



NATIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION PROGRAMME

MEDIUM-TERM 2021-2024

Planning Institute of Jamaica
Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit
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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AFI	Approved Financial Institution
BNTF	Basic Needs Trust Fund
BOS	Board of Supervision
CAP	Career Advancement Programme
CASE	College of Agriculture Science and Education
CBO	Community Based Organization
CCT	Conditional Cash Transfer
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
COMET	Community Empowerment and Transformation Project
CRP	Community Renewal Programme
CSEC	Caribbean Secondary Education Council
CXC	Caribbean Examination Council
DBJ	Development Bank of Jamaica
ECC	Early Childhood Commission
ECD	Early Childhood Development
ECI	Early Childhood Institutions
EEG	Economic Empowerment Grant
ESSJ	Economic and Social Survey of Jamaica
FBO	Faith Based Organization
FHH	Female headed household
FY	Financial Year
GOJ	Government of Jamaica
HAJ	Housing Agency of Jamaica
HEART	Human Employment and Resource Training
HOPE	Housing Opportunity Production and Employment Programme
HSDE	High School Diploma Equivalency
ICDP	Integrated Community Development Project
IDP	International Development Partner
INMED	International Medical Services for Health
IYEEF	International Youth Fellowship Education Foundation
IYF	International Youth Fellowship
JAMPRO	Jamaica Investment Promotions
JBAM	Jamaica Banana Accompanying Measures
JBDC	Jamaica Business Development Cooperation
JFLL	Jamaica Foundation for Lifelong Learning
JN	Jamaica National
JSIF	Jamaica Social Investment Fund
JSLC	Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions
KSA	Kingston and St Andrew
LAMP	Land Administration Management Programme
LEDSP	Local Economic Development Support Programme

LMIS	Labour Market Information System
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
MDA	Ministries Departments and Agencies
MHH	Male headed household
MIDP	Major Infrastructure Development Programme
MLSS	Ministry of Labour and Social Security
MOEYI	Ministry of Education Youth and Information
MSME	Micro Small and Medium Enterprises
MTF	Medium-term Socio-Economic Policy Framework
MTP	Medium-term Programme
NEO	New Employment Opportunities
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NIC	National Irrigation Commission
NPRP	National Poverty Reduction programme
NPSC	National Parenting Support Commission
NVQJ	National Vocational Qualification of Jamaica
NYS	National Youth Service
ODPEM	Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management
PATH	Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education
PC	People's Cooperative
PIOJ	Planning Institute of Jamaica
PRCU	Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit
PRP	Poverty Reduction Programme
PRPC	Poverty Reduction Programme Committee
RADA	Rural Agricultural Development Authority
SLB	Students Loan Bureau
TVET	Technical Vocational Education and Training
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WCFJ	Women's Centre Foundation of Jamaica
YIC	Youth Innovation Centre
YUTE	Youth Upliftment Through Employment
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

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CHAPTER ONE - OVERVIEW

Background

The first three-year Medium-term Programme (2018-2021) cycle of the National Poverty Reduction Programme (NPRP) ended on March 31, 2021, making way for the commencement of the second Medium-term Programme cycle (2021-2024). This programme document is an updated version of the first Detailed Medium Term Programme Document. It outlines all the parameters of the NPRP, inclusive of the broad framework as well as specific action to be pursued up to March 2024. The new programme cycle is essentially a continuation of the first three years of implementation and therefore maintain the NPRP goals and priority areas. This is in keeping with its strategic alignment with the Vision 2030 Jamaica development agenda.

Like the previous programme cycle, this Medium-term will focus on empowering poor and vulnerable individuals while addressing extreme poverty, through a mix of household and community (both rural and urban) interventions. The targeted nature of the programme will continue to include a focus on specific groups – the destitute and vulnerable persons, persons facing food poverty, persons with disabilities, the working poor, pregnant and lactating women, the elderly, small producers, unemployed and unskilled, children and youth, breadwinners, and service providers – and the administration of a slate of critical interventions. The programme will seek to reach, in the first instance, the extreme (food) poor to eradicate extreme hunger and poverty. Secondly, the programme will seek to build and strengthen the productive and earning capacity of the poor who are in the working-age population. The working-age population is the productive base of the family and economy, and as such, is a primary target group for affecting consumption. As indicated in the Situation Analysis, there is a need to strengthen the economic resilience of not only the structural poor, but also the vulnerable (or transient poor) which represent those consuming within 10 per cent above the poverty line (JSLC). This group is typically susceptible to external shocks that easily reduce their overall consumption capacity.

It is recognized that sustained reduction in poverty levels will require:

- i. Sustained improvement in household's capacity to consume, that is, through employment or other income. This is strategic as the measurement of poverty is currently based on household consumption (food and non-food).
- ii. A coordinated, adequately targeted and supported National Poverty Reduction Programme that empowers the most vulnerable to successfully connect to employment and other opportunities.

- iii. Addressing systemic, cultural, and psychosocial barriers that perpetuate poverty, and limit meaningful participation in education, training, and the labour market.

Situation Analysis

Poverty Prevalence

The Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions (JSLC) 2018 estimated that 12.6 per cent of the population was living in poverty, with the overall adult equivalent poverty line being \$194 541.29. This compares with 19.3 per cent in the previous year, representing a 6.7 percentage point decline. The largest prevalence was recorded for Rural Areas (RA) at 15.0 percent, while Other Urban Centres (OUC) was estimated at 12.0 per cent, and the Greater Kingston Metropolitan Area (GKMA) at 9.2 per cent. The comparative data for the revised 2017 estimates were 20.2 per cent for RA, 19.8 per cent for OUC and 17.7 per cent for GKMA.¹ Food poverty prevalence stood at 3.5 per cent, a decline from 5.4 per cent in 2017. The overall adult equivalent food poverty line was \$127 014.38. OUC was the region with the highest prevalence of the food poor (3.9 per cent), followed by RA with 3.7 per cent and GKMA with 2.9 per cent. Comparative 2017 regional data was 5.6 per cent in RA, 5.5 per cent in GKMA and 4.8 per cent in OUC.

The trend in poverty prevalence by age group has indicated higher rates among children than adults. The 2018 data continued to support this as the poverty rate of those younger than 15 years (15.6 per cent) is significantly different from those of individuals in both the Working Age (15–64 years) and the Dependent Elderly (65 years and older) age groups, which are similar at 11.2 per cent and 12.0 per cent, respectively.¹⁵ Relative to 2017, the poverty rates for children (0–14 years) and those of working age declined by 8.5 and 6.6 percentage points, respectively. However, there was no significant change in the rate for the dependent elderly, which was 12.0 per cent in 2017².

In 2018, there was a significant difference of 3.4 percentage points in the prevalence of poverty between individuals from female-headed households (FHH) and male-headed households (MHH)—recorded at 14.4 per cent and 11.0 per cent, respectively. The poverty rates of those from both household types registered declines relative to 2017, with FHH declining by 8.4 percentage points and MHH by 4.7 percentage points. There was an improvement in the socioeconomic situation of households with children that are headed by women, as the difference between the rates for individuals from MHH with children and FHH with children in 2017 was significant. Compared with 2017—when

¹ Comparison of poverty data series cannot be effected in this edition, as the sampling design and weighting methodology for the JSLC have been revised for 2017 and 2018 datasets.

² Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions 2018

the rates were 19.0 per cent and 26.3 per cent respectively – declines of 5.1 and 10.6 percentage points, respectively, were noted in MHH with children and FHH with children in 2018. This socio-economic improvement for FHH indicates that children living in FHH were now less vulnerable to poverty than recorded in 2017³.

FHH are more likely to be single parent households⁴ whose vulnerability is attributed to lower per capita consumption due to larger household size as well as discrimination in employment and wages, and less access to resources (PIOJ, 2014, 18–19). Other vulnerable groups include persons with disabilities, the homeless, the elderly and youth as well as those within the category of the working poor. These, vulnerable persons, as well as the small-scale producers and small entrepreneurs that are faced with challenges that threaten their viability, are targeted for the medium-term programme. The poverty reduction programme will be implemented to address poverty at the individual/household, community, and national levels.

Among the main determinants of poverty in Jamaica are low educational attainment levels, low income earning capability, inability to access basic social services, lack of economic opportunities contributing to underemployment, unemployment, and low-wage employment.⁵

The implementation of poverty related programmes is primarily state led, however there are non-government and civil society organizations that are involved in poverty reduction efforts. Among the challenges faced by poverty reduction programmes are poor targeting, inadequacy of benefits, cost effectiveness issues, lack of sustainability, and in some instances, lack of institutional capacities for effective implementation.

Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic

The impact of the COVID-19 Virus has exacerbated pre-existing inequalities, widened gaps in social protection mechanisms and exposed vulnerabilities. This has presented unforeseen challenges to national poverty reduction efforts. Global projections indicate that extreme poverty will increase by up to 50 million compared to the original 2020 forecast⁶; while the World Bank suggests that COVID-19 could result in up to twice that

³ Ibid

⁴ One quarter of female headed households reported having a partner (Vision 2030 Jamaica Gender Sector Plan pg. 17.)

⁵ Vision 2030 Jamaica Poverty Reduction Strategic Plan 2009

⁶ Kharas, Homi, and Hamel, Krostofor. 2020. “Turning back the Poverty Clock: How will COVID-19 impact the world’s poorest people?” Accessed May 27, 2020. <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/future-development/2020/05/06/turning-back-the-poverty-clock-how-will-covid-19-impact-the-worlds-poorest-people/>

number of people falling into extreme poverty in 2020; thereby increasing the global extreme poverty rate from 8.2 per cent to up to 9.1 per cent.⁷

These global projections are in keeping with national decline in key sectors resulting an overall sharp decline the growth of the Jamaican economy. In January – June 2020 the economy recorded a decline of 10.4 per cent relative to January – June 2019, this represented the largest decline in a six-month period on record⁸. The decline was reflected in contractions in both the Goods Producing industry, by 7.2 per cent and the Services Industry by 10.7 per cent. The industries with the largest declines were:

- Hotels & Restaurants, down 49.0 per cent, reflecting the impact of COVID-19 and measures implemented to stop the spread of the virus on the movement and gathering of people.
- Mining & Quarrying, down 30.5 per cent, reflecting the impact of the closure of Jamaica’s largest refinery, JISCO ALPART, in September 2019 for a projected 18-24 months to facilitate retooling and upgrading of the refinery.
- Other Services, down 23.5 per cent, fallout due to the impact of COVID-19, especially in the recreational sub-industry.
- The decline for January – June 2020 reflected decreases in both January-March 2020 and April-June 2020 by 2.4 per cent and 18.4 per cent, respectively, compared with the corresponding quarters of 2019.

Both quarters were negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and measures put in place locally and globally to stop the spread of the virus. Measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic include:

- closure of domestic and international borders, which affected trade and tourism activities
- curtailed productive time due to curfews that negatively affected demand, production and the supply of goods and services
- restrictions placed on gatherings

⁷ The World Bank. 2020. “Projected poverty impacts of COVID-19 (coronavirus)”. Accessed on June 11, 2020. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/poverty/brief/projected-poverty-impacts-of-COVID-19>

Jamaica started to record quarterly value added in 1996.

⁸ Ibid

- The decline in April–June 2020 of 18.4%, when the measures implemented to stop the spread of COVID-19 pandemic was most restrictive globally and locally, was the largest quarterly decline and the lowest quarterly Total Real Value Added on record (Figure 5)
- All industries recorded declines except the Producers of Government Services, which increased by 0.2 per cent. The industries that declined ranged from -5.5 per cent (Finance & Insurance Services and Real Estate, Renting & Business Activities industries) to -85.6 per cent (Hotels & Restaurant industry).
- The industries that recorded the strongest decline during the April–June 2020 quarter relative to the corresponding quarter of 2019 were:
 - Hotels & Restaurants industry, down 85.6 per cent, mainly reflecting the impact of measures implement to stop the spread of COVID-19 on people movement, specially the closing of borders, which led to a 99.1 per cent reduction in the arrival of Foreign National.
 - Other Services, down 44.3 per cent, as restriction put in place to stop the spread of the virus, negatively affected Recreational, Cultural & Sporting Activities and other subindustries (e.g. Private Education).
 - Mining & Quarrying, down 5.2 per cent, due mainly to the closure of Jamaica’s largest alumina refinery.
 - Transport, Storage & Communication, down 20.8 per cent, due mainly to fallout from the impact of COVID-19 on all transportation related activities.

Despite the challenges encountered because of containment measures in response to the global pandemic, COVID-19, the National Poverty Reduction Programme has gathered momentum and the need for greater support to the most vulnerable and those impacted will continue to be underscored.

Programme Description

The National Poverty Reduction Programme synchronises existing poverty reduction programmes delivering key interventions aligned with the medium-term priorities identified, under five Programme Areas - Addressing Extreme Poverty and Basic Needs; Economic Empowerment and Human Capital Development; Psychosocial, Cultural and

Normative Advancement; Basic Community Infrastructure; and Institutional Strengthening. The scope of the programme has been determined based on data and information, government priorities and policy focus, regional and international best practice, consultation with a wide range of stakeholders, and lessons learnt.

The NPRP is a responsive instrument towards the achievement of the broad policy goals of eradicating food poverty and reducing the prevalence of absolute poverty to significantly below 10 per cent. The nature of the NPRP therefore requires coordination of each component towards these macro level results. This process of coordination will be managed by the Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit (PRCU) within the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ). The National Poverty Reduction Programme Committee (NPRPC), comprising representatives of key implementing partners, will provide a focal point for collaboration, monitoring, and evaluation of the actions being implemented under each medium-term NPRP.

Programme Areas



Fig 1. Programme Areas of the National Poverty Reduction Programme

The National Poverty Reduction Programme has five programme areas under which related strategies are identified to address in a systematic manner, the determinants of poverty in Jamaica. These programme areas provide the parameters that define the scope of interventions to be administered to target groups that are directly impacted by poverty. These areas of focus are directly linked to thematic areas and related strategies of the National Policy on Poverty and guide the selection of programmes for each medium-term.

Table 1, below presents the goals and outcomes of each programme area, contributing to the achievement of the broad policy goals.

Table 1. Programme Area Goals and Results

Programme Area	Issues Affecting Poverty Status	Goals	Key Results
Addressing Extreme Poverty and Basic Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited access to basic social services - High dependency rates - Inadequacy of social transfers 	<p>Food and nutrition security of the poor and vulnerable</p> <p>Access to basic amenities and services to the poor and vulnerable in keeping with the Social Protection Floor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased food security among the poor - Increased access of the poor to basic amenities and services - Increased access to and adequacy of social transfers
Economic Empowerment and Human Capital Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low educational attainment - Low income earning capability - Lack of economic opportunities - Underemployment - Unemployment and low wage employment 	<p>Human capital formation, economic empowerment, and income security among the poor and vulnerable</p> <p>Sustained income security of the poor towards social and economic mobility</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased tertiary certification levels among persons in quintiles 1 and 2 - Increased labour market participation rate among youth and household heads in quintiles 1 and 2 - Sustainability and growth of micro small and medium enterprises and productive sectors including agriculture promoted - Improved learning outcomes at the early childhood level in all regions
Psychosocial Cultural and Normative Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weak parenting practices. - Cultural norms and practises that perpetuate poverty - Negative mind-set - Weak social capital at the community level 	Break the intergenerational cycle of poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduction in the adolescent fertility rate in Jamaica - Increased rates of participation in civil society organization - Attitude and behavioural changes in critical areas including parenting, employment, education and health
Basic Community Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inadequate rural development impacting access to basic amenities, services and markets - High levels of risks due to natural hazards - Poor condition of infrastructure (housing, sanitation, utility etc) in urban communities 	Improved living conditions and sustained livelihoods in poor rural and urban communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased access to basic infrastructure and services in keeping with the social protection floor - Increased climate resilience in key sectors including agriculture and infrastructure development - Improved quality of infrastructure in rural and urban communities.
Institutional Strengthening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inadequate monitoring and evaluation capacity - Inadequate funding for effective programme implementation. - Inadequate institutional capacity for programme delivery. - Limited collaboration, partnerships and sharing of resources 	Improved and sustained programme delivery, monitoring and evaluation among programmes in the NPRP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased capacity to monitor and evaluate the results of key poverty reduction programmes and projects among MDAs and NGOs in the medium term - Increased effectiveness of MDAs and NGOs in programme delivery - Improved coordination of poverty reduction programming

Policy and Legislative Context for the National Poverty Reduction Programme

The National Policy on Poverty:

The National Poverty Reduction Programme is directly linked to and influenced by the National Policy on Poverty. It embodies the commitments made by Government in the effort to eradicate extreme poverty and reduce absolute poverty, within the framework of the Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan and the Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

Guiding Principles

The *National Policy on Poverty* embraces eight core principles, which form the basis for empowering individuals, households, and communities to achieve their full potential and thereby contribute to holistic national development. The guiding principles of the policy are:

1. Respect for Human Rights
2. Inclusive and Participatory Development
3. Shared Prosperity
4. Empowerment and Personal Responsibility
5. Equitable Access to Basic Goods and Services
6. Evidence-Based Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)
7. Transparency and Accountability
8. Sustainable Development Approaches

Vision Statement

Every Jamaican is consuming goods and services above the minimum acceptable national standards and has equal and equitable opportunities and support to achieve and maintain income security and improved quality of life.

Policy Goals

GOAL 1: Extreme (food) poverty eradicated by 2022

GOAL 2: National poverty prevalence reduced **significantly** below 10.0 per cent by 2030.

Key Assumptions

To attain the policy goals, several key assumptions are being made, including:

- i. Sustained levels of economic growth at a minimum of 3.0 per cent annually over the medium-term;⁹

⁹ Economic growth rates in Jamaica were 1.4 per cent in 2016 and 0.5 per cent for 2017 (ESSJ, 2016, 2017).

- ii. Adequate budgetary provisions to key programmes and projects to facilitate greater reach and scope of services; this includes the cadre of staff required for effective programme delivery.
- iii. Dynamism in the labour market, with the creation of jobs across key growth sectors.
- iv. Attention to viable rural development initiatives to spread the benefits of development, stimulate market activity, and strengthen rural livelihoods.
- v. Strong integrated linkages between efforts of government entities.
- vi. Strong linkages between government efforts and private investments.
- vii. The economic dependency ratio must remain at a maximum of 1.2 as achieved in 2019¹⁰.
- viii. The inflation rate maintains on average at or below 5.0 per cent between 2014 and 2030.¹¹

Thematic Areas and Related Objectives

Thematic Area 1: Social Safety Nets

Objective 1: Strengthen social safety nets to address extreme poverty-induced deprivations (including hunger).

Thematic Area 2: Human Capital Development

Objective 2: Promote and expand human capital development among the poor and vulnerable (including children and persons with disabilities) towards self-actualization.

Thematic Area 3: Livelihood Creation and Income Security

Objective 3: Enhance income security among the poor and vulnerable.

Thematic Area 4: Food and Nutrition Security

Objective 4: Enhance food and nutrition security of the poor.

Thematic Area 5: Basic Social and Physical Infrastructure

Objective 5: Strengthen basic social and physical infrastructure within poor rural and urban communities.

Thematic Area 6: Psychosocial, Cultural, and Normative Advancement

Objective 6: Address psychosocial, cultural, and normative influences on poverty.

Thematic Area 7: Coordination and Capacity Building.

¹⁰ The economic dependency ratio is the ratio of persons who are not working relative to those who are working. It is calculated by dividing the dependent population (children, persons in the working age population not employed, and the elderly) by the employed population. It is suggested that for every person working, his/her income should support on average, a maximum of an additional 1.2 persons. This was achieved in 2019. Eight consecutive years of a decline in the economic dependence ratio, where Jamaica achieved the target set of at or below 1.2 in 2019. This reflects an increase in the level of employment over the last 8 years

¹¹ Inflation Rates in Jamaica was 1.7 per cent for 2016 and 5.2 per cent for the year 2017 (ESSJ 2017, 107)

Objective 7: Strengthen coordination and capacity building among key stakeholders for poverty reduction.

Broad Policy and Legislative Environment

The multidimensional nature of poverty reduction efforts draws on a broad legislative and policy framework to support achieving the outcomes of the National Policy on Poverty and National Poverty Reduction Programme. *The Education Act 1965, Employment (Equal Pay for Men and Women) act 1975, Minimum Wage Act 1938, Housing Act 1969, Human Employment and Resource Training Act 1982, Public Health Act 1985, Child Care and Protection Act 2004 and the Pensions Act 1976*, inter alia, contribute to an enabling environment for poverty reduction¹².

The Jamaica Social Protection Strategy (SPS), 2014, is the overarching framework for poverty reduction. The SPS promotes four levels of interventions and is designed to impact the population across the life cycle. The SPS promotes a Social Protection Floor comprising basic social services and income security that are to be guaranteed to the population. The NPRP within this context, targets persons below the poverty line across the lifecycle as well as the vulnerable population through strategic interventions linked to the overall outcomes of the SP system.

The institutional framework for social protection in Jamaica provides policy oversight for poverty reduction as well as technical support to the implementation of the NPRP. This is accomplished primarily through the National Social Protection Committee, interacting with both the Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit and the National Poverty Reduction Programme Committee (NPRPC). Through this arrangement, synergies are achieved between the overarching work of social protection and that of poverty reduction.

Key fiscal policies will support the macroeconomic imperatives necessary to create an enabling environment for poverty reduction interventions. The NPRP recognizes and underscores the need for economic growth to support poverty reduction. The overarching policy framework demonstrates coherence with key macroeconomic policies as well as sustainable development policies that mitigate risks and promote resilience.

Economic Sustainability of the NPRP

The implementation of the NPRP is supported by and implemented within the context of prevailing economic development policies that influence the capacity for implementation and sustainability of key programmes targeting poverty reduction. At each stage of evaluation and design the NPRP embraces coherence in programme delivery in keeping with the prevailing economic policy environment. The importance of economic growth

¹² The National Policy on Poverty details select policies and strategies, legislation and international agreements that support the implementation of the National Poverty Reduction Programme see table 3.

in creating and supporting an enabling environment for poverty reduction is underscored.

Coherence with key economic policies that facilitate job creation and livelihoods are necessary to achieving the overarching goals of the National Policy on Poverty. Interventions emanating from these policies will both create an enabling environment for economic growth and facilitate interventions to directly impact the consumption status of households. The MSME Policy (2013), Economic Growth Council Call to Action (2016) and the Medium-term Strategic Priorities of Government, the Growth Inducement Programme among others, are indicative of the economic provisions and context supporting the implementation of the NPRP.

The National Poverty Reduction Programme is comprised primarily of existing programmes being implemented by MDAs and is therefore funded largely through the budgetary allocations made to these programmes. The achievement of the policy goals as the ultimate output of the programme requires sustained economic growth and equitable distribution. Effective targeting mechanisms and access to a range of economic and social opportunities will therefore need to be afforded through the NPRP to facilitate inclusiveness in sharing the gains of growth. Complementing macro-economic interventions to achieving and maintaining low inflation rates will be essential to impacting the purchasing power generally and especially for the poor. The utilization of research in the area to prepare policy papers positing approaches to cushioning the effects of inflation on the poor and bring to bear such research on policy and programming will be necessary. Psychosocial interventions for case management and family education support as well as sexual and reproductive health aim to, over time, influence the economic dependency ratio. Economic empowerment and human capital development targeting the youth population intends to effectively sustain economic stability among families.

Programme Area 2, devoted to economic empowerment and human capital development of the poor and vulnerable population, includes measures to increase productivity, job creation and protection from unemployment. The broader Social Protection Framework supports and sustains these interventions through protective and promotive interventions as well as social insurance provisions as the overarching framework for poverty reduction.

The Labour Market Commission was mandated to oversee the review of existing policies and practices with respect to five thematic areas of the labour market, and to make recommendations for their revision to modernize the labour market and enhance the economy's competitiveness. The thematic areas for the Commission's work were education and training, productivity, technology, and innovation; labour policies and legislation; social protection; and industrial relations.

The Commission's findings and recommendations will continue to be relevant in the design, delivery, and amendments to relevant programmes. The work of the Labour Market Commission adds value to the poverty reduction programme; enhancing the labour market environment to empower people of working age whilst promoting protection of income and measures to build resilience and cushioning shocks to prevent people from falling into poverty.

The impact of crises and external shocks has, historically, significantly impacted the prevalence of poverty in Jamaica and must be considered in the implementation of the NPRP. This is important to sustain the gains of the programme and establish stability in progressing towards achieving the goals of poverty reduction. Research supporting the NPRP will address the dynamics of change and recommend approaches to address vulnerability and susceptibility to shocks. Policies and strategies addressing climate change impact are identified as key for policy coherence, providing protection in industries that are vulnerable to climate change impacts. Advancing policies to promote growth locally will stymie the impact of external shocks and promote resilience in local industries. Continuous research will keep within view the impact of external shocks on the population generally and on the depth and severity of poverty.

Community level

At the community level the sustainability of interventions is critical. Improving access to basic goods and services as well as maintaining and sustaining the gains made under the NPRP are essential to growth and continuity. The assessment and building of capacity at this level is key, as well as building responsive models to sustain community level enterprises and industries. The NPRP embraces measures to promote scalability of local entrepreneurship ventures, provision of incubator support and ownership at the local level, whilst providing marketing support and promoting an enabling economic environment at the macro level.

Household level

Economic sustainability at the household level is promoted through strategies addressing financial literacy especially of breadwinners. Social marketing and other approaches will be critical to promoting behaviour change with the objective of enhancing the economic stability of households and promoting independence from State provisions. The sustainability of grant funding initiatives that provide capital for household level interventions are to be strengthened to encourage growth, scalability and effective marketing linkages to provide adequate and consistent income for family support.

Social Sustainability of the NPRP

The implementation of the National Policy on Poverty is supported by existing, relevant national policies and strategies on population, health, education inter alia. Emanating from these policies and strategies, key interventions will both support and form part of

the National Poverty Reduction Programme. The Competence Based Transition Policy (2009), National Education Strategic Plan (2011-2020), National Parenting Support Policy (2010), Ministry of Health Strategic Business Plan (2015-2018), National Food Security Policy (2013) and the overarching Jamaica Social Protection Strategy (2014) are key social policies that support poverty reduction.

The coordination of the Second Medium-term Programme of the NPRP will consider key policy changes that are necessary to support poverty reduction efforts nationally. The Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit through its technical work and facilitation of the NPRPC will take these policy level recommendations to the National Social Protection Committee for deliberation and recommendation to the Cabinet.

In the context of challenging economic environment impacting key dynamics necessary to impact poverty reduction, the coordination of the NPRP demands continuous and sustained well-designed interventions to maintain sustainability and impact the lives of the intended target group. The NPRP promotes interventions to build social capital at the national and community levels to sustain the impact of each level of intervention. The role of community-based organizations and other civil society groups remain important in promoting sustainability through a stable social environment; building on local investments to advance their impact and increase programme coverage within the locale. Adequate technical and financial support, mobilization and a robust regulatory framework are necessary to enable impactful levels of participation.

Addressing crime and its impact on social interaction and economic activity are critical to sustaining the gains of the poverty reduction programme. Coherence with the *National Security Policy for Jamaica 2013* is identified as critical. At the core of the NPRP is the psychosocial, cultural and normative advancement promoting values, training, mentorship and the capacity to inspire hope especially among youth. The Second Medium-term Programme of the NPRP, and specifically Programme Area 3 will continue to impact issues of organization, culture, ‘unattachment’, and exclusion to promote stability in making progress especially among beneficiaries.

Low educational attainment is identified as a major determinant of poverty. The NPRP identifies interventions from the early childhood to tertiary level as critical to human capital formation and productive outcomes. Supporting interventions under Programme Area 2- Economic Empowerment and Human Capital Development will also sustain the gains made in both poverty and inequality. The programme also recognizes the impact of labour migration, an issue to be supported through policy coherence with the National Policy and Plan of Action on International Migration and Development (2015).

Community Level

Building, and more so, sustaining social capital at the community level contributes to the sustainability of community level programmes and interventions through continuity.

Ownership and maintenance as well as building on the gains of these interventions are critical for worthwhile returns on community level investments.

Household Level

At the household level, mind-set change, sexual and reproductive health, family-based services and education of household members are key approaches contributing to sustaining the gains of interventions and investments at the household level. Case management and family-based services will support household level interventions.

Gender Considerations

Target groups for specific interventions are identified based on continuous research that will inform each medium-term focus. Data indicates the differentiated ways in which males and females are impacted by, and experience poverty. Gender considerations are therefore applied to strategies implemented under the programme. The policy framework is integrated with the National Policy for Gender Equality (2011).

Environmental Considerations

The NPRP recognizes the fundamental role of environmental sustainability to favourable economic outcomes and poverty reduction. The Climate Change Action Plan 2015 is the overarching framework that supports the sustainability of interventions especially in agriculture, in which majority of the rural population is employed. The Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience and Climate Change Adaptation Fund Programme provide support to climate change adaptation to promote sustainability particularly to the productive sectors. Climate change adaptation is also mainstreamed into the agricultural extension service to provide continuous support to managing the impacts of climate change on this critical sector, as well as the Building Act 2017, which supports disaster risk reduction through resilient infrastructure.

Partnerships

The National Poverty Reduction Programme employs a partnership approach to implementation to improve efficiency in delivery and promote cost effectiveness. This approach will mobilize partners from among key stakeholder groups and galvanize support for poverty reduction generally. The Second Medium Term Programme seeks to strengthen existing partnerships and facilitate greater collaboration among partners and other organisations. The broad groups of stakeholders and their roles are outlined in Table 1 below. In particular, the necessity of mind-set change to poverty reduction is underscored in National Policy and is expressed in Programme Area 3 – Psychosocial Cultural and Normative Advancement. A Psychosocial Pilot for Mindset change will be pursued in the Second Medium-term. This requires a special skill set in programme design and delivery that necessitates forging core partnerships in this area.

Table 2: Partnerships for Poverty Reduction

PARTNERS	ROLES
Individuals, Households & Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Main partners and beneficiaries of household/individual and community interventions. - Acknowledge and demonstrate personal and collective responsibility. - Partnership for sustainability of outcomes.
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultatively define legislative/policy/programme priorities and institutional framework, as well as results-based monitoring and evaluation. - Provide and align resources for basic socio-economic services. - Strengthen the technical capacity of MDAs and other relevant partners that serve the poor. - Implement programmes and provide services. - Build, encourage, and maintain partnerships.
NGOs, CBOs, FBOs, PVOs, Civil Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support and enhance service provision efforts of the GOJ. - Establish partnership model to support key gaps identified in the policy and programme. - Mobilise communities for participation and provide leadership in identifying and articulating community needs. - Capacity building for project management, financial sustainability, and service provision particularly for at risk groups.
Private Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop, demonstrate, and maintain corporate social responsibility. - Establish public/private partnership model to support key gaps identified in the poverty policy and programme. - Programme support and incentives in crucial areas such as production and wealth- generation skills, technology, training, job creation, social entrepreneurship, research and development, marketing, and other technical assistance.
Development Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International co-operation and technical assistance for the defined National Policy on Poverty and National Poverty Programme. - Using current mechanisms for IDP coordination, ensure information sharing between GOJ and IDPs, and alignment of IDP and national priorities to reduce overlaps, duplication/fragmentation and realise more effective focussing of resources. - Strengthen support to programmes through increased diaspora engagement in pertinent areas. - Contribute to analytical work on important issues using latest data to enhance the effectiveness and relevance of the National Poverty Reduction Programme.
Academia/ Research Institutions/ Think -Tanks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contribute to the interdisciplinary coordination mechanism for the design and execution of the National Poverty Reduction Programme, including a psychosocial component. - Contribute to analytical work on important issues using latest data to enhance the effectiveness and relevance of the National Poverty Reduction Programme.

Resourcing and Financial Management

The National Poverty Reduction Programme recognizes the need for mobilization of adequate resources and financing to the relevant interventions to achieve and sustain poverty reduction outcomes. Resources include human resources, infrastructure, systems, and financial input to programmes and activities.

The financing of the National Poverty Reduction Programme will be primarily through budgetary allocations to relevant MDAs. Allocations for poverty-related programmes and interventions are currently included in the budgets of several MDAs. The GOJ commits to maintaining and protecting the budgetary allocations and subventions to MDAs and NGOs that are implementing components of the National Poverty Reduction Programme. The programmes, projects, and interventions highlighted in the first Medium-Term Poverty Reduction Programme will be maintained and given priority over the new medium-term programme.

Additional resources towards poverty reduction programming will be allocated to the Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit (PRCU) of the Planning Institute of Jamaica, primarily to support coordination, research, monitoring and evaluation, capacity building and institutional strengthening. The Ministry with responsibility for Planning will maintain overall responsibility for budget support to the NPRP.

The role of non-government entities in funding poverty reduction programmes remains pertinent and critical. This includes International Development Partners (IDPs), NGOs, CBOs, FBOs, Private Sector companies, and individuals and volunteers. Funding decisions by these external partners will be guided by the priorities outlined in each rolling medium-term poverty reduction programme.

The National Policy on Poverty also recognizes that poverty reduction is situated within the wider context of social protection and refers to the Financing Strategies outlined in the Jamaica Social Protection Strategy document (Chapter V). These include:

1. Improving collection of outstanding taxes (including local property taxes)
2. Tax reforms
3. Imposing fines for breaches of environmental protection laws and regulations
4. Maximising access to grant funding
5. Building strong and sustainable partnerships with non-state sectors (NGOs, private sector, FBOs and CBOs)
6. Increased prioritization of social protection (and Poverty Reduction) in the allocation of state resources, particularly in respect of the Social Protection Floor.

To maximize funding and budget efficiency, strong Monitoring and Evaluation frameworks must be in place for programmes and interventions comprising the National

Poverty Reduction Programme. This will ensure that programme outcomes are tracked and evaluated, and adequate resources are allocated to support implementation.

The technical and financial resources made available to the government through international development partners continue to be significant in effecting projects and programmes for social protection. The experience of the last decade provides examples of valuable partnerships that have supported programme design and implementation, as well as research and institutional strengthening. These resources remain relevant to the poverty programmes, as in many instances they provide or afford the opportunity for greater levels of research, best practice observation and modelling, and technical input into programme definition and monitoring. Government efforts will be on securing sustainable sources of funding that counterpart efforts and responsibilities can be scaled up, expanded, or maintained if external resources are no longer available.

The National Poverty Reduction Programme is implemented through a coordinated approach that enables greater efficiencies through monitoring, capacity building, collaborating and partnership approaches. The Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit together with the NPRPC will continue to make recommendations to impact effectiveness of resource use and allocations to programmes. The financial management of the programme will be the remit of the respective Ministries that are implementing specific programmes.

For the duration of the programme, financing of programme activities will be primarily through its budgetary allocations through the Government of Jamaica. Budgetary support to the Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit will be used for its coordinating activities including monitoring and evaluation. Increased opportunities for capacity building of implementing partners will be prioritised in the Second Medium-Term Programme. Additionally, creation of tools and systems to facilitate assessment of programmes, enhancing stakeholder engagement, monitoring, and reporting will be advanced.

It is expected that efficiencies will be gained over time from coordinating programmes through collaboration, networking, and more targeted interventions, resulting in greater coverage, reduced duplication of efforts and impact on the target group. The alignment of the priorities of the NPRP with external funding is expected to enhance current efforts of programmes and finance new initiatives based on monitoring and evaluation results.

The policy and programme have received the support of the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service as an indication of the government's prioritization of the implementation of the NPRP.

CHAPTER TWO - PROGRAMME COORDINATION

Overview

The implementation strategy of the National Poverty Reduction Programme is hinged on a process of coordinating existing government initiatives and interventions that address the strategies identified under each of the five programme areas. The Programme is also implemented within the framework of Vision 2030 Jamaica and the Jamaica Social Protection Strategy. The implementation process involves coordinating a set of programmes and interventions towards achieving a set of targets that contribute to overall reduction of the prevalence of poverty in Jamaica. This is supported by data on the indicators of poverty in the JSLC as well as the poverty mapping exercise. This will inform the set of interventions to be pursued within specific target groups and locations. The participation of Ministries Departments and Agencies (MDAs) implementing these programmes is therefore a key feature of the implementation strategy through their corporate and operational planning process reflecting the priorities of the NPRP, thereby assuming an accountable role for the results of the national programme.

Key Objectives of the Coordination Process:

- Improving cost effectiveness in programme delivery
- Reducing duplication while addressing gaps in coverage
- Improving monitoring and evaluation and accountability
- Building partnerships
- Strengthening systematic response to addressing poverty and vulnerability

Institutional Framework and Governance - NPRP

The PRCU will maintain the coordinating structure and manage the process of monitoring and coordination which includes making recommendation for budgetary allocations to support specific interventions that are critical to poverty reduction within each medium-term cycle. In addition, the Unit will prepare and disseminate regular data reports to key stakeholders on the progress of implementing the national programme.

Figure 2 depicts the process flow for the NPRP, inclusive of coordination, monitoring and evaluation.

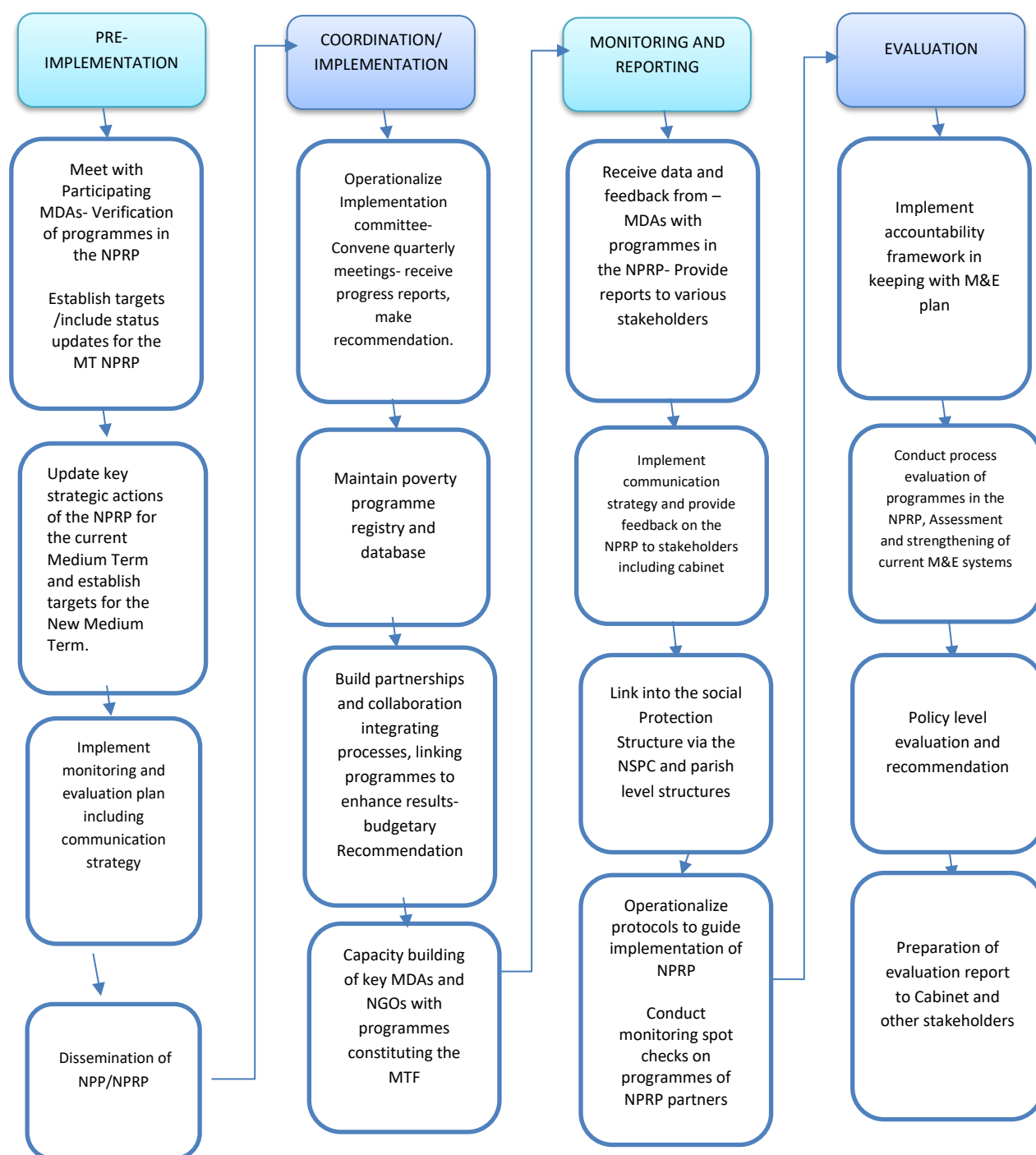
Role of the PRCU:

Formally established December 2013, the Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit (PRCU) within the Planning Institute of Jamaica will provide technical and secretariat support for the National Poverty Reduction Programme Committee (NPRPC). Recognizing that poverty is a multidimensional and crosscutting development issue, the PRCU therefore supports the work of MDAs, the private sector and NGOs involved in poverty reduction. The PRCU's functions are outlined below.

1. Through a participatory process, develop, monitor and evaluate the Medium-Term Poverty Reduction Programmes, inclusive of a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.
2. Ensure linkage of the poverty programmes to the strategies of the Vision 2030 Jamaica towards achieving positive poverty reduction outcomes and contributing to the realization of effective Social Protection.
3. Ensure that the National Poverty Reduction Programme takes account of economic, social and sustainable development parameters, in designing or implementing interventions.
4. Establish a system of accountability whereby monitoring and evaluation of poverty initiatives can be facilitated. This will include the development of a management information system that encompasses the major poverty initiatives, particularly those having direct influence on private poverty and represented under each medium-term programme.
5. Be a catalyst in strengthening inter-sectoral networks and collaboration for the delivery of programmes. This includes maintaining strong communication linkages with all interest groups, including beneficiary representatives, programme managers, international development partners, Government agencies, and other players. In this regard, the Unit will convene the NPRPC, a pertinent inter-sectoral committee, to guide the medium-term strategies.
6. Perform technical, managerial and coordination functions for implementation of the National Poverty Reduction Programme. This includes convening and providing administrative support to the NPRPC.
7. Provide structured and objective approaches to assess and disseminate information on poverty reduction interventions and monitor and evaluate the overall reach of services and initiatives.

8. Recommend, track, and monitor budgetary allocation to poverty reduction programmes and projects towards achieving sustainable outcomes at all levels.
9. Prepare quarterly and annual reports on the status of the National Poverty Reduction Programme to the relevant committees including NPRPC and the National Social Protection Committee (NSPC). The PRCU will also prepare annual and ad hoc reports to the Cabinet.
10. Provide technical advice to the GOJ and institutions/organizations involved in poverty reduction to ensure coherence between social, economic, and sustainable development policy directions and the National Poverty Policy and Programme.
11. Provide information to guide the allocation of GOJ's resources and cost-effective use for short term, intermediate and long-term poverty reduction initiatives to reap measurable and sustainable outcomes.
12. Contribute to the process of policy and legislative changes for the removal of impediments to poverty reduction efforts.
13. In collaboration with the External Cooperation Management Division, and other relevant units of the PIOJ, facilitate synergy and integration to guide development partners in identifying key poverty reduction support areas aligned with the GOJ's priorities.
14. Collaborate with the Policy Research Unit, Social Protection and Gender Unit, and other relevant units and Divisions of the PIOJ to conduct or facilitate relevant research to guide poverty reduction interventions. This includes advancing the use of social assessment and other methodologies in determining successful outcomes of projects and programmes.
15. Examine best practice and culturally relevant experience in poverty reduction worldwide.

Fig 2: Process Flow for the Medium-term National Poverty Reduction Programme



The National Poverty Reduction Programme is implemented through a coordinated approach involving ministries, departments and agencies that are implementing the

components of the NPRP within the context of their existing mandate. The PRCU will continue to provide secretariat functions to the implementation committee. The proposed MDAs comprising the implementation committee for the second medium-term cycle as well as key responsibilities and targets for the medium-term are detailed in the plan of action below.

The Role of the NPRPC:

The National Poverty Reduction Programme Committee (NPRPC) is established as the main body for monitoring the implementation of the policy and programme at the national level. The multi-sectoral committee will be comprised of relevant organizations implementing and supporting the National Poverty Reduction Programme. The composition will be guided by the slate of programmes to be implemented and monitored under each Medium-term Poverty Reduction Programme, and as such will be revisited with each cycle. The NPRPC shall consist of programme heads (directors/managers) of Government Ministries Departments and Agencies implementing programmes under the medium-term framework, as well as select programme partners from private sector organizations and non-government organizations (NGOs, CBOs and FBOs). The NPRPC will meet on a bi-monthly basis, or more frequently initially. The NPRPC may establish relevant sub-committees, for specific purposes, and invite the occasional participation of non-members as required. The functions of the NPRPC will include, inter alia:

1. Ensuring the timely implementation of the poverty programme work plans in keeping with the Medium-term Poverty Reduction Programme (including Action Plan and M&E Framework).
2. Monitoring implementation progress of the Poverty Reduction Programme.
3. Ensuring programme coherence in keeping with the National Policy on Poverty, Social Protection Strategy, and other areas of public policy.
4. Identifying areas for collaboration, dialogue, and partnerships towards streamlining programme implementation.
5. Facilitating and promoting data and information sharing among key stakeholders.
6. Monitoring the provision of data and information towards the M&E Framework for the National Poverty Reduction Programme.
7. Providing oversight to the execution of midterm and final evaluation of the medium-term poverty programmes.
8. Identifying policy-level issues to be brought to the attention of the NSPC, and make recommendations, as may be appropriate

Local/Parish Level Structures

The Poverty Reduction Programme will utilize the same local/parish structures for programme implementation and monitoring as those employed by the NSPC.

Management Information System

As part of the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the National Policy on Poverty and National Poverty Reduction Programme, the advancement of a National Poverty Programme Registry will be accelerated in the Second Medium-Term Programme. The Registry will provide a platform for data and information on registered poverty reduction programmes. The data bank will be updated periodically to create a platform from which data can be mined for monitoring and evaluation.

A web-based interface has been created to facilitate information sharing among stakeholders and through which the Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit (PRCU) of the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) can provide updates and information to partners.

Table 3: Prior Actions – FY 2017/2018

Prior Actions	Responsible Agency	TIME FRAME- September 2017- March 2018						
		September	October	November	December	January	February	March
Initiate development of M&E Framework for the NPRP	PIOJ/ NPRPC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Develop Detailed Medium-term Programme Document 2018/21.	PIOJ/ PRCU	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Identify key entities for collaboration in implementing the NPRP.	PIOJ/ PRCU /NPRPC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Establish and convene the NPRPC	PIOJ				✓	✓	✓	
Convene pre-implementation workshops with key agencies implementing programmes for the first medium-term.	PIOJ/ PRCU			✓				
Launch the National Poverty Reduction Programme	PIOJ/ PRCU/MEGJC							✓
Commence dissemination of the National Policy on Poverty and National Poverty Reduction Programme.	PIOJ/ PRCU							✓

Following the approval of the National Policy on Poverty and National Poverty Reduction Programme preliminary actions were taken to prepare key stakeholders for implementation in the 2018/2019 financial year. Table 3 above indicates the preparatory actions which were undertaken and timelines for implementation of the first medium-term. These preliminary activities included sensitization to the National Policy on Poverty, establishment of management information systems critical to the monitoring framework of the policy and programme and the establishment of the NPRPC as critical to the institutional framework for implementation of the NPRP. Pre-implementation workshops were designed to sensitize participating organizations to the policy and the process of implementation of the NPRP, expectations for participation in the NPRPC and accountability for the results of poverty reduction. The workshops also served to inform aspects of the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the NPRP.

Table 4: Status update on Key Coordinating Actions for 1st Medium Term 2018 - 2021

	Key Actions	Responsible Agency	Medium Term 2018 - 2021			Achieved	Medium Term 2021 - 2024		
			Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3		Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3
1.	Dissemination of the National Policy on Poverty and National Poverty Reduction Programme.	PIOJ/PRCU	✓			Achieved	✓	✓	✓
2.	Finalize M&E Framework document	PIOJ/PRCU	✓			Achieved	✓		
3.	Establish MIS system for monitoring and communication purposes (including poverty programme registry/directory, and indicator database).	PIOJ (PRCU/ JAMSTATS/ ISU)	✓			Partially achieved	✓		
4.	Design and operationalize protocols to guide implementation of NPRP.	PIOJ/PRCU /NPRPC	✓			Partially achieved	✓		
5.	Facilitate and formalize key partnerships to support the implementation of key elements of the NPRP. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academia • NGOs • Private Sector Partners 	PIOJ/PRCU	✓	✓		Partially achieved	✓		

6.	Facilitate development, implementation, monitoring of new initiatives to respond to strategies under the NPRP, including the psychosocial component.	PIOJ/PRCU/ NPRPC	✓	✓	✓	Achieved	✓	✓	✓
7.	Convene bi-monthly meetings of the NPRPC.	PIOJ/PRCU	✓	✓	✓	Achieved	✓	✓	✓
8.	Convene meetings of NPRP Working Groups as required.	PIOJ/PRCU		✓	✓	Achieved	✓	✓	✓
8.	Identify/establish implementation and coordination frameworks at the parish level (through the Social Protection Strategy framework).	PIOJ (PRCU/SPGU)	✓	✓		Partially achieved	✓	✓	
9.	Implement communication strategy to sensitize stakeholders to the policy and programme.	PIOJ (PRCU/ CAMC)	✓	✓		Partially achieved	✓	✓	✓
10.	Review existing evaluations of key programmes to ascertain gaps and recommendations for amendments. Prepare relevant Cabinet Submissions through the NSPC. Where programme evaluations are not available, recommend and assist in	PIOJ (PRCU)/ NPRPC		✓	✓	Partially achieved	✓	✓	✓

	identifying funding to execute appraisal of key programmes in the NPRP.								
12.	Examine key programmes in the NPRP and document policy issues in response to findings.	PIOJ (PRCU) / NPRPC	✓	✓	✓	Partially achieved	✓	✓	✓
13.	Assess programme financing to ascertain gaps in adequacy, use, sourcing and sustainability, for key programmes and prepare proposals for financing or networking and collaboration as appropriate.	NPRPC/Local Authorities		✓	✓	Not achieved	✓	✓	
14.	Examine relevant documentation and data (including parish sustainable development plans) to inform investment toward rural development (agriculture and other industries)	PIOJ (PRCU) / NPRPC	✓	✓	✓	Partially achieved	✓	✓	
15.	Participate in the review of key legislation and strategies that are contributory to poverty reduction efforts.	PIOJ (PRCU) / NPRPC	✓	✓	✓	Achieved	✓	✓	✓
16.	Assess monitoring and evaluation capacity of key programmes in the NPRP.	PIOJ (PRCU) / NPRPC	✓			Achieved	✓	✓	✓

17.	Identify capacity building needs and organize capacity building workshops and activities inclusive of training in the monitoring and evaluation requirements of the NPRP.	PIOJ (PRCU) / NPRPC	✓	✓	✓	Achieved	✓	✓	✓
18.	Engage in capacity building and research exercises to identify and integrate innovative approaches to programme implementation.	PIOJ (PRCU) / NPRPC	✓	✓	✓	Achieved	✓	✓	✓
19.	Monitor programme results; tracking targets and indicators in the monitoring and evaluation framework for the National Poverty Reduction Programme.	PIOJ (PRCU)	✓	✓	✓	Partially achieved	✓	✓	✓
20.	Produce and submit to relevant stakeholders, periodic reports on the progress of implementation of the NPRP	PIOJ (PRCU) / NPRPC	✓	✓	✓	Achieved	✓	✓	✓
21.	Conduct onsite appraisal of key programmes	PIOJ (PRCU)	✓	✓	✓	Partially achieved	✓	✓	✓

Table 5: New Key Coordinating Actions for Medium Term 2021 – 2024¹³

	Key Actions	Responsible Agency	Timeframe					
			Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Year 2	Year 3
	Disseminate and utilize findings of First NPRP Medium-term Programme Assessment (2018-2021)	PIOJ/PRCU	✓	✓	✓	✓		

¹³ Key Actions for the First Medium-Term will be continued along with new actions outlined.

The NPRP is primarily a synchronisation of existing programmes implemented by agencies of government and non-government entities. Creation of synergies is therefore critical for ensuring that the implementation of the programme is cohesive. Careful management of the institutional framework and reporting arrangements in keeping with the monitoring framework will contribute to the effective implementation of the programme.

The key coordinating actions for the Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit within the First Medium-term programme, as demonstrated in Table 4 above, will be maintained and advanced in the Second Medium-term Programme. In addition, the findings of the First NPRP Medium-term Programme Assessment will be disseminated and utilized in strengthening the coordination and implementation of the NPRP.

This is focused on examining key areas of research, regulatory and legal frameworks, and evaluation of participating programmes to assess gaps and propose approaches to enhance effectiveness in programme delivery and impact.

This includes:

- ☐ Increasing mechanisms to enhance participation of Key Stakeholders and engagement of implementing partners.
- ☐ Advancing communication instruments and strategies.
- ☐ Formalizing protocols for enhancing coordination, participation, collaboration, partnership and data and information sharing.
- ☐ Devising innovative approaches to facilitate increased partnerships and collaboration among NPRP partners.
- ☐ Implementing the NPRP Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and Database
- ☐ Improving feedback mechanisms
- ☐ Identifying resources and facilitating alignment

The alignment of objectives of MDAs to the achievement of the policy goals is critical to seamless implementation of the programme.

Continuous monitoring and reporting on the progress of implementation through the established monitoring and evaluation framework enables integration within the implementation system and guides participating organizations in planning and programme implementation. Periodic reporting will indicate to Cabinet the progress of implementation and the necessary steps to be taken by the government to advance its implementation.

CHAPTER THREE - PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

The National Poverty Reduction Programme is implemented in medium-term cycles aligned to Vision 2030 Jamaica. The programme synchronizes existing poverty reduction programmes and, through coordination, creates greater efficiencies in programme spending and delivery. Within the context of the National Policy on Poverty, the NPRP makes recommendations based on research and data, for amendments to these existing programmes, towards achieving the outcomes of the Policy. Additionally, new programmes may be designed for implementation by the respective Ministry, to address core strategies of the programme that may not be aligned to any existing programme.

The Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit will continue its work with the Monitoring and Evaluation Units, or Personnel for the respective programmes within the second medium-term cycle for continuous programme assessment, learning and improvement throughout the cycle, towards achieving the desired outcomes and to ensure that the strategies of the national programme are being appropriately implemented.

The action plan outlined for the NPRPC will guide programme implementation. This set of actions will be coordinated through the PRCU. Recommendations for programme amendments or improvement, drafting of policy papers, inter alia, are a part of the responsive approach to be taken.

The National Poverty Reduction Programme considers key issues that impact programming and will seek to employ strategic interventions to improve targeting, coverage, resourcing and monitoring of programmes towards poverty reduction.

Risks to Programme Implementation and Consideration for Mitigation

1. **Economic Constraints:** Any restrictions and factors affecting economic growth can negatively impact the overall context in which the National Poverty Reduction Programme is being implemented. Slow or negative growth will have an impact on for example availability of jobs, household consumption, programme budgets and fiscal space.

The National Policy and Programme are aligned with the Medium-Term Strategic Priorities of the Government (Cabinet Decision No. 32/16) inclusive of sustainable economic growth and job creation, human capital development and social protection, as well as the recommendations of the Economic Growth Council (Call-To-Action) to improve access to finance, build human capital, stimulate greater asset utilization, catalyse the implementation of strategic projects, pursue bureaucratic reform to

improve the business environment and improve citizen security and public safety. The current economic direction is anticipated to achieve growth in the medium-term and enhance production and productivity through the actions.

2. **Lack of Political Will:** Government administrations need to continue to see merit in the coordination and implementation of the National Poverty Reduction Programme, and consequently provide the necessary support and resources to facilitate successful implementation. The absence of political will and buy-in could lead to shift in policy focus, inadequate support and discontinuation of major programmes and initiatives.

The National Policy and Programme has received bi-partisan support, being endorsed by both political administrations, during its development process. It is also an expansion to strategies on poverty reduction under Vision 2030 Jamaica, which has been endorsed and supported by both political administrations. As a National Policy, it represents the direction and course of action of the government with respect to poverty reduction. It is anticipated that through continued engagement with the political directorate, the issue of poverty reduction and this national policy will remain a priority through successive administrations.

3. **Limited Buy-in and Resistance to Monitoring and Coordination:** It is important that major stakeholders are on-board from the Policy/Programme development stage to facilitate ownership and commitment to policy direction, principles, goals, objective, and strategies. Their identification, understanding and acceptance of their role is critical. Stakeholders must also understand the value of coordination, monitoring and evaluation to the success of their programmes and the National Programme overall.

The development of the national policy and programme employed a participatory multi-stakeholder approach to promote buy-in from its initial stages, from key MDAs that will be involved in programme implementation. The participatory nature of the monitoring and coordination framework is anticipated to result in cooperation among key stakeholders in programme delivery. The necessity of defined protocols of operations to guide the implementation of the national programme is acknowledged. With respect to monitoring and reporting mechanisms, the approach to coordination embraces existing systems and mechanisms through which this may be achieved to avoid onerous requirements on key partners.

4. **Resistance to Change:** The implementation of the National Poverty Reduction Programme will have implications for change at all levels. At the individual/household level, for example, programme beneficiaries must be willing to take up opportunities for training and be motivated to adapt to new environments and take on new challenges. At the community level, communities must be willing to change norms and cultural practices that go against what the policy/programme is attempting to achieve. At the national level, Government organizations must be

willing to work closer with other MDAs and non-government entities in a joined-up manner that might be outside the usual way of operating.

An effective and consistent communication strategy targeting beneficiaries and communities engaged in the national programme will be required. Issues of access influencing uptake of specific programmes must be continuously identified and addressed, with participatory approaches adopted where relevant and appropriate. Established protocols of operations guiding all stakeholders in the implementation of the national programme will be critical.

5. **Weakness in Supporting Social Sectors:** Due to the multi-dimensional approach to poverty reduction, underperformance, limited access, and poor quality of certain social services are likely to negatively affect programme outcomes should these weaknesses present themselves. Sectors including education and training, health, agriculture, social security, water, housing, climate change, national security and local government will be required to provide the environment to support and maintain poverty reduction efforts.

Strengthening the monitoring and coordination systems with emphasis on learning and capacity building, will be critical to bolstering the institutional capacities for poverty reduction efforts. Networking and collaboration in implementation as well as adequate budgetary support to key programmes and strengthened systems of accountability are anticipated to enhance the effectiveness in delivery of programmes within these sectors. Advocacy and evidence-based outcomes will be required to strengthen the case for adequate resourcing of programmes and sectors aligned to the National Poverty Reduction Programme.

6. **Repeated and Compounded Hazard Impact:** Notable and persistent natural hazards (including drought, hurricane, flood, and fire) will threaten quality of life, sustainable livelihoods—particularly those dependent on Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery. These also have adverse effects on the economy stemming from a slowdown of activities and are likely to result in diversion of budget resource from development to recovery.

The Climate Change Policy Framework for Jamaica (2015) outlines measures to mitigate the impacts of natural hazards and provisions for disaster risk financing in relevant areas such as the agriculture sector. The adoption of new technologies in vulnerable sectors will be critical to mitigating these risks, as well as adaptation strategies and programmes emanating from the Framework.

7. **Public Health Emergencies:** Prolonged, widespread public health emergencies such as pandemics are significant threats to the advancement of poverty reduction outcomes. To contain the impact of public health disasters, governments are often

forced to restrict free movement of people, goods, and services. Such mitigation measures can result in significant decline of key sectors, displacement of business communities, disruption of livelihoods and shortage of basic amenities. This type of emergency/disaster therefore effectively threatens the realisation of the risks associated with severe economic constraints.

In the year 2020, during the implementation of the final year of the first NPRP Medium -term Programme, the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus resulted in a worldwide health emergency. The risks associated with such a phenomenon were realised across all areas of the Jamaican economy. With mitigation measures continuously being developed, the Second Medium-term Programme of the NPRP will seek to facilitate avenues for recovery through collaboration, highlighting opportunities to bridge gaps stemming from resource constraints and creating capacity building in areas which can bolster partners' ability to mitigate, monitor and evaluate and respond to challenges to increase support to beneficiaries.

8. **Lack of Current and Adequate Data:** The coordination of the National Poverty Reduction Programme requires timely, accurate and reliable data as the basis for decision making and policy level changes that support programme implementation to sustainably reduce poverty.
9. The Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit will continue to work closely with the Policy Research and other relevant Units within the PIOJ to obtain in-house data such as the JSLC and ESSJ. The importance of data to monitoring and coordination is a central focus in the programme's monitoring system. Partners will therefore be facilitated using technology to provide data and information as required. Coordination of the monitoring aspects of programme implementation will be given priority through dedicated staff working in conjunction with and providing training and engagement of MDA programme monitoring staff.

Table 6: Risk Assessment Matrix for the NPRP

	Economic Constraints:	Lack of Political Will:	Limited Buy-in and Resistance to Monitoring and Coordination	Resistance to Change	Weakness in Supporting Social Sectors:	Repeated and Compounded Hazard Impact	Public Health Emergency	Lack of current and adequate data
Probability	High	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	Medium
Impact	Major	Major	Major	Major	Moderate	Major	Major	Major
Triggers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor economic performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change in government priorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of confidence in the process of coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of motivation - Lack of trust in public institutions - "Turfism"¹⁴ - Lack of capacity - Psychosocial challenges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inadequate financial and human resources - Low levels of social cohesion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate change - Geographic location 	<p>Inability to contain the spread of diseases.</p> <p>Lack of effective border control mechanisms and inadequate response frameworks to new and emerging diseases.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inadequate M&E systems - Delays in production of national level data
Result	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unemployment - Reduced household consumption - Cuts in programme budgets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discontinuation or major change in key programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low levels of participation in committee meetings - Lack of response to data requests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low levels of participation from the target group - Lack of collaboration in programme implementation - Insufficient level of ownership of the NPRP - Lack of accountability for poverty reduction - Continued duplication; wasting of resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor quality of service delivery - Unmet targets - Low levels of impact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discontinuation of programmes/projects - Loss of investment especially in infrastructure development 	<p>Severe economic constraints</p> <p>loss of livelihoods (formal and informal sectors)</p> <p>significant strain on public health system</p> <p>decline in labour force (due to rise in death toll)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use of outdated data for planning impacting targeting of interventions. - Wasting of resources

¹⁴ Territorialism, lack of corporation and meaningful collaboration among partners

Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Efficient execution of communication strategy for the NPRP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Efficient execution of communication strategy for the NPRP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity building - Efficient facilitation by the PRCU - Clear communication strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommendation for budgetary provisions - Capacity building - Collaboration in service delivery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintenance plans - Use of new technologies 	<p>Improved mechanisms for healthcare and disaster emergency responses</p> <p>digital service delivery</p> <p>improved mechanisms to contain spread (social distancing)</p> <p>Responses dependent on type of disease.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assess and strengthen M&E systems. - Strengthen systems for the timely production of national level data
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CHAPTER FOUR - SECOND MEDIUM -TERM NATIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION PROGRAMME DETAILED

This chapter on the National Poverty Reduction Programme and implementation plan identifies and defines the programmes, interventions and policies that will be coordinated, monitored and supported by the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) and its partners to address poverty over the period. The National Programme has been defined using consultative and technical approaches in keeping with the GOJ policy development criteria. It further details the Medium-term National Poverty Reduction Programme defined in the *National Policy on Poverty and National Poverty Reduction Programme (2017)*. The Medium-term Programme is strategically geared towards positively impacting the standard of living of the poor and is aligned to the Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan Medium-term Framework cycle. It is intended to contribute to the realization of the National Policy Goals contained in the National Policy and Programme document. Goal 1 is focused on the eradication of extreme (food) poverty by 2022, while Goal 2 addresses the reduction of the national poverty prevalence significantly below 10 per cent by 2030. The Goals of the National Policy are in keeping with Goal 1 of the Agenda 2030: Sustainable Development Goals. A total of 72 programmes and services are included in this medium-term cycle through which a range of strategies will be implemented.

The Medium-term Programme is an integrated approach to reducing the prevalence of poverty in Jamaica, employing strategies under five Programme Areas: Addressing Extreme Poverty and Basic Needs (Programme Area 1); Economic Empowerment and Human Capital Development (Programme Area 2); Psychosocial, Cultural and Normative Advancement (Programme Area 3); Basic Community Infrastructure (Programme Area 4); and Institutional Strengthening (Programme Area 5). This represents a mix of responsive interventions to the determinants of poverty. The programme areas under this medium-term cycle are aligned to the National Policy objectives and Thematic Areas; and the overall National Poverty Reduction Programme which focuses on addressing basic needs and empowering the poor and vulnerable through a mix of household, community (rural and urban), and national interventions.

The main target groups under the Medium-term Programme are:

1. Destitute/Vulnerable Persons
2. Persons Facing Food Poverty (including children and the elderly)
3. Persons with Disabilities
4. Pregnant and Lactating Women
5. Unemployed and Non-skilled (Female, Youth, Elderly, Persons with Disabilities)
6. Working Poor (Female, Youth, and Persons with Disabilities)

7. Small Producers (Farmers, Fishers) and Small Entrepreneurs
8. Youth
9. Children
10. Parents (Including Guardians and Household Heads)
11. Service Providers

The target groups were determined by a set of criteria that includes the extent to which the individuals or groups are impacted by poverty; the multiplier effect on consumption of addressing the socio-economic needs of certain individuals or group/s; the integrated and multi-dimensional approach to the poverty reduction policy and programme to achieve sustainable outcomes; the direct impact on household consumption; and ability to mitigate and break the intergenerational cycle of poverty.

The programme will seek to reach, in the first instance, the extreme (food poor) to eradicate extreme hunger and poverty. Secondly, the programme will seek to build and strengthen the productive and earning capacity of the working-age population. The working-age population (15-64 years) is the productive base of the family and economy, and as such, is a primary target group for affecting consumption. This age-group includes youth (15-24 years). Best practice examples in the region have also indicated the value of empowering the adult female in poor households, as they are more likely to contribute to the consumption and development of children and the household in general (PIOJ 2011; PIOJ 2014). There is also a need to strengthen the economic resilience of not only the structural poor, but also the vulnerable (or transient poor). This group is typically susceptible to external shocks that easily reduce their overall consumption.

An Implementation Plan for the Medium-term Programme inclusive of a business process, action plan and risk assessment are provided herein. However, the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan document provides the details on coordination, monitoring, roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders, reporting requirements and systems, inter alia.

The Second Medium-term Poverty Reduction Programme will maintain two broad sets of interventions as was outlined in the previous cycle. The first set of interventions will target those who are in extreme poverty and need, aligned to Goal 1 of the National Policy on Poverty and Goal 1 of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. The second set of interventions will target those requiring economic empowerment and human capital development, aligned with Goal 2. The medium-term programme will also focus on psychosocial development of key stakeholders, building capacity of key organizations providing service to the poor and vulnerable, and improving community infrastructure in rural and urban areas. The extent to which individuals, households and communities are impacted by poverty and related socio-economic factors, as indicated by poverty trends and most recent available data along with the following criteria has influenced the focus on specific target groups for the poverty reduction programme:

CRITERIA FOR SELECTING SPECIFIC TARGET GROUPS FOR THE MEDIUM-TERM CYCLE:

1. Extent to which the individuals/ groups are impacted by poverty.
2. The multiplier effect on consumption of addressing the socio-economic needs of the individuals or group/s.
3. Policy convergence, government priority and commitment.
4. Integrated and multi-dimensional approach to poverty reduction policy and programme, for sustainable outcomes.
5. Direct impact on household consumption.
6. Ability to mitigate and break the inter-generational cycle of poverty.
7. Gender considerations.
8. Stakeholder feedback and consensus.

PROGRAMME SELECTION CRITERIA

The Medium-term Poverty Reduction Programme integrates existing government interventions to address the determinants of poverty and reduce its prevalence through a sustainable and holistic approach. The criteria for selecting programmes for the medium-term poverty reduction programme 2021-2024 are:

1. Potential of the programme to respond to the trends indicated in official data.
2. Alignment of programme's objectives to the strategies of the NPRP
3. Coverage of the target groups for the NPRP
4. Programme scope
5. Performance of the programme; meeting its objectives with proven results
6. Potential of the programme based on its design and objectives to reduce the prevalence of poverty among a specific target population or to address the multidimensional aspects of poverty.

The programmes comprising each medium-term cycle will be subject to change based on trends in the data. Programmes may be added to address strategies prioritized within each cycle. The first medium-term comprised 80 programmes and interventions. This second medium term will seek to maintain these partnerships with a view of strengthening engagement and partner participation. Programmes and interventions that address the needs of specific target groups based on data on their poverty status are included; that is, those that address hunger and basic needs, enable human capital formation and development of livelihoods, build infrastructure, provides psychosocial development or support, and strengthen organizations for effective delivery of programmes to reduce the prevalence of poverty.

PROGRAMME AREA 1: ADDRESSING EXTREME POVERTY AND BASIC NEEDS

Programme Area Goal

- Food and nutrition security of the poor and vulnerable.
- Access to basic amenities and services to the poor and vulnerable in keeping with the Social Protection Floor.

Programme Area Outcomes

- Increased food security among the poor.
- Increased access of the poor to basic amenities and services
- Increased access to and adequacy of social transfers.

Related Policy Objectives:

Objective 1: Strengthen social safety nets to address extreme poverty-induced deprivations (including hunger)

Objective 4: Enhance food and nutrition security of the poor.

Target Groups:

To address extreme poverty and basic needs, the medium-term poverty reduction programme targets persons who are more likely to lack basic needs because of their specific vulnerabilities and risks related to poor health status, low educational outcomes, unemployment and lack of support systems. The target groups listed below were selected based on their living conditions and inability to provide basic needs, and in the case of pregnant and lactating women, to ensure adequate nutrition for young children as part of the strategy for breaking the inter-generational cycle of poverty.

- I) Destitute/Vulnerable Persons
- II) Persons Facing Food Poverty (including children and the elderly)
- III) Persons with Disabilities
- IV) Pregnant and Lactating Women

Key Strategies:

1. Design and implement appropriate programmes, mechanisms and facilities to ensure the availability, accessibility, safety, and stability of sufficient food supply for the extreme/food poor (food insecure) across the life cycle.
2. Formulate programmes to detect, prevent and mitigate malnutrition caused by inadequate intake of food.
3. Ensure the availability of emergency food stocks for time periods in keeping with the National Food and Nutrition Security Targets for emergency recovery and relief.
4. Institutional strengthening, integration and expanded coverage, reach and efficacy of the National School Feeding Programme from the early childhood to secondary

levels in keeping with nutritional guidelines to ensure equity, adequacy and accessibility.

5. Ensure that basic amenities, public services and facilities are accessible to the poor, whether by means of targeted or universal interventions.
6. Provide social transfers in the form of cash or kind to support the poorest (individuals or families) identified through appropriate screening mechanisms.
7. Facilitate institutional care as required, for the infirm, indigent or homeless, to ensure that the basic needs of the most vulnerable are met.
8. Ensure programmes and interventions are in place to adequately respond to the needs of the temporary poor.
9. While meeting basic needs, support holistic development through promoting income security, human capital development and independence.

Selected Programmes

Name of Programme	Implementing Agency	Programme Objectives
School Feeding Programme	MOEYI, MLSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage more regular school attendance. • Alleviate hunger and enhance the learning capacity of the students by providing a meal, or snack. • Serve as a source of income transfer for participating families. • Educate the children on the value of food through nutrition education classes. • Encourage children to grow their own food by establishing and/or supporting school gardens. • Supply at least one third (1/3) of the child's daily caloric requirements.
Food Distribution Programmes	Food For The Poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of food supplies to persons in need through partnership with churches, children homes, and other government institutions.
Agricultural Programmes	Food For The Poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of equipment, material and supplies to establish agricultural enterprises including fishing.
Meals on Wheels	Ministry of Labour and Social Security/National Council for Senior Citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a cooked meal and food packages to indigent senior citizens and 'shut-ins'
Feeding Programme/ Emergency Relief	Salvation Army	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide facilities for a daily bath and at least one meal per day for five days per week and change of clothes. • Provide spiritual guidance and other social care
Rehabilitation Grant	Ministry of Labour and Social Security /PAD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide social assistance for compassionate purposes. • Improve the economic base of the poor and vulnerable through establishing or boosting income generating projects.

Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education	Ministry of Labour and Social Security /PATH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase educational attainment. • Improved health outcomes of the poor. • Breaking the intergenerational cycle of poverty, alleviate poverty by increasing the value of social transfers to the poor. • Reduce child labour by requiring children to have minimum attendance in school. • Serve as a safety net by preventing families from falling further into poverty in the event of adverse shock.
Emergency Grant	Ministry of Labour and Social Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide relief assistance to individuals who have suffered loss due to disasters • Provide rehabilitative services for victims to return to normal functioning.
Health Insurance Provision	National Health Fund/Jamaica Drug for the Elderly Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve access to individual benefits through enrolment mechanisms • Improve access to pharmacy services through partnerships and initiatives to reduce waiting time.
Family Health Services	Ministry of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide primary healthcare services to the population across the life cycle. • Provide early stimulation to vulnerable families
Poor Relief Programme (Indoor and Outdoor)	Board of Supervision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responds to the most destitute providing the most basic needs especially for those are without support and in need of care. • Provides a safety net for the temporary poor who are able to access provisions to fulfil basic needs.
Homeless Programme	Board of Supervision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a three step transition process to re-integration where services are offered through a drop-in centre, shelter facility and transitional home.

Programme Descriptions

1. Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH)

The Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH) is a conditional cash transfer (CCT) programme being implemented by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS), which provides cash grants and other benefits to the most needy and vulnerable. The objectives of PATH are to increase educational attainment and improved health outcomes of the poor, thereby breaking the intergenerational cycle of poverty, alleviate poverty by increasing the value of social transfers to the poor, reduce child labour by requiring children to have minimum attendance in school, and to serve as a safety net by preventing families from falling further into poverty in the event of adverse shock (Sanigest 2013, 1). PATH is the flagship social safety net programme of the government, envisaged to amalgamate and streamline public assistance provisions in a more administratively efficient and targeted manner.

PATH is critical to the safety net provisions under this medium-term poverty reduction programme because of its scope and coverage of the target population. PATH impacts school attendance positively which is critical to human capital development and breaking the intergenerational cycle of poverty. Its targeting is found to be reasonably good, reaching the poorest households, with the use of the Beneficiary Identification System. The benefits under PATH play a critical role in overcoming the financial barrier for school attendance, which is positively related to programme participation (Sanigest 2013, 1).

Through its case management component PATH builds the capacities of poor households to become independent of social assistance. The case management component of PATH is implemented islandwide and the importance of its intermediary services to poverty reduction is fully recognized. To better address poverty PATH is twinned with the complementary income support programme, Steps-to-Work, which targets working-age members of PATH households, including youth and breadwinners.

2. School Feeding Programme

The School Feeding Programme is implemented by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information (MOEYI), which collaborates with the MLSS in providing meals as part of the benefit structure of PATH. Through the PATH Nutritional Support Programme, PATH beneficiaries aged 3–8 years in basic schools, infant schools and infant departments receive breakfast and lunch free of cost. PATH beneficiaries aged 9–18 years in Grades 4–13 at the upper primary and secondary levels also receive free lunch three days per week (ESSJ 2014, 22.11).

The programme's objectives are to encourage greater and more regular school attendance, to alleviate hunger, and enhance the learning capacity of the students by providing a meal, or snack (Nutribun), to serve as a source of income transfer for participating families, to educate the children on the value of food through nutrition education classes, to encourage the children to grow their own food by establishing and/or supporting school gardens and to supply at least one-third of the child's daily caloric requirements (ESSJ 2014, 22.11).

The School Feeding Programme is national in scope and is administered and funded by the Government of Jamaica (GOJ). While civil society organizations and the private sector are to some extent involved in school feeding projects, they are limited in scope and duration. The School Nutrition Policy, which is in its final stages of development is expected to provide a framework for the development and operation of the programme. In addition to contributing to food security for children of school age, the programme, through productive inclusion aims to provide a ready, accessible market for local farmers to dispose of their produce, thus contributing to their income security, especially in poor rural areas.

3. Poor Relief Programme

The Poor Relief Programme is implemented within the framework of the Poor Relief Act, by the Board of Supervision, a department of the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD). It aims to relieve poverty and destitution among members of the Jamaican society. The Outdoor Poor Relief Programme provides each Registered Poor with monthly monetary assistance (dole). The Programme contributes to education, food and special needs, transportation, bedding and clothing, medical assistance, housing, burial, enabling persons with disabilities, counselling, and special projects. Under the Indoor Poor Programme, serves clients living in residential care in 13 institutions across the island.

The Poor Relief programme responds to the most destitute providing the most basic needs especially for those who are without support and in need of care. It also provides a safety net for the temporary poor who can access provisions to fulfil basic needs.

4. Homeless Programme¹⁵

The Board of Supervision ensures the management of homelessness programmes through the coordination of various resources. It encourages a three-step transition process to re-integration where services are offered through a drop-in centre, shelter facility and transitional home. While limited in scale, the programme is operated nationally, and responsively. There are other organizations that cater to the needs of

¹⁵ Board of Supervision, PowerPoint Presentation: The Homelessness Programme made to the Social Transfers subcommittee of the NSPC.

homeless persons in particular locations or at points in time, however, this programme is the government's response to meeting the needs of this population in a systematic way.

5. Meals on Wheels

Implemented by the National Council for Senior Citizens in collaboration with faith-based organizations, the Meals on Wheels programme provides a cooked meal and food packages to indigent senior citizens and 'shut-ins' who benefit from the programme through a system of referrals. The programme contributes to food security for the elderly through access to safe and sufficient supply of food. It is national in scope and the only programme implemented by the GOJ that provides such direct in-kind transfers to the elderly.

6. Rehabilitation Programme

The Rehabilitation Programme is administered by the Public Assistance division of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security. Under the programme, the rehabilitation grant, compassionate grant emergency grant and social intervention grant are administered. The Rehabilitation Programme provides relief services to the neediest in the society and responds to shocks that affect households, impacting their capacity to adequately meet their needs.

7. Primary Healthcare Services

Primary healthcare services are available universally. It is the first point of contact when seeking care for illness or injury. These services include clinic services in public health centres, outpatient departments of public hospitals and maternity centres.

The Infant and Young Child Feeding policy seeks to address the issue of inadequate nutrition in the early years of childhood as a means of preventing lifestyle illness in later life, malnutrition and poor educational outcomes which impact poverty status. The Ministry of Health, through this framework, addresses issues of nutrition in young children. While this is fundamental, the strategy requires interventions throughout the lifecycle. Through the Primary Healthcare services, the MOH also implements its Early Stimulation Programme, which seeks provide relevant, evidence-based interventions to optimize and support early childhood development, with emphasis on vulnerable groups, utilizing the primary care approach and the involvement of the family unit, health team, and the wider community.

8. Food For The Poor- Food Distribution

Food for the Poor is a non-government organization that provides a range of welfare and economic development services. The Food distribution programme targets 350 000 persons per month, through various government institutions including childcare

facilities, schools, and churches. Food for the Poor also collaborates with agencies of government including the ODPEM and MLSS to provide food supplies for elderly feeding programmes and disaster relief.

9. Food For The Poor- Agriculture Programme

The Food for the Poor Agriculture Programme targets farmers to improve their livelihoods and enable them to provide for their families. The agriculture programme includes livestock, apiculture, production of various types of crops, and green houses. The NPRP promotes the availability and accessibility of food supply for the poor, through both transfers and more sustainable means such as agriculture. This programme enables beneficiaries to produce both for sustaining their families and earning an income.

10. National Health Fund and the Jamaica Drug for the Elderly Programme

The National Health Fund provides subsidies to individual beneficiaries for prescription drugs. The subsidies cover a specific set of chronic illnesses for which beneficiaries can access prescription drugs. The National Health Fund operates two programmes namely the NHF Card and the JADEP. The NHF Card provides benefits for persons of all ages to treat 16 specific chronic illnesses. The NHF Card targets all citizens and is not limited to any socio-economic category. The JADEP programme provides a specific list of drugs to persons over the age of 60 years. Both initiatives contribute to improving health outcomes of the population in general, including the poor and vulnerable.

11. Salvation Army Welfare Programme

The Welfare Programme of the Salvation Army caters to the poor and destitute and provides access to their most basic needs including food. Its objective is to provide education support, relieve poverty, and extend charity universally. The programme is designed to encourage the health and wellbeing of beneficiaries by offering facilities for a daily bath, at least one meal per day for five days of the week and change of clothing if needed. The programme also provides spiritual guidance and other social care. The programme is implemented in communities where the Salvation Army operates.

PROGRAMME AREA 2: ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AND HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

Programme Area Goals

- Human capital formation, economic empowerment, and income security among the poor and vulnerable
- Sustained income security of the poor towards social and economic mobility

Programme Area Outcomes

- Increased tertiary certification levels among persons in quintiles 1 and 2.
- Increased labour market participation rate among youth and households heads in quintiles 1 and 2.
- Sustainability and growth of MSMEs and productive sectors including agriculture promoted.
- Improved learning outcomes at the early childhood level in all regions
- Increased climate resilience in key sectors including agriculture and infrastructure development.

Related Policy Objectives:

Objective 2: Promote and expand human capital development among the poor and vulnerable (including children and persons with disabilities).

Objective 3: To enhance livelihood creation and income security among the poor and vulnerable

Target Groups:

Economic empowerment and human capital development are critical to the sustainability of poverty reduction efforts to enable the transitioning out of and breaking the intergenerational cycle of poverty. Low educational attainment levels, low income earning capability, inability to access basic social services, lack of economic opportunities leading to underemployment, unemployment and low wage employment, are determinants of poverty in Jamaica. The medium-term framework will therefore focus on the following group of persons who are vulnerable to poverty because of their employment and educational status.

- I) Unemployed and unskilled (Including Persons with Disabilities)
- II) Working Poor (Including Persons with Disabilities)
- III) Small Producers (Farmers, Fishers) and Small Entrepreneurs

Key Strategies/Actions:

I). Unemployed and Unskilled

1. Create greater access to education, training, and certification (including remedial education entrepreneurial and skills training) for members of the target group.
2. Strengthen the incorporation of certification/standards acquisition and employment transition support (school-to-work) into training modules that target the poor, and other low-income earners.
3. Facilitate and encourage employment linkages and placement as well as apprenticeship programmes.
4. Include training component in government short-term public-works programmes (Trabajo Peru and Lift-Up Jamaica are examples of such model)
5. Build the capacities of poor households to become independent of social assistance programmes, through strengthened case management, and the appropriate linkages, referrals as well as training and employment opportunities.
6. Strengthen families through improved access to services, information and resources in response to needs.
7. Facilitating community-based and family-based interventions for care services for family dependents (elderly, children persons with debilitating health issues, persons with restrictive disabilities) in order to support the availability of working-age persons for the labour market.
8. Livelihood development and strengthening through access to business development services, micro-finance and social enterprise options for targeted clients.
9. Providing opportunities and support to the elderly for income-generating activities, in an effort to promote active ageing, income security, and inter-generational transfer of knowledge and skills.

II) Working Poor

1. Identification and improvement of personal assets; capacities, talents and skills for income generation and Decent Work.
2. Identification and improvement of community assets for income generation and Decent Work through the engagement of community-based and other non-government organizations to develop skills that enable active participation in the labour market.
3. Timely review and adjustments to the Minimum Wage
4. Promote protection of workers, minimum conditions of work, and participation in social security schemes. Relevant sectors for consideration include Agriculture & Fishery and Wholesale & Retail.
5. The enhancement and promotion of active labour market policies and Labour Market Information Systems.

III) Small Producers (Farmers, Fishers) and Entrepreneurs

1. Improve road and water infrastructure at the local level (including farm roads and irrigation systems)
2. Increase access to potable water and sanitation connections in dwellings.
3. Increase access to electricity in rural areas and electricity regularization in urban areas.
4. Promote the development and expansion of local economic enterprises and social enterprises (e.g. in agriculture and agro-processing).
5. Increase access to suitable land for farming through divestment of available government owned lands.
6. Facilitate access to micro-finance services and technical assistance for productive purposes through financial institutions.
7. Promote and facilitate productive inclusion of local agricultural producers, fishers and fish farmers within the safety net feeding programmes and other local markets.
8. Livelihood development and strengthening through access to business development services, micro-finance and social enterprise options for targeted clients.
9. Expand and support community niche products and industries.
10. Strengthen backward and forward integration; and expand value chain enhancement and connection to markets.
11. Increase natural resource management through prevention and mitigation to strengthen sustainable livelihoods of the poor in areas vulnerable to natural disasters and climate change through river training; rehabilitation of watersheds; slope stabilization; provision of break water systems etc.
12. Promote environmental friendly practices in farming and livelihood creation towards environmental preservation and poverty reduction.
13. Promote healthy environmental practices.
14. Promote participation in national health schemes, the National Insurance Scheme, and other insurance and pension offerings.
15. Promote agro-tourism in rural communities towards improving economic wellbeing.
16. Increase access to economic assets for income generation and wealth creation.

Selected Programmes

Name of Programme	Implementing Agency	Programme Objectives
Vocational Training and Certification	HEART/NTA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address the country's labour market needs by providing technical and financial support to the TVET system Create training opportunities that will equip the labour force with the skills necessary to ensure increased productivity and economic growth.
Labour Market Information System	Ministry of Labour and Social Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide labour market information and intelligence for the benefit of jobseekers, educational and training institutions, policy makers, employers, investors.
Housing Opportunity Production Employment	HOPE Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage youth between the ages of 18-24 years; provide exposure to personal development training and placement as apprentices in both public and private sector entities in positions where they are able to acquire related skills sets and eventually be assessed and certified in the particular area.
Steps to Work	Ministry of Labour and Social Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Steps to work project aims to prepare youth and adults for work- developing skills, attitude and employability.
Overseas Employment	Ministry of Labour and Social Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the employers in Canada get the requested number of workers in a timely and efficient manner Ensure that workers have medical, biometric data and visa Laisse with programme stakeholders
Integrated Social Protection and Labour	Ministry of Labour and Social Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and implementation of an on the job training programme which will place members of The Programme of Advancement through Health and Education (PATH) households in private sector on the job training with monitoring and verification of employment outcomes.
Financing MSMEs	Development Bank of Jamaica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the livelihood of small entrepreneurs Facilitate growth and development
Economic Empowerment Grant	Ministry of Labour and Social Security /JCPD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that persons with disabilities are empowered to achieve their full potential in society.
MSME Support	HEART	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote employment and wealth creation Facilitate capacity development initiatives for MSMEs Provide increased access to capital Promote and facilitate formalization of businesses Facilitate establishment and sustainability of start-ups.
Financing MSMEs	MIDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote sustainable growth in the micro enterprise sector through the provision of financing and financial services

Social Services and Home Economics Programme	Rural Agricultural Development Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist farm families (women and youth) to develop skills through formal education for economic and social development. Assist farm families to improve their quality of life
Extension Services	Rural Agricultural Development Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in post-harvest loss Improve crop nutrition Improvement in crop care Land Management
National Insurance Scheme	Ministry of Labour and Social Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide benefits to contributors who satisfy the eligibility criteria
Industrial Relations Department	Ministry of Labour and Social Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Industrial Relations Department addresses disputes in the workplace with the aim of reducing work stoppages and industrial actions in the workplace.
Social Enterprise Boost Initiative	JN Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide business development support to social enterprises.
Youth Innovation Centres	MOEYI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harness the creativity and potential of youth to create sustainable livelihoods
Agricultural Development and Support	Jamaica Agricultural Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide technical, marketing support and input to advance agricultural development and promote the consumption of local agricultural produce.
CAP YES Project	HEART- Caribbean Maritime University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train and certify individuals in the “hotspots” of Jamaica Develop entrepreneurial skills Develop discipline Develop self Make trainees employable
Tertiary Loans and Grants	Students Loan Bureau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide financial assistance to needy students for tuition and living expenses
Career Advancement Programme	Ministry of Education Youth and Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing education and vocational training and certification of youth.
The Child Find Project	Ministry of Education Youth and Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify children 0- 18 years with undiagnosed or undetected special needs or determine issues affecting mastery at grade 4 literacy test and offer special education interventions.
Early Stimulation Programme	Ministry of Labour and Social Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide early intervention services to children with disabilities and their families
Integrated Community Development Project/Basic Needs Trust Fund/Poverty reduction Programme IV	Jamaica Social Investment Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased academic achievement, including certification (primary, secondary, tertiary and vocational) Sustained attachment to the labour market/ income generation Reduced crime and violence
Vocational Training of Persons with Disabilities	Abilities Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement skills training programmes for persons with disabilities, in the fields of Information Technology, Cabinet Making, Garment Construction and Horticulture/Landscaping.

Local Economic Development Support Programme	Social Development Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical and funding support to creating sustainable livelihoods at the community level.
Development of Skills and talents for income generation	Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport	
Land Administration and Management Programme	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure tenure to land for economic empowerment of land owners.
Support to business development	Jamaica Business Development Company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a solution-oriented service that provides information on business-related topics pertinent to entrepreneurs, small businesses and start-up companies
Irrigation Schemes	National Irrigation Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage, operate and expand irrigation schemes, catering to commercial and industrial users as well
Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience II	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building resilience to climate change protects investment • Improve the income earning potential of small producers. • Promote sustainability in the agriculture sector • Reducing loss and promoting recovery from the impact of natural disasters.
Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience II	Planning Institute of Jamaica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical support, grant finding and capacity building to farmers to enhance climate reliance and improve production.
Jamaica 4-H Clubs	Ministry of Industry Commerce Agriculture and Fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable small rural producers to access training opportunities and build livelihoods in agriculture. • Present agriculture as a viable option for the employment of youth
High School Diploma Equivalency Programme	Ministry of Education Youth and Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide access to a continuing education system that allows the learner to pursue opportunities to fulfil their personal, professional and academic goals
Early Childhood Development Programme	Ministry of Education Youth and Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the holistic development of each child through the promotion of wellness utilizing the involvement of the family unit, health team and community

Programme Descriptions

1. MLSS – Review and Amendment of Legislation

The Ministry of Labour and Social Security administers legislation in respect to employment and labour in Jamaica. Of relevance to the medium-term National Poverty Reduction Programme are the

- Minimum Wage Act (2011)
- National Insurance Act (1965)
- Draft Occupation, Health and Safety Bill
- Employment (Equal Pay for Men and Women) Act
- Labour Officers (Powers) Act 1943
- Workmen Compensation Act (1976)

The Ministry's work in this respect impacts workers at all levels. Review and enforcement of these legislation is relevant to ensuring the promotion of the Decent Work Agenda and enabling income security among the poor and vulnerable in response to changing economic realities. Social pensions and pensions for workers provides income support in retirement decreasing the need for dependence on persons within the working age and improving the quality of life for the elderly.

2. Steps-to-Work

The Steps to Work project is implemented by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security since 2008 and is the Ministry's welfare to work/exit strategy for PATH households. The overarching pretext is that many poor families receiving welfare benefits experience barriers to getting out of poverty primarily because of low educational attainment, lack of skills and lack of access to resources. Based on the foreground, the project engage working age (16-64) members of PATH households to promote self-sufficiency. Interventions are delivered in four (4) categories:

1. Secondary Education Completion
2. Job Readiness Preparation and On-the -Job Training (Partnership with HEART and the ELE)
3. Vocational Skills Development and certification (partnership with HEART NTA)
4. Business Development Training and Micro-Finance support.

Initially, beneficiaries received training through the JBDC to enable them to undertake entrepreneurial activities. Beneficiaries receive training in Basic Business Development, Operating a Business in Jamaica, and How to Grow your Business (ESSJ, 2014, 13.3). In addition, participants benefit from employment linkages through the Labour Market Information System in the Ministry.

Since December 2015, the project developed a customized educational manual called Biz Start 101, which delivers critical information to clients on the various processes involved in operating a business successfully (this was modelled from the JBDC training). Additionally, the project partnered with HEART NTA and the Electronic Labour Exchange Programme, which also provides training in soft skills development, punctuality, time management and general workplace etiquette in preparing clients for the world of work.

3. Land Administration and Management Programme

The Land Administration and Management Programme (LAMP), implemented by the Ministry with responsibility for land, is designed to unlock the use of land as capital through security of tenure. The LAMP enables greater security of tenure and the ability to exploit the value of properties. It affords the opportunity for landowners to access credit and to achieve greater economies of scale, facilitating growth in agriculture, housing and other sectors and increasing the income earning potential of the poor.

4. Jamaica Business Development Company

The JBDC initiative is a cooperative arrangement among government agencies and the private sector, associations, academic and research communities. It is a solution-oriented service that provides information on business-related topics pertinent to entrepreneurs, small businesses and start-up companies. Small businesses have demonstrated the potential to contribute to the economy generally and to impact the wellbeing of poor households. The level of capacity required to start, and operate a business is critical, both human and other types of resources. The services of the JBDC are therefore essential to provide technical support, enabling sustainability of these businesses and resulting in a sustained source of income for its clientele.

5. RADA Social Services and Home Economic Programme

To provide income-earning opportunities for farm families, urban women, youth and men, the Rural Agricultural Development Authority's (RADA) Home Economics unit develops value-added products from primary agricultural produce around which small agro-processing enterprises are developed and implemented. The unit also provides training to farm families in rural areas, in Home Management and Resource Utilization, Home Food Production & Preparation and Family Nutrition, Child Development & Family Life, Clothing & Craft, Budgeting & Money Management, Income Generation, Agro-processing, Building Self Esteem, Interpersonal Relationships, Prevention and Management of Chronic Diseases, Conflict Resolution, Small Business Management and Basic Computer Skills.

The programme enables small producers and their families to engage in creating local enterprises by developing products in agro-processing. It provides access to training and support not only in business development but in areas that enable the wellbeing of families. It also contributes to food security for farm families.

6. RADA Extension Services

The mission of the RADA is to promote agricultural production as the main engine of growth in rural communities; providing or ensuring the provision of technical marketing, financial and infrastructural facilities and provide the social services required for the improvement of the quality of life of farm families.

RADA promotes and supports agricultural production in rural communities through technical, marketing, financial and infrastructural facilities. In addition to its technical and advisory role, the Authority carries out an extensive farmer-training programme; assists small farmers in organizing co-operative marketing ventures; disseminating information on plants, crops and animal husbandry and provides agricultural service centres at strategic locations around the country. ¹⁶ The RADA extension service is essential to small producers who benefit from the continuous training and dissemination of relevant and current information, enabling greater productivity and increasing production and income to small producers. The direct support of extension officers contributes to sustaining the productive base of many rural communities that rely on farming as their main source of income.

7. Local Economic Development Support Programme

The Local Economic Development Support Programme (LEDSP) is implemented by the Social Development Commission and targets community-based enterprises. The programme offers provide technical support to creating sustainable livelihoods at the community level. The LEDSP is designed to provide four core areas of support to MSMEs in communities. These include capacity-building, networking and building partnerships, direct support and the implementation of an incentive scheme. It also involves developing a database that will serve as a hub for networking among the partners under the programme. The LEDSP facilitates development and strengthening of local enterprises, providing employment and enabling production for sustainable economic growth, promotes diversity in the economy and contributes to economic stability. Through the LEDSP residents of communities are engaged in creating employment locally and building their capacities through training.

¹⁶ rada.gov.jm/services/fieldservices-operations

8. Economic Empowerment Grant Programme

The Ministry of Labour and Social Security through the Jamaica Council for Persons with Disabilities implements the Economic Empowerment Grant programme. The programme provides support for income generation to low-income earners with disabilities as well as the expansion of existing projects for persons with disabilities. The economic empowerment grant programme is national in scope and is therefore able to respond to the clientele in all regions.

9. National Irrigation Commission

The National Irrigation Commission is an agency of the Ministry of Agriculture mandated to manage, operate and expand irrigation schemes, catering to commercial and industrial users as well. The NIC has a masterplan that indicates irrigable and non-irrigable lands and strategies to provide irrigation through digging or resuscitation of wells etc. The Essex water Project in St Elizabeth is an example irrigation schemes constructed by the NIC, to build 6 wells to provide access to irrigation.

10. Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience II

Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience II- Adaptation Programme and Financing Mechanism is implemented by the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation. The programme commenced in 2009, funded by the Climate Investment Fund. The Jamaica Strategic Programme for Climate Change was developed 2009 to include:

- a. Adaptation Programme and Financing Mechanism- Adaptation line of credit and grants
- b. Building Climate Resilience among MSMEs which involves making loans available to farmers and MSMEs in the agriculture and tourism sectors to improve their resilience to climate change.
- c. Aquaponics

Building resilience to climate change protects investment and improves the income earning potential of small producers. It promotes sustainability in the agriculture sector, reducing loss and promoting recovery from the impact of natural disasters. It addresses vulnerabilities faced especially in the agriculture and fisheries sector, where most of the poor are employed, through adaptation. The programme provides opportunities for alternative livelihood development in sectors affected by climate change, such as fishing, providing a sustainable source of income for the poor.

11. GOJ Adaptation Fund Programme

The Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation implements the GOJ Adaptation Fund Programme in the parishes of Trelawney, St Thomas, St Mary, Clarendon and St. Ann. The programme involves water and land management in the agriculture sector. Drip irrigation, rainwater harvesting, including for the agro parks are components of this project. The project's inputs are expected to facilitate import substitution.

Beneficiaries of the project are assisted by a Rural Sociologist who helps farmers to organize themselves into groups. Capacity building is undertaken with participants and demonstration plots are used to assist farmers to see the benefits of new approaches.

The programme addresses some of the most fundamental needs of small producers that will enable their viability and growth. Human capital development and the provision of resources for production are critical for the poor, especially in rural areas. Through climate resilience and adaptation interventions, the livelihood of small producers is protected, thus promoting sustainability, and enabling growth.

12. Development Bank of Jamaica's Grants and Loans to Small Enterprises

The mission of the Development Bank of Jamaica is to assist in the development and modernization of all viable enterprises in industry, agriculture, agro-industry, manufacturing, information processing, mining, tourism, and the services sectors with special emphasis on the provision of loan financing to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises.

DBJ does not lend funds directly to individuals or promoters of projects, instead funds are channelled through partners referred to as Approved Financial Institutions (AFI) and Micro Finance Institutions (MFI) which provide the initial credit evaluation and loan supervision before on-lending to clients with viable projects. AFIs include commercial and merchant banks, the National People's Co-operative Bank and credit unions. MFIs include Access Financial Services Limited, Jamaica Credit Union League Limited, JN Small Business Loans Limited, Micro Credit Limited and Nation Growth Micro Finance Limited.

The NPRP has as one of its strategies the provision of accessible credit to small enterprises, targeting the working poor and those engaged in agriculture and other types of small business. The provisions under the DBJ are essential to facilitate growth of MSME enterprises. It provides resources necessary at favourable terms to enable the development and growth of businesses thus providing employment and income.

13. Jamaica 4H

The 4-H programme is aimed at encouraging youth, through specific activities, to become involved in agriculture and to see agriculture as a viable career choice. Under this programme, an average of three scholarships per year is granted to persons attending the College of Agriculture, Science & Education, (CASE). The 4-H implements programmes in Apiculture, Pig Rearing, Poultry, Care & Management, Leadership Development, Environmental Studies, Entrepreneurial Skills and Healthy Lifestyle¹⁷. The Jamaica 4-H enables small rural producers to access training opportunities and build livelihoods in agriculture. Presenting agriculture as a viable option for the employment of youth enables for economic participation and income earning. The NPRP emphasizes employment of youth in response to the current data indicating high levels of unemployment among this cohort of the population.

14. Labour Market Information System

The Labour Market Information System (LMIS) is a job matching facility as well as a database of qualitative and quantitative information. The information is collected from labour market information producers and disseminated via the website in to improve access. The LMIS provides job placement services for targeted clients of social safety net programmes such as Steps to Work, which is designed for PATH beneficiaries. It is therefore a channel for members of poor households to access employment and earn an income.

15. Oversees Employment Programme

The Ministry of Labour and Social Security implements the Overseas Employment or Farm Work Programme targeting persons of working age who are unemployed. The programme aims to place suitably qualified Jamaicans in employment in the United States of America and Canada through the Canadian Farm Work Programme, the US Farm Work Programme, and the Hotel Work Programme.

16. HEART MSME Support Programme

The HEART/Trust NSTA implements its MSME Support Programme targeting entrepreneurs. The programme is comprised of various support initiatives whose objectives are to improve productivity and competitiveness of businesses. The Trainee Start-up is one component of the programme that grants trainees of HEART up to 400,000 dollars for procurement of tools and equipment, as well as participation in a business

¹⁷ <http://www.jamaica4hclubs.com/>

development programme for 18 months. The General MSME Support component grants beneficiaries up to 3 million dollars and participation in a business development programme for 24 months. The programme also supports the JAMPRO Export Max II that provides focused capacity building for firms involved in export and those that are export ready, with the objective of market penetration¹⁸.

17. Jamaica Agricultural Society

The Jamaica Agricultural Society provides training and support to farmers through the provision of direct benefits and services that enhance output, marketing and maintenance of its District Branch governance systems. The field services component includes sensitization to the provisions under the Agricultural Produce Act, hosting parish agriculture shows, training in farming practises and techniques, the Denbeigh Industrial and Agriculture Show and implementation of the Eat Jamaica Campaign that promotes purchase and consumption of locally grown agricultural produce.

The commercial operations services implement and manages a Central Marketing System through the Jamaica Agricultural Society Commercial Enterprises Limited (JASCEL) with the objective of:

- “To purchase fresh farm produce from farmers on a contractual basis.
- To promote good Post-Harvest practices among farmers supplying to the Central Marketing System (CMS)
- To promote trade in Jamaican Agricultural products and to aid in the reduction of imports, hence, increasing the consumption of local produce.
- To sort, grade, store, package and process fresh produce at central locations.”

In addition to marketing support the JASCEL provides inputs through its farm stores, and on a long-term basis is intended to

- “Provide distinct value-added services to both suppliers and consumers.
- Provide stable prices to the farmers.
- Ensure the highest quality of produce to meet the specifications of clients.
- Encourage the consumption of local produce through packaging and promotion of a brand.
- To perfect a distribution system.”

The JAS also operates a trust fund that provides financing to agricultural development initiatives.¹⁹

¹⁸ <http://www.heart-nta.org/msme-support-programme>

¹⁹ <http://jas.gov.jm>

18. Youth Innovation Centres

Youth Innovation Centres (YICs) are implemented by the Ministry of Education Youth and Information (MOEYI) to place a greater focus on positive youth development, resilience, and harnessing the talents and creative potential of youth for sustainable livelihoods. The centres offer training in business start-up and entrepreneurship, access to business support services including financing and business coaching and mentorship, training in social entrepreneurship for community-based youth organizations and the operation of an entrepreneurship help desk.

The YICs are intended to address the following issues:

- High percentage of youth living in extreme poverty
- Low youth labour market participation rate and high unemployment rate
- High number of youth not in employment, education or training
- Poor school to work transition

19. HEART Trust/NTA Vocational Training and Certification

The primary goal of the HEART Trust National Training Agency is to address the country's labour market needs by providing technical and financial support to the TVET system, creating training opportunities that will equip the labour force with the skills necessary to ensure increased productivity and economic growth. Persons who are at least 17 years are eligible to participate in the training programme.

Streamlining the skills certification programme through the Alternative Pathways and Career Advancement Programme (CAP) will enable youth exiting secondary school to be better equipped for career advancement or labour market participation. The HEART NVQJ certification programme is also offered through other modalities such as the National Unattached Youth programme which is a training intervention delivered through community-based training institutions. All TVET programmes are assessed and certified through HEART and will be tracked under the NPRP accordingly.

20. High School Diploma Equivalency Programme

The High School Diploma Equivalency (HSDE) is implemented by the Jamaica Foundation for Lifelong Learning. It targets learners over age 17 years who did not complete secondary schooling in the formal system. It provides access to a continuing education system that allows the learner to pursue opportunities to fulfil their personal, professional and academic goals. The programme is delivered through Adult Learning Centres across the island as well as through the Career Advancement Programme (CAP). Workplaces and Community Based Programmes also facilitate the delivery of the High

School Diploma Equivalency Programme. It is also web enabled to provide access through various media.

The HSDE's accreditation is benchmarked to the City & Guild, Caribbean Competency Secondary Leaving Certificate and the Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (Caribbean Examination Council) and the General Education Diploma (USA)²⁰.

Human capital development is recognized as a critical pillar to poverty reduction. The JFLL through the HSDE provides the opportunity for persons who have not attained necessary qualifications within the formal school system a second chance to do so. This enables better educational outcomes and increases opportunities for access to tertiary education. The programme is national in scope.

21. Abilities Foundation

The Abilities Foundation works in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Social Security and the HEART Trust/NSTA to implement skills training programmes for persons with disabilities, in the fields of Information Technology, Cabinet Making, Garment Construction and Horticulture/Landscaping. Beneficiaries of the programme are required to attain at least 17 years of age and be at the Grade 9 level of literacy and be registered with the Jamaica Council for Persons with Disabilities.²¹

22. Early Childhood Education Programme

The Early Childhood Programme for Jamaica caters to children birth to eight years. The goal of the programme is to ensure the holistic development of each child through the promotion of wellness utilizing the involvement of the family unit, health team and community. The programme for children 0–3 years, majority of whom are not in early childhood institutions, is the provision of and access to state health services; children 3–5 years, attend Early Childhood Institutions (ECIs); and children 6–8 years, attend primary level schools which are governed by the Education Act.

The Early Childhood Development programme is executed through 2 936 Basic and Infant Schools & Departments, and Kindergarten Departments of preparatory schools for children aged 3–5 years (not including recognized day-care centres and institutions for children with special needs).

23. The Child Find Project

The Child Find project is implemented by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information. The purpose of the programme is to identify children 0–18 years with undiagnosed or undetected special needs or determine issues affecting mastery at grade

²⁰ <http://www.jfll.gov.jm/index.php/hsde/about-hsde>

²¹ <http://www.abilitiesfoundation.org.jm/AF.htm>

4 literacy test and offer special education interventions. It targets children who are at risk of academic failure, identified with a documented disability but are not attending school, in residential or hospital facilities and in need of special education services, enrolled in special education facilities, or have undiagnosed or undetected special needs in the general classroom setting.

One of the determinants of poverty is poor educational outcomes. The Child Find Project responds by identifying and correcting issues impacting educational outcomes which will ultimately impact labour market participation and the ability of these children to live independently in adulthood.

24. Housing Opportunity Production Employment Programme (HOPE)

The HOPE Programme targets unattached youth between the ages of 18-24 years. The programme is coordinated by the HOPE Secretariat out of the Office of the Prime Minister, in conjunction with the HEART Trust/NTA which is the implementing arm. It utilizes the LEGS strategy: Learning Earning Giving Saving. The HOPE Programme addresses major concerns regarding high levels of youth unemployment, lack of training opportunities, as well as facilitates assessment and certification of the youth. HOPE therefore focuses on personal development training, apprenticeship opportunities with the prospect of the youth being assessed and certified with the support of the HEART Trust/NTA.

25. Students' Loan Bureau

The Students' Loan Bureau is an agency under the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service. It provides financial assistance to needy students for tuition and living expenses. Loans are made available for students entering local and overseas universities that are approved by the Ministry of Education. In addition to providing loans for tertiary education, the Bureau also disburses grants to needy students.

PROGRAMME AREA 3: PSYCHOSOCIAL, CULTURAL, AND NORMATIVE ADVANCEMENT

Programme Area Goal

- Break the Intergenerational cycle of poverty

Programme Area Outcomes

- Reduction in the adolescent fertility rate in Jamaica
- Increased rates of participation in civil society organization
- Attitude and behavioural changes in critical areas including parenting, employment, education and health

Related Policy Objectives:

Objective 6: To address psychosocial, cultural, and normative influences on poverty

Target Groups:

Recognizing the interrelationship of social factors and individual thought and behaviour, including norms, values, myths, and cultural practises within the society that enable and perpetuate poverty, and the impact of poverty and deprivation on mental health and decision making, psychosocial cultural and normative advancement is a cross cutting element of this National Policy.

This element focuses on enhancing parenting skills, providing mental health support services, building social capital, encouraging mind-set change, as well as considerations of the characteristics, behavioural and decision-making patterns of the target group in the design and implementation of programmes to increase uptake and enhance effective delivery.

Psychosocial advancement is relevant across the lifecycle therefore the relevant institutions within various sectors of society must be engaged to facilitate its attainment.

The following target groups are selected for the medium-term poverty reduction programme:

- I. Youth (including youth with disabilities)
- II. Children
- III. Breadwinner and Parents/Guardians
- IV. Service Providers

Key Strategies/Actions:

I) Children and Youth

1. Provide training, education and re-socialization on cultural norms in areas such as: self-control, transfer of hope beyond circumstances, mind-set change, character building, overcoming limits and challenges, personal and civic responsibility as well as trust and relationship building.
2. Create greater access to appropriate reproductive and mental health services and information.
3. Provide training in anger management, mediation, and conflict resolution as well as personal and career development.
4. Encourage and facilitate positive mentorship and training in soft skills and entrepreneurship.
5. Implement participatory approaches that engage this target group in the formulation and implementation of strategies to address issues affecting them.
6. Promote education as a sustainable means of poverty reduction through partnerships with tertiary level institutions.

II) Breadwinner and Parents/Guardians

1. Provide training and support services in transformative parenting, coping strategies, and management of family dynamics.
2. Provide financial education training and information for heads of households to change attitudes towards management of household resources and assist financial decision making.
3. Create greater access to appropriate reproductive and mental health services and information
4. Encourage and facilitate positive mentorship and training in soft skills.
5. Provide training, education, and re-socialization on cultural norms in areas such as: self-control, transfer of hope beyond circumstances, mind-set change, character building, overcoming limits and challenges, personal and civic responsibility as well as trust and relationship building.

III) Service Providers (including MDAs and NGOs)

1. Provide training for service providers to strengthen skills in transferring hope and influencing positive behaviour change.
2. Provide training to improve service provision, efficiency in service delivery and encourage partnership and linkages to promote the wellbeing of clients in poverty

Selected Programmes

Name of Programme	Implementing Agency	Programme Objectives
Parenting training and Youth Camps	International Youth Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate the spiritual, intellectual, and emotional growth of young people around the world
Drug abuse prevention and capacity building	National Council on Drug Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention and treatment of substance abuse Conduct national level research on substance abuse Collaborate with national, regional and international agencies to reduce the demand and supply of drugs Influence and develop policy concerning substance abuse prevention and treatment
The Teen Hub	MOH- Sexual and Reproductive Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide sexual and reproductive health services and information Provide support to education of teens through homework support and training.
Support to Continuing Education of Adolescent Mothers	Women's Centre Foundation of Jamaica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide continuing education for adolescent mothers during pregnancy and have them reintegrated into the formal school system after childbirth.
Dispute Resolution Services Mediation training School Suspension Programme	Dispute Resolution Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teach anger management and conflict resolution skills to curtail violent and disruptive behaviour among children and youth.
Centre for Community Engagement/ Support to the Development of Psychosocial Programme	University of Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement programmes that provide psychosocial solutions for youth deemed vulnerable Training for psychosocial service providers in community engagement National media campaign on psychosocial issues
Support to the Development of Psychosocial Programme	University of the West Indies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide expertise to programme design for the psychosocial element of the programme
Financial Literacy Programme	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service / Bank of Jamaica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement comprehensive National Financial Literacy Plan to promote financial inclusion.
Parenting Training and support services	National Parenting Support Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide parenting education, training, and support to enable parents to develop skills for child rearing and advance their education through cooperation and collaboration with the school community
Sexual and Reproductive Health Service	Ministry of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximize people's access to family planning services which are gender sensitive and cost effective
Mental Health Service	Ministry of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide mental health service including clinical and counselling services.

Programme Description

1. Women's Centre of Jamaica Foundation

The Women's Centre of Jamaica Foundation provides support to the continuing education of adolescent mothers. The Women's Centre Programme for Adolescent Mothers was established with the mandate of providing young mothers, seventeen years and under, with the opportunity to continue their education during their pregnancy and delay an early second pregnancy. Care is provided for the babies while the young mothers attend classes. The Programme for Adolescent Mothers is delivered at ten main centres and eight outreach stations across the island. As at 2019, a total of 1 011 adolescent mothers were enrolled in the programme, with support provided in the day nurseries for 583 babies. (ESSJ 2019, 25.16).

The Centre provides support to sexual and reproductive health focusing on:

- Continuing education for adolescent mothers
- Programme for the Reduction of Adolescent Pregnancy (these services are also offered to adolescent fathers)
- Counselling services for in-school youth and clients of the Child Diversion Programme
- Research and Internship Programme through which students from secondary and tertiary-level institutions, as well as other entities are facilitated to conduct research projects; students from tertiary level institutions are facilitated to complete practicum sessions
- Parenting workshops, day nurseries and pre-school facilities (ESSJ 2019, 25.16).

2. Sexual and Reproductive Health Service-MOH

The Sexual and Reproductive Health Services aim to maximize people's access to family planning services which are gender-sensitive and cost-effective. The National Family Planning Board was established to deliver family planning services and coordinate activities of all related agencies offering these services. The objectives of the Board are to:

- Ensure access to high quality family planning services for those who wish to use them.
- Develop and improve family life education and clinical services to adolescents and young adults.
- Promote and sustain large-scale nation-wide information, education, and communication programmes in family
- Planning, population, and family life, using all available channels.
- Ensure and promote the participation of voluntary and private sector organizations which provide family planning services; and
- Provide surgical services for men and women.

The “Family Planning Services” functions of the Board have been decentralized and are now administered by the Regional Health Authorities.

3. Parenting Training and Support Services - NPSC

National Parenting Support Commission’s Parents’ Place provides parents with access to parenting information, courses and workshops, mutual support from other parents, a space for social and recreational family activities, counselling, and income-support training activities. The Commission also undertakes training programmes to assist parents to develop appropriate parenting skills and employ effective strategies in child development. The Parent Place as part of the Effective Parenting Intervention Framework, offers, early literacy intervention, skills building, 21st century parenting (technology and its uses) psycho-social support and parenting education.

4. School Suspension Intervention Programme

The Dispute Resolution Foundation in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), implements the School Suspension Intervention Programme that targets youth with behavioural issues, who are currently on suspension from school. Under the initiative, they are taught anger management and conflict resolution skills to curtail violent and disruptive behaviour.

5. Teen Hub

The Teen Hub is a programme of the Ministry of Health that offers support to teenagers through an established centre. The centre helps with homework, as well as skills training programmes. more than 7 000 accessed mental health counselling, career guidance, HIV and pregnancy prevention education.

6. International Youth Fellowship- (IYF)

The International Youth Fellowship (IYF) is a Christian-based global youth initiative of International Youth Fellowship Educational Foundation (IYFEF), a non-profit organization based in New York. The IYF is dedicated to the spiritual, intellectual, and emotional growth of young people around the world, and has been operating in Jamaica for over 10 years. The organization is strategically based in three Parishes (Kingston, St. James and Manchester), and operates a training centre in Parade Gardens community. The IYF has been partnering with the Government of Jamaica (including Ministry of Education and various schools, Planning Institute of Jamaica, and the Ministry of Youth and Culture) other Faith-based organizations (FBOs), Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and Community-based organizations (CBOs) to implement its programmes.

The IYF creates a platform for personal development; enabling youth to cultivate soft and hard skills and to interact in an environment that provides support and mentorship. The programme is national in scope and has the potential to impact youth on a national scale.

PROGRAMME AREA 4: BASIC COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Programme Area Goal

- Improved living conditions and sustained livelihoods in poor rural and urban communities.

Programme Area Outcomes

- Increased access to basic infrastructure and services in keeping with the social protection floor.
- Improved quality of infrastructure in rural and urban communities.

Related Policy Objectives:

Objective 5: To strengthen basic social and physical infrastructure

Target:

The condition of basic infrastructure enables or inhibits access to basic social services and amenities and impacts the psychosocial development. Access to infrastructure is not only important for social development but also economic development through provision of access to markets, inputs, distribution networks and transportation systems. Basic community infrastructure development is essential for balanced and sustainable rural and urban development. Though rural poverty rates are higher, the peculiar characteristics of both rural and urban communities that impact their poverty profile warrant the development of basic community infrastructure for both rural and urban communities.

Key Strategies/Actions

II) Rural and Urban Communities

1. Provide and facilitate equitable access to basic public infrastructure such as water, sanitation and solid waste disposal, electricity, schools, healthcare and other public facilities and services, in rural and urban communities. The minimum available access should be in keeping with the specified social protection floor.
2. Institutionalize systems for the care and maintenance of public community infrastructure and promote community responsibility among citizens in poor rural communities.
3. Facilitate access to affordable housing solutions

Selected Programmes

Name of Programme	Implementing Agency	Programme Objectives
Integrated Community Development Project	Jamaica Social Investment Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The infrastructure component of the project aims to enhance access to basic urban infrastructure and services and contribute towards increased community safety in 18 selected economically vulnerable and socially volatile inner-city communities of Jamaica.
Basic Needs trust Fund	Jamaica Social Investment Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enables residents in the poorest communities to access basic services that are required for their wellbeing. It also enables growth of the productive sector through rehabilitation of access roads, as well as water and drainage systems
Major Infrastructure Development Programme	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve road, bridges, and drainage infrastructure in communities in all 63 constituencies in an equitable manner. Improved infrastructure for to facilitate development, employment and increased and improved social amenities.
NESOL	MSTEM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision and regularization of electricity in specific regions and zones.
PSUP- Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation /UN Habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularize land tenure Undertake infrastructure development works
Low-income housing programme	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide access to affordable housing for low-income persons.
Regularization of Informal Settlements	Housing Agency of Jamaica Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide basic amenities and facilitate land titling services for informal settlements.
Low-cost housing provisions		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide affordable housing solutions for sale on the open market
Housing, Opportunity Production Employment	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Housing	Food for the Poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide housing for the neediest and victims of disaster events
School and multipurpose spaces construction		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct school facilities
Socio Economic Surveys	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide data to inform policy and interventions for low-cost housing provisions.
Irrigation systems for Agriculture	National Irrigation Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage, operate, and expand irrigation schemes, catering to commercial and industrial users as well
Water Supply	National Water Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide potable water to households in Jamaica.
Maintenance of Community Infrastructure	Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing, managing, and maintaining infrastructure and public facilities such as parochial roads, water supplies, drains and gullies, parks, recreational centres, markets, abattoirs, pounds, cemeteries, transportation centres, public sanitary conveniences and public beaches.

Community renewal Programme	Planning Institute of Jamaica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a framework or template to guide the design and implementation of violence reduction and community development projects • Promote interventions aimed at building capacity for agency and self-empowerment at the individual and community levels.
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Programme Description

1. Integrated Community Development Project – (ICDP)

The Integrated Community Development Project is implemented by the Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF) with funding from The World Bank. The programme is implemented in KSAC, St. Catherine, Clarendon, St. Ann, St. James & Westmoreland. The programme targets residents of inner-city communities in the select parishes. The infrastructure component of the project aims to enhance access to basic urban infrastructure and services and contribute towards increased community safety in 18 selected economically vulnerable and socially volatile inner-city communities of Jamaica. The ICDP addresses the need for infrastructure renewal and development in urban areas, impacting the standard of living of residents in inner-city communities. The programme enables access to critical amenities for sanitation, and access to other basic services. Improvement of infrastructure in communities enables access to services that are critical for wellbeing and enabling the empowerment of people utilizing these facilities.

2. Basic Needs Trust Fund - BNTF

The Basic Needs Trust Fund targets rural parishes and is implemented by the Jamaica Social Investment Fund. The objective of the programme is to reduce poverty and vulnerability through enhanced access to basic social and economic infrastructure and human resource development services. The programme includes work in the areas of education and human and resource development, access and drainage and water and sanitation. The BNTF enables residents in the poorest communities to access basic services that are required for their wellbeing. It also enables growth of the productive sector through rehabilitation of access roads, as well as water and draining systems. In addition to developing physical infrastructure, the programme facilitates development of the human resource.

3. Municipal Corporation Public Works Programmes

Local authorities in Jamaica undertake specific responsibilities related to the building and maintenance of specific public infrastructure. Their responsibilities include:

- Developing, managing and maintaining infrastructure and public facilities such as parochial roads, water supplies, drains and gullies, parks, recreational centres, markets, abattoirs, pounds, cemeteries, transportation centres, public sanitary conveniences and public beaches.
- Provision of local services such as poor relief, public cleansing, public health, street lighting
- Coordinating inter-agency collaboration among non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community-based organizations (COBs) and government agencies which operate in the parish and are engaged in the delivery of local services or in local development.

4. Participatory Slum Upgrade Programme

The PSUP programme is implemented by the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation and UN HABITAT. The programme enables regularization of land tenure in urban areas with the objective of improving living conditions in these areas. The programme addresses the issue of squatting due to urbanization and the challenges of poor sanitation and the need for access to other basic services. The programme also provides capacity building towards increasing knowledge and improving skills.

5. Land Titling Programme – Housing Agency of Jamaica Ltd.

This is a land ownership programme started by the then Ministry of Transport Works and Housing (MTWH). The purpose of the programme is to empower Jamaicans residing in informal communities through formal land ownership. In the 2012-2013 financial year, the Housing Agency of Jamaica Ltd. (HAJ) was engaged by the MTWH to participate in the National Land Titling Programme. For HAJ, the communities involved in the land titling initiative fall under the now defunct Program for Resettlement and Integrated Development Enterprise, also known as Operation PRIDE which was intended to provide, quality, affordable shelter solutions with security of tenure.

The main objectives of the programme are issuance of titles; resolve the shelter concern of low-income Jamaicans through the establishment of newly planned development (Greenfield sites) and the upgrading of existing settlements (brownfield sites); improve social, environmental and public health conditions in settlements throughout the country; mobilize resources in the informal sector towards their own improvement, and; to use government lands as a catalyst for development. The upgrading of sites is based on the availability of funding to HAJ.

PROGRAMME AREA 5: INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

Programme Area Goal

- Improved and sustained programme delivery, monitoring and evaluation among programmes in the NPRP.

Programme Area Outcomes

- Increased capacity to monitor and evaluate the results of key poverty reduction programmes and projects among MDAs and NGOs in the medium-term.
- Increased effectiveness of MDAs and NGOs in programme delivery
- Improved coordination of poverty reduction programming

Related Policy Objectives:

Objective 7: To strengthen coordination and capacity building for poverty reduction.

Target:

Institutional strengthening is critical to the sustainability of poverty reduction efforts. Recognizing the need for capacity building, strengthening monitoring and evaluation capabilities among the staff of agencies and NGOs and civil society organizations that provide service to the poor, they are targeted for the medium-term poverty reduction programme.

Key Strategies/Actions

1. As part of the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, identify clear targets and roles for stakeholder involvement, including the Private Sector.
2. Establish a Registry of national poverty reduction programmes/service providers.
3. Develop communication and monitoring systems and schedules for various stakeholders, actively promoting information and data sharing, and networking among relevant organizations implementing programmes under each medium-term framework.
4. Expand capacity development training and provision of resources to enhance service provision in life-skill training, psychosocial training, parenting, crime and violence prevention and intervention (including domestic violence), and reproductive health awareness and responsibility.
5. Inter-sectoral collaboration within government to support and streamline selected programmes provided by NGOs, CBOs and FBOs.
6. Facilitate the streamlining and provision of services by the Private Sector and Private Sector Foundations at the community level in various areas, towards poverty reduction.
7. Assess the M&E gaps in key programmes and provide training (and follow-up evaluation of application of knowledge) in M&E towards the development and strengthening of M&E systems of relevant programmes and organizations.
8. Develop and implement structured and objective systems of targeting beneficiaries for poverty programmes across government.

Summary of Key Actions

Actions/Initiatives	Implementing Agency	Objectives
Monitoring and Evaluation Framework	PIOJ-PRCU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established framework of accountability for the results of the NPRP Provide framework for monitoring the implementation of the NPRP
Poverty Programme Registry and Web Based Interface	PIOJ-PRCU/ISU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate communication among stakeholders of the NPRP Provide a platform for data management for NPRP
Capacity Building of Key Partners	PIOJ-PRCU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equip staff of key agencies implementing programmes in the NPRP with skills for more efficient and effective programme implementation Improve the monitoring and evaluation capacity of MDAs in the NPRP.
Streamlining Poverty Reduction Programmes	PIOJ-PRCU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce duplication of efforts and enhance targeting efficiency.
Resourcing of the NPRP	PIOJ- PRCU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase funding support to programmes in the NPRP
Review/ Develop targeting systems	PIOJ- PRCU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased coverage of target group Increase efficiency in programme delivery Improve accountability in programme delivery.
Develop programme assessment/monitoring tools	PIOJ- PRCU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify gaps in programme design, delivery, monitoring and management to inform capacity building.
Training for Psychosocial Component	PIOJ- PRCU/UWI/UTECH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equip staff with skills to deliver the psychosocial components of the NPRP
Coordination of community renewal Interventions	Community Renewal Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate interventions for violence reduction and community development in 100 volatile communities of in 5 parishes of Jamaica.

Description of Institutional Strengthening Interventions

1. PRCU Capacity Building Interventions

Across Ministries, agencies, and NGOs, well intentioned initiatives are currently giving rise to duplication of efforts, wastage of resources, poorly designed initiatives, and detached and fragmented programme approaches. This is due both to lack of information and unproductive use of the available data. There is also limited accountability for the prevalence of poverty, brought about by the lack of an institutional focus, with monitoring of impacts and assessment of outcomes. Marques 2011, identifies monitoring and evaluation as a key issue to be addressed in the delivery of social programmes in Jamaica. Under the NPRP, agencies within the institutional framework for implementation of the programme will be strengthened through training of key personnel in monitoring and evaluation, project design and delivery as well as other relevant areas. In addition, the monitoring systems of these agencies/ projects will be enhanced to ensure effectiveness of programme delivery. Other areas of capacity building including programme design, management and implementation may be necessary however these areas will be determined based on a consultative process and will be facilitated under the programme.

2. Community Renewal Programme –Coordinating Actions

The Community Renewal Programme (CRP) provides a framework or template to guide the design and implementation of violence reduction and community development projects and promotes interventions aimed at building capacity for agency and self-empowerment at the individual and community levels. It also facilitates a harmonized, holistic approach, drawing together the several programmes which are being implemented by multiple agencies across Government and civil society.

PRIORITY POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGIES

An onslaught on the poverty prevalence rates that is likely to result in medium-term sustainable improvements will involve aggressive targeting of certain key household members, and the provision of an environment that creates and sustains meaningful employment. The Policy and Programme document has outlined several of these key initiatives and has suggested prime target groups that would assist in moving a household out of poverty. These groups include the breadwinners, women, and youth. The strategic initiatives would include:

- Strengthen the delivery of Safety Nets and social protection programmes targeting the poorest and most vulnerable in the society.
- Protect and improve wages and wage levels, and general conditions of employment for persons earning minimum wages.
- Expand skill certification, apprenticeship, and on-the-job training schemes to enhance capabilities of working-age youth and women.
- Create innovative community responses for caregiver support, thereby freeing up women to seek employment.
- Provide improved access to public infrastructure and amenities such as roads, water, electricity, and sanitation to enhance quality of life and livelihood sustainability.
- Livelihood development and strengthening through access to business development services, markets, micro-finance, and social enterprise options for targeted clients, including persons with disabilities.
- Partner with relevant agencies to strengthen and expand psychosocial programmes to influence social outcomes (e.g., teen pregnancies, parenting skills).
- Facilitate job creation, employment linkages and placement through the strengthening of productive sectors. Closer attention must be paid to parish and regional demands, target groups, and other dynamics.

The table below indicates the recommended key interventions to address the strategies proposed.

Table 6: Key Strategies for the Medium-term 2021-2024

	KEY STRATEGIES	PROGRAMME/ INTERVENTION	IMPLEMENTING AGENCY
1.	Strengthen the delivery of Safety Nets and social protection programmes targeting the poorest and most vulnerable in the society.	Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education, Public Assistance Programmes (Rehabilitation and Emergency Grants) Poor Relief (Indoor and Outdoor) Homelessness Programme	Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS) Ministry of Local Government and Community Development (MLGCD)
2.	Design and implement appropriate programmes, mechanisms and facilities to ensure the availability, accessibility, safety, and stability of sufficient food supply for the extreme/food poor (food insecure) across the life cycle.	School Feeding Programme Food Distribution Programme and Agricultural Support Programmes Meals on Wheels Agricultural Extension Programme	Ministry of Education Youth and Information (MOEYI) Food for the Poor National Council for Senior Citizens Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries
3.	Expand skill certification, apprenticeship and on-the-job training schemes to enhance capabilities of working-age youth and women	NVQJ Certification, Workforce Solutions and Apprenticeship Programmes. Youth training, job placement and entrepreneurship programmes Training and certification of persons with disabilities Steps-to-Work Programme Labour Market Information System (LMIS)	HEART Trust/NTA HOPE/HEART NTA Abilities Foundation MLSS
4.	Create innovative community responses for caregiver support, thereby freeing up women to seek employment	School/Community based care programme ²²	National Parenting Support Commission

²² There is no existing programme that offers caregiver support to single parents seeking employment. It is proposed that a programme be designed to address this strategy and that the Parenting Support Commission and NCSC be engaged as the responsible organizations.

5.	Provide improved access to public infrastructure and amenities such as roads, water, electricity and sanitation to enhance quality of life and livelihood sustainability	Poverty Reduction Programme IV Basic Needs Trust Fund Integrated Community Development Project (ICDP)	Jamaica Social Investment Fund
		Maintenance of Public Infrastructure	Municipal Corporations
6.	Livelihood development and strengthening through access to business development services, markets, micro-finance and social enterprise options for targeted clients, including persons with disabilities	Business Development Support to MSMEs	Jamaica Business Development Corporation
		Local Economic Development Support Programme	Social Development Commission
		Social Service and Home Economics Programme	Rural Agricultural Development Authority
		General MSME Support Programme	HEART Trust/ NTA
		Economic Empowerment Grant Program	Jamaica council for Persons with Disabilities
7.	Partner with relevant agencies to strengthen and expand psychosocial programmes to influence social outcomes (e.g. teen pregnancies, parenting skills);	Youth development, school based and parenting programmes	MOEYI International Youth Fellowship (IYF)
		Support to Continuing Education of Adolescent Mothers	Women Centre of Jamaica Foundation
		Parenting support programmes (such as Parents Place)	NPSC
		Sexual and reproductive health service	Ministry of Health & Wellness
		Early stimulation intervention	
		Mental health services	
		Early childhood development programme	Early Childhood Commission (ECC)
9.	Facilitate job creation, employment linkages and placement through the strengthening of productive sectors. Closer attention must be paid to parish and regional demands,	GOJ support to building industries (agriculture, tourism, manufacturing, expansion of agro parks, logistics hub, entertainment industries)	Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries Ministry of Culture, Gender, entertainment and Sport, Ministry of Tourism

target groups, and other dynamics.	Business Process Outsourcing	JAMPRO
	Grants and loans to small enterprises	Development Bank of Jamaica

At the core of the priority poverty reduction strategies is the creation of jobs and livelihoods to impact the consumption status of individuals and households. The NPRP priority programming focuses on these strategies, together with strengthening the productive sectors and strengthening the capacity of the poor to take advantage of the employment opportunities that will result. The priority strategies acknowledge and propose to address the psychosocial and other barriers that prevent persons from accessing and meaningfully participating in the economy and the social sectors, thus contributing to their poverty status, and reinforcing the intergenerational cycle of poverty.

Whilst the larger NPRP details the interventions necessary for this medium-term 2021-2024, the set of priority strategies and programmes presented above are proposed as a core set of interventions that, along with other macro-economic interventions, are expected to significantly impact the poverty prevalence. These interventions are national in scope or could be scaled up and are directed towards the target population. They are largely implemented by the Government of Jamaica through its MDAs.

These interventions proposed as priority respond directly to the data indicating the determinants of poverty. The proposal is to have these focused efforts strengthened and delivered consistently over the medium-term with consideration to coverage, adequacy, targeting and efficiency in delivery for maximum output.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

Programme Name	Implementation Challenges
Programme Area 1 - Extreme Poverty and Basic Needs	
School Feeding Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanding partnerships with school communities and other stakeholders (e.g. provide support to farmers in return for supply to schools) Improving service delivery Deciding which of the two existing management implementation systems will work better for school feeding programme (Monitoring and Management Information System for tracking participants, which was piloted by IDB in regions 1 and 6 is to be expanded.
Senior Citizens Feeding Programmes (Meals on Wheels for shut-ins KSA- 20 canters) ²³	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective scheduling and delivery of meals – the council doesn't have its own transportation. Where transportation is available, at times the cost for fuel is a limitation. Only one meal is provided currently Verifying those who receive meals- the council isn't present to distribute meals and uses a registration form to document who receives meals
Rehabilitation Grant (MLSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>None indicated</i>
Emergency Grant (MLSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>None indicated</i>
Salvation Army (homelessness)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some persons may be accessing support from different food programmes. The overlap in beneficiaries could mean that some persons are still not being reached. A registry would help to coordinate the distribution of benefits.
Food for the Poor- Food Distribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited ability to expand to those not in the network. The demand is great, and the supply doesn't meet the demand since Jamaica doesn't receive direct support for food aid; in many cases the food is purchased.
Food for the Poor- Agriculture Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resources depend on donor interests; the risk therefore is that availability of resources may vary.
FFP Supplies to Nutrition Clinics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability of supplies; may not be able to provide all that is needed.

²³ At least-453 fed lunch daily (Monday-Friday)

Disaster Relief Supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better coordination amongst services providers to better serve beneficiaries • Response time lags • Politicizing of the emergency relief supplies process • Greater level of involvement needed from actors at the planning stage.
PATH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited number of social workers • Low uptake of entrepreneurial grants related to low awareness of the initiative, disinterest among some beneficiaries who prefer to receive bi-monthly cash grants instead of applying for grant assistance, interested persons are often unable to prove land ownership to receive support, inadequate staff support in the local office. • MLSS makes referrals to other agencies for service needs, however those agencies are not always able to meet the demand because they do not have the resources to expand their mandate to serve PATH families, for example HEART Trust/NTA may not have sufficient spaces to accommodate those who are referred. • Psychosocial limitations such as literacy, soft skills, limited available resources to take care of basic needs (lunch, transportation) to take advantage of what PATH is providing.
NHF/JADEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persons enrolled in both programmes, NHF and JADEP (duplication). • Low utilization rates.
Family Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited staff especially Social Workers, Psychologists and Nutritionists • Limited capacity to expand programmes into communities • Inadequate funding to effectively execute programmes
Indoor and Outdoor Poor Relief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing demand for Poor Relief Services without adequate resources • Catering to a wide cross section of needs as we cater to the whole person • Inability to provide adequate coverage for institutional care based on demand due to limited space availability; challenges to the provision of improved healthcare due to lack of compassionate care and adequate training of staff and staff shortages in some infirmaries. • Lack of family support for both indoor and outdoor clients which hinders rehabilitation and reintegration efforts
Homelessness Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of adequate shelters • Lack of support systems to aid in reintegration • Improved coordination of services

Programme Area 2 - Economic Empowerment and Human Capital Development	
Vocational training and certification- HEART	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None indicated
High School Diploma Equivalency Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None indicated
Early Childhood Development Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None indicated
CAP YES Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Tertiary Level Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None indicated
AVASANT BPO training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None indicated
School rationalization and Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None indicated
Tertiary Loans and Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None indicated
Career Advancement Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited resources to meet the changes required by the industry example - proper lab to expose students to international standards and new emerging skills for the 21st century
The Child Find Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None indicated
Early Stimulation Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None indicated
Vocational Training of Persons with Disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abilities Foundation is an NGO and a Limited Liability Company that receives support in the form of subvention and grants. The institution constantly has to seek donor funding to assist with salaries and to expand services to persons with disabilities. Inability to offer competitive salaries, inadequate staffing non-existent administrative support, accounting gaps due to a lack of staff. Inadequate support services for persons with disabilities- Job Coach and Placement Officer.
PRP, ICDP, BNTF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing access to the most vulnerable • Sustained attachment to the labour market • Schools lacking the capacity to continue programmes implemented
Operation Certification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inability of target groups to access the services
Students Loan and Grant Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in the number of students enrolled in tertiary institutions. • Poor socialization of potential borrowers based on poor perception of SLB services
LMIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duplication, disjointed approach from other MDAs with similar mandate • Funding • Lack of participation in labour market information studies • Human and financial resource constraints
HOPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding • Job placement spaces
Steps to Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psychosocial challenges (low self-esteem) • High attrition rate due to pregnancy • Retention of males in development programmes • Limited monitoring and evaluation • Lack of client-based system to track beneficiaries

Overseas Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High administrative cost
DBJ Financing MSMEs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competing funding from AFIs
Economic Empowerment Grant Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human resource constraints to undertake M&E for grant recipients
HEART MSME Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long processing time • Human resource constraint • High demand for services • Financial constraints
Financing MSMEs - MIDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding
RADA SSHE Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for expansion • Capacity building to increase entrepreneurial skills to expand business
Agricultural Extension Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficult to get participants to come training based on competing demands.
National Insurance Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtaining information from ministries • Funding for public education campaign
MLSS Industrial Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding • Human resources
SEBI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of awareness of the particulars of social enterprise
JBAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change
Local Economic Development Support Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate funding to accelerate efforts in the registration, capacity development and grant funding of Local Economic Initiative (LEIs)
Development of skills and Talents for income generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None Indicated</i>
Land Administration Management Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inability of beneficiaries to finance titling process in a timely manner • Delays in finalisation of process for obtaining titles • Lack of a national cadastre • Cost of obtaining registered titles and time frame • Lack of sufficient financial resources to assist needy beneficiaries
JBDC Support to Business development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None Indicated</i>
Irrigation Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None Indicated</i>
Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None Indicated</i>
GOJ Adaptation Fund Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None Indicated</i>
RYEEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None Indicated</i>
Programme Area 3 - Psychosocial, Cultural and Normative Advancement	
NCDA- Education & Behaviour Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved increased staffing and budget but not allocated
NCDA Peer Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffing (human resources)
NPSC- Parenting Programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited human resources staffing (operations) • Financial challenges

Cultural Development and Socialization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial resources
MOH Sexual and Reproductive Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of quality services; human resource capacity is stretched Sustainable financing Space constraint for Teen Hub based on anticipated demand
MOH Mental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>None Indicated</i>
Financial Literacy Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persons in lower income group find it difficult to identify financial products to meet their needs High risk to financial institutions
UTECH Centre for Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>None Indicated</i>
School Suspension Intervention Programme/Dispute resolution interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>None Indicated</i>
Support to continuing Education of Adolescent Mothers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need for full time teachers to deliver the academic instructions Childcare facilities for babies of reintegrated adolescent mothers Limited dormitory space in which to house adolescent mothers from the rural centres enrolled in the CSEC programme Lack of financial resources with which to employ an administrator at the Adolescent Resource Centre at the Kingston location in the immediate Space in which to deliver on-site SRH services to adolescent mothers enrolled at the central and western centres not yet identified Lack of financial and human resources with which to deliver onsite SRH facilities Inadequate financial support for the delivery of the A-STREAM Programme Limited bandwidth and internet services Inadequate hardware and software to support services that are delivered virtually
Teenage Pregnancy Clinic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>None Indicated</i>
Citizens Security and Justice Programme III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>None Indicated</i>
Culture Passports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>None Indicated</i>
Drug Abuse Prevention and Capacity Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>None Indicated</i>
IYF Parenting and Youth Camps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate financing to cover administrative costs associated with administering training programmes Limited capacity to respond to increasing and new areas of demand.
Programme Area 4 - Basic Community Structure	
PRP IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change of strategy using EU regulations instead of GOJ Fiscal Space

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delays in approvals (external e.g. Cabinet, donor); unsuccessful tenders • Requirement to use EU procurement process has resulted in less responsiveness from prospective bidders due to perceived complexity of the procurement process
ICDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competing priorities for limited fiscal space; delays in procurement approvals (e.g. Cabinet); cost-overruns as a result of difference in estimated and actual sub-project costs • Coordination of inter-sectoral reporting frameworks
BNTF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bad weather results in delay of projects. • Fiscal Space • Delays in approvals, land documents
MIDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs exceed the available resources
NESOL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funding
PSUP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None Indicated</i>
MEGJC Low Income Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None Indicated</i>
Land Titling Programme – Housing Agency of Jamaica Ltd.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funding
Rainwater Harvesting in Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funding
HOPE- (Housing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funding • Lack of spacing of units • Approval process (Please clarify)
MEGJC- Socio Economic Surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funding to implement recommendations/ follow up programs • Number of settlements to target
Food for the Poor Housing Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None Indicated</i>
Food for the Poor Multipurpose spaces construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None Indicated</i>
Irrigation Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to land for build infrastructure • Financial resources
NWC- Water Supply Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funding
Rural Water Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funding
Maintenance of Infrastructure (Local Authorities)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None Indicated</i>
Programme Area 5 - Institutional Strengthening	
Community Renewal Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budgetary and other resource constraints among MDAs have affected the implementation of completed action plans. • Limited human and financial resources have impeded the Secretariat from expanding the CRP model to St Catherine.

APPENDIX I: KEY ACTIONS: PROGRAMME AREA 1

NPRP Strategies	Actions	Implementing Agencies	2018-2021 MTP	Achieved Yes/No	2021-2024 MTP		
					Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3
1.1 Institutional strengthening, integration and expanded coverage, reach and efficacy of the School Feeding Programme from the early childhood to secondary levels in keeping with nutritional guidelines to ensure equity, adequacy and accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design, pilot, implement IDB Project aimed at a cluster approach to provision of meals to school (Integrated Support to Jamaica Social Protection) 	MOEYI, MLSS	✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement Nutrition Policy 		✓	N	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement Sustainable school feeding project (FAO Project) 		✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training of school concessionaires, chefs, cooks etc in meal planning 		✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of management information system to manage the School Feeding Project 		✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
1.2 Design and implement appropriate programmes, mechanisms and facilities to ensure the availability, accessibility, safety, and stability of sufficient food supply for the extreme/food poor (food insecure) across the life cycle.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide support to established feeding programmes within 907 basic, infant, primary, high schools. 	Food for the Poor	✓	Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide social assistance to families through the donation of food to students in need. 		✓	Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish 48 agricultural projects providing seeds, tools and other supplies, as well as animal husbandry, apiculture and plant nursery production to benefit small farmers, prospective 		✓	Y			

	<p>farmers, schools, groups, and individual households.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve information coming in from agencies being served (monitoring and reporting on who is served). • Continue to improve implementation of agriculture projects with emphasis on institutional support in areas such as staffing, partnerships • Rehabilitation of 30 ex-inmates per month through income generating projects • Funding of 6 projects (please specify) to assist the operations of the Homes • Provision of boats engines, and fishing accessories to fisherfolk in the programme for 15 fishing villages. • Training of fisher folk in areas such as self-esteem, safety at sea, search and rescue, technical fishing, navigation, small business management • Implementation of supplemental income generating activities. • Implementation of fishing projects such as Fish Aggregation Device (FAD) 		<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>Y</p> <p>Y</p> <p>Y</p> <p>Y</p>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to provide training and technical assistance for farmers on how to increase productivity and earnings through the Agricultural Extension Services. • Maintain the Agricultural Business Information System (ABIS) for effective implementation 	RADA	✓					

			✓				
1.3. Ensure the availability of emergency food stocks in keeping with the National Food and Nutrition Security Targets for emergency recovery and relief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of support to MLSS's food storage unit to assist with the National Food Storage Programme. 	Food for the Poor	✓	Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor health and food intake at emergency shelters in keeping with established nutritional guidelines. Implement policy for nutrition in emergency settings to guide the provision of basic requirements for each age cohort. 	MOH	✓ ✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop registry/database of homeless clients served by Salvation Army. Develop strategy to give homeless clients better access to available services 	Salvation Army	✓ ✓				
1.4 Provide social transfers in the form of cash or kind to support the poorest (individuals or families) identified through appropriate screening mechanisms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of food to families in the greatest need across the island through 1,367 institutions serving the poor annually. 	Food for the Poor	✓	Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of a home, supplies, back- to-school assistance and an income generating activity for 15 destitute families 			Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General distribution of food to 60- 70 centres per month. 		✓	Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of food and supplies for 27 Children's Homes under the programme 			Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to provide supplemental support (supplies for families) to the Nutrition Clinic 		✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of curative medical care to 650 patients in need annually. 		✓	Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of 250 patients for wheelchairs annually. 		✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support NHF with the provision of pharmaceutical drugs 		✓	Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of healthcare to 650 persons in communities in need through: 		✓				
			✓				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Health screening e.g. blood pressure, blood sugar, urine ○ Medical examinations ○ Pharmaceuticals ○ Other medical services 		✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue bi-monthly cash grants to families ● Registration of new beneficiaries ● Implementation of graduation programme ● Implement Steps to Work Programme ● Implementation of Case Management Intervention 	MLSS/PATH	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Y Y Y Y Y	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expand food distribution to rural areas ● Expand existing food distribution programmes in KMA region. ● Map feeding programmes targeting senior citizens 	MLSS/NCSC	✓ ✓ ✓	Y Y N	 ✓		
1.5 Formulate programmes to detect, prevent and mitigate malnutrition caused by inadequate intake of food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue to provide parents of children 0-6 years with information on the Nutrition Curriculum, Health and Safety for the PATH Parenting Programme (Nutrition Component) 	National Parenting Support Commission	✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Implement nutrition programme to provide information, support, early stimulation and home visits to targeted clients. ● Assess children 0-6 years for nutritional deficiencies ● Provide information, counselling and demonstrations on the subject of nutrition ● Conduct routine assessment of nutritional status of all patients who enter the health system and provide internal referrals to the nutritionist as required ● Public awareness presentations and displays at exhibitions ● Initiate the Reach Up Jamaica home visiting programme for recruited at-risk children/families ● Roll out the Early Stimulation Programme to at risk families 	MOH	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓				

			✓				
1.6 Ensure the availability of emergency food stocks in keeping with the National Food and Nutrition Security Targets for emergency recovery and relief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to provide support to persons in need during disaster events Implement electronic beneficiary database (IDB Support) Ensure that the Warehouse is adequately stocked to meet the demands during the time of disaster. (Rehabilitation Programme) - Continue payments of relief grants for individuals impacted by the disaster, based on assessments conducted. 	MLSS/Public Assistance	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ N Y	✓ ✓ - ✓	✓ ✓ - ✓	✓ ✓ - ✓
1.7 Ensure the availability of emergency food stocks in keeping with the National Food and Nutrition Security Targets for emergency recovery and relief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue distribution of emergency relief supplies 	MLSS/ODPEM/FFP/Salvation Army	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
1.8 Provide social transfers in the form of cash or kind to support the poorest (individuals or families) identified through appropriate screening mechanisms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to implement the individual benefits programme. Provide card application processing services at Drug Serv pharmacy locations Implement one card to improve individual benefits programme 	NHF/JADEP	✓ ✓ ✓	Y Y Y	✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓
1.9 Facilitate institutional care as required, for the infirm, indigent or homeless, to ensure that the basic needs of the most vulnerable are met.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to monitor the delivery of service in infirmaries and homeless shelters Continue to make recommendations for the improvement in care standards Provide new facilities to meet demands for space and upgraded infrastructure Provide Drop-in Centres (at least 1 per parish) for the homeless 	Board of Supervision/Poor Relief Programme	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Y Y Y Y	✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve mental wellness of the infirmed through therapeutic gardens and green spaces by creating two green spaces per year. Recruitment of 8 dieticians to improve the nutritional needs of persons in the infirmaries. 				✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure appropriate nutrition of institutionalized persons. 	MOH	✓				

APPENDIX II: KEY ACTIONS: PROGRAMME AREA 2

NPRP Strategies	Actions	Implementing Agencies	2018-2021MTP	Achieved YES/NO	2021-2024 MTP		
					Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr3
2.1 Create greater access to education, training, and certification (including remedial education entrepreneurial and skills training) for members of the target group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training and certification through NVQJ programmes Job placement including apprenticeships 	HEART	✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build on partnerships for remedial education and skills training for PWDs. 	JCPD	✓	N		✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand educational offerings in order to provide more skills training options to PWDs 	Abilities Foundation	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement 14 weeks of Jamaica Company of Entrepreneurs training sessions across all YICs. 	MOEYI/Youth and Adolescent Policy Div.	✓				
2.2 Facilitate and encourage employment linkages and placement as well as apprenticeship programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Job placement and Internship experience through LMIS local and overseas registration. Research and dissemination of labour market information Implement career development programmes in schools. 	MLSS/LMIS	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
			✓	Y	✓	✓	
			✓	Y			
			✓	Y			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct tracer studies 		✓	Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training and apprenticeship (Personal development training, one year apprenticeship with basic on the job skills training, assessment, certification) Coordinate youth programmes 	HOPE	✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fill vacancies for the Overseas Employment Programme based on request in a timely manner Address welfare of workers that access the programme through a liaison officer Increase employment of Jamaicans in the farm work programme Ramping up orientation for the Programme 	MLSS/Overseas Employment	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
			✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
			✓	N	✓	✓	✓
					✓		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build on partnerships with HEART /NTA, HOPE to provide employment for persons with disabilities Introduce the employment of PWDs through participation in employment fairs (Are there established formal arrangements by the JCPD for this action) 	JCPD	✓	N		✓	
			✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extend use of LMIS and local job placement boards to identify employment opportunities for students/PWDs Continue partnership with HEART to facilitate increased placement of students/PWDS Continue conversation with GOJ on projects that facilitate apprenticeship and summer employment programmes 	Abilities Foundation	✓	N	✓		
			✓	Y			
			✓	Y			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and placement of at least 2 Youth Club Aides per parish for 6 months with an attached remuneration package. 	MOEYI/Youth and Adolescent Policy Div.	✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support partner efforts to provide employment and certification opportunities • Get external businesses to locate in CRP targeted communities • Lobby HOPE and similar programmes to earmark/make provisions for job opportunities for members of CRP communities in annual programming 	CRP	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
			✓	N	✓	✓	✓
			✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
2.3 Build the capacities of poor households to become independent of social assistance programmes, through strengthened case management, and the appropriate linkages, referrals as well as training and employment opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placement of PATH beneficiaries through LMIS into jobs • Increase retention of PATH beneficiaries in jobs through financial support. • Placement of PATH clients in skills training in remedial education and skills • Training and funding of PATH beneficiaries in small business enterprises. 	Steps to Work	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
			✓				
			✓				
			✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
2.4 Livelihood development and strengthening through access to business development services, micro-finance and social enterprise options for targeted clients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financing of MSMEs through wholesale lending • Increase the number of AFIs for on-lending • Meet on-lending targeting • Grant for capacity building (Voucher for Technical Assistance, Ignite grant programme- for innovative projects or services) 	DBJ	✓				
			✓				
			✓				
			✓				
2.5 Promote the development and expansion of local economic enterprises and social enterprises (e.g. in agriculture and agro-processing).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Economic Empowerment Grant • Provide cash grants to PWDs through rehabilitation support programme. • Provide financial literacy and business management training for grant recipients. • Provide non-cash rehabilitation benefits through economic empowerment grant and assistive aids • Monitor income generating projects and provide support or referral for expansion. 	MLSS/JCPD	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
			✓		✓	✓	✓
			✓		✓	✓	✓
			✓		✓	✓	✓
2.6 Facilitate access to micro-finance services and technical assistance for productive			✓		✓	✓	✓
			✓		✓	✓	✓

<p>purposes through financial institutions</p> <p>2.7 Expand and support community niche products and industries.</p> <p>2.8 Increase access to economic assets for income generation and wealth creation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capitalise on support provided by FHI360 to set up social enterprise revolving around agriculture capabilities of institution, using sale of organic herbs to financially supplement operational costs 	Abilities Foundation	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity development for MSMEs Provide business advisory services Facilitate business registration Provide grant funding to MSMEs start-up 	HEART (MSME Support)	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide financing to MSME sector through wholesaling Increase targeting finance to the productive sector Increase formalisation of MSMEs 	MIDA	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing 8 agro processing facilities Training community agro processors Establish markets for processors 	RADA - SSHE					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a fund product to support Social Enterprises Business development support for Social Enterprises Increase public awareness of Social Enterprises Inclusion of Social Enterprises in national policies 	JN-SEBI	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	N N N N			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate entrepreneurship in the training programmes of farmers. Engage other agencies to generate funding to provide training and input to participants 	Jamaica 4-H-RYEPP	✓ ✓	Y Y	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with Project sponsors to provide funding and agricultural inputs to establish and maintain gardens 	Jamaica 4-H- Agricultural Enterprise and	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓

		Entrepreneurship Development					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide young farmers with livestock for the establishment of agri-enterprises. To revamp the revolving scheme for a consistent flow of inputs for new farmers. To establish partnerships with the relevant agencies in order to acquire and distribute the requisite resources for the start-up of livestock. 	Jamaica 4-H- Livestock Development Programme	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
			✓		✓	✓	✓
			✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased agricultural production and productivity through increased youth involvement 		✓		✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased access to farmlands for youth through partnership with Sugar Corporation of Jamaica and Agro Investment Corporation. 		✓		✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased number of medium and large-scale agricultural production by youth 		✓		✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased survival/success rate for the agricultural enterprises established 		✓		✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased youth involvement in the fisheries sector through training and enterprise development. 				✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support partner efforts to work with communities to develop income generating and sustainable livelihood projects 	CRP	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with SDC, KSAC and other Municipal Corporations to actively facilitate and coordinate local economic 		✓	Y	✓	✓	✓

	<p>development initiatives in CRP communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support partner efforts to work with targeted communities to understand and develop social enterprises and social entrepreneurs • Encourage integration of local businesses into existing value chains • Support/promote community linkages to a sustainable business incubator/enabler network that delivers business services to early-stage innovation-driven entrepreneurs (including through business clinics for delivery of entrepreneurship training) • Lobby targeted microfinance institutions to provide business planning services and affordable financing to members of CRP communities. 		✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
			✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
			✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
			✓	N	✓	✓	✓
2.9 Identification and improvement of community assets for income generation and Decent Work through the engagement of community-based and other non-government organizations to develop skills that enable active participation in the labour market.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance agricultural service delivery through a responsive and modern Agricultural Extension Service. • Improvement in Production and Productivity of Crops and Livestock • Targeting of new entrants to the Agricultural Sector • Strengthening of strategic alliances with local and international stakeholders 	JAS					
		RADA-Extension Services	✓				
			✓				
			✓				
			✓				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide grant funding to Local Economic Initiatives (call issued annually) ● Business development support to LEIs (capacity building, idea generation, business model development, business plan writing, networking and partnership development through business fairs, database and website). 	SDC-LEDSP	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
		JBDC	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
2.10 Promote agro-tourism in rural communities towards improving economic wellbeing.		TPDCO MICAF					
2.11 Promote protection of workers, minimum conditions of work, and participation in social security schemes. Relevant sectors for consideration include Agriculture & Fishery and Wholesale & Retail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify MDAs that issues licenses and permits to be compliant with NIS ● Design and implement public education 	MLSS-NIS	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
2.12 Promote participation in national health schemes, the National Insurance Scheme, and other insurance and pension offerings			✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
2.13 Timely review and adjustments to the Minimum Wage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Training and outreach to guide parties in industrial dispute ● Promote industrial harmony in the work force 	MLSS- Industrial Relations	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
2.14 Promote protection of workers, minimum conditions of work, and participation in social security schemes. Relevant sectors for			✓	Y	✓	✓	✓

consideration include Agriculture & Fishery and Wholesale & Retail							
2.15 The enhancement and promotion of active labour market policies and Labour Market Information Systems							
2.16 Providing opportunities and support to the elderly for income-generating activities, in an effort to promote active ageing, income security, and inter-generational transfer of knowledge and skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with NGOs and MDAs to provide training to senior citizens to promote sustainable livelihoods 	NCSC	✓				
2.17 Promote and facilitate productive inclusion of local agricultural producers, fishers and fish farmers within the safety net feeding programmes and other local markets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	MOEYI School Feeding Programme					
2.18 Strengthen backward and forward integration; and expand value chain enhancement and connection to markets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase productivity in banana growing areas Strengthen market linkages between small farmers and market through capacity building 	MICAF-JBAM					
2.19 Facilitating community-based and family-based interventions for care services for family dependents (elderly, children persons with debilitating health issues, persons with restrictive disabilities) in order to support the availability of working-age persons for the labour market.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	National Parenting Support Commission					

2.20 Create greater access to education, training, and certification (including remedial education entrepreneurial and skills training) for members of the target group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and certification of youths • Personal development training • Conduct entrepreneurship training • Conduct paramilitary training 	HEART- CMU					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement remedial education for grades 4-9. • Provide tertiary scholarships through PRP. • Provide vocational and skills training scholarships • Provide entrepreneurship and business development support • Implement entrepreneurial aspects of the BNTF in rural areas. 	JSIF	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion of school spaces • Removal of pit latrines • Creating infant departments to existing primary schools • Creating stand-alone infant schools • Creation and implementation of national standards curriculum 	MOEYI	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify needy students for grant disbursements • Disseminate information at the secondary and tertiary levels • Reducing loan repayment delinquency through improved collection strategies 	SLB	✓ ✓ ✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand secondary level for an additional two (2) years • Implement recruitment fairs (online registration) 	MOEYI- CAP	✓ ✓	Y Y			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue discussion with MLSS on obtaining space to open a new location in St Ann and thereby expand skills training opportunities to PWDS in the rural areas Continue discussions with JCPD on training interventions for PwDs in Woodside, Clarendon 	Abilities Foundation	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
			✓	N			
2.21 Strengthen families through improved access to services, information and resources in response to needs		High School Diploma Equivalency					
		MLSS- Early Stimulation					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of needs within the targeted communities/households (Be more specific) Provision of civil representation documents (Birth certificates, NIS, TRN, NHF, JADEP etc.) 	JSIF- ICDP	✓	Y			
2.22 Identification and improvement of personal assets; capacities, talents and skills for income generation and Decent Work.		MCGES					
2.23 Increase access to suitable land for farming through divestment of available government owned lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Widely advertise suitable government owned lands especially in Land Settlements available for divestment for farming Identify unused agricultural lands and make available for divestment for farming 	NLA, UDC, Municipal Corporations	✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilisation of Adjudication Committees to establish ownership Provide technical support for delivery of titles for unregistered parcels Identify funding to defray title processing costs Increase the number of parcels of registered parcels of land 	MEGJC- LAMP	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓				

<p>2.24 Increase natural resource management through prevention and mitigation to strengthen sustainable livelihoods of the poor in areas vulnerable to natural disasters and climate change through river training; rehabilitation of watersheds; slope stabilization; provision of break water systems etc.</p> <p>2.25 Promote environmental friendly practices in farming and livelihood creation towards environmental preservation and poverty reduction.</p> <p>2.26 Promote healthy environmental practices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven Technical Papers prepared for the National Spatial Plan • Support to the finalization of the National Spatial Plan • Islandwide Consultation on the National Spatial Plan • Climate Change Focal Point Training • Climate Change Awareness Programme for Policy Makers and Government Ministries Focal Points Training Programme • Vulnerability/risk Assessments for 5 Priority Sectors: Water, Tourism, Health, Coastal Resources and Human Settlements • Vulnerability Assessment for 15 Communities; CCA/DDR Plans for the communities and Adaptation Plan for the Rio-Minho Watershed. • Check Dams Construction • Rehabilitation of Rainwater Ponds • Rainwater Harvesting Systems (Design, Installation and other works) • Vetiver Grass Nursery established • Live Barriers established • Agro-forestry Programme • Reforestation Programme • Aquaponics Systems • Construction of 3 Green/Shade-houses • Climate-proofed post-harvest storage and processing facility • Technical Assistance / Training provided to processing plant operators • Farmer Field Schools Programme (5) • Crop Resilience • Sediment Budget Monitoring Sites 	MEGJ- Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience	✓	Y			
			✓	Y			
			✓	Y			
			✓	Y			
			✓	Y			
			✓	Y			
			✓	N	✓		
				Y			
				Y			
				N	✓		
				N	✓		
				Y	✓		
				Y			
				Y			
				Y			
				Y			
				Y	✓		
				Y			
				N	✓		
				Y			
				Y			

2.27 Strengthen the incorporation of certification/standards acquisition and employment transition support (school-to-work) into training modules that target the poor, and other low income earners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and certification (BPO industries) customer engagement 	HEART/UTECH-(AVASANT)					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absorptive capacity • Implement BPO initiatives • Implement tertiary training 	JCTE					
2.28 Build the capacities of poor households to become independent of social assistance programmes, through strengthened case management, and the appropriate linkages, referrals as well as training and employment opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of two additional assessment centres. • Training for early childhood student teachers in detecting student disabilities 	MOEYI- The Child Find Project	✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor ongoing early identification assessment through the Early Stimulation Programme, Primary Health Care Facilities and Private Doctors across the island • Identify and monitor the implementation of the screening tools across Ministries • Provide support in the sensitization of EC Practitioners on the JSRA (Age 4 Assessment) • Conduct nutrition study (MoH desk review) for 0 – 3 year olds. • Conduct nutrition pilot for 0 – 3 year olds in ECIs • Develop service delivery model for 0-3 years. • Provide technical support and guidance in the rationalization process. • Identify ECIs in need of trained teachers and make recommendations for placement. • Manage the implementation of the HOPE strategy. • Conduct training with ECPs to address training needs. • Facilitate the preparation of ECI development plans 	Early Childhood Development Programme	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
			✓	N	✓		
			✓	N	✓		
			✓	Y	✓		
			✓				
			✓	N			
			✓	N			
			✓	N			
			✓	Y			
			✓	Y			
				Y			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the development of the ECD Policy. • Identify needs and provide support and guidance to ECIs.(Towards obtaining permits to operate) • Coordinate parenting and community activities with relevant sector partners (To strengthen early childhood services at the community level.) • Monitor the coordination of the implementation of parenting programme (What you do with baby matters) in 20% of the health centres and private physicians and generate reports 		✓	Y			
			✓	Y			
			✓	Y			
			✓	Y			
			✓	Y			
			✓	Y			
			✓				
				N			
			✓				

APPENDIX III: KEY ACTIONS: PROGRAMME AREA 3

Programme Area 3- Key Actions- Medium-term 2021-2024

NPRP Strategies	Actions	Implementing Agencies	2018-2021 MTP	Achieved Yes/No	2021-2024 MTP		
					Yr. 1	Yr. 2	Yr. 3
3.1 Provide training, education and re-socialization on cultural norms in areas such as: self-control, transfer of hope beyond circumstances, mind-set change, character building, overcoming limits and challenges, personal and civic responsibility as well as trust and relationship building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement mind-set development camps by invitation of high schools Training of teachers to assist guidance counsellors Mentoring training for school-based alumni and PTAs Community based healing camp programmes to restore family relationships – parents and children and spouses etc. Work with HEART Trust to do core values and attitude training (pilot) Virtual implementation of the C-YA Youth Programme in Jamaica 	IYF	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Y Y Y N N	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct parenting seminars for youth who are being treated for drug use – to improve parenting support and care to youth Children's drug court and drug court (Specific action needed here) Address criminal behaviour and mind-set (Specific action needed here) Sensitize the security forces about substance abuse as a community health issue – conduct training including at REDTRAC Training of Peer Educators as positive mentors – in schools that NCDA intervenes- island wide. 	NCDA	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Y Y Y Y	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct Qualitative enquiry to determine the impact of COVID-19 on secondary school students. • Increase public education and digitisation of prevention material. 			Y	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host at least 2 Empowerment Sessions per month in each parish. 	MOEYI Youth and Adolescent Policy Div.			✓	✓	✓
3.2 Provide training in anger management, mediation, and conflict resolution as well as personal and career development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement case management system to improve behaviour of youth • Improve employability and employment • Implement parenting programmes • Implement education enrichment initiatives 	CSJP III					
3.3 Create greater access to appropriate reproductive and mental health services and information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand Teen Hub to one per region offering screening services including mental health and STIs, and provide a “safe haven” for youth. • Strengthen the distribution of commodities 	MOH- Sexual and Reproductive Health – Teen Hub					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and Pilot Programme targeting the reduction of teen pregnancy 	NFPB					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host empowerment sessions focussed on Safer Sex Choices and Practices. • Offer support services and provide referrals for Teen Mothers. 	MOEYI Youth and Adolescent Policy Div. MOH					
3.4 Create greater access to appropriate reproductive and mental health services and information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen community mental health services including counselling for all age groups. • Increase number of mental health promotional activities in communities • Strengthen outreach activities to increase compliance with treatment. 	MOH- Mental Health Services					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the provision of on-site SRH services and commodities to 2 locations – Central (Manchester) and Western (Savanna la mar/Montego Bay) • Revive/Revise/Re-Introduce programme for adolescent fathers 	WCFJ	✓	N			
			✓	Y			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory screening for gender-based violence and postpartum depression • Complete the establishment of website to facilitate mobile service delivery • Introduce a systematic parenting course in the curriculum • Roll out a mentorship programme 		✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Y Y Y Y	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host empowerment sessions with Youth with the hope of providing referral services to appropriate health services. 	MOEYI Youth and Adolescent Policy Div.					
3.5 Provide training in anger management, mediation, and conflict resolution as well as personal and career development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide dispute resolution services to children ages 8-18 years • Implement School Suspension Intervention Programme • Conduct Mediation training and Training for Trainers (certify persons in mediation) • Peer mediation for students in schools, institutions and organizations • Host expos, community walk through, make presentations at schools. • Make further referrals to relevant agencies like CISOCA, CDA etc. • Conduct parent child interventions. • Train 500 JPs as Mediators annually island-wide to provide conflict resolution services in their communities and to alleviate pressure in Parish and Petty Sessions Courts. 	DRF					
3.6 Encourage and facilitate positive mentorship and training in soft skills and entrepreneurship.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a centre for developing Social Solutions – team government agencies with UTECH as coordinator and service provider (More specific action needed) • Implement RESCUE – reaching at risk youth through partnerships with schools and communities – and then link them to existing programmes (More specific action needed) 	UTECH	✓ ✓	N N			
3.7 Promote education as a sustainable means of							

poverty reduction through partnerships with tertiary level institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct monthly empowerment sessions across YICs/ YAPs and secondary schools with a focus on career development. • Offer empowerment sessions and referrals to Youth to the relevant agencies • Strengthening and Administrative support to the Jamaica Union of Tertiary Students (JUTS). 	MOEYI Youth and Adolescent Policy Div.					
3.8 Provide financial education training and information for heads of households to change attitudes towards management of household resources and assist financial decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the National Financial Literacy Action Plan (under the National Financial Inclusion Strategy) 	MOFP/BOJ					
3.9 Implement participatory approaches that engage children and youth in the formulation and implementation of strategies to address issues affecting them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate and guide the implementation and sitting of the National Youth Parliament. 	MOEYI Youth and Adolescent Policy Div.					
3.10 Encourage and facilitate positive mentorship and training in soft skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to undergird personal development teachings introduced to youth during their initial two weeks with the programme 	HOPE/HEART NTA	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
3.11 Provide training for service providers to strengthen skills in transferring hope and influencing positive behaviour change 3.12 Provide training to improve service provision, efficiency in service delivery and encourage partnership and linkages to promote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create partnerships with training institutions to offer training to MDAs • Implement and monitor training exercises 	PIOJ/PRCU		N N			

the wellbeing of clients in poverty							
3.13 Provide training and support services in transformative parenting, coping strategies, and management of family dynamics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminate parenting information Undertake training on best practises in child development Guide communication strategy for parents Provide psycho-social support through therapeutic counselling services. 	National Parenting Support Commission					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host monthly empowerment sessions focusing on life skills/ coping mechanisms and stress management techniques. 	MOEYI Youth and Adolescent Policy Div.					

APPENDIX IV: KEY ACTIONS: PROGRAMME AREA 4

NPRP Strategies	Actions	Implementing Agencies	2018-2021 MTP	Achieved Yes/No	MTP 2021-2024		
					Yr. 1	Yr. 2	Yr. 3
4.1 Provide and facilitate equitable access to basic public infrastructure such as water, sanitation and solid waste disposal, electricity, schools, healthcare and other public facilities and services, in rural and urban communities. The minimum available access should be in keeping with the specified social protection floor.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement 22 infrastructure projects; expansion & rehabilitation to health centres, police stations, primary school facilities. 	JSIF/PRP IV	✓	N	✓		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve service delivery to poor households that have children with disabilities Construction of assessment centres Construction classrooms at 7 schools 	MLSS/ISPL			✓		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve community waste disposal systems Upgrade water & sanitation systems Improve schools Provision of electricity 	JSIF/ICDP	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Y	✓		

4.2 Increase access to potable water and sanitation connections in dwellings							
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving water sanitation systems Upgrade primary schools 	JSIF/BNTF	✓ ✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rehabilitating community infrastructure 	MEGJC- MIDP					
4.3 Increase access to electricity in rural areas and electricity regularization in urban areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of electricity to rural communities Regularisation of electricity supplies in the Zones of Special Operations (ZOSO) Provision of solar power for community access points 	NESOL					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish pole line infrastructure, street lighting, vocational training 	NESOL/SILC					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land tenure regularisation and supporting infrastructure under PSUP 	MEGJC/UN Habitat					
4.4 Increase access to potable water and sanitation connections in dwellings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide access to potable water and improve schools ability to restore water Graduate schools to water closets (from pit latrines) Improve schools resilience to drought 	MEGJC/ Municipal Corporations					
4.5 Facilitate access to affordable housing solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan and implement infrastructure works for 2535 lots (road, water, sewage, drainage, electricity) 	HAI					
4.6 Increase access to potable water and sanitation connections in dwellings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrading informal settlements/ provide housing solutions in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Luana Gardens in St Elizabeth Belair 3 in St Ann Reach Pen in St Catherine Green Pond in St James Bernard Lodge in St Catherine White Hall in Westmoreland Tower Hill in St Andrew Grange Pen in St James 						

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess family needs and connecting household to services through supportive services interventions 						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide concrete housing units Provide houses for indigent persons based on request 	MEGJC/HOPE					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform policy decisions & implementation activities for provision of housing, infrastructure needs in low income/ informal communities 	MEGJC/ Socio Economic Surveys					
4.7 Ensure that basic amenities, public services and facilities are accessible to the poor, whether by means of targeted or universal interventions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build 24 appropriate structures for early childhood intuitions in communities serving the poor 	Food for the Poor	✓	Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build on average 60 homes per month for the poorest of the poor at the lowest cost possible. 		✓	Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide 1200 concrete housing units per year. 		✓	Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide houses for indigent persons based on request. 		✓	Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build 36 structures to improve the development of communities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-purpose buildings (stand-alone kitchens, dining areas, libraries, etc.) Additional classrooms Construction of clinics Water Harvesting 		✓	Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement parish plans to increase access to water supply 	NWC					
4.8 Improve road and water infrastructure at the local level (including farm roads and irrigation systems)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and build irrigation system in Essex Valley, Manchester/ St Elizabeth Expand irrigation systems in Downs Valley and Flagman in St Elizabeth 	NIC					
4.9 Institutionalize systems for the care and maintenance of public community infrastructure and promote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide access to potable water (More specific action needed) 	Local Authorities					

community responsibility among citizens in poor rural communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance of community infrastructure(More specific action needed) 						
4.10 Include training component in government short-term public-works programmes (Trabajo Peru and Lift-Up Jamaica are examples of such model)	Provide vocational training to persons in communities served by NESOL.	MSTEM NESOL/SILC	-				

APPENDIX V: KEY ACTIONS: PROGRAMME AREA 5

NPRP Strategies	Actions	Implementing Agencies	2018-2021 MTP	Achieved Yes/No	2021-2024 MTP		
					Yr. 1	Yr. 2	Yr. 3
5.1 As part of the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, identify clear targets and roles for stakeholder involvement, including the Private Sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete target setting for NPRP through participatory processes. Complete Monitoring and Evaluation Framework Implement monitoring and evaluation plan 	PIOJ-PRCU	✓	N	✓	✓	✓
5.2 Develop communication and monitoring systems and schedules for various stakeholders, actively promoting information and data sharing, and networking among relevant organizations implementing programmes under each medium-term framework.			✓	N	✓	✓	✓
			✓	N	✓	✓	✓
5.3 Establish a Registry of national poverty reduction programmes/service providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and operationalize registry Train partners to use registry Monitor, update and maintain registry 	PIOJ-PRCU/ISU	✓	N	✓	✓	✓
				N	✓	✓	✓
				N	✓	✓	✓

5.4 Assess the M&E gaps in key programmes and provide training (and follow-up evaluation of application of knowledge) in M&E towards the development and strengthening of M&E systems of relevant programmes and organizations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess current programme monitoring systems Develop proposal to provide linkages into that of the NPRP through participatory process Perform users training Design and produce periodic output inclusive of reports on the progress of the NPRP. 	PIOJ-PRCU, CRP		N	✓	✓	✓
				N	✓	✓	✓
				N	✓	✓	✓
				Y	✓	✓	✓
5.5 Expand capacity development training and provision of resources to enhance service provision in: life-skill training, psychosocial training, parenting, crime and violence prevention and intervention (including domestic violence), and reproductive health awareness and responsibility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop training plan and organize training activities for programme partners. Assess M&E gaps in key agencies implementing poverty reduction programmes. Facilitate training of M&E staff 	PIOJ-PRCU, CRP		Y	✓	✓	✓
				Y	✓	✓	✓
				Y			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leverage multiple sources of grant/other financing and technical assistance to support preparation and implementation of community projects in CRP communities 	CRP	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
5.6 Inter-sectoral collaboration within government to support and streamline selected programmes provided by NGOs, CBOs and FBOs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess programmes currently being executed by NGOs, CBOs and FBOs to identify key points for streaming. 	PIOJ- PRCU, CRP	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create proposal for streamlining • Facilitate process of streamlining 						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify programmatic synergies and leverage points • Work with partners, community governance structures and other selected stakeholders to identify and implement interventions with long run transformative potential in the most volatile and vulnerable communities 	CRP	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
5.7 Facilitate the streamlining and provision of services by the Private Sector and Private Sector Foundations at the community level in various areas, towards poverty reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess and document the work of private Foundations • Document proposal for streamlining • Facilitate execution of the proposed streamlining activities 	PIOJ- PRCU			✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate multi-sectoral partnerships targeting the poor and most vulnerable communities 	CRP	✓	Y	✓	✓	✓
5.8 Develop and implement structured and objective systems of targeting beneficiaries for poverty programmes across government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate consensus among users regarding the use and format of targeting systems • Identify and execute consultancy to develop/ enhance targeting systems • Facilitate implementation of targeting systems 	PIOJ- PRCU		N			

APPENDIX VI: TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE NPRPC - NATIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION PROGRAMME

PLANNING INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA

Terms of Reference National Poverty Reduction Programme Committee (NPRPC)

1.0 Background and Purpose

1.1 Jamaica uses an absolute measure of poverty represented by a poverty line. The poverty line indicates the minimum level of consumption needed to maintain the lowest acceptable standard of living. The calculation of the poverty line involves the costing of a basket of basic food and non-food items. The food poverty line is defined by the costing of the food portion of the minimum basket. Persons whose consumption is at or below the poverty line are considered to be in absolute poverty whilst those who consume below the food poverty line are considered to be in extreme poverty.

1.2 Based on the latest available data, the national poverty prevalence in 2015 was 21.2 per cent, with food poverty being 6.9 per cent (Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions, JSLC, 2015). As indicated in the Situational Analysis of the National Policy on Poverty and National Poverty Reduction Programme (September 2017) Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions (JSLC) data there has been an upward trend in the prevalence, depth and severity of poverty in Jamaica since 2008. This is consistent across geographical areas, sex and age groups. For the years 2013 and 2014, the national poverty prevalence was 24.6 percent and 20.0 percent respectively, while the food poverty rates were 10.4 per cent and 8 per cent respectively.

1.3. The Situational Analysis of the Policy and Programme document also indicated that in 2012 the national poverty prevalence was 19.9 per cent, and another 4.2 per cent of the population were vulnerable to falling into poverty, that is, consuming within 10.0 per cent above the poverty line. The prevalence of poverty is slightly higher among males than females. However, a higher

proportion of female headed households is poor. The proportion of children in poverty, (25.0 per cent), is consistently higher than the working age adults (17.8 per cent) and the elderly (14.5 per cent). For the year 2015, the prevalence of poverty among the Prime Working Age 35-59 was 16.6 per cent, Young Adult (25-34), 17.0 per cent and the Elderly was 14.6 per cent (JSLC 2015, Table 2.9). Children in female-headed single parent households are more vulnerable to poverty because of the lower per capita consumption due to larger household size as well as discrimination in employment and wages and less access to resources.

Among the main determinants of poverty in Jamaica are low educational attainment levels, low income earning capability, inability to access basic social services, lack of economic opportunities leading to underemployment, unemployment and low wage employment.

1.4 The National Policy on Poverty and National Poverty Reduction Programme was approved by the Government of Jamaica in September 2017. The policy and programme together constitute a responsive instrument of the Government of Jamaica to the need to institute a systematic and accountable framework to implement, coordinate, and monitor measures to address poverty and vulnerability. Goal 1 of the policy is the eradication of extreme (food) poverty by 2022, while Goal 2 is the reduction of the national poverty prevalence significantly below 10 per cent by 2030. These policy goals are in keeping with Goal 1 of the Agenda 2030: Sustainable Development Goals – End Poverty in all its forms everywhere.

1.5 The National Policy on Poverty provides a holistic and integrated framework that:

- i. Outlines the Government’s prioritization of the issue of poverty.
- ii. Outlines the fundamental principles, strategies, and approaches towards poverty reduction.
- iii. Provides a locus of responsibility for coordinating the National Poverty Reduction Programme.
- iv. Emphasizes improved coordination, integration, collaboration, and efficiencies among poverty reduction programmes.
- v. Provides a credible and responsive mechanism to positively and directly influence the poverty prevalence.

- vi. Identifies key focus areas and target groups for prioritization within a Medium-Term Programme.
- vii. Provides the basis for resource mobilization for poverty programmes.
- viii. Provides a structured and coordinated approach to monitoring and evaluation of poverty reduction interventions.

1.6 The policy has seven thematic areas and related objectives from which the strategies emanate. The thematic areas and objectives of the National Policy on Poverty are:

Thematic Area 1: Social Safety Nets

Objective 1: Strengthen social safety nets to address extreme poverty-induced deprivations (including hunger).

Thematic Area 2: Human Capital Development

Objective 2: Promote and expand human capital development among the poor and vulnerable (including children and persons with disabilities) towards self-actualization.

Thematic Area 3: Livelihood Creation and Income Security

Objective 3: Enhance income security among the poor and vulnerable.

Thematic Area 4: Food and Nutrition Security

Objective 4: Enhance food and nutrition security of the poor.

Thematic Area 5: Basic Social and Physical Infrastructure

Objective 5: Strengthen basic social and physical infrastructure within poor rural and urban communities.

Thematic Area 6: Psychosocial, Cultural, and Normative Advancement

Objective 6: Address psychosocial, cultural and normative influences on poverty.

Thematic Area 7: Coordination and Capacity Building.

Objective 7: Strengthen coordination and capacity building among key stakeholders for poverty reduction.

1.7 The National Poverty Reduction Programme (NPRP) is strategically geared towards positively impacting the standard of living of the poor and is aligned to the Vision 2030 Jamaica, the Jamaica Social Protection Strategy (2014), and the Agenda 2030: Sustainable Development Goals. It is intended to contribute to the realization of the national policy goals contained in the National Policy on Poverty and National Poverty Reduction Programme document. The NPRP has five components: Addressing Extreme Poverty and Basic Needs; Economic Empowerment and Human

Capital Development; Psychosocial Cultural and Normative Advancement; Basic Community Infrastructure; and Institutional Strengthening. A set of related strategies and actions are detailed under each component to fulfil specific related policy objectives. Some forty-six (46) programmes have been identified for inclusion in the first medium-term cycle through which a range of strategies will be implemented targeting the following groups: Destitute/Vulnerable Persons; Persons Facing Food Poverty; Persons with Disabilities; Pregnant and Lactating Women; Unemployed and Unskilled; Working Poor; Small Producers and Small Entrepreneurs; Youth; Children; Parents; and Service Providers.

1.8 The target groups were determined by a number of criteria including the extent to which the individuals or groups are impacted by poverty; the multiplier effect on consumption of addressing the socio-economic needs of certain individuals or group/s; the integrated and multi-dimensional approach to poverty reduction policy and programme to achieve sustainable outcomes; the direct impact on household consumption; and ability to mitigate and break the inter-generational cycle of poverty.

1.9 The approach to the implementation of the NPRP is that of providing a focal point for coordinating, linking and streamlining existing poverty-related programmes currently being implemented by various Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and partnering non-government entities. The purpose is to effectively use available resources and capacities to achieve improved targeting outcomes, better programme coverage, strengthen programme delivery, and more efficient use of resources. The National Programme will therefore guide, support, and monitor programme outcomes. The medium-term cycle of the NPRP will align to the Medium-term Socioeconomic Framework of Vision 2030 Jamaica.

1.10 The Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit (PRCU) within the Planning Institute of Jamaica was established in December 2013 to provide technical and secretariat support for the related medium-term poverty reduction programmes on behalf of the GOJ. Recognizing that poverty is a multidimensional and crosscutting development issue, the PRCU therefore supports the work of MDAs, the private sector and NGOs involved in poverty reduction. In addition, conducting research, preparing, monitoring and evaluating each medium-term programme, the Unit will

conduct institutional strengthening activities, forge partnerships to strengthen programme implementation and make recommendations to the Government of Jamaica on key actions to strengthen and enable efficient programme delivery to achieve the goals of poverty reduction.

1.11 The National Social Protection Committee (NSPC), for which the PIOJ has oversight, is the institutional structure for monitoring Social Protection and the implementation of the Social Protection Strategy (SPS). The NSPC has policy level oversight of poverty reduction, and will therefore receive input from the National Poverty Reduction Programme Committee (NPRPC), while providing general direction for poverty reduction programming. The Poverty reduction Coordinating Unit will provide period updates to the NSPC to include policy level issues impacting the work of poverty reduction.

1.12 The NPRPC will be established as the main body for monitoring the implementation of the programme at the national level. This multi-sectoral committee will be comprised of relevant organizations implementing and supporting the National Poverty Reduction Programme. Appendix 1 details the proposed composition of the NPRPC for the first medium-term poverty reduction programme.

2.0 Scope of Work

2.1 The functions of the National Poverty Reduction Programme Committee will include, inter alia:

- i. Facilitating ongoing alignment of the National Poverty Reduction Programme with Vision 2030 Jamaica and the Sustainable Development Goals.
- ii. Ensuring the development of the medium-term National Poverty Reduction Programmes.
- iii. Ensuring the timely implementation the medium-term Poverty Reduction Programme (including Action Plan and M&E Framework).
- iv. Monitoring implementation progress of the National Poverty Reduction Programmes.
- v. Identifying aspects for collaboration, dialogue and partnerships towards strengthening programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- vi. Identifying policy-level issues to be brought to the attention of the National Social Protection Committee (NSPC), and make recommendations, as may be appropriate.
- vii. Facilitating and promoting data and information sharing among key stakeholders.

- viii. Facilitating the submission of data and information towards the M&E Framework for the National Poverty Reduction Programme.
- ix. Providing input to the execution of mid-term and final evaluation of the medium-term poverty programmes.
- x. Facilitating institutional and programmatic strengthening of MDAs and select non-government organizations for implementation of the National Poverty Reduction Programme.

3.0 Composition and Participation

3.1 The NPRPC shall consist of programme heads (directors/managers) of Government Ministries Departments and Agencies implementing programmes under each medium-term cycle, as well as select programme partners from private sector organizations and non-government organizations (NGOs, CBOs and FBOs). The NPRPC may establish relevant sub-committees, for specific purposes, and invite the occasional participation of non-members as required.

Appendix 1 includes the member organizations that will be represented on the NPRPC for the first medium-term programme (2018-2021).

4.0 Procedures:

4.1 Chairmanship:

The NPRPC will be chaired by the Director of the Social Policy Planning and Research Division of the PIOJ or his/her designate.

4.2 Meetings

The NPRPC will meet on a bi-monthly basis, or more frequently initially. Ad hoc meetings may be called to respond to issues in implementation of the NPRP.

4.3 Term Duration

The NPRPC will function over the entire implementation period of the National Poverty Reduction Programme, up to 2030, however the composition will be guided by the slate of programmes to be implemented and monitored under each Medium-term National Poverty Reduction Programme, and as such will be revisited with each cycle. The term of each participating entity will also be revised at the end of each medium-term cycle, which is typically every 3 years.

5.0 Technical and Secretariat Support

5.1 The PIOJ is the national focal point for poverty reduction coordination and will provide secretariat support to the NPRPC. The PIOJ will provide the committee with data to guide the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation process, as part of its monitoring function. The PRCU will execute all secretariat functions of the NPRPC, including technical advice, record keeping, preparation of meeting reports, attendance records, terms of reference, agendas, papers and documents, as well as the participatory preparation of progress reports on the implementation of the National Poverty Reduction Programme.

5.2 The PRCU will prepare policy papers, Cabinet Notes and Submissions as required through the internal mechanisms of the PIOJ, and the ministry with responsibility for planning, currently, the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation.

6.0 Decision-making

6.1 The quorum to take decisions shall comprise 50 per cent plus one of the member organizations, inclusive of the PIOJ.

6.2 Decisions of the NPRPC will be determined by majority vote (inclusive of the Chair's). In the event that there is a split vote the Director General, PIOJ, has the deciding vote.

**APPENDIX VII: PROPOSED COMPOSITION OF THE NATIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION
PROGRAMME COMMITTEE (NPRPC) - FIRST MEDIUM-TERM NATIONAL POVERTY REDUCTION
PROGRAMME**

NAME OF AGENCY	PROGRAMME/ INITIATIVE
GOVERNMENT	
Development Bank of Jamaica	Grants and Loans to MSMEs
HEART Trust/NTA	MSME Support Programme
	NVQJ Certification Programme
Jamaica Business Development Corporation	Business Support to MSMEs/ Business Incubator Programme
Jamaica Council for Persons with Disabilities	Economic Empowerment Grant Programme
Jamaica Social Investment Fund	Poverty Reduction Programme IV
	Basic Needs Trust Fund VIII
	Integrated Community Development Project
Micro Investment Development Agency (MIDA)	MSME loans and Formalization Programme
Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport	Representative
Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation	Pilot Programme For Climate Resilience II
	Land Administration and Management Programme
Ministry of Education, Youth and Information	School Feeding Programme
	Career Advancement Programme
	Early Childhood Education Programme
	Youth Programmes
	Child Services Division
Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	Social Projects Representative
Ministry of Health	Sexual and Reproductive Health Services
	Mental Health Services
	Primary Healthcare Services
Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries	Agro-Tourism /Farmers' Market (in partnership with Jamaica Tourist Board/Tourism Enhancement Fund), Agro Parks
Ministry of Labour and Social Security	Economic Empowerment Grant Programme
	Steps To Work
	Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH)
	Public Assistance
Ministry of Local Government and Community Development	Parish Council Maintenance Programmes
	Poor Relief Programme and Homelessness Programme
	Public Works Programme (Local Authority)
National Council For Senior Citizens	Meals on Wheels
	Seniors Entrepreneurship Programme
	Grandparents Programme
National Irrigation Commission	Irrigation Programme for Agriculture
National Parenting Support Commission	Early Childhood Development Programmes
Office of the Prime Minister	Housing Opportunity Prosperity Employment Programme (HOPE)
	Water, Works and Housing(Representative)

Planning Institute of Jamaica	<p><i>Programmes:</i> Community Renewal Programme GOJ Adaptation Fund Project</p> <p><i>Technical Expertise:</i> Social Policy Planning and Research (Chairmanship) Poverty Reduction Coordination Social Protection and Gender Human and Community Development Population and Health Unit Economic Planning and Research Sustainable Development and Regional Planning</p>
Rural Agricultural Development Agency (RADA)	<p>Extension Services</p> <p>Social Services and Home Economic Programme</p>
Social Development Commission	<p>Local Economic Development Support Programme</p> <p>Governance Programme</p>
Women's Centre of Jamaica Foundation	Supporting Continuing Education of Adolescent Mothers
NON-GOVERNMENT PARTNERS	
Abilities Foundation	Skills Training and Certification for Persons with Disabilities
Food for the Poor	Food Supply Programme, Housing Programme, Fishing Village Programme
International Youth Fellowship	Youth Development, Parenting and Mentorship Programmes.
JN Foundation	Social Enterprise/Entrepreneurship (Representative)
University of Technology	Representative
University of the West Indies	Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work (Representative)

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Academic Underachievement	Underachievement is defined as a discrepancy between a child's school performance and his or her actual ability
Apprenticeship	The Apprenticeship Act (1955) defines the term as an order made in context of a contractual employment of a person guided by the provisions of section 5 of the Act for instruction and training, minimum wages, leave benefits inter alia. <i>(Section 5 page 5)</i>
Approved Financial Institutions	Banks or credit unions that have been approved to on-lend funds of a lending institution to their clients who become sub borrowers of the primary lending institution.
Climate Change	<i>Adopted from: http://dbankjm.com/services/loansthroughhafi/</i> Climate change refers to a change of climate that is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and that is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods (UNFCCC 1992)-
Climate Resilience	<i>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.</i> "Capacity of social, economic, and environmental systems to cope with a hazardous event or trend or disturbance, responding or reorganizing in ways that maintain their essential function, identity, and structure, while also maintaining the capacity for adaptation, learning, and transformation."
Conditional Cash transfer	<i>Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)</i> Conditional cash transfers (CCTs) are programs that transfer cash, generally to poor households, on the condition that those households make prespecified investments in the human capital of their children. Health and nutrition conditions generally require periodic checkups, growth monitoring, and vaccinations for children less than 5 years of age; perinatal care for mothers and attendance by mothers at periodic health information talks. Education conditions usually include school enrollment, attendance on 80–85 percent of school days, and occasionally some measure of performance.
Decent Work	<i>Conditional Cash Transfers, A World Bank Policy Research Report, 2009</i> Decent work sums up the aspirations of people in their working lives. It involves opportunities for work that is productive and delivers a fair income, security in the workplace and social protection for families, better prospects for personal development and social integration, freedom for people to express their concerns, organize and participate in the decisions

that affect their lives and equality of opportunity and treatment for all women and men.

Dependency Rate *International Labour Organization <https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/decent-work/lang--en/index.htm>*
The economic dependency ratio is the ratio of persons who are not working relative to those who are working. It, is calculated by dividing the dependent population (children, persons in the working age population not employed, and the elderly) by the employed population.

Destitution The state of being deprived of anything; state of being destitute; deprivation, extreme poverty, utter wants.

Disability *Board of Supervision Poor Relief Administration Human Services Handbook , 2018*
Disabilities is an umbrella term, covering impairments, activity limitations, and participation restrictions. An impairment is a problem in body function or structure; an activity limitation is a difficulty encountered by an individual in executing a task or action; while a participation restriction is a problem experienced by an individual in involvement in life situations. Disability is thus not just a health problem. It is a complex phenomenon, reflecting the interaction between features of a person's body and features of the society in which he or she lives.

Eradication (in relation to the policy goals) *<http://www.who.int/topics/disabilities/en/>*
Based on the World Bank target of poverty eradication by 2030, eradication refers to a prevalence of ≤ 3 percent

Extension Services *The World Bank Group Goals End Extreme Poverty And Promote Shared Prosperity pg. 11*
A set of support services offered by the Ministry of Agriculture to farmers to improve agricultural output and includes use of technology, training, and information services.

Food and Nutrition Security "Food security is achieved, if adequate food (quantity, quality, safety, socio-cultural acceptability) is available and accessible for and satisfactorily utilized by all Individuals at all times to live a healthy and happy life."

Food Poor *FAO The Four Dimensions of Food and Nutrition Security: Definitions and Concepts (2000)*
Also classifies as the extreme poor, the food poor are below the poverty line. The food poverty line is determined by excluding the non-food component of the standard poverty line [and is expressed as a monetary value].

Homelessness *JSLC 2012 pg. 2.9*
" a person is considered homeless when he or she resides in a place not meant for human habitation such as cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings and on the street' In an emergency shelter In a transitional and

supportive housing for homeless persons who originally came from the streets or emergency shelter.”

Human Capital

MLGCD, Committee for the Homeless. Ending Chronic Homelessness In Jamaica

The knowledge, skills, competencies and attributes embodied in individuals that facilitate the creation of personal, social and economic well-being.

Income Security

OECD, <https://www.oecd.org/insights/37967294.pdf>

Income security is about the level of income (absolute and relative to needs), assurance of receipt, expectation of income adequacy now and improvement or deterioration in the future, both during a person’s working life and in old age or disability retirement. Income security is about actual, perceived and expected income.

Indigent Inequality

<http://www.ilo.org/sesame/SESHELP.NoteISI>

Inequality is a broader concept than poverty in that it is defined over the entire population, not just for the portion of the population below a certain poverty line. Most inequality measures do not depend on the mean of the distribution; this property of mean independence is considered to be a desirable feature of an inequality measure. Of course, inequality measures are often calculated for distributions other than expenditure – for instance, for income, land, assets, tax payments, and many other continuous and cardinal variables.

The simplest way to measure inequality is by dividing the population into fifths (quintiles) from poorest to richest, and reporting the levels or proportions of income (or expenditure) that accrue to each level.

*World Bank. Poverty and Inequality handbook. Pg. 103.
http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTPA/Resources/429966-1259774805724/Poverty_Inequality_Handbook_Ch06.pdf*

Inflation Rate Informal Settlement

Informal settlements are:

1. areas where groups of housing units have been constructed on land that the occupants have no legal claim to, or occupy illegally;
2. unplanned settlements and areas where housing is not in compliance with current planning and building regulations (unauthorized housing).

*Glossary of Environment Statistics, Studies in Methods, Series F, No. 67, United Nations, New York, 1997.
<https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=1351>*

Intergenerational Cycle of Poverty

Continuation of poverty across generations influenced by the socioeconomic status and culture of the household that limits meaningful participation in interventions that seek to change outcomes on specific social indicators such as education and health particularly fertility.

Labour Force	Economically active persons, age 14 years and over, including the armed forces and unemployed, but excluding housewives, students and other economically inactive groups.
Micro Small and Medium Sized Enterprises	<p><i>ESSJ 2017, pg. 453</i></p> <p>In Jamaica firms are categorized based on the number of employees and total annual sales. Micro enterprises have ≤ 5 employees and annual turnover of \leqJ\$10 million; Small enterprises have 6 – 20 employees and annual sales of $>$\$10 million \leq J\$50 million while medium-sized enterprises have 21 – 50 employees and annual turnover of $>$J\$50 million \leqJ\$150 million.</p>
Micro-finance	<p><i>MICAF. MSME and Entrepreneurship Policy 2013, pg. 18.</i></p> <p>Microfinance is a relationship-based lending methodology geared specifically towards microenterprises. Microfinance lending methodologies are based on information rather than collateral and emphasize personal contact rather than detailed documentation.</p>
Minimum Wage	<p><i>BOJ, Nov 2012. Financing the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Sector in Jamaica: Constraints and Prospects for Leasing, Factoring and Microfinance pg. 10-11</i></p> <p>“the minimum amount of remuneration that an employer is required to pay wage earners for the work performed during a given period, which cannot be reduced by collective agreement or an individual contract”.</p>
Private Poverty Productive Inclusion	<p><i>ILO. https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/wages/minimum-wages/definition/WCMS_439072/lang--en/index.htm</i></p> <p>Productive inclusion programs provide an integrated package of services, such as grants and training, to promote self-employment and wage employment among the poor.</p>
Psychosocial	<p><i>Jamele Rigolini World Bank, USA, and IZA, Germany. What can be expected from productive inclusion programs?</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Psychosocial wellbeing as involving people’s relationships, feelings, behavior and development. 2. Children's psychosocial development is defined as: changes in cognition, emotion, spirituality and social relations mediated by socialization processes.
Registered Poor	<p><i>1. World Bank Open Knowledge Repository. Social Development Notes. Conflict Prevention and Reconstruction No. 13, October 2003</i></p> <p><i>2. UNICEF. Protecting Social Development. https://www.unicef.org/french/protection/files/Tech_Notes_chap_14_Psychosocial_Dev.pdf</i></p> <p>Persons experiencing poverty who are registered on the Poor Relief Rolls of the Board of Supervision and receive benefits through the Poor Relief Programme.</p>

Small Producer

“..an agricultural holding run by a family using mostly (or only) their own labour and deriving from that work a large but variable share of its income, in kind or in cash. The family relies on its agricultural activities for at least part of the food consumed – be it through self-provision, non-monetary exchanges or market exchanges. The family members also engage in activities other than farming, locally or through migration. The holding relies on family labour with limited reliance on temporary hired labour, but may be engaged in labour exchanges within the neighbourhood or a wider kinship framework”.

FAO Statistics Division Working Paper Series June 2017 DEFINING SMALL SCALE FOOD PRODUCERS TO MONITOR TARGET 2.3. OF THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT pg. 8
ESS / 17-12 <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i6858e.pdf>

Social Assistance

Social assistance benefits are transfers made by government units or NPIs to households intended to meet the same kinds of needs as social insurance benefits but are provided outside of an organised social insurance scheme and are not conditional on previous payments of contributions.

OECD. Glossary of Statistical Terms. <https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=2477>

Non-Contributory programmes or provisions in cash or kind to needy persons or groups.

JSLC, 2012, pg. 92

Social Cohesion

Social cohesion is a state of affairs in which a group of people (delineated by a geographical region, like a country) demonstrate an aptitude for collaboration that produces a climate for change.

Jo Ritzen Vice President for Development Policy The World Bank, Michael Woolcock Social Scientist, Development Research Group, The World Bank
SOCIAL COHESION, PUBLIC POLICY, AND ECONOMIC GROWTH: IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION
Address prepared for the Annual Bank Conference on Development Economics (Europe) Paris, June 26-28, 2000
Pg. 9

Social Enterprise

A Social Enterprise is a business whose mission is to solve social, economic or environmental problems at the community and/or national level through effective and ethical business practices with the reinvestment of profits to the social mission.

Jamaica MSME and Entrepreneurship Policy, Updated 2017.

Social Pension

Social Protection

Social Protection is the set of provisions that employ public and private initiatives, guided by the state policies, to prevent, address, and reduce risks of poverty and vulnerability brought about by lack of, losses or interruptions in income. Its objective is to ensure living standards above specified levels, through effective social, economic and labour market policies that support income security across the life span.

Jamaica Social Protection Strategy, 2014. Pg. 42

Social Protection Floor	<p>The Social Protection Floor includes guarantees of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Basic income security, in the form of various social transfers (in cash or in kind), such as pensions for the elderly and persons with disabilities, child benefits, income support benefits and/or employment guarantees and services for the unemployed and working poor; Universal access to essential and affordable social services in the areas of health, water and sanitation, education, food security, housing, and others defined according to national priorities.
Social Safety nets	<p><i>Jamaica Social Protection Strategy, 2014. Pg. 26</i> Provision of immediate, targeted assistance in response to dire need.</p>
Social Transfers	<p><i>Jamaica Social Protection Strategy 2014, pg 21</i> Social transfers in kind consist of individual goods and services provided as transfers in kind to individual households by government units (including social security funds) and non-profit institutions serving households (NPISHs), whether purchased on the market or produced as non- market output by government units or NPISHs.</p> <p><i>OECD Glossary of Statistical Terms. https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=2498</i></p>
Turfism Unattachment	<p>Territoriality “Mapping unattached youth in Jamaica’</p>
Unemployment	<p>The ILO definition of unemployment refers to persons without work for pay or profit, who are seeking and available to start working for pay or profit in specified reference periods.</p>
Vulnerable	<p><i>https://www.ilo.org/global/statistics-and-databases/statistics-overview-and-topics/WCMS_470304/lang--en/index.htm</i> (To poverty)- Within 10 per cent above the poverty line</p> <p><i>JSLC 2012, 2.9</i></p>

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Web Resources

Ministry of Labour and Social Security
Rural Agricultural Development Authority
Ministry of Youth and Culture
National Youth Service
Jamaica Agricultural Society