



NATIONAL YOUTH POLICY

SAINT LUCIA



**Ministry of Education,
Human Resource
Development,
Youth & Sports**

**First Draft
April 2000**

Contents

A. Preface

B. Introduction

1. Background
2. Purpose/Rationale
3. Definition of youth

C. Principles & Values

D. Goal & Policy Objectives

E. Recommendations

F. Implementation Mechanisms

G. Review and monitoring

H. Conclusion

Introduction

Background/Purpose/Rationale

The first attempt at a National Youth Policy was in February 1987, when the National Youth Council presented a white paper highlighting problems that seemed to cripple our nation's youth and made valid recommendations for the improvement of the quality of life of young men and women. Since the White Paper was not given political approval and commitment of resources, it remained shelved for a period of twelve (12) years until it was re-initiated in May 1999.

Over the past decades St. Lucia has experienced a phenomenal increase in its youth population. Approximately 40% of St. Lucia's population comprise of young people who are between the ages of 15-35 years.¹ This increase in the youth population has caused many deficiencies in several critical areas that would affect national development.

These include inadequacies of the formal education system, unemployment, teenage pregnancy, insufficient sporting and recreational facilities, substance abuse, crime and social deviance. Such deficiencies have also caused idleness and widespread disillusionment that have virtually left most young men and women disenchanted.

In preparing the National Youth Policy the Department of Youth and Sports and the National Youth Council have undergone an extensive consultation process with youth organizations, church organizations, service groups, uniformed groups and unattached young men and women.

The participation of these groups and persons in the formulation process ensured that the design of the policy would address the major needs and challenges facing young men and women. The process also gave young men and women the opportunity to make recommendations to government and non-governmental organizations for youth development.

¹ Source: St. Lucia Government Statistics Department

There is an urgency to give the needs of youth priority on the national agenda. If young men and women are tomorrow's adults, then it is with immediate effect that youth be placed at the center of development. There has to be planned attention given to the problems and issues that challenge youth so that policy makers can create the suitable environment that would develop the capabilities and harness the energies of young men and women.

The integration of youth in national development necessitates the formulation and implementation of a youth policy. The national youth policy represents a practical declaration of the priority and directions that the government of St. Lucia is giving to the development of young men and women. This declaration recognizes young men and women as meaningful contributors to the society and a major resource for investment. The policy addresses the major concerns and issues critical to the wholesome development of youth in our nation.

The articulation of a youth policy places young men and women in the broader context of national development in which government ministries, non-government agencies and other youth organizations will be provided with a framework that is consonant with the vision that youth have for nation building and development. This policy is also a gender inclusive statement, which provides the framework and guidelines, from which strategies and initiatives can be developed to facilitate meaningful youth participation and development within the country.

There are many examples of youth throughout the country have registering their disenchantment with the existing political, social and educational institutions. Many young men and women, specifically in the depressed areas have a prevailing sense of apathy and disaffection with all institutions in society. It is hoped that through the creation of appropriate policy implementation mechanisms, sufficient resources will be allocated to benefit the growing youth population. The need for youth to have a powerful voice in the affairs of the nation has finally been documented, as their concerns are reflected in this policy.

Definition of Youth

Although there is no universal definition of youth, it is generally viewed as a category of persons that can be defined by law, public policy or public perception. Social perceptions of youth in the Caribbean are quite normative, often subjective and more varied than public policy definition. Hence, the definition of youth is not absolute, but varies from place to place and from time to time and even from person to person.

The law in St. Lucia defines adulthood as commencing from age 18 years. Below the age of 18 is recorded in the eyes of the law as a minor. Therefore, there is no legal definition of youth. The law then can be interpreted as recognizing youth as being the phase between childhood and adulthood.

For the purpose of this youth policy, the term youth refers to young men and women who are between the ages of 15 and 35. While this is the primary age parameter, the policy recognizes and makes provisions to include those outside of this range.

For many persons youth is the stage in life when young men and women strive for and attain social autonomy. It is also considered as the period where persons are being equipped for economic independence primarily through training and employment. For others, it is a stage where young men and women begin to assume responsibility, as early as 10-14 years.

Essentially, youth is a complex transitional period, characterized by rapid physical change and intellectual development. In spite of the social, political and cultural connotations of youth, they remain the invaluable category of persons who must be adequately invested in and who must contribute meaningfully to the development of themselves and their nation.

Principles and Values

The National Youth Policy is enshrined in essential principles and values that have influenced its blueprint and direction.

Key principles on which the policy has been formulated are:

Youth Participation

Promotion of the involvement of young men and women's participation in the formulation and implementation process, and also the creation of mechanisms for participation in community and nation development.

Responsiveness

The policy responds to needs, challenges and experiences of young men and women through the consultative process.

Gender Sensitivity

The National Youth Policy promotes a gender-inclusive approach to the development of young men and women. It acknowledges the many differences found amongst young people and advocates equal treatment of all young men and women.

Benefits of the policy

The youth policy will benefit young men and women regardless of gender, race, physical and mental ability, political affiliation or social status.

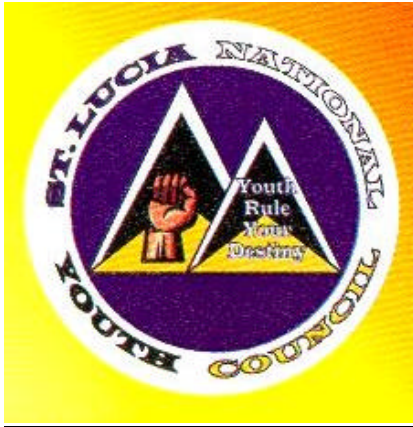
Access to services

Provide equitable access to resources require to fulfill the physical, economic and social needs and awareness of institutions and organizations involved in youth development.

Integrated Development

Recognition of the total development of young men and women including social, economic, emotional and spiritual development.

These principles and values are the basis on which the goal, objectives and implementation mechanism of the National Youth Policy have been formed.



Youth Policy Goal

The National Youth Policy will pursue the establishment of a framework and structure that will provide for the youth of the nation, a voice, equal opportunities and autonomy, with a view to developing their full potential and ensuring their role and participation in all aspects of nation building.

The National Youth Policy will:

- a. Provide a vehicle for full participation of youth in national development;
- b. Reflect the needs, aspirations and interests of youth in all spheres and at all levels;
- c. Encourage self-assertion, development of self esteem and capacity building;
- d. Facilitate the holistic development of youth, socially, economically, educationally and spiritually;

- e. Guarantee equal opportunity for all young persons regardless gender, race, ability, political affiliation or social status;
- f. Support the self-development and autonomous governance of youth movement.

Recommendations

Economic Participation

The most serious problem confronting young men and women in St. Lucia is unemployment.² This has led to increasing economic deprivation and social degradation to a majority of young men and women. Unemployment is even now more pronounced in the rural areas because of the displacement of farmers in the banana industry.

The ready option of the drug trade has been made quite attractive with limited employment opportunities. Young men and women boast of the lucrative drug trade, yet confessing that they're forced into such activity because they cannot find a job. Hence, the structural condition of unemployment is a huge contributing factor to the illegal drug trade.

Large-scale unemployment not only promotes the drug trade, but other social ills such as sexual promiscuity, crime and deviance, unstable family life whereas as employment brings independence, security, dignity and self worth.

Accordingly, it is recommended that:

1. Skills training should be provided to increase youth employment and employability.
2. Creation of an Employment Agency that provides unemployed young men and women information about job opportunities.
3. Young men and women who are desirous of being self- employed find extreme difficulty in accessing loans. Credit facilities should be made more readily accessible with minimum prerequisites to create an environment that nurtures entrepreneurship.

² National Youth Survey (1999)

4. The establishment of a Self-employment Agency supported by government and non-governmental organizations that researches the feasibility of individual investment and accesses all aspects of collateral thereby facilitating loans for young entrepreneurs.
5. Proper and effective dissemination of information on agencies that provide assistance to young entrepreneurs. Often times, the lack of information retards the development of small businesses and underutilizes the skills of young entrepreneurs.
6. Promote and encourage programs that harness the entrepreneurial skills of student such as the Junior Achievers Program.
7. Good work ethics must be infused in our youth through workshops, seminars organized by the private/public sectors, non-governmental organizations, youth groups and other such organizations.
8. An intensive Apprenticeship Program, specifically for out-of-school youth who did not have access to secondary education.
9. Employment of retirees should not be encouraged by the public sector. While retirees are retained, many youths who are qualified cannot find a job.
10. Young men and women should be involved in the decision-making process that plans pension programs for retirees.
11. It is highly recommended that job training be given greater attention at secondary school. The experience needed for jobs now exceeds a significant number of secondary school graduates. Since the majority of secondary graduates do not have such experiences, the Chamber of Commerce and the Ministry of Education must create job-training schemes during the senior years of students at secondary school.
12. Provision of mandatory career guidance counseling program for all secondary schools.

Education & Training

Education and training is an important for young men and women if they are to contribute to national development. The National Youth Policy acknowledges the Education Development Plan (EDP) and endorses the vision to raise levels of achievement for all learners to benefit as individuals and also to contribute to national/regional socio-economic development.

The National Youth Policy also recognizes the philosophy of education as a life-long process as outline by Education Development Plan (EDP) and subscribes to the need for education as:

- a. A basic human right
- b. An activity that initiates, facilitates, accelerates and sustains peaceful development
- c. A major force of transmission of common culture and common standards of citizenship

Qualitatively and quantitatively, the system needs to make a forceful paradigm shift from the emphasis on academics to placing equal weight on academics and tech/voc subjects. This adjustment in the education system has been given priority, specifically with the development and implementation of the action plan for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in St.Lucia.

There are still many young men and women who have no access to secondary education, which compounds the unemployment problem. Even with universal primary education, illiteracy is a problem in the society and poses a serious impediment to an individual's growth and to socio-economic development.

Accordingly it is recommended that:

- ✍ Technical and vocational training be given equal emphasis as the academic subjects in the school curriculum.
- ✍ The establishment of special trades school for young men and women.

- ✍ Reconsideration of the difference between basic and general proficiency since employers disregard the basic subject as a qualification. There should be a clear policy decision on the merit of each level and which should be effectively communicated to employers.
- ✍ Form 6 should be added in some of the mainstream secondary schools to increase access to tertiary education.
- ✍ Harness the potential of individuals at an early age in singing, dancing, arts, and theatre through integration in the curriculum.
- ✍ Scholarships be made available
- ✍ The education system must make provisions for physically and mentally challenged young men and women. Immediate attention should be given to integrate them in mainstream schools.
- ✍ Elimination of illiteracy should be a priority of the education system through adult education and that the Adult Literacy Program should be effectively marketed to address the issue of illiteracy.
- ✍ Access to advance technology in schools as the information age necessitates a thrust in technology in our schools.
- ✍ As articulated in the EDP, the Ministry of Education should work towards compulsory secondary education.

Youth & Crime

Increasing violence and crime among our youth calls for the immediate intervention of all social institutions. Possession of unlicensed firearms, stabbing, shooting, and murders are gradually escalating. The approach to solving the problem of crime and violence requires all members of the society and specific institutions to act urgently to curb this problem, and to seek ways to promote peace.

Accordingly, it is recommended that:

- ✍ Improved community relations with the Police Force will lead to an increase rate of apprehension.
- ✍ Thoroughly investigate cases of police brutality and give persons a hearing before an Independent Board, for the promotion of justice and peace in the society.
- ✍ Greater use of members of the Police Force to give talks to students, youth groups and organizations that they will understand their role as citizens in promoting peace of the country.
- ✍ Establish a program of community service for minor offenders as a means of punishment.
- ✍ Rehabilitation and Counseling of convicts so that they can be re-integrated in society and also to reduce recidivism.
- ✍ Conflict management has to be integrated into the school curriculum and other programs of youth groups as a major life skill for peaceful resolutions to confrontation.
- ✍ Upgrade the existing rehabilitation centers for young men and women who are socially deviant.

Substance Abuse

According to popular views, many young people specifically young men, are drug users in the society. Legal substances such as alcohol and tobacco, which were once accepted by society, are now being challenged as leading causes of death. The increasing substance abuse among young men and women calls for practical intervention by all institutions: home, school, church, and the State.

Accordingly, it is recommended that:

- ✍ The laws be enforced governing the sale of liquor and tobacco to minors.
- ✍ New methods of educating youth on the effect of drug use be introduced.
- ✍ There should be greater advocacy of a drug free lifestyle
- ✍ Stiffer penalties be imposed to serve as a deterrent for drug trafficking.
- ✍ Formation of drug free clubs in every school with the full endorsement and supported by the Ministry of Education, Human Resource Development, Youth and Sports and Substance Abuse Advisory Council.
- ✍ The Drug and Resistance Education (D.A.R.E) program should be undertaken at all primary and secondary schools to advocate a drug free life style.

Youth and Religion



St. Lucia is a society where Christian values and principles are upheld and many young men and women have deep religious convictions. The spiritual development of our young men and women has to be given top priority, just as their physical, mental and social development.

The church needs to play a greater role in ensuring the spiritual development of our young people. The spiritual strength of the nation will ensure the promotion of peace, upholding of ethics, perpetuation of morals and values, fostering of national unity and greater appreciation for our fellowmen.

It is recommended that:

- ✍ Persons be allowed religious freedom and should not be victimized because of their religious beliefs.
- ✍ The church must be more proactive in addressing the needs of young men and women and initiate practical and relevant programs to transmit morals and values.
- ✍ Increase the spiritual strength of the nation by prayers in school.
- ✍ The pronouncement of St. Lucia as a Christian society makes it imperative to deliberately instill and maintain the Christian values and principles in all aspects of the nation's affairs.

Sport and Recreation

Sport and recreation is a valuable means of physical, social, mental and moral development for young men and women. Not only does it promote good health but fosters discipline, builds leadership and other social skills. Sport and recreation is a constructive way for youth to utilize their leisure time productively. It is evident that sport and recreation produces wholesome leisure time and can significantly reduce the incidence of crime, drug abuse, teenage pregnancy, vandalism and idleness.

The National Youth Policy recognizes and supports the philosophy of the Sports Policy in endorsing the vital importance of sports in the total life of the individual, the community and in the integrated development in the nation. A national rethinking of the role of sport and recreation must be filtered to every individual in the society.

It is recommended that:

- ✍ The upgrading of playing fields should meet the standards of having a changing room, seating arrangements, toilet/bath facilities, and pipe-borne water. Such facilities encourage members of the community to lend more support to sporting activities and provide the proper environment for sportspersons to perform at higher levels.
- ✍
- ✍ Establishment of playing fields and playing courts in all communities.
- ✍ A clear concept on the management of sporting and recreational facilities should be undertaken by the Department of Youth and Sports. Members of the community through the Youth and Sports Councils must be trained in the proper management of the facilities that would benefit all sectors of the community.
- ✍ The Department of Youth and Sports, through the deployment of more Youth and Sports officers must forge greater links with the communities to strengthen and provide institutional support to promote sport and recreation.

- ✍ Each community should obtain maximum benefit from youth and sports officers. The unequal distribution of sports officers does not give sports and recreation the attention needed in every community.
- ✍ National players must be given time off to represent the country in their field of play.
- ✍ St.Lucia should strive to have its own sports academy to mould young persons to view sport both professionally and personally so as to be competitive on all levels.
- ✍ Sports persons who have done the country proud must be given more national recognition.
- ✍ Physical education must be integrated in the curriculum of all schools. Schools should also be equipped with the appropriated resources such as coaches and facilities.

Teenage Pregnancy

The phenomenon of teenage pregnancy has been identified as one of the most challenging problems facing the society. Teenage pregnancy continues to contribute to an average 20% of all births that occur every year since 1989, with a slight decrease between 1994-1998.³

In spite of the decline and small strides made over the past decades to reduce teenage pregnancy, adolescent fertility is still extraordinarily high. This high rate of teenage pregnancy in St.Lucia has placed the country as one of those with the highest proportion of teenage births in the world.⁴

The UNICEF Situational Analysis of Children and their families (1995-1996) gives a comprehensive analysis of the causes of teenage pregnancy in St.Lucia. According to the researchers, several immediate and underlying causes including structural conditions contribute to teenage pregnancy.

The immediate causes identified by the researchers were unprotected sex, sexually active and promiscuous behavior and early sexual exposure. Among the underlying causes were male irresponsibility, lack of social coping skills, eroding moral ethics, poor parenting skills programs to engage youth in meaningful activity. Structurally, there are scarce employment opportunities, absence or lack of reproductive and sexual health services and facilities.

Accordingly, it is recommended that:

- ✍ The family life education curriculum makes provision to develop a more holistic approach to personal relationships and sexual responsibility among students.
- ✍ Teenage parents whether by their own volition or other means, invariably become school dropouts. The State needs to provide support for teen parents by formulating a policy to encourage teen parents to complete their education.

³ St.Lucia Government Statistics

⁴ St.Lucia Draft Population Policy

- ✍ The establishment of adolescent reproductive and sexual health services that will create the appropriate environment where teens can access information, receive counseling on the use of contraceptives and reinforced the concept of family planning and the implications of child rearing and caring at an early age.
- ✍ There should be increased education on the use of contraceptives by young men and women via various mediums.

Youth Participation in Clubs and Organizations

A stark reality exists in many communities that many young men and women do not belong to any organization or club. The lack of participation in most organizations from the youth of this nation indicates the level of idleness and increasing alienation they face in society. The current dilemma is that while there is a deficiency of clubs and organizations, most young men and women are not affiliated to clubs and organizations that operate within the community.

Accordingly it is recommended that:

- ✍ That all youth organizations be registered with the Department of Youth and Sports.
- ✍ A databank be formulated and maintained by the Department of Youth and Sports. Such information will provide the Department with the numerical growth of clubs, their structure and other pertinent data that will assist in maintaining the dynamism of clubs in society.
- ✍ The revitalization of Youth and Sports councils in every district to collaborate the efforts of clubs within their respective areas.
- ✍ Strengthening of the NYC to provide the institutional support for youth organizations.
- ✍ Youth and Sports Officer should act as liaison officers for greater collaboration between the Department of Youth and Sports and Service and Uniform groups.

Youth and Health

The exponential growth in population has placed tremendous pressure on the health services of the country. A healthy youth population assures that young men and women are capable of playing a vital role in national development.

Accordingly it is recommended that:

- ✍ Professional Counseling Services be provided for young men and women to maintain psychological and emotional balance.
- ✍ Government should enact legislation to control advertisements of alcoholic beverages and tobacco to reduce the consumption of these harmful substances.
- ✍ The majority of persons affected with HIV/AIDS are young men and women, thus the Ministry of Health should initiate a more aggressive campaign to educate the youth population on HIV/AIDS.
- ✍ Government should seriously tackle the problem of the supply and consumption of both legal and illegal substances in the State by continuous monitor and review of the role of the National Substance and Abuse Advisory Council.
- ✍ Government should encourage and promote the establishment of Medical Associations that provide support and education for patients and members of the public.
- ✍ The upgrading of Golden Hope Hospital to adequately and efficiently provides psychiatric services.
- ✍ Government must provide training of persons in psychiatry to increase the staff at the only mental hospital in the nation.
- ✍ Establishment of a halfway house for abused young men and women where they can seek protection, counseling, career opportunities, family support, and completion of school and a sense of stability.

Youth Empowerment

By nature of their demographic imperative young men and women have a strong influence in society. The realization that young people are a vibrant sector of the population must be paramount in the consciousness of leaders in society. Hence, the decision-making capacity of young people must be enhanced for their empowerment. Youth empowerment will lead to full recognition of their potential that will eventually lead to the development of their community and society.

Strong youth organizations predispose young men and women to participate in meaningful development. Thus, the Department of Youth and Sports should have the authority, responsibility and accountability for youth affairs in the nation and seek to strengthen the youth groups and organizations through institutional support.

Accordingly, it is recommended that:

- ✍ Student Councils should be functional in all secondary and tertiary institution to foster their involvement in decision-making.
- ✍ Create mechanisms that would encourage youth to contribute towards shaping society's vision, policies, plans and programs.
- ✍ Youth participate actively in organizations that would enhance the development of communities and societies.

Implementation Mechanisms

The implementation of the national youth policy assumes a forceful and well-integrated inter-ministerial approach of all institutions and agencies that play a key role in facilitating youth development. This mechanism is only a guide to the roles that must be played by all the stakeholders in realization of the youth policy. The approach is to foster greater collaboration and increase the network among service providers that impact on young men and women.

The following ministries and agencies will work in collaboration to ensure the successful implementation of the policy.

Government:

- ✍ The Department of Youth and Sports will increase the number of youth and sports officers to adequately serve all the communities.
- ✍ The Department of Youth and Sports will attach youth and sports officers to service and uniform groups.
- ✍ The Ministry of Education will implement the action plan on the TVET program that would seek to restructure the curriculum and place emphasis on technical and vocational skills.
- ✍ The Department of Youth and Sports and the National Youth Council through National Youth Awards shall confer recognition on young men and women who have excelled in their social responsibility and made an outstanding personal contribution towards national development.
- ✍ The Department of Youth and Sports will introduce parental skills training program specifically for teenage parents.
- ✍ The Department of Youth and Sports will encouraged and ensure the integration of physical education and sports into the school curriculum and promote sport and recreation as a way of life.

- ✍ The Ministry of Health through their educational programs will encourage young men and women to practice good/safe health environmental and nutritional habits.
- ✍ The Department of Youth and Sports and the Ministry of Community Development will work together to place emphasis on the community management of facilities through training, workshops and seminars.
- ✍ The Ministry of Education will hold extensive consultations with the stakeholders in Education to expedite a policy on teenage parents returning to school to complete their secondary education.
- ✍ The Ministry of Education will through its Adult Education Unit will seek to eradicate and reduce illiteracy among young people.
- ✍ The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education will work in partnership to tackle teenage pregnancy using more contemporary approaches to educating young men and women.
- ✍ The Ministry of Health and the Department of Youth and Sports will pool resources to increase community-based workshops on substance abuse.
- ✍ The Ministry of Health and the Substance Abuse Advisory Council should initiate a special program for young drug users.
- ✍ The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education will collaborate to initiate an accessible professional counseling service for young men and women.
- ✍ The Department of Youth and Sports will allocate financial resources and reorganize the summer camps geared to provide an environment for the creative and productive use of leisure time.
- ✍ The Department will allocate resources to all youth groups including community, school, church, sports, and to strengthen and build a culture of groups in society.

- ✍ The Department of Youth and Sports provide short and long-term training in youth work for persons involve in youth organizations.
- ✍ The Ministry of Education put measures in place to deal with the increasing dropout rates at primary and secondary levels.

The Private Sector:

The private sector will be responsible to:

- ✍ Assist in the establishment of a well coordinated on the job-training program with the Ministry of Education for senior students at secondary school.
- ✍ Create a mechanism to provide the Government of St.Lucia information on present market demands and labor trends that would assist in directing employment creation.

The National Skills Development Center:

The National Skills Development Center will be responsible to:

- ✍ Develop an employable skills training program for all persons who are employable.
- ✍ Integrate the services of training providers for entrepreneurial development and business development
- ✍ Provide information service to investors, employers, schools, employed and unemployed on the availability of jobs, skills requirement and training.
- ✍ Provide the service of job attachment and apprenticeship service.
- ✍ Offer a wide range of employment services to job seekers and employers.

- ✍ Engage in Skills assessment and skills development
- ✍ Collaborate with Small Enterprise Development Unit (SEDU), St.Lucia Rural Enterprise Project (SLREP), Rural Enterprise and Diversification Incentives Project (REDIP), Poverty Reduction Fund (PRF) and National Research and Development Foundation (NRDF) to provide information on the services offered by these agencies and process referral to the said agencies.

The National Youth Council :

The National Youth Council will be responsible to:

- ✍ Ensure youth representation on all statutory boards and decision-making agencies that affects our young men and women.
- ✍ Restructure the Youth and Sports Councils to ensure viability and sustainability.
- ✍ Revive and launch student councils in schools where they have cease to exist and or never existed.
- ✍ Re-establish and build Youth and Sports Councils in areas where they have become dysfunctional and/or have never existed.
- ✍ Revisit and re-institute the programs that have a great impact on youth development such as on employment and youth enterprise, leadership training and community development.

Policy monitoring and review

The Department of Youth and Sports and the National Youth Council shall be responsible to review the National Youth Policy through consultation with key stakeholders. Generally, the policy shall be reviewed every five years, although specific policy areas may be reviewed every three years.

When monitoring and reviewing the youth policy the Department of Youth and Sports and the National Youth Council will supervise the following:

- ✍ Evaluate the manner in which the policy has contributed to a holistic response to the major issues that confront young men and women.
- ✍ Document actions that have been derived out of the policy.
- ✍ Ensure government and non-government structures are continued to be established and developed to implement the policy.
- ✍ Re-evaluate the goal and objectives of the youth policy
- ✍ Review the role and performance of the Department of Youth and Sports and the National Youth Council in relation to the youth policy.

Conclusion

The effective attainment of the National Youth Policy is a societal responsibility, incorporating all the major stakeholders in its successful implementation. This Youth Policy signifies government commitment to the importance of youth development not only for nation building but also for social, economic, cultural and spiritual prosperity. Hence, the Government of St.Lucia will commit all the essential resources needed for execution of this policy.

The National Youth Policy seeks to promote a pro-active response in empowering St.Lucian young men and women to participate meaningfully in the optimum development of the society and will ultimately reap the immense benefits from the unified, integrated and cohesive approach to youth development.

Appendix 1

Status of Services that impact on Youth

Agency/Ministry/Organization	Programs/Activities	Concerns/Issues
Rural Economic Diversification Project (REDIP)	Diversification Support Fund Technical Training in Agribusiness Special treatment assistance for project development	Employment generation (self) Skills Development Development of Entrepreneurial
Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation and International Finances	Local essay competitions and quizzes Regional essay Competitions Students Attachment Program	
Division of Community Services and Local Government	Human Resource Development Program Infra structural Development Program Servicing of Community Based Programs National Programs Disaster Management	Provision of leadership skills Provision of skills in identification of critical micro enterprise projects Liaison with NGO's-UNICEF, UNDP, UNESCO Teach /raise awareness on issues through theatre
Ministry of Finance and Planning	Poverty Reduction Fund Employment Resource Center	Access to training and employment Access to credit Integration and greater participation of young people in mainstream development initiatives
National Skills Development Center *	Vocational training-social skills, technical and business Self-employment training Job placement Craft Development Program Attachment or Apprenticeship Program	Reducing under employment Improving the standard of living and quality of life Unemployment among youth and rural women
National Research and Development Foundation (NRDF)	Micro Enterprise Lending program Safer Housing Loan program Business and Skills Training	Providing credit to start up and improve small business Improving business skills Improving technical skills
Small Enterprise Development Unit (SEDU)	Entrepreneurial Development Market and Product Development Small Enterprise Development Project	Fitness for owning and managing a small business Development of products and services

Agency/Ministry/Organization	Programs/Activities	Concerns/Issues
	Rural Diversification Small Business Networking Small Business Consulting Small Business Management Training Preparation of Business Plans for Financing	Development of markets for products and services Developing a sense of responsibility through entrepreneurship Motivation Development of business ideas
Department of Culture	Dance Drama Art Music (National Heroes Park, Carnival, La Maguerite, La Rose, St. Cecilia, Emancipation Day, National heroes Day, Nobel Laureate Week)	Identifying and recognizing heroes Use of popular theatre
Department of Co-operatives	Taking the co-operative philosophy an ideology to the youth	Using co-operatives for generating employment and rendering services to themselves by pooling resources Exposure to opportunities for putting co-operatives into practice Foster values of community care and people helping people
Upton Girls' Centre	Day Care Self Development Family Support and Counseling A joint job training placement with CARE	A Day Rehabilitation Center for girls which gives them the opportunity to continue their education in specific areas, provides counseling

Appendix 2

Youth Policy Consultations

District/Organization	Venue	Date/Time
Belle-Vue	Belle-Vue Combined School	August 18,
Micoud	Micoud Secondary	October 02, 2PM
Vieux-Fort	Vieux_Fort Primary	October 09, 10AM
Babonneau	Multi Purpose Centre	October 12, 7PM
Students	SALCC Conference Room	October 22, 10AM
Mabouya Valley	La Ressource Parish Hall	October 25, 6PM
Dennerly	Multi Purpose Centre	October 27, 7PM
Anse la Raye	Anse La Raye Parish Hall	October 28, 7PM
Choiseul	Choiseul Secondary	October 30, 10AM
Soufriere	Old Primary	November 03, 7 PM
Bexon	Bexon Infant School	November 07, 4 PM
Mon Repos	Mon Repos Combined	November 10, 7 PM
Desruisseaux	Multi Purpose	November 11, 7 PM
Canaries	Community Centre	November 18, 7 PM
Evangelical Community	Castries Evangelical	November 21, 4PM
Roseau Valley	Roseau Combined	November 25, 7 PM
Monchy/Desrameau	Monchy Combined	December 02, 7 PM
Archdiocesan Youth Council	Mon Repos Combined	December 04, 10 AM
Laborie	Laborie Boys'	December 04, 2 PM
Adventist Youth	La Bayee Church	December 05, 10 AM
Service Groups	NIS Conference Room	January, 22 10 AM

District/Organization	Venue	Date/Time
Ciceron	Ciceron Combined School	February 09, 6:30 PM
Uniform Groups	Department of Youth and Sports	February 26, 10 AM
Total	23	

Block Rap Sessions

Area	# Blocks Visited	Date	Facilitating Team
Marchand	4	Wednesday, December 08	Uralise Delaire Mary Wilfred Bennette Charles
Anse la Raye	7	Wednesday, December 15	Rose Joseph-Medar Ligorius Marquis Mary Wilfred
Dennerly	4	Saturday, January 08	Ligorius Marquis Mary Wilfred
Bagatelle	3	Tuesday, January 11	Angela Jeremie Daryle Mathurin Mary Wilfred Cleophas Albertinie
Mon Repos La Pointe	2 1	Thursday, January 13	Claudia Noel Mary Wilfred Ligorius Marquis
Desuisseaux Anse Ger Blanchard	1 0 2	Monday, January 17	Mary Wilfred Claudia Noel Ligorius Marquis
Ciceron	5	Thursday, January 20	Mary Wilfred Patrick Mathurin
Micoud Dugard La Couville Ti Rocher	2 1 1 1	Monday, January 24	Claudia Noel Ligorius Marquis Mary Wilfred
Faux-a-Chaux	3	Thursday, January 27	Michael Pierre Lesley Ann Modeste Mary Wilfred
Maynard Hill	1	?	Angela Jeremie

Area	# Blocks Visited	Date	Facilitating Team
Rock Hall			Veronica Cenac
Bocage Guesneau	1 0	?	Uralise Delaire Lyndell Hyacinthe Angela Jeremie
La Caye La Perle Derniere- Riviere	1 1 1	Tuesday, February 01,	Marcus Edward Ligorius Marquis Anselma Calderon Mary Wilfred Youth& Sports Council
La Clery	1	Wednesday, February 02	Angela Jeremie Uralise Delaire
La Ressource Aux Lyon Despin Gadette	1 4 2 2	Wednesday, February 03	Mary Wilfred Ligoris Marquis Anselma Calderon Marcus Edward
Grand Ravine Grand Riviere	2 1	Thursday, February 10	Anselma Calderon
Fond Assau Babonneau	2 1	Wednesday, February 16	Mary Wilfred Michael Pierre Lesley Ann Modeste
Shanty Town Vieux-Fort Town Mangue La Ressource	2 2 1 1	Thursday, February 17	Claudia Lubin Mary Wilfred Marcia Dolor- Clarke* Winston Lubin*
Gros Islet Monchy La Bourne Desrameau	3 1 1 1	Wednesday, February 23	Michelle Rogers Patrick Mathurin Mary Wilfred
Jacmel Bois Den Morne Ciseaux	1 2 1	Wednesday, March 01	Hendrickson Charles Mary Wilfred Ligorius Marquis
Laborie	4	Thursday, March 02	Mary Wilfred Winston Lubin
Choiseul	3	Saturday, March 04	Theophila Charles

Area	# Blocks Visited	Date	Facilitating Team
			Mary Wilfred
Total	81		