

2012-2016 United Nations Development Assistance Framework Report



UN SUBREGIONAL TEAM OFFICE
FOR BARBADOS & THE OECS

MAY 2018

RESIDENT COORDINATOR'S MESSAGE

The 2012-2016 United Nations Development Assistant Framework (UNDAF) was undertaken at a very challenging time for the ten programme countries of Barbados and the OECS. The countries were coping with the continuing effects of the global economic downturn, rising unemployment, worrying levels of crime and violence, social vulnerabilities, the damages wrought by natural disasters, and the existential threat of climate change.

This report highlights the collective work of UN agencies between 2012-2016 UNDAF projects in addressing key issues facing the sub-region – the environment, disaster risk reduction, energy, social protection, health, and poverty reduction — through interventions in capacity building, support to policy and legislative design, advocacy initiatives and other forms of technical assistance.

In addition, the report considers how the UNDAF key achievements fed into the development of the 2017-2021 Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework (MSDF). It also touches on initial efforts to address the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which were approved in September 2015. Finally, it illustrates how the 2012-2016 UNDAF process shaped how we work within the UN system, with other development partners, and with our national counterparts in the Eastern Caribbean countries.

I am grateful for the dedication of the UN agencies and the UN focal points in the ten countries, as well as other government staff and implementing partners for the ceaseless efforts they have made to implement the UNDAF over the past five years. Your collective efforts have laid the foundation for the work we need to do to reach the Sustainable Development Goals.

The 2012-2016 UNDAF represented the first time that the UN system in the Eastern Caribbean had developed a common programming framework. It was developed through extensive consultations with the Governments of Barbados and the nine member states of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, civil society groups and other stakeholders.

The United Nations System in Barbados and the OECS was represented by a number of United Nations programmes, funds and specialized agencies. These included seven resident agencies:

- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO),
- International Telecommunication Union (ITU),
- Pan American Health Organisation/World Health Organisation (PAHO/WHO),
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA),
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN WOMEN).

These resident agencies partnered with following non-resident UN entities to support the delivery of six UNDAF outcomes, shown in the graphic below:



Mr. Stephen O'Malley *UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative for Barbados and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States.*

- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC),
- International Labour Organization (ILO),
- Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS),
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP),
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO),
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- and Universal Postal Union (UPU).

Outcomes 3 and 6 were operationally merged during 2014 due to synergies in programming. The UNDAF provided a platform for agencies to identify collaborative projects and align existing agency programmes to address challenges of the region. The implementation and monitoring of the outcomes was the responsibility of Outcome Working Groups (OWGs) which were composed of representatives from each UN agency engaged with the particular outcome.

Two key measures were put in place to support the delivery of the UNDAF:

The UN Communications Group for Barbados and the OECS was established in 2011, bringing together the communications professionals from the resident and non-resident agencies. The Group was responsible for creating and implementing a communication strategy for the UNDAF, and supporting joint activities. An example of their contribution to the UNDAF is in the annual support of the UNITE Campaign's 16 Days of Advocacy to End Violence against Women, which culminated in the commemoration of Human Rights Day.

The Eastern Caribbean Development Partners Group (ECDPG), was created to strengthen development partners and donors' coordination and delivery in Barbados and the OECS for improved development results, and includes representatives of donor agencies, member states, international financial institutions, regional institutions and UN agencies. The ECDPG organised five thematic working groups that are mostly aligned to the 2012-2016 UNDAF. The ECDPG had successful coordination experiences, particularly in the area of disaster risk management and response, and energy.



2012 – 2016 UNDAF OUTCOMES

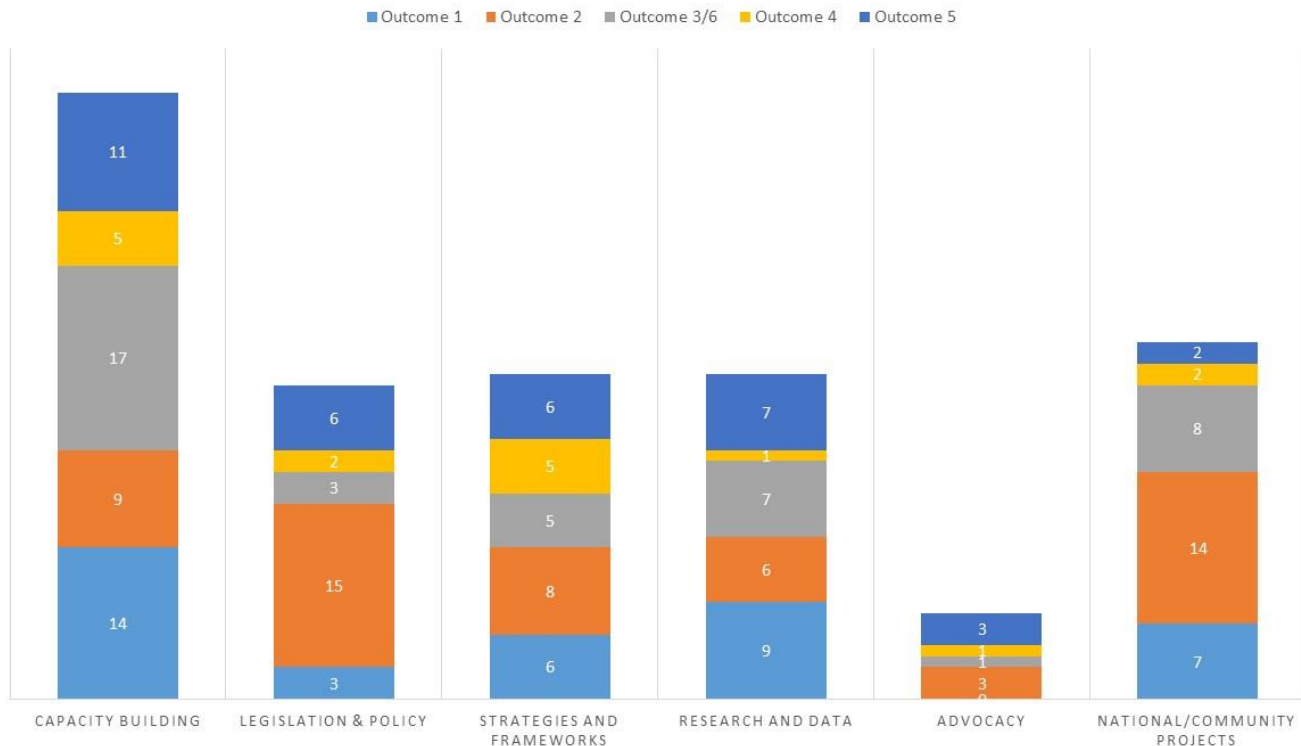
The six 2012-2016 UNDAF outcomes were identified through national-level consultations, and developed based on sub-regional and national development priorities and UN comparative advantage. The six outcomes were:

Outcome One Energy Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction	Outcome Two Effective Economic and Social Governance and Enhanced Security	Outcome Three Social Protection and Poverty Reduction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Manage natural resources effectively ✓ Build resilience to adverse impacts of climate change as well as natural and environmental pollutants ✓ Improve energy efficiency and use of renewable energy ✓ Improve policy, legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks for environmental and energy governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support countries to strengthen their regulatory and legislative frameworks to address crime, child sexual abuse and gender-based violence at national level ✓ Stimulate social mobilisation and community-led actions to address growing levels of insecurity ✓ Promote advocacy, outreach and capacity building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Improve social protection services and systems to reduce poverty and inequity ✓ Support government's effective delivery of social protection services ✓ Improve targeting of beneficiaries and harmonisation of services across government departments.
Outcome Four Food and Nutrition Security	Outcome Five Public Health: HIV/AIDS and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)	Outcome Six Capacity Development and Institutional Strengthening
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support food and nutrition security ✓ Strengthen policy, legislative frameworks for a sustainable production environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promote and implement policies to address stigma and discrimination in vulnerable populations ✓ Improve availability and access to user friendly quality private and public health care services ✓ Strengthen national surveillance of NCDs and HIV/AIDS and institutional capacities for a multi-sectoral responses to HIV/AIDS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Harmonize social, environmental and economic data collection ✓ Improve methods for poverty, gender and human inequality

2012-2016 UNDAF OVERVIEW

Six different types of support interventions were used in achieving UNDAF outcomes. As the graph below suggests, capacity building efforts were predominant across outcome areas through formal training initiatives as well as networking and South-South knowledge sharing opportunities. By comparison, there were relatively less interventions around advocacy with a focus instead on policy and legislation support, the development of strategies, plans or frameworks and direct national or community engagement. Multi-country or sub-regional projects represented 30-40% of the key achievements across outcome areas.

INTERVENTION APPROACHES BY OUTCOME



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¹ Outcome One: Energy Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction
 Outcome Two: Effective Economic and Social Governance and Enhanced Security
 Outcome Three: Social Protection and Poverty Reduction merged with Outcome Six Capacity Development and Institutional Strengthening
 Outcome Four: Food and Nutrition Security
 Outcome Five: Public Health: HIV/AIDS and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDS)

UNDAF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Outcome One – Improved governance and regulation of environmental and energy issues for more resilient economies by 2016

OUTCOME ONE – ACHIEVEMENTS

Environment

- Two countries published the findings of national scoping studies, which will be used in the development of national strategies toward building a green economy.

Energy

- One regional policy, roadmap and strategy for energy to help guide regional decisionmaking around the future of energy in CARICOM countries;
- Three national strategies/ plans/frameworks to move from fossil fuels to renewable energy technologies;
- Regional impact assessments conducted in two countries to inform the shaping of national standards in Energy Efficient (EE) lighting;
- Renewable energy projects piloted in seven countries. In many cases, these projects represented energy cost savings of 20-40% for the country.

Disaster Risk Reduction

- Six publications provide knowledge materials on early warning systems for disaster risk reduction;
- Four countries have early warning systems established for disaster risk reduction;
- One country with disaster risk management plan for agriculture.

Climate Change

- Nine regional capacity building opportunities in energy, disaster risk reduction and climate change undertaken;
- One country undertaking community climate change adaptation projects.

Under Outcome One, efforts went beyond traditional training methodologies to include online networks for South-South knowledge sharing on matters relating to renewable energy and climate change, and the opportunity for networking and product promotion through the hosting of an energy efficiency competition among tertiary-level institutions.

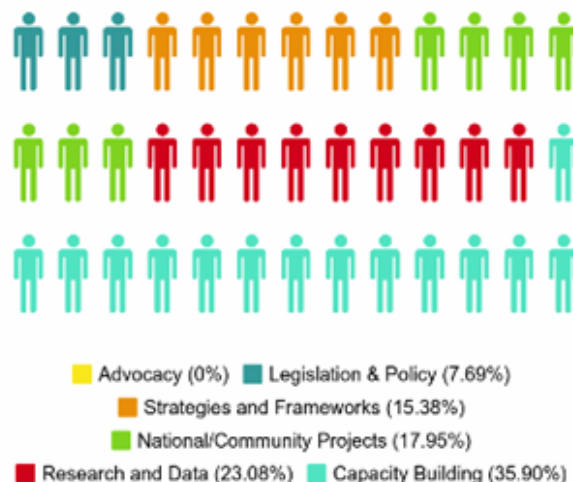
Following capacity building, which represented a third of the portfolio, the UN helped the countries of the subregion undertake projects to fill the data gap on environmental and energy issues. These research projects aimed to provide an evidentiary basis for targeted national strategies in this area. While the research began under the 2012-2016 UNDAF, the data is being translated into regulation under the 2017-2021 MSDF. For instance, in Barbados and St Lucia, two national scoping studies were published by 2016, which will be now used in the development of national strategies toward building a green economy.

Strategies were also developed to chart the move from fossil fuels to use of renewable energy technologies in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and St. Lucia. In Barbados, the UN worked with the government to create a regulatory framework around renewable energy and a utility license for its management; these are key elements for creating an enabling environment for investment in the green economy, specifically renewable energy, in the country.

In St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the piloting of an electric vehicle and the installation of 50kW of solar photo-voltaic power generation in the prison exposed decision makers and the public to the benefits of investing in renewable energy. The prison is estimated to be able to save \$3,300 in electricity costs, and abate approximately 58 tonnes of CO2 emissions annually, reducing the operational cost of the prison and contributing to the global effort to mitigate climate change. In Barbados and six other countries in the OECS, six government buildings and one large college campus in St. Kitts & Nevis were retrofitted with new energy efficient LED lighting and two countries (Antigua and Grenada) were supplied with 160 LED street lights. Preliminary reports suggested energy savings on lighting costs in the 20 - 40% range.

In Dominica, an integrated Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) approach was established in two pilot villages: Dos d’Ane and Good Hope. The social mobilization process included needs-based identification of additional Good Practices (GPs) led by local communities and capacity building for enhanced DRM coordination and planning at village level as basis for increased hazard resilience. Four countries installed hazard monitoring tools to feed into early warning systems (EWS) and regional monitoring database. Three countries gained operational Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) end-to-end systems and CAP EWS is in progress in another six islands.

Outcome One - Interventions



The SMART Hospitals programme implemented retrofitting measures, including energy and water efficiency improvements at Georgetown Hospital in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and at Pogson Hospital in St. Kitts and Nevis. Roofs were repaired, solar panels and a new water-storage system installed, plumbing and energy systems renovated, and ramps installed to improve access for people with disabilities. The program helped reduce water and energy costs, and demonstrated good value for money with savings on the running costs and resilience to natural elements. The program also improved working conditions and the overall healthcare environment.

Under the Integrated Climate Change Adaptation Strategies (ICCAS) project, Grenada has made significant advances in the implementation of climate change adaptation strategies, potentially serving as a model to other OECS countries. To date, community organisations were awarded grant funds resulting in 27 projects in Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique that work to localise climate change adaptation strategies. There has been training in and use of the “Caribbean Climate Online Risk and Adaptation Tool” (CCORAL) by more than 60 technical officers from different ministries. As a result, approximately 70 government projects have been screened for potential climate risks and all new projects under the Government's Public Sector Investment Programme now have to conduct a CCORAL screening. The Grenada-specific “Greenz Climate Champion Toolkit” was developed with the inputs of 49 schools, with 900 children having received their climate change passports. Furthermore, climate change issues have been integrated into major plans addressing social protection, agriculture and health. This move has already been backed by a Climate Finance Readiness Action Plan and the establishment of a National Designated Authority (NDA) for the Green Climate Fund (GCF) has been established. Climate change expenditure reviews for the budget 2015 and 2016 were also conducted. Twenty experts have been trained to facilitate Grenada's access to climate finance, including training on GCF's Environmental and Social Safeguards.



Outcome Two: Effective and inclusive governance at the national and sub-regional levels strengthened

OUTCOME TWO ACHIEVEMENTS

Citizen Security

- 12 legislative reviews/drafting on matters relating to citizen security;
- Four regional and two national surveys/studies conducted on citizen security issues, particularly GBV, juvenile justice and child protection.

Crime and Violence

- Three countries benefitted from youth programmes tackling crime and violence;
- Two regional and four national training sessions conducted for personnel working on crime and violence.

Gender-Based Violence

- Review and update of regional model bill on domestic violence in the OECS;
- One country updated domestic violence legislation;
- Four countries with plans or procedure around GBV: two countries adopted multisectoral plans for domestic violence and commenced implementation of the plans, and two countries finalised guidelines for GBV in the health sector.

Juvenile Justice

- One regional and one national training of professionals addressing the juvenile justice system;
- Three countries participated in programmes around custody of juveniles/limited jurisdiction;
- One regional and five national programmes/ projects for youth and adolescents in addressing crime and violence and juvenile justice;
- One country pilot project based on regionally adopted court practices.

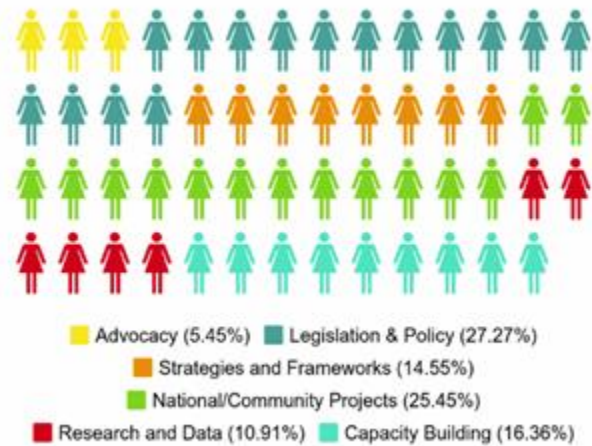
Child Protection

- Three countries adopted regional child care protection protocols;
- One regional and one sub-regional strategy developed for prevention of violence against children;
- Two sub-regional youth prevention programmes around crime and violence and child protection and one national youth programme.

Outcome Two's key achievements were in the area of citizen security in addressing crime and violence, juvenile justice, child protection and gender-based violence. In addressing crime and violence, there was a targeted focus on youth, as well as efforts to address challenges related to arms control.

In addressing crime and violence amongst youth, more than 70 young women and men across three islands were trained in ideation and, formulation of novel concepts relating to crime and violence prevention. At the national level, community-level interventions in St. Lucia saw six youth groups being awarded small grants to implement projects and at-risk youth aged 14 to 18 integrated into an art empowerment project, led by the Probation and Parole Departments, where they learned about sexual exploitation, gangs, drugs and social change movements. Other initiatives tackling crime and violence included capacity building of 40 stakeholders in Barbados on the use of data for evidence based decision making to reducing crime and violence; training law enforcement to better combat illicit weapons and ammunition trafficking with respect for human rights and the rule of law; the collection of baseline data on citizen perception of safety and fear of victimization in six OECS countries; and support to the governments of Barbados and the OECS in the field of small arms control through technical assistance for improving stockpile management destroying surplus and confiscated weapons and ammunition.

Outcome Two - Interventions



In tackling gender-based violence (GBV), capacity building interventions developed the skills of gender bureaus in the OECS in sexual violence prevention, and for police officers and medical personnel on the protocols for management of sexual violence in Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Through legislative and policy interventions, technical support provided led to the update of an OECS model bill on domestic violence. At CARICOM-level, technical assistance helped to shape a Regional Prevalence Survey Model, which was consequently adopted. National initiatives also focused on the development of plans, procedures and guidelines to better respond to GBV in Grenada, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Antigua and Barbuda, and Barbados. There was also legislative review and reform in Antigua and Barbuda. Under Outcome Two, community-based

initiatives had a strong advocacy focus in Antigua and Barbuda and Dominica, and a Gender-Based Violence Screening Tool was piloted in community medical facilities. There was also support for the creation of community-based and court-mandated prevention models in Barbados and Grenada, focused on young and adult males who have are first-time offenders of domestic violence. These programmes have become integrated into the national/ community approach to addressing GBV.

In the area of juvenile justice, capacity-building was undertaken for juvenile justice focal points, magistrates and police officers as well as the development of juvenile justice information system. The media in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada completed training on reporting on juveniles who are in conflict with the law. In Barbados and Grenada, there was technical support provided around respective Juvenile Justice Bills. In collaboration with the OECS Secretariat, a Juvenile Justice Information System was piloted in Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court and a bottle neck analysis of

juvenile justice system in St. Kitts and Nevis. Community interventions included a Social Justice Arts Programme in Saint Lucia with youth-at-risk identified by the Probation and Parole Department. Youth aged 14 to 18 developed their artistic abilities and expanded their knowledge with regards to the issue of sexual exploitation. In Grenada, 25 youth at risk of participating in criminal behaviour participated in a six-month rehabilitation programme, imparting life skills, literacy and numeracy training, vocational skills, small business management and customer service training. Similar programmes aiming to reduce the risk of engaging in criminal behaviors were conducted in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia and Grenada. Further to this, a court diversion programme was piloted in Dominica, Grenada and Saint Lucia.

In addressing child protection, training and sensitization sessions focused on identifying situations of abuse, cyberbullying and other security concerns. There was also significant support to ten countries in the subregion to update legislation and policies around child protection and youth engagement. This level of support was augmented with assistance with the shaping of protocols around child protection and reporting of abuse at the national, sub-regional and regional levels. There were national social surveys on the attitudes towards child sexual abuse and corporal punishment as well as sub-regional advocacy campaigns. Additionally, the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court was supported to pilot the operationalization of the Court's Family Division in Antigua and Barbuda.

The focus on citizen security is continued through CariSECURE - Strengthening Evidence Based Decision Making for Citizen Security in the Caribbean, a component of USAID's Youth Empowerment Services (YES) project. Through CARISECURE, the UN builds on the existing work to improve youth crime and violence policy-making and programming in the Southern and Eastern Caribbean through the use of quality, comparable and reliable national citizen security information.

Outcome Three: Improved social protection services and systems to reduce poverty and inequity (merged with Outcome Six)

OUTCOME THREE ACHIEVEMENTS

Labour

- One country developed a Code of Practice for Employers of Domestic Work;
- Baselines studies conducted to identify gaps and areas in need of legal and policy reform required to ratify ILO Convention 189 on Decent Work in two countries.

Social Protection

- Capacity building in child and gender responsive budgeting in four countries; subregional training for public servants from ministries of Finance and Social Development. These sessions also promoted South-South knowledge exchange;
- National social protection strategies created in three OECS countries and adopted in one;
- Poverty Targeting instruments have been reviewed in two OECS countries;
- A Gender Aware Beneficiary Analysis (GABA) for a Public Assistance Programme, a Budget Investment in Children, a Fiscal Space Study on Social Protection and a Mapping of Child Well-Being to improve efficiency and effectiveness of resources utilized in child and gender sensitive programme and policy development have been finalised in one OECS country.

Rights of Persons With Disabilities

- Knowledge sharing sessions on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in two OECS countries;
- One country reviewed national policy on disabilities;
- Advocacy and outreach to parliamentarians around the ratification the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities done in two OECS countries.

Education

- 20 TVET and education officials were trained in TVET Policy Review;
- Entrepreneurship training for more than 100 young persons throughout the sub-region received training about entrepreneurship;
- 20 finalists from across the Caribbean participated in Barbados for the Caribbean Innovation Challenge (CIC) finals, with six receiving awards in three categories;
- 35 students (from across ten Caribbean countries, including six OECS) participated in an online Diploma in Instructional Approaches to Health and Family Life Education (HFLE). The programme continues to be available through UWI Open Campus;
- Capacity developed in one country to strengthen monitoring and evaluation of projects and programmes in the education sector;
- One country completed review on TVET policy;
- Inclusive Education Guidelines disseminated to all OECS Ministries of Education;
- 237 schools are now adopting the effective schooling/ CFS framework;
- Rollout of eight TVET Centres of Excellence (UNEVOC Centres Strengthened) in the OECS Countries.

Outcome Six: Social, environmental and economic data collection is harmonized and access increased for use in policy and decision-making processes at the sub-regional and national levels (merged with Outcome Three)

OUTCOME SIX ACHIEVEMENTS

Capacity Building

- Five statistical offices with increased capacities in data collection AND developing framework for multi-sectoral data collection in five countries;
- Five countries have equipment, instruments and statistical capacity to reliably measure multi-dimensional poverty;
- Personnel from three countries trained in multidimensional poverty measurement and analysis;
- 20 Education Statisticians trained on the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED);
- 20 Education Statisticians in the sub-region trained to use Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) for LFS-MPI and SLC-HBS data collection in the field.

Strategies

- Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics (inclusive of piloted, regionally-designed data collection instruments) was developed. It was endorsed by the OECS Economic Affairs Council;
- Nine OECS Countries have adopted the revised International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) for international statistical reporting.

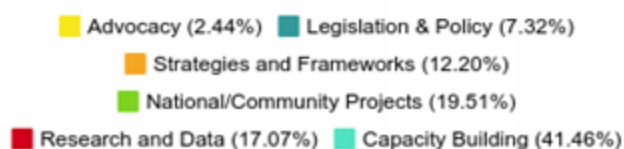
Application

- A pilot was undertaken for a reformed harmonised survey of living conditions and household budget survey in one OECS country;
- A basic MPI has been included in the harmonised OECS Labour Force Survey (LFS) with OECS countries having the capacity to conduct the harmonised LFS.

Reporting

- Multiple Cluster Survey Reports were finalized and launched in two countries;
- Research completed on 6 countries captured in the 2016 Caribbean Human Development Report on multi-dimensional progress;
- Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) Reports drafted for two countries.

Outcome Three/Six - Interventions



As noted earlier, Outcome Three and Outcome Six were merged to consolidate work around social protection. Outcome Three originally addressed labour, social protection rights of persons with disabilities and education while Outcome Six enhanced social protection work in particular with the focus of strengthening harmonized data collection. As a result of the merger, data collection interventions under the 2012-2016 UNDAF had key achievements around education, the application of the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys, and to better measure multidimensional poverty.

In addressing labour issues, efforts supported the development of a Code of Practice for Employers of Domestic Work has been implemented, in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and a trade union in Barbados. Baselines studies helped to identify gaps and areas in need of legal and policy reform required to ratify ILO Convention 189 on Decent Work in Barbados and Antigua and Barbuda.

The promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities was achieved through workshops and seminars around UN instruments and outreach to parliamentarians on the ratification the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and support for the review of labour legislation focused on persons with disabilities and the establishment of a National Task Force in Saint Lucia.

There was a heavy focus on capacity building activities under the education sector, particularly as a means of encouraging entrepreneurship and business development. In this regard, over 100 persons were trained and/or participated in other forms of knowledge exchange and networking from across the sub-region. Twenty officials were trained in TVET Policy Review, which led to further technical support in the shaping of the policy that was ultimately adopted in St. Kitts and Nevis. Furthermore, there was a rollout of eight TVET Centres of Excellence in the OECS Countries. The capacity of the education sector as key providers of comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) to young people in schools under the Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) programme was strengthened through support in the development of an online Diploma in Instructional Approaches, which had a first intake of 35 students (from across ten Caribbean countries, including six OECS countries) by the UWI Open Campus. This resource is bolstered by an HFLE Caribbean website, developed and hosted on the domain of the University of the West Indies Open Campus. The site contains good practices in HFLE school delivery, offers a resource library of teaching and learning materials and facilitates networking and sharing among HFLE teachers and stakeholders in a regional community of practice for the benefit of Caribbean Ministries of Education, including all OECS member states. The teaching of HFLE is an integral dimension of the effective schooling/ CFS framework and OECS Ministers of Education have agreed to adopt this framework, leading to its adoption in 237 schools from across the sub-region.

For data harmonization, workshops helped to raise awareness on the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) and Core education indicators for monitoring and evaluation in the OECS. Twenty Education Statisticians were trained and support was offered in the purchase of hardware for Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) - computer tablets, laptops and software licenses as requested by countries who are preparing for, piloting and implementing CAPI data collection in the field - for Saint Lucia (2014), Antigua and Barbuda (2014), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (2015), Grenada (2015) and Montserrat (2015), Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Saint Kitts and Nevis (2016). Nine OECS Countries adopted the revised International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) for international statistical reporting.



Capacity building made up roughly 40% of the types of interventions under the merged Outcome Three/Outcome Six and many of the initiatives relate to work around social protection and data collection for social protection. In direct support, there was sub-regional training on child and gender responsive budgeting. Though technical support, national social protection action and monitoring and evaluation plans were adopted in St. Kitts and Nevis, Grenada and St. Lucia.

During the same period, five countries (St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, St Lucia and Dominica) benefitted from both training, south-south knowledge exchange and the receipt of infrastructure to assist with the measure multi-dimensional poverty. Poverty Targeting instruments in Grenada and St. Lucia were reviewed with recommendations made to improve gender sensitivity and improve beneficiary selection and harmonisation. These tools will be used to support the earmarking of resources to deliver integrated social protection services in St. Lucia. Similarly, the completion of three reports on St. Lucia's Budget Investment in Children, Fiscal Space Study on Social Protection and Mapping of Child Well-Being to improve efficiency and effectiveness of resources utilized in child and gender sensitive programme and policy development.

The Development Taskforce on Statistics and OECS Living Standards Measurement Committee Meetings (OECS LSMC) (both the technical and general meetings) was supported within the period 2014-2016. Working with the OECS Living Standards Committee (a SSC initiative), a Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics (inclusive of piloted, regionally-designed data collection instruments) was developed, and then endorsed by the OECS Economic Affairs Council in November 2016. Together with the World Bank and the Statistics Department of Saint Lucia, a reformed harmonised survey of living conditions and household budget survey (SLC-HBS) in 2015 – 2016 was piloted as part of an enhanced Country Poverty Assessment process. Regional and national partners in six countries did qualitative research on subjective well-being, which was captured in the 2016 Caribbean Human Development Report on multi-dimensional progress. This research created a base for adapting the holistic, sustainable development agenda to the needs and goals of the sub-region, populated by nations that are simultaneously Middle-Income Countries and SIDs. A basic MPI has been included in the harmonised OECS Labour Force Survey (LFS) and St. Kitts already has the capacity to conduct the harmonised LFS. Dominica is scheduled to implement its first LFS in 2017.

Over the course of the UNDAF, The Central Statistical Offices of Anguilla, Barbados, Grenada, Montserrat and Saint Lucia and the OECS Commission received technical assistance and established DevInfo databases as a platform containing key socio-economic data. The databases enable quick access and presentation of data in tables, graphs and maps. OECS Commission adaptation known as OECSInfo has been launched and formal agreements have been reached, with national DevInfo Committees established in five pilot countries. Furthermore, a multi-dimensional child poverty disparity analysis was adopted by the OECS and Multiple Cluster Survey Reports were finalized and launched in Barbados and Saint Lucia, and the dissemination plans implemented.

Outcome Four: By 2016 there is strengthened policy, legislative framework and food production environment towards higher levels of food and nutrition security.

OUTCOME FOUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Food & Nutrition Security

- Three countries received technical assistance for conducting an agricultural census, supporting survey and methodology development, and helping to train enumerators;
- Four countries participated in knowledge exchange and capacity building experiences governance and management of business;
- Four countries benefitted from programme to develop and establish sustainable food systems enabling a change in consumption patterns and greater use of national products in the diet and less reliance on imported processed food;
- One country established a bipartisan parliamentary group and passed legislation to ensure that resources were allocated toward the eradication of hunger in the country;
- Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) policies have been developed and validated in Barbados and all the OECS Countries.
- Food based dietary guidelines supported in all countries;
- Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Assessment and Mapping conducted in three OECS countries;
- Support provided for media campaigns and promotion of local products for food and nutrition security in two countries.

Youth

- Young entrepreneurs in four countries assisted with training, exchange of experiences to improve technical and marketing skills in agricultural based product;
- Strategic plan for youth involvement in rural sectors developed for one country.

Disaster Risk Management (DRM)

- Development of a Model DRM Knowledge Management toolkit for school children;
- DRM plan/strategy for the agricultural sector in one country.

Outcome Four - Interventions



Key achievements under Outcome Four were in food and nutrition security and in disaster risk management, with the theme of youth in agriculture being an integral part of the approach.

The Zero Hunger Challenge (ZHC) was an integral part of the 2012-2016 UNDAF Outcome Four’s efforts to increase food and nutrition security in four programme beneficiary countries of the OECS – Antigua and Barbuda, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Lucia and Grenada. Antigua and Barbuda became the pilot for ZHC in the sub-region allowing for valuable lessons to be learned for ZHC’s application in other OECS countries, more specifically, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. For example, by 2014, programme delivery included policy development and governance, improvement of nutrition and school feeding program, and increased capacity for the production of healthy food for targeted groups (youth and women) using urban and peri-urban production techniques in home gardens, school gardens and small farms. In 2016 St. Vincent and the Grenadines

created the Parliamentary Front Against Hunger comprising parliamentarians from different parties. Additionally, the “Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Zero Hunger Trust Fund Act, 2016” was enacted to ensure that resources were allocated toward the eradication of hunger in the country

Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) policies have been developed and validated in Barbados and all the OECS Countries and enhanced by food based dietary guidelines, which are supported in all countries. Other initiatives to increase food and nutrition security included technical assistance and training of enumerators to conduct an agricultural census in St. Lucia, Grenada, and Antigua and Barbuda. There was also support to the development of food value chains in Barbados, Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, which led to the development of byproducts out of staples such as cassava. There was support to media campaigns and promotion of local products for food and nutrition security in Barbados and Grenada.

Addressing the deficit of youth in agriculture, young entrepreneurs received training and participated in exchange of experiences to improve technical and marketing skills in agricultural based product in Antigua and Barbuda, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Lucia and Barbados. A strategic plan for youth involvement in rural sectors was developed for Antigua and Barbuda.

There was capacity building for disaster risk management through demonstrations of good DRM practices in the crop, livestock, fisheries and forestry sub-sectors and through the development of a Model DRM Knowledge Management toolkit for school children. A DRM plan was also developed for the agricultural sector in Dominica.

In St. Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines support adequately aimed at relieving systemic, watershed-level drainage problems, and helped beneficiaries to clear major drainage collectors and rivers in both countries from accumulated vegetation, debris and logs. St. Lucia, some financial assistance was also provided to farmers to clear smaller on-farm drains. These interventions were undertaken in partnership with IICA.



Outcome Five: Enabled environment for the reduction of the incidence, morbidity and mortality from HIV and non-communicable diseases

OUTCOME FIVE – ACHIEVEMENTS

Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome(HIV/AIDS)

- Built capacity of five young television producers from one country in reporting and producing audio-visual programmes on HIV/AIDS;
- Sub-regional capacity building interventions completed on matters related to the development of National Epidemiology profiles with Barbados and OECS countries;
- Representatives from the Government, employers' and workers' organizations in one country received training in trained in HIV/AIDS workplace policy development;
- Development of HIV work place policies in six countries;
- Two countries implementing the new Test and start policy;
- A Charter on HIV and Human Rights in the Workplace has been developed for one country;
- The verification and validation process for the elimination of vertical transmission of HIV and syphilis were accelerated since 2013 with support being given to Ministries of Health in countries for verifying and documenting the evidences to support elimination. Four countries have submitted requests for validation;
- Barbados and the countries of the OECS are involved in surveillance for HIV/AIDS using case based modality;
- Studies were completed on the availability of information on HIV/AIDS and access to care and support by migrant workers in select economic sectors in two countries;
- 20 youth serving organisations in one country to work together on a national SRH/HIV advocacy agenda.

Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH)

- Six countries received support to strengthen the delivery of the key programme for delivery of Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) programme;
- 20 senior technocrats from eight Teacher Training Colleges (TTC) aimed at capitalising on opportunities for the institutionalisation of quality HFLE instruction at these institutions;
- National Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy and Strategic Plan finalised in one country;
- One programme developed in one target country to implement the Sexual and Reproductive Health Programme targeting persons with disabilities with a focus on adolescents and youth;
- Development of a Draft Model Reproductive Health Care Services and Protection Bill that focuses on adolescents' rights to SRH services in the Member States of the OECS. A Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) Strategy for Persons with Disabilities (PWD) was consequently drafted;
- An action plan for regional mobilisation was agreed on, with a focus on policy development, capacity building and programme implementation.

Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs)

- Subregional promotion for an Alcohol Policy Development and Strategy for Implementation of Regional Action Plans;
- Member States developed their National Food-based Dietary Guidelines (FBDG) and disseminated the guidelines widely for prevention and control of NCDs at community, school-based and work-based settings;
- Most OECS countries have developed action plans or are updating their operational plans in support of prevention and reduction of incidence, morbidity and mortality due to NCDs;
- Research conducted and a National Strategic Action Plan for Prevention and Control of Childhood Obesity developed in two countries. Some OECS countries incorporated obesity component into their National NCD Strategic Action Plan;
- National NCD Commissions established in Barbados and throughout the OECS, which played a critical role for effective implementation through public education and advocacy;
- 70% of Member States (Barbados and OECS) achieved implementation of NCD Risk factor Survey (PanAm STEP Survey) and regular reporting system using minimum data set for NCD on NCD mortality and morbidity.

Outcome Five - Interventions



While main efforts under Outcome Five were focused around addressing HIV/AIDS and decreasing the incidences of non-communicable disease, there were also strides made in addressing sexual and reproductive health.

In the area of HIV/AIDS, capacity building efforts addressed gaps in knowledge in the development of national epidemiology profiles, HIV workplace policy development, human rights and creation of content to report on HIV/AIDS.

Research efforts provided an analysis of the national response to HIV and STIs with all actors involved from a health system perspective that take into account cross cutting themes (gender, equity, ethnicity and human rights). These efforts aimed at identifying actions at the policy, organizational and managerial levels and coordinating joint technical support to innovate and expand a sustainable, effective and efficient response, the achievement of the Fast-Track targets in 2020,

eventually ending AIDS and STI as public health problems by 2030. Following a health sector assessment in Antigua and Barbuda, a plan for the expansion and integration of HIV/STI and TB within primary care was developed. This plan was developed following wide consultation with MOH managers and national stakeholders. This plan also includes the strengthening of services for the elimination of the mother to child transmission of HIV and syphilis in the country so as to ensure the sustainability of the gains. Other research provided surveillance for HIV/AIDS using a case-based modality and provided information on HIV/AIDS and access to care and support by migrant workers in select informal economic sectors in Antigua and Barbuda and in Barbados. Baseline interviews were conducted for youth participation in decision making in Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Barbados.

Efforts also supported the development of HIV work place policies, integrated into Health and Wellness plans in Anguilla, BVI and Montserrat, Barbados, Grenada and Antigua and Barbuda. Barbados and Antigua and Barbuda are implementing the new Test and start policy. A Charter on HIV and Human Rights in the Workplace has been developed by the AIDS Foundation of Barbados Incorporated (AFBI), which is a joint initiative between the Barbados Employers' Confederation (BEC) and the Government of Barbados. There was also technical support provided for the first OECS Strategic Framework and Investment Case.

Assistance was provided to Ministries of Health in countries for verifying and documenting the evidences to support elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV and Syphilis. Four countries -Anguilla, BVI, Barbados and Saint Lucia - have submitted requests for validation.

HIV/AIDS advocacy initiatives mobilized 20 youth serving organizations in Grenada to work together on a national SRH/HIV advocacy agenda and to support OECS elimination communication activities to raise awareness that the Caribbean is the first region to eliminate mother to child transmission (MTCT) in 2015.

Efforts to address non-communicable diseases (NCDs) included a regional meeting on Alcohol Policy Development and Strategy for Implementation of Regional Action Plans and another on Implementation of Framework Convention of Tobacco Control. Member States developed their National Food-based Dietary Guidelines (FBDG) and disseminated the guidelines widely for prevention and control of NCDs at community, school-based and work-based settings.

Most of the OECS countries have developed action plans or are updating their operational plans in support of prevention and reduction of incidence, morbidity and mortality due to NCDs, with some OECS countries incorporating an obesity component. Seventy per cent (70%) of Member States (Barbados and OECS) achieved implementation of NCD Risk Factor Survey (PanAm STEP Survey) and regular reporting system using minimum data set for NCD mortality and morbidity. Further to this, National NCD Commissions were established in Barbados and throughout the OECS.

Ministries of Education, Universities and other allied institutions received assistance to improve planning and implementation of programmes for Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) in the Caribbean region. Six countries received support to strengthen the delivery of the Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) programme. A CARICOM-level Peer Education System was developed to support Ministries of Education in improving the quality of HFLE instruction and delivery in secondary institutions. Twenty senior technocrats from eight Teacher Training Colleges (TTC) aimed at capitalizing on opportunities for the institutionalization of quality HFLE instruction at these institutions, later taking the lessons to a wider array of TTC in the region.

In Grenada, technical assistance was provided in the shaping of a National Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy and Strategic Plan. A Draft OCES Model Reproductive Health Care Services and Protection Bill that focuses on adolescents' rights to SRH services was also developed and an action plan for regional mobilization was agreed with focused on policy development, capacity building and programme implementation. The Barbados Council for the Disabled was supported to implement the Sexual and Reproductive Health Programme, which led to the drafting of a Sexual and reproductive Health (SRH) Strategy for Persons with Disabilities (PWD).

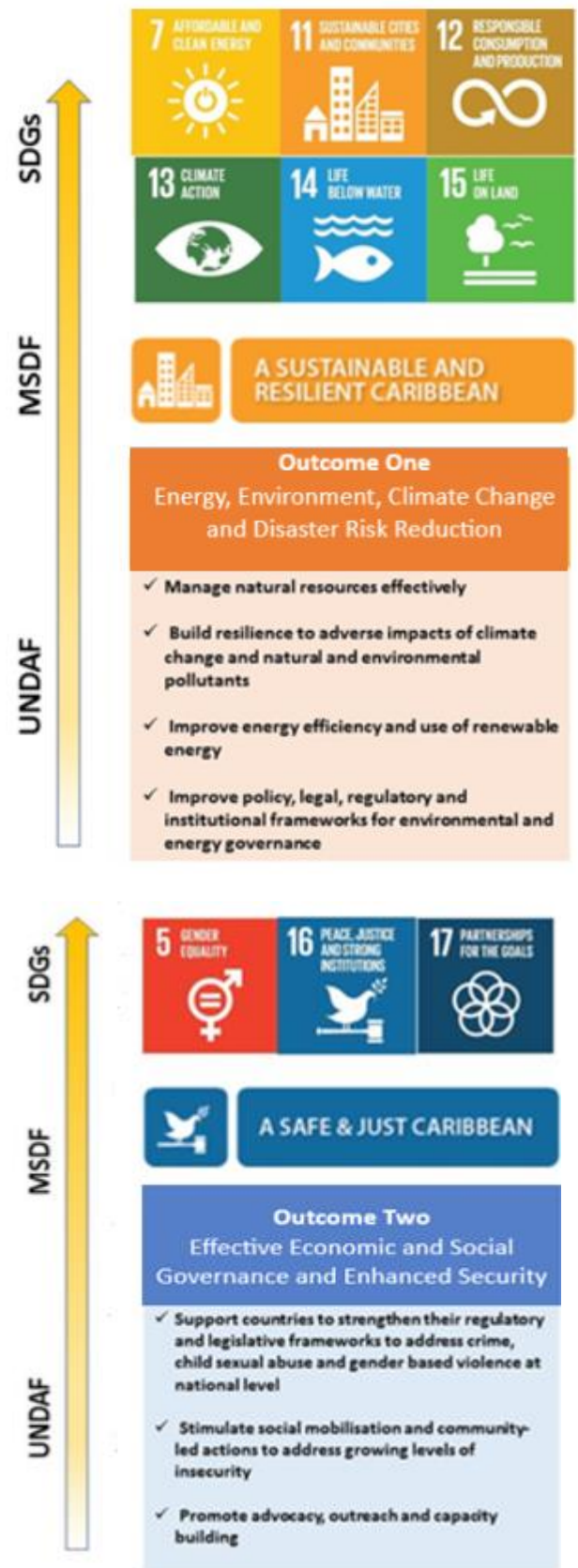
TRANSITION FROM 2012 – 2016 UNDAF TO 2017 – 2021 MSDF

Under the six pillars of the 2012-2016 UNDAF, the UN engaged in capacity building, data gathering, legislative and policy, advocacy, strategies and frameworks and national/community projects to create an enabling environment for sustainable development across the Subregion. Under this framework, the UN, in partnerships with governments, explored ways to advance the SDGs, which were approved in September 2015. The 2017-2021 MSDF was designed in collaboration with governments, with a critical eye to easing the transition from the core, distinctly defined Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to the expanded, interrelated and ambitious SDGs, which require a “whole of the UN” approach to support countries. Further, the MSDF represented a shift for the UN Subregional Team for working as a standalone team to working collaboratively with five other UN Country Teams to examine the common challenges facing the Caribbean and utilize regional resources to affect change at the country level.

Using the Common Multi-Country Assessments, the UN held consultations in 15 countries to identify national priorities that the UN could address. The four priority areas that emerged capture the foci of the six UNDAF pillars while accelerating the progress towards SDGs by safeguarding the jointly agreed commitments reflected in the human rights conventions and treaties. Bringing together six country teams (Barbados and the OECs, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago) and 18 governments across the English-speaking and Dutch Caribbean, the MSDF proposes a strategic programme focused on four priority areas: (i) An Inclusive, Equitable and Prosperous Caribbean; (ii) A Safe, Cohesive and Just Caribbean; (iii) A Healthy Caribbean and (iv) A Sustainable and Resilient Caribbean.

As illustrated below, the links between the six pillars of the UNDAF and the four priorities of the MSDF are evident. This is not surprising given the persistent nature of the challenges.

The UNDAF’s Outcome One, Energy, Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction is continued in the ‘A Sustainable and Resilient Caribbean’ pillar within the MSDF. Outcome One’s core aims were (i) managing natural resources effectively; (ii) building resilience to adverse impacts of climate change and natural and environmental pollutants; (iii) improving energy efficiency and use of renewable energy and (iv) improving policy, legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks for environmental and energy governance. These were well captured by intersecting goals, specifically SDG 7 ‘Affordable and Clean Energy;’ SDG ‘11 ‘Sustainable Cities and Communities;’ SDG 12 ‘Responsible Consumption and Production;’ SDG 13 ‘Climate Action;’ SDG 14 ‘Life Below Water’ and SDG 15 ‘Life on Land.’ These interrelated goals were condensed into the final outcomes of ‘A Sustainable and Resilient Caribbean’—(i) implementing policies and programmes for climate change



adaptation, disaster risk reduction and universal access to clean and sustainable energy and (ii) promoting adoption of inclusive and sustainable solutions for the conservation, restoration and use of ecosystems and natural resources.

Similarly, Outcome Two ‘Effective Economic and Social Governance and Enhanced Security’ under the UNDAF links to ‘A Safe and Just Caribbean’ pillar within the MSDF. The core aims of Outcome Two—(i) supporting countries to strengthen their regulatory and legislative frameworks to address crime, child sexual abuse and gender-based violence at the national level; (ii) stimulating social mobilisation and community-led actions to address growing levels of insecurity and (iii) promoting advocacy, outreach and capacity building—was well captured by SDG 16 ‘Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.’ However, to ensure that the people of the Caribbean, particularly women, youth, children, and other vulnerable groups can live full and productive lives, it was critical to incorporate SDG 5 ‘Gender equality’ and SDG 17 ‘Partnerships for the Goals.’ Rooted in these three SDGs, ‘A Safe, Cohesive and Just Caribbean’ aims to ultimately (i) reinforce equitable access to justice, protection, citizen security and safety and (ii) strengthen the capacities of public policy and rule of law institutions and civil society organizations.

The UNDAF’s Outcome Three, Social Protection and Poverty Reduction, and Outcome Six, Capacity Development and Institutional Strengthening, links to ‘An Inclusive, Equitable and Prosperous Caribbean’ pillar within the MSDF. Outcome Three, Social Protection and Poverty Reduction, had three core aims: (i) improving social protection services and systems to reduce poverty and inequity; (ii) supporting governments’ effective delivery of social protection services and (iii) improving targeting of beneficiaries and harmonisation of services across government departments. Like the aims of Outcome Six—(i) harmonizing social, environmental and economic data collection and (ii)



improving methods for poverty, gender and human inequality—lay the foundation for cross-cutting SDGs, ranging from SDG 1 ‘No Poverty,’ SDG 4 ‘Quality Education,’ SDG 5 ‘Gender Equality,’ SDG 16 ‘Peace, Justice and Strong Institution,’ SDG 8 ‘Decent Work and Economic Growth,’ SDG 10 ‘Reduced Inequalities’ and SDG 17 ‘Partnership for Goals.’ Through the Inclusive, Equitable and Prosperous Caribbean pillar the UN will support the Caribbean governments to (i) increase access to quality education and life-long learning to enhance employability and decent and sustainable economic development and (ii) improve access to equitable social protection systems and quality services.

The UNDAF's Outcome Four, Food and Nutrition Security, and Outcome Five, Public Health: HIV/AIDS and NCDs can also be seen in the 'A Healthy Caribbean' pillar within the MSDF. Outcome Four, Food and Nutrition Security, whose core aims were (i) supporting food and nutrition security and (ii) strengthening policy, legislative frameworks for a sustainable production environment was well captured by SDG 2 'Zero Hunger.'

Outcome Five, Public Health: HIV/AIDS and NCDs, core aims were (i) promoting and implement policies to address stigma and discrimination in vulnerable populations; (ii) improving availability and access to user friendly private and public health care services and (iii) strengthening national surveillance of NCD and HIV/AIDS and institutional capacities for a multi-sectoral response to HIV/AIDS. These are well captured by SDG 3 'Good Health and Well-Being.' However, to promote 'A Healthy Caribbean,' specifically improving universal access to quality health care services and systems as well as introducing laws, policies and systems to support healthy lifestyles among all segments of the population, it was critical to incorporate SDG 1 'No Poverty,' SDG 8 'Decent Work and Economic Growth,' SDG 10 'Reduced Inequalities,' SDG 16 'Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions' and SDG 17 'Partnerships for the Goals.'



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