

WHAT CAN UNDP OFFER?

UNDP's institutional character and core strengths shape the choices we have made about our work in the future. We are one of the few multilateral development agencies working holistically across sectors and across the world.

UNDP is:

- Recognized as being **neutral**, able to act as an impartial facilitator of dialogue and cooperation on important development issues;
- **Trusted** due to long-standing relationships at the country level, maintained through good times and bad;
- Able to draw on **knowledge and expertise gained in all development settings**, thus able to grasp and respond flexibly to common concerns and important differences between countries and regions;
- Geared to **address development issues as they actually exist**— complex, multi-dimensional and often unique to each society;
- Acknowledged as a **partner who can advise on the 'big' issues of economic and social transformation, reduction in poverty and inequality**, environmental stability and democratic governance, as well as help develop the plans and capacities to deliver on them; and
- Seen widely as having a **strong operational capability**, deployable in widely varying conditions.



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

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DEVELOPMENT IN ACTION

UNDP

IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



Photo courtesy Martin Murrell

UNDP TRINIDAD & TOBAGO:

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) established its office in Trinidad and Tobago in 1961, and has been supporting and facilitating national development in-country for over fifty years.

UNDPs key focus areas include poverty reduction; energy and the environment; democratic governance; rule of law/citizen security; youth development. Over the years UNDP has solidified strong partnerships with the Government Ministries and Agencies, Civil Society Organisations and the Private Sector. These relationships have enabled and contributed to UNDPs service delivery and impact.

UNDP aims to create an enabling environment where the Government has the capacities for inclusive and sustainable human development.

United Nations Volunteers (UNVs)

The UNV Programme is the focal point for volunteerism. It is inspired by the principle that volunteerism can transform the pace and nature of development. UNVs have made significant contributions to the reduction of poverty, economic, social and political development and the health and well-being of millions of people worldwide. In Trinidad and Tobago UNVs have assisted in building institutional capacities of various Government Ministries/Agencies, including UNDP, by providing international and national volunteers who provide technical expertise and share knowledge.



WHAT ARE UNDPs FOCUS AREAS?

Poverty Reduction and Social Policy

UNDPs mission is to help Trinidad and Tobago eradicate poverty and reduce inequalities and exclusion. UNDP informs policy and programme development through a mixture of policy advice, advocacy and downstream initiatives through various poverty-related projects and initiatives. UNDP programming includes: project implementation and oversight of the development of the 'Arima Poverty Profile' in partnership with the Ministry of the People and Social Development and the Central Statistical Office (CSO); meeting the need for data at the micro/community level.

Energy and the Environment



In Trinidad and Tobago environmental degradation is a key concern; it often results in environmental challenges such as flooding; widespread pollution of waterways and coastal areas; illegal dumping; deforestation; excessive soil erosion; and depletion of fisheries and wildlife. UNDP assists the Government with the implementation and management of various programmes which helps to minimize the negative impacts.

The Global Environment Facility's (GEF) Small Grants Programme implemented by UNDP offers funding to civil society organisations to help communities build resilience by responding and adapting to climate change.

Democratic Governance

UNDP has been working with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, through initiatives that seek to facilitate an environment for trust-building and consensual decision-making. Once such example is the UNDPs collaboration with the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago to strengthen its executing functions, so as to better serve the people of Trinidad and Tobago.

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Citizen Security & Youth Development

"Violent crime can be overcome if a right mix of policies and programmes are carried out to prevent violence." UNDP Caribbean Human Development Report 2012.

UNDP has deepened its focus in the area of Rule of Law, Citizen Security and Youth Development. UNDP will help build institutional capacity to tackle crime and violence; provide technical expertise to the Government; support criminal justice reform; and help boost preventative measures with special focus on youth.

UNDP programming includes: project implementation and oversight for the Trinidad and Tobago Juvenile Court Project in partnership with the Judiciary; mentoring trainees of the On-The-Job (OJT) Programme and enabling them to work with UN/ UNDP staff on national development projects; collaborating with the Ministry of Gender, Child and Youth Development on youth programming; and supporting the Ministry of National Security and its agencies where required in the response to crime.

