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In

Trinidad and Tobago



Common Country Assessment 2012 -2016



Trinidad and Tobago
United Nations
Common Country Assessment

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"We must not fail the billions who look to the international community to fulfil the promise of the Millennium Declaration for a better world."

Ban Ki Moon, United Nations Secretary General

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

CCA	-	Common Country Assessment
CSO	-	Central Statistical Office
EC	-	European Commission
ECLAC	-	Economic Commission for Latin America & the Caribbean
EIU	-	Economic Intelligence Unit
FAO	-	Food and Agriculture Organization
GDP	-	Gross Domestic Product
GNI	-	Gross National Income
IADB	-	Inter-American Development Bank
ILO	-	International Labour Organization
MDGs	-	Millennium Development Goals
M&E	-	Monitoring & Evaluation
NACC	-	National AIDS Coordinating Committee
NGO	-	Non-Government Organization
PAHO	-	Pan American Health Organization
RHA	-	Regional Health Authority
TCPR	-	Triennial Comprehensive Policy Review
THA	-	Tobago House of Assembly
UN	-	United Nations
UNAIDS	-	United Nations Joint Programme on HIV & AIDS
UNCT	-	United Nations Country Team
UNDAF	-	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	-	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	-	United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	-	United Nations Population Fund
UNIC	-	United Nations Information Centre
UNICEF	-	United Nations Children Emergency Fund
UNIFEM	-	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UWI	-	University of the West Indies

Executive Summary

Trinidad and Tobago and the United Nations Common Country Assessment

The Country Common Assessment (CCA) and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) are analytical and planning instruments developed by the United Nations (UN) to assist the UN Country Teams worldwide to identify and formulate joint programme plans. The CCA is intended to analyze the national development situation and to identify key development issues. It is meant to support, strengthen and inform the national development planning process and ensure that the UN response at the country level is aligned with national development priorities.

The United Nations system in Trinidad and Tobago comprises 13 entities. The last CCA document was completed in 2006 and the last UNDAF, covering the period 2007-2011, was signed in March 2008. The next programming cycle for the UN system in Trinidad and Tobago is 2012-2016. As such, the UN Country Team is beginning work on a new programme strategy for this period. At a UN Strategic Positioning Workshop held in August 2010, the UN Country Team agreed to adjust the common country programming process. The Team decided to develop a CCA 'issues paper' rather than a full CCA. This 'issues paper' is different from a full CCA in that it does not benefit from wide ranging consultation with government and other partners, via the formation of thematic groups or otherwise. The main aim of this CCA 'issues paper' is to indicate areas of potential cooperation among UN agencies in order to inform the planning for the period 2012-2016. In addition, the Team agreed not to undertake a formal UNDAF but instead to focus on the development and implementation of UN joint programmes.

Trinidad and Tobago: Profile and the Development Framework

Trinidad and Tobago is a twin-island unitary state situated at the southernmost base of the Caribbean Archipelago. Trinidad covers 4,827 sq km and Tobago 301 sq km. They became independent from Britain in 1962 and became a republican parliamentary democracy in 1976.

National general elections were held unexpectedly in 2010 with a new People's Partnership coalition government taking power from the People's National Movement (PNM). This coalition comprises United National Congress (UNC), Congress of the People (COP), National Joint Action Committee (NJAC), the Tobago Organisation of the People (TOP) and the Movement for Social Justice (MSJ).

Recent estimates indicate that the population now stands at approximately 1.33m. The majority of the population is of primarily African (37.5%) and East Indian origin (40%). The country's population growth rate has slowed in the last two decades, and is less than 1% annually. Total life expectancy at birth rose slightly from 68 in 2004 to 69 in 2008. Over the past

decade there have been demographic shifts which have led to an increasing elderly population, a shrinking youth population and an increase in those transitioning from working age to retired.

In 2009 Trinidad and Tobago's GDP was approximately US\$21.2bn. This wealth stems primarily from its oil and gas reserves. While the country experienced over 15 years consecutive growth up to 2007, and grew faster than most other countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, the global economic downturn affected the country more than the rest of the region. Growth was recorded at over -3% in 2009 as a result of the global financial crisis, the reduction in energy prices, weaker demand for other exports, and the collapse of CL Financial, a large financial conglomerate. Growth is expected to pick up in 2011.

Trinidad and Tobago ranked 59 on the 2010 Human Development Index (HDI) and remains in the *High Human Development* category. Average life expectancy continues to be nearly 70 years, and in 2008 adult literacy was measured at 98.7%. With respect to the new multidimensional measures of inequality and poverty, the country has a value of 0.621 on the 2010 Inequality-adjusted Human Development Index (IHDI). While this only decreases its HDI ranking by 2 points, it represents a loss of over 15% in human development. The last national survey of living conditions in 2005 recorded a level of poverty as 16.7%. While trends show a reduction in poverty indicators, there is also evidence of highly concentrated "pockets of poverty" which reveal continuing inequity.

The People's Partnership administration has indicated that it is embarking on a new national "Framework for Sustainable Development" with which it aims to promote a process of people-centred development. The overarching framework is articulated in the election manifesto: "*Prosperity for All: The People's Manifesto*", developed by the People's Partnership prior to the national election in May 2010. This document has been adopted as government policy and outlines seven interconnected pillars as the basis of the development strategy:

- i. Fostering people-centred development
- ii. Moving towards poverty eradication and promoting greater social justice
- iii. Ensuring national and personal security
- iv. Expanding the use and availability of information and communication technologies
- v. Building a more diversified, knowledge intensive economy
- vi. Entrenching good governance
- vii. Presenting an accommodating foreign policy

Current Challenges – A UN Framework for Analysis

Many of the challenges outlined in the 2006 CCA persist in 2011. There has been progress in some areas but this progress is often difficult to illustrate because supporting data is very limited. Indeed, one of the fundamental challenges expressed by researchers, policy and programme makers is the absence of accessible recent data and statistical analysis in all areas. The Ministry of Social Development published a 2005 Survey of Living Conditions Report on Trinidad & Tobago and a Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 3 (MICS3), Monitoring the Situation

of Women and Children, was published in 2006 with the support of UNICEF. More recent information is very limited. A national census was launched in January 2011 and is ongoing at the time of writing.

The following section reviews the country's main challenges using the three pillars of the UN – *development, human rights, and peace and security* - as a framework for analysis.

Development Challenges

Poverty, Food Security and Employment

At the end of 2005, the level of poverty was estimated at 16.7% and the level of indigence had decreased from 8.3% in 1998 to 1.2%. Poverty estimates at the time confirmed the concentration of poverty in specific geographic areas and among certain sub-groups of the population. The north-east and the south-west of the island of Trinidad were the two poorest areas. The majority of heads of poor households were in the age group 41-60. Females constituted 38.8% of heads households below the poverty level. The poverty data suggests a youthful dimension to poverty in that persons within the 0-19 years age group accounted for 53.1% of the indigent; 43.8% of the poor and 38.9% of the vulnerable. This data points to a situation in which stabilization and over 10 years of consecutive growth have failed to deliver improvements in social conditions everywhere. The People's Partnership has indicated its intention to reduce the number of poor by 2% per year. Funding for the social sector is the largest public expenditure. Transfers and subsidies are estimated to be 16% of total public expenditures in 2011.

Food security is another concern as there is an emerging risk that lower-income groups are becoming less food secure. Persistent inequity, increasing inflation rates and a sharp decline in agriculture threaten the levels of malnutrition in Trinidad and Tobago. Substantial increases in retail food prices have been observed, in particular since 2005. In addition, the farming sector is being affected by changes in climate, including abnormal weather patterns, unusually hot weather in the dry season, and heavy rainfall that often results in flooding and loss of crop and livestock. The FAO is currently supporting the government in the preparation of a national strategic plan for the agricultural sector.

The 2005 Survey of Living Conditions which was used for the last CCA reported an unemployment rate of 4.5%. This rose to over 5.8% in 2009. However, overall employment masks significantly higher unemployment among the poor, particularly among poor women—unemployment among poor men and women was equal to 9.8% and 17.6% respectively in 2005. Adhering to the policies of the Decent Work Agenda established by the ILO is part of the government's strategy for achieving a more equitable distribution of wealth. The ILO is providing technical expertise to support initiatives by government, employers and trade unions to fulfill the objectives under these policies.

Education

Trinidad and Tobago will most likely reach the target that all children, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary education. Secondary education is also considered universal and with gender parity. Both primary and secondary education are free and the country has placed a priority on education with support measures including free transportation, book grants, free meals through a School Nutrition Programme. However, while enrolment and literacy rates are high, there is data from the Ministry of Education that shows that many first year secondary school students have problems with literacy and numeracy. The differences between the performance of students is marked by household income as well as by whether the students are in rural or urban areas. In addition, there is evidence that students who attend denominational schools and private schools tend to perform better than those that attend public government (free) schools. There are also problems with truancy and with violence and crime in schools.

Health

In general significant progress has been made over the last 10 years in improving the health status of the population of Trinidad and Tobago. There have been noteworthy reductions in neo-natal and maternal mortality. The health sector in Trinidad and Tobago has undergone a transformation over the last decade with support from the Inter-American Development Bank in the form of a Health Sector Reform Programme. Since 2006 PAHO/WHO technical cooperation has focused on health system strengthening and essential medicines; surveillance and evidence based decision making; quality, environmental health and sustainable development; communicable disease prevention and control; CNCDs prevention and control and the promotion of healthy lifestyles; family and community health; and effective PAHO/WHO representation. However, there are still significant challenges in the sector. These include:

- Organisation and management of the health sector (systems and services)
- Improving the performance of the health care delivery system
- Addressing priority diseases and populations
- Addressing the socioeconomic and environmental determinants of health

PAHO is currently supporting the MOH in the development of its 5 year national health plan. A country cooperation strategy (2011-2015) is also under discussion and will be finalised with the government once its own health plan is completed.

With regard to HIV infection, current trends show new infection rates in women are higher than in men. Available information shows infection rates in girls have dramatically outstripped boys over the last five years. This has been correlated to an increase in early sexual orientation which puts girls at high risk for HIV infection. In its response to HIV & AIDS, Trinidad and Tobago operates on the '**Three Ones**' principle agreed by Caribbean Community Countries:

- One national AIDS coordinating authority with a broad-based multi-sectoral mandate
- One AIDS action framework to coordinate the work of all partners
- One national monitoring and evaluation system

The data on the increasing infection rates among young girls points to the need for significant attention to be paid to prevention, particularly in young people, as well as care.

Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change

Environmental degradation remains a major issue for Trinidad and Tobago. The country experiences many environmental problems, from flooding, widespread pollution of its waterways and coastal areas, illegal dumping, deforestation, excessive soil erosion, fisheries and wildlife depletion. As a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), Trinidad and Tobago is highly vulnerable to natural disasters (tropical storms, earthquakes, floods and droughts) as well as climate change and sea level rise. Higher temperatures, rises in sea level and increased rainfall and storm activity threaten lives, property and livelihoods. In all, the country's contribution to total emissions is small but CO2 emissions rose from 23.5 metric tons per capita in 2005 to 27.9 in 2007. Per capita emissions are significantly higher than those of other Caribbean countries and marginally higher than that of the United States. Focus is now needed on both mitigation and adaptation. So far, though, greater efforts in the Caribbean have focused mainly on adaptation. Mitigation should focus on transitioning Caribbean countries to low-carbon based economies structured on well-defined national energy policies. The promotion of energy-efficiency and use of alternatives to fossil fuels need to become regional and national priorities.

Peace and Security Challenges

Governance

There is evidence that good governance in Trinidad and Tobago can be significantly strengthened. In 2009, Trinidad and Tobago received a ranking of 44.8% in Political Stability from the World Bank. Rule of Law rated at 49.1%. Voice and Accountability was rated at 61.1% and Government Effectiveness was at 64.4%. Control of corruption at 55.7%, highlighted the level of exercise of public power for private gain, including petty and grand corruption and state capture. These statistics reveal the challenge of governance and the need for improvement in all areas. The new government has indicated that it is putting measures in place to promote transparency and proper governance in ministries and states bodies in an effort to maintain control of corruption.

Crime

Crime and violence are key constraints to both peace and security in Trinidad and Tobago, but also to development. Crime has risen dramatically over the last 10 to 15 years. It is generally agreed that intra-regional drug trafficking is behind the high rates of crime and violence, and that the explosion of the international drug trade has institutionalised criminal behaviour, increased property-related crime by drug users and underpinned a steady increase in the availability of firearms. The government has articulated its decision to pursue a multipronged approach in an effort to address the political, economic, social, technological and managerial dimensions required to promote safety and security. To date, the government is being supported in these efforts by a Citizens Security Programme funded by the Inter-American Development Bank. In addition, the UNDP is about to launch a Caribbean regional human development report on Citizen Security. The UN Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-LiREC) is assisting in building capacity in Trinidad and Tobago in the areas of firearms destruction and stockpile management.

Human Rights Challenges

The Rights of Women

Even though completion rates at both secondary and tertiary education institutions are higher for women than for men (at the University of the West Indies 70% of enrolments are women) this is not reflected in equally high rates of women in senior policy-making or decision-making positions in either the public or private sectors. Women have the most vulnerable forms of unemployment and dominate the informal sector, with little benefits or security. A National Gender Policy has been in development for several years and it is hoped that the People's Partnership will finally complete it and advance its implementation. At the same time, there is a worrying trend of male under-achievement in education. The Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education articulated the need to address the issue of male under-representation and underachievement at almost all levels of the educational system in its recently Cabinet approved policy on Tertiary Education, Technical Vocational Education and Training, and Lifelong Learning in Trinidad and Tobago (2010).

The high levels of crime and violence in Trinidad and Tobago are reflected in the high rates of violence directed against women. This includes sexual violence and assault, sexual harassment, domestic violence and abuse and incest. Deaths from cases of domestic violence quadrupled from 2004 to 2008, while the amount of cases of domestic violence reported to police have increased by 60 percent, according to statistics released in the Senate in 2009. The government has pledged to accelerate efforts to combat violence against women and participated at a high level on the UN Secretary General's UNITE campaign to end violence against women.

Core Human Rights Conventions

Trinidad and Tobago has not submitted reports on the Core Human Rights instruments since 2003. This may be a reflection of several issues including the lack of reporting capacity, limited human resources to dedicate to reporting and the prioritisation of other activities within Ministries. With the Periodic Review scheduled for October 2011, Ministries may require significant support in reporting. In general many of the recommendations from the last reviews of the instruments have been implemented by Trinidad and Tobago. However, implementation of these recommendations, including the creation of the Children's Authority, a Family Court, a DNA testing law, etc. do not guarantee that human rights of children, for example, are being upheld. More in-depth analysis is needed to gauge the extent of the internalisation of these human rights principles.

The UN System and Joint Programming in Trinidad and Tobago

The United Nations has traditionally been a trusted development partner in Trinidad and Tobago, though it does not bring the financial resources that other organisations or institutions

have access to. During a UN Strategic Positioning Workshop in August 2010 and at an end of year retreat in December 2010, the UN Country Team agreed to advance common country programming for 2011 through the development of two joint programmes:

- ❖ Joint Programme 1: Poverty Alleviation and Wealth Creation in Trinidad and Tobago (MDG1)
- ❖ Joint Programme 2: Social Statistics

In addition, it was agreed that for 2012-2016, the UN would focus on joint programming in an effort to support the priority areas that are emerging from the new government administration and that will be further articulated in the sectoral and strategic plans that each Ministry is currently engaged in producing. Therefore, the focus for 2012-2016 is on areas where programming can be undertaken collectively. In Trinidad and Tobago, most UN offices bring mainly technical expertise to inform policy, build capacity and support programme implementation. UN entities in Trinidad and Tobago collaborate through the joint team on HIV and AIDS, and theme groups on gender, MDGs (poverty and statistics), communications, emergencies, and common services. Collaboration also takes place on an individual agency/office basis also in an effort to combine limited financial and human resources to achieve a larger outcome and reduce duplication of effort.

Recommended Key areas for cooperation

It is evident that there are many challenges to Trinidad and Tobago's development efforts. The future success of the UN in Trinidad and Tobago hinges on its ability to:

- Adapt to a changing environment
- Demonstrate its relevance
- Address its institutional weaknesses
- Build on its strengths

In this regard, it is advisable that the UN needs to choose just a few areas in which to contribute collectively to the emerging development framework. There are several areas that have emerged during the consultations for this CCA as areas for possible collaboration among the UN entities for the period 2012-2016. Activities in each of these areas could be subsumed as part of the existing Joint Programmes, particularly Joint Programme 1: Poverty Alleviation and Wealth Creation in Trinidad and Tobago (MDG 1). Alternatively, activities can be pursued through the theme groups or through other methods of collaboration among the UN entities.

These areas include:

- Increasing the capacity of the government to report on human rights (including support to the Human Rights Bureau in the Ministry of the Attorney General) and working to strengthen human rights in the public and private sectors.
- Continuing the work of the UN Joint Team on HIV and AIDS in support of the new National Strategic Plan for HIV and AIDS.
- Strengthening health systems including health care delivery, human resource planning, medicine and technology, health financing, information systems and good governance.
- Taking a social determinants of health approach to development and working on the structural drivers which affect daily living conditions; including support for the follow-up

of the UN High Level Meeting on chronic non-communicable diseases which will be held in 2011.

- Supporting youth development and the wellbeing of children, including early childhood care; strengthened support for quality education, support to innovative youth programmes, and increased efforts to help disadvantaged children.
- Increased joint UN advocacy.

"we will not enjoy development without security, we will not enjoy security without development, and we will not enjoy either without respect for human rights."

Kofi Annan, Former United Nations Secretary General, "In Larger Freedom", 2005

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Trinidad and Tobago and the United Nations Common Country Assessment

The Country Common Assessment (CCA) and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) are analytical and planning instruments developed by the United Nations (UN) to assist the UN Country Teams worldwide to identify and formulate joint programme plans. Since 1999 the United Nations system around the world has used various joint programming instruments in an effort to deliver products, programmes and services as one UN. The CCA and UNDAF are intended to facilitate planning, coordination, resource mobilization and management in an effort to increase the impact and the relevance of the United Nations in the field.

The CCA is intended to analyze the national development situation and to identify key development issues. It is meant to support, strengthen and inform the national development planning process and ensure that the UN response at the country level is aligned with national development priorities. The UNDAF is a common planning instrument for the UN work in country which emerges from the issues and priorities identified in the CCA.

The United Nations system in Trinidad and Tobago comprises 13 entities, nine of which are based in the country and four that have offices elsewhere but undertake activities in the country¹. The last CCA document was completed in 2006 and the last UNDAF, covering the period 2007-2011, was signed in March 2008. Since the last CCA, there have been a number of developments in Trinidad and Tobago, including:

- Two national general elections. The first was held in 2007 and the sitting administration the People's National Movement was re-elected. The second was in 2010, two years before it was constitutionally due. At that time a coalition government, the People's Partnership, was elected to office, with the first women Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago heading the coalition.
- The global financial crisis which resulted in a reversal of growth and the collapse of one of the country's main financial institutions, CL Financial, which was taken over by government in an effort to assist investors, particularly the 225,000 policy holders of the Colonial Life Insurance Company (CLICO).
- A significant rise in the levels of criminal activity and violence in society.
- The Manifesto developed by the People's Partnership which the government has indicated forms the basis of its people-centred sustainable development framework for the country.

¹ UN agencies or offices in Trinidad and Tobago: The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), The International Labour Organisation (ILO), The Pan-American Health Organisation (PAHO/WHO), The UN Joint Programme of HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS), The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); The United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

1.2 The Scope and Methodology of the CCA

The next programming cycle for the UN system in Trinidad and Tobago is 2012-2016. As such, the UN Country Team is beginning work on a new programme strategy for this period. The process usually commences with a Common Country Assessment (CCA). UN guidelines for the CCA suggest that it should be undertaken with close involvement of government partners as well as civil society and the private sector. However, the UN Country Team has recognized that comprehensive engagement with these partners for such an exercise is a challenge at this time. This may be because of a number of reasons including: the country became a net contributing country in 2008; delays in developing and delivering programmes; limited resources to service international conventions and other obligations.

As a result, at a UN Strategic Positioning Workshop held in August 2010, the UN Country Team agreed to adjust the common country programming process. The Team decided to develop a CCA 'issues paper' rather than a full CCA. This 'issues paper' is different from a full CCA in that it does not benefit from wide ranging consultation with government and other partners, via the formation of thematic groups or otherwise. In the context of these decisions, the methodology for this CCA 'issues paper' incorporated:

- Desk review of relevant documents including the current CCA document prepared in 2006, the last UNDAF, other relevant UN reports and reports of different specialized agencies (ECLAC, WHO, ILO, UNDP, UNICEF) including Millennium Development Goals reports.
- Review of important government and non government reports, policies, papers, and statements describing the development challenges in the country. Review of the publications of institutions working on development issues, including the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the European Union, and CARICOM.
- Consultation with the UN agencies, including the Country Team.
- Consultations with other international donor organizations including the IDB and the EU.

The main aim of this CCA 'issues paper' is to indicate areas of potential cooperation among UN agencies in order to inform the planning for the period 2012-2016. In addition, the Team agreed not to undertake a formal UNDAF but instead to focus on the development and implementation of UN joint programmes.

1.3 The Structure of the CCA

The three main pillars of United Nations work are *development, human rights, and peace and security*. Within these broad areas, the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki Moon, has indicated that his priorities are climate change, disarmament, combating the global financial crisis and

poverty, global health, peace and security and women². This CCA is structured around the three UN pillars and the analysis of the development challenges is underpinned by the UN Millennium Declaration and the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The paper follows the general guidelines for the CCA developed by the United Nations Development Group (UNDG). To this end, Section 2 provides a brief profile of Trinidad and Tobago and the development priorities identified by the People’s Partnership government. Section 3 focuses on the development challenges and Section 4 considers the challenges of joint programming in Trinidad and Tobago. Section 5 discusses the areas of potential cooperation among UN offices working in Trinidad and Tobago. The Annexes include lists of the persons interviewed, the work of the UN Theme Groups in Trinidad and Tobago, some key UN reports, MDG indicators and a donor matrix. The indicator framework for the MDGs was developed by the Ministry of Planning during the last CCA/UNDAF exercise. While the Ministry is in the process of developing new indicators to track progress related to the current administration’s new development agenda, these indicators may still be useful in illustrating Trinidad and Tobago’s current situation.

2.0 Country Background

2.1 Profile of Trinidad and Tobago

2.1.1 Overview

Trinidad and Tobago is a twin-island unitary state situated at the southernmost base of the Caribbean Archipelago, 590.32 kilometres (km) from the coast of Venezuela. Trinidad covers 4,827 sq km and Tobago 301 sq km. They became independent from Britain in 1962 and became a republican parliamentary democracy in 1976. The country remains a member of the British Commonwealth.

Government comprises three independent arms – the Legislature, the Executive, and the Judiciary. Legislative power resides in the bicameral Parliament - the House of Representatives comprised of elected members and the Senate comprised of appointed members. Executive authority lies with the Prime Minister and his Cabinet. The Judiciary is a full system of domestic and appellate courts headed by a Chief Justice. Final appellate power rests with the Judicial

² UN Secretary General priorities: <http://www.un.org/sg/priority.shtml>

The Eight MDGs:

-  **1** Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
-  **2** Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education
-  **3** Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women
-  **4** Goal 4: Reduce child mortality
-  **5** Goal 5: Improve maternal health
-  **6** Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
-  **7** Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability
-  **8** Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development

Committee of the Privy Council in the UK. Tobago is administered separately by the Tobago House of Assembly (THA), established in 1980.

National general elections were held unexpectedly in 2010 with a new People's Partnership coalition government taking power from the People's National Movement (PNM). This coalition comprises United National Congress (UNC), Congress of the People (COP), National Joint Action Committee (NJAC), the Tobago Organisation of the People (TOP) and the Movement for Social Justice (MSJ).

2.1.2 Population

The 2000 national census indicated that the population of Trinidad and Tobago was 1.3million. The next population and housing census is currently underway, however recent estimates indicate that the population now stands at approximately 1.33m³. The majority of the population is of primarily African (37.5%) and East Indian origin (40%). The census identified 20.5% of the national population as Mixed origin. The remaining 2% consist of smaller groups including Caucasians, Portuguese, Chinese, Syrians, Lebanese, and Amerindians.⁴ Roman Catholicism accounted for 26% of the populations practicing religion. Pentecostalism accounted for 6.8%. Anglicans were 7.8% and Baptists 7.2%. Hindus and Muslims continued to account for 22.6% and 5.8% respectively of the population.

The country's population growth rate has slowed in the last two decades, and is less than 1% annually. The crude birth rate declined from 21 to 15 live births per 1000 between 1990 and 2008. The crude death rate was 7 in 1990, rising to 8 by 2008. Total life expectancy at birth rose slightly from 68 in 2004 to 69 in 2008. In 2010 male/female life expectancy was recorded at 66.4/73.4⁵.

Over the past decade there have been shifts in the age structure of the population that are expected to continue. The 0-19 age group was 43.6% in 1990 and is anticipated to decline to 27% by 2015 and further to 26.7% by 2020. The 20-59 age group has been growing steadily from 40% in 1990 to a projected level of 61% in 2010. It is expected to decrease slightly by 2020. The 60+ age group grew from 8% of the population in 1990 to 9.3% in 2005. This group is expected to see the most growth reaching to 12.2% by 2010 and almost doubling to 15% by 2020.⁶

³ (2008) Economist Intelligence Unit, Trinidad and Tobago Country Report, <<http://country.eiu.com/Trinidad%20and%20Tobago>>

⁴ 2000 National Population and Housing Census, Central Statistical Office, Trinidad and Tobago

⁵ UNFPA State of the World Population 2010

⁶ *“Achieving the Well-Being of All Children in Trinidad and Tobago with an Equity Strategy”*, Agu, A. Braithwaite, J. Braimoch, S. Presented to Caribbean Child Research Conference, Kingston, Jamaica, October 2010.

2.1.3 Economy

In 2009 Trinidad and Tobago's GDP was approximately US\$21.2bn.⁷ This wealth stems primarily from its oil and gas reserves. The natural gas and petrochemical sector accounted for over 40% of GDP, about 90% of exports and 60% of government revenue in 2006. This sector employed an estimated 5% of the work force in 2009, while the Agriculture, Manufacturing and Service sectors contributed approximately 1%, 19% and 40% respectively to GDP while employing 4%, 7% and 63% respectively of the workforce⁸. The currency, the Trinidad and Tobago Dollar (TT\$), has hovered around the level of TT\$6.2 : US\$1 since 1998, fluctuating only mildly. Tobago's economy is driven by tourism and public service employment. Employment in tourism was estimated at 14,000 in 2009, or 47.6% of total employment on the island.⁹

While the country experienced over 15 years consecutive growth up to 2007, and grew faster than most other countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, the global economic downturn affected the country more than the rest of the region. Growth was recorded at over -3% in 2009 as a result of the global financial crisis, the reduction in energy prices, weaker demand for other exports, and the collapse of CL Financial, a large financial conglomerate. Unemployment levels rose to 6.7% in the first quarter of 2010. Inflation surged, as well as food prices. Growth was anticipated to be recorded at 2.5% by the end of 2010¹⁰ and is expected to pick up in 2011.

A statement by an International Monetary Fund (IMF) Mission to the country in November 2010 reported that Trinidad and Tobago entered the period of crisis from a position of strength, with large fiscal surpluses and low debt¹¹. In its Annual report, published on 14th January, 2011, international rating agency Standard and Poor's indicated that Trinidad and Tobago's long term outlook remains stable with an 'A' foreign currency and 'A+' local currency long-term sovereign credit ratings. At the same time, the country received an 'A-1' short-term rating.

The report indicated that these ratings "reflect a solid external and fiscal profile resulting from several years of high energy prices, as well as significant off-budget and contingent" planning. The Heritage and Stabilisation Fund, a fund intended to cushion or sustain public expenditure in times of revenue downturn and to provide a heritage for future generations, has a balance of around US\$3bn¹², or 12% of GDP, while the various other deposits and development funds held by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago have approximately US\$2.8bn¹³. These provide important buffers to help deal with both the external and domestic shocks. As with most countries dealing with the effects of the global situation, the immediate priority is to support economic activity, as well as economic diversification and structural reform. The IMF has recommended that over the medium term, economic policy needs to focus on ensuring that

⁷ World Bank, World Development Indicators, 2009

⁸ Central Intelligence Agency. World Fact Book 2009

⁹ World Travel and Tourism Council, Travel and Tourism: Economic Impact Update, Trinidad and Tobago, 2009.

¹⁰ Winston Dookeran, Minister of Finance, National Budget 2011, September 2010

¹¹ Statement by an IMF Mission to Trinidad and Tobago, Press Release No. 10/423, November 9, 2010

¹² During the 2011 budget presentation, the Minister of Finance estimated the Fund to be at approx. \$3.3Bn.

¹³ Economist Intelligence Unit, Trinidad and Tobago Country Report 2010

public debt remains sustainable as well as rebuilding buffers. A further World Bank suggestion is that the government improve the statistical infrastructure in the country¹⁴.

In late 2010, the new government administration indicated that future government spending in the short and medium term will be affected by: (1) unsettled wage negotiations with public servants; (2) assistance to the failed financial institutions, including CL Financial and the Hindu Credit Union (which could account for TT\$3.6bn); and (3) outstanding monies due to public sector contractors of around TT\$6.8bn.

While the new administration has indicated that the state alone cannot drive the economy, several investment programmes designed to stimulate economic activity were announced at the end of 2010. Two new infrastructure projects involve the extension of a major highway and the development of a dam reservoir, and will involve over US\$940m and may generate up to 27,000 jobs. Funds of US\$500m drawn from an Inter-American Development Bank loan package will finance activities in public-sector management, energy, water and sanitation, transport and social sectors. These include an overhaul and expansion of the main road network, which it is hoped will provide a boost to the stagnating construction sector and in turn impact on employment and income generation.

2.2 Development Framework

2.2.1 The development snapshot

Trinidad and Tobago ranked 59 on the 2010 Human Development Index¹⁵ (HDI). While it has moved down two places in the ranking since the last CCA, it remains in the *High Human Development* category. Average life expectancy continues to be nearly 70 years, and in 2008 adult literacy was measured at 98.7%. With respect to the new multidimensional measures of inequality and poverty, the country has a value of 0.621 on the 2010 Inequality-adjusted Human Development Index¹⁶ (IHDI). While this only decreases its HDI ranking by 2 points, it represents a loss of over 15% in human development. The country is 20 on the new Multidimensional Poverty Index¹⁷ (MPI) and ranks 48 on the new Gender Inequality Index¹⁸ (GII).

¹⁴ *Statement by an IMF Mission to Trinidad and Tobago*, Press Release No. 10/423, November 9, 2010

¹⁵ United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Human Development Report 2010, UNDP

¹⁶ The IHDI adjusts the Human Development Index (HDI) for inequality in distribution of each dimension across the population. The IHDI accounts for inequalities in HDI dimensions by “discounting” each dimension’s average value according to its level of inequality. The IHDI equals the HDI when there is no inequality across people but is less than the HDI as inequality rises. Trinidad and Tobago’s HDI is 0.736, which indicates levels of inequality. In this sense, the IHDI is the actual level of human development (accounting for this inequality), while the HDI can be viewed as an index of “potential” human development (or the maximum level of HDI) that could be achieved if there was no inequality. The “loss” in potential human development due to inequality is given by the difference between the HDI and the IHDI and can be expressed as a percentage. Trinidad and Tobago’s “loss” is calculated at 15.5%.

¹⁷ The MPI identifies multiple deprivations at the individual level in health, education and standard of living. Each person in a given household is classified as poor or nonpoor depending on the number of deprivations his or her

According to the World Bank 20% of the population was living below the national poverty line in 1992. The CIA World Factbook estimates that this had dropped to 17% by 2007. The last national survey of living conditions in 2005 recorded a level of 16.7%. While trends show a reduction in poverty indicators, there is also evidence of highly concentrated “pockets of poverty” which reveal continuing inequity. For example, in counties such as Nariva/Mayaro/Siparia and St. Andrew/St. David, the poverty rate reaches 30 and 40%, respectively.

In 2005, infant mortality stood at 16 deaths per 1000 live births¹⁹. However there is evidence that this unexplainably increased to 31 per 1000 live births in 2008²⁰ and is now beginning to decline again. Similarly Under-5 mortality decreased between 1990 and 2001, before increasing again in 2008 to 35. With regard to HIV infection, recent surveillance data indicates a steady, though small increase in the recorded HIV prevalence rates from 1.2% at the end of 2006 to 1.5% in 2009. This small increase may be attributable to increased reporting due to the expansion of treatment services and more specifically, the free provision of anti-retrovirals (ARVs) which was initiated in 2002. Significant progress has been made in the areas of health and sanitation. For example, in 2005 73.5 % of the population had piped water to the homes in contrast to 59.2% in 1990.²¹

2.2.2 National Priorities

The People’s Partnership administration has indicated that it is embarking on a new national “Framework for Sustainable Development” with which it aims to promote a process of people-centred development. While government ministries and other units are currently in the process of developing their long term strategic plans, the overarching framework is articulated in the Manifesto developed by the People’s Partnership prior to the national election in May 2010. And while sectoral plans are still emerging, “*Prosperity for All: The People’s Manifesto*” has been adopted as government policy and outlines seven interconnected pillars as the basis of the development strategy:

- viii. Fostering people-centred development
- ix. Moving towards poverty eradication and promoting greater social justice
- x. Ensuring national and personal security
- xi. Expanding the use and availability of information and communication technologies
- xii. Building a more diversified, knowledge intensive economy

household experiences and these data are then aggregated into the national measure of poverty.

¹⁸ The GII reflects women’s disadvantage in three dimensions—reproductive health, empowerment and the labour market—for as many countries as data of reasonable quality allow. The index shows the loss in human development due to inequality between female and male achievements in these dimensions. It ranges from 0, which indicates that women and men fare equally, to 1, which indicates that women fare as poorly as possible in all measured dimensions.

¹⁹ Human Development Report 2007-2008, UNDP

²⁰ Human Development Report 2010, UNDP

²¹ National Population and Housing Census (10) and Survey of Living Conditions 2005 (11), Central Statistical Office, Trinidad and Tobago

- xiii. Entrenching good governance
- xiv. Presenting an accommodating foreign policy

The primary concerns outlined by the government in the 2011 national budget include national security; physical, organisational and institutional infrastructure; growth and a fairer distribution of income and opportunities; inflation and particularly food price inflation; shelter, water and healthcare; the information gap; youth development; and transparency and accountability. The budget highlights four major goals of the government:

1. *inclusive development* – improving security and justice, increasing the efficiency, effectiveness and relevance of social safety nets, evaluating existing transfer payments and subsidies, reducing poverty, caring for the elderly, closing the information gap, harmonizing the pension system, providing housing options, promoting gender equality, supporting sport, and increasing the efficiency of the public service
2. *a sustainable future* – expanding the energy sector and exploring alternative energy, integrating and diversifying the economy and realigning small business with the expansion of entrepreneurial capability; improving education and healthcare facilities, revitalizing the agricultural sector and expanding tourism, and establishing recycling programmes.
3. *a competitive environment* – increasing the ease of doing business in Trinidad and Tobago, rationalization of state enterprises and increasing public ownership and investment
4. *a growing economy* – improving infrastructure including water, sewerage, electricity, telecommunications ports and airports, opening new economic spaces and effectively managing industrial estates, implementing a growth and investment strategy and developing economic space of Tobago

The Minister of Finance indicated that approximately TT\$7 billion would be invested in 2011 in the Public Sector Investment Programme and a similar amount would go to State enterprises. Of the total expenditures the following amounts were allocated: education and training - TT\$8,325 million; infrastructure including works and transport and public utilities – TT\$5,918 million; health – TT\$4,341 million; national security – TT\$4,762 million; agriculture – TT\$1,836 million; and housing – TT\$1,837 million.

3.0 Current Challenges – A UN Framework for Analysis

The previous CCA in 2006 pointed out that *“In spite of the economic boom, the country faces significant challenges including poverty, unequal distribution of incomes, unemployment and under-employment, low productivity and low personal income. Social and physical infrastructure need attention and service delivery is often inadequate. The country continues to be at risk from natural disasters and disaster preparedness and readiness measures need to be improved.”* Some of these same challenges persist in 2011. There has been progress in some areas but this progress is often difficult to illustrate because supporting data is very limited. Indeed, one of

the fundamental challenges expressed by researchers, policy and programme makers is the absence of accessible recent data and statistical analysis in all areas.

This challenge of timely and relevant data is a widespread occurrence that has an adverse effect on government planning departments, civil society organizations, development partners and other stakeholders. The Ministry of Social Development published a 2005 Survey of Living Conditions Report on Trinidad & Tobago²² which was used to inform the UN's 2006 CCA. In addition a Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 3 (MICS3), Monitoring the Situation of Women and Children, was published in 2006 with the support of UNICEF. More recent information is very limited. A national census was launched in January 2011 and is ongoing at the time of writing. Following this census it is hoped that there will be more current data available, particularly in relation to poverty levels and living conditions.

The government has recognized the limited capacity to collect and disseminate data and the need to modernize data management information systems. To this end, there are plans to accelerate the modernization of the Central Statistics Office and to build and strengthen data reporting capacities at the Ministry of the Social Development in order to generate reliable social statistics. UNDP, in collaboration with UNICEF, assisted in the development and launch of the cTT/DevInfo database which was launched in partnership with the Ministry of Planning and made available online in 2010. However, Trinidad and Tobago has not officially reported on its progress towards achieving the MDGs.

The following section reviews the country's main challenges using the three pillars of the UN – *development, human rights, and peace and security* - as a framework for analysis.

3.1 Development

3.1.1 Poverty, Food Security and Employment

The first **Millennium Development Goal (MDG 1)** is to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, and while Trinidad and Tobago has a GNI per capita that has grown from US\$7,860 in 2003 to US\$13,170 in 2006 (the date of the last CCA) to US\$24,970 in 2009²³, pockets of poverty and inequality persist at higher levels that would be expected for a country with 'high income' status.

At the end of 2005, the level of poverty was estimated at 16.7%²⁴ and the level of indigence had decreased from 8.3% in 1998 to 1.2%. In Trinidad the percentage of the poor exclusive of the indigent was 15.5%, while in Tobago 19% was poor. The nations' vulnerable, but not poor, were 9.0%. The 2005 Survey of Living Conditions also showed that the Poverty Gap was 4.6 and the

²² Carried out in collaboration with the Social Development Ministry, under the European Union-Sponsored Poverty Reduction Program.

²³ World Bank Database, 2010. UNICEF estimates the GNI per capita at US\$16,560 in 2009

²⁴ Survey of Living Conditions, Final Report, 2005, Ministry of Social Development, Trinidad & Tobago

Severity Gap was 1.96.²⁵ Poverty estimates at the time confirmed the concentration of poverty in specific geographic areas and among certain sub-groups of the population. The north-east and the south-west of the island of Trinidad were the two poorest areas. Most of the country's poor were located in Siparia (15.1%), Princes Town (11.2%), San Juan/Laventille (11.0%) and Tunapuna/Piarco (10.1%); together these accounted for 47.4% of the total poor population. This data points to a situation in which stabilization and over 10 years of consecutive growth have failed to deliver improvements in social conditions everywhere.

The majority of heads of poor households were in the age group 41-60. Females constituted 38.8% of heads households below the poverty level. Persons of African origin accounted for 42% and those of Indian origin were 29.4%, while persons of Mixed ethnicity accounted for 28.5%.²⁶ The poverty data suggests a youthful dimension to poverty in that persons within the 0-19 years age group accounted for 53.1% of the indigent; 43.8% of the poor and 38.9% of the vulnerable²⁷. The People' Partnership has indicated its intention to reduce the number of poor by 2% per year. Funding for the social sector is the largest public expenditure. Transfers and subsidies are estimated to be 16% of total public expenditures in 2011.²⁸

Main Social Protection and Nutrition Programmes

Type of Program	Name/Category
Social Insurance	National insurance
Social Assistance	Old Age Pension Program, Public Assistance Program, Conditional Cash Transfer Program, Hardship Relief Program, Disability Assistance Grant, Urgent Temporary Assistance Program, Secondary School Book Grants, Free Student Transportation, Government Assistance for Tertiary Education
Health & Nutrition	School Feeding Program, Patient Care Assistants Program, Chronic Disease Assistance Plan, Government Subsidy for Adult Cardiac Surgery
Labor Market	Unemployment Relief Program, Youth Training and Employment Partnership Program, Multi-Sector Skills Training Program, Adult Education Program, Civilian Conservation Corps, Adolescent Mothers Program, Micro Enterprise and Training and Development Grant, Community Based Micro Enterprise Program, SERVOL
Community-based	Community Development Fund
Housing	Low Income Settlement Program, Low Income Housing Program
Care & Protection	Care and Protection Services
General Subsidies	Oil and gas

An initial review of public social programs in 2007 conducted by a Government appointed Task Force confirmed the following challenges in the sector: (1) Poor targeting mechanisms (2) the absence of a rigorous monitoring and evaluation system in order to collect and examine data, which makes it difficult to determine project results and their impact on poverty reduction and (3) poor interagency coordination which results with overlapping of activities and a fragmentation of efforts. As a result, the new government has established Ministry of the

²⁵ Ibid

²⁶ However, the 2005 Survey records imbalances in the survey sample that appear to be weighted in respect of representation of Africans, given the distribution that derives from the Census of 2000. Care should be taken in interpreting these results.

²⁷ The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago: Ministry of Education, Corporate Plan 2008 – 2012, pg 18

²⁸ Budget Statement, 2011. Minister Winston Dookeran, Minister of Finance. 8 September 2010

People (as part of the Ministry of Social Development). It has indicated that it intends to establish mechanisms for effective collaboration and partnership between government and non-government actors, rationalize the 120+ social programmes, and implement a monitoring and evaluation policy for social development. The government has also increased the value of the monthly old age pension to TT\$3,000.

Food security is another concern. The percentage of undernourished persons in Trinidad and Tobago has in fact been declining in the last decade, and if this trend is maintained, Trinidad and Tobago should meet the Millennium Development hunger target of **halving the proportion of undernourished by 2015** to 6.5%. The prevalence of undernourishment in the total population²⁹ is 11%. However, there is an emerging risk that lower-income groups are becoming less food secure.

Persistent inequity, increasing inflation rates and a sharp decline in agriculture threaten the levels of malnutrition in Trinidad and Tobago. Substantial increases in retail food prices have been observed, in particular since 2005³⁰. In 2006, the year of the last CCA, the overall inflation rate stood at 10%. In 2010 inflation reached 16%, driven up by increasing food prices. In 2006, the year to year change in retail food prices moved beyond 20% during certain months³¹. Food prices rose by 21.8% year-on-year to May 2008³². With an overall contribution of less than 1% of total GDP, agriculture plays a minor role in the economy. While the food production index³³ of Trinidad and Tobago remains 109.0, the crop production index³⁴ was 69 in 2007. This has shown a marked decline since 1999 and is currently one of the lowest in the world. In addition, the farming sector is being affected by changes in climate, including abnormal weather patterns, unusually hot weather in the dry season, and heavy rainfall that often results in flooding and loss of crop and livestock. The sector comprises small and large-scale farming, floriculture, fisheries, livestock, agro-forestry and agro-processing, and niche markets such as cocoa. The government has signaled its intention to provide increased incentives to farmers, address key infrastructure needs, regularize squatter farms, effect a national land use policy and support tertiary training in agriculture in an effort to increase agriculture's contribution to GDP to 3% in the next 5 years. The FAO is currently supporting the government in the preparation of a national strategic plan for the agricultural sector.

Full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people is a main target under MDG 1. The 2005 Survey of Living Conditions which was used for the last

²⁹ FAO Statistics Division. Undernourishment refers to the condition of people whose dietary energy consumption is continuously below a minimum dietary energy requirement for maintaining a healthy life and carrying out a light physical activity with an acceptable minimum body-weight for attained-height.

³⁰ *Food Prices and Food Security in Trinidad and Tobago*, ESA Working Paper No. 07-27, The Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations, 2007.

³¹ Central Statistical Office

³² IICA

³³ World Bank. Food production index covers food crops that are considered edible and that contain nutrients.

³⁴ World Bank. The crop production index is the agricultural production for each year relative to the base period of 1999-2001 = 100.

CCA reported an unemployment rate of 4.5%. This rose to over 5.8%³⁵ in 2009. However, overall employment masks significantly higher unemployment among the poor, particularly among poor women—unemployment among poor men and women was equal to 9.8% and 17.6% respectively³⁶ in 2005. The global economic crisis resulted in declines in employment around the world and Trinidad and Tobago was no exception. One can therefore deduce that with a rise in overall unemployment, the numbers of unemployed poor have risen accordingly. Adhering to the policies of the Decent Work Agenda established by the ILO is part of the government's strategy for achieving a more equitable distribution of wealth. The Ministry of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development has articulated five priority areas, which came out of consultations held with employers' and workers' organizations as well as other government ministries or departments: (1) labour law reform, (2) strengthening the labour market information system, (3) strengthening labour inspection services, (4) strengthening social dialogue, and (5) development of small and micro enterprises (SMEs). The ILO is providing technical expertise to support initiatives by government, employers and trade unions to fulfill the objectives under these priorities.

Both the private sector and civil society play an active role in national development. There are several chambers of industry and commerce, as well as the Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers' Association (TTMA). Local and multilateral companies have social corporate responsibility programmes and the development of a national CSR policy is in discussion. The UN is working with companies to build capacity of corporate workforces for social and environmental volunteer projects would help facilitate the creation of inclusive business models i.e. business models that include poor people into value chains as producers, employees and consumers. In October 2010, UNDP in close co-operation with the TTMA, helped to establish the local network of the Global Compact, the UN's corporate sustainability initiative promoting ten principles of good corporate citizenship in the areas of human rights, industrial relations, environment and anti-corruption.

Non-governmental organizations are particularly valuable to work at the local and community level. For example, The Network of NGOs of Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women, has over 102 member organizations. It is an advocate and support for these organizations with government and other development entities and is committed to the aims of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

3.1.2 Education

Universal primary education is MDG 2. Trinidad and Tobago will most likely reach the target that all children, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary education. At this level access is considered universal with net primary school enrolment stands at over 90% (2009)³⁷ and the ratio of girls to boys is 1.97 (UNDP, 2009). In 2010 the gross primary

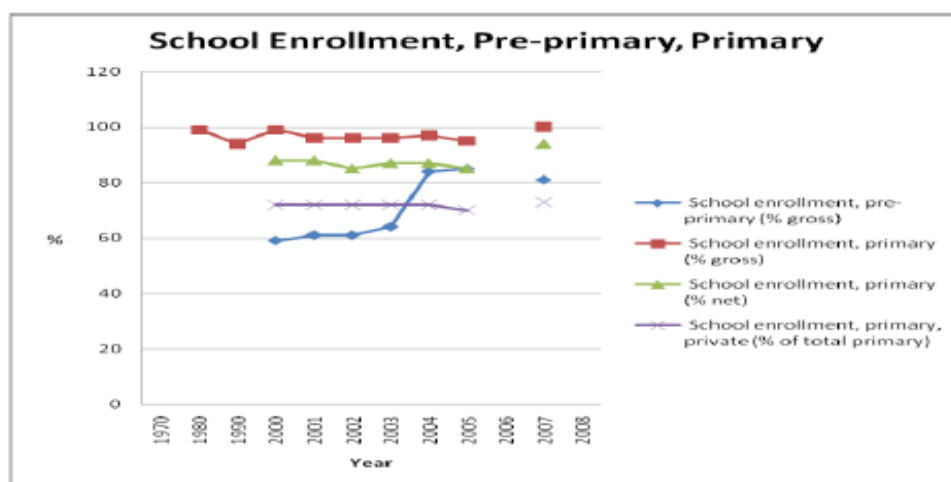
³⁵ Trinidad and Tobago Central Statistical Office. Unemployment Rate Q3, 2009

³⁶ Survey of Living Conditions, 2005. Ministry of Social Development, GORTT

³⁷ Human Development Report 2010, UNDP

enrolment ratio of male to female students was recorded at 105 to 192³⁸. Access to secondary education is also universal as every student leaving primary school is offered a place at secondary school regardless of the primary school exam scores. Net secondary education enrolment is over 70% (2009)³⁹ and also has gender parity. Therefore, Trinidad and Tobago is considered to have reached the **MDG 3 target to eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education**. Both primary and secondary education are free and the country has placed a priority on education with support measures including free transportation, book grants, free meals through a School Nutrition Programme. There is also a high enrolment rate in pre-primary education at 86%, even though it is not mandatory.

*School Enrolment: Pre-Primary and Primary School*⁴⁰



Source: World Bank database

2009-2010 data on global competitiveness ranks the quality of the primary education system 39th out of 134 countries⁴¹, however, some indicators show that education levels are below most of the upper-middle-income countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. While enrolment and literacy rates are high, there is data from the Ministry of Education that shows that many first year secondary school students have problems with literacy and numeracy. The differences between the performance of students is marked by household income as well as by whether the students are in rural or urban areas.

A recent study showed that 45% of students from urban Port of Spain and suburban environs passed Maths and Language respectively at Standard 3. This area comprises a wide range of households and income ranges. It spans suburban Diego Martin with a population density of

³⁸ UNFPA State of the World Population 2010

³⁹ Human Development Report 2010, UNDP

⁴⁰ Replicated from “*Achieving the Well-Being of All Children in Trinidad and Tobago with an Equity Strategy*”, Agu, A. Braithwaite, J. Braimoch, S. Presented to Caribbean Child Research Conference, Kingston, Jamaica, October 2010.

⁴¹ World Economic Forum 2010

approximately 800/km, an average household income of TT\$6,300 and 7% of the households classified as poor, to San Juan/Laventille with a population density of approximately 650/km, average household income of TT\$3,900 and 12% of the households as poor. This contrasted even further with rural Sangre Grande, with a population density of approximately 69/km, an average household income of TT\$3,200, with 10% of the households being poor. In Sangre Grande, only 34% and 32% of students passed Maths and Language respectively at Standard 3. In Tobago, 25% and 32% passed Maths and Language, with a population density of 180/km, the household income averaged TT\$5,200 and 4.9% of the households being poor⁴². The study revealed that differences between the performance of students in urban and rural schools in Trinidad and Tobago was -62, a larger difference than the international mean of -25⁴³. In addition, there is evidence that students who attend denominational schools and private schools tend to perform better than those that attend public government (free) schools⁴⁴.

There are serious problems with school attendance and truancy, with a recent revelation by the Minister of Education that over 4000 children that are enrolled in school do not attend. In addition there are problems with violence in schools with over 8,000 students suspended between 2004-2009 for fighting, with and without weapons, assault, bullying, disrespect to authority, gambling, robbery, sexual misconduct, drugs and alcohol.

The People's Partnership has indicated its priorities for the sector as:

- A five year strategic plan for education
- A diagnostic for physical and emotional challenges of children
- School/youth violence
- Curriculum reform in pre-primary and primary education
- One lap-top per child

Tertiary education is also increasing and is currently over 11% (2009)⁴⁵. The government sees tertiary education as a major driver of economic competitiveness in an increasingly knowledge driven global economy. It has indicated that it intends to focus on life-long learning, with expansions to its Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses (GATE) programme and on the job training and work study, and improvements to education administration.

3.1.3 Health

⁴² De Lisle, J, Smith, P. & Jules, V. (2010). Evaluating the geography of gendered achievement using large-scale assessment data from the primary school system of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. *International Journal of Educational Development* (2010), doi:10.1016/j.ijedudev.

⁴³ *Is the Trinidad and Tobago education system structured to facilitate optimum human capital development? New findings on education structure and outcomes from International and National Assessments of educational achievement.* De Lisle, Jerome. 2010. Sir Arthur Lewis Social and Economic Studies, 11th Annual conference, University of the West Indies. <http://sta.uwi.edu/conferences/09/salises/documents/1%20De%20Lisle.pdf>

⁴⁴ "Achieving the Well-Being of All Children in Trinidad and Tobago with an Equity Strategy", Agu, A. Braithwaite, J. Braimoch, S. Presented to Caribbean Child Research Conference, Kingston, Jamaica, October 2010.

⁴⁵ Human Development Report 2010, UNDP

In general significant progress has been made over the last 10 years in improving the health status of the population of Trinidad and Tobago. There have been noteworthy reductions in neo-natal and maternal mortality⁴⁶. Infant mortality had decreased to 16 deaths per 1000 live births in 2005⁴⁷, but increased to 31 per 1000 live births in 2008⁴⁸ before beginning to decline again. It currently stands at 25⁴⁹. Similarly, Under-5 mortality decreased between 1990 and 2001 but increased to 35 per 1000 in 2008⁵⁰. Maternal mortality fell to 45 per 100,000 live births in 2005 according to the WHO. However, this did not change significantly over the period 2005 to 2008 according to UNICEF health data⁵¹. This data indicates that these crucial indicators have stagnated over the past decade. While the government has invested significant amounts in healthcare over the past 10 years it would be instructive to investigate this stagnation. With these rates, it is not yet conclusive whether the country will achieve **MDG 4, to reduce child mortality** and **MDG 5, to improve maternal health**.

The increasing prevalence of chronic non-communicable diseases (CNCDs) presents an increasing risk to the population. Currently, they are the leading cause of mortality, morbidity and disability worldwide, (approximately 59%)⁵² and they account for 2 out of 3 deaths in Latin America and the Caribbean. In Trinidad and Tobago, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and cancer are the highest ranking causes of death and have the greatest impact on the health sector. In 2000, 67% of all deaths in the country were caused by these diseases. By 2002, this had risen to 73%⁵³ and in 2007, CNCDs accounted for 55.7% of discharges from government hospitals.

The health sector in Trinidad and Tobago has undergone a transformation over the last decade with support from the Inter-American Development Bank in the form of a Health Sector Reform Programme. This has included new legislation and updated policies, changes in the structure and management of the health systems, rationalization of health care facilities and services, and the introduction of new services. Since 2006 PAHO/WHO technical cooperation has focused on health system strengthening and essential medicines; surveillance and evidence based decision making; quality, environmental health and sustainable development; communicable disease prevention and control; CNCDs prevention and control and the promotion of healthy lifestyles; family and community health; and effective PAHO/WHO representation. However, there are still significant challenges in the sector.

A recent situation analysis undertaken by PAHO/WHO identified the following key health and development challenges:

- Organisation and management of the health sector (systems and services)

⁴⁶ Neo-natal mortality has fallen from 23/1000 live births in 1987) to 10/1000 live births in 2004 (*UNICEF*).

Maternal mortality fell from 90/100,000 live births to 45/100,000 live births (*2005 UNHDR*).

⁴⁷ Human Development Report 2007-2008, UNDP

⁴⁸ Human Development Report 2010, UNDP

⁴⁹ UNFPA State of the World Population 2010

⁵⁰ Progress for Children: Achieving the MDGs with Equity, September 2010, UNICEF

⁵¹ http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/trinidad_tobago_statistics.html

⁵² World Health Organisation. Preventing chronic diseases: a vital investment. WHO, 2005.

⁵³ 2002 WHO Global Burden of Disease data

- Strengthening the Ministry of Health for its stewardship role
- Strengthening the regulatory and legislative functions
- Health policy formulation and monitoring
- Financing of the sector
- Strengthening the Health Information System
- Developing, attracting and retaining human resources for health
- Improving quality
- Improving the performance of the health care delivery system
 - Making primary health care the major focus
 - Strengthening information at the decentralized levels
 - Strengthening epidemic alert and response to public emergencies
- Addressing priority diseases and populations
 - Reducing the incidence and impact of non-communicable diseases and addressing the risk factors (such as tobacco use, physical inactivity, unhealthy nutrition and unsafe sexual behavior)
 - Addressing the unfinished agenda regarding communicable diseases
 - Placing increased focus on mental health
 - Maintaining the gains made in the MCH programme
 - Creating public awareness of public health matters
- Addressing the socioeconomic and environmental determinants of health
 - Placing increased focus on environmental risks to health
 - Ensuring equitable services to the vulnerable and the poor
 - Ensuring gender equity in health services
 - Strengthening disaster preparedness, mitigation and response

While these challenges and a quality improvement programme are being addressed by the Ministry of Health (MOH) as part of the continuing overall sector reform, the rate of implementation has been relatively slow. Support in terms of human resources has been provided through a UNV doctors programme which is coming to an end. PAHO is currently supporting the MOH in the development of its 5 year national health plan. A country cooperation strategy (2011-2015) is also under discussion and will be finalised with the government once its own health plan is completed. The selected priority areas for action include:

- Strengthening the health system
- Improving the health status of the populations
- Reducing threats to health

In addition, specific areas of assistance include:

- Technical support to a public health lab (linked to development of CARPHA, the new Caribbean Public Health Agency)
- Health information systems
- National regulatory frameworks for essential medicines
- Infection control in hospitals
- International Health Regulations (IHR) 2005 Implementation

3.1.4 HIV and AIDS

With regard to HIV infection, up until 2007, new HIV cases among males outstripped new cases among females. At the end of 2006, the male to female ratio for new HIV positive cases stood at 51:49. However, current trends show new infection rates in women are higher than in men. The majority of new HIV positive cases among females have occurred in the 20-24 age group while the largest numbers of new HIV positive cases among males were found in the 45-49 age group.⁵⁴ Available information shows that in the age group 15–19 years, six times as many young women as young men have HIV. Infection rates in girls have dramatically outstripped boys over the last five years. This has been correlated to an increase in early sexual orientation which puts girls at high risk for HIV infection. A survey was conducted of 676 young adults (10–29 years old) in Tobago in 1999-2000. The study found that sexual activity starts as early as 10 years old, the average age being 14 years old for boys and girls combined. Thirteen percent of those 10–14 years old had had sex⁵⁵.

It is instructive to note that previously, Trinidad and Tobago was categorized as a country with a generalized HIV epidemic. Little data was collected on HIV prevalence or behavioural indicators among the most-at-risk groups such as Men Who Have Sex With Men (MSM), homeless people, substance abusers, commercial sex-workers and youth. The National Aids Coordinating Committee (NACC) and the Tobago HIV & AIDS Coordinating Committee (THACC) have commissioned several studies and assessments to enable a better understanding of the pattern of the epidemic.

In its response to HIV & AIDS, Trinidad and Tobago operates on the ‘**Three Ones**’ principle agreed by Caribbean Community Countries:

- One national AIDS coordinating authority with a broad-based multi-sectoral mandate
- One AIDS action framework to coordinate the work of all partners
- One national monitoring and evaluation system

The country is making some progress towards **MDG 6 in combating HIV**, including in the area of access to treatment. Antenatal care is at 96% and the health system has been improved to achieve targets with respect to Preventing Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT). The scale up of free antiretroviral drugs is continuing and by the end of 2009, some 3,592 person were on ART. Some 3,425 or 95.35% of those on ART were adults while 167 or 4.65% were children. The number of persons requiring ART is projected to increase to 4,500 by 2015.

⁵⁴ UNGASS Country Progress Report, Trinidad and Tobago, March 2010

⁵⁵ The Tobago Youth Sexual Health Needs Assessment was conducted by the Family Planning Association; the Tobago AIDS Society; the Caribbean Epidemiology Centre, with support from the Dutch Embassy in Trinidad and Tobago; and the German Technical Cooperation Agency in Tobago. Report on study found at <<http://www.prb.org/Articles/2000/EarlySexualActivityRaisesHIVRiskforTrinidadandTobagoGirls.aspx>>

The UN has provided support in the critical areas of monitoring and evaluation, advocacy and human rights, programme management and coordination, civil society organisation engagement and management of strategic information (UNAIDS Country Office in Trinidad and Tobago) and the development and review of a National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS (ILO). In the coming year UNAIDS will lead work in the areas of stigma and discrimination legislation and punitive laws, the draft national HIV policy and the HIV & AIDS prevention policy (NACC), a Three Ones principled response, economic impact assessments of HIV & AIDS, Cabinet sensitization, support to the Women and Girls coalition on HIV, and the collection of data on sex workers and MSM.

Based on the review in the 2010 UNGASS Country Report for Trinidad and Tobago, the two areas that urgently require development assistance are:

- monitoring and evaluation capacity at the NACC Secretariat in Trinidad and the THACC in Tobago
- civil society organisation capacity to build stronger institutions with robust management and operating systems

The data on the increasing infection rates among young girls also points to the need for significant attention to be paid to prevention, particularly in young people, as well as care.

3.1.5 Environmental sustainability

Environmental degradation remains a major issue for Trinidad and Tobago. As a result of heavy industry and vehicular traffic, the country rests within the global top 10 on carbon emissions per capita. Though more data is needed regarding the full extent of environmental challenges, the country experiences many environmental problems, from flooding, widespread pollution of its waterways and coastal areas, illegal dumping, deforestation, excessive soil erosion, fisheries and wildlife depletion. These problems are attributed to poor land use practices and an inadequate legal and institutional framework for water resources and coastal zone management. As a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), Trinidad and Tobago is highly vulnerable to natural disasters (tropical storms, earthquakes, floods and droughts) as well as climate change and sea level rise.

In line with **MDG 7 to ensure environmental sustainability**, the current administration has pledged to develop a comprehensive environmental strategy. It has said that it means to review the approved National Environmental Policy (NEP), integrating its various dimensions to conform to international commitments, including the Copenhagen Convention on Climate Change; to utilise the Green Fund⁵⁶ for the restoration of areas that have been damaged by “poor and dangerous practices of development” and to strengthen community-based

⁵⁶ The Green Fund was instituted in 2004 under the Finance Act 2004 , Part XIV- Green Fund Levy. It is capitalized by a tax on the gross sales and receipts of corporate companies operating in Trinidad and Tobago. The Funds monies are distributed by the Green Fund Executing Unit under the supervision of an advisory committee. Groups qualifying for funding must be involved in activities focusing on environmental conservation, reforestation or remediation.

environmental projects; to introduce the Planning and Development of Land Bill (PDLB) with appropriate adjustments to govern land use planning and development; to create an action plan for sewage treatment and clean water for the entire country; to put through Parliament the Draft Air Pollution Rules and the Draft Solid and Hazardous Waste Rules (mandatory under the Environmental Management Act); to create a work plan to address drainage and flooding problems; to develop a coastal zone management strategy; and to create a robust recycling industry. These activities would go a long way towards promoting environmental sustainability if they are successfully implemented.

Currently, the country is signatory to the following multilateral environmental agreements.

<i>International Commitments</i>	<i>Year Ratified</i>
CITES (species trade treaty)	1984
Vienna Convention (ozone)	1989
Montreal Protocol (ozone)	1989
Ramsar Convention (wetlands)	1993
UNFCCC (climate change)	1994
UNCLOS (law of the sea)	1994
Convention on Biological Diversity	1996
Kyoto Protocol (climate change)	1999
UNCCD (desertification treaty)	2000
Stockholm Convention (POPs)	2002

Domestic environmental laws, policies, guides include Environmental Management Act; CEC Rules; Noise Pollution Control Rules; Environmentally Sensitive Species and Areas Rules; Water Pollution Rules; Air Pollution Rules; Waste Management Rules; and the National Environmental Policy. The Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM) was established by Cabinet in January 2005, and is responsible for leading the National effort in protecting public health and safety and providing emergency relief to those affected severely by hazards.

In addition to the Green Fund, financing for community level projects has been made accessible through the UN Global Environmental Facility/Small Grants Programme (GEF/SGP). The programme is implemented by UNDP and executed by UNOPS. It focuses on achieving **MDG 7 “to ensure environmental sustainability.”** This program was introduced in Trinidad and Tobago in 1995 and supports NGOs and CBOs in projects related to the GEF focal areas of biodiversity conservation, reduction of climate change and the degradation of the quality of international waters, prevention of land degradation and the elimination of the use of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). Its main objective is environmental conservation and improved livelihoods in communities through financial and technical support. To date, the GEF/SGP has funded US\$1,396,174 worth of projects in Trinidad and Tobago with significant co-financing from various organizations.

3.1.6 Climate change

As a SIDS, Trinidad and Tobago faces a serious threat from the impacts of climate change. Higher temperatures, rises in sea level and increased rainfall and storm activity threaten lives, property and livelihoods. In all, the country's contribution to total emissions is small but CO2 emissions rose from 23.5 metric tons per capita in 2005 to 27.9 in 2007.⁵⁷ Per capita emissions are significantly higher than those of other Caribbean countries and marginally higher than that of the United States. Focus is now needed on both mitigation and adaptation. So far, though, greater efforts in the Caribbean have focused mainly on adaptation. Mitigation should focus on transitioning Caribbean countries to low-carbon based economies structured on well-defined national energy policies⁵⁸. The promotion of energy-efficiency and use of alternatives to fossil fuels need to become regional and national priorities.

In this regard, a key sector of the economy that is directly related to the impacts of climate change is the energy sector. Oil and gas account for 45% of the country's GDP and 90% of exports. It is the fifth largest exporter of liquefied natural gas (LNG), supplying up to 60% of the US domestic needs. The country, therefore, needs the oil and gas to fuel its economy. However, the government has also committed to the promotion of renewable energy resources as necessary to the energy security and sustainable development of the country, and particularly as a response to the threats of climate change. As part of this drive towards renewable energy the government has indicated that it intends to: create an enabling environment; promote energy efficiency and conservation; build capacity and create awareness; and establish the appropriate institutional arrangements. It also intends to undertake assessments of areas that are vulnerable to the impacts of natural disasters, with emphasis on disasters related to climate change in an effort to mitigate and prepare for them.

The government has committed to a three year project with UNDP to elaborate a carbon reduction policy, strategy and implementation framework through technical analysis, capacity development and knowledge sharing. The project is to begin in 2011 and the core technical strategy for CO2 reduction will address the transportation, industrial and power generation sectors. In addition, there is an ongoing ecosystem and carbon sequestration project in the Nariva Swamp in Trinidad.

3.2 Peace and Security

3.2.1 Governance

There is evidence that good governance in Trinidad and Tobago can be significantly strengthened. In 2009, Trinidad and Tobago received a ranking of 44.8% in Political Stability from the World Bank. This indicator measures likelihood of violent threats to or changes in

⁵⁷ World Bank

⁵⁸ *The Economics of Climate Change*, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, 30 November 2009

government, including terrorism. Rule of Law rated at 49.1%, revealing the quality of contract enforcement, police, and courts, as well as the likelihood of crime and violence. Voice and Accountability, which takes stock of political rights and civil liberties was rated at 61.1% and Government Effectiveness, a measure of the quality of public service deliver and bureaucracy, was at 64.4%. Control of corruption at 55.7%, highlighted the level of exercise of public power for private gain, including petty and grand corruption and state capture⁵⁹. These statistics reveal the challenge of governance and the need for improvement in all areas⁶⁰.

While Trinidad & Tobago is a functioning parliamentary democracy with a well-established system of general elections, studies have shown that the country has tended to be politically polarised along ethnic lines, divided between the two majority groups – those of African and those of Indian origin. The People’s Partnership (PP) Government was formed after the most recent 2010 general election. It enjoys considerable parliamentary majority of 29 out of 41 seats in the House of Representatives. There is, therefore, little risk that the parliamentary Opposition will be able to impede the PP’s legislative agenda⁶¹, however, the perception of corruption and a seemingly shaky coalition, and the rise in violent crime continue to erode confidence in the government and its authority.

The recent Standard and Poor’s investment report stated that “[i]mprovements in transparency, governance, and regulation in the financial industry and among public-sector enterprises, in particular, could lead to a raise in ratings on Trinidad and Tobago over the medium term⁶².” The new government has indicated that it is putting measures in place to promote transparency and proper governance in ministries and states bodies in an effort to maintain control of corruption. In addition, an Integrity Commission functions under the Integrity in Public Life Act 2000. Its purpose is to preserve and promote the integrity of public officials and institutions. All parliamentarians, ministers of government, senior public servants, members of local government authorities, members of boards of statutory bodies and state enterprises are required to comply with the requirements of the Act and make financial disclosure through the Commission of their income, assets and liabilities.

3.2.2 Crime

Crime and violence are key constraints to both peace and security in Trinidad and Tobago, but also to development. Crime has risen dramatically over the last 10 to 15 years with the murder

⁵⁹ Worldwide Governance indicators, World Bank. <<http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/index.asp>>; Kaufmann D., A. Kraay, and M. Mastruzzi (2010), *The Worldwide Governance Indicators: Methodology and Analytical Issues*. Determined in comparison across selected countries. For all five indicators, a larger value means better quality of governance.

⁶⁰ Trinidad and Tobago – European Community Country Strategic Paper and National Indicative Programme, 2008 – 2013. The EC funded €8million channelled through Sector Budget Support towards the non-focal sector of good and effective governance.

⁶¹ Trinidad and Tobago Country Report, Economist Intelligence Unit, December 2010.

⁶² *Standard and Poor’s: ‘A’ Rating Affirmed on Trinidad and Tobago*, GORTT, 18 January, 2011 <<http://www.news.gov.tt/index.php?news=6670>>

rate estimated at 42 per month in 2009 (compared to 25 in Mexico and 11 in Barbados in 2007 (World Bank)). Also in 2009, an average of 485 robberies was reported per month, and about 132 vehicles were reported stolen every month⁶³. The high incidence of crime in Trinidad and Tobago is a relatively new phenomenon: the murder rate rose from just 7.4/100,000 in 1999 to its current levels.⁶⁴ It is generally agreed that intra-regional drug trafficking is behind the high rates of crime and violence, and that the explosion of the international drug trade has institutionalised criminal behaviour, increased property-related crime by drug users and underpinned a steady increase in the availability of firearms⁶⁵. There is also evidence to suggest a decline in respect for the rule of law, perceived government corruption and an uneven distribution of resources, as well as a rising gang culture are contributing to the increasing rates.

The government has articulated its decision to pursue a multipronged approach in an effort to address the political, economic, social, technological and managerial dimensions required to promote safety and security. It has indicated that this holistic approach involves addressing the issue of white collar crime and corruption; the effective management of institutions of law and order; the reorganization of the education system; the design of productive sectors to provide viable alternatives to crime; better law enforcement including community policing; the promotion of human security including a household to household approach to poverty reduction; and a re-engineering of the justice system.⁶⁶ To date, the government is being supported in these efforts by a Citizens Security Programme funded by the Inter-American Development Bank. In addition, the UNDP is about to launch a Caribbean regional human development report on Citizen Security.

One of the key areas that is supposed to be strengthened is the police force. It is not clear where Trinidad and Tobago stands in relation to international standards for policing which place the ideal ratio of police to population at 1:200. The Commissioner of Police has indicated that there are 5000 persons on the police force. Without taking into consideration holiday leave, sick leave, etc. this would put Trinidad and Tobago at an average ratio of 1:266; which exceeds the international standard. However, the Commissioner has recently stated that the ratio is comparable with those in Canada and the United States.

The CARICOM Regional Task Force on Crime and Security commissioned a report on the proliferation of small arms and light weapons (SALW) in the Caribbean in 2002. The resulting report identified Trinidad and Tobago as a country with *emerging* high levels of armed and organized criminality. It is possible that if such an evaluation were done today, Trinidad and Tobago might also be included in the same tier as Jamaica, as a country with *established* high

⁶³ Trinidad Express, Sep 18, 2010. <http://www.trinidadexpress.com/news/Playing_games_with_crime_stats-103220819.html>

⁶⁴ *A Caribbean crime wave: Crime damages society and the economy*, 20 March 2008, The Economist <<http://www.economist.com/node/10903343>>

⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶⁶ The People's Partnership Manifesto 2010

levels and patterns of armed crime⁶⁷. The UN Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-LiREC) is assisting in building capacity in Trinidad and Tobago in the areas of firearms destruction and stockpile management⁶⁸.

3.3 Human Rights

3.3.1 Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

The country has basically achieved the target set for MDG 3 which is to eliminate gender disparities in primary and secondary education. However, it cannot be said that gender equality and women's empowerment have been accomplished. Even though completion rates at both secondary and tertiary education institutions are higher for women than for men (at the University of the West Indies 70% of enrolments are women) this is not reflected in equally high rates of women in senior policy-making or decision-making positions in either the public or private sectors. Although this is gradually changing in the political arena, as elsewhere in the world, women have the most vulnerable forms of unemployment and dominate the informal sector, with little benefits or security.

The government's vision is for a more gender-sensitive society in which all forms of discrimination against women are eliminated. A National Gender Policy has been in development for several years and it is hoped that the People's Partnership will finally complete it and advance its implementation. In its Manifesto, the government also committed itself to gender-sensitive workplaces, equal opportunity at work and appropriate pay. In addition, the Manifesto proposes to establish mobile clinics for women, develop women's leadership skills and qualities, and create day care centres in all government buildings.

At the same time, there is a worrying trend of male under-achievement in education. Male participation in the tertiary education sector for Trinidad and Tobago has been estimated to be around 35% in 2009/2010.⁶⁹ While the reasons for the gender disparity are not fully understood, research on male academic underachievement in the English-speaking Caribbean, starts with the premise that male underachievement is an ironic outcome of male privileging. This "dialectic of privilege" is referred to by Davis, who argues that the problem of boys' underachievement in Trinidad and Tobago, "like in other cultural contexts", is defined by the issues of "historical privilege, gender socialisation, masculine expectations and how schools are organised for learning"⁷⁰.

⁶⁷ *Guns and Crime: A Case Study of Trinidad and Tobago*, World Bank.

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTHAITI/Resources/CaribbeanC&VChapter9.pdf>

⁶⁸ UN-LiREC hosted a Caribbean Regional Workshop of Firearms Destruction and Stockpile Management in December 2010.

⁶⁹ Ministry of Gender Affairs,

http://genderaffairstt.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=97&Itemid=100

⁷⁰ Davis, J (2002) "Boys to Men: Masculine Diversity and Schooling". Paper presented at the School Leadership Centre of Trinidad and Tobago.

The Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education articulated the need to address the issue of male under-representation and underachievement at almost all levels of the educational system in its recently Cabinet approved policy on Tertiary Education, Technical Vocational Education and Training, and Lifelong Learning in Trinidad and Tobago (2010). In addition the Ministry is currently undertaking a gender study on the factors affecting male entry into the tertiary education system in order to develop a policy on male participation and achievement at this level.

Ultimately, an essential element to promoting both gender equality and women’s empowerment is the availability of sex-disaggregated data to support policy development and programming. The mandate of the Gender Affairs Division is being revised to include a monitoring unit for the implementation of gender-specific activities and sex-disaggregated studies, particularly on youth employment.

3.3.2 Violence Against Women (VAW)

The high levels of crime and violence in Trinidad and Tobago are reflected in the high rates of violence directed against women. This includes sexual violence and assault, sexual harassment, domestic violence and abuse and incest. A survey of adolescents and young adults in Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago in 2008 found that between 52% and 73% of women reported experiences of violence by a partner⁷¹. An ECLAC study⁷² on the “Availability, quality and programmatic usefulness of information on violence against women” showed the following statistics on reported violence against with in Trinidad and Tobago:

Year	Rapes/Incest/ Sexual Offences	Serious Indecency
2003	643/468	88/64
2004	581/ 414	52/47
2005	744/546	-
2006	903/646	-
2007	825/550	76/52

The study also highlighted the following:

⁷¹ UNFPA.

⁷² http://www.eclac.cl/mujer/noticias/noticias/4/39784/presentacion_GaietryPargass.pdf

- The need for more detailed and comprehensive disaggregated data collection by the police and the courts, which are the main sources of data on VAW.
- The need to publish data in a form suitable for analysis, to allow indicators of VAW to be measured and to inform policy and programmes.
- The need for inter-agency cooperation between the national women’s machinery, the police statistical unit, the statistical unit of the Judiciary and the Central Statistical Office to enable publication in a suitable form.

Deaths from cases of domestic violence quadrupled from 2004 to 2008, while the amount of cases of domestic violence reported to police have increased by 60 percent, according to statistics released in the Senate in 2009. For the years 2004 to 2008 there were nine, 26, 32, 17 and 36 deaths respectively. In terms of the number of cases of domestic violence reported to the police for the same period, the recorded cases numbered 962, 1,291, 1,250, 1,356 and 1,556 respectively.⁷³

The government has pledged to accelerate efforts to combat violence against women and participated at a high level on the UN Secretary General’s UNITE campaign to end violence against women. UNFPA and UNIFEM (UNIFEM Caribbean based in Barbados, now UNWOMEN) have worked on strengthening social and medical protocols to address gender based violence, enhancing the capacity of government and civil society to support women’s empowerment and promote work in the area of masculinities, and increasing public awareness of gender based violence. The government has included the implementation of comprehensive programmes to protect victims of domestic violence, and the strengthening of social service delivery to protect women’s rights and enhance women’s welfare as part of its “Sustainable Development Framework”.

3.3.3 Human Rights Conventions

A Universal Periodic Review is scheduled for 2011. Since 2003, Trinidad and Tobago has not submitted reports on the Core Human Rights instruments. The table below shows the status of reporting on some of these core instruments⁷⁴:

Instrument	Date of Last Report Submitted	Due Date of Outstanding Report
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (CCPR)	3 rd and 4 th Periodic Report 15 September 1999	5 th Periodic Report Due October 2003
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)	3 rd Periodic Report 23 January 2001	4 th Periodic Report Due February 2003
International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of	11 th , 12 th , 13 th and 14 th Periodic Report	15 th and 16 th Periodic Review Due November 2004

⁷³ *Domestic violence deaths rise*, Newsday Newspaper, 11 November 2009
<<http://www.newsday.co.tt/news/0,110697.html>>

⁷⁴ UNIC, Port of Spain, Revised 5/5/2010

Racial Discrimination (CERD)	16 October 200	17 th Periodic Review Due November 2006
International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)	2 nd Periodic Report 28 September 2000	3 rd Period Report Due June 2007
Convention on the Rights of the Child(CRC)	2 nd Periodic Report 29 July 2003	3 rd and 4 th Periodic Report Due January 2009

Trinidad and Tobago has also ratified the core labour conventions that are part of the international human rights regime. These include:

- Forced Labour Convention (No. 29) (1930)
- Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention (No. 87) (1948)
- Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention (No. 98) (1949)
- Equal Remuneration Convention (No. 100) (1951)
- The Indigenous and Tribal Populations Convention, 1957 (No. 107)
- Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention (No. 111) (1958)
- Minimum Age Convention (No. 138) (1973)
- Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (No. 182) (1999)

No new reports on the core instruments have been submitted since the last CCA (2006). The limited and late reporting on these conventions may be a reflection of several issues including the lack of reporting capacity, limited human resources to dedicate to reporting and the prioritisation of other activities within Ministries. With the Periodic Review scheduled for October 2011, Ministries may require significant support in reporting. The following sections provide an update of progress on the perceived internalisation of the tenants of the core international human rights instruments since the last CCA in 2006.

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

A variety of measures have been taken to implement recommendations relating to this convention. The Children’s Authority Act 2000 was assented to 2nd November, 2000. It established a Children’s Authority to act as the guardian of the children of Trinidad and Tobago. A Family Court was established in 2004 to specifically deal with family disputes arising out of the care and custody of children. The Children’s Authority (Amendment) Bill was passed in 2008 and a Children’s Authority Board was installed in 2009 to assist children who are in need, as well as to regulate children’s homes. In 1999, a DNA testing Bill went to Parliament to enable police to produce evidence against people who sexually abused children. The Act, which was passed by Parliament in 2000, was put into effect in September 2007, and provides the legal framework for DNA samples to be taken from individuals to be matched with evidence found at crime scenes or on victims.

In April of 2007, a National Plan of Action for Children was launched by the Ministry of Social Development, and identified 4 major priority areas for action across the Governmental and

Non-Governmental sectors: Promoting Healthy Lives, Providing Quality Education, Protecting Against Abuse, Exploitation and Violence, Combating HIV/AIDS.

The government ratified the ILO Convention 182 on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in 2003. Data on child labour is very limited. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) indicated that 4.1% of children in Trinidad and Tobago were working in 2000. This indicates that 18,395 children out of a total population of 448,649 children were working. In 2002, the International Labour Organization (ILO) conducted a Rapid Assessment Study to determine whether the worst forms of child labour⁷⁵ existed in Trinidad and Tobago. The study showed that 1.2% of children (15-14) were engaged in paid work, and below 1% were engaged in unpaid work outside their household⁷⁶.

The minimum legal age for workers under The Children Act, is low (12 years, where children from 12 to 16 years of age may work only in family businesses.) The Government is being encouraged to fully implement the ILO Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment⁷⁷, ratified in 2004.

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights – ICCPR (Acceded: 21 December 1978.)

Although the death is the stated penalty for murder in Trinidad and Tobago, and a recent Privy Council ruling upheld that it is constitutional, there has been a moratorium on the death penalty in the country since 1999. In addition, a 1993 ruling of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council deemed that more than five years under sentence of death would constitute inhuman and degrading treatment⁷⁸. However, the People's Partnership government announced plans to introduce new legislation to facilitate the re-implementation of the death penalty in the country in September 2010⁷⁹.

While the country acceded to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which states that no person shall be arbitrarily deprived of life, the government's position is that Article 6 of the Covenant provides that, "countries which have not abolished the death penalty, sentence of death may be imposed only for the most serious crimes in accordance with the law in force at the time of the commission of the crime." As Trinidad and Tobago has not abolished the death penalty, it would therefore not be acting contrary to its binding legal obligations under the Covenant.⁸⁰ However, the UN calls for all states to fully uphold and promote the right to life, as outlined in the widely supported 2007 UN General Assembly resolution, which calls for a worldwide moratorium on executions.

⁷⁵ This study focussed on the areas of agriculture, domestic work, scavenging, prostitution and pornography.

⁷⁶ Trinidad and Tobago National Plan of Action for Children 2006 – 2010, Ministry of Social Development

⁷⁷ *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Trinidad and Tobago – a Guide to Legislative Reform*, Pegus, C International Labour Office, 2006. Suggestions include amendments to the Children Act, Factories Act and the Occupational Safety and Health Act to replace the Factories Act.

⁷⁸ *Pratt and Another v Attorney General of Jamaica* [1993] 43 WIR 340

⁷⁹ *Trinidad and Tobago bringing back death penalty*. Jamaica Gleaner News, January 17, 2011 <<http://jamaica-gleaner.com/gleaner/20110117/lead/lead5.html>>

⁸⁰ <http://www.newsday.co.tt/news/0,134307.html>

In November 2010, the UN General Assembly voted to renew the international moratorium. While the resolution was approved by 107 countries, Trinidad and Tobago voted against it. In January 2011, the Prime Minister made a statement in Parliament on the Constitution (Amendment) (Capital Offences) Bill 2011 in which she indicated that government proposed to treat with murder in three categories, and not to impose the death penalty in all cases of murder. The outcome of the proposed amendment is still pending.

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

It is entrenched in the Constitution of Trinidad and Tobago that all forms of discrimination on the grounds of gender are prohibited. This, however, covers the state alone and not non-state or private actors. The 26th Session of CEDAW in 2002 considered Trinidad and Tobago's initial, second and third periodic reports. The Committee commended the country, noting that at the time, the status of women in Trinidad and Tobago compared favourably with that of similarly situated developing nations. Legislation dealing with discrimination against women includes the Equal Opportunities Act, the Judicial Review Act and amendments to the Sexual Offences Act which criminalise marital rape. The government was encouraged to undertake further political and legislative reforms to end the ongoing discrimination against women and homosexuals.

There continues to be concern about the rising levels of violence against women and in 2008 a "Domestic Violence and Investigative Procedural Manual," was developed to provide police officers with guidelines on how to deal with incidents of domestic violence, including procedures to follow when an initial report is made⁸¹. The Committee praised efforts being made in Tobago to encourage the participation of men in efforts to end violence against women. Some work in this area is now taking place in Trinidad also.

Concern has also been expressed about discrepancies in the different marriage ages set in various marriage acts. The legal age of marriage is 18 years, but exceptions are made on religious grounds and the minimum ages vary according various marriage acts. All legislation, however, requires the full consent to marriage from the spouses, and the consent of the parents in the case of minors⁸². A 2004 United Nations report estimated that 9 per cent of girls between 15 and 19 years of age were married, divorced or widowed⁸³.

The government of Trinidad and Tobago affirms women's rights to property ownership, and there are no legal restrictions on their access to land. In 1982, the most recent year for which information is available, women represented one-fifth of all landowners⁸⁴.

⁸¹ AG: *Zero tolerance on domestic violence*, Trinidad Guardian, Thursday 17th January, 2008

⁸² Marriage is governed within the family code, under the 1923 Marriage Act, the 1961 Muslim Marriage and Divorce Act, the 1947 Hindu Marriage Act and the Orisa Marriage Act, No. 22 of 1999. The minimum legal age depends on the type of union. Marriage Act (18 male/female); Muslim Marriage and Divorce Act (16male/12female); Hindu Marriage Act (18 male/14 female); Orisha Marriage Act (18male/16female).

⁸³ UN (United Nations) (2004), World Fertility Report 2003, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, New York, NY

⁸⁴ *Gender Equality and Social Institutions in Trinidad and Tobago*, The Social Institutions and Gender Index, OECD Development Centre <<http://genderindex.org/country/trinidad-and-tobago>>

The Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERDA)

At the last review the Committee welcomed the establishment of the Human Rights Unit in the Office of the Attorney-General and Ministry of Legal Affairs, the passage of the Equal Opportunities Act, No. 39 of 2000, the Judicial Review Act, No. 60 of 2000 and other pertinent legislation.

Limited statistical data exists on the ethnic composition of the population and in particular statistical data relating to the numerically small ethnic groups, particularly the indigenous. Sufficient data is also needed on the employment of different racial groups in government service in different sectors, including comparative data, so as to indicate changes in the ethnic distribution in government service. The 2011 Population and Housing Census is supposed to collect data that will include population composition, characteristics and spatial distribution, as well as quantity and quality of the housing stock. The questions should take into account the 2001 recommendations of the Committee.

International Covenant Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Trinidad and Tobago has been commended for the 1998 establishment in of the Human Rights Unit within the Office of the Attorney-General and establishment of the Domestic Violence Unit within the Gender Affairs Division. In addition it has adopted the Equal Opportunity Act, the Domestic Violence Act, the Maternity Protection Act and the Children (Amendment) Act. However, concern has recently been raised that Trinidad and Tobago abstained from a vote in the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly in 2010 to remove a reference to sexual orientation from a resolution on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions. Improvements in disaggregated data, particularly in regard to gender participation in employment, participation of women and children in the informal sector, and on disadvantaged and marginalized groups is required.

Persons living with disabilities continue to face a severe lack of facilities, though some improvements have been made in terms of physical barriers and lack of equipment.

4.0 The UN System and Joint Programming in Trinidad and Tobago

4.1 Comparative advantages of the UN system in Trinidad and Tobago.

Trinidad and Tobago is ranked in the *'high human development'* category of the UN Human Development Report, has one of the highest GDP per capita levels for Latin America and the Caribbean, and is a net contributor to the Caribbean Development Bank. However, as is seen from above, significant challenges to development still do exist in the country. Its main sources of development assistance are the Inter-American Development Bank and the European Commission. The IADB has recently agreed to over US\$500m in funding and the EC has €25.9 million available under the 10th EDF for the period 2010-2013.

The United Nations has traditionally been a trusted development partner in Trinidad and Tobago, though it does not bring the financial resources that other organisations or institutions have access to. In general, the UN system brings technical expertise and the following comparative advantages to development programming:

- * Legitimacy derived from international conventions and declarations
- * Neutrality and impartiality as a basis for advocacy and leadership
- * Multiple and high level entry points with a broad sector range
- * Relationships with government and non-government organizations
- * Normative and standard setting mandate
- * An honest broker
- * A wealth of knowledge, lessons learned and good practices
- * Its global network of experience and international best practice
- * Operational experience, backed by technical capacity and expertise
- * As a mobilizer and convenor of stakeholder and constituencies.⁸⁵

4.2 The New UN Programming Strategy for Trinidad and Tobago, 2012-2016

The common framework for articulating the collective and strategic response of the UN Country Team to the development priorities articulated by the government in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). However, the Trinidad and Tobago Country Team took a collective decision not to pursue a formal UNDAF for the programming cycle 2012-2016. During a UN Strategic Positioning Workshop in August 2010 and at an end of year retreat in December 2010, the UN Country Team agreed to advance common country programming for 2011 through the development of two joint programmes:

- ❖ Joint Programme 1: Poverty Alleviation and Wealth Creation in Trinidad and Tobago (MDG1)

⁸⁵ "Defining the UN system's comparative advantage", United Nations Development Group, PPT.

❖ Joint Programme 2: Social Statistics

In addition, it was agreed that for 2012-2016, the UN would focus on joint programming in an effort to support the priority areas that are emerging from the new government administration and that will be further articulated in the sectoral and strategic plans that each Ministry is currently engaged in producing. This agreement on the way forward for UN programming emerged from the limited success of the previous UNDAF and deliberate discussions on a strategy to increase engagement with both the government and other partners.

It is important to note that the implementation of formal joint programmes⁸⁶ can also present a challenge to the UN system in Trinidad and Tobago⁸⁷. The implementation of such programmes tends to be constrained by a number of factors, many of which affect other UN Country Teams around the world. These factors include limited human and financial resources to dedicate to joint programmes and a lack of leadership or ownership of the programmes in light of each agency/office having its own commitments that take priority over joint activities. As a result, the agencies/offices focus on their individual mandates and the deliverables of their own country programmes and programming cycles. In addition, there are sometimes challenges in effective communication among the agencies and difficulties in branding all the offices under the umbrella of one UN.

4.3 Collaboration Efforts within the UN System in Trinidad and Tobago

In light of the challenges to formal joint programmes, the focus for 2012-2016 is on areas where programming can be undertaken collectively, either formally or informally. In Trinidad and Tobago, most UN offices bring mainly technical expertise to inform policy, build capacity and support programme implementation. It is important to acknowledge that the UN system in Trinidad and Tobago has been able to collaborate in a number of areas successfully. Joint UN events or activities which occur regularly and are co-funded by several UN entities, but that do not have an agreed and signed common work plan, budget and coordination arrangements, are not considered to be joint programmes. However, the UN entities in Trinidad and Tobago do collaborate through the joint team on HIV and AIDS, and theme groups on gender, MDGs (poverty and statistics), communications, emergencies, and common services. Collaboration also takes place on an individual agency/office basis also in an effort to combine limited financial and human resources to achieve a larger outcome and reduce duplication of effort. Examples of these collaborative efforts are outlined below

⁸⁶ In UN terms a “joint programme” is “a set of activities contained in a common work plan and related budget, involving two or more UN organizations and (sub-) regional partners. They are guided by the principles of national ownership and capacity development, implement the Simplification and Harmonization initiatives designed to reduce transaction costs and build on best practices”.

⁸⁷ In 2008 a UNDP expert developed a joint programme with FAO, ECLAC, WHO and UNICEF on MDGs in collaboration with the Ministry of Planning. In October 2008 the Trinidad and Tobago Cabinet approved the project for US\$ 1.284M. However, as a result of the global financial crisis, these funds were not made available and the joint programme was subsequently discarded.

Description of Activity	Collaborating UN agencies	Start & End Date
<p>Programme of Support to HIV to address Mainstreaming of the HIV Response in all Sectors. UN agencies actively participated (with the National AIDS Coordinating Committee (NACC) and stakeholders from all sectors) in the development of the work plan and implemented and monitored progress and execution of this programme</p>	<p>HIV/AIDS Joint Team: PAHO/WHO, ILO, UNAIDS, ECLAC, UNICEF, UNIFEM, UNFPA and UNDP</p>	<p>Jan 2010 – March 2011</p>
<p>Support to the NACC in the development of the new National Strategic Plan (NSP) for HIV/AIDS 2011-2016 using UNAIDS PAF (programme accelerated funds).</p> <p>PAFs are usually financially administered by UNDP and executed by the most relevant UN agency. In this case UNDP was also asked to execute the project.</p>	<p>HIV/AIDS Joint Team: PAHO/WHO, ILO, UNAIDS, ECLAC, UNICEF, UNIFEM, UNFPA and UNDP</p>	<p>Jan 2010 – March 2011</p>
<p>Preparation of a joint response to health in “Partnering to Enhance the Health of the Nation” in which the areas where support could be provided to the Ministry of Health were identified.</p> <p>In this respect PAHO/ WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA continue to work collaboratively with the Ministry of Health in relation to family health with UNFPA leading on sexual and reproductive health, PAHO/ WHO on maternal and child health, and UNICEF leading the issues of child abuse.</p>	<p>PAHO/WHO, UNICEF, FAO, ILO, UNAIDS, UNFPA and UNDP</p>	<p>2008 - Ongoing</p>
<p>Strengthening the capacity of the National Union of Domestic Employees</p>	<p>ILO and UNIFEM (now UNWOMEN)</p>	<p>2010 - Ongoing</p>
<p>HIV/AIDS in the workplace</p>	<p>ILO and PAHO/WHO</p>	<p>Sept 2010 - Ongoing</p>
<p>Training of journalists on Human Rights Issues (funded by the government of The Netherlands)</p>	<p>UNIC, UNIFEM, UNICEF, UNFPA</p>	<p>10 Dec 2009 – 12 Dec 2009 Take place Biannually first one was in ...</p>
<p>The development of youth friendly spaces for adolescents</p>	<p>UNFPA and UNICEF</p>	<p>Month 2008 - Ongoing</p>
<p>The development of a strategic plan on sexual and reproductive health</p>	<p>UNFPA and PAHO/WHO</p>	<p>Month 2008 - Ongoing</p>

Advocacy on gender based violence	Gender theme group	Nov 2010 - Ongoing
First Caribbean CSR Conference: the first conference organized in the Caribbean resulting in a report describing a situational analysis, lessons learned with recommendations.	UNDP and ILO	27 October 2009
Establishment of the local network of the UN Global Compact for T&T together with the TT Manufacturers Association	UNDP and ILO	Oct 2010 – Ongoing
Development of ‘T and T today’ an online user friendly graphical publication of available online socio economic statistics in T&T available on the web site of the Central Statistical Office	UNDP, UNICEF, UNAIDS, and ILO	June 2010 – Ongoing
Lecture Series on the MDGs	UNDP, UNICEF, UNAIDS, ILO, UNIC	April 2010 – Dec 2010

4.4 Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

Existing collaboration efforts make it clear that working together leverages the comparative advantages of the UN system. Therefore, in order to support the identification of potential areas of future joint programming for 2012-2016, formal or informal, the recognition of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats which present themselves to the UN in Trinidad and Tobago may be useful:

<p style="text-align: center;">Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual agencies/offices have strong relationships with specific counterparts in respective line ministries which created multiple entry points across sectors • Ties to civil society organisations • A global network to access technical expertise and best practice in all areas of development, human rights and peace and security • Operational expertise in results-based management and delivery of programmes • Legitimacy derived from international conventions and declarations • Neutrality and impartiality as a basis for advocacy and leadership 	<p style="text-align: center;">Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driven by the individual mandates of each UN agency/office • Ineffective communications among agencies • Limited resources on the ground - technical capacity and expertise/ funding • Programming cycles do not coincide
<p style="text-align: center;">Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New government administration with a new development framework in which to find niche areas of support • Upcoming universal periodic review of human rights in Oct 2011 • Renewed interest by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and others in international commitments/conventions/reporting etc. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of general understanding of what the UN does in T&T and how it works • Perceived inability to deliver results • Limited interest at ministerial level • Limited 'space' in which to operate alongside other development organisations with more resources

5.0 Recommended Key areas for cooperation

Before highlighting any areas for potential cooperation and joint programming, formal or informal, there must be a recognition that all the UN agencies/offices working in Trinidad and Tobago are working on the 3 UN pillars of *development, peace and security* and *human rights*. Each does this in their own way, given their own mandates, priorities, client requests and resource parameters. In addition, it is important to note that while Trinidad and Tobago is facing an imminent challenge with an increasingly elderly population, 2010-2011 is the *International Year of Youth* and many of the UN entities working in Trinidad and Tobago currently have a mandate to work on youth.

Based on the findings detailed in the previous chapters, it is evident that there are many challenges to Trinidad and Tobago's development efforts. The future success of the UN in Trinidad and Tobago hinges on its ability to:

- Adapt to a changing environment
- Demonstrate its relevance
- Address its institutional weaknesses
- Build on its strengths

In this regard, it is advisable that the UN needs to choose just a few areas in which to contribute collectively to the emerging development framework. In choosing these areas the following should be considered: the persistence, severity and scope of the issue; the opportunity for multiple impacts; and the opportunity for advocacy and programme cooperation among UN partners.

These factors were considered in the selection of the two formal joint programmes that were agreed upon as the focus for 2011 by the UN Country Team at the UN Strategic Positioning Workshop in August 2010.

Programme 1: Poverty Alleviation and Wealth Creation in Trinidad and Tobago (MDG 1)

The UN Country Team has identified the resources needed and the mechanisms of cooperation for this programme. It is being finalised internally and in consultation with the Ministry of Planning, Economic and Social Restructuring and Gender Affairs. The key offices involved in the programme are UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA. When implemented, its key deliverables will be:

1. Technical support to facilitate periodic reporting (at least annually) on MDG 1, and capacity development of the staff of the Ministry of the People and Social Development;
2. Preparation of a comprehensive costing exercise on MDG 1, which will include a capacity needs assessment and development component, by December 2011 (see Table 1 for example);

3. Development of a sustainable mechanism for MDG-related monitoring and evaluation and reporting (sustainable data and information processing, analysis and dissemination mechanism).
4. An advocacy programme on the MDGs

Programme 2: Social Statistics

This project is intended to strengthen the country's capacity to more effectively collect and disseminate data in order to better inform national policy and programming. The programme will build on the database that was created with the support of the UN, T&T Today, as well as the cTTInfo database which houses socio-economic information collected by the Central Statistical Office. It is currently in the early stages of development and will draw on technical support from ECLAC, UNFPA, UNDP, UNAIDS, ILO, UNICEF and PAHO/WHO. The absence of information systems with access to reliable and relevant data is a recurring theme across sectors. This joint effort will leverage the strengths of the various entities to inform data collection, analysis and dissemination in order to inform and improve the design of development policies and programming, and support results-based management of activities.

There are several other areas that have emerged during the consultations for this CCA as other areas for possible collaboration among the UN entities for the period 2012-2016. Activities in each of these areas could be subsumed as part of the existing Joint Programmes, particularly Joint Programme 1: Poverty Alleviation and Wealth Creation in Trinidad and Tobago (MDG 1). Alternatively, activities can be pursued through the theme groups or through other methods of collaboration among the UN entities. These areas include:

Human Rights

With the upcoming Universal Periodic Review and the limited capacity and knowledge for reporting on the core human rights instruments, the UN system can work together to build the capacity of the government to report in this area. The People's Partnership Government indicated a renewed interest in this area. It intends to reactivate a properly staffed Human Rights Bureau in the Ministry of the Attorney General to "monitor the implementation of the various human rights instruments, including periodic reporting to the international human rights community"⁸⁸. Advocacy on human rights, in the public and private sectors and with civil society, can also be a joint activity. This could include continued advocacy around violence against women and collaboration on cross cutting issues relating to men and boys and women and girls.

HIV/AIDS

While the work of the UN Joint Team on HIV & AIDS is more representative of joint programming within the UN System, rather than a formally recognized joint programme, its work has gained considerable traction with government and non-government partners alike. The new National Strategic Plan for HIV & AIDS has now been completed and the Joint Team can continue to support its implementation. The team includes UNFPA, UNICEF, PAHO/WHO,

⁸⁸ People's Partnership Manifesto 2010.

UNWOMEN (formally UNIFEM) and UNAIDS. Given the early age of first sexual activity, particular attention is needed in the area of prevention, particularly sexual and reproductive health for adolescents both in and out of the education system, as well as care of those infected.

Health systems strengthening

The UNV doctors project was able to assist in temporarily filling the human resource gaps in the number of health care professionals required to service the health care system. As this project comes to an end, PAHO and UNDP are in discussions with the Ministry of Health on the development of a strategic response to further improve the health system. Health system strengthening would include improving:

- Health care delivery
- Human resource planning for health
- Medicine and technology
- Health financing (including social protection)
- Information systems
- Leadership and governance

Several UN agencies have strengths in these areas to support the long term solutions to health in Trinidad and Tobago.

The social determinants of health

The concept of the social determinants of health is a relatively new approach to development which considers health and health equity as a consequence of 'structural drivers' such as social, political and economic policies and programmes which affect daily living conditions. The social determinants of health are the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, including the health system. These circumstances are shaped by the distribution of money, power and resources at global, national and local levels, which are themselves influenced by policy choices. The social determinants of health are mostly responsible for health inequities - the unfair and avoidable differences in health status seen within and between countries. This approach emphasises that health and health equity may not be the aim of all social programmes but they will be the fundamental result. It stresses that while Ministries of Health have important stewardship responsibility, the health sector should work in concert with other sectors. But beyond the health sector, action on the social determinants of health must involve the whole of government, civil society and local communities, business, global fora, and international agencies.

Because of the relationships that UN agencies/offices in Trinidad and Tobago have with individual ministries, NGOs and other civil groups, and local communities, they are in a good position to collaborate in this area. The Commission on the Social Determinants of Health (2005-2008) identified three principles of action:

- Improve the conditions of daily life – the circumstances in which people are born, grow, live, work, and age.

- Tackle the inequitable distribution of power, money, and resources – the structural drivers of those conditions of daily life – globally, nationally, and locally.
- Measure the problem, evaluate action, expand the knowledge base, develop a workforce that is trained in the social determinants of health, and raise public awareness about the social determinants of health.

The UN system can identify areas where it has comparative advantage in these areas of action. One important and upcoming possibility is in the area of **chronic non-communicable diseases** (CNCDs). The UN General Assembly will hold a special high level session on CNCDs in September 2011. The Caribbean has been a main driver in bringing attention to this priority area. CNCDs present a significant development challenge that spans health, trade and commerce, intellectual property rights, agriculture, the environment, etc. The UN system in Trinidad and Tobago can work together on the implementation of the agreements or outcomes from the meeting in September.

Youth development and the Wellbeing of children

Trends in the demography of Trinidad and Tobago show an aging population and a slowing rate of population growth and declining fertility. As such, the development of young people and the wellbeing of children are key to the future prosperity of the country. The UN system can work together to assist the government in increasing the wellbeing of children and youth. This could include increased attention to early childhood care; strengthened support for quality education, support to innovative youth programmes, and increased efforts to help disadvantaged children. Agencies/offices can share information which can assist in the development of activities to strengthen the operationalisation of the Children’s Authority, increase early identification and treatment of HIV in children, strengthen NGOs at the community level, and strengthen the Youth Gender Policy. Attention is needed on work with men and boys, relating to male under-achievement as well as to issues of crime and violence.

Advocacy at the Joint UN level

Agencies/offices can work together on advocacy for the UN system in Trinidad and Tobago. Government and the public at large are often not aware of the differences among the agencies not may they understand the varied areas related to each agency/office. Such communication and collaboration may encourage the UN to speak with one voice externally, increase understanding of the UN system and allow for the strategic identification of areas of support.

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1

LIST OF INTERVIEWS UNDERTAKEN DURING THE PREPARATION OF THE CCA

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)	Mr. Hirohito Toda <i>January 13th, 2011</i>
International Labour Organisation (ILO)	Dr. Ana Teresa Romero <i>January 12th, 2011</i>
Pan-American Health Organisation (PAHO/WHO)	Dr. Yitades Gebré <i>February 7th, 2011</i>
UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Dr. Augustine Agu <i>January 18th, 2011</i>
UN Development Programme (UNDP)	Mr. Edo Stork <i>January 11th, 2011</i>
UN Information Centre (UNIC)	Ms. Angelica Hunt <i>January 12th, 2011</i>
UN Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)	Ms. Izola Garcia <i>January 18th, 2011</i>
UN Population Fund (UNFPA)	Ms. Tammy Yates <i>January 13th, 2011</i>

ANNEX 2

UN WORKING GROUPS IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Deliverables for 2011

Working Groups	Key Deliverables for 2011
UN Joint Team on HIV and AIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equitable access policies for prevention and management of HIV and Tuberculosis (TB) • Support for the development of a national policy and strategic plan on SRH which will also address linkages between sexual reproductive health and HIV • Revise sexual transmission infection (STI) plan and policy; train Ministry of Health staff in STI management; and train health worker in laboratory diagnoses and point of care counselling • HIV and TB gender sensitive plans and policies for prevention, support, treatment and care
Gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community outreach on Gender Based Violence • Information sharing meeting with national partners' • Support the establishment and launch of the National Coalition on Girls Women and AIDS • Technical Support to analyze data on female headed households
MDGs(Expanded) <i>Poverty</i> <i>Social Statistics</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminars <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Social determinants of health and poverty alleviation -Food security and production • Social statistics conference • Seminar reports

Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Internal Workshop• Media Luncheon and Briefing• Quarterly E-Newsletter
Emergencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• User friendly Emergency Response Plan• Staff emergency plan exercise• Awareness raising on coordination of humanitarian response

ANNEX 3

KEY UN REPORTS

Health Systems Profile, Trinidad and Tobago – Monitoring and Analyzing Health Systems, Change/Reform 2008, Pan-American Health Organisation (PAHO/WHO)

Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 3 (MICS) – Monitoring the Situation of Children and Women in Trinidad and Tobago, UNICEF, Central Statistical Office and the Ministry of Social Development of Trinidad and Tobago

Progress for Children: Achieving the MDGs with Equity (No. 9), 2010, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Progress of the World's Women 2008/2009, UNWOMEN

Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic 2010, UNAIDS

The State of Food and Agriculture 2009, Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)

The State of the World's Children 2010: Child Rights, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

The State of the World Population 2010, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

United Nations Human Development Report 2010, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

World Health Report 2010, World Health Organisation (WHO)

World Health Statistics 2010, World Health Organisation (WHO)

World Development Indicators 2009, World Bank

Report of the Caribbean Regional Conference: Corporate Social Responsibility, Creating Value through Private-Public Sector Partnerships. GORTT/UNDP 2009

ANNEX 4

MDG Indicators

(Adapted for Trinidad and Tobago)

The goals and targets below are based in the UN Millennium Declaration and the goals and targets approved by the UN General Assembly as part of the roadmap to implementing the Declaration. The table below shows the MDGs and their indicators adapted for Trinidad and Tobago. These indicators were presented in the 2006 CCA and were adapted by the (then) Ministry of Planning and Development, with the support of the UN, to reflect the national reality of Trinidad and Tobago. In some cases, data has been found for the indicators and can be useful in tracking progress. Tracking is also difficult without agreed upon baselines for measurement in some cases. The results of the 2011 census may be able to provide additional data.

Goals and Targets	Indicators
Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger	
Target 1: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than US \$1.00 a day	Proportion of population below US \$1 per day (PPP-values) --
	Poverty gap ratio [incidence x depth of poverty] 4.6 (2005)
	Share of poorest quintile in national consumption --
	Proportion of employed living in households with a household per capita income or consumption of less than US\$1 per day classified by paid employees and self-employed --
	Proportion of unemployed living in households with a household per capita income or consumption of less than US\$1 per day --
	Prevalence of underweight children (under-five years of age) 6% in 2003-2008, moderate and severe
Target 2: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger	Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption. --
	--
Goal 2: Achieve universal primary and secondary education	
Target 3: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling	Net enrolment ratio in primary education disaggregated by gender 85:85 male to female in 2003–2008
	Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 7 disaggregated by gender --
	Illiteracy rate of 15-24 year olds disaggregated by gender 0% female in 2008 0% male in 2008
	Functional literacy rate of 15 – 24 year olds disaggregated by gender 100% Total in 2008 100% Female in 2008 100% Male in 2008
	Pupil/Teacher ratio in primary and secondary levels
	--

Primary - 17 in 2008

Failure rate trends in basic subject areas(English and Mathematics) disaggregated by gender

--

Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who complete secondary school education disaggregated by gender from 2003 to 2008
84% (admin. data) / 97% (survey data)

Literacy rate, adult total (% of people ages 15 and above) –
99%

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women

Target 4: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005 and to all levels of education no later than 2015

Reduce Domestic Violence

Ratio of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education
101% (Data only available for Primary and secondary)

Ratio of girls to boys completing primary, secondary and tertiary education

Female primary completion rate in 2008 = 92% of age group

Male primary completion rate in 2008 = 92%

Ratio of literate females to males of 15-24 year olds (Policy decision on literacy required from the Min. of Education)

Adult literacy rate: females as a % of males 2003–2007*

Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament
27%

Proportion of men and women in different disciplines in tertiary education

--

Proportion of men and women in different sectors of the labour market

Labour participation rate, female (% of female population ages 15+) = 54%

Labour participation rate, male (% of male population ages 15+) = 77%

Employees, agriculture, female (% of female employment) = 2% (2005, no data for 2009)

Employees, agriculture, male (% of male employment) = 6% (2005, no data for 2009)

Employees, industry, female (% of female employment) = 16% (2005)

Employees, industry, male (% of male employment) = 41% (2005)

Employees, services, female (% of female employment) = 82% (2005)

Employees, services, male (% of male employment) = 52% (2005)

Wage differential of men and women of equal education in managerial positions in the private sector.

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Age and sex specific labour force participation rates classified by paid employees and self-employed

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Age and sex specific unemployment rates

Unemployment, total (% of total labour force) = 6.5%

Unemployment, female (% of female labour force) = 9.6%

Unemployment, male (% of male labour force) = 4.4%

Unemployment, youth female (% of female labour force ages 15-24) = 21.6% (2005)

Unemployment, youth male (% of male labour force ages 15-24) = 12.9% (2005)

Age and sex specific unemployment by educational attainment

--

Sex specific occupational wages

	<p>--</p> <p>Reported cases of Domestic Violence 962 (2004), 1,556 (2008)</p> <p>Victims of violence by sex of offender and sex of victim</p> <p>--</p>
Goal 4: Reduce child mortality	
Target 5: Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate	<p>Under-five mortality rate 35 in 2009</p> <p>Infant mortality rate 31 in 2009</p> <p>Proportion of 1 year old children immunized against measles 94% in 2009</p> <p>Proportion of deaths due to acute respiratory under 5 years</p> <p>--</p> <p>Proportion of children who are breastfed (<6 months) 13% in (2003–2008*)</p>
Goal 5: Improve maternal health	
Target 6: Reduce by three-quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio	<p>Maternal mortality ratio 55 per 100,000 live births 2008</p> <p>Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel 98% in 2006</p> <p>Cervical cancer prevalence and death rates</p> <p>--</p> <p>Breast cancer prevalence and death rates</p> <p>--</p>
Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Dengue, Diabetes & Hypertension	
Target 7: Have halted by 2015, and begun to reverse, the spread of HIV/AIDS	<p>HIV prevalence among 15-24 year old pregnant women</p> <p>--</p> <p>Contraceptive prevalence rate 43 (%) 2003–2008</p> <p>Number of children orphaned by HIV/AIDS</p> <p>--</p> <p>Proportion of TB cases detected and cured under DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment Short Course)</p> <p>--</p>
Target 8: Have halted by 2015, and begun to reverse, the incidence of— Dengue, Diabetes and Hypertension	<p>Number of newly confirmed cases of non-chronic diseases (Hypertension and Diabetes) Diabetes – 1984 (2006)</p> <p>Prevalence and death rates associated with hypertension and diabetes Diabetes – 106/100,000 (2004)</p> <p>Incidence, Prevalence and death rates associated with Dengue</p> <p>--</p> <p>Prevalence of Obesity classified by Age and Gender</p> <p>--</p> <p>Physical Activity Levels</p> <p>--</p>
Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability	

Target 9: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources	Proportion of land area covered by forest 43.9% in 2007 Land area protected to maintain biological diversity 35% of total surface area in 2008 GDP per unit of energy use (as proxy for energy efficiency) 2.1 in 2007 (constant 2005 PPP \$ per kg of oil equivalent) Carbon dioxide emissions (per capita) 27.9 metric tons in 2007 [Plus two figures of global atmospheric pollution: ozone depletion and the accumulation of global warming gases]
Target 10: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water	Proportion of population with sustainable access to an improved water source 86.0 in 1998 (PAHO); 99% in 2001 (UNHABITAT) (PAHO & WASA to give definition of safe water source)
Target 11: By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers	Proportion of people with access to water closets – linked and not linked to sewers. 92 % of urban population in 2008 Proportion of people with access to secure tenure --
Goal 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development*	
	<p><i>Some of the indicators listed below will be monitored separately for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Africa, landlocked countries and small island developing states.</i></p> <p><u>Official Development Assistance</u> - (Source, Central Bank) √Net ODA as percentage of DAC donors' GNI [targets of 0.7% in total and 0.15% for LDCs] 0.1% √Proportion of ODA to basic social services (basic education, primary health care, nutrition, safe water and sanitation) -- √Proportion of ODA that is untied -- √Proportion of ODA for environment in small island developing states --</p> <p><u>Debt Sustainability</u> Debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services -- Proportion of ODA provided as debt relief --</p>

<p>Target 16:In co-operation with developing countries, develop and implement strategies for decent and productive work for youth</p>	<p>Unemployment rate of 15-24 year olds 21.6 % of female labor force in 2005 12.9% of male labor force in 2005</p> <p>Proportion of young persons employed in categories 'x-y' in the labour market --</p> <p>Convictions by type of crime and age (15 – 24) --</p> <p>Age and sex specific labour force participation rates 54% of female population ages 15+ 77% of male population ages 15+</p> <p>Age and sex specific unemployment rates Unemployment, total (% of total labour force) = 6.5% Unemployment, female (% of female labour force) = 9.6% Unemployment, male (% of male labour force) = 4.4% Unemployment, youth female (% of female labour force ages 15-24) = 21.6% (2005) Unemployment, youth male (% of male labour force ages 15-24) = 12.9% (2005)</p> <p>Age and sex specific unemployment by educational attainment --</p> <p>Age and sex specific unemployment by duration of unemployment --</p> <p>Age and sex specific employment growth --</p> <p>Age and sex specific employment by status in employment --</p> <p>Age and sex specific employment by status in employment and income --</p>
<p>Target 17:In co-operation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable, essential drugs in developing countries</p>	<p>Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis --</p>
<p>Target 18:In co-operation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications</p>	<p>Telephone lines per 1000 people 230.5 in 2007</p> <p>Personal computers per 1000 people 13.21 In 2007</p> <p>No of persons with Internet access 593,000 in 2009</p>

ANNEX 5

Trinidad and Tobago: Donor Matrix

Donor	Period	Total Allocation	Technical Area	Executing Agency	Comments
European Commission	2008-2013	€25.9 million.	<i>Economic diversification and Good governance. Activities aim to support the regulatory environment and the non-energy industrial and service sectors</i>	Ministry of Planning and Ministry of Finance	<i>under the 10th EDF</i>
EC		€16.34 million	Support the development of a modern and sustainable non-energy economy. Enterprise University Cooperation; Technical Assistance to SMEs; Educational and regulatory initiatives	Ministry of Planning and Ministry of Finance	Main implementing instrument: Sector Budgeting Support
EC		€8 million	Non-focal Sector – Good and Effective Governance. Improvement to criminal justice system, police, judicial and prison systems, protection of physical environment through legislation and compliance	Ministry of Planning and Ministry of Finance	Sector Budgeting Support. To complement a proposed 2008 - 2011 UNDP programme aimed at strengthening participatory in areas of governance and human rights.
EC	2002-2007	€7.3 million	Granted to support Trinidad and Tobago in its battle against HIV/AIDS. With the EU support Antiretroviral Medication (ARV) for the people living with HIV is funded	National HIV/AIDS Coordinating Committee, NACC	Under 9th EDF focussed on economic diversification and employment creation through fostering human and skills development.
EC	Ended 2008	€6 million	Poverty Reduction Programme. The programme created structures for decentralised delivery of social services and created 15 NGO networks to help address poverty at grassroots level. Some 600 grants were approved under the programme.	Ministry of Social Development	-
EC	2008	€10 million	Allocation for Trinidad and Tobago under the sugar budget line, in view of the accompanying measures to the changes in the EC trade regime with sugar protocol countries. The funds will be used to assist the government in its efforts to restructure the formerly state owned sugar industry while mitigating social impact, facilitating agricultural production and maintaining environmental stability.	Ministry of Agriculture	-
Inter-American Development Bank	2010	US\$500m of an IABD loan package	To support a variety of public-sector programmes, including an overhaul and expansion of the main road network, which it is hoped will provide a boost to the stagnating	Ministry of Finance and various line ministries.	<i>The loan will be released in tranches over a five-year period,</i>

		worth US\$1.3bn	construction sector and in turn impact on employment and income generation. Will also finance activities in public-sector management, energy, water and sanitation, transport and social sectors.		<i>with the first US\$140m due in December.</i>
Inter-American Development Bank	2010 - 2030	TT\$100 million	To support the government of Trinidad and Tobago in its efforts to enhance and modernize the management of its public capital expenditure. The project will modernize the public sector investment management system; improve transparency and accountability in public procurement; and enhance public financial management and control systems.	Ministry of Finance	For 20 years, with a five-year grace period and an interest rate based on LIBOR.
IADB	2010	TT\$40 million	The program will regularize the tenure of property for families living in squatter settlements; and provide subsidies for home improvements and construction of new housing. The IDB loan will finance the upgrading of eligible squatter settlements, including the provision of basic urban infrastructure accompanied by community development and land regularization.	Ministry of Housing and the Environment with the Land Settlement Agency	The IDB loan is for a 25-year term, with a 6-year grace period and an interest rate based on LIBOR.
IADB	2010	USD 78,000	Private Sector Development. The objective of this project is to improve SME access to credit by piloting an SME rating methodology that will assist financial institutions in assessing, structuring and pricing credit facilities for SME clients.	Bankers Association of Trinidad and Tobago	-
IADB	2010 - 2012	USD 500,000	Natural Disasters Prevention Relief. The country risk profile will provide a tool to enhance knowledge and awareness of disaster risk, and inform the prioritization of government activities in disaster risk management, including prevention and mitigation and financial risk management.	Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management, Ministry of National Security	to be drawn from the non-reimbursable resources of the Disaster Prevention Fund (DPF)
IADB	2010	USD 307,500	The Government of Trinidad and Tobago wants to mainstream climate change into the development and planning process of the country, with the understanding of the implications of global climate change and variability impacts on the management of the country's natural, physical and human resources and its overall development.	Ministry of Planning, Housing and the Environment	-
United Nations Development Programme	2012-2015	US\$ 3,200,000	UNDP will support through policy and strategy development based on international good practices and build sustainable national capacities to create and update national policies and strategies that will reduce poverty. Development of national poverty reduction and CSR strategies and national Policy for SME sector; Review of Tobago development plans; Implementation of targeted poverty reduction programmes	Ministries: People and Social Development, Trade and Industry, Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development, Planning and the Economy	NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: Poverty Eradication and Social Justice(Pillar 2) Target: To submit to Government a policy framework to address poverty in Trinidad and Tobago by the

					end of 2013 to bring to Parliament for approval. By end 2012 to submit to Government national strategies to develop CSR and SME policies.
UNDP	2012-2015	US\$ 1,500,000	Improved capacity analysis and policy development in government to improve human security and disaster risk management (DRM). Initiatives to improve human security of the population through development of policies, improved law enforcement, education reform, prisoner rehabilitation programmes and plans.	Target: At minimum Ministry National Security (MNS), Ministry of the People and Social Development (MPSD), Ministry Social and Economic Restructuring, Planning and Gender Affairs sensitized to UNDP recommendations to incorporate into national policies.	NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: <i>National & Personal Security (Pillar 3)</i> Establishment of a well-functioning emergency communications system and capacity development for effective DRM Strengthened strategic and coordination capacity in MNS to combat narcotics and small arms trafficking
UNDP	2012-2015	US\$ 5,100,000	Development of strategic and policy framework for CO2, POPS reduction. UNDP will support through analytical and comparative policy analysis, and programmatic support. This support will be independently cited as critical to country-led progress towards national action plan objectives	Ministry of Housing and the Environment, Ministry of Energy and Energy Affairs	NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: More Diverse Knowledge Intensive Economy (Pillar 5)
UNDP	2012-2015	US\$ 5,200,000	Institutional capacity strengthened for inclusive governance in Ministries and Parliament. Improved capacity, business processes and IT systems for more effective and efficient results based management (RBM) in the public service. Improved capacity within Government ministries to apply democratic dialogue processes. Improved capacity for the Trinidad and Tobago Parliament in strategic planning, legislative capacity to enable greater autonomy.	Ministries: Local Government, National Security, People and Social Development, T&T Parliament, Public Administration, Planning and the Economy	National priority or goal: Good governance (pillar 6 of the Government's People's Manifesto)
UNDP	Completion date: Septem	22,000.00	Project Evaluation – Poverty Reduction Strategy. Poverty and the MDGs. Strengthened national capacity for strategy/policy formulation and implementation of measures to substantially	Ministry of the People and Social Development	Mandatory Project evaluation

	ber 2012		and sustainably decrease poverty		
UNDP	Completion date: 2015	35,000.00	Joint Outcome evaluation on Energy and the Environment. Increased environmental sustainability	Ministry Housing and the Environment, Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries	Outcome
UNDP	Completion date: 2016	25,000.00	Evaluation of impact of RBM in T&T. Democratic Governance. Ensuring the transparency, accountability, participation and effective participation	Ministries: Local Government, National Security, People and Social Development, T&T Parliament, Public Administration, Planning and the Economy	Thematic

Sources:

1. The European Commission Country Strategy Paper for Trinidad and Tobago (2008-2013): Strategic framework for the co-operation between the (EC) and Trinidad and Tobago under the 10th European Development Fund (EDF).
2. The European Commission Country Strategy Paper for Trinidad and Tobago (2002-2007) under 9th EDF focussed on economic diversification and employment creation through fostering human and skills development.
3. Information on European Development Fund and the general budget of the EU, found on the website of the Delegation of the European Union to Trinidad and Tobago:
http://ec.europa.eu/delegations/trinidad/index_en.htm
4. Information on IADB country programming and projects for Trinidad and Tobago found on IABD website:
<http://www.iadb.org/en/countries/trinidad-and-tobago/trinidad-and-tobago-and-the-idb,1030.html>
5. UNDP Draft country programme document for Trinidad and Tobago 2012-2015