



ECLAC REGIONAL FORUM

ECLAC REGIONAL FORUM PUTS A SPOTLIGHT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

SOME OF ECLAC'S ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE LAST BIENNIUM (2016-2017).

CARIBBEAN YOUTH

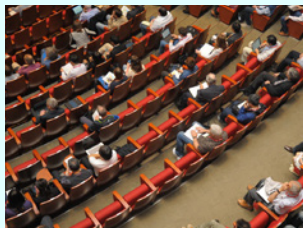
CARIBBEAN YOUTH DIALOGUE SESSIONS BEGIN

ALICIA BÁRCENA
SECRETARIA EJECUTIVA
CEPAL



ECLAC

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Cover Photo: ECLAC Executive Secretary, Alicia Bárcena

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ECLAC Caribbean Family

Staff gather at launch of new common room

Issued on a monthly basis, The Hummingbird offers strategic insights into the latest projects, publications, technical assistance missions and research carried out by ECLAC Caribbean. In addition to these, sneak previews are provided of the most salient upcoming events, alongside enriching follow-ups to previously covered issues. With a view to featuring a variety of facets of Caribbean life and lifestyle, The Hummingbird also zooms in on cultural activities and landmark occurrences through an eye-opening regional round-up.

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ECLAC CARIBBEAN



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5 June 2018

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New York
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World Refugee Day
20 June 2018

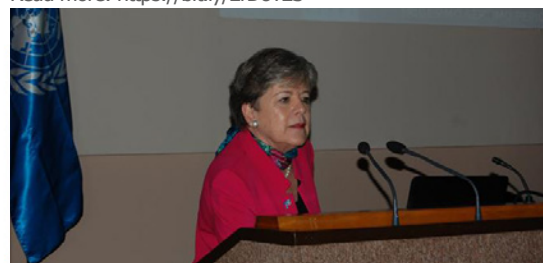
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International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking
26 June 2018

 **ECLAC Caribbean**

Posted May 11

Alicia Bárcena, presented to the organization's member countries the document The Inefficiency of Inequality. Read more: <https://bit.ly/2rD8vES>



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 **ECLAC Caribbean**

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"We have been introducing and advancing a debt-swap initiative to address the debt overhang of the Caribbean countries..." - Diane Quarless, more here: <http://bit.ly/2r0XhuF>



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 **ECLAC Caribbean**

Posted May 3

EXCLUSIVE CONTENT – Watch the #ECLACCaribbean documentary, on the impacts of #hurricanes Irma and Maria across the Caribbean, here: <https://youtu.be/mpL15mbIZPU>



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CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE FUTURES FOR THE CARIBBEAN

The successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the Caribbean, the strengthening of national statistical and data collection systems, the burden of Caribbean debt, the challenge of climate change and the lack of financing for Caribbean development, were key issues addressed by ECLAC Caribbean at the recently concluded 19th annual conference of the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES, University of the West Indies).

The event, held in Jamaica from 25 to 27 April 2018 with the theme 'Sustainable Futures for the Caribbean: Critical Interventions and the 2030 Agenda', provided an opportunity for academics, researchers and experts from the region to discuss challenges and opportunities to be addressed in pursuit of sustainable Caribbean development.

Representing ECLAC Caribbean at the conference was Professor Abdullahi Abdulkadri, coordinator of the Statistics and Social Development Unit. Among the issues he discussed were strengthening statistical capacities for evidence-based policy planning and implementation; implementing structural transformation for economic growth; creating innovative means of financing for development; strengthening resilience and adaptation to the impacts of climate change and natural disasters; mainstreaming gender in development; and strengthening and building new partnerships to advance development.

Abdulkadri pointed out that mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda implies the integration of components of planning, follow-up and review, and should promote the involvement of civil society especially

those groups historically left out of the development discussions, the private sector, different stakeholder groups and international and regional partners, as well as the UN system.

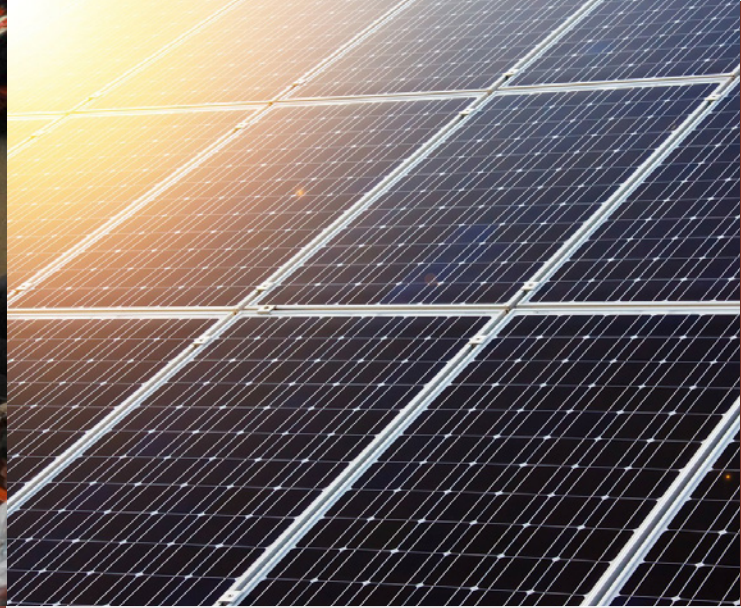
He highlighted the links between the regional institutional architecture and the national development plans and budgets and advocated on 'finding a home' for the SDGs, which involves the designation of a single institution or institutional framework to assume leadership of the integrated development planning process.

The conference participants were also introduced to the Mainstreaming Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS) approach, as a tool to be used to promote policy coherence and multi-stakeholder engagement. The MAPS approach recognizes the importance and the need to support partnership development,

accountability and data efforts, as key ingredients in the success of policy engagement on the SDGs at the country level. Professor Abdulkadri further highlighted the importance of SDG mainstreaming in development plans raising public awareness, tailoring the SDGs to both national and local contexts, budgeting for the future, and monitoring, reporting and accountability.

In addition, areas of technical assistance offered by ECLAC were identified, such as strengthening national statistical and data collection systems and techniques for data dissemination.

Abdulkadri used the opportunity to highlight the most pressing challenges facing the Caribbean, including natural disasters, climate change impacts, high debt and debt servicing payments and reduced access to financing



JAMAICA LAUNCHES MAJOR NEW SOLAR PROJECT

for development. In this context, ECLAC's Debt for Climate Adaptation Swap Initiative was showcased.

The Debt Swap initiative is a mechanism intended to address at once the crippling debt of the Caribbean and their need to generate the resources to finance resilience building measures. It is an innovative strategy that involves harnessing concessionary flows to transform the debt of the region into a source of investment in resilience, while at the same time re-energizing growth and promoting economic transformation in the economies of the subregion, through investment in adaptation projects and green industries.

On the second day of the conference, participants discussed the theme 'Leaving No one Behind – Using Evidence to Inform Development'. Professor Abdulkadri, made a presentation

on 'Implementation Strategies for the SDG Indicator Frameworks in the Caribbean', highlighting some of the reasons for the non-production of SDG data by Caribbean countries. This included lack of financial resources, lack of technical capacity, weak demand for the data and the absence of an internationally agreed methodology.

He also engaged in a discussion on the priorities necessary for a coordinated approach to address SDG data gaps. One year into implementation of the 2030 Agenda, ECLAC was concerned at the relatively low level of SDG-related activities being undertaken in the subregion. The SALISES Conference offered a platform to stimulate interest in this important global development agenda. ■

Jamaica's green development strategy is continuing with plans for another solar energy park in the country. Eight Rivers Energy Company Limited has commenced work on a 37-megawatt solar energy plant, slated for completion by early 2019, according to Jamaica Energy Minister Andrew Wheatley.

The Jamaica Public Service Company had signed a 20-year power purchase agreement with Eight Rivers in 2017 to supply electricity generated from the park to the national grid. Notably, the project is to be managed by an all-female leadership team.

"This project represents the first Jamaican female-led major Renewable Energy Infrastructure Development. We are very pleased to see that the women are taking charge and they are providing the energy to drive real growth and prosperity," Wheatley said.

It's the latest solar project on an island that has moved to the forefront of the Caribbean green energy movement, both in wind and solar production. ■



FEATURE ARTICLE

ECLAC REGIONAL FORUM PUTS SPOTLIGHT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES



The development challenges facing Caribbean member states were at the center of attention during the second meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, which was held from 18-20 April 2018 at ECLAC's headquarters in Santiago, Chile.

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ECLAC Regional Forum

puts spotlight on sustainable development challenges

Among the obstacles to development in the Caribbean, countries mentioned the difficulty in mobilizing domestic and external sources for financing development, due mainly to tight fiscal space, illicit financial flows and tax evasion, inefficiency of resource use, de-risking, limited human and technical capacity, and the brain-drain arising from emigration. This circumstance is exacerbated by the vulnerability of the subregion to climate change and natural disasters.

ECLAC Caribbean Director, Diane Quarless, made the call for strong support for the Caribbean in order to address some of the issues that continue to undermine the subregion's capacity for sustained growth and development.

"The international community will need to advocate for more effective support for the Caribbean by revisiting the criteria established for concessional financing and development assistance for these vulnerable countries. ECLAC'S Debt for Climate Adaptation Swap Initiative is one example of an innovative approach to solving long-standing challenges in the subregion," said Quarless. Another challenge identified was the lack of robust data for monitoring implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The side-event, 'Dialogue on the identification of data sources for SDG indicators in the Caribbean', organized by ECLAC Caribbean, specifically addressed this concern.

Coordinator of ECLAC Caribbean's Statistics and Social Development Unit, Professor Abdullahi Abdulkadri, highlighted that "SDG data challenges mainly result from the fact that there was no prior need to produce the indicators, there is no internationally agreed methodology, and there is a lack of financial resources and technical capacity. An evidence-based approach is crucial to improving decision-making and policy design in the subregion." In addition, the challenges faced by women in Latin America and the Caribbean in the exercise of their autonomy were addressed during a parallel seminar



on the SDGs and their follow-up in the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, organized by the ECLAC Division for Gender Affairs. A panel was dedicated to female migrants, in which ECLAC Caribbean Associate Social Affairs Officer, Lydia Rosa Gény, highlighted the unique characteristics of the migratory processes in the Caribbean.

"It is important to keep in mind that Caribbean female migrants are rights-holders and measures should be put in place to guarantee those rights and impede all forms of violence and discrimination against them" she said. Similarly, during the Forum, participants were also updated on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, which is currently being negotiated by member States.

The Forum was also the occasion to discuss the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable

“

Solidarity must be the watchword for the Forum and countries of Latin America and the Caribbean must come together to support one another,

Alicia Bárcena - Executive Secretary,
Economic Commission for Latin America
and the Caribbean.

”

Photo: Participants at the ECLAC Regional Forum



development and the critical inter-linkages among the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In this regard, there was a consensus among participants that every effort should be given to pursuing an integrated, cohesive approach to sustainable development.

The Forum ended with a renewed commitment from countries to implement the 2030 Agenda's goals and with a strong message of support for the Caribbean efforts. It was echoed in the call to action: "Caribbean First" reiterated by ECLAC Executive Secretary, Alicia Bárcena.

"Solidarity must be the watchword for the Forum and countries of Latin America and the Caribbean must come together to support one another," Bárcena emphasized.

All participants joined in celebrating ECLAC's contribution to Latin America and Caribbean

development since its creation 70 years ago, and in reiterating the important mandate of the Commission in supporting implementation of the SDGs in the region.

The Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development is the multi-stakeholder regional platform on the follow-up, review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. It is a unique platform that makes the linkages between the global, regional and subregional levels with respect to global commitments.

It was created by member States in 2016 and meets annually under the auspices of ECLAC. It promotes peer learning and exchange among member States and sustains the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) process of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). In fact, the region is providing a valuable global contribution, considering that 19 countries submitted their reports on progress of implementation of the SDGs to the HLPF and three of them will soon do so for the second time.

The Forum provides an opportunity to discuss the specific needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries, the small island developing States (SIDS) of the Caribbean and middle-income countries, among others.

More than 1000 participants attended the Second meeting of the Forum, among them more than 166 delegates from 28 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, including 13 Caribbean countries - Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, and Sint Maarten - as well as representatives from the UN system, CARICOM, other regional organizations, civil society and the private sector. ■



NEW ECLAC STUDY ON THE CARIBBEAN TOURISM SECTOR

Industrial restructuring to address the competitiveness challenge in the Caribbean



ECLAC Caribbean has undertaken a study which will address strategies for restructuring the tourism sector in the Caribbean, in order to improve its competitiveness and improve its contribution to economic development. The study will take a critical look, through case studies, at the experiences of the Bahamas, Belize and Saint Kitts and Nevis.

Entitled 'Industrial restructuring to address the competitiveness challenge in the Caribbean: the case of tourism', the study will provide an overview of the performance and major developments in the region's tourism sector and develops a methodology for engaging in sectoral restructuring. It will also analyze trends in global tourism demand and determine whether countries are restructuring their tourism sectors to match these developments.

In addition, the study will also identify new directions in tourism development, that the subregion should take notice of, in light of the evolution of trends in global tourism demand. More information on this study will be provided in a later issue of *The Hummingbird* this year. ■



UNITED NATIONS

ECLAC

TOBAGO OFFICIALS BENEFIT FROM DALA TRAINING

Representatives from the Tobago Emergency Management Agency (TEMA), the Division of Tourism and Transportation, Tobago Regional Health Authority and the Division of Infrastructure, Quarries and the Environment were among those who benefitted from a recent training workshop on Damage and Loss Assessment (DaLA) methodology.

Over the past few years, ECLAC has been working to increase the capability of officials in the Caribbean to conduct disaster assessments. In 2017, the world witnessed the challenge of the Caribbean region during one of



Photo: Participants at the DALA training session in Tobago

the most impactful hurricane seasons in recent history. Although Tobago was spared from the direct effects this time, Hurricane Flora in 1963 and the earthquake in 1997 serve as reminders that the great social, economic and environmental impact of such events call for disaster risk assessment, management and preparedness.

The workshop, which took place from 23-25 May 2018, at the request of the Tobago House of Assembly (THA), was organized by ECLAC Caribbean with support from the Inter- American Development Bank (IDB). In the opening remarks, the Director of ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, Diane Quarless, emphasized the importance of strengthening institutional capacities in disaster assessment and promoting a shift from a reactionary approach to a proactive one with a focus on building resilience and decreasing vulnerabilities.

Allan Stewart, Director of TEMA, also highlighted the importance of the training course in building the capacity

of officials in Tobago, for disaster assessments and Disaster Risk Reduction as both can support the achievement of targets and reporting obligations in respect to the Sustainable Development Goals.

The training course was designed for policymakers and professionals involved directly with disaster risk management and risk reduction. The workshop had a diverse range of participants who came from various local governmental agencies and the private sector, working in areas such as meteorological services, telecommunication, agro-processing industries and health.

Some of the areas that were covered over the three days included the role of planning in disaster risk management and its impact on the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), how the DaLA assessments can help in the reporting obligations related to the SDGs, the impacts of disasters in the population, housing, health and education sectors, telecommunication and power infrastructure, transportation and tourism.

The training was delivered by a multidisciplinary team of specialists from ECLAC Caribbean, including Omar Bello, the coordinator of the Sustainable Development and Disaster Unit, Luciana Meira, Associate Environmental Affairs Officer, Willard Phillips, Economic Affairs Officer and also a former resident and Blaine Marcano, Public Information Assistant.

The multisectoral composition of participants and lecturers reflected not only the broad scope of the methodology, but also the comprehensive vision required to manage the risk of disasters, allowing an even more fruitful exchange of experiences. ■



CARIBBEAN YOUTH DIALOGUE SESSIONS BEGIN

ECLAC Caribbean, in partnership with the Caribbean Regional Youth Council (CRYC), the CARICOM Youth Ambassadors Corps and the University of the West Indies Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow (UWI STAT), CARICOM Secretariat and other partners, recently convened the first in a series of web conferences organized under the 'Youth Dialogue Sessions' in preparation for the Caribbean Forum on Population, Youth and Development, scheduled for July 2018, in Georgetown, Guyana.

These sessions are designed to facilitate discussion among youth representatives from the Caribbean on topics such as the organization of their sessions during the Forum, the review of national youth

policies and related frameworks and their participation in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Participants in the first dialogue were invited to present their proposals for a special session on "mobilizing young people in response to the 2030 Agenda", which is being organized by youth representatives from the subregion, as well as other panels and side-events. This discussion will take place during the Forum in July. In addition, an outcome document resulting from the youth dialogue sessions will be presented at this Forum.

Other participants at the first dialogue session included the Commonwealth Youth Council, Youth Ambassador

from Guadeloupe, UWI St. Augustine Guild of Students, as well as representatives from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the United Nations Volunteers (UNV).

The Caribbean Forum on Population, Youth and Development will combine two important processes in the subregion: the review of National Youth Policies to mark the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes, and the Caribbean's preparatory meeting for the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean. The latter is a follow-up on the implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development,



CLIMATE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED IN THE CARIBBEAN

which will take place in Peru in August 2018. It is envisaged that an outcome document emerging from the Youth dialogue sessions will be presented at the next the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, highlighting the priorities and concerns raised by Caribbean youth. ■

The Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) has launched an international educational campaign to raise awareness of the challenge of climate resilience and sustainability. According to Hugh Riley, Secretary General of the CTO based in Barbados, the project will last seven months, and will seek to empower and inspire stakeholders in the leisure industry to address the environmental challenge facing the region.

'Our efforts will continue to focus on promotion to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change on our communities, but we will also join the global campaign to end plastics contamination,' he said.

"The Caribbean tourist product is based largely on the natural environment and, as such, the CTO and its member countries are committed to safeguarding them. The world resources are fundamental to maintain the integrity and economic stability of our countries," Riley added. ■

The Caribbean Forum
on Population, Youth and
Development





YOUNG CELLIST AT ROYAL WEDDING FROM LARGE MUSICAL ANTIGUAN FAMILY

Guests at the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle – and indeed millions of royal watchers around the world, were treated to the sublime music of a 19-year-old musician whose roots are found right here in the Caribbean! Sheku Kanneh-Mason – a distinguished young cellist of Antiguan descent – added beauty and profound emotion to the 19 May 2018 royal wedding with his music. Kanneh-Mason has already made a name for himself, winning the 2016 BBC Young Musician competition at the age of 17 and releasing a record-setting classical album this past January. The royal couple selected him for their ceremony after Harry heard him perform last year.

“I was bowled over when Ms. Markle called me to ask if I would play during the ceremony, and of course I immediately said yes!” Kanneh-Mason said in a news release. “What a privilege to be able to play the cello at such a wonderful event.”

Given the international fanfare surrounding the royal wedding, it’s safe to say that Kanneh-Mason’s career is set to rise to new heights. Kanneh-Mason has six brothers and sisters, all of whom are musically inclined, according to his biography on the family website. He started playing the cello when he was 6; most of his siblings specialize in violin or piano.

The family is bursting with talent — seriously. They even appeared on Britain’s Got Talent. And cultivating their talent costs a lot. In 2016, matriarch Kadie Kanneh-Mason said that “every penny of our money goes on music.” “We haven’t decorated for years ... the tiles are coming off the roof,” she said. “We never buy new clothes. I do the girls’ hair myself because it’s too expensive to take them to a salon. Our car is a wreck.”

It’s even been reported that the Kanneh-Mason kids use borrowed instruments. Like his siblings, Kanneh-Mason doesn’t own his

cello — he uses an Antonius and Hieronymus Amati cello from 1610. “The cello is on loan to me from a private collection. I can hardly believe that I can continue to develop my relationship with this cello, making the sound more completely my own over time,” Kanneh-Mason said.

The young man is but one of the numerous performers with Caribbean roots to be recognized on an international level, and is representative of the abundant talent that is present in the subregion. ■

STATE *of* AFFAIRS



Antigua and Barbuda

PANAMA SUPPORTS BUDGET

- Jun -

The government of Panama has made a donation of EC\$135,000 to the government of Antigua and Barbuda as budgetary support to assist with costs related to Barbuda in the wake of Hurricane Irma last September. The bank instrument in the sum of US\$50,000 was presented in Washington, D.C., to Antigua and Barbuda's ambassador in the United States, Sir Ronald Sanders, by Panama's ambassador to Antigua and Barbuda, Jesus Sierra Victoria.

REGIONAL AIR TRANSPORT

- Jun -

The Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, the Honorable, Gaston Browne, has called for regional governments to embrace the reforms that are needed to create a sustainable air transport sector in the Caribbean sub region. Browne was speaking at a seminar on air transport connectivity and competitiveness, hosted by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) in Grenada on 30 May 2018.



Guyana

CDB FUND WATER UPGRADE

- May -

The board of directors of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) has approved a loan of US\$1.3 million to assist in upgrading the water sector in Guyana. The funds, provided to the government of Guyana, will be used to provide consultancy services to develop a national water policy, as well as to provide designs and estimates for the construction of water treatment plants and the upgrade of related infrastructure.

CDB SIGNS GRANT AGREEMENT

- Jun -

The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the government of Guyana and the University of Guyana have signed a US\$150,000 agreement to support the institution's efforts towards the construction of a new library. The agreement was signed on the margins of the 48th annual meeting of CDB's board of governors, which took place in Grenada, on 29 May 2018.



Jamaica

IMF VISIT

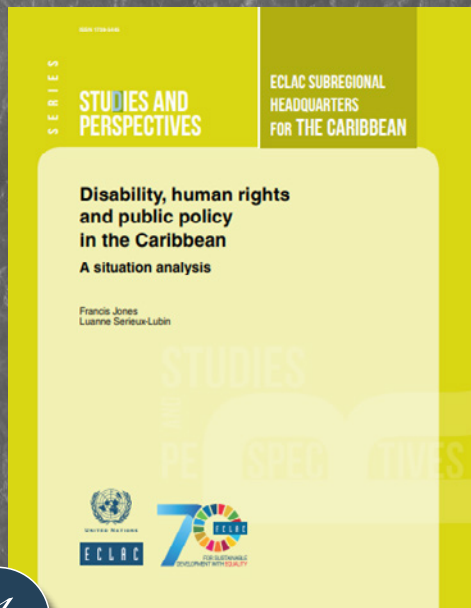
- Jun -

An International Monetary Fund (IMF) staff team visited Kingston, to take stock of progress on Jamaica's economic reform program, from June 11 to 15, 2018. Upon completion of the visit, the IMF Mission Chief for Jamaica, Uma Ramakrishnan, issued a statement regarding the country's economic progress, citing its high employment levels, an 11-year low unemployment rate and a significantly lower poverty rate.

1,000 CCTVS ACROSS ISLAND

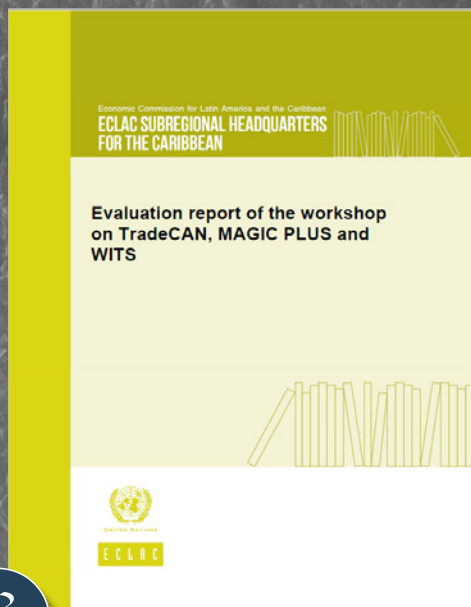
- Jun -

The Jamaica Government will install 1,000 closed-circuit televisions (CCTVs) in strategic locations across the island by the end of the year, under the JamaicaEye initiative by the Ministry of National Security. JamaicaEye is a public-private partnership designed to network CCTV cameras owned by the Ministry as well as accommodate feed from privately owned CCTV cameras.



1.

Disability, human rights and public policy in the Caribbean



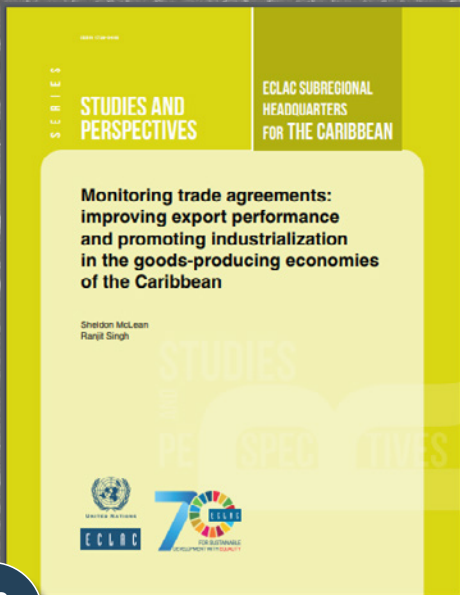
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Evaluation report of the workshop on TradeCAN, MAGIC PLUS and WITS

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Monitoring trade agreements: improving export performance and promoting industrialization in the goods-producing economies of the Caribbean

2.

DIANE'S CORNER

The Director's views and thoughts on the occasion of:



DIANE QUARLESS
Director of ECLAC Caribbean

5/6



World Environment Day

In the Caribbean, discarded plastic bags and bottles are not only an eyesore in our public spaces; they increasingly have very real, negative impact on the environment, both terrestrial and marine. Such impacts are often revealed in the aftermath of floods and hurricanes – clear signals of our disregard for the environment returning to haunt us.

#DirectorsTake

<http://vrb.al/directors-take>



US VIRGIN ISLAND'S ROAD SYSTEM TO BE FULLY MODERNIZED



All of the primary roads in the US Virgin Islands will be completely rebuilt to US Department of Transportation (DOT) Federal Highway standards, Governor Kenneth Mapp announced recently.

For the first time in the country's history, a full assessment of the territory's 1,273-mile public road system was conducted in order to determine conditions after the storms and the estimated cost of a comprehensive rebuilding and repair program.

After completion of the assessment, the Department of Public Works, with the assistance of the US Army Corps of Engineers, concluded that it will cost US \$1.2 billion to bring all US Virgin Islands' public roads up to DOT standards, Mapp stated. "In three to five years, our road system will be essentially unrecognizable from what it is today," Mapp said. "I am committed to working to modernize our roads and thoroughfares so that potholes and other road issues become experiences of the past."

So far, US \$530 million has been approved and will be invested into the first phase of construction of modern roads and highways across all four islands.

The new roads will be upgraded with proper foundations and drainage and outfitted with American Disabilities Act certified sidewalks, reflectors, traffic signals, and crosswalks, Mapp reported. They will also accommodate water, sewerage systems and power lines, as well as fiber optic cables suitable for various other communication systems. New street signs will be lit at night with the Department of Tourism's logo of the 'Moko jumbie' at the centre.

In addition to reconstructing the road systems, US \$10 million will be set aside to remove all the dumpsters off the roads so that refuse centers can be constructed.

This massive undertaking will require a number of additional engineers and project managers. "We are essentially launching a new Highway Division at Public Works and we will need a lot more staff," the governor said.

He said it was important to note that some roads would receive temporary fixes until they can be fully reconstructed and that there will be many areas where Public Works will authorize asphalt overlays until permanent construction can begin. ■

CAYMAN POPULATION GROWS 14 PER CENT IN 5 YEARS

There are nearly 8,000 more people living in the Cayman Islands than there were five years ago, according to government labor statistics released recently. Cayman's total resident population, estimated for fall 2017 at 63,415, is the islands' highest in recorded history.

However, the small three-island chain has been consecutively setting new record-high populations every year since 2014, according to the Economics and Statistics Office Labour Force Survey.

In 2013, the territory's resident population was measured at 55,691 by the same survey. The 2017 figure reported represents a 13.8 percent population increase in just five years. Before 2013, during the fallout years from the international financial crisis, Cayman's population actually declined slightly and then hovered between about 55,000 and 56,000 residents during 2009-2012.

That stagnant period has ended and the figures further show that there was a one-year 3.3 percent growth in the local population between 2016 and 2017, made up almost entirely of Caymanians.

According to labor force data for 2016, there were 34,113 Caymanians living there. One year later, that number had grown to 35,878 – a 5 percent increase in the Caymanian population in 12 months.

By comparison, the non-Caymanian population, including permanent residents and work permit holders, grew by just one percent – fewer than 300 people – during the same period.

Government statistics for the last three years show Cayman is averaging just more than 670 live births per year, with those figures including children born here to non-Caymanians.

Even assuming the majority of those children are born to Caymanian parents, it is likely that the growth of the Caymanian population during 2017 – by more than 1,700 people – was not entirely due to births.

According to figures presented in November 2017, the awarding of Caymanian status to non-Caymanian residents does not seem to make up the numbers for the large increase in the local population either, at least not on its own. ■





ECLAC CARIBBEAN ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2016-2017

At the 27th CDCC, ECLAC Caribbean Director, Diane Quarless, outlined some of the Organization's achievements during the last biennium (2016-2017). She summarized the implementation of the programme of work for 2016-2017 and outlined plans for the work to be done in 2018-2019.

Ms. Quarless indicated that ECLAC sought always to anticipate the challenges that the region faced in each biennium to provide the most appropriate and relevant responses. Important among these challenges are unsustainable public debt, the urgent need for enhanced climate change adaptation and resilience building, the need to strengthen statistical capacity to improve data collection for development and ECLAC's continuing commitment to support the development of its non-independent Associate members. The Hummingbird takes this opportunity to focus on some of the achievements from the 2016 – 2017 which Ms. Quarless highlighted in her presentation.

REGIONAL INITIATIVES

- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**
ECLAC Caribbean convened and participated in several meetings on SDGs. These included:
(1) December 2016 – the Subregional consultation on the development of a set of core indicators for monitoring the implementation of the SDGs and SAMOA Pathway in Caribbean SIDS, which was designed to enhance technical capacity in planning, implementing, and monitoring the SDGs at the national level; (2) February 2017 - the Caribbean symposium on mainstreaming the sustainable development goals in national development planning, which led to the identification of gaps and institutional capacity constraints in planning for the SDGs; (3) May 2017 – a Workshop to accelerate SDG implementation in the Caribbean; and (4) December 2017 – a Subregional workshop on implementing evidence-based policy planning for sustainable development.
- **Women's empowerment**
In July 2016, ECLAC Caribbean convened a Caribbean preparatory

meeting in advance of the 13th Session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean. This was followed by a Seminar on Women's Empowerment and Migration in the Caribbean during October 2016.

- **Ageing and older persons**
The Caribbean preparatory meeting to the Fourth Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean took place in June 2017.
- **Debt relief**
Several meetings were held to discuss the debt burden facing the Caribbean. These included the Fourth meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable (CDR) in April 2016, and the first meeting of the Task Force to advance the ECLAC debt for climate adaptation swap initiative in November 2017.

REGIONAL TRAINING

ECLAC's efforts in the subregion contributed to building national capacities and awareness through the convening of workshops and seminars.

- REDATAM. National officials from Guyana, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Suriname were trained in the use of REDATAM software for online dissemination of census data. Post-training REDATAM support was provided to the Cayman Islands, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Trinidad and Tobago to assist in making their census data accessible online.

- Public Expenditure Reviews (PERs). Through the development account project, entitled 'Strengthening technical capacity of public finance managers in select Caribbean States'. More than 80 public finance officials from Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica and Saint Kitts and Nevis were trained on the benefit and application of PER methodology in their Ministries and government agencies.

- Training in Damage and Loss Assessment (DaLA). Some 267 government, regional organizations and other United Nations agencies officials were introduced to the methodology for the conduct of post-disaster damage and loss assessments.

- Science, technology and innovation. A Seminar on science, technology and innovation (STI) for sustainable development was held in June 2016, which provided stakeholders with interactive sessions on the theme of utilizing technology innovations to improve financial transactions and financing arrangements.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Conduct of post-disaster Damage and loss assessments. During 2016 – 2017, ECLAC undertook assessments in Belize, following Hurricane Earl; in the Bahamas, following Hurricane Matthew; and in Anguilla, the Bahamas, the British Virgin Islands, Sint Maarten, and the Turks and Caicos Islands, following Hurricanes

Irma and Maria. Damage and loss assessments were also conducted in Ecuador, following the earthquake of April 2016, and in Argentina, following the floods that impacted the country in March 2017.

- Yachting Sector Policy Development - Saint Kitts and Nevis. Advisory services were provided to Saint Kitts and Nevis on the design of a strategy for the development of the yachting sector, and subsequently an implementation plan for the period 2017-2022.

- Opportunities for Non-tourism services sector development – Grenada. Advisory services were provided to Grenada to facilitate the identification of non-tourism service-based industries and subsectors in which the country has a competitive advantage. A policy framework and strategy for their development was also undertaken; this formed an integral part of the country's diversification thrust.

- Review of National Energy Policy - Cayman Islands, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. ECLAC carried out a complete review and update of the country's national energy policy to accommodate anticipated diversification of its national energy mix, while a technical review of the draft national energy policy of the Cayman Islands was conducted prior to its finalization.

- Energy efficiency in national transportation systems – Saint Lucia. A readiness study was completed for Saint Lucia for the transitioning of their fleet of vehicles to electric and hybrid vehicles.

- Review of the knowledge management programme of JAMPRO (Jamaica). the Government of Jamaica through the Jamaica Promotions Corporation (JAMPRO) benefitted

from ECLAC's technical advice on best practice initiatives and implementation in internal knowledge management.

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

ECLAC Caribbean prepared a number of technical studies and convened expert group meetings, which provided policy makers with recommendations for responding to development issues in areas such as the economy, energy efficiency and renewable energy, ICT for development, disability, inclusive social protection, Caribbean offshore financial centres, and trade agreements. Both issues of the Preliminary Overview of the Economies of the Caribbean examined the main factors which influenced the economic performance of the subregion and on that basis made short-term economic forecasts, while the Economic Survey of the Caribbean provided policymakers with an in-depth discussion of the subregion's economic performance of the previous period.

OUTREACH

A dynamic communication and outreach strategy has enhanced the visibility of the work and achievements of ECLAC Caribbean during the past two years. Traditional and new media, including social and online platforms have been explored, in addition to print and television. The last two years have seen 75 news releases, 25 issues of The Hummingbird newsletter and 8 issues of the FOCUS magazine. Over the last 24 months, these publications have resulted in 928 media features and reached over 450 thousand people in 94 countries, including the Dutch, French and Spanish-speaking islands of the Caribbean. ■



RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT 27TH CDCC IN SAINT LUCIA

The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) adopted five resolutions at its 27th session, which was held in Gros Islet, Saint Lucia on 27 April 2018. The Hummingbird is pleased to provide a glimpse into the content of each.

1: Further advancing a debt swap initiative for the Caribbean.

This resolution advances ECLAC's Debt Swap initiative, which is seen as a credible solution to the debt overhang. In addition, it aims to facilitate the efforts of Caribbean countries in achieving sustainable development and adapting to climate change, as well as support expanded investment in green industries and strategies aimed at resilience-building.

2: Enhancing support for capacity-building in disaster assessment and resilience-building strategies in the Caribbean.

In this resolution, emphasis is placed on the need to give greater attention to disaster risk reduction, preparedness and resilience-building in the Caribbean to ensure a more effective response to the specific needs of SIDS in the subregion, particularly in the context of climate change. Attention is also given to the need for expanded risk analysis and disaster assessment training activities in CDCC countries to increase

their capacity to gather baseline information and estimate the costs associated with disasters.

3: Promoting awareness of the economic impact of de-risking in the Caribbean.

The Committee this year gave substantial attention to the need for pre-emptive action to be taken by national financial institutions against de-risking. It also endorsed the need to undertake analysis to estimate the actual contribution of offshore financial sectors, trade flows and export free zones to the economies of the Caribbean and to assess the potential negative impact of de-risking on these sectors.

4: Ensuring synergy in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) in the Caribbean subregion.

This resolution acknowledges the need to enhance regional coordination in support of the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the 2030 Agenda in Caribbean SIDS, by strengthening the national institutional framework for sustainable development and building partnerships. It also encourages member States to make every effort to mainstream the 2030 Agenda and

the SAMOA Pathway into national development plans, and continue more active pursuit of partnerships among Caribbean SIDS and other partners, including through South-South and triangular cooperation.

5: Support for the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in the Caribbean.

This resolution acknowledges the work being accomplished by ECLAC on behalf of the Caribbean. It considers the special development challenges of countries in the Caribbean subregion and the opportunity that the SDGs and the SIDS Development Agenda - particularly mainstreaming the SDGs in national development planning processes - represent as a response to those challenges. It also notes the efforts made towards greater inclusion of Caribbean associate members in studies and social, economic, environment and statistical reports carried out by the Commission, including the technical support provided to those countries during the 2017 hurricane season, and calls for continued efforts towards that end.

The 27th CDCC meeting endorsed ECLAC's proposed programme of work for the year 2020, and expressed appreciation for the work carried out in the subregion during the 2016-2017 biennium. ■

STAFF GATHER AT LAUNCH OF NEW COMMON ROOM

Staff at ECLAC Caribbean now have a new common room at their Port of Spain headquarters. Here they can gather for informal meetings, to share meals and participate in staff events.

The Social Events Committee recently held the official launch of the common room and invited staff to enjoy lunch in an informal meet and greet. ■



Sweet Potato Pancakes

Minutes to Prepare: 30

Serving: 18 pancakes

What you will need:

1/2 cup maple syrup
3 tablespoons cranberry sauce
1 1/2 cups milk
1 cup boiled and mashed sweet potato
1/4 cup butter, melted
2 large eggs
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
2 tablespoons light brown sugar
1 tablespoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon salt
Toasted pecans

What you need to do:

1. Stir together first 2 ingredients.
2. Whisk together milk and next 4 ingredients in a large bowl.
3. Whisk together flour and next 4 ingredients in another bowl. Gradually stir flour mixture into milk mixture just until dry ingredients are moistened.
4. Pour about 1/4 cup batter for each pancake onto a hot (about 350°), lightly greased (with butter) griddle or large nonstick skillet.
5. Cook over medium heat 2 to 3 minutes or until tops are covered with bubbles and edges look dry and cooked; turn and cook 1 to 2 more minutes or until puffed and thoroughly cooked.
6. Serve immediately with syrup mixture and toasted pecans, or place in a single layer on a baking sheet and keep warm in a 200° oven up to 30 minutes.



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