and Professional Development Division (TEPPDD) and the Blind Welfare Association of Trinidad and Tobago (TTBWA). It is structured to build the awareness and competencies of all primary and secondary school teachers within mainstream schools. For fiscal 2022, webinars and asynchronous courses in assistive technologies and other instructional methodologies to assist the visually impaired, will be designed and developed.

- B. Literacy and Numeracy Plans 2020-2025:** Through the revised National Literacy/Numeracy Plans 2020-2025, the Ministry of Education aims to facilitate the establishment of an environment and supportive structures to enable the school community to provide more effective support to students' acquisition of core literacy and numeracy skills. For fiscal 2022, the Ministry will issue Requests for Proposals to obtain the following:
- E-book platforms to provide suitable titles for all levels and subjects from Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) to Secondary School (as assessed with the assistance of the Learning Material Evaluation Committee (LMEC))
 - Online Literacy and Numeracy Solutions
 - Consultancy services for the assessment, redesign, management and provision of support services for the Ministry's School Learning Management System and Education Management Information System (EMIS).
- C. School and Learning Management System – Assessment and Implementation:** The system, which was previously piloted in ten (10) secondary schools, will be relaunched on a phased basis to schools across Trinidad and Tobago.
- D. Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) /Technology Education Rationalisation:** During the upcoming fiscal year, the MoE will address infrastructural needs of TVET spaces at secondary schools and prepare a draft report on the review of the Technology Education curriculum.
- E. Blended/Hybrid Learning Material:** The Ministry will continue to review areas for content development for blended learning, monitor feedback from schools re blended learning content and continue the development of learning material for both primary and secondary schools.



- F. Laventille School Improvement Project 2021-2022:** This Project aims to assess the classroom readiness and classroom management skills of teachers; assist with training plan development; assist with the monitoring and evaluation of training plans and provide training for administrators in performance appraisal systems.
- G. University of the West Indies (UWI):**
- **Opening of UWI St. Augustine South Campus in Penal-Debe:** A mix of programmes from UWI and UWI-ROYTEC will be delivered, pending approval from the Accreditation Council of Trinidad & Tobago. The campus will deliver eight (8) existing programmes from the faculties of Humanities and Education, Science and Technology, Food and Agriculture and Medical Sciences.
- H. National Institute of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology (NIHERST):**
- **Enhancing Agriculture through Technology:** This initiative will demonstrate technology that enhances agriculture such as vertical farming technology, use of agricultural drones for mapping, 3D printing in agriculture and other initiatives.

The policy, research and legislative agenda for the MoE in fiscal 2022 is therefore aimed at building the information base to support decision making and the transformation of the sector. This is exemplified in the following tables:

Box 3.2: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Education for Fiscal 2022

Research:

- **Learning Loss Survey:** A Report on summary of findings from primary and secondary school administrators will be augmented by the inclusion of teachers' perspectives and examination data from the Secondary Entrance Assessment, Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate and the Caribbean Advance Proficiency Examinations.
- **Quality in Education:** Survey will be conducted over a two-week period to a sample of primary and secondary school students.
- **Technical Vocational Education and Training/Technology Education Rationalisation:** A needs analysis on TVET implementation and data collection study on TVET studies at secondary schools will be conducted.
- **National Survey of Innovation in Emerging Sectors 2022 Software Design and Applications Industry- (COSTAATT)**
- **National Skills Gap Analysis in the Software Design and Application Industry (COSTAATT)**

Box 3.3: Legislative Agenda of the Ministry of Education for Fiscal 2022

- **Inclusion of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in the Education Act, Chap. 39:01**

Source: Ministry of Education

3.3 MINISTRY OF HEALTH

As the Ministry responsible for the delivery of quality healthcare to citizens of Trinidad and Tobago, it continues to lead the development and roll-out of client-centered delivery of health services responsive to consumer needs and preferences. The Ministry performs a key role in the campaign to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the country in keeping with the World Health Organization's guidelines. The Ministry began the Phase 1 rollout of its vaccination campaign after receiving an allocation of over 33 600 doses of the Astra Zeneca COVID-19 vaccine via the COVAX facility in March 2021 (Pan American Health Organization , 2021).

Persons who were 60 years and over, under 60 with non-communicable diseases as well as healthcare workers were eligible for the vaccination during this phase. The year was a challenging one regarding the fight against the spread of the virus, as spikes in the infection rate saw over 60% bed occupancy at hospitals in the parallel healthcare system (De Souza, 2021). The Ministry also partnered with the private sector for the operation of mass vaccination sites to facilitate the vaccination process (Trinidad and Tobago Guardian , 2021). Additionally, the Ministry continued its regular healthcare services and will focus on the following in fiscal 2022 in keeping with its strategic priorities.

A. Operationalization of the Couva Medical and Multi-Training Facility and the San Fernando General Hospital:

The construction of the Bi-plane Cardiac Catheterization Lab at the San Fernando General Hospital (SFGH) will see improved care for patients and increased capacity for the conduct of cardiac procedures in the South West Regional Health Authority. (SWRHA).



B. Medical Equipment Upgrade Programme:

This ongoing programme involves the procurement and upgrade of medical equipment at the various Public Health Institutions and the expansion of critical services. The following are some of the upgrades to be undertaken within each Health Authority:

- **North Central Regional Health Authority:** Upgrade of the Radiology Unit, procurement of 60 patient beds, purchase of two (2) Echo machines, purchase of eight (8) infant warmers, purchase of two (2) ventilators and expansion of radiology and laboratory services.
- **South West Regional Health Authority:** Purchase of angiogram machine, purchase of 100 adult beds, replacement of six (6) X-ray units and replacement of five (5) hemodialysis machines.
- **North West Regional Health Authority:** Purchase of six (6) High Dependency Unit beds, purchase of 10 Diathermy machines, procurement of three (3) digital X-ray machines and purchase of 42 hospital beds.
- **Eastern Regional Health Authority:** Replacement of X-ray machine at the Mayaro Health Facility and replacement of other end-of life devices.

C. Health Information System for the Arima and Point Fortin Hospitals:

The Ministry will implement a Health Information System with the functionalities of registration, scheduling, ward and bed management, pharmacy, lab information system and integration with existing PACS. It is expected that the new System will improve data management and facilitate better health care services.

D. Other Programmes for Implementation:

Eastern Regional Health Authority:

- Implementation of mental health services via the ERHA's Employee Assistance Programme service offered. The implementation of a one-year mentorship pilot project at the Accident & Emergency and Internal Medicine Units will also begin in the new fiscal.

- The new fiscal will see the enhancement of High Dependency Unit (HDU) type services for patients utilising acquired equipment as well as the expansion of an HDU Nursing programme for the clinical management of patients outside of an HDU.

The policy and research agenda for the Ministry of Health outlined hereunder will enhance critical areas of health care, including care for the aged and men's health.

Box 3.4: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Health for Fiscal 2022

Policy:

- Health Policy on Ageing
- Health Management Information System Policy
- Medicine Policy
- National Emergency Ambulance Service Policy
- National Public Health Laboratory Policy
- Risk Management Audit Policy
- Medical Records Policy
- Adverse Events Policy

Research: (Research into Policies)

- Health Policy on Ageing
- Health Management Information System
- Risk Management Audit Policy
- Men's Health Policy
- COVID-19 Research & Analysis

Source: Ministry of Health

3.4 MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

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 2022:

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

The East Port of Spain Development Company Limited (EPOS) acknowledges that community development requires both adequate physical infrastructure and social development. It seeks to



empower individuals and families with the skills they need to bring about progressive change to the communities of East Port of Spain (The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, 2021). To this end, in fiscal 2022, EPOS will continue to transform the citizens of East Port of Spain through the following infrastructural and other projects:

- **Upgrade to Heritage and Cultural Facilities:** In fiscal 2022, the EPOS has proposed projects such as improvements to cultural spaces and the restoration of Fort Piston and the Restoration of the Stations of the Cross.
- **Improvement to Sports, Recreation and Community Facilities:** Improvements to recreational facilities can revitalize communities, contribute to the development of small contractors and provide local employment. Additionally, residents will have access to quality sporting facilities for communal enjoyment. Some of the projects proposed include upgrade to play parks, community centers and hardcourt facilities.
- **Community Enhancement and Emergency Relief Projects:** EPOS will undertake a number of minor projects as part of emergency response and relief to residents of East Port of Spain. These projects will provide assistance in the event of natural disasters.
- **Latrine Eradication Programme:** This programme includes sustainable access to improved sanitation and is designed to improve sanitation and public health by reducing the high percentage of residents who rely on pit latrines for disposal of sewage. Many families have benefited from this programme since its commencement through the provision of livelihood for approximately 23 small contractors within the locality.

B. Land Settlement Agency (LSA):

- **Increase in Subsidy – Housing and Village Improvement Programme:** Due to increased cost of construction materials, the total cost of construction of starter homes has increased from \$130,000.00 to \$155,000.00. This represents a percentage increase of almost 20%. To offset the increased cost, the LSA will seek to increase the maximum subsidy for all new projects applicable under the HVIP, from \$120,000.00 to

\$145,000.00 with homeowners contributing the remaining \$10,000.00 in labour and/or materials.

- **Regularisation of Squatter Communities:** The LSA proposes to undertake development works under this Programme in the 2021/2022 Financial Year at a total cost of \$TT18 million. These works include:

a) Pre-Construction Activities at: Blake Avenue, Guaico; Blitz Village, San Fernando; St John's Road, Tunapuna; Ste Madeline; Cunjal, Realize Road; Mappapiere; and Corosol, Whiteland.

b) Ongoing Construction Activities at:

- Bois Bande, Sangre Grande, Site A. This will include infrastructure development works; roads, drainage and water reticulation for a potable water supply
- Bois Bande, Sangre Grande, Site B. Work will include additional drainage works and water reticulation works requested by the Drainage Division, Ministry of Works and Transport and the Water and Sewerage Authority

c) Proposed New Construction Activities at: Wallerfield Squatter Regularisation Site. Road paving works will be undertaken to facilitate finalisation of the Drainage Division's approval for the site.

Starter Home Construction Programme: Under the Starter Home Construction Programme, two- or three-bedroom starter homes will be constructed on State lands, State Enterprises and lands of the HDC, at a starting cost of \$160,000.00. The homes will be between 480 square feet, measuring 20' x 24' and 768 square feet, measuring 24' x 32'. These starter homes will conform to all required regulatory and planning standards. Housing units constructed under the Starter Home Construction Programme will be distributed to low- and middle-income households by the HDC, in accordance with its allocation criteria for the distribution of these units.

C. Social and Economic Programme for East Port of Spain:

Under the remit of the East Port of Spain Development Company Limited, the following projects will be undertaken:



- **Community Engagement and Marketing:** This project is designed to inspire the EPOS residents to grasp the opportunities presented for the transformation and enrichment of their lives. Moreover, this initiative will illuminate the positive images of EPOS, revitalise community spirit and restore public trust in a remodeled and progressive EPOS. It will also generate greater public awareness and inform the residents of East Port of Spain and environs about the planned projects and initiatives for the social and economic transformation of East Port of Spain.

- **Community Festivals:** The Community Festival is geared towards revitalizing cultural skills, performances, art, music, drama, dance and food in communities and public spaces. As such, the festival will create opportunities for self-sufficiency and strengthen and empower participants as well as unite the different sectors of the community. Through this collaboration, it is expected that mechanisms for effecting change, healthy and sustainable communities will be created.

- **Education to Production:** The Education to Production Programme seeks to advance the skills and training of young persons in construction and entrepreneurship. The aim is to harness the abundance of energy, creativity and risk-taking attributes of youths to bring about positive change while promoting entrepreneurship. Programme modules include business planning, start-up and administration and will equip participants to achieve proficiency and certification in the construction trade. The programme has two components:
 - a) **Youth Entrepreneurial Programme:** An entrepreneurship programme targeting secondary school students and school leavers to explore both the benefits and disadvantages of business ownership. It is participatory, educational and will introduce participants to the fundamentals of establishing a business. This programme encompasses workshops to improve social and life skills along with the technical aspects of business start-up and management.

- b) **Construction Skills Training:** Advanced training for semi-skilled men and women of East Port of Spain for future employment and/or business start-up in the construction sector.

3.5 MINISTRY OF LABOUR

The employment sector in Trinidad and Tobago continued to face considerable challenges in 2021 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic followed on the heels of existing challenging economic conditions due to declining energy prices. The International Labour Organization's *2020 Labour Overview for Latin America and the Caribbean* reported a strong increase in the rate of unemployment from 8.1% in 2019 to 10.6 % in 2020—an increase of 2.5 percentage points (International Labour Organization, 2021). The Government of Trinidad and Tobago has strategically put in place mechanisms to assist the displaced working population in order to keep the economy afloat. This was in light of the fact that many businesses were ordered closed to reduce the viral spread, including those considered to be high employment generators such as the food and retail industry, the construction sector, and personal services sector.

Against this backdrop, the Ministry continues to work on the achievement of its overall mission which is to champion equity and opportunities for all stakeholders through a collaborative approach to labour administration; the empowerment of employers and employees; and entrepreneurship. During fiscal 2022, the Ministry of Labour will pursue the following:

- A. **Digital Transformation Plan of the Ministry of Labour:** This project is intended to improve accessibility to the Ministry's services through online and mobile platforms and digitalise internal processes and systems to meet critical requirements and significantly improve the Ministry's operation. The Ministry has developed an ICT Strategic Plan to guide its digital transformation process which would entail digitising and digitalising the processes and operations of various functions of the Ministry. The Plan seeks to facilitate 24-hour accessibility to MOL services; improved customer service capabilities; improved service delivery; improved labour market statistical systems; increased organisational efficiency; upgrade in the operational infrastructure of the Ministry; and improved ICT operational compliance.



- B. Institutional Strengthening of the Occupational Safety and Health Agency:** The Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Agency provides support in the creation of effective regulatory OSH structures that better protect workforces within Trinidad and Tobago through the prevention of OSH incidents. Consequently, the possible individual, economic, political and reputational damages that may be caused are avoided. It is in this light that the MOL proposes to build institutional capacity within the OSH Agency through the strengthening of the Inspectorate's regulatory capacity and retooling, restructuring and re-organizing its operations.
- C. Operationalisation of the National Tripartite Advisory Council (NTAC):** The NTAC promotes and encourages tripartite dialogue as an essential and integral part of all aspects of national social and economic development. During fiscal 2022, the MOL proposes to acquire and outfit suitable accommodation for the Secretariat and hire its entire complement of staff, in order to effectively perform the work of the Council. The policy and research agenda for the Ministry of Labour outlined hereunder will continue to provide an enabling environment for workers' rights and the protection of children.

Box 3.5: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Labour for Fiscal 2022

Research:

- **Determination and Impact of the Minimum Wage Level on the Economy:** This project aims to establish a system to review, determine and monitor the minimum wage in Trinidad and Tobago.
- **Development of a Modernised Labour Market Information System:** This project will address major gaps in the production and dissemination of timely and relevant labour market information in Trinidad and Tobago.
- **National Baseline Survey on Knowledge, Attitudes, Beliefs and Practices on HIV in the Workplace:** The Ministry proposes to engage a Consultant to conduct a National Baseline Survey on Knowledge, Attitudes, Beliefs and Practices on HIV in the Workplace. This survey aims to gather necessary and relevant data to inform strategies toward providing the technical support to workplaces suited to their specific needs in formulating their workplace policies and programmes.
- **Securing Employment through Empowerment of Medium and Small Enterprises in Post COVID-19 in Trinidad and Tobago – Disaster Recovery:** The Ministry proposes to conduct primary research to gather data to show how Medium and Small Enterprises (MSEs) can be supported in order to improve employment levels post COVID-19 and to highlight the impact of COVID-19 on the viability of MSEs in Trinidad and Tobago. This data will inform policies to empower MSEs to generate sustainable employment.

Policy:

- **Development of a Child Labour Policy:** This project is targeted at developing a national policy aimed at preventing incidences of child labour and to contribute to the eventual elimination of child labour in Trinidad and Tobago.
- **Labour Migration Policy:** The Ministry is in the process of finalising the Policy and it is expected that the approved Policy would be ready for dissemination to the general public in fiscal 2022.

Source: Ministry of Labour

Box 3.6: Legislative Agenda of the Ministry of Labour for Fiscal 2022

- Legislation to govern HIV and AIDS in the workplace
- Legislation for the Prevention and Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour
- Employment Standards Bill
- The Workmen Compensation (Transfer of Funds) Act, Chapter 88:06

Source: Ministry of Labour

3.6 MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY

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 2022, the following initiatives will be pursued:

A. Improvement Works to Prison Buildings:

The Ministry will continue improvement works to Prison Buildings. Projects carded for fiscal 2022 include:

- Construction of a Girl's Rehabilitation Centre on the compound of the Youth Transformational and Rehabilitation Centre (YTRC) (formerly known as the Youth Training Centre)
- Upgrade and improvement of the dormitories at the Youth Transformational and Rehabilitation Centre
- Re-purposing of the Nursery at the Women's Prison to accommodate a Youth Training Rehabilitation Centre for Females (YTRCF). This is a transitional measure pending the completion of the main facility on the YTRC compound



B. Purchase and Refurbishment of Vehicles for the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service:

The Ministry will pursue the acquisition of additional vehicles to boost the Service's efforts to sustain an adequate fleet of emergency vehicles. In this regard, the Fire Service intends to procure the following vehicles: one (1) Breathing Apparatus Tender; two (2) Water Tenders (for Mayaro and Penal Fire Stations); and two (2) Ambulances. This will facilitate improved response capabilities to emergency situations and the achievement of a high level of public, fire and life safety. Restoration works will also be conducted on existing vehicles to enhance the response capabilities of the Service.

Box 3.7: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of National Security for fiscal 2022

Policy:

- **Disaster Management Policy** - This policy will consider all stages of the disaster management cycle and will be enabled by new legislation that will broaden the scope of the current law.

Source: Ministry of National Security

3.7 OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

In fiscal 2022, the following initiatives will be undertaken by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) through the following Divisions/Agencies: Gender and Child Affairs (Division) and the National AIDS Coordinating Committee.

A. Child Affairs Division:

- **Implementation of National Child Policy (NCP):** The NCP is an overarching child well-being policy that includes guidelines and frameworks that focus on addressing specific evidence-based gaps in the child development architecture of the nation. The NCP Implementation Plan was developed to ensure that the Policy is executed in a sustainable, effective and tangible manner. In November 12, 2020 Cabinet agreed to the establishment of an NCP Cross-Sectorial Committee to monitor the NCP and its Implementation Plan. In fiscal 2022, the Committee will continue to monitor the implementation of the NCP.
- **National Children's Registry:** The full roll-out of the National Children's Registry is expected in fiscal 2022, bringing the real time data on children, including those who are

'Wards of the State' (up to the age of 24) in Trinidad and Tobago to all key stake holders. This will enhance the care and protection of all children residing in Trinidad and Tobago and collect data on the needs of our children, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the package of Children's Legislation.

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

- **Digitization of the CATT's Records:** This objective of this project is to design and implement a comprehensive records management system to address the holistic needs of the organization. It will also improve management of the numerous processes in the Authority, thereby improving customer service.
- **Establishment of a Consolidated Child Support Centre:** This project will allow the Authority to provide more appropriate and targeted care to children at a facility designed specifically to ensure their safety and the safety of staff. The Authority expects to realize the following specific benefits through implementation of this project:
 - Improved service delivery in the treatment of children
 - Optimized use of programme resources
 - Informed targeted preventative and intervention care towards children in a specialized facility
- **Outbound Call Centre:** The Child Protection Registry (CPR) of the CATT was established to receive reports of known or suspected cases of child abuse or children in need of care and protection. The Call Centre is a significant resource for persons requesting information on family support services, as well as the primary point of contact for the general public to log reports. This project will ensure that there is continuous improvement to the service delivery provided by the Authority by effectively treating with backlogged cases that have been assigned to the low-risk or no-risk categories and have not received the required intervention.
- **Establishment of a Reception Centre in Tobago for Children in Need of Supervision (CHINS), Children with Behavioural Challenges and Children with Poor Mental Health:**



This project will seek to improve service delivery to children and by extension their families in Tobago and ensure adequate care and attention is received. The main objectives of the project are as follows:

- To expand placement options in Tobago by establishing a fit for purpose facility dedicated to the care and protection of CHINS, children with behavioural challenges and children with poor mental health
- To ensure that staff receive adequate training and development to treat effectively with this specialized group of children

C. Gender Affairs Division:

- **Refurbishment of Two Safe Houses:** This project will entail the renovation of additional residential properties to be used as safe houses for parents and their children who survived domestic violence and are in need of temporary, alternative accommodation. The operationalisation of the male shelter and another female shelters will be completed in fiscal 2022. Additionally, it is anticipated that work on the planning of additional residences to support victims of family violence will be completed and construction will commence on the allocated sites with operationalisation projected for fiscal 2023.
- **Male Domestic Violence Shelter:** The refurbishment of a building to house a Male Domestic Violence Shelter was completed. This facility will be operationalised in fiscal 2022.

The Spotlight Programme: The Gender Affairs Division will continue to work with its United Nations partners, supporting Ministries and Agencies and Civil Society Organizations to ensure that all women and girls, particularly those most marginalized in targeted communities live a life free of family violence, by introducing prevention strategies and strengthen multi-sectoral responses. Under this Programme, a Model will be designed to build service delivery and change behaviours on family violence at the national community level. The Model to be derived from the three communities where the Spotlight Programme is being piloted must be transferable and sustainable by the Government, its Agencies and communities. Each state agency must be in a position to determine its programme of service delivery, contribute to the

service standards and measure its contribution to the Model, with a view to ending all forms of family violence.

D. National AIDS Coordinating Committee Secretariat:

- **Finalisation, Launch and Dissemination of the National HIV and AIDS Policy:** The overall goal of the project is to ensure that the population of Trinidad and Tobago has full participation and engagement in the development process of the National HIV and AIDS Policy at all levels. In this regard, public consultations and online engagements will be hosted to garner public comment and input towards its finalization.

Box 3.8: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Office of the Prime Minister: for fiscal 2022

Policy:

- **Finalisation, Launch and Dissemination of the National HIV and AIDS Policy**

Research:

- **Child Sexual Abuse (CATT):**
- **Corporal Punishment Study (CATT)**

Source: Office of the Prime Minister

3.8 MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

The Ministry of Public Utilities (MPU) is charged with the responsibility for ensuring the delivery of quality electricity, water, wastewater, waste management, telecommunications, meteorological and postal services in an efficient, affordable and reliable manner to the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. 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 2022 the MPU will pursue the following:



A. Utilities Assistance Programme (UAP):

For fiscal 2022, the MPU will continue to provide assistance to low-income customers as follows:

- **Provision of Utility Bill Assistance:** An estimated 13,000 low-income beneficiaries will receive water and electricity subsidies at an estimated \$3.6 million.
- **Provision of Solar Panel Assistance:** Approximately eight (8) new solar panels will be installed at a cost of \$360,000.
- **Provision of Water Tanks:** The MPU will distribute water tanks (800 gallon) to 1,025 households and two (2) community facilities. This is estimated to cost \$1.85 million.

B. Residential Electrification Assistance Programme (REAP):

The Ministry will continue with its assistance to households for electrical wiring/rewiring and relevant electrical pole installation during the fiscal. It is expected to facilitate one hundred and eighty (180) projects during the period at a value of \$3 million. Steps will also be taken to:

- Improve the Programme's service delivery time (from application to completion)
- Implement outreach programmes to increase public awareness and the number of persons accessing the Programme.

C. Electrification Programme (EP):

Provision of assistance for the installation of electrical infrastructure (Transformers, Low Voltage lines) to sixty (60) households. Approximately 700 persons are expected to benefit.

D. Implementation of MPU's Customer Service Charter, Service Standards and Internal Customer Service Improvement Plan (2021-2023):

For fiscal 2022 the Customer Service Unit will continue to fulfil the mandate of the Charter, which outlines the level of service that the Ministry's customers will receive when interacting with employees; and the implementation of the action plan of the Internal Customer Service Improvement Plan (CSIP) 2021-2023.

E. Community Water Improvement Plan (CWIP):

Twenty-three (23) projects are expected to be completed during the fiscal. It is expected that approximately 47,000 citizens will benefit from the projects, which will aid in the provision of a water supply.

F. Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago (TSTT):

For the upcoming fiscal, some of the company's plans include:

- **Expansion of the Mobile FDD 4G LTE Network:** TSTT will continue to expand its Mobile FDD 4G LTE network with the deployment of thirty (30) new FDD LTE 700MHz sites and the expansion of ten (10) existing FDD LTE 1900 MHz sites. It is anticipated that through this expansion, ubiquitous mobile broadband will now be accessible to citizens. The expansion will ensure that students, particularly those in rural communities without fixed broadband connections at home, will have the capability to access a broadband connection via the mobile 4G LTE network.
- **Provision of Call Centre Services:** TSTT will continue its partnership with the Ministry of Health in its COVID-19 vaccination registration. This will be done through the use of its world-class Data Centre and use of its 24/7 Call Centre operations. The partnership will facilitate direct internet service, SMS alert capability and data backup. It will also allow for the handling of an average of 2000 daily calls with a maximum transaction time of five (5) minutes.
- **Zero-Rated Data Access to TTPS App:** Citizens who are bmobile customers may now access the App to report an issue or crime without having a data plan or phone credit. It is expected that this partnership will have a positive impact on national safety and security.

E. Water and Sewerage Authority:

- **New Water Sources:** Thirteen (13) new wells will be drilled in Trinidad. These works are expected to yield an approximate increase of 17,000 cubic meters per day. These projects will benefit approximately 45,200 persons in areas including Las Lomas, Arouca, Freeport, Chatham, Cap-de-Ville, Moka, California, Tucker Valley, Cumuto, Palo Seco, Coora and Talparo.
- **New Capital Projects:** A total of 16 new projects have been identified under the 2021-2022 Capital Programme. These projects are consistent with the GORTT's Water Sector initiatives



and are centered on the Authority's priority areas for improvement of water and wastewater services. These include:

- Development of New Water Sources
- Rehabilitation of Water Infrastructure
- Reduction in Non-Revenue Water
- Expansion and Rehabilitation of Wastewater Infrastructure
- Construction of Service Reservoirs and Bulk Metering

Funding for the projects will amount to approximately \$155 million. Both commercial and domestic customers in communities including Paramin, Valsayn, La Fillette and Bloody Bay will benefit from an improved water supply and service reliability. It is expected that with the improved supply, the health of these communities will also be improved due to a reduction in water-borne diseases.

F. Regulated Industries Commission (RIC):

- The RIC will conduct price reviews for:
 - The Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission and the
 - Water and Sewerage Authority

3.9 MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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 organizing, 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:

The Ministry has been focusing on building the capacity and resilience across the 14 municipalities, in order to mitigate and respond to natural disaster threats and incidences. In fiscal 2022, the Ministry will provide 10 customised, 40ft containers to store disaster relief equipment and supplies.

Each container will store approximately \$200,000 worth of equipment including cots, generators, pumps, and jackhammers.

B. Latrine Eradication Programme:

This Programme which commenced in 2019 is being undertaken over a three (3) year period and aims to eliminate and replace pit latrines with septic tanks and seepage pits in municipalities across Trinidad and Tobago. Phase I of the programme will continue in four (4) Corporations in fiscal 2022 (Port of Spain City Corporation, San Juan/Laventille Regional Corporation, Sangre Grande Regional Corporation and Mayaro/Rio Claro Regional Corporation). Approximately, 40 additional units will be constructed. Phase II will see the programme extended to include the remaining 10 Corporations with an average of thirty households per Region having septic tanks and seepage pits installed. It is expected that the programme will improve the standard of living within the communities and provide employment.

3.10 MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (MSDFS) is the core social sector Ministry responsible for coordinating 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 continued rollout of the National Social Mitigation Plan (2017-2022) which served as a blueprint in the provision of emergency relief to households and citizens during the pandemic in 2020, facilitated the emergence of an Inclusive Social Protection Framework. This Framework enabled the provision of a second phase of COVID-19 Income support grants in 2021 to persons affected by lockdown measures. The Ministry will continue its efforts to bolster its social protection framework through the following measures in the fiscal 2022.

- A. Implementation of Consultancy - National Social Mitigation Plan (NSMP) Phase II:** The goal of this Plan is to ease the negative social impacts of the downturn of the national economy and provide responses to the potential social, economic and psychosocial effects associated with the downturn. Under Phase II of the NSMP, the Ministry will undertake the nationwide rollout of the



Social Services Empowerment Unit (SSEU), a timely and convenient, 'one-stop shop' for the provision of social services and the supportive Social Transformation and Empowerment Programme -Uplifting People (STEP-UP) model. Other initiatives to be pursued under the NSMP include:

- **The Implementation of a Nationwide Public Education Campaign on Financial Security:** This will be conducted in collaboration with the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago and is aimed at promoting financial literacy throughout the nation.
- **Collaboration with the Ministry of Labour (MOL) to strengthen the A2O Programme:** This programme focuses on the provision of sustainable jobs within an economic downturn and is also seen as an opportunity to enhance national productivity.
- **Development of a nationwide campaign on strategies to ensure personal food security:** The Ministry will collaborate with entities such as the United Nations'- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Forestry (MALF) and the University of the West Indies (UWI) to help citizens provide food for themselves amidst the decline in foreign revenue. The increase in the availability of local food is essential in the alleviation of poverty, stabilisation of food prices, reduction in the food import bill, and the enhancement of national productivity.
- **The establishment of two (2) pilot projects for Community Health and Wellness Centres:** Designed to make health and wellness readily available to persons within the communities of Trinidad and Tobago, this pilot project will add another dimension in building a resilient society and is projected to contribute to the reduction of stress, violence and crime within the nation.

B. Improvement in Service Delivery:

The Ministry will pursue the rollout of the following initiatives in fiscal 2022:

- Community First Responder System
- Citizens Engagement and Outreach Unit
- Establishment of an MSDFS Call Centre

C. Establishment of Assessment Centre and Transitional and Emergency Housing Facilities for the Socially Displaced:

Refurbishment works will continue on properties earmarked for use as transitional and emergency housing in South and East Trinidad. Three such properties are earmarked for operations in the first half of 2022.

D. Curbing Offender Recidivism through Entrepreneurship (CORE):

This initiative is a collaboration between the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services and the Ministry of Education. It is designed to target ex-offenders exiting the prison system and will incorporate the STEP UP framework for empowerment and resiliency of these persons and their families. The programme will be specifically designed to create opportunities for ex-offenders who obtained skills through the Rehabilitating Inmates through Training and Retraining (RITTR) Programme to monetise those skills into entrepreneurship ventures. Its main objectives are to:

- Reduce poverty and dependency on medium to long term financial support by the State
- Decrease offender recidivism
- Reduce incidences of crime
- Increase economic growth through micro and small enterprise development

E. Virtual SEED Marketplace:

This initiative will specifically target present and past clients of the Sowing Empowerment through Entrepreneurial Development (SEED) clients through the creation of a virtual space that will allow them to advertise their products and services. The SEED Marketplace will endorse the Ministry's commitment to empower its clients to become independent and resilient by providing a free space where SEED clients can highlight their talents. Additionally, the SEED Programme will also seek to integrate aspects of the Adult Education Programme (AEP) to offer enhanced training opportunities to clients in the area of entrepreneurship.

F. Re-introduction of the National Centenarian Programme:

The celebration of centenarians presents an opportunity for the national population to obtain insight into the historical events they experienced first-hand, their way of life that contributed to their longevity and serve to boost the centenarians' well-being. Given the latest World Health Organization (WHO) data published in 2018 which revealed that the total life expectancy for T&T is 71.8 (male 68.2, female 75.6) living to be 100 is an impressive accomplishment that should be celebrated as the major milestone it is.



The recognition of our centenarians should be ongoing and celebrated annually with a function, which will be incorporated in the observation of “National Centenarians Day” (September 22). This forum will be utilised to celebrate our centenarians, highlight their unique perspective and wisdom and serve as an opportunity to salute their achievements and contributions to T&T.

G. Facilitating Innovative Measures through ICT Solutions:

In fiscal 2022, the MSDFS will undertake the following:

- Deployment of the Integrated Social Enterprise Management System as the application platform to facilitate all forms of service delivery to meet the growing needs of the Ministry. A platform to host test applications for the training and development of staff, including: Human Resource Information System, Financial Management Information System, Intranet Services, Custom Business Reporting Services will also be provided.

H. The National Register of Vulnerable Persons

The MSDFS has been actively pursuing the design of the National Register of Vulnerable Persons. The National Register for Vulnerable Persons is expected to consist of input captured and derived from information disseminated by the key business units of the Ministry in an integrated manner using the Ministry’s ICT platform.

The policy and research agenda for the MSDFS outlined hereunder is aimed at addressing critical policy gaps in the Ministry as well ensuring that decision making is evidence driven.

Box-3.9: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services for Fiscal 2022**Policy:**

- **National Family Policy:** This policy is currently being reviewed for submission to Cabinet for approval as a Green Paper to facilitate the hosting of public consultations in fiscal 2022.
- **National Parenting Policy:** This policy will be finalised to be laid in Parliament as a White Paper in fiscal 2022.
- **Review of the National Policy on Ageing:** This policy is currently being reviewed and will be sent to Cabinet for approval as a Green Paper to facilitate the hosting of public consultations in fiscal 2022.
- **Review of the Social Housing Policy**

Research:

- **National Participatory Poverty Assessments to inform the development of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy**
- **Assessment of the Disability Sector (being undertaken by CDB)**
- **Assessment of the Civil Society Sector**
- **Development of a National Socio-Economic Indicator Database**
- **Continued Strengthening of the Standard Means Test**
- **Development of a Single Intake Form**
- **Survey on Community Therapeutic Services for Persons with Disabilities**
- **Data Repository Information Management System**
- **Grandparenting in Trinidad and Tobago**
- **Youth Radicalisation – the Propensity for Youth to Join Gangs**
- **Review of Current Social Programmes**
- **National and Quarterly Street Count (Street Dwellers)**
- **Survey of Street Dwellers**
- **Document Management System**
- **Survey of Living Conditions/Household Budgetary Survey**
- **The Vulnerability of Older Persons to HIV and AIDS: Pre-retirement in Trinidad**
- **Culture of Research within the Social Sector**

Source: Ministry of Social Development and Family Services



3.11 MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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 2022:

A. Community Development:

Community Mediation Services:

- **Adoption of a Distance Learning Model:** The Community Mediation Services Division (CMSD) will expand its implementation of a distance learning model for its community training programmes including the Community Empowerment Programme, Peer Mediation Training Programme, Parenting Support Group Meetings, Co-Parenting Programme and Men's Support Group Meetings. Pre-recorded programme content with moderated interactive sessions will continue to be delivered by facilitators.
- **Community Education Programme – Skills Training and Handicraft Development:** The Ministry will conduct in-person and virtual skills training programmes in 50 different disciplines at varying intervals during the fiscal year. It is anticipated that approximately 15,000 persons would be impacted.

B. Sport Programmes

- **Pink Reign Campaign:** This initiative seeks to promote physical activity and sport to women and girls in Trinidad and Tobago as well as female participation in various related careers in the sport sector.
- **SHAPE in Communities Programme:** This programme will target the development of sport in communities for the purpose of establishing a strong platform for its development locally. The programme aims to offer stakeholders in community education and capacity building in sport and deserved recognition of sport activists.

- **National Athlete Development Programme:** This programme is a collaboration between the Ministry and SPorTT and aims to expose participants to high performance sport techniques, methods and resources. The programme will be facilitated by local sport professionals and targets developing athletes 20 years and under as well as coaches and technical staff from 15 non-governmental bodies. One of the major objectives of the Programme is to facilitate elite athlete development locally.
- **April Pools Learn to Swim Project:** This project will be executed during the month of April 2022 across the seven (7) Community Swimming Pools managed by the Ministry. It aims to introduce the skills of swimming and water safety awareness to members of the public.

Box 3.10: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Sport and Community Development for Fiscal 2022

Policy:

- **Community Economic Development Through the Development of Heritage Spaces:** This policy commenced in fiscal 2019/2020 and is expected to be finalised in fiscal 2021/2022. It focuses on the preservation and promotion of the historical and cultural heritage left by our forefathers in different geographical locations across the country. It also aims to develop and explore strategies to monetise cultural and heritage assets.
- **Implementation of the National Policy for Sustainable Community Development (NPSCD) Phases I and II:** The Policy sets out a framework for achieving sustainably developed communities in Trinidad and Tobago. It provides the pathway for a significantly strengthened approach to community development that is both whole of Government and multi-sectoral in nature. In fiscal 2022 five additional (5) Municipal areas/communities will be brought on board in the continued implementation of the Policy.
- **National Policy for the Handicraft Sector of Trinidad and Tobago and Master Plan:** The Policy will outline strategies and necessary tools required to improve the issues experienced by the sector and explore alternatives for revenue expansion.
- **The Sport Facilities Management Policy:** This policy will address all aspects of management and operations including the management principles and strategy, the classification of community facilities, maintenance, financial management, usage, rental policy and community facilities as emergency shelters.

Source : Ministry of Sport and Community Development



3.12 MINISTRY OF TOURISM, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

This Ministry was created in 2020 through the merger of the former Ministry of Tourism with the Culture and Arts Divisions of the former Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts and has presented opportunities for synergies between culture, the arts and tourism in Trinidad and Tobago. Although the tourism and cultural sectors were among the hardest hit by the COVID-19 Pandemic, it is expected that these sectors will recover and increase their contribution to the national economy. In fiscal 2022, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts will continue to work on stimulating and developing and expanding sustainable tourism and the cultural sector. The following outlines the sector plans for the Ministry.

A. **Tourism and Health Programme (THP):**

This programme seeks to deal holistically with health issues and concerns of the tourism industry in Trinidad and Tobago and forms part of an Inter-American Development Bank funded initiative originally launched in 2016. In fiscal 2022 the Ministry will continue the rollout of this programme with an information drive aimed at informing tourism service sector officers and stop-over tourists to Trinidad and Tobago about the THP. The Ministry will also seek to ensure the availability of clear, user-friendly guidelines on how to report illnesses at three (3) of the legal ports of entry into Trinidad, (Piarco International Airport, Port of Spain - Cruise Ship Complex, and Chaguaramas). Among other things, rollout of the programme is expected to reduce the spread of illnesses and increase traveller safety and security.

B. **Cultural Initiatives:**

- **Establishment of Fellowship between UTT and the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts:** The fellowship in steelpan is a pilot initiative that will foster the development of both the creative and cultural industries of the nation.
- **Development of Apprenticeship Programmes - National Performing Ensembles:** Apprenticeship serves as a means of providing hands-on training to a new generation of musicians. The apprenticeship programmes aims to inter alia, assist young musicians in acquiring intimate knowledge in and about professional performing arts and provide viable career options.
- **National Inventorying Exercise:** The Ministry has responsibility for the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) which was ratified on

July 22nd, 2010. An important aspect of the UNESCO ICH Convention is the inscription of heritage elements that have been nominated by a country to the UNESCO Representative List. For fiscal 2022 proclamation and promulgation of the National Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory of Trinidad and Tobago will be pursued.

- **Live at Lunch Concert Series:** Several events will be hosted during the upcoming fiscal to foster national pride and commemorate significant events during the year. They include:
 - **City Blessings:** This concert will feature some of the most popular and emerging Gospel artistes in Trinidad and Tobago.
 - **Simply Jazz:** A live stream concert featuring the prize winners of the previous competition.
 - **Masala:** Hosted in commemoration of Indian Arrival Day this event will highlight a cast of East Indian elements.
 - **Spoken Words and Sounds:** A virtual presentation that focuses on the discovery of new and emerging artistes.
 - **Soul Sessionz:** Instrumental or acapella performances, and frank discussions, will showcase top cultural performers in a different light as they share their life experiences.
 - **Freedom Call:** Hosted in commemoration of Emancipation Day, this event will highlight a cast of indigenous elements.
 - **Patriotism Month:** The hosting of five (5) concert performances will celebrate and promote our unique cultural history as a means of inspiring National pride.

C. 60th Anniversary J.A.V.A. Spectacular:

This festival will be a two (2) week precursor to the Patriotic month of Activities designed to set the stage for Trinidad and Tobago's 60th Anniversary of Independence and its upcoming events. Given that August is the final month of schools' July-August vacation period or JAVA, it presents a period of high tourist activity.

D. 60th Anniversary of Independence:

This will be a year-round event to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Trinidad and Tobago's Independence. The proposed events are:



- The Evolution of the Steelpan Exhibition
- “Pan on A Higher Note” - A Performance by the National Steel Symphony Orchestra and Guests
- Spiritual Baptist/Shouter Liberation Day Celebration
- Folk Ballet - This commissioned theatrical work will focus on the indigenous folk dance and movement art form that is practised in Trinidad and Tobago
- Indian Dance Fest
- National Song Competition - Finalist Showcase
- “Monarchs in Concert Tribute To Brother Resistance - 1981 to 2012”
- “Celebrating our Calypso Monarchs 1939-1980 -T&T History through the Eyes of Calypso”
- Ramleela Celebrations
- “Caribbean 7-A-Side Steel Pan” : Participating Ensembles from St. Lucia, Grenada, St. Vincent, Trinidad & Tobago, Antigua, Barbados and Nevis are expected to perform
- Red, White & Black Parade: This will take the form of a street festival featuring traditional and contemporary mas and members of the general public celebrating our nation’s 60th Anniversary
- Toast to the Nation - A pre-fireworks Spectacular. It will take the form of a two (2) hour concert featuring some of Trinidad and Tobago’s leading musical artists

Box 3.11: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts for Fiscal 2022:

Policy:

- **National Ecotourism Sub-policy:** The implementation of this sub-policy will allow for the strategic growth, development and advancement of the ecotourism niche within the local tourism industry.
- **Community-Based Tourism Sub-Policy:** The implementation of this sub-policy would allow for the strategic growth, development and advancement of the Community-Based Tourism niche within the local tourism industry.

Source: Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts for Fiscal 2022

3.13 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. Infrastructure Development

- The Ministry is expected to begin construction of two (2) new Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centres (YDACs) at Wallerfield and Chaguaramas. Additionally, refurbishment works will continue on the Chatham and Persto Praesto YDACs
- Development works will continue at youth training facilities at Los Bajos, California, St. James, Laventille and Malick
- Refurbishment works will continue on a building for the Children in Need of Supervision (CHiNS) project at the St. Michael School for Boys in Diego Martin. Works also continue on the reconstruction and outfitting of the Salvation Army – Josephine Shaw House

B. Youth Agricultural Homestead Programme:

The programme is a strategic intervention that aims to increase the attractiveness of and provide opportunities for youth in the agricultural sector. The intention is to utilize the agriculture sector as a mechanism to assist in addressing youth unemployment and poverty by increasing their participation in the economy whilst enhancing the country's agricultural output and food security.

C. Moruga Farm School Project:

The Moruga Farm School Project seeks to redefine what it means to be a 21st century farmer and position young farmers as producers of high-value agricultural products whilst promoting climate-smart agriculture.



D. National Service:

- **National Service Training Centres (NSTC):** Through these centres, graduates who are civic-minded and self-reliant citizens will be empowered to become fully productive members of society and make meaningful contributions to national development.
- **MY-Suite Success Programme (MYSSP):** Designed to contribute to meeting the needs of youth in a transformed global job market, the MYSSP is a multi-functional information communications and technology (ICT) platform that comprises three (3) interconnected youth development initiatives: (i) employment/apprenticeship; (ii) mentorship; and (iii) volunteerism. The Programme will partner with organisations and individuals across Trinidad and Tobago in both the public and private sectors to provide persons between the ages of 16 and 35 years with opportunities to receive training and development in the world of work, entrepreneurship, personal development, volunteerism and national service.

E. Quality Infrastructure Programme for Small and Micro Enterprises (QIP):

- The QIP presents a structured approach for developing and improving quality standards among MSEs in Trinidad and Tobago.

F. Introduction and Implementation of Virtual Hearings – Co-operative Development Division:

- Section 67 of the Co-operative Societies Act gives the Commissioner for Co-operative Development the power to hear and determine disputes that may arise between parties, including, inter-alia, credit unions, co-operative societies, members, past members, and creditors.

G. Establishment of a National Youth Development Agency (NYDA):

- The function of the NYDA will be to create, facilitate and maintain facility assets and to promote and advance positive youth development through various projects and programmes in the youth work sector for all youth in Trinidad and Tobago. The NYDA will serve as a bridge between education, employers, and youth and will also outline career pathways, provide information, and standardize qualification frameworks.

H. Youth Development Programmes:

- **A.L.L.S.E.T.:** This project will provide one hundred (100) young persons aged 18-35 years with introductory technical/vocational skills training in Heavy Machinery Operations. Six (6) soft-skill modules on National Service will also be included to engender the importance and benefits of National Service. Interactive and participatory teaching methods will be utilized via the Ministry's E-Academy platform.

- **Re-establishment of the National Youth Council:** Pillar 3 of the National Youth Policy 2020-2025 is premised on, "Facilitating inclusive and active youth participation in the civic and democratic life of Trinidad and Tobago." In this regard, the re-establishment of the National Youth Council is expected to provide a platform for youth interaction and conversation and assist them in recognizing the value their perspectives add to the community and national landscape.

- **Youth Workers Conference:** This initiative is a crucial training component for persons who will be delivering the initiatives geared towards the achievement of the Ministry's mandate. The conference will offer instruction on programs, recruitment and training of youth staff, philosophy, counselling, and youth participation. Courses will be held virtually and will feature practical sessions led by experienced, fundamental youth workers from across the country and the Caribbean.

- **Advance Proficiency Entrepreneurship Excellence (A.P.E.X):** The programme will target 100 young persons and comprises three (3) components: Skills Training in Innovation and Creativity for Responsible and Sustainable Business; Business Idea Development complemented with Mentorship; and Pop-up Entrepreneurship Markets within the nine (9) administrative districts in Trinidad and Tobago.

- **Adolescent Intervention Programme:** This initiative is designed to assist the SEA graduate (approximately 50 youths per district between the ages of 11 to 14 years) to prepare for the development issues that are likely to be encountered in their life transition (e.g adjustment from childhood to puberty/adolescence and the adjustment from primary school to secondary



school). Content will include social life skills, understanding emotions and self, leadership, peer pressure, teen abuse, and sexuality.

- **Barbering Training Programme:** The MYNDS proposes to introduce the Barbering Training Programme, which will provide 100 young persons aged 19 to 35 with technical/vocational skills training in the beauty industry. Certification and licensing will be awarded upon completion of the programme.
- **AMPLIFY:** The AMPLIFY Programme is intended to provide training in Music Production/Sound Engineering to 100 young music producers/arrangers aged 16 to 35. The training will take place in communities across the country and aims to facilitate the longevity and continuity of the country's indigenous musical art forms.
- **National Service Community Partnership Programme (NSCPP):** The programme is offering a twofold benefit to participants, as young persons will access on-the-job training opportunities from skilled, experienced "Master" Craftsmen from within their communities. The Craftsmen will provide supervision and guidance to the trainees as they implement and complete meaningful, much-needed projects and development works in their respective communities.

Box 3.12: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Youth Development and National Service for Fiscal 2022

Policy:

- **Micro and Small Enterprise Policy:** The Ministry intends to continue the strategic focus on the Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE) sector, and will embark on the development of a new MSE policy. The approach is to review and update the existing Micro and Small Enterprise and Entrepreneurship Policy. The goal of this project is to influence the design of policies and programmes that support MSEs and encourage further research on the MSE Sector in Trinidad and Tobago and the wider Caribbean region.

Source: Ministry of Youth Development & National Service

RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC



APPENDIX II:

Key Social Programmes and Structural / Institutional Initiatives Funded by the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) 2020-2022

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2020 (TTD)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2021(TTD)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2021 (TTD)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2022(TTD)
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES				
Development Centre for Persons with Challenges	52,000	1,000,000	113,750	1,500,000
DRETCHI – Refurbishment/Reconfiguration	0	100,000	100,000	0
Establishment of a Data Centre and Storage Area Network	0	0	0	0
Establishment of an Integrated Social Enterprise Management System	2,162,255	5,800,000	3,500,000	4,300,000
Establishment of Social Displacement Centres	778,109	2,000,000	2,000,000	4,000,000
The Street Dwellers Rehabilitation & Re-Integration Project	511,875	1,000,000	0	0
Toco Home for Senior Citizens	0	0	0	0
Implementation of a Social Mitigation Plan	138,750	500,000	1,600,000	1,500,000
Providing access to All at MSDFS Facilities	0	0	0	0
Community Therapeutic Services for Persons with Disabilities	0	0	0	0
Refurbishment of Hernandez Place	465,543	800,000	150,000	0
Refurbishment of Older Person's Home	5,100	900,000	200,000	500,000
Total	4,113,632	12,100,000	7,663,750	11,800,000
MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, CULTURE AND THE ARTS				
Refurbishment of the Community Education, Training, Information and Resource Centre	143,091	0	0	0
Support to Mediation Services	90,910	0	0	0
National Museum Development/Carnival Museum	25,950	0	0	0
Establishment of a Sugar Museum	0	0	0	0
Development of First Peoples	0	0	0	0
*Construction of Community Centres	44,988,266	0	0	0
*Refurbishment of Community Centres	4,699,217	0	0	0
*Implementation of Self-Help Programme (NCSHL)	14,999,995	0	0	0
*Construction of a Children's Homework Centre in Carenage	0	0	0	0
Total	64,947,429	0	0	0
MINISTRY OF TOURISM, CULTURE AND THE ARTS				
National Museum Development/Carnival Museum	0	500,000	0	0
Total	0	500,000	0	0
MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE				
Implementation of the National Youth Policy	0	1,000,000	0	3,000,000
Refurbishment of Youth Training Facilities	0	2,000,000	1,282,516	10,000,000
Development of a Youth Employment Policy	0	1,000,000	251,906	61,000
Refurbishment of the Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centre	0	2,500,000	0	60,000,000
Total	0	6,500,000	1,534,422	73,061,000
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT				
Refurbishment of the Community Education, Training, Information and Resource Centre	0	1,000,000	244,780	1,000,000
Support to Mediation Services	0	1,000,000	0	1,000,000
Conduct of a National Sport and Recreational Census	0	0	0	0

APPENDIX II:
Key Social Programmes and Structural / Institutional Initiatives Funded by the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) 2020-2022

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2020 (TTD)	2021(TTD)	2021 (TTD)	2022(TTD)
Sport Social Programmes	0	800,000	542,528	600,000
*Construction of Community Centres	0	30,000,000	29,999,674	40,000,000
*Refurbishment of Community Centres	0	6,000,000	5,604,552	6,000,000
*Implementation of Self-Help Programme (NCSHL)	0	15,000,000	9,045,602	15,000,000
*Development and Upgrading of Recreational Grounds, Parks and Spaces	0	2,500,000	1,664,205	1,500,000
*Upgrading of Corporation Grounds	0	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Total	0	60,300,000	51,101,341	69,100,000
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT				
*Community Improvement Services	0	0	0	0
*Development of Rural Communities	11,333,980	0	0	20,000,000
Total	11,333,980	0	0	20,000,000
MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT				
Relocation of Squatters	0	0	0	0
Household Budgetary Survey	0	0	0	0
Conduct of the Survey of Living Conditions	0	0	0	0
Conduct of the 2018-2019 Household Budgetary Survey/ Survey of Living Conditions	61,272	3,000,000	224,000	6,013,000
Conducts of the 2019 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS)	326,251	1,000,000	713,000	2,530,000
Total	387,523	4,000,000	937,000	8,543,000
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER				
Refurbishment of two (2) Safe Houses	232,492	725,000	118,000	500,000
Establishment of Places of Safety	0	0	0	0
Establishment of a National Children's Registry	0	1,000,000	806,000	1,500,000
Conduct of key Research Studies by Children's Authority	0	0	0	0
Database Management System Expansion for Children Authority	0	0	0	0
Digitization of Adoption Records	0	0	0	0
National Child Policy	20,453	0	0	0
Child Justice Assessment Centre	0	0	0	0
Juvenile Justice Implementation	0	0	0	0
National AIDS Coordinating Committee Secretariat Survey on HIV, AIDS, STI's etc.	0	0	0	0
Finalization, Launch and Dissemination of the National HIV and AIDS Policy	0	134,000	36,500	100,000
Establishment of Drug Rehabilitation Centres	1,593	0	0	0
*Reconstruction of St Mary's Home for Children	45,343	48,000	15,550	800,000
*Modernization of St. Michael's School for Boys	0	0	0	0
*Refurbishment of St. Dominic's Home for Children- Old Bethlehem	76,511	1,070,000	19,128	1,500,000
*Refurbishment of the Salvation Army- Josephine Shaw House	2,143,044	0	0	0
Total	2,519,436	2,977,000	995,178	4,400,000

RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC



APPENDIX II:

Key Social Programmes and Structural / Institutional Initiatives Funded by the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) 2020-2022

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2020 (TTD)	2021(TTD)	2021 (TTD)	2022(TTD)
MINISTRY OF HEALTH				
Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children- Refurbishment Works	328,315	600,000	582,000	600,000
Special Programme - HIV/AIDS	0	0	0	0
Special Programme - Renal Dialysis	39,862,380	100,000,000	93,486,440	70,000,000
Special Programme - Treatment of Adult Cardiac Disease	29,860,274	35,000,000	15,000,000	20,000,000
Tissue Transplant	87,412	900,000	82,430	0
Waiting List for Surgery	12,164,630	15,000,000	2,234,600	10,000,000
Establishment of a Renal Dialysis Centre	0	200,000	0	0
President's Emergency Programme for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)	3,786,791	500,000	0	500,000
* Construction of the National Oncology Centre	1,280,524	0	0	0
Total	87,370,326	152,200,000	111,385,470	101,100,000
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS				
Conduct of a National Sport and Recreational Census	0	0	0	0
Development of a Youth Employment Policy	141,750	0	0	0
Implementation of the National Youth Policy	360,094	0	0	0
Refurbishment of Youth Training Facilities	1,382,707	0	0	0
Sport Social Programmes	0	0	0	0
Refurbishment of the Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centre	1,840,240	0	0	0
*Development and Upgrading of Recreational Grounds, Parks and Spaces	1,615,637	0	0	0
*Upgrading of Corporation Grounds	5,626,631	0	0	0
Total	10,967,059	0	0	0
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION				
Seamless Education System Project	635,529	0	0	0
Support the Enhancement of the Education Strategy	170,166	0	0	0
Establishment of a National Accreditation Council	0	0	0	0
MIC Training Subsidy (Legacy Project)	1,602,223	2,500,000	1,129,000	2,000,000
National Skills Development Programme	823,883	1,000,000	629,700	250,000
*Early Childhood Care and Education	22,360,460	5,000,000	430,940	3,000,000
*Development of a School for Special Education at Point-a-Pierre	177,489	500,000	0	1,000,000
*Repairs and Maintenance for Special Schools	0	1,500,000	22,110	1,500,000
Total	25,769,750	10,500,000	2,211,750	7,750,000
TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY				
Community Awareness Programme	300,000	400,000	400,000	1,000,000
Construction of School for the Deaf	800,000	400,000	400,000	1,000,000
Construction of a Wellness/Fitness Centre	100,000	100,000	100,000	200,000
Domestic Violence Project	50,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Emergency Medical Alert System	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Enterprise Assistance Grant Programme	4,000,000	1,000,000	6,000,000	2,000,000
Establishment of Community Unit and Development of Programme for Social Behaviour Change	50,000	100,000	100,000	100,000

APPENDIX II:**Key Social Programmes and Structural / Institutional Initiatives Funded by the Public Sector
Investment Programme (PSIP) 2020-2022**

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL	ESTIMATES OF	REVISED	ESTIMATES OF
	EXPENDITURE	EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF	EXPENDITURE FOR
	2020 (TTD)	2021(TTD)	2021 (TTD)	2022(TTD)
Establishment of Parenting in Student Support services Unit	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Establishment of Probation Hostels	300,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Expansion of Mordon House Youth Development Centre	0	0	0	200,000
Gender Management System & Gender Mainstreaming Programme	50,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Golden Apple Adolescents Partnership Programme (GAAPP)	3,400,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Home Completion Programme, Tobago	0	0	0	4,000,000
Home Improvement Grant, Tobago	3,000,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	3,000,000
Home Improvement Subsidy, Tobago	1,500,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	3,000,000
Implementing Family Remedial Therapy/Thinking	50,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Life Management and Parenting Education Programme	50,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Programme for Adolescent Mothers	100,000	100,000	100,000	200,000
Programme for Rural Electrification	250,000	250,000	250,000	500,000
Project for the Realisation of Economic Achievement (REACH)	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000
Roving Care Givers Programme	300,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Seamless Education Programme	0	0	0	1,500,000
Social Services and Prison Integrated Network (SPINE)	75,000	50,000	50,000	200,000
Tobago Elderly Housing and Rehabilitative Centre	100,000	300,000	300,000	300,000
Tobago HIV/AIDS Strategic Response	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Tobago Rehabilitation Programme	525,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Upgrade of Happy Haven School	800,000	400,000	400,000	100,000
Vocation Centre for Persons with Mental Retardation	100,000	200,000	200,000	100,000
Positive Behaviour Modification Student Support Services Unit	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Total	17,000,000	10,600,000	15,600,000	22,200,000
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT				
Housing Grants	5,189,858	8,000,000	10,155,000	4,000,000
Surveys of Squatter Sites	1,444,581	1,500,000	515,000	2,000,000
Residential Lots Programme (Land for the Landless)	0	0	0	0
Housing and Village Improvement Programme	13,047,492	25,000,000	8,892,400	30,000,000
Regularisation and Regeneration of Communitites- Greater POS Region	9,163,895	2,000,000	2,000,000	3,000,000
Regularisation of Squatter Communities	12,956,548	10,000,000	9,609,600	20,000,000
Emergency Shelter Relief Fund (Head Office)	795,000	0	0	0
Home Ownership 101	417,262	0	0	0
Home Improvement and New Housing Subsidies Programme	0	0	15,000	0
Sector and Institutional Strengthening Programme	0	0	0	0
Social and Economic Programme for East Port of Spain	690,653	2,000,000	484,700	400,000
*Accelerated Housing Programme	334,313,100	0	0	0
Total	378,018,389	48,500,000	31,671,700	59,400,000



APPENDIX II:

Key Social Programmes and Structural / Institutional Initiatives Funded by the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) 2020-2022

PROGRAMMES & INITIATIVES	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2020 (TTD)	2021(TTD)	2021 (TTD)	2022(TTD)
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES				
Water Management and Flood Control Programme	1,256,361	3,000,000	1,378,579	3,000,000
Total	1,256,361	3,000,000	1,378,579	3,000,000
GRAND TOTAL	603,683,885	311,177,000	224,479,190	380,354,000

* Infrastructure Development Fund

APPENDIX III:

Allocations and Expenditure for Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2021 and 2022 and Actual Expenditure for Fiscal 2020 under Recurrent Expenditure by Ministry

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2020 (TTD)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2021 (TTD)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2021 (TTD)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2022 (TTD)
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT				
Community-Based Environment Protection & Enhancement Programme (CEPEP)	400,400,000	400,400,000	442,800,000	375,400,000
Total	400,400,000	400,400,000	442,800,000	375,400,000
MINISTRY OF FINANCE				
Food Price Support Programme	314,033,570	185,200,000	218,972,513	220,000,000
Government's Contribution to the Children's Life Fund	0	15,000,000	15,000,000	10,683,000
Government Assistance for Tertiary Expenses (GATE)	435,000,000	400,000,000	400,000,000	400,000,000
Salary Relief Grant	186,200,000	0	0	0
Unemployment Relief Programme	281,472,096	250,000,000	266,000,000	280,000,000
Total	1,216,705,666	850,200,000	899,972,513	910,683,000
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER				
Other Transfers:				
Non-Profit Institutions – Ecclesiastical Bodies	30,165,277	500,000	10,500,000	500,000
Other Social Programmes				
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions (Children's Homes)	10,129,868	8,000,000	11,000,000	8,000,000
St Mary's Children's Homes	13,500,000	13,500,000	13,500,000	13,500,000
St Dominic's Children Home	18,262,900	13,722,285	17,152,285	13,722,285
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions (Gender Affairs)	7,526,282	8,000,000	8,000,000	8,000,000
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions PRP- Child Development	484,038	800,000	72,000	800,000
Heroes Foundation	420,000	420,000	315,000	420,000
St Michael's School for Boys	4,086,214	4,310,465	4,310,465	3,900,000
St Jude's Home for Girls	9,368,438	8,500,000	12,631,000	8,500,000
Adoption Board Expenses	257,900	0	0	0
Foster Care Expenses	1,701,420	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000
Children's Authority	68,928,854	67,816,000	86,775,000	67,816,000
Total	164,831,191	127,268,750	165,955,750	126,858,285
MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT				
Debit Card System for URP Employees	1,369,839	2,000,000	1,300,000	2,000,000
Total	1,369,839	2,000,000	1,300,000	2,000,000
TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY				
Education, Innovation and Energy:				
Adult Education Extension Services (Adult Classes)	253,350	350,000	100,000	200,000
Basic Grants	10,549,662	9,000,000	9,350,080	9,500,000
Building Grants to Assisted Schools	0	100,000	0	100,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	28,400	150,000	60,000	100,000
Early Childhood Care	146,639	300,000	150,000	300,000
Grants to Necessitous Students Attending Public Schools	508,126	400,000	100,000	400,000
Grant-Trinidad & Tobago National Council of Parent Teacher Association Inc	0	50,000	0	50,000
Grants for Students attending conferences, seminars and competitions	73,025	60,000	20,000	60,000
School Feeding Programme	24,912,423	26,250,000	12,518,300	17,000,000
Special Education Resources Programme	0	200,000	0	100,000
Student Support Services Unit	177,639	300,000	25,000	150,000
Happy Haven School-Tobago Council for Handicapped Children	1,393,097	2,106,800	1,273,700	1,452,100
Tobago School for the Deaf, Speech and Language	1,016,743	1,493,700	1,823,700	2,047,900
Sport and Youth Affairs:				
Assistance to Sporting Organisations	793,845	1,000,000	36,500	1,000,000
Assistance to Youth Organisations	45,000	300,000	75,000	200,000
Youth Development Programme	149,392	350,000	100,000	250,000
Food Production, Forestry and Fisheries				
Agricultural Incentive Programme	445,539	700,000	700,000	700,000
Subsidy for Fishermen	0	450,000	200,000	450,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	0	20,000	20,000	20,000

RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC



APPENDIX III:

Allocations and Expenditure for Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2021 and 2022 and Actual Expenditure for Fiscal 2020 under Recurrent Expenditure by Ministry

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2020 (TTD)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2021 (TTD)	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2021 (TTD)	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2022 (TTD)
Tourism, Culture and Transportation:				
National Days and Festivals	299,940	1,000,000	500,000	1,000,000
Assistance to Cultural Groups	246,250	1,000,000	500,000	1,000,000
Community Development, Enterprise Development and Labour:				
Assistance to Community Organisations	41,439	200,000	150,000	200,000
Community Action for Renewal and Empowerment (CARE)	0	200,000	100,000	200,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	0	100,000	100,000	100,000
Export Centres	2,527,273	2,300,000	2,300,000	2,300,000
National Service	0	100,000	100,000	100,000
National Days and Festivals	0	0	0	0
Regional Complexes	4,551,335	3,300,000	2,500,000	3,300,000
Small Grants	0	100,000	100,000	100,000
Special Community Programme	1,669,598	1,500,000	1,000,000	1,500,000
Health, Wellness and Family Development:				
Assistance to Home for the Aged	167,508	30,000	100,000	135,000
The Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago	0	100,000	100,000	100,000
Emergency Cases Fund	1,530,603	1,600,000	1,200,000	1,600,000
Foster Care Services	448,044	600,000	600,000	600,000
Non- Profit Institutions - Special Social Programmes	1,952,812	2,300,000	2,000,000	2,300,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Organizations	30,000	200,000	100,000	200,000
Grants towards Necessitous Patients	1,464,542	2,000,000	1,300,000	2,000,000
Total	55,422,224	60,210,500	39,302,280	50,815,000
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY				
Vision on Mission	7,254,000	3,254,000	7,254,000	7,200,000
Civilian Conservation Corps	31,531,755	0	0	0
Military Led Academic Training (MILAT)	12,955,095	0	0	0
Criminal Injuries Compensation	1,182,250	1,500,000	2,486,280	1,200,000
Emergency Cases Fund (Probation Services)	18,977	100,000	100,000	30,000
Crime Stoppers Trinidad & Tobago Limited	2,000,000	2,000,000	0	2,000,000
Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management	17,287,235	12,000,000	19,281,290	20,000,000
National Drug Council	118,137	500,000	129,700	200,000
The Morvant/Laventille Initiative	269,032	300,000	104,960	250,000
National Crime Prevention Programme	1,917,514	3,000,000	474,940	2,000,000
Total	74,533,995	22,654,000	29,831,170	32,880,000
MINISTRY OF LABOUR				
Non Profit Institutions	1,821,131	1,641,192	302,645	1,718,820
On the Job Training Programme	313,595,184	319,595,340	275,071,208	302,466,510
National Entrepreneurship Development Company (NEDCO)	12,000,000	0	0	0
HIV/AIDS Advocacy and Sustainability Centre	1,750	5,000	5,000	5,000
Total	327,418,065	321,241,532	275,378,853	304,190,330
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES				
Agricultural Incentive Programme	19,055,249	26,067,000	23,221,000	11,039,200
Incentive Programme	0	500,000	0	200,000
Forestry Incentive Programme	188,313	300,000	0	100,000
Relief of Flood Damage	1,704,437	10,500,000	3,787,000	5,000,000
4H Young Farmers Club	40,981	380,000	0	10,000
Rural Women Producers Network	0	25,000	0	25,000
Youth Apprenticeship Programme in Agriculture (YAPA)	0	300,000	0	0
Total	20,988,980	38,072,000	27,008,000	16,374,200
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION				
Early Childhood Care and Education	20,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000
National Schools Dietary Services Limited	179,557,905	128,000,000	12,000,000	41,420,000
School Transportation Services	25,432,202	21,000,000	0	21,000,000
Servol Junior Life Centres	3,164,400	3,000,000	6,564,000	3,000,000

APPENDIX III:

Allocations and Expenditure for Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2021 and 2022 and Actual Expenditure for Fiscal 2020 under Recurrent Expenditure by Ministry

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2020 (TTD)	2021 (TTD)	2021 (TTD)	2022 (TTD)
Student Support Services Programme	1,018,786	205,000	34,000	205,000
Grant – Trinidad & Tobago National Council of Parent/Teachers Associations	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Retraining Programme for Displaced Workers	8,400,000	6,400,000	7,617,500	6,400,000
Higher Education Loan Programme	10,000,000	8,000,000	8,000,000	8,000,000
MIC Craft Programmes	10,000,000	7,000,000	7,000,000	7,000,000
Helping Youth Prepare for Employment Programme (HYPE)	18,000,000	12,000,000	13,000,000	12,000,000
Multi-Sector Skill Training Programme(MUST)	17,300,000	12,000,000	13,500,000	12,000,000
SERVOL Hi-Tech & Advanced Skills Training Programme	7,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
SERVOL's Human Development and Skills Training	20,000,000	14,000,000	14,000,000	14,000,000
Military-Led Programme of Apprenticeship and Re-orientation (MYPART)	7,200,000	0	0	0
Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme Ltd (YTEPP)	45,000,000	38,700,000	38,700,000	38,700,000
Metal Industries Co Ltd (National Skills Development Programme)	26,613,000	20,000,000	33,500,000	20,000,000
Total	398,936,293	290,555,000	174,165,500	203,975,000
MINISTRY OF HEALTH				
Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions	18,450,546	18,300,000	18,058,000	18,300,000
National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention	0	200,000	0	200,000
Medical Treatment of Nationals in Institutions	55,102,725	55,000,000	61,300,000	55,000,000
Children's Life Fund Authority	2,400,000	2,400,000	2,400,000	1,683,000
School Health Programme (Audio test, hearing aid, service and eyeglasses)	113,325	500,000	0	500,000
Drugs and Other Related Materials and Supplies	148,671,689	162,614,900	274,910,000	241,195,651
Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children	11,387,731	11,709,765	11,056,675	12,294,418
Total	236,126,016	250,724,665	367,724,675	329,173,069
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES				
Utilities Assistance Programme	562,057	4,000,000	7,330,000	4,000,000
Total	562,057	4,000,000	7,330,000	4,000,000
MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, CULTURE AND THE ARTS				
Non-Profit Institutions	35,030,839	0	0	0
Community Action for Revival and Empowerment (CARE)	921,400	0	0	0
Music Schools in the Community	83,740	0	0	0
Export Centres	9,300,000	0	0	0
National Commission for Self-Help Limited	13,000,000	0	0	0
National Days and Festivals	5,817,500	0	0	0
Queens Hall	8,457,719	0	0	0
Naparima Bowl	4,798,578	0	0	0
National Carnival Commission of T & T	152,472,873	0	0	0
Total	229,882,649	0	0	0
MINISTRY OF TOURISM, CULTURE AND THE ARTS				
Non-Profit Institutions	0	14,310,000	6,977,607	10,027,365
Hosting of Cultural Camps	0	100,000	0	50,000
Music Schools in the Community	0	100,000	0	50,000
National Days and Festivals	0	4,500,000	520,100	1,000,000
Queens Hall	0	9,634,370	8,400,000	11,000,000
Naparima Bowl	0	4,497,230	4,197,230	5,000,000
National Carnival Commission of T & T	0	36,000,000	29,390,962	36,000,000
Total	0	69,141,600	49,485,899	63,127,365
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS				
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions (Sporting Organisations)	6,588,743	0	0	0
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions (Youth Organisations)	16,673	0	0	0
Indoor Sporting Arenas/ Hockey Facility	2,303,085	0	0	0
The Sport Company of Trinidad & Tobago	81,761,023	0	0	0
Total	90,669,524	0	0	0
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT				
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions (Sporting Organisations)	0	15,000,000	9,031,000	13,180,000
Community Action for Revival and Empowerment (CARE)	0	2,000,000	151,000	2,000,000

RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC



APPENDIX III:

Allocations and Expenditure for Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2021 and 2022 and Actual Expenditure for Fiscal 2020 under Recurrent Expenditure by Ministry

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2020 (TTD)	2021 (TTD)	2021 (TTD)	2022 (TTD)
Export Centres	0	7,300,000	9,500,000	7,300,000
National Commission for Self-Help Limited	0	10,616,300	10,616,300	11,000,000
Indoor Sporting Arenas/ Hockey Facility	0	2,300,000	415,000	2,000,000
The Sport Company of Trinidad & Tobago	0	78,000,000	78,000,000	69,632,585
Total	0	115,216,300	107,713,300	105,112,585
MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE				
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions (Youth Organisations)	0	50,000	191,519	50,000
National Service - Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme	0	21,000,000	27,600,000	26,600,000
Civilian Conservation Corps	0	28,000,000	28,000,000	30,000,000
Military Led Academic Training (MILAT)	0	12,132,260	7,363,000	9,000,000
Military-Led Programme of Apprenticeship and Re-orientation (MYPART)	0	7,200,000	860,000	1,422,361
Retirees Adolescent Partnership Programme	0	1,800,000	1,380,000	1,622,053
National Entrepreneurship Development Company (NEDCO)	0	13,000,000	19,534,299	29,534,300
Total	0	83,182,260	84,928,818	98,228,714
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT				
Other transfers:				
Trinidad and Tobago Housing Development Corporation	602,622,514	642,683,722	627,365,500	384,035,284
Total	602,622,514	642,683,722	627,365,500	384,035,284
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES TOBAGO				
Non-Profit Institutions				
Contribution to Non-Profit Organizations	50,000	50,000	20,000	30,000
Total	50,000	50,000	20,000	30,000
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE				
Transfers:				
Non-Profit Institutions-Police Youth Clubs	734,420	2,700,000	200,000	2,000,000
Total	734,420	2,700,000	200,000	2,000,000
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES				
Other Social Programmes	472,825	1,000,000	300,000	270,000
Senior Citizens' Homes	1,116,884	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,200,000
Senior Citizens' Centres	654,000	1,616,400	700,000	1,616,400
Social Programmes (Ageing)	0	500,000	200,000	500,000
Contributions to Non-Profit Institutions	7,910,372	10,000,000	10,700,000	10,000,000
Retirees Adolescent Partnership Programme	1,174,711	0	0	0
President's Award Scheme	55,000	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
Boy Scouts Association	100,500	126,000	126,000	126,000
Girl Guides Association	84,000	84,000	84,000	84,000
Non-Profit Institutions (Other Social Parenting Programmes)	373,145	2,000,000	500,000	2,000,000
Non-Profit Institutions (Other Social Family Programmes)	0	1,248,500	500,000	1,248,500
Adult Education Programme	782,640	2,824,000	1,000,000	2,824,000
Senior Citizens' Grant	4,062,735,944	3,819,210,577	3,819,210,577	3,926,675,000
Social Assistance	488,250,684	330,000,000	370,000,000	373,605,000
Urgent Temporary Assistance	42,915,939	50,000,000	41,000,000	40,000,000
Rehabilitative Programme	211,550	0	2,824,000	5,000,000
Payments to Registrars of Births and Deaths	0	2,250	2,250	2,250
Disability Grant	613,074,082	521,000,000	523,000,000	636,000,000
Assistance to National Heroes	2,010,768	2,000,000	2,000,000	3,000,000
Target Conditional Cash Transfer Programme -Development Component for Recipients	0	300,000	0	300,000
National Service - Geriatric Adolescent Partnership Programme	19,055,675	0	0	0
National Social Development Programme	1,430,368	5,000,000	3,000,000	5,000,000
Community Care Programme	3,874,021	4,000,000	4,315,000	4,000,000
Adoption Board Expenses	0	257,900	257,900	300,000

APPENDIX III:

Allocations and Expenditure for Social Programmes and Initiatives for Fiscal 2021 and 2022 and Actual Expenditure for Fiscal 2020 under Recurrent Expenditure by Ministry

HEAD/SUB ITEMS	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	REVISED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR	ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR
	2020 (TTD)	2021 (TTD)	2021 (TTD)	2022 (TTD)
Trinidad and Tobago Association for Retarded Children (Lady Hochoy Home)	14,611,661	15,000,000	15,000,000	16,633,621
Trinidad and Tobago Association for the Hearing Impaired	12,699,876	12,975,000	12,975,000	13,500,000
Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association	12,469,909	13,200,000	12,500,000	15,444,806
Total	5,286,250,554	4,793,790,627	4,821,640,727	5,059,575,577
GRAND TOTAL	9,107,503,987	8,074,090,956	8,122,122,985	8,068,458,409

RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC



APPENDIX IV:

List of Non-Governmental Organisations Receiving Government Subventions for Fiscal 2020 & 2021

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2021 FROM 2020
	2020 TTS	2021 TTS	
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SERVICES			
Services for Persons with Disabilities			
Goodwill Industries of the West Indies	564,413	564,413	0
National Centre for Persons with Disabilities	799,360	799,360	0
T&T Association for Retarded Children (Lady Hochoy Homes)	18,203,251	15,000,000	-3,203,251
T&T Association for the Hearing Impaired	12,700,000	12,975,000	275,000
T&T Blind Welfare Association	14,000,000	13,200,000	-800,000
T & T Chapter of Disabled People International	133,200	133,200	0
Sub-Total	46,400,224	42,671,973	-3,728,251
Socially Displaced			
Court Shamrock Centre for the Socially Displaced	452,000	452,000	0
St. Vincent De Paul Centre for Socially Displaced Persons	2,896,800	2,896,800	0
St. Vincent De Paul Society Nazareth Halfway House	147,600	147,600	0
The Centre of Hope, Hernandez Place Sanctuary	0	0	0
Sub-Total	3,496,400	3,496,400	0
Family Life and Counselling Service			
Family Planning Association	1,000,000	1,000,000	0
Islamic Community Services	48,000	48,000	0
Rape Crisis Society of Trinidad and Tobago	300,000	300,000	0
T & T Innovative Parenting Support	290,000	290,000	0
T & T Red Cross Society	730,000	730,000	0
Sub-Total	2,368,000	2,368,000	0
Homes for Senior Citizens			
Chaguanas Senior Citizens Home	144,187	144,187	0
Couva Home for the Aged	148,000	148,000	0
JC McDonald Home for the Aged	239,382	239,382	0
La Brea Senior Citizens Home	77,674	77,674	0
Mayaro Home for the Aged	44,194	44,194	0
Point Fortin Senior Citizens Association	200,880	200,880	0
Sangre Grande Home for the Aged	133,920	133,920	0
Siparia Home for the Aged	110,707	110,707	0
Toco Home for Senior Citizens	44,640	44,640	0
Sub-Total	1,143,584	1,143,584	0
Hostels/Halfway Houses			
Salvation Army Hostel for Young Women	73,200	73,200	0
Shelter for Women and Children	90,000	90,000	0
The Halfway House	65,000	65,000	0
Sub-Total	228,200	228,200	0
Youth NGOs			
Girl Guides Association of T&T	84,000	84,000	0
President Awards of T&T	60,000	60,000	0
Scout Association of T&T	126,000	126,000	0
Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)	156,000	156,000	0
Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)	30,000	30,000	0
Sub-Total	456,000	456,000	0
Ministry of Social Development and Family Services' Total Subventions	54,092,408	50,364,157	-3,728,251

APPENDIX IV:

List of Non-Governmental Organisations Receiving Government Subventions for Fiscal 2020 & 2021

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2021 FROM 2020
	2020 TTS	2021 TTS	
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (GENDER AND CHILD AFFAIRS)			
Family Life and Counselling Service			
ChildLine	1,734,196	1,734,196	0
Network of Non-Governmental Organisations of Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women	200,000	200,000	0
New Life Ministries for the Establishment and Administration of a Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre	900,000	900,000	0
The Heroes Foundation	420,000	420,000	0
Sub-Total	3,254,196	3,254,196	0
Children's Homes*			
A Bridge of Hope	1,003,625	1,196,650	193,025
Amica House	604,650	575,600	-29,050
Angels of Hope Children's Foundation	0	0	0
Casa de Corazon	500,600	492,200	-8,400
Cecilia's Children Foundation	242,725	0	-242,725
Chickland Children's Home	287,600	325,700	38,100
Couva Children's Home & Crisis Nursery	649,510	643,042	-6,468
Credo Foundation for Justice - Credo Development Centre	297,220	266,435	-30,785
Credo Foundation for Justice - Sophia House	340,002	352,535	12,533
Society of St. Vincent De Paul - Cyril Ross Nursery	367,425	328,450	-38,975
Dar-Ul-Aman Freeport Children's Home	212,750	240,450	27,700
El Shaddai Restoration Home for Children	426,400	458,300	31,900
Ezekiel Home for Abandoned Children	554,425	578,600	24,175
Ferndean's Place Children's Home	401,900	342,550	-59,350
Haven of Hope	382,400	395,100	12,700
Jairah House	154,625	132,600	-22,025
Joshua House	336,400	320,875	-15,525
Mary Care Centre- North	26,300	237,400	211,100
Mary Care Centre- South	89,500	371,750	282,250
Mothers' Union Children's Home	241,800	376,500	134,700
Living Water Community - Our Lady of the Wayside	585,800	609,350	23,550
Operation Smile Home for Children	50,000	170,200	120,200
Raffa House	184,650	159,700	-24,950
Rainbow Rescue	312,020	372,204	60,184
Sri Jayalakshmi Children's Home Ltd	388,100	361,400	-26,700
The Hope Centre	380,000	376,700	-3,300
The Allyson Lynch Home	207,400	153,550	-53,850
The Islamic Home for Children Inc.	452,250	475,375	23,125
The Margaret Kistow Children's Home	951,600	1,116,050	164,450
Vishok Bhavan	270,000	255,450	-14,551
Sub-Total	10,901,677	11,684,716	783,039
Industrial Schools			
St. Dominic's Children's Home	18,262,900	13,722,285	-4,540,615
St. Jude's School for Girls	8,000,000	8,500,000	500,000
St. Mary's Children's Home	13,500,000	13,500,000	0
Sub-Total	39,762,900	35,722,285	-4,040,615
Office of the Prime Minister's (Gender and Child Development) Total Subventions	53,918,773	50,661,197	-3,257,576
MINISTRY OF TOURISM, COMMUNITY, CULTURE AND THE ARTS**			
The Art Society of Trinidad & Tobago	20,000	20,000	0
Chaguaramas Military History and Aerospace Museum	300,000	300,000	0
National Dance Association of Trinidad & Tobago	130,000	130,000	0
National Drama Association of Trinidad & Tobago	100,000	100,000	0
National Parang Association of Trinidad & Tobago	120,000	120,000	0
Santa Rosa First Peoples Community	1,400,000	1,400,000	0
San Fernando Arts Council	30,000	30,000	0
Secondary Schools Drama Association	30,000	30,000	0
Secondary Schools Sanskritik Sangam	40,000	40,000	0
Trinbago Unified Calypsonians' Organisation	50,000	50,000	0
Trinidad Theatre Workshop	30,000	30,000	0
Trinidad and Tobago Music Festival Association	100,000	100,000	0
The Little Carib Theatre and Folk House	100,000	100,000	0
Subtotal	2,450,000	2,450,000	0
Ministry of Community Development Culture and the Arts's Total Subventions	2,450,000	2,450,000	0

RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC



APPENDIX IV:

List of Non-Governmental Organisations Receiving Government Subventions for Fiscal 2020 & 2021

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE IN 2021 FROM 2020
	2020 TTS	2021 TTS	
MINISTRY OF HEALTH			
Chronic Diseases			
Diabetes Association of Trinidad and Tobago	150,000	400,000	250,000
HEAL (Helping Every Addict Live)	120,000	220,000	100,000
Heartbeat International	565,000	865,000	300,000
Living Water Community	3,201,350	2,601,350	-600,000
Lupus Society of Trinidad and Tobago	10,500	0	-10,500
Rebirth House and Oasis Drop-In-Centre	1,666,749	935,000	-731,749
Serenity Place	179,160	179,160	0
South Cancer Support Group	100,000	0	-100,000
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	225,000	150,000	-75,000
Trinidad and Tobago National Council on Alcoholism	300,000	300,000	0
Subtotal	8,257,759	7,390,510	-867,249
Services to Persons with Disabilities			
Autistic Society	300,000	500,000	200,000
Horses Helping Humans	700,000	500,000	-200,000
Subtotal	1,000,000	1,000,000	0
Services to Children			
Christ Child Convalescent Home	613,000	613,000	0
Cotton Tree Foundation	385,300	385,300	0
Subtotal	998,300	998,300	0
HIV & AIDS			
Medical Research Foundation	5,985,157	5,985,157	0
Subtotal	5,985,157	5,985,157	0
Maternal & Neonatal Care			
Breast Feeding Association of Trinidad & Tobago	200,000	275,000	75,000
Mamatoto Centre	150,000	275,000	125,000
Subtotal	350,000	550,000	200,000
Other Health Related Services			
Friends of the Blood Bank	500,000	0	-500,000
Society for Inherited Severe Blood Disorder	60,000	100,000	40,000
Subtotal	560,000	100,000	-460,000.00
Ministry of Health's Total Subventions	17,151,216	16,023,967	-1,127,249
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT			
International Labour Organisation (Grant for rent assistance)	691,760	518,820	-172,940
Grant to International Labour	1,129,372	40,000	-1,089,372
Voluntary Contribution Fund for the IAN for Labour Administration (RIAL)	88,000	40,000	-48,000
Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development's Total Subventions	1,909,132	598,820	-1,310,312
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY			
Crime Stoppers	2,000,000	2,000,000	0
Vision on Mission	1,000,000	3,254,000	2,254,000
Subtotal	3,000,000	5,254,000	2,254,000
Trinidad and Tobago Police Service			
Police Youth Clubs	600,000	2,700,000	2,100,000
Ministry of National Security's Total Subventions	3,600,000	7,954,000	4,354,000

APPENDIX IV:

List of Non-Governmental Organisations Receiving Government Subventions for Fiscal 2020 & 2021

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS
	2020 TTS	2021 TTS	PAYABLE IN 2021 FROM 2020 TTS
MINISTRY OF SPORT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ***			
Sport and Physical Education Department ****			
Community Development	150,000	0	-150,000
Trinidad & Tobago Chess Association	90,000	163,200	73,200
Trinidad & Tobago Rally Club	150,000	0	-150,000
Special Olympics Trinidad & Tobago	0	146,000	146,000
T&T Draughts and Checkers	150,000	0	-150,000
Trinidad & Tobago Scrabble Association	204,000	0	-204,000
Trinidad & Tobago Game Fishing Association	230,000	0	-230,000
Trinidad & Tobago Body Building and Fitness Federation	50,000	0	-50,000
The Wushu Association of Trinidad and Tobago	150,000	0	-150,000
Trinidad and Tobago Canoeing and Rowing Federation	150,000	0	-150,000
Trinidad Rifle Association	150,000	0	-150,000
Trinidad and Tobago Paralympic Committee	150,000	0	-150,000
The National Ballroom Dance Association of Trinidad & Tobago	150,000	0	-150,000
Trinidad & Tobago Cheer Federation	150,000	0	-150,000
Sub-Total	1,924,000	309,200	-1,614,800
Elite Athlete Assistance Programme			
Funding for Athletes	0	2,040,500	2,040,500
Sub-Total	0	2,040,500	2,040,500
Community Development **			
Transformation and Development Centres (TDCs)	2,129,022	2,129,022	0
Trinidad and Tobago Federation of Women's Institutes	8,000	0	-8,000
Ryu Dan Dojo	135,000	0	-135,000
Sub-Total	2,272,022	2,129,022	-143,000
Ministry of Sport and Community Development Grants	4,196,022	4,478,722	282,700
Sports Company of Trinidad & Tobago (SPORTT)****			
NATIONAL GOVERNING BODIES (NGB's)			
Amateur Swimming Association of Trinidad and Tobago	75,418	108,136	32,718
Lawn Tennis Association of Trinidad and Tobago	220,356	0	-220,356
National Amateur Athletics Association	765,274	0	-765,274
National Association of Athletics Administrations of Trinidad and Tobago (NAAATT)	0	403,146	403,146
National Basketball Association of Trinidad and Tobago	12,281	33,752	21,471
National Amateur Boxing Association	175,000	464,627	289,627
Trinidad and Tobago Cricket Board	1,773,500	368,178	-1,405,322
Trinidad and Tobago Cycling Federation	1,204,097	35,057	-1,169,040
Trinidad and Tobago Football Association	1,762,323	0	-1,762,323
Trinidad and Tobago Golf Association	144,287	350,960	206,673
Trinidad and Tobago Amateur Gymnastics Association	132,500	25,313	-107,187
Trinidad and Tobago Hockey Board	395,870	2,604,904	2,209,034
Trinidad and Tobago Rugby Union	76,492	0	-76,492
Trinidad and Tobago Sailing Association	356,929	0	-356,929
Trinidad and Tobago Yachting Association	0	89,192	89,192
Asst. to Athletes & Other Org.	0	451,082	451,082
Sports Company of Trinidad & Tobago's Total Grants	7,094,327	4,934,347	-2,159,979
MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL SERVICE			
Youth Division***			
Bird's Eye View Production Limited	0	6,418	6,418
Breath Dance Theatre	0	3,550	3,550
Individual Grants	9,834	0	-9,834
Junior Chamber International (JCI) (Group)	30,802	0	-30,802
ROOTS Foundation TT (Group)	38,696	0	-38,696
Rotary Club San Fernando South	0	4,806	4,806

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APPENDIX IV:

List of Non-Governmental Organisations Receiving Government Subventions for Fiscal 2020 & 2021

ORGANISATION	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	SUBVENTIONS PAYABLE	DIFFERENCE IN SUBVENTIONS
	2020	2021	PAYABLE IN 2021 FROM 2020
Shari Petti (Individual applying for a Group)	20,000	0	-20,000
TT Youth Will Rise (Group)	5,625	0	-5,625
Walker Lela Foundation (Group)	9,989	0	-9,989
Sub-Total	114,947	14,774	-100,173
GRAND TOTAL	144,526,825	137,479,984	-7,046,840

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

**Previously under Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts in Fiscal 2020

*** Previously under Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs in Fiscal 2020

** Ministry of Sports and Community Development Youth Affairs and SPORTT assist organisations via grants as requested by the organisations and subject to availability of

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACTT	Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
DAGM	Disability Assistance Grant for Minors
e-Government	Electronic Government
EMS	Electronic Monitoring System
FBO	Faith-Based Organisations
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GoRTT	Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
HDC	Housing Development Corporation
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
ISEMS	Integrated Social Enterprise and Management System
MAGLA	Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs
MALF	Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries
MCDCA	Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts
MOE	Ministry of Education
MOH	Ministry of Health
MOHUD	Ministry of Housing and Urban Development
MOLSED	Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development
MNS	Ministry of National Security
MOWT	Ministry of Works and Transport
MPD	Ministry of Planning and Development
MPADT	Ministry of Public Administration and Digital Transformation
MPU	Ministry of Public Utilities
MSCD	Ministry of Sport and Community Development
MRDLG	Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government
MSDFS	Ministry of Social Development and Family Services
MTI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
MYDNS	Ministry of Youth Development and National Service
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPI	Multidimensional Poverty Index
MYDNS	Ministry of Youth Development and National Service
NAMDEVCO	The National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation
NDS	National Development Strategy
NEDCO	National Entrepreneurship Development Company



NFSD	National Family Services Division
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NCP	National Child Policy
NFSD	National Family Services Division
NPP	National Parenting Policy
NPRS	National Poverty Reduction Strategy
NPSCD	National Policy for Sustainable Community Development
NSDP	National Skills Development Programme
NSMP	National Social Mitigation Plan
NWRHA	North West Regional Health Authority
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PPA	Participatory Poverty Assessment
PSPMS	Public Sector Performance Management System
PWDs	Persons with Disabilities
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SSCMS	Social Services Case Management
SEED	Sowing Entrepreneurial Empowerment Development
SSEU	Support and Empowerment Unit
SSM	Social Sector Ministries
SSSD	Student Support Services Division
SRG	Salary Relief Grant
STEP-UP	Social Transformation and Empowerment Program-Uplifting People
SWD	Social Welfare Division
SWRHA	South West Regional Health Authority
THA	Tobago House of Assembly
TTHC	Trinidad and Tobago Housing Corporation
TTPS	Trinidad and Tobago Police Service
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UNCRPD	United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNSDGs	United Nations Development Goals
UTT	University of Trinidad and Tobago
UWI	University of the West Indies
VABs	Values, Attitudes and Behaviours
WHO	World Health Organisation

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
Artificial Intelligence	Artificial intelligence is a constellation of many different technologies working together to enable machines to sense, comprehend, act, and learn with human-like levels of intelligence ¹
Budget Allocation	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. ²
Business Intelligence	Refers to a range of tools that provide quick, easy-to-digest access to insights about an organization's current state, based on available data. ³
Economic Vulnerability	Economic vulnerability is defined as “the exposure of an economy to exogenous shocks, arising out of economic openness.” ⁴
Empowerment	The expansion of people(s) capacities and choices; the ability to exercise choice based on freedom from hunger, want and deprivation; and the opportunity to participate in, or endorse, decision-making that affects their lives. ⁵
Evidence-Based Decision-Making	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. ⁶
Family	The primary institution within society consisting of two or more individuals with a continuing genetic and/or legal relationship that provides for the social, economic, emotional, spiritual and protective needs of its members. ⁷
Fiscal Deficit	Fiscal deficit is a term used to refer to the difference between the government's total revenue and total expenditure in a financial year. ⁸
Food Security	Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. (World Food Summit, 1996)

¹ https://www.accenture.com/us-en/insights/artificial-intelligence-summary-index?c=acn_glb_brandexpressiongoogle_12358228&n=psgs_0821&gclid=Cj0KCQjwwNWKBhDAARIsAJ8Hk8SCFqIF_vcjmlPIJNS8O7g3gdOWdkd2IMWpFCDV9ghoeaVL1DwHDgaAtvhEALw_wcB&gclid=aw.ds

² <https://smallbusiness.chron.com/budgetary-allocation-31340.html>

³ <https://www.cio.com/article/2439504/business-intelligence-definition-and-solutions.html>

⁴ **Economic Vulnerability and Resilience: Concepts and Measurements**
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13600810903089893?journalCode=cods20>

⁵ Draft Strategic Plan for the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services 2018 – 2023 (Page 88)

⁶ Sourced on March 20, 2020 from: https://vetoviolenecdc.gov/apps/evidence/docs/EBDM_82412.pdf

⁷ This definition has been adapted from the UN Definition of the Family. The UN defines the family as, “a structure, that is, a set of relationships and a space that creates an environment where the social, psychological, physical and economic needs of individuals are constantly interacting. It is an environment in which individuals relate to one another in a variety of capacities and in which the problems of everyday life are worked out”.

⁸ https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/markets/stocks/news/what-is-fiscal-deficit/articleshow/73828205.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC



Term	Definition
Health	A state of physical, mental, and social well-being and productive functioning, not merely the absence of disease or infirmity ⁹
Health System	All services, functions and resources in a geographic area whose primary purpose is to affect the state of health of the population. ¹⁰
Health and Wellness	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 ¹¹ .
HIV/AIDS	HIV is a virus that can lead to AIDS. HIV is spread through body fluids that attacks the body's immune system. Over time, HIV can destroy so many of these cells that the body cannot fight off infections and disease. This damage to the immune system makes it harder and harder for the body to fight off infections and some other diseases. These opportunistic infections or cancers take advantage of a very weak immune system and signal that the person has AIDS, the last stage of HIV infection. ¹²
Human Development	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 ¹³ .
Human Trafficking	The use of force, fraud or coercion to obtain some type of labour or commercial sex act. ¹⁴
Inequality	The quality of being unequal or uneven such as social disparity, disparity of distribution or opportunity, lack of evenness and the condition of being variable. ¹⁵
Integrated Social Enterprise Management System (ISEMS)	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.
(Economic) Inflation	Inflation is a quantitative measure of the rate at which the average price level of a basket of selected goods and services in an economy increases over a period of time. It is the constant rise in the general level of prices where a unit of currency buys less than it did in prior periods. Often expressed as a percentage, inflation indicates a decrease in the purchasing power of a nation's currency. ¹⁶
Labour market	The labour market, also known as the job market, refers to the supply and demand for labour in which employees provide the supply and employers the demand. It is a major component of any economy and is intricately tied in with markets for capital, goods and services. ¹⁷

⁹ National Mental Health Policy of Trinidad and Tobago 2019-2029

¹⁰ Connecticut Department Of Public Health: Policy, Planning and Analysis Website: www.dph.state.ct.us

¹¹ National Social Mitigation Plan 2017 – 2022. Building Resilience to Restore Our Nation. Ministry of Social Development June 27, 2017. Pp 3

¹² <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/basics/whatishiv.html>

¹³ National Social Mitigation Plan 2017 – 2022. Building Resilience to Restore Our Nation. Ministry of Social Development June 27, 2017. Pp 3

¹⁴ <https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/what-human-trafficking>

¹⁵ <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/inequality>

¹⁶ <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/i/inflation.asp>

¹⁷ <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/l/labor-market.asp>

Term	Definition
Mental Health	A state of well-being in which an individual realizes his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and is able to make a contribution to his or her community. ¹⁸
Methodology	A system of methods used in a particular area of study or activity. ¹⁹
Monitoring and Evaluation	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. ²⁰
Multidimensional Poverty	Multidimensional poverty encompasses the various deprivations experienced by poor people in their daily lives – such as poor health, lack of education, inadequate living standards, disempowerment, poor quality of work, the threat of violence, and living in areas that are environmentally hazardous, among others. ²¹
National budget	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. ²²
Non-communicable disease	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 ²³
Pandemic	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.” ²⁴
Poverty	The state of one who lacks a usual or socially acceptable amount of money or material possessions. ²⁵
Resilience	The capacity that ensures stressors and shocks do not have lasting adverse consequences. The ability of certain groups and individuals to deal with both exogenous and endogenous shocks and stressors. ²⁶
Social Development	Social development is about improving the well-being of every individual in society so they can reach their full potential. The success of society is linked to the well-being of each and every citizen.

¹⁸ WHO (2004) Promoting Mental Health: Concepts, Emerging Evidence, Practice Summary Report Geneva: WHO

¹⁹ Sourced on March 20,2020 from: <https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/methodology>

²⁰ National Social Mitigation Plan 2017 – 2022. Building Resilience to Restore Our Nation. Ministry of Social Development June 27, 2017. Pp 3

²¹ <https://ophi.org.uk/policy/multidimensional-poverty-index/>

²² Guide to the Budget for 201-/2020 Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago – Financial Scrutiny Unit Office of the Parliament October 2019 <http://www.ttparliament.org/documents/news/mr5C4D1F.pdf>

²³ <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/noncommunicable-diseases>

²⁴ Last JM, editor. A dictionary of epidemiology, 4th edition. New York: Oxford University Press; 2001.

²⁵ <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/poverty>

²⁶ National Social Mitigation Plan 2017 – 2022. Building Resilience to Restore Our Nation. Ministry of Social Development June 27, 2017. Pp 4.

RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC



Term	Definition
	Social development means investing in people. It requires the removal of barriers so that all citizens can journey toward their dreams with confidence and dignity. ²⁷
Social Housing	This refers to houses and apartments that owned by local government or by other organizations that do not make a profit, and that are rented to people who have low incomes. ²⁸
(Social) Initiative	Any purposive action aimed at addressing social problems; promoting social and environmental justice; improving the access to opportunities for deprived or marginalized persons, groups, or communities; enhancing social welfare; and contributing to sustainable development at large. ²⁹
(Social) Indicator	Social indicators are statistical time series that are "used to monitor the social system, helping to identify changes and to guide intervention to alter the course of social change" (Ferriss 1988, p. 601). ³⁰ Examples include unemployment rates, crime rates, estimates of life expectancy and school enrolment rates.
Social Infrastructure	Social Infrastructure – A subset of the infrastructure sector and typically includes assets that accommodate social services. Examples of Social Infrastructure Assets include schools, universities, hospitals, prisons and community housing. Social Infrastructure does not typically extend to the provision of social services, such as the provision of teachers at a school or custodial services at a prison. ³¹
Social Services	Benefits and facilities such as education, food subsidies, health care, and subsidized housing provided by a government to improve the life and living conditions of the children, disabled, the elderly, and the poor in the national community. ³²
Standard Means Test	Means testing is a targeting mechanism for assessing a person's or a family's eligibility to receive benefits, based on income or other income-related characteristics.
Sustainability	This is concerned with the way natural systems function, remain diverse and produce everything it needs for the ecology to remain in balance. It also acknowledges that human civilisation takes resources to sustain our modern way of life. ³³
Sustainable Development	"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." ³⁴

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https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/esic/overview/content/what_is_social_development.htm

²⁸ <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/social-housing>

²⁹ Sourced on June 16, 2020 from: <http://ankuram.org/blogs-defining-social-initiatives/>

³⁰ Sourced on June 16, 2020 from: <https://www.encyclopedia.com/social-sciences/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/social-indicators>

³¹ National Social Mitigation Plan 2017 – 2022. Building Resilience to Restore Our Nation. Ministry of Social Development June 27, 2017. Pp 4

³² <http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/social-justice.html>

³³ <https://www.environmentalscience.org/sustainability>

³⁴ UN World Commission on Environment and Development

Term	Definition
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	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. ³⁵
Underemployed	The condition in which people in a labour force are employed at less than full-time or regular jobs or at jobs inadequate with respect to their training or economic needs. ³⁶
Unemployment	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. ³⁷
Unemployment Rate	Provides the percent of the labour force that is actively searching but unable to find a job. The number of unemployed people divided by the number of people in the labour force. ³⁸
Vision 2030 – The Vision 2030 National Development Strategy (2016-2030)	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). ³⁹
Vulnerable Population	Those persons who are only able to meet their basic needs currently, but may not be able to do so in the event of any shocks to their income. ⁴⁰

³⁵ National Social Mitigation Plan 2017 – 2022. Building Resilience to Restore Our Nation. Ministry of Social Development June 27, 2017. Pp 4

³⁶ Sourced on March 20, 2020 from: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/underemployment>

³⁷ <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/u/unemployment.asp>

³⁸ <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/u/unemployment.asp>

³⁹ National Social Mitigation Plan 2017 – 2022. Building Resilience to Restore Our Nation. Ministry of Social Development June 27, 2017. Pp 4

⁴⁰ National Social Mitigation Plan 2017 – 2022. Building Resilience to Restore Our Nation. Ministry of Social Development June 27, 2017. Pp 4



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