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WOMEN AS THE RECIPIENTS OF SERVICES
FROM RESOURCES ALLOCATED IN THE NATIONAL BUDGET
OF SAINT LUCIA

Prepared by
Mrs. Joaquin St. Cyr
Consultant^{*/}



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*/ - The views expressed in this document are those of the Consultant and do not necessarily reflect the views of the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean.

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FOREWORD

This study is the second one within the ECLAC/CDCC project "Women as the Recipients of Services from Resources Allocated in the National Budget" in the field of Women and Development Planning, a subject area in the Women in Development Work Programme ^{1/}, endorsed by CDCC VIII. The first study "Women as the Recipients of Services from Resources Allocated in the National Budget of Trinidad and Tobago" has been widely circulated in the sub-region and the responses and comments received confirm the relevance of the study for the region.

Both studies have been carried out as a follow-up to sub-regional efforts related to the participation of women in development planning; more specifically,

- (i) a decision, adopted at the Fourth Session of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC), related to "Incorporation of women in the objectives of development planning and development targets..." ^{2/};
- (ii) the recommendations made at the First Meeting of Planning Officials in the Caribbean, held in Cuba from 25-31 January 1979 to be concerned with the topic "Women, Development in Planning Efforts" ^{3/};
- (iii) the recommendation adopted at the above mentioned meeting, requesting "planners and experts on women in development to identify new analytical concepts and techniques which could assess more adequately the social and economic participation of women" ^{4/}.

^{1/} E/CEPAL/CDCC/G.115/ADD.1

^{2/} E/CEPAL/CDCC/54/Rev.1, p.11

^{3/} E/CEPAL/CDCC/49/Rev.2, p.29

^{4/} E/CEPAL/CDCC/63, p.7

(ii)

The objective of the studies is to suggest to member governments an instrument which can assist in monitoring on a regular basis the efforts being made to meet the demands of the female population.

It will enable planners and administrators to develop projects and programmes which are consistent with the needs and aspirations of women and structurally feasible within Caribbean society.

The methodological approach has been a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the National Budget, decomposing the expenditures involved in delivery of services to the female population, thus indicating how women have benefited from budget allocations to specific sectors such as Education, Health, Social Welfare and other special services.

The provision of hard data at this level contributes to the regional efforts aiming at a) integrating women at an early stage of the Social Planning process, and b) establishing an information base on women with respect to their participation in planning as beneficiaries of Government Social Services.

With the collaboration of national machineries, local academies, planning and other appropriate institutions, similar exercises can be carried out in other CDCC member countries in order to allow a regional assessment of the progress being made and to assist in identifying targets achievable within the Caribbean context.

The Secretariat has been fortunate in securing the services of Mrs. Joaquin St. Cyr, an economist, to undertake this study and wishes to express its gratitude to Mrs. St. Cyr. The study is being circulated to the members of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) through their national bodies concerned with the Integration of Women in Development or the relevant Planning or Social Affairs units.

The Secretariat would appreciate receiving comments and suggestions on this document.

PREFACE

The present Study on Saint Lucia attempts to replicate a pilot study undertaken in 1983 in Trinidad and Tobago to clarify the situation with respect to "Women as Recipients of Services from Resources Allocated in the National Budget". (ECLA/CARIB/83/9).

The main objective of the Study is to determine what proportion of the resources provided for social services in the National Budget is allocated to the female population and to assess the degree of equity in the distribution of such resources.

The Study is prefaced by a description of the status of women in Saint Lucia, including their legal status and their place in the population structure. This is followed by an examination of the extent of participation by women in the labour force, particularly in the Agriculture and Export-oriented industries sectors, in the Civil Service and their economic status as indicated by the data on income distribution.

Education and Health Care Services and certain social welfare programmes which are financed from the resources of the National Budget are then examined with a view to assessing how far they meet the needs of the female population. Education is regarded as a key factor in the development of human resources, and the extent to which education and training opportunities are available to females, who comprise more than half of the population in Saint Lucia, is described. The rationale for this approach is that, where women remain uneducated, not only are their quantifiable contributions to the economy limited, but also their potential contribution as mothers of the next generation. Furthermore, education is viewed as perhaps the most powerful medium for the creation in women of an awareness and understanding of their civic and human rights, and the determination to secure them.

Next, the availability of health care services at primary and secondary levels is described with the focus on those services which

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meet the special health requirements of women. Women need special attention in the areas of pre-natal, post natal and delivery services, including Family Planning Services. Adequate health care is a determining factor of the extent to which women can meaningfully participate in the overall development of a society. For instance, preventive care, in the form of easily accessible and safe drinking water and adequate sewage disposal and other sanitation measures, will reduce the workload of women in the preparation of food and in the performance of other household tasks and permit them more time to participate in activities other than housekeeping.

The adequacy and spread of social welfare services including transfer payments in a society are important determinants of the status of women, especially among those in the lower income brackets.

An invariable consequence of economic and social development is that traditional socio-economic systems such as the extended family which provide for the basic welfare of the young, disabled and otherwise dependent break down. The need therefore arises for societies to develop alternative systems through which such services such as day care, pre-school and special education programmes would be provided. The State has a role to play in the development of such systems. Welfare services enable parents to continue to perform the nurturing domestic function simultaneously with participation in social and economic life.

The long term objective of the Study is to provide hard data for use in a regional programme aimed at:

- (a) Involving women in the social planning process from its earliest stages; and
- (b) Providing basic information on women as beneficiaries of Government social services needed to enable women to participate more effectively in the planning process.

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Where feasible, an attempt is made to reflect the views of the users of the service dealt with in the Study through the adoption of the methodology of participatory research ^{1/}which focuses on the experience of those who use the services. This is an approach in which community development is considered as beginning with the self development of the person.

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The Ministry of Youth, Community Development,
Social Affairs and Sports:

Mrs. Aldith Isaac, Permanent Secretary

Mr. Nicholson E Monroe, Director, Social Affairs

Mrs. Martina Mathurin, Women's Affairs

Ministry of Education:

Mr. Alexander

Dr. Michael Louis

Ministry of Health:

Dr. A J D'Souza

Mrs. Sandra Murray

Central Statistical Office:

Mr. Augustine

Ms. Ethel JhBaptiste

Ministry of Finance and Planning:

Mr. Ausbert d'Auvergne

Labour Department:

Mr. Rosemund

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Mr. Claudius Francis

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Mrs. Merlyn Combie

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Mrs. Mary Charles

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INTRODUCTION

The Socio-economic structure of Saint Lucia is fairly typical of a former Colonial Caribbean island plantation economy with export oriented agriculture as its base.

The Country attained its independence from the United Kingdom in 1979. Today, the economy is reasonably well diversified, based on agriculture, tourism and manufacturing. Agriculture comprises primarily of the production of coconuts, fruits and bananas, mainly for export.

Given the limited natural resources and the small size of the island (616 km²), it is acknowledged in the National Plan^{1a/} that the island's greatest asset lies in her people and that human resources are crucial to the nation's development.

Women in Saint Lucia, like in the rest of the Caribbean, have traditionally participated actively in the social, cultural, political and the economic life of the society. Documents emanating from national planning offices have stated that the objective of Government planning was the economic and social well being of all workers. Implicit in this assumption is the notion that as the economy improves, so would the situation of women who form more than half of the population.

Inherent in this rationale however is that it is the responsibility of men to care for women and children and that creating jobs for the men would automatically take care of the needs of women and children ^{2/}. This argument gave no regard to the fact that in the Caribbean context there are substantial numbers (40 percent in Saint Lucia) ^{3/} of female headed households.

Like many other countries in the Caribbean and worldwide, it does not appear that any explicit attempts have been made in development planning in Saint Lucia, to provide reliable information on the real and potential economic contributions of women, over and above their domestic and nurturing roles and to show how their contributions could

benefit not only women themselves but also their dependent kin and the nation as a whole.

Recessionary conditions worldwide and in the Caribbean of the recent years have focused attention on the growth of social expenditure, particularly on the share of national budgets allocated to such expenditure. Public expenditure on education and training, health and welfare and other income maintenance programmes are seen as an increasingly dominating factor in public expenditure growth and a primary area for reduction.

The situation in Saint Lucia is that whereas between 1981/82^{7/} and 1984/85^{8/} (See Table I), the total recurrent estimates rose from approximately \$97m EC to \$130m EC, i.e., by over 25 percent, recurrent expenditure on education services rose from approximately \$22.9m EC to \$28.7m EC 1984/85, an increase of approximately 19 percent; and on health services from approximately \$15m EC in 1981/82 to \$17.6m EC in 1984/85, an increase of approximately 14.8 percent. Recurrent expenditure by the Division of Social Services rose from approximately \$2.1m EC in 1981/82 to \$3.3m EC in 1984/85, an increase of 36 percent.

Whereas expenditure on education services as a proportion of the total national recurrent budget amounted to approximately 23.6 percent in 1981/82, it declined to 21.8 percent in 1984/85; whereas health services constituted approximately 15.4 percent in 1981/82 and it declined to 13.5 percent in 1984/85.

However, whereas expenditure by the Division of Social Services was approximately 2.1 percent of the recurrent budget in 1981/82, it was 2.5 percent in the estimates for 1984/85.

Levels of expenditure in the health, education and welfare sectors hold particular significance for the level of participation of women in social and economic life and will continue to determine the level of women's contribution to development.

It is not enough to presume that women will share equally with men in the worsening conditions brought about by a down turn in the economy, the total estimated 1984/85 recurrent budget having declined over the revised 1983/84 recurrent budget by an estimated \$3.6m EC. The need to curtail social expenditure must be weighed against the possible impact

of these reduced services on the fuller participation of women in development.

Finally, notwithstanding the parameters used as a basis for the present study, the point needs to be stressed that women's status depends also on broad considerations beyond health, education, training and employment but on social status and accepted roles. "Ultimately it may even depend upon their equitable access to economic resources and political power" ^{2/}. Progress on any one front thus needs to be accompanied by simultaneous gains on many other fronts.

THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN SAINT LUCIA

Legal Rights

The Saint Lucia Constitution Order of 1978, enacted in 1979, in addition to guaranteeing fundamental rights and freedoms, states that "every person in Saint Lucia is entitled to the fundamental rights and freedom...whatever...his...sex." There is also in the Order protection from discrimination on the grounds of sex.

The Order provides for the acquisition of citizenship by any person, regardless of sex - though foreign born husbands (unlike foreign born wives) of Saint Lucia Nationals receive discriminatory treatment with respect to their eligibility for citizenship. Women are also given the same rights as men to conclude contracts, and to acquire, administer and dispose of property. Women are free to vote and to hold public office on equal terms with men.

The most controversial aspect of the law governing citizenship rights relates to the transmission of citizenship by a married woman to her offspring. In the case of a child born in wedlock it is the male parent's citizenship which matters. Where the child is born out of wedlock it is the mother's citizenship which counts.

The Saint Lucia Criminal and Civil Codes express the legal effects of marriage and emphasise, inter alia, a man's duty to supply necessities of "health and life" to his wife and children. The Criminal Code declares that this duty is owed to children who are legitimate or illegitimate, which Forde ^{10/} describes as an "apt and forward looking declaration in this region".

In Saint Lucia, legislation provides that for the purposes of income tax the income of a married woman living with her husband shall be the income of her husband and shall be assessed and charged in the name of her husband. The proviso allows for tax to be separately collected from the wife although she has not been separately assessed.

Working women generally favour separate assessment if only in recognition of the contribution they make to the world of work and more specifically to the family's economic well being.

A working man is unable to claim a deduction for his non-working common-law spouse and the view is expressed that the idea of an allowable income tax claim for parties in a common-law union is reasonably justified.

Saint Lucia has legislated changes in the Divorce Law which lessened the fault emphasis in divorce cases and have introduced divorce by consent after two years separation, and without consent after five years separation. The built in provisions for financial support of the needy spouse are said to be clear and reasonable.

The heritage of slavery remains in the provision for the registration of births under the Civil Status Ordinance, which distinguishes between "legitimate" and the "illegitimate" child.

The inference in the Law that a father does not exist (since registration of an illegitimate child is entirely the responsibility of the mother) shields him at the very outset from assuming equal liability for the child he has fathered, "and provides untold incentive for the fathering of additional illegitimate children" 11/.

In 1944, the Civil Code was amended to allow the illegitimate child to inherit from the mother only, provided she died leaving no legitimate children, no husband and no relations. Neither was a mother entitled to inherit from her illegitimate child who died intestate, leaving a wife, lawful children and relations.

The Civil Status Ordinance has undergone relatively little change regarding the legal status of children born out of wedlock. Thus in law an automatic assumption is made that the parents of an illegitimate child have a closer relationship with legitimate children and relations, than with the child.

The Affiliation Ordinance and the laws of succession perpetuate this type of discrimination. Further, as chief custodian of her illegitimate child the burden of responsibility for the upbringing of the child is squarely on the shoulders of the mother. A custody order cannot be placed on a putative father except by informal agreement or by adoption.

The Teaching Service Commission Regulations No. 41 of 1977 require the suspension of unmarried teachers from the Teaching Service if pregnant, but they "will be allowed to resume duties immediately if marriage is contracted". An unmarried teacher who becomes pregnant "shall be dismissed on a second pregnancy if still unmarried". This is clearly an example of a Regulation which is discriminatory by sex, as no mention is made of unmarried fathers. A similar regulation is reported to apply to student nurses.

The Criminal Law deals with both male and female offenders in the same way according to the crime which has been committed. However, the protectionist approach to women is endorsed in laws which take the view that women of all ages should be protected from sexual abuse, sexual harrassment and exploitation. Consequently, safeguards in the form of sanctions for named sexual offences are written into the legislation. Women specific offences such as abortion, child destruction, concealment of births, infanticide and prostitution are also determined and punishable by law.

Some legislative enactments refer specifically to the employment of women. For example, the Employment of Women (night work) Act prohibits the employment of women during the night in "an industrial undertaking except in certain circumstances". This is said to operate against the best interests of some highly trained professional women who are unable to find employment in industrial enterprises on account of their not being able to work on the night shift.

Wages Councils which have been established under the Wages Councils Ordinance to provide a minimum level of protection to certain categories, usually of lower paid workers, discriminate against female agricultural labourers in that higher minimum wages are paid to males than females. The rationale is said to be the lower productivity of the female agricultural worker though this is said not to have been conclusively proven (notwithstanding that many of these workers are now covered by union agreements).

A Clerks Wages Council has recently been published for public comment. Whereas the order discriminates between urban and rural areas, it does not discriminate on the grounds of sex.

Plans are said to be afoot to protect workers in the electrical components, garments industries and gas stations under this Ordinance. The two former industries almost exclusively employ female labour and operate mainly under the export oriented light manufacturing sector.

Other legislation relating to employment serves to ensure that reasonable working conditions and remuneration are provided for all workers, women and men. Examples of these are found in the National Insurance Act of 1979 ^{12/}.

This Act makes it mandatory for all employees between the ages of 16 and 60 years to be insured (except public servants and other employees who are covered by insurance schemes which are similar or better than the National Insurance Scheme).

The main risks covered are sickness, old age, disablement and death. The benefits provided include maternity benefits. Women are equally eligible as men to be registered under the Scheme though men are not paid survivors' benefits.

Though survivors' benefits are payable to both widows and female survivors in common-law marriages, a discriminatory clause states that the common-law union must have lasted for a minimum of three years in order for the benefits to be claimed. In the case of a widow with dependents

from a legal union no provision exists regarding the duration of the marriage.

The Attorney General and Minister for Legal Affairs is reported to have articulated his Government's intention to take steps in law to abolish the difference between the legitimate and illegitimate children.

Other areas ^{13/} in which reform is felt to be necessary relates to the issue of maintenance. It is felt that no upper limit should be fixed and attachment of earnings should be used as the means for enforcing maintenance orders.

It is also felt that legislation should afford parties to a common-law union the fundamental benefits enjoyed by legally married couples, particularly in terms of property and pension rights. Reform is also needed to enable a putative father to have the same right as the mother to apply for custody of their child.

The view is also held that the law should be amended to provide the foreign born husbands and fathers of Saint Lucian women and children respectively, with the same status as that of foreign women married to Saint Lucian men.

It is also felt that free legal aid services should be made available to people who cannot afford legal fees. Reference has been made to the many problems which occurred because individuals and families had failed to secure redress and/or protection under the existing laws.

Massiah ^{14/} has made the observation that women themselves now need to find out more about their rights and responsibilities and to be more objectively receptive to changes in the law. She is of the view that because of an ingrained respect for the law and since there is always some enforcement machinery in order to penalize defaulters, law reform is one of the most effective methods of initiating change in the status of women. Much else will follow. Altering attitudes

is a difficult, rather almost impossible task, reforming the law is less difficult and clearly possible.

Population Structure

In 1980 ^{15/} the population of Saint Lucia was estimated at 120,300 of which females formed an estimated 53 percent, rising from 86,108 in 1960 and 99,806 in 1970 ^{16/}. Average annual inter-censal increases between 1960 and 1970 numbered 1,369 or 1.4 percent and between 1970 and 1980, 2,049 or 2.1 percent. These increases derived from the combined effects of a natural increase in population and net migration which was more marked in the 1960s and early seventies than in the late seventies. The net out migration of almost 2 percent per annum throughout the sixties is described in the National Plan as the most important demographic feature - it being highly age selective with over three quarters in the 15-45 age group, and closely linked with educational attainment.

The population of Saint Lucia is a young one with 49,527 or 49.6 percent of the population being under 15 years in 1970. This age group increased in number to 59,695 in 1980 but still formed 49.6 percent of the population. (See Table II).

In both 1970 and 1980, females in the 15-45 age group substantially outnumbered males. In 1970, in a ratio of 18,215:14,622 and in 1980, in a ratio of 21,958:17,626. However, the sexes are relatively evenly distributed in the 0-4; 5-9 and the 10-14 age groups.

The age group 15-44 years in 1970 formed 32.9 percent of the population and in 1980, also 32.9 percent, reflecting a high dependency ratio in the population. The age group 65 years and over formed approximately 5.3 percent of the population in 1970 and 1980 respectively. However, females over sixty-five formed 63 percent and 59 percent respectively of this age group indicating a larger proportion of females than males among the aged.

In 1980, the age group 0-4 numbered 1,039 (4.7 percent) more than the 5-9 group which in turn numbered 4,521 (21.5 percent) more than the 10-14 age group, indicating an increasing number of births over the years.

However, the birth rate and the fertility rate showed a steady decline from 1977 to 1979 and then an increased rate in 1980 followed by a decline in 1981. The birth rate per thousand population between 1977-1981 varied between 33.9, 33.2, 30.3, 32.3 and 31.6 respectively. The fertility rates per thousand females 15-44 years between 1977-1981 were respectively 170.5, 164.5, 153.2, 179.5 and 176.2.

Among first births the majority (61.5 percent) occurred in the 15-19 age group followed by the 20-24 age group with 28.8 percent. However, among total births the majority (33.3 percent) occurred in the 20-24 age group followed by 25.7 percent in the 15-19 age group. In other words, 59.7 percent of the total number of births in 1983 occurred to women under 25 years. The pattern was similar in previous years. (See Table III).

The birth rate is characterised by an exceedingly high illegitimacy rate typical of many Caribbean countries. Indeed, available data points to the increase incidence of illegitimacy over the ten year period between 1969 and 1979, the rate of increase rising from 69 percent of all births to 79 percent of all births in 1978.

Between 1978 and 1983 ^{17/}illegitimate births continued to increase as a proportion of all births and formed 80.9 percent in 1978 82.6 percent in 1979; 83.3 percent in 1980; 84.1 percent in 1981; 84.1 percent in 1982 and 82.57 percent in 1983.

Carasco has criticised the anachronistic nature of the status of "illegitimacy" in the "statistical reality that illegitimate births are the norm in Saint Lucia" ^{18/}.

As noted above, the removal of this discriminatory provision in the law against the majority of children is one area regarded to be in need of urgent reform as it adversely affects the socio-economic situation of the child born out of wedlock. The matter is reported to be receiving the attention of legislators ^{19/}at the present time.

However, this issue must be addressed far beyond the removal of discriminatory provisions against the illegitimate child which, no doubt, would be the first step, perhaps the easiest, to remove attitudes of paternal irresponsibility towards the care and upbringing of offspring.

Consideration needs to be focussed on certain other factors associated with illegitimacy particularly as they affect women in development. These include the need for better education, training and job opportunities for male and female alike, particularly teenagers.

An examination of the marital status of the population 15 years ^{22/}and over not attending school revealed that approximately 30 percent of the population is married and that very small proportions are widowed, divorced or legally separated. A slightly larger number of females than males is married (9,928 as against 9,087 males). However, many more females than males were widowed (2,139 as against 605).

The fact that there are thrice as many widows as widowers is due to generally lower mortality rates among females but also possibly affected by differences in male and female remarriage rates.

The union status of the population indicated that of a total female population of 33,909 ^{23/}over the age of 15 years, those in common-law and "visiting" unions formed about 22percent while those in married unions formed approximately 28 percent. However at age 15-19, whereas there were 1,011 women in either common-law or visiting unions, only 42 were married. In 15-24 age group there were 1,533 women in common-law relationships, followed by 1,416 in visiting relationships and only 447 women who were married. Common-law unions show a peak of 30 percent in the 25-29 age group. However, at age 30-39, the number of married women reached 2,112

while those living in common-law declined to 1,351 and visiting to 252. In the age group 40-49, 1,983 were in married relationships, only 646 in common-law relationships and 59 in visiting relationships.

When placed against the predominance of births in the under 25 age group, it is self-evident that women tend to marry after the birth of their children, so that at age 65 and over whereas 1,526 enjoy married status, only 177 were in common-law relationships and 26 visiting.

Substantial numbers of women thus marry at relatively older ages. Carasco's view was that "they do so mainly for routine, practical purposes of legalizing the union in order to legitimize the offspring, so that the latter can inherit without the discrimination experienced by those who are born and remain illegitimate under the laws of Saint Lucia" ^{24/}.

Whereas under 43 percent of those females with no education were married and 30 percent of those with primary education, 41 percent of those with secondary/comprehensive and 65 percent of those with University education were. This indicates a positive co-relation between levels of education and the marriage rate. Mean ages at marriage are highest for those with little or no schooling and decline sharply with increasing educational attainment.

Of particular significance in the population structure is the large number of women who are de jure heads of households. The 1970 census report indicated that in Saint Lucia these represented some forty percent of all households. The proportion is believed to be higher taking into account that the census definition does not distinguish between de facto heads who may not necessarily be de jure heads ^{25/}.

Larger numbers of female heads, unlike male heads, were engaged in "home duties" and over fifty percent of these female heads declared "no income" or did not state an income compared to under 20 percent of male heads 26/.

Many women who are de facto heads of households because of marital dissolution, desertion, abandonment, absence of spouse or male marginality in the home are structurally placed in a situation in which they become economically responsible for providing for their own survival and that of their children. Yet, a substantial proportion of such women would appear to have no regular income.

The mean size of households in Saint Lucia headed by women was reported as 4.1, while 39.8 percent of female household heads were in the labour force 27/.

The Brana-Shutes in their 1980 study on the unemployed in the Eastern Caribbean (and noting that the data on female headed households relate to the 1970 census) have wondered what the past decade may have wrought in the region, because of continuing migration (mostly of males) price rises, population increases, increased urbanisation, increased dependence on imported goods necessitating cash and the added economic hardships of two hurricanes.

Even if the percentages of households headed by women did not increase, with increasing competition for scarce jobs, they express the view that "those least equipped by education, training and flexibility of movement" (i.e. those encumbered by small children) are least able to compete - despite the fact that their responsibilities may not have decreased.

Life expectancy rates among females in Saint Lucia in 1970 at birth was 72.4 and 75.3 years in 1982 and 1983 respectively and for males 68.7 and 67.2 years in the same years respectively. Women's expectation of life at all ages was consistently higher in all age groups reaching at age 85 and over, in 1983; 9 years for women and 5 for men 28/.

Some 41 percent of the population lived in the capital, Castries and its suburbs in 1970. Only one of the other nine districts (Micoud) had populations of 10,000 and over. Dennery, Vieuxfort and Soufriere in descending order were the three other most populous districts. The distribution of population by district remained substantially unchanged in 1980 and 1970, except for Castries Town in which there is believed to have been a decline in population. (See Table IV).

Females substantially outnumber males as a proportion of the population in the town of Castries where they form about 57 percent of the population and 54 percent in the sub-Castries area. They average about 52 percent of the population in most other districts, except for Canaries, where they represented in 1980 only 48.6 percent.

The Death Rate

Between 1978 and 1981, the number of deaths per year varied between 790 and 850 reflecting a death rate per thousand population of 6.3 in 1978; 6.8 in 1979; 7.2 in 1980 and a decline to 6.9 in 1981.

Infant mortality rates showed a somewhat similar trend of 27.8 per thousand live births in 1978, increasing to 31.9 in 1979 and a substantial reduction to 24.9 in both 1980 and 1981.

Maternal mortality rates increased from 0.5 per thousand live births in 1978 to 1.1 in 1979 followed by subsequent declines to 0.5 and 0.3 respectively in 1980 and 1981 ^{29/}.

Women in the Labour Force

Apart from the Night Work Ordinances there are no general prohibitions on women working in Saint Lucia. Women have the right to work and to be paid for the work they do on an equal basis with men. An exception is to be found in the lower wages paid to female agricultural labourers under the Wages Councils Ordinance. Equal pay for work of equal value is the norm in both the public service and in the private sector.

Working women participate in the National Insurance Scheme. A maternity benefit is payable to the insured woman. Benefits payable under the National Insurance Legislation are the same for females and male employees and benefits are payable to common-law husbands and wives. Where the employee is a woman the National Insurance Scheme does not pay survivors' benefits to surviving husbands, unless they are incapacitated which must be proven medically.

Women enjoy a certain degree of statutory protection in that the Occupational, Health and Safety Act provides for certain facilities such as seating for female employees.

An important aspect of unemployment is the manner in which the rates vary as much by sex, as by age. In 1970, though (27,345) 56 percent of the labour force were females, only (9,095) 33.2 percent of females worked; whereas males numbered 21,479 and 16,975 (79 percent) were employed. Female participation rates are substantially lower, the highest rate being in the 20-24 age group (43.6 percent) declining thereafter, presumably as they leave the labour force to raise families. (See Tables V and VI).

A significant number of adult females not in school - 18,077 out of a total of 27,345 (66 percent) - did not place themselves in any occupational category.

Whereas over 90 percent of males in the age group twenty five to fifty worked, the females who worked formed only thirty to forty percent of total females in the age group.

Whereas 86 percent of males in the twenty to twenty four age group worked, and 60.4 percent in the fifteen to nineteen age group only 43.6 percent and 33.3 percent respectively of the females in these age groups worked.

An examination of the gainfully occupied population by industrial group in 1979 and 1982 (See Table VII) indicates that females formed approximately 35 percent of the employed labour force of 36,124 and 38,207 respectively.

In 1982, the majority of the labour force, 12,973 (33 percent) were engaged in agriculture followed by the Services sector, which employed 7,384 or 21 percent and the Electricity and Commerce Sector employing 5,062 or 14 percent. Mining and manufacturing employed 4,517 (12 percent), Construction 3,897 (10 percent) and Transport 3,041 (8 percent).

An examination of the pattern of female employment in 1982 reveals that the majority, 4,871 or 36 percent were to be found in the Services Sector followed by 3,176 (24 percent) in Agriculture, 2,865 (21 percent) in Electricity and Commerce, 2,142 (16 percent) in Mining and Manufacturing and only 149 (1 percent) in Construction.

In 1982, males dominated agriculture, construction and transport, and females dominated the services sector. Females were fairly evenly represented in electricity and commerce and in manufacturing. The pattern of employment was similar in 1979.

An examination of the pattern of employment between males and females according to occupational group in 1970 showed a similar pattern of women dominating the Services Sector, (See Table V) as sales workers, as clerical and related workers, fairly evenly represented as professional and technical workers (57 percent) but under represented in administrative and managerial, transport

communication, as farm managers, supervisors and farmers and as production and related workers.

The good showing of women in the professional and technical class (although these numbered only 1,159 as against 861 men) may be indicative of the favourable situation of women who have taken advantage of educational and other opportunities for widening the scope of their social role from the domestic into the productive.

The fact that 3,176 females were recorded as employed in agriculture in 1982, forming only 25 percent of the total labour force (12,973) engaged in agriculture is said to belie the significant economic roles women play particularly in small scale agriculture in Saint Lucia 30/.

Apart from the physical work of preparing plots, planting and harvesting, women almost completely dominate the distribution and retailing of food crops. Further the production of consumable agricultural goods and produce for sale provides an important source of food and income for poorer households. For female headed households the "importance of women in agriculture increases" 31/.

The Knudson and Yates and the Brana-Shutes studies have shown that in Saint Lucia women receive less attention from the extension service than do male farmers. In addition, women, because of their multiple work roles (agriculture, child care, home maintenance) within the farm household and because of stereotypic notions of these roles, confront special problems in becoming more efficient food producers. For instance, specialists are apt to consider only home economics type "programmes for women in agriculture rather than information geared to say, soil conservation, choice of crops, planting techniques and so forth".

Although just under half of the rural Saint Lucian women are in practice engaged in substantial farm work, on average, women farm operators receive less income than men and many of these women classify

themselves as "housewives". Thus, the "female factor" in local food production is often overlooked.

Widespread concern for improving the productivity and advancing the viability of agriculture which forms the economic base of the society must recognise the large contribution that women make to farming enterprises. Any discussion of increasing the household income of poorer families or of promoting the interests of women in the work force cannot afford to ignore these women.

In this connection, it is felt that the limitations of the female headed household in particular must be considered in its own right and a sensitivity cultivated for women who must gather their own fuel, plant and harvest crops for consumption and sale, and expend the time required for routine householding chores.

Women in Export Oriented Industries

The quest for the economic diversification of the Saint Lucian economy over the past decade has given rise to the rapid growth of export-oriented multi-national enterprises ^{32/} in Saint Lucia (as in many other developing countries). This has had a decisive influence on the type of development taking place, a development which is increasingly influencing the status of women as workers and consumers in particular ways.

Most of these production processes have so far required low levels of skills in light assembly type industries such as garments and electronics, the establishment of which has been facilitated by Government incentives such as, duty free and other concessions.

The establishment of export oriented industries started in Saint Lucia as early as 1968-1969 with the commencement of very small assembly type operations such as, in paper products and in garment and intimate apparel construction.

With the institution of the National Development Corporation in 1971, inter alia, to undertake and facilitate the economic development of Saint Lucia, increased emphasis was placed on using entrepreneurs in labour intensive industries mainly from the United States and Europe. The Government facilitates this process by building factories, and setting up industrial estates with accompanying infrastructural facilities. The new Hewanorra Airport at Vieux Fort was meant to complement the industrial thrust in the Vieux Fort area where two industrial estates and a free zone were established.

In the period 1976-82, not so successful attempts were made to attract investors from West Germany, Venezuela and Canada.

With the advent of the Caribbean Basin Initiative in 1983 and the removal of certain restrictions on duty free entry of goods to the United States market, U.S. entrepreneurs as well as those made hesitant by developments in Hong Kong over the reversion of its sovereignty to Communist China, renewed the thrust to attract investors away from the Far East.

As at the end of January 1984, some 1,383 persons were employed in factories geared primarily to the export market at three main industrial estates in Bisee, Dennery and Vieux Fort.

On an average in a factory with say 100 employees one would find only 5 or 6 persons in management and the rest on the shop floor. There is said to be very limited upward mobility into management from the shop floor.

Without specifying in recruiting practices that preference will be given to women, it has come about in Saint Lucia that over the years some 95 percent of the labour force has tended to be females. Females, it is claimed, are more adept and temperamentally suited to these type of jobs.

On the positive side, the Government of Saint Lucia saw the creation of some 1,000 much needed jobs throughout the island. A major benefit is

the multiplier effect on the economy of increased income brought about by the creation of new jobs - doing something, even if poorly paid being better than doing nothing at all.

The greater availability of jobs for females has also made it possible for females to earn their own independent incomes regarded as an important factor in reducing the incidence of sexual exploitation by males of females for economic reasons.

The extended family structure is said to permit most of the female workers to leave their dependent children in the care of relatives while they work (though it will have to be deduced that in the long run as more and more women enter full time employment outside the home, this support measure will weaken).

Those working for the improvement of women's lives have pointed to the many negative aspects of this export oriented type of activity in the short, as well as in the long run, for the welfare of women as well as for the country. In the first place, the question has been raised as to whether this type of industrialization has not simply extended the traditional type of sedentary employment stereotyped for women. For instance, sewing skills have broadened into garment construction and agro industry developed as an extension of cottage type industry.

A second criticism is that women are exploited by these enterprises whose main motivation for hiring women is the higher profits derived from paying women lower salaries. Facilitating this process is that many women work under the threat of losing their jobs to the thousands of other women looking for employment 33/.

It is reported that consideration is being given to the introduction of a minimum wage under the Wages Councils Ordinance for workers in the garment and other assembly type industries. Cynics see this as resulting in forestalling trade union activity, which is regarded as the strongest force in improving wage and other conditions of work in these industries.

Day care and other special needs of female employees will most likely be recognised on the strength of trade-unionisation made possible in the future. Possibilities for Governments in LDCs to develop common bargaining positions with multi-nationals which are in the best interest of local populations should have the effect of preventing multi-nationals from switching operations from one island to another in their own best economic interests.

Women in the Public Service

The Public Service of Saint Lucia comprised, in 1983, a total of 1,406 civil servants of which 828 or 59 percent were females ^{34/}. The Public Service is thus very much staffed by females.

An examination of the highest three categories of personnel comprising 39 persons showed that 16 or 41 percent were females. (See Table VIII). It is noticeable however that only one out of nine public servants at level I was a female, two out of thirteen at level II and thirteen out of seventeen at level III were females.

An examination of the staffing in the public school system in 1983/1984 (see Table IX) showed that females formed an average of 71.5 percent of all staff, but 78 percent at primary level, 52 percent at Junior Secondary level, 56 percent at other secondary level, and 44 percent at tertiary level - the proportion of female staff thus declining with the level of education offered.

Among trained teachers, females averaged 70 percent, representing 78 percent at primary level, 58 percent at junior secondary level, 57 percent at other secondary level and 40.9 percent at tertiary level.

Within the tertiary level, females formed 67 percent of the staff at the 'A' level college, 77 percent at the Saint Lucia Teachers' College, but only 20 percent at the Technical Teachers' College. (See Table IX).

The conclusion is that whereas males still dominate the top echelons of the public service, females are very largely represented at all other levels, but are said to dominate the clerical/secretarial grades and the teaching service particularly at primary level.

The high emigration rates of young educated males in the decade of the sixties and seventies have had the effect of opening up employment opportunities for educated females in the public service.

Income Distribution

An examination of the differentials in earnings ratio between males and females based on the reports of the 1970 Population Census reveals the following:

INCOME DISTRIBUTION ^{35/} ADULTS NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL BY SEX, OCCUPATIONAL GROUP

Per Annum	Total Males	Total Females	Total	Females as % of Total
Under \$500	2,355	3,490	5,845	59.5
\$500 to \$999	6,342	3,222	9,564	33.7
\$1000 to \$1499	3,160	961	4,121	23.3
\$1500 to \$1999	1,663	451	2,114	21.3
\$2000 to \$2499	1,035	260	1,295	20.0
\$2500 to \$2999	544	189	733	25.8
\$3000 to \$3499	315	127	442	28.7
\$3500 to \$3999	256	97	353	27.4
\$4000 to \$4499	146	54	200	27.0
\$4500 to \$4999	143	35	178	19.6
\$5000 to \$5999	171	34	205	16.6
\$6000 to \$6999	139	19	158	12.0
\$7000 to \$7999	88	9	97	9.3
\$8000 to \$8999	44	5	49	10.2
Over \$9000	241	23	264	8.7
No Income or n/s	4,837	18,369	23,206	79.1
Total	21,479	27,345	48,824	56

Source: 1970 Population Census of the Commonwealth Caribbean Vol. 10
Pt. IV - Miscellaneous-Income.

The differentials in income between males and females place women at a disadvantage at all levels of income distribution. (Although equal pay for work of equal value is the norm in both the public and private sector employment).

Sixty percent of those in the lowest income bracket were females and eighty percent of those with either no income or "not stated" were women; conversely, only 8-10 percent of females were to be found in the highest three income brackets.

This poor showing, while attributable to the lower participation rates of women in the labour force raises the question of whether women are attracted to (or alternatively only prepared for) work in those sectors of the economy where pay and other conditions of work are less attractive or in jobs requiring lower levels of skills which are therefore poorly paid. In other words, the major issue is whether the dramatic differences in occupational distributions of the sexes result from different choices made by each, given equal opportunities or from unequal opportunities to make similar choices ^{36/}.

WOMEN AS RECIPIENTS OF SERVICES FROM THE RESOURCES PROVIDED IN THE NATIONAL BUDGET

Education Services

The Ministry of Education and Culture, which operates under the administrative head of a Permanent Secretary responsible to the Minister, initiates policies and executes programmes directed towards the development of all aspects of Education and Culture in Saint Lucia. This responsibility includes the effective control of budgetary allocations approved by Parliament for use by the Ministry, its departments and Agencies.

The Education Act ^{37/} of Saint Lucia, No. 18 of 1977, provides for the compulsory attendance at school of all boys and girls between the ages of five and fifteen.

The Government is committed in its Education Plan ^{38/} to the goal of Universal Primary Education for all. However, this effort would be limited by the "existing and projected financial constraints of the state".

Saint Lucia is unique in the Eastern Caribbean in having relatively high illiteracy rates which the 1970 census indicated was in the region of 22 percent among the adult population, aged fourteen and over, with significant improvements in the figures for the younger age groups: only 6 percent of those aged 15 to 19 were classified as illiterate.

Rates of illiteracy are said to vary more by geography than sex. An evaluation of illiteracy by region, based on the 1970 Population Census of illiterates 10 years and over distributed by major political divisions, indicated that although the overall ratio was 14.8 percent the rate was only 3.5 percent in the suburbs of Castries but reached its highest rate in Dennery (24.1 percent), followed by Gros Islet (22.1 percent); Anse-le-Raye (19.5 percent). The rate in Vieux Fort, the second town, was also high (17.9 percent). Most rural areas had higher than average rates except for Canaries, which had a relatively low rate of 7.1 percent ^{39/}.

The elimination of illiteracy has been identified in the National Development Plan as a first priority. It is an issue which has been the subject of many studies and reports ^{40/}.

A Report ^{41/} of the Federal Team of Saint Lucia as early as 1960 (under the Chairmanship of J C Rose) pointed, inter alia, to the problem of literacy in Saint Lucia which it was felt needed special handling. Literacy, it was stated was not to be confused with education, and that the majority of the people understood only creole - a French Patois. Thus the problem of making them literate in English will involve greater complications than in other places where there was no such linguistic barrier.

An Adult Education and Literacy Programme is provided for in the Estimates and aims at providing an opportunity for those who did not benefit from formal education to receive training in numeracy and literacy. It also serves to encourage continuous education and to disseminate general information on such matters as Health, Agriculture and Civic Responsibilities.

In the 1984/85 Recurrent Estimates, only a token provision of \$80 is made for its programme. However, in the projected estimates 1985/86, approximately \$88,000 is provided for the execution of the Programme.

The Saint Lucia education system comprises primary level education, secondary level education and post secondary level education, embracing vocational and technical training, and teacher training.

Boys and girls at primary schools are equally entitled to take an entrance examination to secondary schools, on the basis of which they are selected. Children who do not enter secondary school are required to continue in post primary classes for three more years and receive a school leaving certificate.

In 1976, 23,643 children between the ages of five and eleven were receiving primary education in public schools representing an estimated 92 percent of the total population of that age group. In the 12-14 age group, enrolment was seen to be maintained at 92 percent, but in the 15-18 age group, enrolment was in the order of 12 percent ^{42/}.

In the years 1982/83 and 1983/84, there was a total of 31,795 and 32,107 children respectively enrolled at primary schools of which 49.4 percent and 48.2 percent respectively were females ^{43/}. (See Table X).

By 1983/84 there was a total of 80 primary schools ^{44/} spread throughout the country, the largest number, 15, to be found in the urban Castries area with an average enrolment of 553, followed by rural Castries with 14 schools and an average enrolment of 350. (See Table XI).

It is acknowledged in the National Development Plan ^{45/} that well over half of the primary schools in the State have enrolments higher than the capacity, with the largest deficits occurring in the districts of Anse-le-Ray, Laborie, Canaries, Vieux Fort and Dennery. The enrolment in Castries was estimated at 14 percent above capacity.

This situation was aggravated by hurricane Allen which caused major damage or destruction to 44 out of the 77 primary schools in 1980.

An insignificant number of primary school age attend private primary schools. (See Table XIII).

The Saint Lucian education system is characterized by a narrow pyramidal structure. An estimated 65 percent of the 31,000 students in primary schools remain in these institutions to complete their education. The numbers admitted to secondary school on the basis of the Common Entrance examinations formed between 33 percent and 37 percent of those who sat the examination. (See Table XII). This percentage is further reduced to some 10 percent who are able to obtain places at the schools offering up to fifth form education.

There is a commitment in the Education Plan to make a conscious effort to meet the education needs of those who are left behind in primary schools. For instance, a new and improved curriculum for the upper levels of primary schools is being developed to include technical/vocational subjects.

Boys and girls follow the same basic curriculum in the primary school. However, in the proposal to introduce technical/vocational training at the upper levels of the primary school no concrete efforts are mentioned to ensure the continued equal female participation in the full range of subjects.

Another proposal to improve the quality of primary level education is to institute a remedial reading programme which includes

a teacher training component. It is proposed in the first instance to operate a pilot programme comprising of three primary schools.

It is admitted that an adequate number of school places will not guarantee universal primary education. The high rates of absenteeism in some areas, for instance, which is affected by cultural/linguistic barriers, is seen as an obstacle to this goal.

Staffing in primary schools is computed on the basis of one teacher for every 35 pupils. There is said to be the requisite number of teachers in primary schools although in 1983/84, only 445 of the 1,084 teachers (or 41 percent) in the primary school system were trained.

Secondary school places are provided for some 30 percent of the school population of which, in 1983/84, 2,361 were to be found in Junior Secondary schools where females formed approximately 60 percent of the enrolment, and 2,493 in "other secondary" schools where females formed about 56 percent of the enrolment. The pattern of enrolment was similar in previous years. (See Table X).

Staffing for Junior Secondary schools (11-14 year olds) is computed on the basis of one teacher for every 30 students and one for every 20 in Senior Secondary schools.

In Junior and Senior Secondary schools the staff/student ratio in 1976 was regarded to be more than adequate at 1:25 and 1:19 respectively, with 78 percent of the teachers trained.

An attempt was made to evaluate female participation rates at secondary level of education by subject areas, by examining the type of subjects for which students entered in the G.C.E. 'O' Level examination in 1983 ^{46/}. (Results on the basis of CXC Examinations are not published by gender).

A total of 997 students entered these examinations, of which 478 (48 percent) were females. Four hundred and five students passed, or 40.6 percent, but 217 (45 percent) out of 478 females who sat passed.

The pass rate among those who sat the examinations was therefore higher for females than for males. More males than females took chemistry in a ratio of 46:35. Many more males than females sat such subjects as Additional Mathematics in a ratio of 33:13; Physics, a ratio of 46:16 (although interestingly in Physics all the females who sat passed whereas only 28 out of the 46 males who took Physics did); Biology, a ratio of 82:51. In Commerce, the ratio was 100:46; Geometric and Building Drawing, in a ratio of 9:3. Only males took examinations in Physical Science and Agricultural Science. Many more females than males took such subjects as French in a ratio of 57:10; and Human and Social Biology, 105:15.

More females than males also entered for Mathematics in a ratio of 27:16 and Spanish 4:2. Only females took examinations in Food and Nutrition, Fashion and Fabrics, Geography and English Literature.

Males and females were relatively evenly represented among the entries for English Language, Economics, Art and West Indian History and Environmental Science.

It is to be noted that although females formed 56 percent of the enrolment of "other secondary" schools in 1983/84, they formed only 48 percent of those who sat the G.C.E. examinations in 1983.

A further 1,249 students are registered at 5 private secondary schools located mostly in the Castries area. (See Table XIII). Three of these schools are exclusively girls' schools, one of which is a girls' vocational school with an enrolment in 1983/84 of 300, and 2 secretarial schools with total enrolments of 228. Females over-all formed 76 percent of the pupils at private secondary schools. Courses taught at the vocational school include Secretarial studies, Home Economics, Handicraft and English.

Of a staff of 128 at the Junior Secondary schools 88 (69 percent) were trained. At the "other secondary" schools, with a staff of 155 69 (45 percent) were trained. Teacher training at the Teachers'

College was to be supplemented by a programme started in 1983 of in-service teacher training to upgrade the standard of unqualified teachers.

It is proposed to upgrade and expand the facilities at the secondary schools. To this end, a policy decision has been taken to expand and convert the Junior Secondary schools (which do not now take children to G.C.E. 'O' Level standard) into five form secondary schools. This development will be determined by the availability of resources.

The Vieux Fort Secondary school is to be converted into a full comprehensive school and the Soufriere Comprehensive school is to be upgraded.

"Tertiary" level institutions in Saint Lucia are described as the Saint Lucia 'A' Level college with an enrolment in 1983/84 of 135 of which 45 percent were females; Saint Lucia Teachers' College with an enrolment of 109 of which 81 percent were females; the Morne Technical College with an enrolment of 192 of which 35 percent were females; the Technical Teachers' College with an enrolment of 18 of which 2 (11 percent) were females and the Hotel Trade School with an enrolment of 30 of which 86 percent were women.

While average female enrolment at these tertiary level institutions was 50 percent, it is evident that females predominate in the Saint Lucia Teachers' College and in the Hotel Trade School and are under-represented in the Technical College, grossly so in the Technical Teachers' College, and are reasonably well represented in the 'A' Level College. (See Table XIV).

In the 'A' Level College, an attempt was made to evaluate female participation rates by subject by analysing the G.C.E. 'A' Level examination results which are published by gender ^{47/}.

Of the 101 students who passed the following subjects, 53 (52 percent) were females:

	MF	F	%F
Mathematics	20	10	50
Physics	11	2	18
Chemistry	16	7	44
Biology	13	6	46
English	13	9	69
French	3	2	67
Spanish	3	2	67
History	8	5	63
Geography	6	4	67
Economics	8	3	38
Accounts	0	0	0
Total	101	53	52%

Again, the low female participation in Physics and lower than average in Chemistry, Biology and Economics are noted.

At the Morne Technical College although females comprised an average of 36 percent of enrolment in 1983/84 they dominate two main areas of study: Secretarial Sciences and Business Studies where they formed virtually 100 percent.

Only 9 out of 25 females were enrolled in the Building Technicians Course; 1 out of 23 in Carpentry and Joinery; 3 out of 27 in Motor Vehicle Mechanics; none out of 5 in Welding; 2 out of 8 in Building Trades Craft; 2 out of 9 in Refridgeration/Air-conditioning; none out of 22 in Electrical Installation; none out of 7 in Plumbing and none out of 12 in Construction Mechanics. (See Table XV).

Proposals were to expand the Morne Technical College to provide additional facilities for new and upgraded courses at technical level in such areas as small engines, road engineering, furniture making, radio and television.

It is doubtful how far females will be involved in such a new thrust since it appears that no specific attempts are made to attract a larger number of females in these "non traditional" areas of study.

The same argument may be directed at future plans earmarked for the development of vocational and technical skills at both upper primary and secondary level to be provided in the plan period. The Ministry of Education has completed a plan which envisages the phased construction of multi-purpose centres throughout the island. These centres will provide facilities for woodwork, technical drawing, home economics, welding, graphic arts and basic electricity ^{48/}.

Government's recurrent expenditure on education has over the last five years been one fifth or more of the total recurrent budget. (See Table I).

The distribution of the recurrent resources between the different levels of education is compared for the years 1982/83 (actual) and 1984/85 (estimated) ^{49/}:

DISTRIBUTION OF RECURRENT RESOURCES BY LEVELS OF EDUCATION

	1982/83	%	1984/85	%
General Administration (including grants and contributions)	1,159,426	4.7	3,344,926	11.7
Education Services	1,149,245	4.6	1,318,658	4.6
Primary Education	13,559,679	55.0	14,566,078	51.3
Secondary Education	6,650,207	26.9	7,032,885	24.7

DISTRIBUTION OF RECURRENT RESOURCES BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION (cont'd)

	1982/83	%	1984/85	%
Technical and Higher (Morne Educational Complex)	2,127,289	8.6	2,101,808	7.4
UNESCO			24,991	.08
Pre-School			80	.003
Total	24,645,846		28,389,426	

Source: Estimates of Expenditure 1984/85

In both 1982/83 and 1984/85 primary education enjoyed the largest share of the Education Budget. However, its proportion in 1984/85, fell to 51.3 percent from 55 percent in 1982/83 although its actual allocation in the recurrent budget increased by approximately \$1m.

Secondary education enjoyed the second largest share of the recurrent budget, its proportion declining from 26.9 percent to 24.7 percent, but its actual allocation increasing by about \$1/2m between 1982/83 and 1984/85.

The pattern of expenditure was similar for Technical and Higher Education whose proportion declined from 8.6 percent to 7.4 percent between 1982/83 and 1984/85, but also saw an absolute decrease in its actual allocation by a few thousand dollars.

The largest increase in expenditure went to General Administration which increased its proportion of the recurrent budget from 4.7 percent to 11.7 percent, an absolute increase from \$1.2m to \$3.3m. A large part of this increase (over \$2m) stemmed from an increase in the Grants and Contributions to Regional Institutions. The amount allocated for

Training under the General Administration Head decreased from \$262,403 in 1982/83 to \$212,889 in the 1984/85 Estimates.

It is of interest that whereas no provision was made for Pre-School services in the recurrent budget in 1982/83, a token sum of \$80 was made in the 1984/85 Budget.

A small provision is also made for Remedial Education, \$67,636 in 1984/85, compared to no provision in 1982/83.

There was a reduction in the provision for the Technical College from \$672,441 in 1982/83 to \$600,383 in 1984/85. Whereas no provision was made for the Hotel Trades School in 1982/83, \$63,376 was provided in 1984/85.

The Advanced Level College and the Teachers' Training College saw slight reductions in their budgets in the period, unlike the Technical Teachers' Training College whose budget increased from \$48,987 in 1982/83 to \$70,572 in 1984/85.

An examination of the capital budget in 1984/85 indicated that the Ministry of Education and Culture was allocated \$9.9m or 11.5 per cent of the total capital budget of \$85.9m ^{50/}. Of this sum, primary schools were earmarked to receive the largest share of \$8.5m. The largest single project was the Hess School construction programme (on which \$16.5m was already spent by March 1984) and on which \$6m was to be spent in 1984/85. The Government received a grant of \$5.6m towards this programme, whose total cost is estimated at \$28.5m over several years.

Of the \$1.0m allocated for capital expenditure on secondary schools in 1984/85, \$400,000 was allocated to a Special Capital Fund for the Soufriere Comprehensive School.

Another \$200,000 each was allocated in 1984/85 for the extensions to Senior Secondary schools and the upgrading of Junior Secondary Schools respectively. Lesser amounts were also allocated for furniture

and equipment and library books and \$125,000 for student books at senior secondary schools.

Capital expenditure on the common services at the Morne Educational Complex for 1984/85 was estimated at \$30,020, primarily for the purchase of Library Reference books. (A new Library is to be constructed in the period 1985/86 at a cost of \$300,000).

In 1984/85, major repairs estimated to cost \$26,000 were to be undertaken on the Science Block of the Advanced Level College.

Over \$120,000 is earmarked for expenditure on the Library Services in 1984/85 including \$50,000 for the purchase of books and \$50,000 towards the establishment of district Libraries.

Non-formal Training

One special programme ^{51/}to teach very basic employable skills to all youths aged 16-25 years is in operation in Saint Lucia and is sponsored by the OAS and USAID. It is called the National Co-ordination of Non-formal Skills Training Project. The Government provides the training venue and national staff and external agencies assist with tools, equipment, materials and instructors.

The programme is geared specifically to meet the needs of the large number of primary school leavers and secondary school dropouts without any qualifications or skills and who are unable to find jobs. Many of the training programmes are organized at the request of employers.

The programme is organized around the concept of specific training modules geared to particular employment needs in such occupational areas as industrial sewing, electronics, small appliance repair and services, tour guides and in agricultural areas such as fish farming, bee keeping, rabbit production, small livestock and root crops farming.

The special features of the programme are first, that each training programme is community based wherever training facilities can be found. In other words, the 'factory' need not be purpose built. (For instance, church buildings and garages have been used once equipment can reasonably be secured). Second, that attempts are made to place all graduates at the entry level in related employment; this success rate is reported to be in the region of 75-80 percent; and the third feature is that the programme should be flexible in design to accommodate a wide range of training programmes.

For each training module courses are advertised and participants are selected until another module is developed. Each module of training is said to last about 12 to 20 weeks.

Of the estimated 200 young people trained so far, some 65 percent are estimated to be females. Females dominate in industrial sewing, electronic assembly and in farming training projects. It is likely that the high participation rate of females has its basis in the growth of export oriented industries.

A small weekly allowance is given to participants during training.

Steps are being taken to extend this programme which is officially due to come to an end in December 1984.

Scholarships and Awards

Three main programmes are considered in an evaluation of females as recipients of awards and scholarships. The Student Revolving Loan Fund; training programmes including scholarships administered by the Prime Minister's Office through the Division of Personnel Establishment Training and Negotiation; and the Island Scholarship Programme administered by the Ministry of Education.

The Student Revolving Loan Fund Programme ^{52/} is executed by the Saint Lucia Development Bank on behalf of the Government. Males and females are equally entitled to apply for loans which may range from

US\$400 to US\$10,000, once certain eligibility criteria are met, such as nationality, income, priority areas of study and the provision of an acceptable guarantor in the event of default.

The normal repayment period is about ten years. Three lines of credit have been obtained from the Caribbean Development Bank so far for the financing of this project.

Between 1979 and 1983, a total of 215 persons received loans of which 74 (34 percent) were females. Female recipients outnumbered males in such areas as Hotel trades, Economics, Education, Secretarial Science, fashion design, Dietetics, Business studies, History, Sociology and English.

There were more loans advanced to males than females for study in all the "hard" sciences and in many of the areas listed among the Government's list of priorities for study such as Engineering, and Accounting, though Business studies and Economics were among top priorities for training. (See Table XVI).

With regards to long term awards (9 months and over) under programmes administered by the Division of Personnel Establishment, Training and Negotiation, and including fellowships and awards under Technical Assistance programmes, between 1981 and August 1984, females again received an average of 32 percent of the awards 53/.

Females dominated hotel occupations/professions; were more than evenly represented in Health studies including medicine and in education; but were under-represented in such areas as Administration and Economics and grossly under-represented in Agricultural Studies and in the Engineering, Surveying and in the Construction fields. (See Table XVII).

There is no calculated discrimination on the basis of sex by this Division. The Division observes equality of access to opportunities and equity, but not sexual equality. The selection criteria for all training programmes apply to males and females equally. Only

inhibitions posed by the social system would appear to be a determining factor in selection of the applicants.

One constraint derives from regulations which makes it obligatory for unmarried teachers and nurses in-training to resign as a result of pregnancy. Training opportunities are thus forfeited on the grounds of a practice which is discriminatory against females.

Two Island Scholarships are awarded every year in Saint Lucia on the basis of the results of the G.C.E. Advanced Level examination ^{54/}.

An analysis of awards between 1978 and 1982 showed that awards on average went to males and females equally.

The six female scholarship winners went on to study Medicine (4), Medical Engineering (1) and Engineering (1), whereas the six male scholarship winners studied Medicine (1), Electrical Engineering (2), Electronic Engineering (1), Computer Sciences (1) and Engineering (1).

An analysis of New University admissions of Saint Lucians to First Degrees, Certificates and Diplomas by Faculty and sex at the University of the West Indies in the years 1972/73; 1977/78; 1979/80 and 1982/83 was undertaken.

Except for 1977/78, when female admissions formed 46 percent of all admissions, the overall admission ratio was more consistently in the region of 36-37 percent. The proportion of females in full time first degrees rose from only 8 percent in 1972/73 to 59 percent in 1977/78; dropped to 40 percent in 1979/80 and rose to 50 percent in 1982/83.

An examination of student registration in First Degrees, Certificates and Diplomas by Faculty and sex in the same years showed that again in 1977/78 female registration formed 47 percent of the total, but in 1972/73, it formed 30 percent, in 1979/80, 35 percent and it rose again to 44 percent in 1982/83. (See Table XVIII).

When First Degrees awarded to Saint Lucians by the University of the West Indies at Campuses at Mona, St. Augustine, Cave Hill and Bahamas are

compared for the period 1977/78 and 1982/83, by subject, 31 percent of females were awarded degrees in 1977/78 and 43 percent in 1982/83. (See Table XIX).

No females graduated in Law, Medicine or Engineering in either year.

The pattern of female graduation by subject area in both years differs. In 1977/78, the largest proportion of females graduated in Social Studies followed by Education and no females graduated in Agriculture. In 1982/83 except for Education, in which there was one graduate, a female, the largest proportion of females graduated in Natural Sciences, followed by Arts and General Studies. In 1982/83 males outnumbered females in Social Studies and 1 of 2 graduates in Agriculture was female.

The conclusion that can be drawn from the foregoing assessment of the three levels of education in Saint Lucia is that the system is open to boys and girls equally. In fact in terms of enrolment rates, whereas girls are slightly under-represented at the primary level, they are over-represented at the secondary level, but revert to a position of slight under-representation after five years at secondary school in terms of their proportional enrolment to sit G.C.E. examinations.

Though the curriculum at secondary and tertiary levels is theoretically open to boys and girls equally (there are only two single sexed secondary schools - one for boys and one for girls) girls are represented in relatively small numbers in the traditional "masculine" areas of study such as Physics and Plumbing, and concentrate on "feminine" areas of Home Economics and Secretarial Sciences. The concentration of females in a narrow range of subjects is particularly marked in the areas of technical/vocational training.

The question to be addressed is how far the choices of females are determined by a culturally induced value system, given equal opportunities or from unequal opportunities to make similar choices. For instance,

perhaps females are covertly discouraged from following traditional "masculine" courses particularly where there are a limited number of places in a given class.

Proposals to expand technical/vocational education at all levels of the education system should seriously address this issue.

Health Services

The Ministry of Health which operates under the administrative head of a Permanent Secretary responsible to the Minister, initiates policies and executes programmes directed to the development of a health care system in Saint Lucia.

This responsibility includes effective control of budgetary allocations approved by Parliament for use by the Ministry.

The Health Policy and Health Development Plan ^{55/} for 1981-1985, prepared with assistance from PAHO/WHO, lays down policy guidelines for the development of the health sector in Saint Lucia. The document emphasises Government's commitment to making adequate health care available to all its citizens using the Primary Health Care Strategy (PHC) stated in the Declaration of Alma Ata of 1978, to achieve "health for all by the year 2000".

The primary health care approach is accepted as one of the principal tenets on which to build all other forms of care. The observation is made in the Health Plan that proper health care in Saint Lucia had literally become the privilege to be enjoyed by a few and that the people were denied genuine medical attention because of the unavailability of adequate expertise and equipment.

Fundamental to primary care approach is that a disproportionate share of the budget should no longer be allocated to relatively high technology hospitals serving a few, typically leaving the poor in both town and countryside largely under-served.

Instead, priority should be given to the design and delivery of a basic health care system suited to the primary needs of the whole population. The stress in PHC will be preventive rather than curative. It places reliance on home self help and community participation to deliver health care and technology that is appropriate as well as affordable and acceptable. For instance, the approach aims to change unhealthy, personal and social habits and to secure an adequate food supply and proper nutrition, these being a fundamental bases for good health. It strives for potable water and basic sanitation; it promotes maternal and child care including Family Planning and immunisation programmes.

This approach recognises the broad interdependence of health and other aspects of development and of need for all sectors to participate in improving the health situation in development. Above all, this approach must consider women as a priority group in all strategies for achieving health for all by the year 2000.

Quite apart from their own special health problems and the major challenges they face during pregnancy and childbirth, women customarily do most of the caring for their families. So if they are ignorant, malnourished or overworked, the health of the families as well as their own health suffers ^{56/}. Thus, not only are women active recipients of health care but their roles as providers and promoters of health care are very important. Furthermore, they hold the key to success in providing primary health care, not only for themselves but also for their children and families. They largely determine the acceptance of new facilities or services in their communities, and failure to adequately consider their knowledge, attitudes and practices has led to the collapse of many projects.

In addition, consideration should be given to the need for the funding of services to meet female-specific medical problems which are usually linked to women's elaborate reproductive system, the principal ones being breast and cervical cancers, genital/urinary infections and a broad array of difficulties relating directly to childbearing.

An evaluation of women as recipients of health services in Saint Lucia is limited by the paucity of data by gender in the health delivery system. On the whole, present health data is regarded to be limited and "in some cases cannot be used as the only source for comment".

Generally, the crude death rate per 1,000 population has remained relatively stable over the past seven years ranging between 6.3 to 7.2 per thousand population between 1978 and 1983. The infant mortality rate increased from 27.8 per thousand in 1978 to 31.9 in 1979, but declined thereafter to 24.9 in 1981.

Similarly the maternal mortality rate per thousand increased from 0.5 per thousand live births in 1978 to 1.1 in 1979 but declined thereafter to 0.3 in 1981 ^{57/}.

Significant achievements in the health status of the Nation in the decade of the seventies ^{58/} were described summarily as the reduction by approximately 30 percent of the infant mortality rate; the decrease in the crude death rate; the increase of medical deliveries to some 90 percent of total births; almost 100 percent immunisation coverage among infants; the reduction in the incidence of Schistosomiasis by 94 percent; a decrease in the birth rate by 33 percent and a reduction in the incidence of most of the important communicable diseases.

In 1979 the reduction of the birthrate to 30.3 per thousand, the lowest for many years, was singled out in the Health Plan as one of the most significant achievements in that year.

Causes of death by gender which were published in 1979 showed that of 850 deaths, females numbered 415 or 48.8 percent ^{59/}.

The female death rate exceeded the male in female specific diseases such as abortion (only 1 case in 1979), but also in such diseases as diabetes mellitus: 9 males, 17 females; Endocrine and Metabolic diseases; immunity disorders: 10 males, 17 females; nutritional

deficiencies: 2 males, 5 females; and in Avitaminosis: 1 male, 5 females. Fifty-seven females as opposed to 45 males died from diseases of pulmonary circulation and other forms of heart disease and 51 females as opposed to 41 males died from cerebrovascular disease.

Males substantially outnumbered females in male specific diseases such as of the prostate, from deaths due to chronic liver disease and cirrhosis (23 males, 12 females) and in transport accidents (6 males, 1 female) and other motor vehicle traffic accidents (4 males, 1 female).

Reported cases of five leading communicable diseases per 100,000 population in 1970, 1973, 1976, 1979 are as follows 60/:

FIVE LEADING COMMUNICABLE DISEASES IN SELECTED YEARS, SAINT LUCIA
1970 - 1979

Diseases	1970	1973	1976	1979
Gastroenteritis	1	3	2	1
Veneral Diseases:				
Syphilis/Gonorrhoea	2	2	3	3
Schistosomiasis (Bilharzia)	3	5	5	-
Measles	4	1	-	-
Influenza	5	4	1	2
Whooping cough	-	-	4	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	4
Dysentery	-	-	-	5

Source: Annual Report of the Ministry of Health and Local Government
Saint Lucia, 1979

In the decade of the seventies, what is significant in the above table is the prominent place in morbidity statistics of nutrition related communicable diseases and those relating to the environment such as whooping cough, measles and gastroenteritis.

The ten principal causes of death in 1981 ^{61/}, which were not published by gender, were as follows. The pattern was similar in the years immediately previous to 1981.

TEN PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH, SAINT LUCIA, 1981

Cause of Death	No.of total deaths	% of total deaths	Rate per thousand
1. Signs, symptoms and ill-defined conditions	152	18.0	124
2. Heart Disease	122	14.5	100
3. Cerebrovascular disease	79	9.4	65
4. Malignant Neoplasms	71	8.4	58
5. Causes of perinatal mortality	52	6.2	43
6. Pneumonia	47	5.6	38
7. Diseases of other parts of the Digestive System	39	4.6	32
8. Diabetes Mellitus	36	4.3	29
9. Diseases of the Urinary System	20	2.4	16
10. Motor vehicle traffic accidents	17	2.0	14
Total 10 principal causes:	635	75.3	520

Source: Annual Report of the Ministry of Health and Local Government,
Saint Lucia, 1981

An examination of the ten main causes of death in 1981 showed that though many of the causes of death are those found in advanced developed countries such as cerebro vascular disease and malignant neoplasms (which account for 32.3 percent of total deaths), certain nutrition related non-communicable diseases such as Diabetes Mellitus and heart diseases play an important part in mortality. Diabetes Mellitus is significant as a cause of female mortality. Also significant is that causes of peri-natal mortality rank fifth among the principal causes of death.

Pneumonia ranked sixth in importance as a cause of death in 1981. This disease is the second highest cause of death among children. (Gastroenteritis is the third highest cause of death among children).

Deaths from motor vehicle accidents which ranked among the top ten principal causes in 1981 for the first time caused 2 percent of all deaths in which there were many more males than females.

The observation is made ^{62/} that death rates for three of the age groups under one year in 1981 had declined since 1980, the decline being particularly marked in the 28 days to 11 months age group and remaining the lowest rate recorded or the previous four years.

However, the 7-27 day death rates were observed to increase to its highest since 1973 and 60 percent of the deaths occurring at that age were due to peri-natal conditions suggesting that the "need for better peri-natal care cannot therefore be ignored".

An assessment of morbidity is based on an examination of diseases reported by notifications of public medical officers. (It is reported that many diseases remain unnotified particularly from the offices of private practitioners).

Between 1977 and 1980, there were notable reductions in the number of reported cases of Diptheria, from 6 cases to 1. In Gonoccal infections from a reported 627 in 1978 to 312 in 1979 and 322 in 1980.

Infectious hepatitis declined in incidence from 45 in 1978 to 24 in 1980; Leprosy from 72 in 1978 to 4 in 1980; Measles from 134 in 1978, when there was an epidemic, to 34 in 1980; Syphilis from 400 in 1977, rising to 440 in 1978 and falling to 235 in 1980; Tuberculosis from 50 in 1978 to 41 in 1980 and Typhoid fever from 51 in 1977 to 7 in 1980. There were, however, 20 cases of Whooping cough reported in 1980 compared to only 1 in 1979 and 4 in 1978. (See Table XX).

There were 5,082 reported cases of communicable/notifiable diseases in 1981. An outbreak of influenza in that year gave rise to this disease forming almost 50 percent of reported cases.

Influenza and Gastroenteritis are described as endemic diseases in many areas of Saint Lucia, the latter disease forming the second largest number of reported cases (705) in 1981. Whooping cough, of which there were 471 cases, was the third highest. There was also an outbreak of this disease in 1981, striking different geographic areas at different times.

There were 48 reported cases of malnutrition in 1981 compared to 175 cases in 1980; 351 of syphilis, 134 of measles and 69 of chicken pox.

The decline in reported cases of malnutrition is said to indicate the successful impact of the child feeding oral rehydration and nutrition education programmes.

The endemic venereal disease of syphilis, had the fourth highest ranking and gonorrhoea, the fifth.

Saint Lucia is one of the few Caribbean countries in which Schistosomiasis infection constitutes a public health problem. The debilitating disease however, is reported to have been brought to low levels of prevalence in the main transmission areas of Saint Lucia. At its 1981 level of endemicity, the risk of Schistosomal disease developing was regarded to be minimal.

1981 was the final year of operations for the Research and Control Department jointly funded by the Ministry of Health, the Rockefeller Foundation and the Overseas Development Administration of the United Kingdom. During its 15 years of operations, this Department maintained major control schemes in five areas around the Island.

Table XXI presents a summary picture of health care facilities in Saint Lucia. There are two General Hospitals, one the Victoria Hospital is located in the Capital of Castries and in 1980 had a bed capacity of 213 and an occupancy ratio of 72.4 percent. The other, the St. Judes Hospital, is located in Vieux Fort, the second town, and has a bed capacity of 108 and an occupancy rate of 55 percent (1980). They cater for both males and females.

Average length of stay at the two General Hospitals in 1981 was 7.6 days. The services provided by the general hospitals include:

- (a) Out-patient casualty services on a 24-hour basis; including accident and emergency cases, referrals from health centres, general practitioners and primary care services.
- (b) Specialist referral clinics for internal medicine, surgery, paediatrics, ophthalmology and obstetrics/gynaecology. Patients are usually referred by general practitioners and district medical officers to those clinics.
- (c) In-patient facilities for medicine, surgery, ophthalmology, paediatrics and the treatment of diseases of the chest.

Whereas Victoria Hospital is owned and operated by the Government, Golden Hope is operated by a Religious Order which receives a Government subvention. Medical care is usually provided on payment of a fee, but needy cases are treated free of charge.

The high utilisation of maternity beds at Victoria Hospital reportedly results in frequent overcrowding at that institution. For instance, Victoria Hospital, with 30 maternity beds, accommodated 2,372 (65.8 percent) of all hospital deliveries in 1981. Whereas St. Jude's, with 13 maternity beds accounted for 895 (24.8 percent) and the district hospitals 340 or 9 percent.

In addition to the General Hospitals the country is served by two district hospitals at Nennery and Soufriere with a capacity of 21 beds each. These hospitals are owned and operated by Government and services are provided free of charge to patients, male and female.

Although basically providing primary care, these district hospitals provide beds for medical, surgical and paediatric patients, and provide intermediate level care for chronic and non acute cases.

No laboratory or specialist services are offered at these hospitals. There is usually one resident District Medical Office at each district hospital.

The beds at these institutions are usually under-utilised and patients are mainly elderly persons with chronic or recurrent illness requiring nursing care.

Admissions to these institutions in 1981 numbered 350 indicating an average bed turnover of 8.3.

There is one specialist psychiatric hospital - Golden Hope - which is located in Castries with a bed capacity of 162.

This hospital provides in-patient care for psychiatric, alcoholic and drug abuse patients. No charges are levied for treatment except for the accommodation and meals of private patients.

In recent years, an increase in the number of females among first admissions to this institution has been noted.

Excluding those deliveries which are carried out at 24 health centres, the total number of beds available for intranatal care in 1981 was 51,

the same since 1979, giving a rate of 13 beds for every thousand live births.

Some 92 percent of deliveries were done at hospitals in 1981 and represented the highest proportion in the previous three years.

Community Health services for general morbidity in Saint Lucia are offered mainly by 24 health centres (and the two district hospitals) through doctors' clinics. The frequency of clinics varies from one clinic day per week in sparsely populated areas, to up to six clinic days per week in Castries. All health centres outside of the capital city are provided with living accommodation for nursing staff to facilitate a 24 hour on call nursing service.

Attendance at doctors' clinics in 1981 totalled 56,920, giving an average of 2,277 persons per health centre and 48 persons for each clinic held.

Other health services offered at district clinics include maternity and child health, comprising ante, and post natal care, and including institutional deliveries for high risk pregnancies; infant care, family planning and immunisation programmes. Services also include hypertension clinics, nutrition education, psychiatric clinics and home visits by community health aides.

Ante natal care includes screening for risk factors; immunisation against tetanus during the second and third trimester and the distribution of routine iron and food supplements such as milk, flour and margarine through the World Food Programme.

The number of sessions for ante natal care in 1981 was reported to be the highest recorded over the previous three years. New attendances numbered about 74 percent of live births, but only 44 percent were new attendances under 20 weeks. Average attendances totalled 6 per ante natal patient.

Five percent of deliveries were undertaken at health centres in 1981 - 2 percent by midwives and only 44 (1 percent) by non-medical persons.

New attendance in 1981 for post natal care amounted to 2,208 or 56.2 percent of all deliveries, and was also described as the highest figure recorded for the previous three years. There were 871 home visits undertaken by the district nurses and the community health aides.

Some 1,285 sessions of infant care were recorded in 1981. New registrations amounted to 3,329, indicating an 86.2 percent attendance of all live births. Total attendances were 41,175 giving an average of 32 patients for every session held and 12 attendances for every new registration.

It is mandatory before entry to primary school that all children be immunised against four of the six preventable diseases of childhood - polio, whooping cough, diptheria and tetanus. Tuberculosis and measles' vaccines are also given to children under six years. In addition, the diptheria and tetanus vaccine is given to school leavers.

In children under one year in 1981, 82.3 percent had completed the DPV(polio) course, and 78 percent the Diptheria, pertussis, tetanus (DPT) and Tuberculosis (BCG) courses respectively. 47.9 percent of the eligible population under six years were reported to have started while 42.7 percent completed their OPV courses; 45 percent started and 36 percent completed DPT. Measles and BCG achieved a 3.7 percent and 28.7 percent coverage respectively, the measles vaccination programme having only started in late 1980.

In 1981, DPT achieved the highest (44.1 percent) dose coverage; OPV was next with 39.8 percent and BCG and measles followed with 28.9 percent and 3.7 percent, respectively.

The Government has expressed its awareness in the Health Plan of problems that unrestricted population growth was having "on the

economic and social life of the State". After falling to 30.3 per thousand in 1979, the birth rate rose to 32.2 in 1980 and fell to 31.6 in 1981.

Family Planning Services are offered free of charge at post natal clinics by the district nurses in collaboration with the Saint Lucia Planned Parenthood Association, a voluntary organization under the administration of the Planning Parenthood Federation.

In 1981, 29 centres were engaged in providing contraceptive services, of which 26 were health centres, 2 general practitioners offices and one a family planning clinic.

New acceptors rose from 1,437 in 1980 to 1,749 in 1981; continuing acceptors from 4,581 to 4,821, making a total of 6,018 acceptors in 1980 and 6,570 in 1981.

Total visits in 1980 were however more than in 1981, being 34,680 and 28,046 respectively. Among total acceptors in 1980 and 1981, 4 males were sterilised as opposed to 586 females.

A Family Life Educator is assigned to each of the 6 health districts. Problems of mothers, young children and youths are described in the Health Plan as remaining high on the list of priority concern of the Ministries of Health and Education, the central issue being the rather high proportion of births to very young women throughout the island.

In an attempt to break down male resistance to the use of contraceptives, attempts are also made to reach males in family planning programmes. Education programmes are undertaken through such channels as youth programmes and peer counselling.

The nutritional status of children 0-5 years of age attending general and post natal clinics throughout the island was evaluated in 1980 (using the Gomez classification). It was revealed that of the 11,019 children under five years old, 77 percent were found to be free of any nutritional problems, 19.7 percent were found to suffer from 1° malnutrition, 3.2 percent from 2° and 0.29 percent from 3°.

The World Food Programme in late 1983 signed an agreement with the Government of Saint Lucia to continue its efforts to improve the nutritional status of the child population through a school feeding programme.

The feeding programme in operation since 1980 is mainly directed to meet the nutritional needs of vulnerable children and mothers attending the medical and child health clinics. Other eligible categories added in 1981 include T.B. out patients, hospital out patients and persons in old age homes. Food commodities include wheat flour, dried skimmed milk and dry whole milk.

One spin off effect of the WFP may have been to increase the attendance of mothers and children at clinics. Problems have arisen regarding the supplementing of the food intake of the entire family at the expense of the target population.

During the first two years of the programme a shortfall of beneficiaries had also resulted in a surplus of commodities, since there tended to be a reduction of beneficiaries whenever there was a shortage or delayed supply of commodities.

The Saint Lucia Community Nutrition Education Project administered by the ministry of Health is designed to provide a nutritional assessment/ education programme for child bearing women and young children under the age of five.

A comparison between the nutrition status of children 0-5 years old between 1979 and 1980 is reported to have been very encouraging in that there was overall improvement deriving from the improved socio-economic development of the country and increased community education which gave rise to improved food habits of the family.

The Bureau of Health Education within the Ministry of Health has been developed out of a project implemented jointly by the Ministry of Health and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) over a three year period, commencing in 1980. It incorporates the

the original Nutrition Education Unit. The main objective of this project is the improvement of maternal, child and school health, including dental health, family planning and family life education services. It is under this programme that Family Life Educators have been appointed.

An interesting innovation in the delivery of primary health care in Saint Lucia has been the introduction since 1978 of the Community Health Aide, and the Environmental Health Aide introduced in 1980. 67 Community Health Aides were employed throughout the island in 1981, giving an average of 3 aides per health centre. The duties of these aides include assisting in the delivery of primary health care at the community level and educating the community, at family level, on health matters such as nutrition, maternal and child health, family life education, family planning and disease prevention. In the plan period it is proposed to replace and/or upgrade the community health nurse by a Family Nurse Practitioner ^{63/}

In 1981 there were a total of 65 environmental health aides throughout the island. The environmental health aide is envisaged as an auxiliary health worker who is trained for six weeks to assume many of the routine fundamental duties performed by the Environmental Health Officer. The latter is thereby relieved to perform the more technical duties leaving the less technical to the aide.

A total of 20,427 premises were inspected by environmental health aides during the year.

Without any policy directive to this effect, it is seen that so far whereas all the Community Health Aides tend to be females, the Environmental Health Aides are male. The Division of Labour by sex is said to be attributable to the nature of the duties performed by the two categories of workers - one personal, the other environmental or more impersonal.

A health team approach for the delivery of health services is being introduced at district level. Priority care groups are to include the disabled and mothers and children.

The introduction of community health workers or community health aides and environmental health aides is reported to have had some success. They provide simple health care and along with other higher levels of health workers at the community level such as the District Medical Officer, the Community Health Nurse, the Environmental Health Inspector, the Family Nurse Practitioner, Family Life Educator, the Dental Auxiliary - mobilise their community into carrying out activities that not only improve their health but raise their standard of living.

The health centre is envisaged to form the nucleus of the primary health care delivery system. Government's health policy is that no individual should have to walk more than three miles to a health institution. However, rugged terrain and lack of transportation do make existing centres not so easily accessible to some citizens at the present time. It is in such areas that it is proposed to construct up to five new health centres as resources permit in the future.

The recurrent budget ^{64/} on the health services decreased from approximately \$18.5m in 1983/84 (Revised Estimates) to \$17.6m in the 1984/85 Estimates, a decline by 4.8 percent. This compares favourably with an overall reduction in the National Recurrent Budget from approximately \$133.6m to \$129.9m, a decline by 2.7 percent.

The philosophical thrust in health care as enunciated in the Health Plan is reflected in a slight shift in the proportionate distribution of financial resources on the different levels of health care between 1983/84 and 1984/85. (See Table XXII). In both years expenditure on the Victoria Hospital took the largest share of the recurrent budget, followed by General Administration and Medical Care.

However, the proportion of the recurrent health budget on Victoria Hospital declined from 29.9 percent to 29.3 percent in both years; the proportions on the District Hospitals increased slightly, in the case of Dennery from 0.8 percent to 0.9 percent and Soufriere from 1.6 percent to 1.7 percent. The share allocated to the Specialist Psychiatric Hospital also increased from 3.7 percent to 4.2 percent. Increased proportions also went to General Administration whose share increased from 11.7 percent to 12.9 percent. There was also an increase on Medical Care which embraces staff and other costs related to Government's Medical Care Programme, emphasis of which is on community participation with preventive measures as the main strategy. Medical Care increased from 15.3 percent to 16.5 percent of the budget allocated to the Health sector.

The proportion of the budget on environmental programmes also increased. The share of expenditure earmarked for Sanitation and Inspection Services in the recurrent budget rose from 10.3 percent in 1983/84 to 11.1 percent in 1984/85; Mosquito control from 1.2 percent to 1.3 percent, and the Health Education Unit from 0.8 percent to 0.9 percent. The World Food Programme's share of the budget increased from 1.6 percent to 1.7 percent and the United Nations Family Planning Programme from 0.12 percent to 0.19 percent of the recurrent budget in 1984/85.

Declines occurred in the areas of Training of Nurses and other personnel whose share declined from 3.8 percent to 2.5 percent between 1983/84 and 1984/85; Resources allocated to Engineering Services responsible for the construction and maintenance of buildings and sanitary conveniences, as well as equipment declined from 1.9 percent to 0.56 percent in 1984/85 and Research and Control whose share declined from 1.5 percent to 0.36 percent.

The Government has recognised in the Plan that secondary and tertiary health care institutions should not only be staffed with adequate manpower but that they should be physically capable of

delivering the services required of them.

One of its main priorities was, the need to upgrade the physical facilities and medical and management services of Victoria General Hospital, St. Judes, and Golden Hope Hospital and the two District Hospitals. It was also proposed to repair and upgrade existing health centres.

Projections on capital expenditure ^{65/} are made in the Estimates up to 1986/87. Proposals in the capital budget estimates for 1984/85 are for an expenditure of \$195,010 under General Administration; \$80,000 under Health and Medical Care Administration; \$265,040 under Medical Care; \$20,000 under Dental Services; a token \$20 under Sanitation and Inspection; \$280,040 for the Engineering Unit; \$145,070 on Victoria Hospital; a token \$20 on Soufriere Hospital; \$25,010 on Dennery Hospital \$60,020 on Golden Hope and \$3.9m on the Water Authority.

Health's share of the capital budget in 1984/85 is approximately \$4.9m or 5.7 percent of an estimated total capital budget of \$85.9m.

The largest sum - \$3.9m - is earmarked for projects to be undertaken by the Water Authority, of which the three largest are the Water Distribution Extension Programme for which \$2.5m is earmarked; the Integrated Water Development and the Roseau Dam Projects for which \$500,000 each is provided. Another \$400,000 is provided for Water Development by the Water Authority.

Other larger projects in the Health sector (involving capital expenditure of \$100,000 and over) include the following:

The completion of the Health Administration Building	- \$195,000
The provision of Furniture and Equipment for Health Centres	- \$100,000
Major repairs to Health Centres	- \$120,000
Micoud Sewerage System	- \$280,000
Improvement and repairs to Victoria Hospital	- \$100,000

Projections are that new Health Centres including those at Grand Riviere and Gros Islet will not commence until 1985/86. Works to establish a new Psychiatric Complex at the Golden Hope Hospital at an estimated cost of \$3m are not due to commence until 1986/87.

The emphasis on improving the pipe borne water supply, as reflected in proposed expenditure in the capital budget 1984/85, is of special significance to the welfare of women and children who bear the brunt of the responsibility for fetching the commodity, whether from stand-pipes, streams or springs.

The conclusion on the basis of available data, is that within the resource constraints of the national budget, the needs of the female population are reasonably being met vis-a-vis the needs of the male population with emphasis on the primary care approach being of special significance to the welfare of women and children in the community.

In the case of services which cater to women only the evidence is that there is great sensitivity in the Health Services to their special needs, but that the improvement in these services is hindered by resource constraints.

Welfare Services

The assessment of women as recipients of welfare services will focus on the following programmes for which provision is made in the National Budget. These programmes are administered under the Portfolio of the Minister of Youth, Community Development, Social Affairs and Sports ^{66/}:

- (a) Welfare Services including the Public Assistance Programme, payments of grants and contributions to local welfare organizations and the Girls Centre administered by the Division of Social Services ^{67/};

- (b) Day Care Services, services undertaken by the Division of Women's Affairs and grants and contributions to local women's organizations. These services are administered by the Division of Youth and Community Services 68/.

Consideration will be given particularly to those services such as day care programmes which are regarded to play substitutable roles for women, and services which are undertaken by, or assisted by the State, in the exclusive service of women.

The following Table compares the provision in the 1982/83 budget with the provisions in the 1984/85 budget in selected services:

COMPARISON OF EXPENDITURE ON SELECTED WELFARE SERVICES, SAINT LUCIA
1982/83 and 1984/85

	1982/83 Actual	1984/85 Estimates
Welfare Services	785,238	1,037,423
Girls' Centre	84,000	89,722
Women's Affairs	501	31,960
Day Care Services	125,125	179,170
Grants and Contributions (Day Care Services)	18,000	30,000
Grants and Contributions (local) (Welfare Services)	19,200	55,073
Grants and Contributions (Women's Affairs)	-	10

Source: Estimates of Expenditure - Saint Lucia 1984-1985

The Public Assistance Programme is allocated the major share of the budget provided for welfare services. Payments rose from \$729,460 in 1982/83 to an estimated \$935,000 in 1984/85, an increase of \$205,540 or 28 percent.

Public Assistance Programmes have their legal basis in the Public Assistance Act No. 17 of 1967 which provides for the relief of needy persons in Saint Lucia. A needy person is defined to mean anyone who by reason of infancy, old age, illness, bodily infirmity or mental incapacity is unable to maintain himself or herself. The Act does not spell out the criteria of eligibility. The Department of Social Services is the agency through which financial assistance is given to needy persons. Under exceptional circumstances of destitution arising from such causes as drought, epidemic or disease, temporary relief may be provided to persons who are needy.

For the purpose of this Act, a husband is liable to maintain his wife and every child under 16 years, whether legitimate or illegitimate that she may have residing with her and wholly dependent on her at the time of her marriage to him. This obligation extends to every father, for his child, every grandparent for his grandchild, every widow for her child and the father and mother of every illegitimate child under 16 years.

Assistance is preceded by an enquiry into the economic circumstances of each applicant including a home visit. One factor considered is whether the applicant has the resources of other persons, including relatives, available to him/her.

Unemployment per se is not an eligible basis for assistance. In the case of the lone person, male or female, age and ill health are the two primary considerations. In the case of a couple who apply for assistance, each one is studied individually in terms of age, health, capacity to earn and actual earnings. However, the income of one or the total income of both must be regarded as a benefit for both.

Assistance is given to a dependent parent and children in the event that the breadwinner is ill or disabled. Male and female heads of households are equally eligible to apply for assistance when the criteria of illness, disablement or old age is met. The amount of assistance is dependent on the number of persons in the home for whom assistance is given. Rates in 1984 were as follows:

One person	-	\$30.00 per month
Two persons	-	\$45.00 per month
Three persons	-	\$60.00 per month
Four persons	-	\$75.00 per month

Each case is subject to review. Assistance is stopped if circumstances improve to the extent that there is no need for further assistance. In the case of children the rate of assistance would be gradually reduced as each child attains the age of 15 years.

Failure by fathers to support their wives and children does not constitute a reason for entitlement, except the breadwinner is ill or disabled. It is reported that clients seeking assistance regarding child maintenance orders are the most frequently reported cases of need.

Defaulting fathers cannot be forced to pay for the maintenance of their needy children without resort being made to the courts by the mothers to obtain affiliation orders in the case of illegitimate children, and maintenance orders in the case of legitimate children.

One interesting feature of the Family Service Department is a voluntary child maintenance programme in which maintenance is collected from putative fathers for the support of their illegitimate children. In each of the years 1980-1982 over \$20,000 was collected and passed on. When considering the levels of assistance payable under the Public Assistance Programme, this is a substantial achievement.

The number of public assistance recipients in 1980 totalled 296, in 1981, 325 and 1982, 367. The distribution between male and female

recipients is not documented in published statistics, but it is reported by officials that many more females than males are on the welfare roles in Saint Lucia.

Day Care Services

A grant of \$30,000 was allocated in the 1984/85 Estimates (compared with \$18,000 in 1982/83) as grants and contributions to voluntary organizations engaged in the operations of day care services. These grants are given primarily to religious and philanthropic organizations which operate subsidised services for boys and girls equally.

The largest sum, in the region of \$12,000, has been earmarked for the Saint Lucia Save the Children Fund. Other grants varied between \$2,000 to \$6,000 annually and were earmarked for organizations which administer day care programmes. Among these are the Corpus Christi Day Nursery, the Laborie Pre-School, the Salvation Pre-School, the Dennery Day Care Centre run by the Mothers Association, the Vieux Fort Pre-School run by the Lionesses, the LaClery Pre-School run by the Roman Catholics and the Canaries Pre-School run by the First Baptist Organization.

Government grants form only a small part of the organizations' budgets, which they supplement by organizing fund raising events and making small charges of parents.

The importance of pre-school programmes and early childhood education particularly for children from socially and culturally deprived backgrounds is well known. Such services are also necessary to enable the fuller integration of women in the wider society.

These factors have been recognized by the Government in Saint Lucia to the extent that over the years, its level of assistance to voluntary organizations which had started work in this area has increased. More recently the Government, through the Division of Youth and Community Services, has established and administered its own 6 pre-school centres

as part of the Community Development Programme. A provision of \$179,170 was made for these services in the 1984/85 recurrent estimates, an increase of \$54,045 or 43 percent over the provision in 1982/83.

The Government administered pre-school programmes operate out of community centres in rural areas. Each centre caters for a maximum of forty boys and girls between the ages of 18 months and five years. Most are staffed by one supervisor and two attendants and the Government pays the salaries of staff. Parents pay small weekly allowances in centres at which meals are served. Parents are expected to contribute in other ways. This stipulation is believed to have caused some needy parents not to take advantage of the service.

Commencing 1984, nutritional supplementation in the form of milk, fish and chicken was provided for children under the World Food Programme.

From 1966-1972 the Centre for Early Childhood Education, followed by the Regional Child Development Centre in 1972, have also been involved in the development of early childhood programmes in Saint Lucia. The work of the British and Canadian Save the Children Fund (which receives a Government subvention) and other agencies have been directed to attending to the needs of a small percentage of pre-school children and their families.

Notwithstanding the foregoing developments, the number of pre-school programmes continues to be limited, particularly those of the desired quality.

The vast majority of pre-school children who attend privately run facilities are reportedly being instructed by well meaning but untrained "teachers" who care for groups of children in return for the payment of a fee by parents. Learning by rote is said to dominate the teaching/learning atmosphere. There is as yet no statutory requirement for the registration of, or the maintenance of minimum standards of care.

An important development in the Ministry of Youth and Community Development Services' approach to upgrading the level of teaching and care at day care centres is to run training seminars during the school vacation

for groups of untrained teachers who operate their own private establishments.

An Inter-Ministerial Pre-school Committee is reported to have drafted standards for day care centres and pre-schools.

In November 1983, a Committee was established by Government to review the system of pre-school education in Saint Lucia and to make appropriate recommendations. The Committee is chaired by the Chief Education Officer and among its functions were to determine the present procedures instituted for the establishing of pre-schools and to ascertain the quality of physical facilities, programmes and teachers which currently exists at the pre-schools.

Special Education Services

The Government has shown its interest in Special Education over the years mainly through the granting of small subventions to voluntary organizations involved in administering programmes for the deaf, blind and otherwise handicapped in Saint Lucia. All institutions cater for boys and girls equally.

The sum of \$55,073 was provided in the 1984/85 Estimates under Grants and Contributions, Welfare Services, out of which these grants are paid.

In addition, the Government directly pays the salaries of all qualified staff in these schools. (The Associations pay the salaries of teachers/assistant teachers who are unqualified).

Though the Associations are responsible for the upkeep of their own properties, the School for the Retarded is located in an old Estate House which is owned by the Government, for which the Association pays a pepper corn rent.

Grants from the Government form only a small proportion of organizations' budgets which they supplement by deeds of covenant,

gifts, and fund raising activities. In the case of the School for the Retarded for instance, Government's contribution is expected to meet only one-third of the budget.

Particularly in the case of the retarded, given limited resources, organizations can only cope with a small proportion of the children who are in need of special education facilities.

The Association for the retarded children was established in 1973 with the objectives, inter alia, of investigating the problem of mental retardation in the State, and establishing a centre or centres for the care, maintenance and welfare of mentally retarded and educationally subnormal persons.

The Association sponsors a school for educationally backward and mentally retarded children. In 1982 the school catered for 75 children above the age of four (including 16 adults - former graduates of the school who attend a vocational centre). A staff of eight teachers is assisted by a medical officer, a physiotherapist, a social worker, a speech therapist and an occupational therapist.

A work centre has been established for older children who produce handicraft items for sale, among other activities, to provide a small income.

The Saint Lucia Blind Welfare Association was established in 1972, inter alia, to provide education and training as well as full placement and social services for blind persons.

The Association runs one workshop for about 12-13 blind adults. Blind children who numbered four have been educated in Trinidad at the expense of the Government of Saint Lucia. Paying for this facility is said to take up the larger portion of the Government grant to the National Council on the Disabled.

The Saint Lucia Society for the Deaf operates the Sans Soucis School for the Deaf which caters equally for boys and girls between the ages of four and a half and five years and fifteen years.

Enrolment in 1982 was in the region of 20 to 30. Since this school operates on a non-residential basis, like the School for the Retarded, the attendance possibilities are limited for those who live far away and who have no relatives to lodge with or cannot afford the costs of private board and lodging.

The National Council for Special Education was appointed by Government in 1979 to look into the special education needs of disabled children. It comprises representatives of Government and non-Government organizations engaged in the care of the disabled and other community representatives. The Committee began to function on a regular basis in 1980.

A sample Population Survey for the Identification of the Disabled was undertaken in November/December 1981 by the Saint Lucia National Council for Special Education in collaboration with the Ministry of Health. The Survey took place within the Primary Health Care Model Project in the Quarter of Soufriere and covered an estimated population of 15,813.

The general purpose of the Survey was to identify the size, nature and degree of the problem of the handicapped (this being one of the duties stated by Cabinet in setting up the National Council for Special Education).

The overall results of the Survey revealed that the the moderately to severely disabled persons were those most easily identified. The total number of referrals, 434, represented approximately 30 percent of an estimated handicapped population that would fall into the category of moderately to severely disabled.

Those with emotional problems are said to have posed the most difficulty in identification. Recommendations were made on the basis of the Survey results and include the need for a system to be developed where the borderline, mildly handicapped child could be identified within the school system.

It is admitted that the available resources would not permit existing organizations to be able to cope with increased caseloads.

During International Year of the Disabled Persons, 1981, the established Institutions and Voluntary Organizations for the disabled in Saint Lucia formed the National Council for the Disabled (NCD).

In an attempt to decentralise services, the NCD began to establish district organizations for the disabled. The first was formed at Desruisseaux. By 1983, eleven such district organizations were formed.

In July 1983, the Ministry of Health, aware of the need for the "team approach", set up a multi-handicapped clinic for the overall care of the handicapped child. Clinics alternate monthly in Castries and Vieux Fort. Referrals are made to clinics by Paediatricians and District Health Nurses.

Services in the exclusive interest of Women

A few programmes are funded by the national budget in the exclusive interest of women. These include the operations of one single sexed assisted school for girls and those components of the health services which deal with women specific problems such as in obstetrics, gynaecology and maternity care. These services are administratively integrated with the overall education and health services respectively.

A small annual subvention is paid to the Girl Guides Association towards its programmes of character building among girls and women including the development of such qualities as intelligence, reliability and resourcefulness.

Through the Division of Social Services, the Government pays a subvention of \$89,722 towards the operation of the Upton Gardens Girls Centre which caters for 25 adolescent girls between the ages of fourteen and sixteen years who find it difficult to adjust in the community and who are unemployed and untrained. The Government grant meets a large share of the institution's budget.

The Centre operates on a day basis. Training is provided in basic vocational skills, with heavy emphasis on Home Economics. Job placement programmes during training are organized.

Counselling is undertaken with a view to developing personal relationship skills. It is proposed to undertake a programme of family life education to help the girls to realize their potential and advantage in their roles as women and mothers. It is also the aim of the programme to develop the proper attitudes to health, hygiene and sex education which "will enhance their feelings of self worth".

The Management Committee is appointed by Government of which at least two members are required to be male.

One programme of special interest to women in Saint Lucia, because of women's special interest in cottage type industries, has been a small scale solar drying training and promotion project which was undertaken by WAND and Meals for Millions (MFM) with assistance from the Caribbean Development Bank, Technology and Energy Unit (TEU), and supported by the Government.

The purpose of this project was to introduce a simple low cost solar drying technology that could be useful both in the home and at community level. WAND's involvement in the programme was based on the importance of this technology to women in the region. The dryers developed should be restricted to applications at the community and household level.

Women's Affairs

Following International Year for Women in 1975, a National Committee on Women came into existence in Saint Lucia. This Committee sponsored a social legislation Workshop in that year.

Between 1976-1982, Saint Lucia was represented at different Seminars on Women in Development. In 1978, for example, in a number of workshops sponsored by WAND in such areas as Family Life and Women in Craft and Agro Industries. In 1979, a Seminar was organized on the rights of the child.

In 1980 and in 1981, Saint Lucia was represented respectively at the mid decade Copenhagen Conference on Women and in CARICOM Workshops in such areas as leadership and the strengthening of the national machinery. The country was also represented at an ECLA sponsored Workshop in Planning and Management in 1981.

In 1982, the Government of Saint Lucia outlined its policy on the Women's Desk and appointed a Task Force as a Planning Committee. This Committee received technical assistance from WAND in its operations in such areas as consciousness raising.

It was this Planning Committee which undertook preparatory work towards the establishment of a Women's Desk in Saint Lucia. This work is said to be in its preparatory stage and will be facilitated when the Co-ordinator of Women's Affairs is appointed.

Although a provision of \$31,960 is made in the 1984/85 Estimates for the Division of Women's Affairs (compared with \$501 in 1982/83), this provision was earmarked primarily for the salary of the Co-ordinator, Women's Affairs. Only a token provision of \$10 was made for the provision of grants and contributions to Women's organizations.

Up to August 1984, this post which has been advertised, had not been filled. In the meantime an officer whose substantive post is that of Community Development Officer has been assigned to work in the Women's Affairs section of the Ministry. This officer is simultaneously responsible for the co-ordination of the National Day Care Programme.

The duties of the post of Co-ordinator of Women's Affairs, as advertised, are as follows:

- (a) Prepare proposals for the functioning of the Women's Desk;
- (b) Prepare proposals for the full interaction of Women in Development;
- (c) Monitor programmes undertaken by relevant Ministries to ensure the provision for the participation of women;
- (d) Liaise with external agencies on matters concerning women;
- (e) Conduct non-formal educational training programmes at all levels to ensure full sensitisation of the male/female;
- (f) Liaise with regional agencies such as WAND and CARICOM in matters concerning women;
- (g) Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Permanent Secretary.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Introduction

Women in Saint Lucia have traditionally participated actively in the social, cultural, political and economic life of the society although no explicit attempts have been made in development planning to provide reliable information on the need and potential economic contribution of women, over and above their domestic and nurturing roles.

THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN SAINT LUCIA

The Saint Lucia constitution order enacted in 1979, in addition to guaranteeing fundamental rights and freedom, provides protection from discrimination, inter alia, on the grounds of sex.

Women are given the same rights as men to conclude contracts and to acquire property. Women are free to vote and hold public office on equal terms with men.

The Saint Lucia Criminal and Civil Codes express the legal effects of marriage and emphasise a man's duty to supply the necessities of "health and life" to his wife and children. This duty is owed to children who are legitimate as well as illegitimate.

In the case of the transmission of citizenship to a child born in wedlock, it is the male parent's citizenship which matters, and the mother's in the case of a child in the out-of-wedlock situation.

For purposes of income tax the income of a married woman living with her husband is assessed and charged in the name of her husband, but a working man is unable to claim deduction for his non-working common-law spouse.

The Divorce Law has been amended to lessen the fault emphasis in divorce cases and there are built in provisions for financial support of the needy spouse.

The Civil Status Ordinance distinguishes between the legitimate and the illegitimate child. In 1974, the Code was amended to allow the illegitimate child to inherit from the mother only provided she died leaving no legitimate children, husband or relations.

The Teaching Service Commission Regulations and the Nursing Regulations contain discriminatory clauses against pregnant female unmarried teachers and student nurses respectively, requiring them to be dismissed if a second pregnancy occurs without the benefit of a marriage.

Safeguards in the form of sanctions for named sexual offences are written into legislation.

Women have the right to work and to receive wages for such work. Some legislative enactments refer specifically to the employment of women and prohibits their employment at night in industrial enterprises, with exceptions. Regulations made under the Wages Councils Ordinance provide a minimum level of protection in the form of wages for certain lower paid category of workers, but discriminate against female agricultural workers in terms of the level of wages paid.

The National Insurance Act protects male and female workers alike, against the risks of sickness, old age, disablement and death. Benefits include maternity benefits.

Though survivors' benefits are payable under the scheme to both widows and female survivors in common-law marriages, a discriminatory clause states that the common-law union must have lasted for a minimum of three years in order for benefits to be claimed.

The Attorney General and Minister for Legal Affairs has indicated his intention to take steps in law to abolish the difference between the legitimate and illegitimate children.

Other areas of needed reform are said to relate to the issues of maintenance of children, the fundamental benefits to be enjoyed by common-law unions similar to legally married couples, particularly in terms of property and pension rights.

In the final analysis, women themselves need to be more receptive to changes in the law, and consideration given to the need for free legal aid services to be made available to those who could not afford legal fees.

Population Structure

The population in Saint Lucia in 1980 was estimated at 120,300 of which females formed 53 percent. The population structure of Saint Lucia is characterized by its youthfulness; almost 50 percent of the population being under fifteen years.

Whereas males and females were fairly equally represented in the under fifteen age group, males substantially outnumbered females in the 15-44 age group, a factor attributable to the emigration of young males.

A high dependency ratio is reflected in the population structure, approximately 33 percent of the population being between the ages 15-44 years.

The birth rate and the fertility rates showed a general decline between 1977 and 1981; the birth rate in 1981 being 31.6 per thousand population and the fertility rate per thousand females 176.2.

The majority of births (33.3 percent) occurred in the 20-24 age group, followed by an estimated 26 percent in the 15-19 age group. The birth rate is characterized by an exceedingly high illegitimacy rate estimated at 82.5 percent of all births in 1983 and can therefore be said to be the norm.

Substantial numbers of women marry at relatively older ages after the birth of their children, so that at age 65 only a small minority remain in common-law or "visiting" relationships.

On the basis of the 1970 Census Report, 40 percent of all households were headed by women, many of which are placed in a situation in which they become economically responsible for providing for their own survival and that of their children - although 50 percent of female heads in the 1970 Census Report had declared no income or did not state an income.

Women's expectations of life at all ages was consistently higher in all age groups; life expectancy at birth being 75.3 for females in 1983 and 67.2 years for males.

Whereas women formed an average of 52 percent of the population in most districts, they formed about 57 percent in the Castries area.

The death rate per thousand population, including the infant and maternal mortality rates, showed an increase in 1979 over 1978, but a decline thereafter to 1981.

Women in the Labour Force

There are no general prohibitions on women working in Saint Lucia, except for the Night Work Ordinance.

However, lower minimum wages are paid to females than male agricultural workers in the Regulations made under the Wages Councils Ordinance.

Working women participate in the National Insurance Scheme and a maternity benefit is payable to the insured woman.

Whereas in 1970, 56 percent of the labour force were females only 33 percent worked compared to 79 percent of the male labour force.

The majority (36 percent) of females were employed in the "Services Sector", followed by agriculture with 24 percent, electricity and commerce with 21 percent and mining and manufacturing with 16 percent.

The fact that women formed only 25 percent of the total labour force engaged in agriculture is said to belie the significant economic roles women play particularly in small scale agriculture in Saint Lucia and in the Caribbean. In addition, women farmers tend to receive less attention from the Extension Service than do male farmers.

The quest for economic diversification through the rapid growth of export-oriented multinational enterprises is increasingly influencing the status of women as workers, the pros and cons of which development strategy should be seriously addressed.

In the Civil Service, although males still dominate the top echelons of the public services females are very largely represented at all other levels, but are said to dominate the clerical/secretarial grades and the teaching service particularly at the primary level of education.

The differentials in income between males and females place women at a disadvantage at all levels of income distribution, although equal pay for work of equal value is the norm in both the public and private sector employment.

The major issue in the labour force participation of females is whether the dramatic differences in occupational distributions of the sexes result from different choices made by each, given equal opportunities or from unequal opportunities to make similar choices.

WOMEN AS RECIPIENTS OF SERVICES FROM THE
RESOURCES PROVIDED IN THE NATIONAL BUDGET

Education Services

The Government is committed in its Education Plan to the goal of universal primary education for all, an effort limited by the existing and projected financial constraints of the State.

Saint Lucia is unique in the Eastern Caribbean in having relatively high illiteracy rates which the 1970 Census indicated was in the region of 22 percent.

Males and females are equally entitled to participate in the education system in which females formed 48.2 percent of the enrolment at primary level, 60 percent of the 2,361 children in Junior Secondary Schools and 56 percent of the 2,493 students in "other secondary" schools.

The pass rate among those who sat G.C.E. 'O' Level examinations was higher among females than males. However, females who sat G.C.E. examinations formed a disproportionately lower number than their overall participation rate in the secondary education system suggesting perhaps a higher drop out rate among females at secondary level.

With regards to secondary level institutions, 45 percent of the enrolment at the 'A' Level College in 1983/84 were female: 81 percent at the Teachers College, but 35 percent at the Technical College, 11 percent at the Technical Teachers College and 86 percent at the Hotel Trade School.

Even where females comprised 36 percent at the Technical College, they dominated main areas of study: secretarial sciences and business studies and are under-represented in the "technicians" courses and traditional male areas of training.

Education is allocated about 25 percent of the share of the national recurrent budget, with primary education enjoying over 50 percent of the

recurrent budget (though 65 percent of enrolment). Primary schools are also allocated the largest share of the capital budget.

The National Co-ordination of Non-Formal Skills Training project has been described as one of the more innovative approaches to the teaching of basic employable skills to young people to meet the employment needs of the society. The fact that some 65 percent of participants in the Scheme are female finds explanation in the demand for skill training in the assembly type industries.

Females formed 34 percent among recipients of loans under the Student Revolving Loan Scheme; 32 percent among those who received long term awards under programmes administered by the Division of Personnel Establishment Training and Negotiation, but have shared equally in scholarships awarded on the basis of academic performance in the G.C.E. examinations.

The overall admission rate of female Saint Lucians to first degrees, certificates and diplomas was in the region of 36-37 percent.

The question to be addressed is how far the choices of females are determined by a culturally induced value system, given equal opportunities or from unequal opportunities to make similar choices. For instance, perhaps girls are covertly discouraged from following "traditional masculine" courses particularly where there are a limited number of places in given classes.

Health Services

The Health Policy and Health Development Plan for 1981-85 lays down policy guidelines for the development of the health sector in Saint Lucia.

The primary health care approach is accepted as one of the principal tenets on which all other forms of care should be built. This approach considers women and children as priority groups in all strategies for achieving health for all by the year 2000.

Subject to the limitations in data on mortality and morbidity, significant achievements have been made in the decade of the seventies in terms of reductions in the birth rate, the infant mortality rate, the crude death rate and an increase in medical deliveries and immunisation coverage. There has also been a reduction in the incidence of schistosomiasis, Saint Lucia being one of the few Caribbean countries in which this disease constitutes a public health problem.

Nutrition related communicable diseases and those relating to the environment such as whooping cough, measles and gastroenteritis, played an important part in morbidity statistics.

Though an examination of the ten main causes of death in 1981 showed that many of the causes of death were those found in advanced countries such as cerebro vascular disease and malignant neoplasms, certain nutrition related non-communicable diseases such as diabetes melitus and heart diseases played an important part in mortality. Also significant was that causes of perinatal mortality ranked fifth among the principal causes of death.

With respect to hospital care, two general hospitals provide out patient casualty services, specialist referral clinics and in patient facilities for medicine, surgery, ophthalmology, paediatrics and for the treatment of diseases of the chest.

With respect to female specific causes of hospitalization, an estimated 90 percent of all deliveries took place in hospitals in 1981, the majority at Victoria Hospital where there was some overcrowding.

Hospital beds at district level are said to be under-utilised and comprise mainly elderly persons with chronic or recurrent illness requiring nursing care.

An increase in the number of females has been noted among first admissions to the one Specialist Psychiatric Hospital.

Community health services offered at district clinics comprise maternity and child health programmes and include institutional deliveries for high risk pregnancies, infant care, hypertension clinics, nutrition education, psychiatric clinics and house visits by Community Health Aides.

Sessions in antenatal and postnatal care have increased considerably over the years and by 1981, an estimated 86 percent attendance at baby clinics was reported. By 1981, immunisation programmes had also been expanded to cover 82 percent in the case of DPV, 78 percent DPT and BCG, a development which was facilitated by the mandatory requirement for immunisation before entry to school against polio, whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus.

Family planning services have also expanded in terms of the growth in the number of acceptors and in the stepped-up Family Life Education Programme. In this connection, the special needs of teenagers are being accorded priority.

A Nutrition Programme, operational since 1980, is mainly directed at meeting the nutritional needs of vulnerable children and mothers attending the medical and child health clinics. A Community Nutrition Education Project is also in operation for child bearing women and children under five years.

An interesting innovation in the delivery of primary health care has been the introduction, since 1978, of the Community Health Aide and the Environmental Health Aide.

With regard to expenditure on health services in the recurrent budget, the proportion of expenditure on health services remained at 13-15 percent. However, within the health budget, expenditure on the Victoria Hospital took the largest share of the recurrent budget.

The philosophical thrust in health care as enunciated in the Health Plan is reflected in a slight shift in the proportionate distribution of financial resources on the different levels of health care between 1983/84 and 1984/85 in terms of expenditure on community services and environmental programmes vis-à-vis secondary care services.

Expenditure on an improved pipe borne water supply which dominated expenditure on the capital budget is of special significance to the welfare of women and children who normally bear the brunt of the responsibility for fetching the commodity from streams and springs.

Welfare Services

Women predominate as recipients of public assistance programmes, clients being those persons who are normally at the lowest socio-economic social scale of the society.

1. Unemployment per se or failure by fathers to support their wives and children does not constitute a reason for entitlement except the breadwinner is ill or disabled.

Defaulting fathers must be forced to make maintenance payments through resort to Court procedures, though a voluntary child maintenance programme is in operation by the Social Welfare Department.

Day care services are operated largely by individuals who operate privately run schools although the Government operates a limited pre-school programme out of community centres in rural and runs training programmes for pre-school teachers.

The Government, concerned about the future development of pre-school education, has appointed a Committee to review the system of pre-school education in Saint Lucia and to make appropriate recommendations.

The Government has shown its interest in special education mainly through the granting of small subventions to voluntary organizations involved in administering programmes for the deaf, blind and otherwise handicapped. All institutions cater to boys and girls equally.

Only a small proportion of children in need of special education facilities is being catered to, the deficiency being more acute in the rural areas.

Services in the exclusive interest of women are few and include one single-sexed assisted school for girls, and those components of the health services which deal with women specific problems. There is also a day Vocational Centre for "maladjusted" adolescent girls which is run by the Government.

Although a National Committee on Women came into existence in Saint Lucia since 1974, only recently were steps taken to recruit a Co-ordinator to head a "Women's Desk" within the Ministry of Community Development.

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55. Ministry of Health
Health Policy and Health Development Plan - Saint Lucia, 1981-1985. Cyclo
56. Women in Health and Development - A Guide to the Five Year Regional Plan of Action on Women in Health and Development in the Americas. Op. cit. Pg. 1
57. Annual Report - Ministry of Health - 1981. Op. cit. Table III

58. Ministry of Health and Local Government, Saint Lucia
Annual Report of the Health Division for the year 1979.
Cyclo
59. Ibid. Table XIX
60. Ibid. Table XX
61. 1981 Report - Ministry of Health and Local Government - Table
Table VIII
62. Ibid. Pg. 25
63. The Family Nurse Practitioner is envisaged to be a District Nurse
Midwife who has received additional formal training in physical
examination, diagnosis and treatment. She will be authorised to
prescribe medications and treat patients within established
health protocols, and will function under the overall clinical
supervision of a District Medical Officer for the medical aspect
of her job
64. 1983/84 Estimates of Expenditure. Op. cit.
65. 1984/85 Estimates of Expenditure. Op. cit.
66. 1984/85 Estimates of Expenditure. Op. cit. Pg. 195 foll.
67. Excluded from consideration are other services run by the
Division of Social Services such as Prisons Service, a Senior
Citizen's Home and the Protection and Family Services
68. Excluded from consideration are other Services administered
by the Youth and Community Services Division such as the
Community Services, Youth and Sports Services, Ecclesiastical
Affairs and Local Government Services

TABLE I
RECURRENT ESTIMATES - ABSTRACTS

Heads of Expenditure		Actual 1981/1982	% Exp.	Revised Estimates 1983/1984	% Exp.	Estimates 1984/1985	% Exp.
Education and Culture	Edu.	22,880,279	23.6	31,643,523	23.7	28,389,426	21.8
- Administration	and						
- Educational Services	Culture	554,976		511,255		500,919	
		23,435,255	24.2	32,154,778	24.0	28,890,345	22.2
Ministry of Health and Housing							
- Administration		2,549,498		2,179,619		2,283,265	
- Medical Services		12,528,168		16,355,331		15,329,850	
		15,077,666	15.5	18,534,950	13.8	17,613,115	13.5
Ministry of Youth, Com- munity Development, Socail Affairs and Sport							
- Administration		160,746		217,609		218,577	
- Division of Social Services		2,149,565		3,054,543		3,307,970	
Total Recurrent Expenditure		96,897,839	100	133,604,333	100	129,975,280	100

Source: Extracted from Estimates of Expenditure, Saint Lucia - 1983/84 and 1984/85

TABLE II

POPULATION BY SEX AND FIVE YEAR AGE GROUPS

AGE GROUPS	1970 ^{1/}			1980 ^{2/}		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
0 - 4	9,253	9,080	18,333	11,155	10,943	22,098
5 - 9	8,893	8,578	17,471	10,719	10,340	21,059
10 - 14	6,843	6,880	13,723	8,248	8,290	16,538
0 - 14	24,989	24,538	49,527	30,122	29,573	59,695
15 - 19	4,634	4,960	9,594	5,586	5,980	11,566
20 - 24	2,935	3,839	6,774	3,538	4,627	8,165
25 - 29	2,130	2,733	4,863	2,567	3,295	5,862
30 - 34	1,664	2,196	3,860	2,006	2,647	4,653
35 - 39	1,619	2,286	3,905	1,952	2,744	4,707
40 - 44	1,640	2,201	3,841	1,977	2,654	4,631
15 - 44	14,622	18,215	32,837	17,626	21,958	39,584
45 - 49	1,726	2,052	3,778	2,080	2,476	4,556
50 - 54	1,512	1,700	3,282	1,822	2,050	3,872
55 - 59	1,300	1,490	2,790	1,567	1,797	3,364
60 - 64	1,039	1,350	2,389	1,252	1,625	2,877
45 - 64	5,577	6,592	12,169	6,721	7,948	14,669
65 - 69	747	1,020	1,767	900	1,231	2,131
70 - 74	515	821	1,336	621	990	1,611
75 and over	687	1,483	2,170	828	1,783	2,610
65 +	1,949	3,324	5,273	2,349	4,003	6,352
TOTAL	47,137	52,669	99,806	56,818	63,482	120,300

Source: 1. 1970 Census Report of the Commonwealth Caribbean
 2. Annual Statistical Digest, Saint Lucia, 1981 Pg. 5

TABLE III

BIRTHS BY PARITY ORDER AND AGE OF MOTHER - 1983

Parity Order	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	Not St'd	Total
1	24	689	323	57	22	2	2	-	-	-	1,119
2	1	259	427	150	45	16	2	-	-	1	901
3	-	58	334	160	60	13	1	-	-	3	629
4	-	6	158	141	74	17	2	1	-	-	399
5	-	-	59	153	69	25	3	-	-	1	310
6	-	-	10	75	72	27	5	-	-	1	190
7	-	-	2	42	51	28	5	1	-	-	129
8	-	-	-	17	39	39	4	-	-	-	99
9	-	-	-	5	22	19	9	1	-	-	56
10 and over	-	-	-	4	9	49	27	8	-	1	98
Not stated	-	-	-	1	3	-	7	-	-	2	6
Total	25	1,012	1,313	805	466	235	60	11	-	2	3,936

Source: Annual Statistical Digest 1983
Government of Saint Lucia - Table 10

TABLE IV

POPULATION BY SEX AND GEOGRAPHIC AREA - 1979 ^{1/} AND 1980 ^{2/}

AREA	1970			1980				
	Female	Male	Total 1970	% Geogr. Distrib.	% Female 1970	Total	% Geogr. Distrib.	% Female 1980
Town Castries	2,081	1,534	3,615	3.6	57.6)			57.9
Sub. Castries	7,324	6,041	13,365	13.4	54.8)	48,782	40.5	53.8
Rural Castries	12,311	11,160	23,471	23.5	52.4)			52.5
Anse-La-Raye	2,553	2,216	4,769	4.8	53.5	5,750	4.8	50.9
Canaries	982	957	1,939	2.0	50.6	2,334	1.9	48.6
Soufriere	3,848	3,402	7,250	7.3	53.7	8,734	7.3	51.6
Choiseul	3,212	2,955	6,167	6.2	52.1	7,435	6.2	51.5
Laborie	3,132	2,881	6,013	6.0	51.2	7,242	6.0	50.9
Vieux Fort	4,151	3,957	8,108	8.1	51.8	9,768	8.1	50.4
Micoud	5,259	4,886	10,145	10.2	52.3	12,222	10.1	51.6
Dennery	4,633	4,218	8,851	8.9	52.1	10,671	8.9	51.3
Gros Islet	3,183	2,930	6,113	6.1	52.8	7,362	6.1	51.8
TOTAL	52,669	47,137	99,806			120,300		

- Source: 1. 1970 Population Census Report of the Commonwealth Caribbean Vol. 3
 2. Annual Statistical Digest, 1981 - Pgs. 4-5, Government of Saint Lucia - 1983

TABLE V

ADULTS NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL BY SEX, OCCUPATIONAL GROUP

AND MAIN ACTIVITY

1970 - SAINT LUCIA ^{1/}

Occupational Group	Total Male	Total Female	% Female	Worked Male	Worked Female	% Female Worked
Professional and Technical	861	1,159	57.4	843	1,130	57.3
Administrative and Managerial	187	43	18.7	187	43	18.7
Clerical and Related	552	918	62.4	542	897	62.3
Transport and Communication	127	26	16.9	124	24	16.2
Sales Workers	615	1,288	67.7	601	1,252	67.5
Service Workers	698	1,726	71.2	677	1,656	70.9
Farm Managers, Supervisors and Farmers	3,477	749	17.7	3,450	733	17.5
Other Agriculture	4,588	1,951	29.8	4,480	1,908	29.8
Production and related	5,470	1,181	17.7	5,315	1,122	17.4
Labourers N.E.C.	496	188	27.5	480	184	27.7
Not elsewhere classified	101	39	27.8	99	36	26.6
Members of Armed Forces	0	0		0	0	
Not stated	4,307	18,077	80.7	177	110	38.3
TOTAL	21,479	27,345	56.0	16,975	9,095	34.0

Source: 1. 1970 Population Census Report - Vol. 4 - Part 16
Economic Activity, occupation and industry
Census Research Programme, U.W.I. - 1976

TABLE VI

ADULTS NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL BY SEX, GAINFULLY EMPLOYED BY

AGE GROUP

1970 - Saint Lucia

ADULTS NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL					WORKED			
Age Group	MF	M	F	F%	No.of Male Worked	No.of Female Worked	% Male Worked	% Female Worked
14 years	430	240	190	44.2	75	44	31	11.6
15-19 yrs	7,811	3,773	4,038	51.7	2,279	1,344	60.4	33.3
20-24 yrs	6,737	2,914	3,823	56.7	2,508	1,669	86	43.6
25-29 yrs	4,849	2,125	2,724	56.2	1,928	1,046	90.7	38.4
30-34 yrs	3,847	1,658	2,189	57	1,525	805	92	36.7
35-39 yrs	3,899	1,616	2,283	58.5	1,507	819	93.2	35.8
40-45 yrs	3,836	1,637	2,199	57.3	1,497	768	91.4	34.9
46-49 yrs	3,771	1,725	2,046	54.2	1,562	747	90.5	36.5
50-54 yrs	3,206	1,507	1,699	53	1,307	554	87	32.6
55-59 yrs	2,788	1,300	1,488	53.4	1,083	498	80	33.5
60-64 yrs	2,384	1,035	1,349	36.6	770	371	74.4	27.5
65 yrs and over	5,264	1,947	3,317	53	934	452	48	13.6
TOTAL	48,824	21,479	27,345	56	16,975	9,095	79	33.3

Source: 1970 Census Report - Vol. 4 - Part 16 op. cit

TABLE VII

GAINFULLY OCCUPIED POPULATION BY INDUSTRIAL GROUP AND SEX

1979 and 1982 ^{1/}

Industrial Group	TOTAL		MALE		FEMALE		%F	
	1979	1982	1979	1982	1979	1982	1979	1982
Agriculture	12,396	12,973	9,368	9,797	3,028	3,176	24.4	23.60
Mining and Manufacturing	4,313	4,517	2,269	2,375	2,044	2,142	47.4	47.4
Construction	3,718	3,897	3,580	3,748	138	149	3.7	3.8
Electricity and Commerce	5,062	5,275	2,312	2,410	2,750	2,865	54.3	54.3
Transport	2,896	3,041	2,800	3,144	96	103	3.3	3.4
Services	7,384	8,122	2,956	3,251	4,428	4,871	60	59.9
Not stated	355	382	232	256	123	126	34.6	32.9
TOTAL	36,124	38,207	23,517	24,981	12,607	13,432	100.00	100.00
%	100.00	100.00	65.10	65.38	34.90	34.62	34.9	35.1

Source: 1. Statistics supplied by the Women's Affairs Division, Ministry of Youth, Community Development, Social Affairs and Sports
No breakdown by sex was available from the Statistical Digest and the 1980 Population Census Reports are not yet published

TABLE VIII

EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF SAINT LUCIA IN 1983

DEPARTMENT	TOTAL CIVIL SERVANTS		LEVEL I e.g. Minister		LEVEL II e.g. Dir.-Gen.		LEVEL III e.g. Director	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Total Civil Servants	578	828						
Agriculture			1		1		1	
Industry			1		1			
Labour (Communications)			1		1			1
Health			1		1			1
Education				1			1	1
Foreign Affairs			1		1		1	2
Community Development			1			1	1	1
Personnel			1		1			1
Finance			1		1			2
Other - PM's Office, Audit, Cabinet Sec.					3	1		4
TOTAL	578	828	8	1	11	2	4	13

Source: Division of Women's Affairs (unpublished)
Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Social Services, Saint Lucia

TABLE IX

STAFFING - PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM BY SEX, BY TRAINING, BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION

LEVEL	1974/1975 ^{1/}						1982/1983 ^{2/}						1983/1984 ^{2/}					
	STAFFING						STAFFING						STAFFING					
	STAFFING F%			TRAINED			STAFFING F%			TRAINED			STAFFING F%			TRAINED		
	MF	F	F%	MF	F	F%	MF	F	F%	MF	F	F%	MF	F	F%	MF	F	F%
Primary	919	688	74.9	269	211	78	985	766	77.8	359	287	79.9	1,084	841	77.6	445	347	78
Junior Secondary	101	51	50.1	75	37	49.3	118	59	50	78	44	56.4	128	67	52.3	88	51	57.95
Other Secondary	109	56	51.4	45	21	46.7	143	80	56	69	41	59.4	155	87	56.1	69	39	56.5
TOTAL	1,129	795	70.4	389	269	69.1	1,246	905	72.6	506	372	73.5	1,367	995	72.8	602	437	72.6
Tertiary Education							58	23	39.6	39	15	38.46	67	30	44.7	44	18	40.9
							1,304	928	71.1	545	387	71.0	1,434	1,025	71.5	646	455	70.4

- Source:
1. Extract from the Annual Digest of Educational Statistics 1974-1975 - Ministry of Education and Culture - Table 51 - Summary of School System, School year September 1974 to July 1975 (Cyclo)
 2. Extract from Annual Statistical Digest 1983-1984 - Ministry of Education and Culture - Summary of Public School enrolment and staffing 1983/1984 - Pg. 1 (Cyclo)

TABLE X

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLMENT

LEVEL	1974/75			1982/83			1983/84		
	ENROLMENT			ENROLMENT			ENROLMENT		
	MF	F	%F	MF	F	%F	MF	F	%F
Primary	20,090	14,088	48.4	31,795	15,711	49.4	32,107	15,788	48.2
Junior Secondary	2,233	1,381	61.8	2,345	1,304	55.6	2,361	1,407	59.6
Other Secondary	1,796	974	54.2	2,508	1,400	55.8	2,493	1,386	55.6
TOTAL	33,119	15,469	46.7	36,648	18,415	50.2	36,961	18,581	50.2

Source: Annual Statistical Digests - Ministry of Education and Culture
Saint Lucia (Cyclo) 1974-1975, 1982, 1983/1984

TABLE XI
DISTRIBUTION OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS BY DISTRICT AND ENROLMENT ^{1/}

DISTRICT	GROS ISLET	CASTRIES (URBAN)	CASTRIES (RURAL)	ANSE LA RAYE	CANARIES	SOUFRIERE	CHOISEUL	LABORIE	VIEUX FORT	MICLOUD	DENNERY	TOTAL
TYPE OF SCHOOL	No. Roll	No. Roll	No. Roll	No. Roll	No. Roll	No. Roll	No. Roll	No. Roll	No. Roll	No. Roll	No. Roll	No. Roll
TOTALS	4 1307	15 8925	14 4908	4 1575	2 466	8 1937	8 1761	6 1807	7 3375	5 3236	7 2810	80 32107
AVERAGE SIZE	326.8	552	350.6	393.8	233	242.1	220.1	301.2	482.1	647.2	401.4	401.5

Source: 1. Extract from Annual Statistical Digest 1983/1984 - Ministry of Education and Culture,
Saint Lucia - Table 2(a) Cycle

TABLE XII

COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION RESULTS 1979 - 1983 ^{1/}

Year	Students Seeking	Students Placed	Rate %
1979	3,452	1,188	34.4
1980	3,494	1,318	37.7
1981	3,213	1,140	35.5
1982	3,351	1,113	33.2
1983	3,362	1,261	37.5
TOTAL	16,870	6,020	35.7

Source: Annual Statistical Digest - Ministry of Education and Culture 1983-1984 - Saint Lucia

1. The published data is not disaggregated by sex

TABLE XIII

ENROLMENT AT PRIVATE SCHOOLS - 1983/84

BY SEX AND LEVEL OF EDUCATION

SECONDARY SCHOOLS	MF	F	%F	AGE RANGE
William Parker Secondary	32	6	18.7	10-16 years
Girls' Vocational School	300	300	100	13-19 years
Fevriere's Secretarial School	108	108	100	14-18 years
Mrs. James Secretarial School	120	120	100	15 years
SDA Academy	689	414	60	11-17 years
TOTAL SECONDARY	1,249	948	75.9	
<u>PRIMARY SCHOOLS</u>				
Tapion School	107	58	54.2	3-12 years
SDA Elementary	550	-	0	5-15 years
Castries	180	88	48.9	
Ravine Poisson	250*	-	0	
Dennery	50*	-	0	
Mon Repos	70*	-	0	
TOTAL PRIMARY	1,207	146	12.1	
TOTAL ALL SCHOOLS: 1,906				

* - Estimates

Source: Annual Statistical Digest - 1983/1984, Pg. 2 -
Ministry of Education and Culture, Saint Lucia

TABLE XIV

TERTIARY LEVEL INSTITUTIONS 1983/1984

Enrolment and Staffing by Institution and Sex

SCHOOL	ENROLMENT			STAFFING		
	MF	F	%F	MF	F	%F
Saint Lucia 'A' Level College	135	61	45.5	15	10	66.6
Saint Lucia Teacher's College	109	88	80.7	17	13	76.5
Morne Technical College	192	68	35.4	35	7	20.0
Technical Teacher's College	18	2	11.1	-	-	
Hotel Trades School	30	26	86.6	-	-	
TOTAL	484	245	50.6	67	30	44.7
1982/1983	452	254	56.2			

Source: Ministry of Education and Culture, Saint Lucia -
Annual Statistical Digest 1983/1984

TABLE XV

MORNE TECHNICAL COLLEGE - 1983/1984
ENROLMENT OF STUDENTS BY SUBJECT AND SEX

SUBJECTS	MF	F	%F
Building Technicians	25	9	36
Secretarial	34	34	100
Carpentry and Joinery	23	1	4.3
Motor Vehicle Mechanic	27	3	11
Welding	5	-	0
Building Trades Craft	8	2	25
Refridgeration/Air-conditioning	9	2	22.2
Electrical Installation	22	-	0
Plumbing	7	-	0
Business Studies	18	17	94.4
Construction Mechanics	12	-	0
TOTAL	190	68	35.8

Source: Table 27 - Annual Statistical Digest 1983/1984 -
Ministry of Education and Culture, Saint Lucia

TABLE XVI

SAINT LUCIA DEVELOPMENT BANK
STUDENT LOANS APPROVED BY SUBJECT AND SEX
1979-1983

	T O T A L			
	1979-1983			
	M	F	T	%
Business Administration	19	10	29	34.5
Education	3	4	7	57.1
Architectural Technology	5	-	5	0
Natural Science	7	4	11	36.4
Engineering	2	-	2	0
Survey Technology	2	-	2	0
Veterinary Science	3	-	3	0
Hotel Trades	5	10	15	66.7
Public Administration	7	4	11	36.4
Agriculture	2	2	4	50.0
Accounting	8	5	13	38.5
Dietetrics	-	1	1	100
Geography	-	1	1	100
Secretarial Science	-	3	3	100
International Relations	2	1	3	33.3
Motor Mechanics	6	-	6	0
Marine Science	1	-	1	0
Mass Communications	3	1	4	25.0
Civil Engineering Technology	3	-	3	0
Community Health	1	1	2	50.0
Fashion Design	-	2	2	100
Electrical Engineering Technology	5	-	5	0
Banking	2	-	2	0
Urban Planning	1	-	1	0
Structural Engineering	1	1	2	50.0
Agricultural Science	1	-	1	0
Hotel Administration	1	-	1	0
Computer Science	1	2	3	66.7
Medicine	3	-	3	0
Electrical Installation	3	-	3	0

TABLE XVI (cont'd)

	T O T A L			
	1979 - 1983			
	M	F	T	%
Refrigeration Technology	1	-	1	0
Construction Engineering	1	-	1	0
Graphic Arts	1	-	1	0
Animal Health	1	-	1	0
Electrical Engineering	1	-	1	0
Construction Technology	1	-	1	0
Heavy Equipment Mechanics	1	-	1	-
Civil Engineering	1	-	1	0
Economics	3	4	7	57.1
Law	1	2	3	66.7
English	-	4	4	100
Hotel Managament	1	1	2	50.0
Industrial Technology	-	1	1	100
Microbiology	1	1	2	50.0
Nutrition/Catering	-	2	2	100
History	-	1	1	100
Journalism	1	-	1	0
Business Studies	-	3	3	100
Photographic Technology	2	-	2	0
Dental Technology	1	-	1	0
Flight Training	1	-	1	0
Sociology	-	2	2	100
Commerce	1	-	1	0
Mechaincal Engineering	1	-	1	0
Interior Design	1	-	1	0
Plumbing	1	-	1	0
Languages	-	1	1	100

Source: Saint Lucia Development Bank (unpublished)

TABLE XVII

LONG TERM (9 months and over) AWARDS BY SEX,
YEAR AND AREA OF STUDY

	1981			1982			1983			1984 (Jan-Aug)						%
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	
Agriculture including Horticulture (M.Sc.)	13	3	16	4	1	5	2	1	3	3	0	3	22	5	27	18.5
Agricultural Extension	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plant Quarantine etc.																
Engineering/ Surveying/ Construction	12	1	13	10	2	12	8	1	9	1	0	1	31	4	35	11.4
Health including Medicine	2	3	5	1	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	1	4	5	9	55.5
Hotel occupations/ professions	1	4	5	0	2	2	0	1	1	-	-	-	1	7	8	87.5
Education	3	2	5	2	3	5	2	5	7	2	2	4	9	12	21	57.1
Administra- tion/other social works/ economics	6	4	10	6	1	7	7	1	8	2	2	4	21	8	29	27.6
	37	17	54	23	10	33	20	9	29	8	5	13	88	41	129	31.7
	31.5%			30.0%			31.0%			38.46%			31.7%			

Source: Division of Personnel Establishment, Training and Negotiation,
Saint Lucia. (unpublished)

TABLE XVIII

NEW UNIVERSITY ADMISSION TO FIRST DEGREES, CERTIFICATES AND
DIPLOMAS BY FACULTY AND SEX

	<u>1972/1973^{1/}</u>				<u>1977/1978^{2/}</u>				<u>1979/1980^{3/}</u>				<u>1982/1983^{4/}</u>			
	M	W	T	%	M	W	T	%	M	W	T	%	M	W	T	%
Full time First Degrees	12	1	13	7.7	9	13	22	59.0	12	8	20	40.0	14	14	28	50.0
Evening and Part-time Degrees	1	2	3	66.6	5	1	6	16.6	3	1	4	25.0	4	1	5	20.0
Full time Certificates					2	3	5	60.0	1	1	2	50.0	1	-	1	-
Full Time Diplomas					4	1	5	20.0	3	1	4	25.0	3	-	3	-
Total Full time Dips. and Certs.	14	7	21	33.3	6	4	10	40.0	4	2	6	33.3	4	-	4	-
TOTAL	27	10	37	27	26	22	48	46	23	13	36	36	26	15	41	37

TABLE XVIII (cont'd)

STUDENT REGISTRATION IN FIRST DEGREES, CERTIFICATES AND
DIPLOMAS BY FACULTY AND SEX

	1972/1973				1977/1978				1979/1980				1982/1983			
	M	W	T	%	M	W	T	%	M	W	T	%	M	W	T	%
Full time First Degrees	49	17	66	25.8	47	47	94	50.0	12	8	20	40.0	54	49	103	47.5
Evening and Part-time Degrees	2	3	5	60.0	6	1	7	14.3	6	3	9	33.3	5	4	9	44.4
Full time Certificates									1	1	2	50.0	1	-	1	-
Full time Diplomas									4	1	5	20.0	3	-	3	-
Total Full Diplomas and Certificates	53	24	77	31.2	6	5	11	45.4	5	2	7	28.6	4	-	4	-
TOTAL:	104	44	148	30	59	53	112	47	28	15	43	34.8	67	53	120	44.1

Sources: 1. U W I Departmental Reports 1972-1973
 2. Extract from U W I Departmental Reports 1977-1978
 3. Extract from U W I Departmental Reports 1979-1980
 4. Extract from U W I Departmental Reports 1982-1983

TABLE XIX

FIRST DEGREES AWARDED TO SAINT LUCIANS BY U.W.I. AT CAMPUSES AT MONA,

ST. AUGUSTINE, CAVE HILL AND THE BAHAMAS - 1977/78 - 1982/83

	Arts and Gen. Studies		Social Studies		Education		Law		Natural Sciences		Medicine		Agriculture		Engineering	
	MF	F	MF	F	MF	F	MF	F	MF	F	MF	F	MF	F	MF	F
1977 - 1978	13	4	4	3	2	1	0	0	7	1	1	0	2	0	0	0
	30.7%		75%		50%		0%		14.3%		0%		0%		0%	
1982 - 1983	7	4	12	3	1	1	3	0	5	4	-	-	2	1	-	-
	57.1%		25%		100%		0%		80%		-		50%		0%	

Source: Table 8 - U.W.I. Statistics 1982/1983 - University School of Printing

TABLE XX

MORBIDITY - SAINT LUCIA

Reported cases of of Disease/ 100,000 population	NUMBER				RATE			
	1977	1978	1979	1980	1977	1978	1979	1980
Diphtheria	6	1	1	-	5.0	0.8	0.8	-
Gonococcal Infections	221	627	312	322	184.2	522.5	264.4	268.3
Infectious Hepatitis	-	45	40	24	-	37.5	33.9	20.0
Leprosy	21	72	5	4	15.5	60.0	4.2	3.3
Malaria	-	-	1	-	-	-	0.8	-
Measles	-	134	9	34	-	111.7	7.6	29.2
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syphilis	400	440	266	235	333.3	366.7	225.4	195.8
Tetanus	-	5	8	1	-	4.2	6.8	0.8
Tuberculosis	37	50	42	41	30.8	41.7	35.6	34.2
Typhoid Fever	51	10	4	7	42.5	8.3	3.4	5.8
Whooping Cough	-	4	1	20	-	3.3	0.8	16.7

Source: Health Conditions in the Americas 1977-1980
(Pan American Health Organization) Scientific Publication
No. 427

TABLE XXI

HOSPITALS BY SIZE AND TYPE

1980

COUNTY	HOSPITALS								
	GENERAL			DISTRICT			SPECIALIST		
	Gen.	Bed Cap.	O.R.	Dis.	Bed Cap.	O.R.	Sp.	Bed Cap.	O.R.
Soufriere				1	21				
Dennery				1	21				
Castries (Golden Hope)							1	168	
Castries (Victoria)	1	213	72.4%						
Vieux Fort (St. Judes)	1	108	55.0%						
Total	2	321		2	42		1	168	

Source : Annual Report of the Health Division 1980, Ministry
of Health and Local Government, Saint Lucia
Pgs. 46 - 52

METHODOLOGICAL EXPLANATION

The short time of three weeks which was allocated for the data gathering exercise in Saint Lucia precluded the use of primary data.

This time constraint, together with limitations in the existing data base by gender, imposed the following constraints:

- (a) The results of the 1980 Census Survey have not yet been published. This presented a situation of having to use the 1970 Census data, which notwithstanding its disaggregation by sex, would not fairly reflect a decade of change in Saint Lucia, in terms, for instance, of women in the labour force, in the population structure and in terms of their levels of income;
- (b) Where possible, Census reports are supplemented by more up to date data contained in other published reports such as are available from the Central Statistical Office and Annual Reports of Ministries. There is, however, usually a time lapse between the data collection exercise and its publication. For instance, much of the data in the Annual Report of the Ministry of Health for 1981 relates to morbidity conditions previous to 1981;
- (c) Where data is based on unpublished reports or on the basis of information derived from personal interviews with different officials, such data, while being more up to date, should be regarded as provisional;
- (d) The indices used to evaluate the status of women as beneficiaries were dictated by the quality of data available and vary from sector to sector as follows:

In Education and Training, enrolment rates by gender are used to evaluate the level of services available

for women in Primary Education; enrolment rates and subject participation in examinations by gender for their level of participation in secondary level education; and data on enrolment and subject participation rates for their level of participation in technical schools.

In the Health Sector, the evaluation was made on the basis of the pattern of morbidity by sex based on 1979 data, but particularly on the levels of services available for female specific health problems such as maternity and child welfare services including immunisation programmes and Family Planning services.

- (e) The structure of the budget document and the fact that the provisions in the budget are earmarked for males and females equally, do not make it possible to determine either the absolute or the per capita expenditure by sex in either recurrent or capital expenditure, except in the case of one institution, the Girls Centre.

Finally, it should be borne in mind that what is reported is not necessarily a reflection of all that exists. This is particularly so with respect to disease incidence. There are believed for instance, to be many cases of ill health which are undiagnosed or misdiagnosed. In addition, many private medical practitioners are reported to be negligent in their reporting procedures on disease incidence.