



NATIONAL REVIEW



PITONS MANAGEMENT AREA RETAINS WORLD HERITAGE STATUS

The Pitons Management Area (PMA) was granted the status of a World Heritage Site on June 30th, during the 28th Session of the World Heritage Centre in Suzhou, China. The attainment of such prestigious international recognition was both an honor and privilege for our small island. The Pitons Management Area comprises a total of 2,909 hectares, just less than 5% of the total landmass of the island. The site is Multiple Use area comprising activities related to tourism, residential and fishing uses.

The site is mainly terrestrial but includes part of the SMMA, which contains an impressive diversity of marine features and life. This includes 60% coral reef cover, 168 finfish species. The dominant terrestrial vegetation is tropical moist forest. There are also stands of subtropical wet forest and smaller areas of dry forest and wet elfin woodlands at the summit of the pitons. There is a total of 245 plant species on gros and pitit pitons (8 are rare species). There are 27 bird species (5 of which are endemics).

The status of a World Heritage Site was conferred on the basis of natural Criterion I (Outstanding examples representing major stages of Earth's history) and Criterion III (Superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural beauty and

aesthetic importance) of the World Heritage Operational Guidelines. In accepting the status of World Heritage designation for the PMA, Saint Lucia was committing itself to the management of a site which had now become part of the collective patrimony of mankind. This commitment however also placed major challenges to our nation as Small Island Developing State (SIDS) manage the intricate balance between conservation concerns and economic imperatives. This was particularly acute in relation to the PMA given the history of the site as an integrated/multiple use and complex area.

It must be noted that The Government of St. Lucia became a signatory of the convention on October 14th, 1991. In recent times the PMA has attracted much attention as a result of infrastructural activity related to tourism and residential developments. These developments have sparked concerns that the Outstanding Universal Value of the site could be compromised. Following a recent investigative mission undertaken by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the agency which serves as an advisory body to the World Heritage Committee, the agency arrived at a determination to recommend that the PMA be placed on the list of World Heritage in Danger.

Following receipt of the IUCN report, it was decided that the Government of Saint Lucia should be

represented at the Ministerial level in order to allow the state to effectively respond to the report and to defend its policy stance. The meeting in Brasilia, Brasil was therefore attended by the Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Physical Development, Mr. Hildreth Lewis and the Minister Responsible, Hon. Richard Frederick. The Government of Saint Lucia through the Minister of Physical Development and his Deputy Permanent Secretary traveled to Brasilia well armed to present Saint Lucia's case and to defend the integrity of the PMA and our nation.

Prior to the making representation before the twenty (21) member World Heritage Committee, the Minister held several meetings with personnel of the IUCN on the Evaluation Report which was developed following the recent mission to Saint Lucia. During these meetings the Minister was able to present the concerns of Government with respect to the contents of the report. Following the meetings at which time the Minister made clear the intension of Government to vigorously critique the report, it was agreed by the IUCN that they would withdraw the intent stated by way of recommendation within their report to have the PMA placed on the list of World Heritage In Danger.

During the meeting Minister Frederick made a comprehensive presentation to the 34th Session of the World Heritage Committee.

Saint Lucia's presentation received widespread support from the over 200 Countries represented at the meeting. During his presentation, the Minister explained the challenges faced by Government and gave assurances of the Administration's commitment to protect the Outstanding Universal Value of the site and to safeguard the integrity of the Pitons Management Area as a World Heritage Site.

The main components of the World Heritage Committee's decision (34 COM 7B.39) in relation to the PMA included the following:

- A request for the State Party "to urgently place a moratorium on the creation of new lots and on the construction of all new residential and hotel development until such time that as new effective regulations are in place to determine if and where such developments could be permitted;"
- That the State Party immediately revise both the "Specific Guidelines" and "any relevant land use plans and development control regulations to ensure that development is strictly circumscribed in order to avoid any deterioration of the property's integrity, including in relation to aesthetic values. The draft planning and development control documents prepared to this end should be communicated to the World Heritage Centre prior to being formally adopted;"

• That the State Party should "carry out a comprehensive regional development and public use planning process focusing on achieving a consensual multi-stakeholder vision on conservation and economic development, with specific regard to the property's Outstanding Universal Value;"

• That the "State Party submits to the World heritage Centre, by February 1st, 2011, a report on the state of conservation of the property, focusing specifically on progress in halting existing development permits within the property and establishing an effective development control system, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 35th session in 2011."

The Minister was also able to negotiate an understanding for the IUCN to work closely with the Government in addressing the challenges of managing the Pitons Management Area as a World Heritage Site. The Government has also committed to consulting with the IUCN in reviewing development plans and management regimes for the site. We can all celebrate the fact that the PMA continues to uphold its status as a World Heritage Site and further to be reassured of Government's commitment to preserve that status.



NEMO Disaster Preparedness Feature - Hurricanes

A hurricane is a tropical cyclone in which the maximum average wind speed near a centre or eye exceeds 74 mph or 119 Km/h. The winds rotate in a counter-clockwise spiral around a region of low pressure. In the Atlantic and Eastern Pacific such systems are they are called HURRICANES. In the Western Pacific, including the Philippines - TYPHOONS, near Australia - WILLY WILLY and in the Indian Ocean - CYCLONES. The tropical cyclones are given names for easier identification and tracking.

Tropical cyclone is the generic term used by the World Meteorological Organization to define weather systems developing over tropical or subtropical waters in which winds exceed 34 knots or 63 km/h. Tropical cyclones also have a definite organized surface circulation.

Four conditions are necessary for the development of a tropical cyclone: (1) A warm sea temperature in excess of 26 degrees Celsius or 79 degrees Fahrenheit; (2) High relative humidity (degree to which air is saturated by water vapour); (3) Atmospheric instability and (4) A location of at least 4 - 5 latitude degrees from the Equator.

There are four phases of development which are linked to the associated wind intensities:

- (1) **Tropical Disturbance** - A weather system which gives rise to a specific area of cloudiness with embedded showers and thunderstorms.
- (2) **Tropical Depression** - A tropical cyclone system with definite counter-clockwise wind circulation with maximum sustained winds of less than 38 mph (61 km/h). At this stage the system is given a number.

(3) **Tropical Storm** - A tropical cyclone system, with maximum sustained surface winds greater than 38 mph (61 km/h), but less than 74 mph (119 km/h). At this stage the system is given a name.

(4) **Hurricane** - A tropical cyclone with wind speed greater than 74 mph (119 km/h). The weather system is now better organised and the eye is well defined.

Classification of Hurricanes

The Saffir Simpson Scale is used to classify Hurricanes according to intensity. In this scale, hurricanes are classified into one of five categories as shown below.

Likely Impact

Physical Damage - Structures will be damaged or destroyed by wind force, storm surges, landslides and flooding. Public utilities such as overhead power lines, water and gas distribution lines, bridges, culverts and drainage systems are also subject to severe damage. Fallen trees, wind driven rain and flying debris can also cause considerable damage.

Crops and Food Supplies - The combination of high winds and heavy rain and flooding can ruin crops and trees. Food stocks may be lost or contaminated and it is possible that food shortages will occur.

Casualties and Public Health - There are relatively few deaths associated with the impact of high winds. However, storm surges may cause many deaths but usually few injuries among survivors. The threat to public health emerges in the aftermath of events when conditions such as water contamination or shortages, flooding and



damage to sanitation facilities may favour the spread of diseases.

Lack of Communication - Communication may be severely disrupted as telephone lines, radio and television antennas and satellite disks are blown down. Roads and railway lines may be blocked by fallen trees or debris and air-

craft movements are curtailed for hours after a cyclone.

Emergency Action

Weather Warnings - Who Warns? - The Saint Lucia Meteorological Office issues the Warnings and they are publicized by the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) in association with the National Broadcast Media.

Advisories

Types of Advisories include:

- **Tropical Depression Advisory** - Provides information on the development and threat of a Tropical Depression which becomes a threat to land. The system is not named unless it is a Hurricane or Tropical Storm which has been down-graded to a Tropical Depression. Each new tropical depression is assigned a number, however.
- **Tropical Storm Advisory** - Issued when the wind speed

of a tropical cyclone reaches 39 mph (63 km/h) or higher. Tropical Storms are given names.

- **Hurricane Watch** - Advisory issued for a particular area when conditions are favourable for the development of a hurricane and there is a chance of it affecting a particular area within thirty-six to forty-eight (36-48) hours. It does not necessarily mean that a hurricane is imminent.
- **Hurricane Warning** - Issued when hurricane conditions are expected to affect a particular area within thirty-six (36) hours.

Hurricanes Names for 2010 Atlantic Hurricane Season

- Alex
- Bonnie
- Colin
- Danielle
- Earl
- Fiona
- Gaston
- Hermine
- Igor
- Julia
- Karl
- Lisa
- Matthew
- Nicole
- Otto
- Paula
- Richard
- Shary
- Tomas
- Virginie
- Walter

Saffir/Simpson Hurricane Scale					
Category	Central Pressure Mean (millibars)	Winds mph (km/h)	Surge (ft)	Damage	Example of a Storm
1	980 or more	74 - 95mph (119 - 151km/h)	4-5	Minimal	Anges 1972
2	965 - 979	96 - 110mph (152 - 176km/h)	6-8	Moderate	Kate 1965
3	945 - 964	111-130mph (177 - 209km/h)	9-12	Extensive	Elena 1985
4	920 - 944	131 - 155mph (210 - 248km/h)	13-18	Extreme	Hugo 1989
5	less than 920	more than 155mph (248km/h)	more than 18	Catastrophic	Gilbert 1988

2010 Atlantic Hurricane Season Forecast

Forecast Date	Tropical Storms	Hurricanes	Major Hurricanes
NOAA - May 27, 2010	14-23	8-14	3-7
Department of Atmospheric Science Colorado State University Forecast - June 2, 2010	15	8	4

Engineering for Climate Change in Saint Lucia - The Hurricane Scenario:

Second Workshop on Designing and Constructing for Increased Hurricane Wind Speeds from Climate Change



Photo showing the Marchand Community Centre prior to renovation and retrofitting

Climate change has absorbed the interest of scientists for decades and has now transcended the realm of scientific research to become the single greatest environmental, financial and political issue on the international stage. Over the last few years, global warming has been blamed for significant variations in weather patterns worldwide. In recent times, the Caribbean Islands and the southeastern coast of the United States have experienced storms and hurricanes of increasing intensity and this has been attributed by many to climate change. Indeed, it has been estimated that by 2025, there could be 3 to 4 Category 4 and 5 hurricanes per year in the Atlantic Basin, compared to the past long-term average of 1.4 Category 3 to 4 hurricanes per year in the Atlantic Basin. Category 4 and 5 hurricanes correspond to sustained winds of 131-155 miles per hour and more than 155 miles per hour, respectively.

Saint Lucia is one of three Caribbean countries participating in the Global Environment Facility (GEF)/World Bank-funded Special Programme on Adaptation to Climate Change (SPACC): Implementation of Adaptation Measures in Coastal Zones Project. This Project is being executed by the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) and the Sustainable Development and the Environment Section (SDES) of the Ministry of Physical Development and the Environ-



Second Workshop on Designing and Constructing for Increased Hurricane Wind Speeds from Climate Change

ment of Saint Lucia. The SPACC focuses on the implementation of select adaptation measures designed to address climate change impacts. One of Saint Lucia's sub-components is a pilot adaptation measure that seeks to demonstrate the design and implementation of measures to reinforce critical infrastructure against the effects of stronger hurricanes. The Project has provided for the appropriate scientific and engineering services to assess vulnerabilities and define priorities to allow, in this first instance, for the retrofitting of one specific building. The Marchand Community Centre, upon local consultation, has been selected as the building of choice for the demonstration of findings.

The ultimate goal of the Project, which gives due recognition of

the anticipated impacts of climate change, specifically increased severity of hurricanes, is the mainstreaming or institution of revised design hurricane wind speed standards, through, for example, the Development Control Authority (DCA) process, to facilitate enhanced designing, construction and retrofitting in Saint Lucia, for public and commercial buildings in the first instance.

In keeping with this goal, the SDES, on Wednesday, July 14, 2010, hosted a workshop at the Bay Gardens Inn in Rodney Bay, Gros Islet, entitled: Engineering for Climate Change in Saint Lucia -The Hurricane Wind Scenario. This was the second workshop on Designing and Constructing for Increased Hurricane Wind Speeds from Climate Change, the first having been conducted in

2008. This second workshop was for primarily for engineers, but also included architects, planners, building officers, contractors, technicians and others persons involved in construction.

In addition to the Chief Sustainable Development and Environment Officer, Mr. Crispin d'Auvergne; the workshop facilitator and main presenter, Mr. Egbert Louis; the SPACC National Coordinator, Mrs. Dawn Pierre-Nathoniell; and two other representatives from the SDES, a total of 38 participants from seventeen (17) organisations/firms attended the one-day workshop.

This was part of a wider process to make available and accessible, updated hurricane wind speed information that encompasses the anticipated impacts from climate change and, in so doing, help

to guide future building design standards and their application. In light of the devastating tropical storm and hurricane activity being experienced in the region, the benefits of designing and constructing hurricane-reinforced buildings are extensive and noteworthy. Indeed, according to the SPACC National Coordinator, Mrs. Pierre-Nathoniell, there was strong recommendation at the workshop for the adoption of Saint Lucia's Building Code as a means for allowing engineers and other relevant personnel in the Building sector to speak with a unified voice.

The Government of Saint Lucia is fully supportive of this initiative and is committed to providing the necessary policy support to facilitate the implementation of adaptation measures.

Saint Lucia Receives 4.8M Euros For ICT In Primary Schools

The main purpose of the programme is to improve the learning and teaching process in rural schools and provide the necessary skills to increase competitiveness in the job market through the employment of ICT

St. Lucia's Education Sector Development Plan seeks a national expansion of ICT in schools and specifically informed St. Lucia's Draft Policy for the Integration of ICT in the Education System. Moreover, it recognizes that ICT offers tremendous possibilities to enhance students' learning, developing teachers' professional capability and strengthening institutional capacity.

Further, the strategy builds on past and existing EU funded programmes, as well as programme funded by other donor partners, such as the World Bank-funded OECS Education Development Project and the EU-funded E-government Pilot project funded. The collective focus of these programmes is to create an enabling environment for greater income generation, a better quality of life, and sustainable livelihoods especially for rural communities.

This ICT in Rural Schools Programme comprises several key stakeholders which include: the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Economic Planning, Investment and National Development, Ministry of Social Transformation, Community-based Organizations (CBOs), and other rural service providers, institutions and agencies, including NGOs.

Programme beneficiaries include: Farmers, fishermen and their households, marginalized households, the private sector, civil society and other social groupings which are adversely affected by structural changes in the agricultural sector and the economy generally.

The Government of St. Lucia has committed itself to policies that broaden the use of ICT by both the public and private sectors. This comes out of a recognition of the potential benefits for fostering growth and development. It has been established from lessons in developing countries around the world that ICT is a critical component of modern development initiatives.

In particular, it has potential to serve as a catalyst for overcoming challenges faced by small open economies. This would in turn contribute to improving the competitiveness of traditional agriculture and in achieving diversification of the rural economy and thus poverty alleviation.

With all the perceived advantages of ICT and its introduction into schools, there exist factors which will hinder St. Lucia from reaping these benefits. Firstly, because this policy was only recently formulated, a large number of Saint Lucia's rural population have not acquired the skills needed to properly integrate them into St Lucia's growing service-oriented economy and to provide a means for improved competitiveness in traditional economic activities, such as agriculture.

This requires significantly more focus on strengthening community access to these programmes. These programmes cater to only certain sections of the labour force who want additional skills for the job market. Hence, the use of schools as centralised access locations to ICT will help to provide access to more persons in rural communities. This will create skills to enable them to access technologies that improve efficiency (e.g., in record keeping, planning etc.) and access to market information by farmers and rural agri-businesses, and access to modern services (e.g. internet banking, E-government, etc.). The proper use of ICT can provide rural families with improved opportunities for more efficient business and income generation.

Many students attending secondary schools in Saint Lucia, unlike their counterparts in developed countries with whom they must compete in the globalised world, have had no prior exposure to the use of computers for learning and in everyday life. This leaves them with a shorter timeframe to develop those skills once they reach the secondary school system or school leaving age. Those who do not become com-

puter-literate remain significantly unemployable. Only 20% of primary schools have computer laboratories limited to 15 to 25 units which are inadequate to meet the demands of these schools with average class sizes of 33 students.

Although there are ICT courses at secondary schools full integration of ICT into the curriculum has still not been achieved. To implement this aspect of the policy requires comprehensive curriculum reform at both primary and secondary school levels as well as the modernization of teaching and learning methods through the use of ICT.

The overall objective of the programme is to build the foundation for the sustainable economic, social and cultural development of rural communities in Saint Lucia through the introduction and integration of ICT.

The main purpose of the programme is to improve the learning and teaching process in rural schools and provide the necessary skills to increase competitiveness in the job market through the employment of ICT.

With respect to results from the implementation of the Programme, the following is anticipated:

1. Adoption of the education policy;
2. Reform of the curriculum to include integration of ICT;
3. Strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Education
4. Promote ICT as a tool in the enhancement of the teaching and learning process.
5. Create a more innovative and people-centered teaching and learning environment for school education; and
6. Encourage and develop linkages between schools and the surrounding community.

A number of deliberate activities have been outlined to enable the effective and efficient achievement of the results highlighted

above. These are listed below in relation to each of the four anticipated results:

Under Result 1

Activity 1.1: Review of Education Policy - The introduction of ICT at such a scale may have implications for the current draft education policy. A study will be conducted to update information on the use of ICT in the education system and within rural communities in general and to examine the relevance and impact of the current education policy and the regulatory framework for the use and dissemination of such technologies and make suitable recommendations and revisions.

Activity 1.2: Curriculum Reform - This activity will involve the provision of technical assistance for broad based revision of the curriculum in order to reinforce and mainstream ICT in the education system in a manner which is locally relevant and which reflects emerging needs in St Lucia.

Activity 1.3: Capacity-building for Ministry of Education - This will include the strengthening of the curriculum development unit and planning, evaluation and support units as well as the National Enrichment and Learning Unit (NELU) in the Ministry of Education to implement the new policy and curriculum. In addition, the Ministry's efficiency for nation-wide management of all schools and educational facilities will be improved through the provision of an Education Management Information System. The Ministry of Education will also be supported to enhance and build functional collaboration and cooperation with regional and international agencies/bodies/projects including attending seminars and lessons learned missions.

Under Result 2

Activity 2.1: Training of Teachers, Trainers and Support Institutions - The programme recognizes that the large scale adoption of ICT in the education system will require the boosting of the human resource base appropriately trained in ICT and its teaching methodologies. This activity would seek to train teachers, support institutions and other relevant personnel who will then act as trainers for this programme. The aim is to have a core of suitably qualified personnel to implement the programme. A balance will be maintained between the teacher-centred and pupil-centred approaches.

Under Result 3

This covers the following activities for primary schools only:

Activity 3.1: Technical support for identification and design of

individual school projects - This component covers the identification and assessment of schools with respect to their structural integrity and capacity to be outfitted with the ICT technologies foreseen to be included in the schools. It also includes the designs and completion of works, supply and services tender documents (as identified in the financing agreement) to be launched under subsequent programme estimates

Activity 3.8: Project coordination and supervision: Support for the management of the programme estimate and coordination of project activities will be provided by a Project Management Unit under the Ministry of Education.

The purchase of office equipment, supplies and a vehicle will also be covered under this activity. Programme visibility will be assured under this component.

The design of facilities will ensure suitability for the community participation component (under Result 4 as per the financing agreement).

A precondition for the implementation at each school project will be the commitment by the Ministry of Education, the school, community groups or other stakeholder bodies to the full maintenance of these facilities in a manner which guarantees security and sustainability. The agreed maintenance strategy or plan must be considered in the design.

Under Result 4:

Activity 4.4: Public awareness and sensitisation campaign.

To develop a national public awareness programme for the programme to achieve the following objectives:

- To sensitize the target communities of the programme to induce a level of participation, buy-in and ownership;
- To promote ICT as a tool to improve livelihoods and reduce poverty;
- To design and implement a visibility strategy, as per the EU guidelines, for the programme.

The Ministry of Education and the Government are excited about the prospect of implementation of this project and the impact which it is expected to have on the education sector and the wider population. This project has the potential to revolutionize the mindset of persons residing within rural Saint Lucia and create the foundation for dynamic rural communities that can begin to make a more diverse and significant contribution to National Development.



Youth Feature

Barry George

Youth leader, Cultural Activist and Dance Choreography

Barry George has had a passion for youth development ever since he was very young. He strongly believes that "the future of a country is centered on our youth and that any idea of national development without the active participation of youth in it, is not just a myth, but should not at all be entertained. Our dreams, passion and aspirations as young people along with our bubbling enthusiasm have to be regulated, utilized and guided accordingly if we are to make any meaningful contribution as key partners in the forefront of the national agenda".

Barry joined the Saint Lucia National Youth Council (NYC) in 1995 as the main youth leader representing Castries East. He has been actively involved in the youth clubs of his community which led him to first serve on the NYC Executive as Assistant Secretary in 1998. He was later elected 1st Vice President of the council in 2005 and became its President in 2006 until 2007.

In his capacity as NYC President Mr. George represented the organization in numerous capacities on UNSECO, the National Independence Committee, Carnival Organizing Committee, National Day Organizing Committee, National Youth Month Committee and the National Crime Commission. Barry George saw the need to use theatre arts as a medium for expanding the education potential of the youth and as such became instrumental in exploring in an intimate manner the blending of theatre arts and dance. It was, therefore, not surprising that he has won numerous prestigious awards in Arts and Culture in 1997 to 1999 and in 2001 to 2002. He has also been nominated for youth of the year many times.

Barry George has served his country in many spheres. As a Cultural Activist he has been deeply involved with working with several schools on the island in helping to prepare students for participation in cultural shows and assisting them with enhancing their skills in drama and theater. Barry George taught Theater Arts at the Girls Vocational School (GVS) for 4 years, during that time his drama class participated in the Annual Secondary School Drama Festival where the school's drama group won the

national prestigious title 2007 for secondary schools drama and his class also represented the island at the Caribbean Drama School Festival which was held in Saint Lucia.

The GVS Drama group won, Best Production, Best Director and Best Stage Management with plays written and directed by Barry George namely Reflection in 2006, the Fund Raiser in 2007 (Winner of the drama festival) and Prank 2008 which received many awards in the areas of best sound effects, best costume, best set design, stage management and outstanding individual performances. In the area of Dance, Barry George has served for many years as a dance resource person for the Cultural Development Foundation (CDF), the Ministry of Education, the Department of Youth and Sports. He has been very instrumental in the development of cheer leading at the secondary school level, working with a number of secondary schools in cheerleading in the Castries area including the Castries Comprehensive Secondary School which won the 2007 National Cheer Leading Competition. He continues to work with many schools in the area of cheer leading. He also acted in the play Serafina in 2004 and represented the island in Carifesta 2006 and 2008 in Trinidad and Guyana respectively.

He is currently the franchise holder for the Haynes Smith Miss Caribbean Teen Pageant, taking over from the then Hon. Stephen King (now Prime Minister), the first franchise holder. Under Barry's leadership Saint Lucia won the pageant for the first time after 21 years of participation, with Ms. Consulo Dupal bringing home the trophy. He was honoured by the Haynes Smith Miss Caribbean Teen Pageant in 2009 for his outstanding contribution to the development of teen pageant in Saint Kitts. He has been actively involved in the 6 year old Just US Kids Junior Carnival Band which won the Junior Carnival Band title in 2008 and continues to rank first and second place in the Junior Carnival competition.

In the area of theater and performing arts he saw the need to tap into and channel the creative energies of the youth which sparked the evolution of Silver Shadow. As founder of the group Barry George

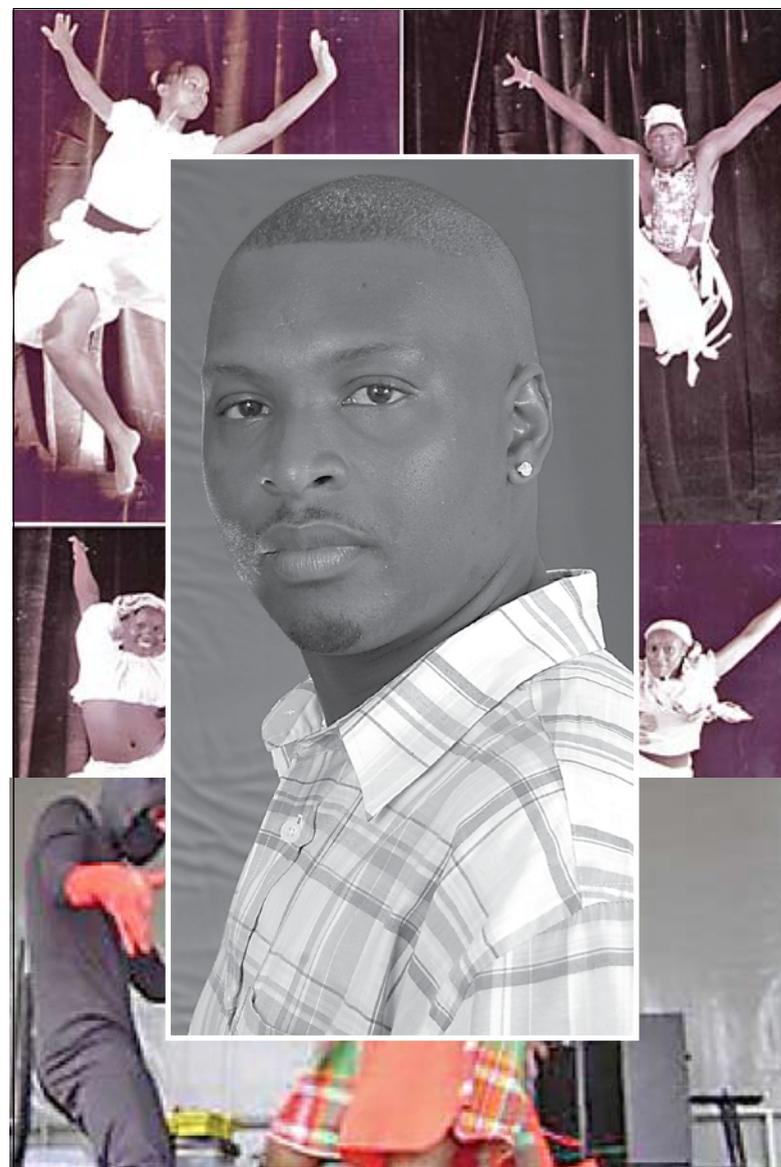
puts it this way, "Silver Shadow got its name as a result of the struggle to take the aspirations, talent and creativity of Saint Lucian youth keenly interested in dance and theatre, out of the shadows into new heights of self respect and national appreciation. Our youth possess immense talent that needs to be tapped so that their creative energies can be channeled into the right endeavors. It is perhaps the soft, white, lustrous properties of silver in terms of its highest electrical and thermal conductivity of any element, which has enthused and energized our group of especially talented youngsters."

It is an organization designed to create avenues for talented youth in the performing arts mainly in Dance, Theatre Arts, Pageantry, Culture and Youth Development. It is dedicated to instilling discipline among our youth and for promoting the talents of young Saint Lucians. Ever since the group was established in 1991, Barry has served as its Artistic Director and Choreographer. Silver Shadow started as an after school Arts program and then developed into a full fledged dance company. The group dance program includes Modern Dance, Folk Dance, Hip Hop, Contemporary Dance, Afro Caribbean and theatre Arts.

The group has a membership of twenty four (24) dancers including seven (7) male dancers. Silver Shadow is known for its award winning dances having participated in the Saint Lucia Arts Festival, Digital Technology in 2005 and Caged in 2006. In that year, 2006, Silver Shadow also received the following nominations and national awards at the national arts festival: Nomination for the outstanding performance at the junior dance festival; Second Place in Dance and Dance Choreography; First Place in the Traditional Dance.

In December, 2006 as part of the 15th Anniversary celebrations of Silver Shadow Dancers under the leadership of Barry George staged the widely acclaimed first ever Dance Production CAGED which also formed part of the 2007 Noble Laureate celebrations. This production is now part of the programming of N.T.N.

The Silver Shadow Performing Arts Academy known as the Sil-



ver Shadow Dancers has become a household name in dance in Saint Lucia, and has contributed to the development of dance and promotion of the arts by producing many outstanding dancers and educating the youth through the arts. Silver Shadow has represented Saint Lucia at a number of cultural exchanges both regionally and internationally including Martinique, Guadeloupe, Saint Kitts, Dominica, Grenada, Anguilla, Venezuela, Antigua, and Saint Vincent. In 2006 three members of the Silver Shadow was selected for the 2006 Carifesta Delegation to Trinidad.

In 2008 Barry George won the M&C Fine Arts Individual Award for the Performing Arts. The following year Silver Shadow embarked on an ambitious project, named "BREAKOUT", which was showcased on Friday 6th November and Saturday 7th 2009 at the National Cultural Center in Barnard Hill, Castries. "BREAKOUT" was produced and choreographed by Barry George. This project "BREAKOUT" brought with it new music, new fashion and creative dances. The concept of this production was inspired by personal experiences of choreographer Barry George. The music was arranged by Barbara

Cadet - St. Lucian Composer, Arranger, Musician and Vocalist. In attendance were specially invited guests such as Governor General Dame Pearlette Louisy and Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott.

Barry George points out that "what keeps me going is the impact that I have on young people." He went further to state that "there are many talented young people with no where to go, nothing to do," as one of the songs in the production indicated. Silver Shadow has literally taken persons off the streets who did not believe in themselves, who did not know they could dance. I feel like I have started building a road and I have to continue paving it."

The Government of Saint Lucia wishes to commend Barry George for his sterling contribution to the development of our youth through the arts. His unwavering dedication and commitment to the promotion of the arts and theatre and youth development is testimony that our youth are not only talented and ambitious but have an undying passion to continue the great traditions of those who have gone before like the Walcott Brothers, Joyce Auguste and the Late Sessenne Descartes among others.

Eye on the Constituencies

The Government continues its efforts in ensuring that Saint Lucia develops in an integrated, sustainable and holistic manner that empowers local institutions in strengthening its delivery of essential services to the people.

Local Authorities play an integral role in that process and epitomize the very core of people centered approach to governance as they operate at the very heart of community life, offering a range of services including: main-

taining physical infrastructure; land use planning and development control; providing sanitation services, including the safe disposal of solid and liquid waste; maintaining recreational facilities and open spaces; regulating areas of public assembly; maintaining community assets, such as human resource centers, etc.

The provision of a quarterly subvention of EC\$25,000 provides an opportunity for expanding the services that local authorities provide. The

Vieux Fort District Council admits the efforts of the Minister of Local Government Minister in terms of the positive and coordinated approach that he has taken in empowering the councils, reflects a profound commitment by Government in ensuring that the services provided in the south of the island continue to expand.

For the past two years the Council as been provided with a vehicle SLG 895 which has made its work much easier from the perspective of

delivery of services to such as Vieux Fort North and surrounding communities. This is a long awaited dream which has taken a decade to come to reality.

The support made available through the Taiwanese Embassy has assisted in ensuring that numerous community initiatives such as drainage works, renovation of public facilities, etc are undertaken for the direct benefit of the community. Vieux Fort is certainly not being left behind as

the development plans for the south of the island are comprehensive and extensive.

The expansion of the airport promises to inject in excess of ECS400 million in that community. The new senior citizen's home, the abattoir, housing development at La Ressource undertaken by the National Housing Corporation as well as other initiatives all indicate that Vieux Fort is well on its way to becoming the frontier of growth and development.



Vital Coastal Stabilization Work - Protection of Major National Infrastructure (East Coast Road & Int'l Airport)



Cantonment Drain Construction



Construction of Numerous Drains in the Community



Renovation Works at Vieux Fort Secondary Campus A



SLG 895 given to the Vieux Fort Town Council by Ministry of Local Government



Refurbishment of Vieux Fort Coal Market



Enclosure of the perimeter of the Phillip Marcelin Grounds, Vieux Fort



Decentralisation of certifying certificates at the District Office in Vieux Fort by Ministry of Education



Refurbishment of Public Facilities at La Ressource, La Tourney, Bruce Ville and Backadere



Refurbishment of the Vieux Fort Health Centre

Community / Citizens Action

Gros Islet Youth Programme using Sports as an Avenue for Holistic Development of our Youth

The Gros Islet Youth Programme was developed to provide the opportunities for Sporting and Self-development for the youth in the Gros Islet community through Football Training, Inter-Personal Workshops and other Activities. The Gros Islet Youth Football Programme was initiated three years ago by Ms. Jennifer Gaston and Mr. Alban Felicien. This programme was established by these individuals based on their observation that many young children were interested in the Sport, but were unable to participate in the activities due to a lack of opportunities.

The Programme concept was developed and targeted young boys and girls within the age group of 5-15 years. To date there are seventy (70) youths enrolled in the programme and the numbers are increasing. Training and Classes are conducted every Saturday morning from 9.00 am at the Gros Islet Playing Field and the Gros Islet Secondary School during the period when the field is used for cricket. The training sessions consist of: Field Training – Physical and Strategy Training sessions conducted by Coaches and indoor Classes designed towards Mental Training and Self-Development. There are other sessions by Coaches and invited Guests such as Doctors and Professionals in various fields relevant to holistic development.

The Programme is free to all participants and the Organizers are dependent on contributions from individual business people who appreciate and have come to identify with the objectives of the programme. Through cash & kind contributions equipment such as balls and uniforms were made available to the Programme as well as used items such as football boots which have also been donated by St. Lucians overseas.

The Programme Organizers continue to seek assistance from interested businesses and Individuals in order to sustain the Programme

Administration, coaching and other services are provided on a complimentary basis by individuals interested in the Programme



Attentive learners at one of the coaching sessions

and its objectives. Such services include: Free Medical Services; Free Transportation to games; Assistance from the Police; Free use of Community Centre for Classes and Free Preparation of Meals for Events.

The Programme Administrators have organized the following:

Hosted two Christmas and Easter Activities to thank and acknowledge all contributors, supporters and participants. This was supported by local and overseas individuals through their donations of food, drinks, medals and toys. Participants are also involved in yearly Clean-up Campaigns through assistance from the Solid Waste Management Authority. Additionally a Tennis Programme was started in March 2009 to encourage the participants in other sporting disciplines. This Programme was implemented through the assistance of Dr. Cleophas D'Auvergne who has also provided some of the equipment. To date Forty-two (42) students have enrolled and assistance is being sort for additional equipment and coaching.

Other activities include the implementation of a Chess Pro-

gramme during the 2009 summer vacation to encourage the mental development of the youths. The Administrators are presently working on starting a Netball programme having received equipment from St. Lucian Netballers overseas who are interested in supporting such a project. The summer programme for the youths of the Gros Islet Community was held during the months of July/August 2009, to expose and enhance their talents and skills of young persons in Arts & Crafts, Chess, Poetry, Steelband and Sports. The programme was not repeated this year due to competing schedules. The intention though is to continue.

The interpersonal workshops dealt with the skills that a person uses to interact with other people. Interpersonal skills are sometimes also referred to as people skills or communication skills. Interpersonal skills involve using skills such as active listening and tone of voice, they include delegation and leadership. It is how well you communicate with someone and how well you behave or carry yourself. Also they help people further their careers.

These are skills vital to young people in particular as it helps them interact with others and can play a critical role in behavioral adjustment and positive attitude development. Some of the subject areas discussed included: (1) Knowing Yourself; (2) Maintaining Control; (3) Maintaining Motivation; (4) Recognizing Others' Interests and (5) Communicating Flexibly

The participants have received a talk on Christian lifestyle, while sessions on Law and Order/Proper Behaviours in keeping with the laws were delivered by Mr. Hermingild Francis. The talk on Healthy Lifestyle was presented by Dr. King with the Arts & Crafts sessions by a teacher of the Gros Islet Primary school Miss Caroline Williams and others. They also participate in annual clean up campaigns to provide a sense of common grounding and community work and participation. Overall the programme was designed to reflect and bring about proper and acceptable behaviour and the impact it can have on their life and studies.

All the Children have indicated their appreciation for the

programme and their exposure to other activities. Comments of appreciation also come from some parents who have indicated that the Football and the workshops are having a positive impact on their children whom they can see from the approach to their school work and other activities.

The competent individuals who manage the Team comprise of: Jennifer Gaston – Manager, Caroline Christine Williams – Assistant Manager, Urban Augustin – Coach, Rafferty Noelien – Coach, Francis Lastic – Coach and Myron Joseph – Coach.

The Government proudly salutes these community leaders and pioneers individuals for their dedication and commitment towards the holistic advancement of youth. The use of sports is no doubt an effective tool in this regard. The effort of the leaders of the Gros Islet Youth Programme provides a very good example of communities taking charge of their own development. This is an outlook which needs to be encouraged as part of a paradigm shift which is directed towards nurturing viable and sustainable communities.

Government Grants Sesenne Official Funeral And Acts To Imortalize Her Life And Work

The Government of Saint Lucia expressed sadness at the passing of Saint Lucia's Queen of Culture Marie Selipha "Sesenne" Descartes, who died at the age of ninety six (96) at her home in Patience on Wednesday, August 11th, 2010. Government in its initial statement described Sesenne as a "Colossal Cultural Figure" and noted that she had made an indelible mark on the cultural landscape of Saint Lucia.

Under the direction of Prime Minister Stephenson King a broad based committee was put in place under the Chairmanship of Minister of Culture Gaspard Charlemagne to formulate funeral arrangements. The committee comprised representatives of the Family of Sesenne,

Folk Research Centre, the Ministry of External Affairs (Protocol Division), Ministry of Education and Culture, the Cultural Development Foundation, the St. Lucia Archaeological and Historical Society, Close Friends and Acquaintances of Sesenne and the Office of the Prime Minister.

The Cabinet of Ministers approved the plan submitted by the Committee which involved the staging an Official Funeral to Saint Lucia's Queen of Culture. The funeral is scheduled for Saturday, August 28th, 2010, two days ahead of the annual la Rose Festival.

Dame Marie Selipha "Sesenne" Descartes will receive a send-off be-fitting of her status as Saint Lucia's Queen of Culture during an elaborate ceremony to be held at

the St. Lucy's Catholic Church in the village of Micoud. The event will comprise of a Tribute Forum from 1:00 to 3:00 pm, followed by the formal funeral service immediately afterwards. The Tribute Forum will feature cultural performances/presentations by various cultural groups and individuals and addresses by Officials including Minister of Culture, Hon. Gaspard Charlemagne and Prime Minister Stephenson King.

Prior to the commencement of the Tribute Forum and Funeral Service, members of the public will be able to view the body of Sesenne at the Church from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Following the conclusion of the funeral service, the funeral procession will proceed via vehicular procession to the Patience, Mon

Repos junction. At that point the Casket bearing the body of Dame Marie Selipha Descartes will be carried by hand to the burial site near her home, which is approximately 150 yards away.

Government encourages all Saint Lucians to share in this historic moment. Let Saturday, August 28th, 2010 be marked as a special day nationally to celebrate the work and life of our Queen of Culture, Dame Marie Selipha "Sesenne" Descartes. Government expresses sympathy with the family and friends of Sesenne and the people of the communities of Micoud Village, Mon Repos, Patience and La Pointe. The Government of Saint Lucia will move to preserve the memory and legacy of Sesenne Descartes, Saint Lucia's Queen of Culture.



Dame Marie Selipha Descartes

Message by Prime Minister Stephenson King on the Occasion of The Funeral Service of Dame Marie Selipha Descartes

As we celebrate the life of Sesenne, it is an opportunity for us to reflect on the values which were embodied in this colossal cultural figure. Sesenne's life was a model and demonstration of humility, love, kindness, Christianity, simplicity and selflessness. This simple woman from La Pointe, Mon Repos, Quarter of Micoud rose from humble beginnings and was able to defy some of the conventions to success during her lifetime, to become Saint Lucia's Queen of Culture. In addition to this royal stature, Sesenne had gained numerous accolades. These include: The British Empire Medal (BEM) in 1972; The Saint Lucia Medal of Merit in 2000; Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE) in 2004.

Her listing of recognitions also includes: Acknowledgement by the United Workers Party Youth Arm in 1992.; Recognition by the Ministry of Women's Affairs on the occasion of International Women's Day in 1998; Recognition by the Caribbean Broadcasting Union through their Music Hall of Fame; The Order of Caricom in 2000; and Declaration as a National Cultural Hero by the Folk Research Centre in 2005.

Sesenne's death has presented us with an opportunity to educate ourselves about the value and richness of our folklore and culture. My Government is sensitive to the important place of culture in the national development process. The establishment of the National Endowment for Cultural Industries, for which this year there was an allocation of EC \$1.5 Million is testimony to our policy with respect to support for the arts and culture. I have already directed that this fund be utilized to expedite the recording of Sesenne's



music in digitized format. In this regard we will seek to work with persons who have already been identified to produce several volumes of Sesenne's rich repertoire of work.

As Prime Minister of Saint Lucia I would like to use this opportunity to express thanks to the previous administration for their contribution of 0.529499 acres of land and a home for Sesenne. This Government will certainly add to this by acting in a decisive manner to immortalize Sesenne our Queen of Culture. With respect to the idea of developing the property in question into a museum in the name of Sesenne, I wish to assure all that

Government is in principle supportive of this notion. With the passage of time, there is perhaps need to review the concept developed back then in the year 2000. This exercise would allow us to examine new ideas and to focus on the operational aspects and functionality of the proposed museum.

Government will therefore move soon to appoint a special committee for the purpose of reviewing and developing the idea of a museum in the name of Sesenne. Finally, my Government has decided on a number of actions which are all designed to immortalize the life and

work of Dame Marie Selipha "Sesenne" Descartes. These include:

1. Giving priority to a special project geared towards digitizing the work of Sesenne. We expect much of this material to be available for the celebration of Creole Heritage Month in October of this year.
2. Naming of the road leading to Sesenne's home and the site for the proposed museum as "Sesenne's Drive".
3. Renaming of the endowment fund as: The Dame Marie Selipha Sesenne Descartes National Endowment for Cultural Industries; and finally

4. The official naming of the area where Sesenne's home is located and the wider area known commonly as Vietnam. Government will seek to establish a participatory process in order to arrive at the appropriate name for this area.

Let me take the opportunity on behalf of my Government and all Saint Lucians to thank the family of Sesenne who allowed us all to share the life of this phenomenal cultural Icon who we will forever honour. The memory and legacy of Sesenne will live on in her music and the many lives she touched. Mamay La Di Way. Viv Sesenne.

Holistic Opportunities for Personal Empowerment Providing HOPE and Building a Secure Foundation

The Government of Saint Lucia has formulated a broad approach to address the immediate needs of the vulnerable population, while simultaneously equipping them with the resources needed to assist in securing a more sustainable livelihood

The issue of social vulnerability has been one of the key preoccupations of the Government in terms of finding practical and creative ways to address this, particular in the context of the international drug trade which has passed extremely challenging problem. In the small island States of the Caribbean, governments and civil society are fully aware of the nefarious effects of the drug trade in fueling demand for illegal drugs, and in dramatically increasing the level of crime associated with drug dealers in the respective countries. Moreover, the associated crime of money laundering and related activities severely undermines the financial as well as the judicial system and legislatures.

In this regard the Stephenson King Administration is focused on addressing the social issues head on in an effort to bring calm and stability to the nation as these socially as well as economically debilitating phenomena account for a type of social vulnerability that threatens the entire system of governance, the very moorings of the culture and has the potential to extend even to the integrity of the country.

Combined with the global financial crisis and the situation in the economic sphere in terms of the erosion of trade preferences traditionally enjoyed by countries like ours, there is much concern that this can add to the pressures of other anti-social activities, which threaten to undermine our social stability as a nation.

The Government of Saint Lucia has formulated a broad approach to address the immediate needs of the vulnerable population, while simultaneously equipping them with the resources needed to assist in securing a more sustainable livelihood. This is done through the Holistic Opportunities for Personal Empowerment – HOPE, which is designed and built on four critical pillars which focuses on employment creation / reduce unemployment, generating economic activity, improving the size

and quality of labour force and to increase and improve public assets and infrastructure.

This programme is administered through the combined and coordinated efforts of the Saint Lucia Social Development Fund (SSDF) in collaboration with various agencies such as National Skills Development Centre (NSDC), Ministry of Social Transformation (MOST), Ministry of Local Government, St Lucia Nurses Association, St Lucia Chamber of Commerce and the Ministry of Youth and Sports. HOPE is designed around four pillars of Employment, Training, Personal Development and Health.

In speaking to the issue of Social Re-Engineering Prime Minister King in his Budget Address of 2010-2011 stated unequivocally that “any effort to generate economic growth will falter without strategies for achieving social well-being and harmony. Sustaining growth and recovery over time will depend on the appropriateness of our interventions and how successful we are at implementing them”. He stated further that “the evidence of social decay is all around us, even as investment in health, education and other social services has increased. Crime, antisocial and deviant behaviour, general apathy and the feeling of separation from mainstream society by our vulnerable socio-economic groups are vivid illustrations of this fact”.

He reemphasized that “our approach to social re-engineering seeks to restore hope, empower the vulnerable and build human capacity for self-directed change. The transformation of our society can only be meaningful and sustainable if it is driven by the people themselves, and our role as Government, is to provide the avenues and opportunities for this to occur”.

By the first year of the HOPE Programme there was much to be proud of in that nearly 1000 persons were employed island-wide for an average of 3 months. Additionally, hundreds more were

contracted to provided services like trucking, storage, rental of equipment, water and electricity supply, etc, and over 70 Community infrastructural projects were completed island-wide. Over 80 persons received job attachments in the private and public sector. HOPE has provided Personal Enhancement Training (PET) to eight hundred and ten (810) persons, which consisted of five hundred and ninety four (594) males and two hundred and sixteen (216) females.

Some of the work undertaken to date was reflected in the Prime Minister’s address to the nation on crime earlier this year, where he gave the clear indication, that that the HOPE programme would form part of the strategy to combat the mounting crime situation being experienced in the country. Immediately a programme was initiated, formulated and given high priority in addressing Inner City issues as a component of HOPE.

To date the following activities have been undertaken:

- a. Identification of inner city communities and their community leaders - In collaboration with the Ministry of Social Transformation (MOST), RISE and other stakeholders to date 30 communities have been identified from Bisee to Ciceron within the Castries basin.
- b. Engagement of Community Leaders -By-weekly meetings are presently being conducted with the identified community leaders to engage them in the sensitization of our intentions, development of an inner city plan to try to deal with the many socio-economic issues of these communities and to continually assess and provide valuable feedback as the programme is being implemented. These meetings are being conducted jointly with RISE and MOST
- c. Productivity Enhancement Training (PET) – It has been

agreed that PET would be administered with the help of NSDC to as many persons as possible within these identified communities. The training will influence the behavioural change necessary to meaningfully arrest the scourge of crime in these areas and St Lucia by extension. To date over 300 persons from 10 communities are undergoing PET. The goal is to administer the first round of PET to all identified communities by the end of August, 2010. This year the PET has increased from 6 days to 15 days where more modules could be done and more in-depth. The training will be done in vital areas such as literacy, how to raise self-esteem and self-confidence, stress management, communication skills, teamwork and critical thinking skills among other modules. All successful participants will receive a stipend of EC \$200.00 at the end of the training period.

- d. Technical Skills Training – In an effort to improve the technical skills of residents in these areas, HOPE is collaborating with NSDC with their OECS Skills for Inclusive Growth programme. To encourage persons to sign up for this free programme HOPE would be responsible for paying stipends to participants while on training.
- e. Micro Enterprise Development – Several residents have expressed their desire to start their own business or develop their existing enterprise. As a result it was agreed a special programme has been developed to help them develop their business ideas and source funding with the help from strategic partners like Belfund, St Lucia Development Bank and SEDU.
- f. Mediation Workshops – Participants at the bi-weekly meetings indicated that due to the constant conflict in their communities, mediators should be trained to facilitate peaceful conflict resolutions. As such HOPE is presently organising a series of workshops to identify and develop approximately two mediators (1 male, 1 female) per community.
- g. Development of the Arts – It was recognised that there is an abundance of talent in the arts (especially musical talent) in these inner city areas

and that an effort should be made to identify and develop these talents. As a result a new project is currently being implemented called “Celebrating Life with HOPE” where one person is identified in each community with singing talent, by way of audition. These persons would then be put through a series of workshops facilitated by suitable persons in the music industry to help them develop their writing and singing talent. A CD would then be created of their songs which will be launch at a grand concert.

- h. Infrastructural Projects – Members of these communities are being encouraged to submit small project proposal for consideration. To date HOPE has received, assessed and implemented a number of projects

Upon receiving the 1st Quarter allocation of EC \$3,317,000.00 in May, 2010 the work began immediately embarked on the completion of the unfinished infrastructural projects from last year. Several other projects were assessed, approved and started.

On the issue of job placement over EC \$60,000.00 has been spent on salaries and other expenses associated with this component of the programme. 22 unemployed persons have been attached to both the private sector and public sector. Some of the organisations partnering with us on this initiative include: JE Bergasse, Min. of Health, Harris Paints, Sea Island Cotton, Northern Electrical Supplies and Wayne Brown Design Build Co.

The Job Placement component of HOPE will be extended significantly since it provides the most cost effective way of providing short term employment for the variety of interests expressed by unemployed persons. Even more importantly, it provides a good opportunity for persons attached to these organisations who perform satisfactorily, to be employed on a permanent basis

To date a number of deserved groups and persons have received sponsorship for implementing worthwhile projects. These projects and the amounts are presented in Table 2.

HOPE Support to Other SSDF Programmes

HOPE continues to provide major support to many of SSDF’s existing programmes and tradi-

Continued on page 11

Continued from page 10

tional initiatives. At the end of July, 2010 HOPE had provided the following programmes with financial support: (a) Educational Assistance – EC\$ \$250,000.00; (b) Koudemen Ste Lucie – EC\$ 20,9600.00; (c) Housing Assistance EC\$150,000.00.

The new Inner City Projects approved for implementation in 2nd Quarter include the James Belgrave Sports Complex March and Castries, Painting to existing railing on Rock Hall Bridge, Construction of railing to existing bridge Ravine Tou Twell Castries, Construction of Curb and Slipper Drains Ravine in Tou Twell Castries, refurbishment of drains - Near C. Nelson Castries/Rose Hill, near Baba; Castries/Rose Hill, drains and footpath in Bissee, Castries, Drains at Agard lands, Castries. Other initiatives include slabbing of Drain Construction of Chaussee & Jeremie Street, Concrete Footpath, Rose Hill Castries, Retaining Wall Rose Hill Castries, Concrete Road & Curb and Slipper Drain Rose Hill Castries and the construction of concrete footpath and Box Drain in Rose Hill, Castries.

There are some limitations of the HOPE Programme which are being addressed to ensure that the intended benefits reach the targeted sections of the population. These include the lack of innovative project proposals from communities and as such there is a clear need to have project officers work with communities to develop more innovative project proposals. Naturally this leads to getting enough projects in smaller communities in an effort to keep workers engaged for significant periods and consequently there is a need to have project officer's work with communities to identify and submit new projects.

There are also issues of Land Ownership which must be addressed by ensuring the proposal are carefully assessed and possible land ownership issues are spotted and dealt with before implementation of any project. There is also the need to find adequate training centres and facilitators and so there is the need to train a cadre of new facilitators island-wide in order to make use of other locations such as dance halls, schools, and other building and furnish them appropriately.

Additionally, there is the ever increasing need to get more private sector support in implementing Job Placement Initiatives. This calls for a more strategic approach and analysis of job placement methods, as well as finding, formulating and marketing the idea of job attachments to organizations island-wide.

Other initiatives of the Government include the formation of the Social Reform Council to provide holistic and efficient interventions.

The Council will draw on the expertise of the private and public sectors and civil society to ensure effective delivery and articulate a shared vision of society as well as the direction to be pursued. One of the key responsibilities of the Council relates to the streamlining and harmonization of on-going reforms.

These currently include: Health Sector Reform; Social Safety Net Reform; Public Sector Reform; Reform of Legal Aid; Education Reform and OECS Family Law Reform. They are all being pursued against the background of fuel, food and financial crises that have adversely affected the most vulnerable groups. They emphasize prevention, early interventions and appropriate transitions in the life cycles of individuals and families, promote inclusion, and foster inter-sectoral synergies and coordination.

The Government remains relentless in its effort to address the social issues which confront the nation and has also developed the Youth Development Program to further complement other ongoing initiatives. This program was developed and embraced by the young people of this country, and seeks to provide the basis for harnessing the energies of our young people as primary agents for change and renewal. The government recognizes that the talents and capacity for self development and leadership of our youth must be encouraged and developed not at some vague time in the future, but now.

The program will create synergies and partnerships geared towards the mobilization of resources and their deployment in a range of areas such as entrepreneurial development, the establishment of arts and entertainment facilities in communities, the provision of skills training and the implementation of a National Youth Service Program. The Prime Minister is serious on sending a message to the youth of this country that is simple and unequivocal. "The future of our Nation starts from this very moment; your participation and service are required now, so let us begin to change our society for the better, today".

The Government's Social policy at its very core is designed to address interventions for the changing, maintenance or creation of living conditions that are conducive to human welfare. The social policy forms an integral part of the public policy that has to do with social issues. The resources for public policy and practice are targeted to provide a holistic and comprehensive response in the areas of health care, human services, criminal justice, inequality, education, and labour. Government remains committed to expanding its social welfare programmes to meet the needs of employed persons the disable and the needy.

Table 1 below provides a brief summary of infrastructural projects undertaken to date and their status

Project Name & Description	Project Status as at 17th Aug, 2010
Roseau Public Facility supply and installation of Water tank and support structure	Tank installed, Awaiting certificate to make payment
Grande Riviere Footpath, drains and Railings	100% complete
St John's Street, Gros-Islet drains	100% complete
Desrammeaux retaining wall and ground floor slab phase 1	100% complete
Piat drains - Contract 1	100% complete
Piat drains - Contract 2	100% complete
Piat drains - Contract 3	100% complete
Relocation of Building at Vigie	100% complete
Morne Jacques Community Road	50% complete
Bois Patat drains, fencing and retaining wall	98% complete
La Pointe, Dennery Footpath, drain and retaining wall	100% complete
Anse La Raye Playing Field fencing and retaining wall	15% complete
Odlum City drain and footpath	100% complete
Dierre Morne Choiseul footpath, drain and retaining wall	60% complete
Leslie Land retaining wall	85% complete
La Caye court fencing, slabbing & erecting of wall on perimeter of court	80% complete
Mongouge Community Centre & Library	95% complete
Boys Training Centre (BTC)	20% complete
Coolie Town IT Center	50% complete
Marisule box drain, concrete covers	100% complete
Ti Colon Foot Path	100% complete
Skate Town, Castries footpath & drains	85% complete
Plateau, Babonneau Concrete box drains	100% complete
Plateau 2, Babonneau Retaining wall (Mr. Fatal)	90% complete
Plateau 2, Babonneau Retaining wall along proposed concrete road	100% complete
Plateau 2, Babonneau Shallow Box Drains (Jean)	100% complete
Plateau 2, Babonneau Box Drains across footpath	100% complete
Plateau 2, Babonneau Retaining wall in front of lady's House New	100% complete
Plateau 2, Babonneau U Drains	100% complete
Plateau 2, Babonneau Shallow Drains along concrete footpath*	45% complete
Plateau 2, Babonneau Concrete Footpath*	40% complete
Construction of Canteen, Sir Ira Simmons Sec. School	80% complete
Dennery; Aux Lyon: Turning Point, Roadway & Drain	98% complete
Dennery; Rivierre, Belmont two strip road and drainage retaining wall	85% complete
Ciceron laying of tiles for the court and fencing	85% complete
Jacmel Sports & Changing Rooms	10% complete

Table 2 List of Sponsored Projects to Date

Name or Recipient	Description of Project
Junior Achievement St Lucia	A mentorship school programme geared towards helping students develop the skills and knowledge necessary to access opportunities and succeed in the workplace
Rockets Athletic Club	Assistance for 35 athletes to participate in the American Amateur Athletic Union Club Championships in Orlando Florida
Mario Calderon	Assistance to renew drivers license to secure a job
Corinth Secondary School	Assistance for school cricket team (under 19 school cricket champions) to participate in the Sir Garfield Sobers International Cricket Tournament in Barbados
Blackheart Football Tournament	Transportation and meals for students for respective communities to attend matches when their community team were playing
HIV	HIV/AIDS Camp Programme for Desrameaux and Bogius
6 Youth Summer Camps	Main sponsor for 6 youth summer camps island-wide called "Summer of HOPE" Taking Back our Kids
NCF Chess Programme	Assistance for Chess Programme for Schools Island-wide

Government Embarks on a Process of Modernization of the Civil Status Department

Relief Underway



Clients awaiting service at the Civil Status Registry

The restructuring of the Civil Status Department is geared towards improving the overall efficiency and effectiveness with a view to enhancing the quality of service delivered to the Public.

The New Civil Status Act came into effect on the 17th March, 2010 making provision for the much anticipated appointment of an Adjudicator.

The Adjudicators Office was opened earlier this year, during the month of June. This office deals with rectifying (corrections/amendments) all vital records i.e. birth, baptism, marriage and death Certificates. This process will enable us to rectify the data in our system, thereby allowing for the production of a more accurate certificate.

The Adjudicator's Office is located at the Y-De-Lima Building on the William Peter Boulevard and the rectifications are done at a cost of fifty Eastern Caribbean Dollars (EC\$50.00) which includes the preparation, by the designated officer, and upon completion of the

process, one (1) rectified certificate.

Any other requests for rectified certificates are to be made at the Civil Status Registry on Brazil Street and paid for.

Currently, Birth, Baptism and, Marriage Certificates are \$8.00 each and \$13.00 each for an emergency, while a Death Certificate is \$5.00 or \$10.00 for an emergency. Set out below is the procedure to be followed when applying for a rectification and the documents necessary depending upon the request.

Procedure when Applying for a Rectification:

1. A Valid Picture Identification Document, e.g. Passport, Driver's Licence or Identification Card (ID) of the person making the application is required. If you do not have a valid picture identification card, a photocopy of the expired document, along with a letter obtained from the Electoral Department is required.
2. The Application Form must be completed before seeing the officer. The applicant who is

the one making the application must complete all relevant information pertaining to them, such as Name, Surname, Address, relationship to the subject, ID number, telephone number.

3. If the records to be amended belong to someone else other than the person completing or making the application, then an authorization letter from the person whose record(s) is to be amended is required.
4. The Affidavit which accompanies the application must be signed and dated before a Justice of the Peace and/or a Notary Royal/Attorney. If you are unsure of persons who can notarize the documents, the Office will assist in recommending someone. Please ask.
5. All relevant records such as (a) the Birth Certificate (b) the Baptismal Certificate and (c) the Marriage Certificate (if married) of the person whose record you want to rectify or correct, must be submitted.
6. Please examine your Certifi-

cate! Ensure that your name(s) and your parents name(s) are spelt the same way or that the information on your vital records is consistent.

7. If your name(s) have not been entered or is different, submit your baptismal record and other documents such as your ID card or Passport to show use of those names.
8. Please check your "Date of Birth! If it is incorrect on the Birth Certificate you must obtain a copy of your Birth Record (FORM 1) from the Hospital where the person was born.
9. If the Person was born at home you must produce some other form of supporting or compelling evidence to establish the person's Date of Birth, e.g. a Statutory Declaration by the Parent(s), ID Card or Passport to show that the person has been using the Date of Birth.

Documents to be Provided when a Rectification is Required:

1. If child's name is missing or incorrect submit the Birth Certificate together with the Baptismal Certificate and some form of identification.
2. If there is no Baptismal Certificate, then an Affidavit from mother attesting to the use of name and a form of identification for the said child, should be submitted.
3. If mother's and/or father's name is incorrectly spelt, the mother's and/or father's Birth/Baptismal Certificate, must be submitted.
4. If mother's and/or father's name on Birth Certificate is inconsistent with that on Baptismal Certificate of child, then a statutory declaration from the mother and/or father giving a detailed explanation of the inconsistency, must be submitted.

5. If father's name is not inserted on the Birth Certificate, and child was born after 1974, submit an affidavit from the father stating that he is the father, is aware of the application and is agreeing to the insertion of his name. The affidavit of the mother should be in similar terms.
6. If child was legitimated after marriage and requires the father's name inserted that is not done by a rectification but by a re-registration done at the Civil Status Registry.
7. If date of birth is incorrect submit Baptismal Certificate, some form of identification and record of birth from hospital.
8. If there is no record from hospital then an affidavit from the mother giving full details of correct date of birth, should be provided.

Generating of Electronic Certificate:

The Registry will soon undergo a move from manually generated records to electronic generation. This means that all data on the system will be printed onto 8" x 11" secured paper for convenience and the avoidance of fraud.

The implementation and introduction of this electronic system will significantly reduce the time taken to process a certificate. On successful implementation of this system, applicants will receive certificates within 2 - 3 working days.

Consequently, the added costs to implement and monitor this modern system will result in an increased cost for these vital records, which will be communicated to the public in the near future.

The Government of Saint Lucia wishes to extend its appreciation to the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) for their assistance in the development of this new system.

