

ABSTRACT

Infrastructure Development for a Small Island Economy (Grenada)

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This study looks at the present status of various infrastructure systems in Grenada. It also identifies basic and strategic infrastructure requirements and submits proposals for the development of the various infrastructure systems in Grenada. The infrastructure systems that would be covered are:

- Power
- Water and Sanitation
- Roads
- Airports and Seaports
- Solid waste

This study was done against the backdrop of a similar study done by the Engineering Institute, Faculty of Engineering, University of the West Indies at St. Augustine, in association with the School of Urban Planning, Mc Gill University and INRS-Urbanisation, University of Quebec Montreal QC, Canada. The study

entitled Caribbean Regional Infrastructure Study Project (CRISP) covered ten Caribbean territories. Since Grenada was not one of the territories covered, this study was undertaken to add information from Grenada to the existing body of information.

In this study the infrastructure system will be assessed in terms of the following:

- a) A profile of the present status of the infrastructure systems and the institutional framework through which they are provided;
- b) Future demand analysis in terms of upgraded as well as additional facilities;
- c) The presentation of proposals for development and reform in the operation and maintenance of these utilities, as well as to make suggestions for private sector participation where possible.

The findings of the study indicate that most of the infrastructure systems which are publicly owned are not efficiently regulated and as a result there is need for regulatory reform. Demand analysis for each of the infrastructure systems indicate that demand is increasing in all cases and is driven mostly by domestic and commercial consumption. The major challenge facing most of the systems is the need to reduce the maintenance backlog created from years of neglect while at the same time identifying ways to meet growing demand. The inclusion of the private sector through options such as concessions, lease contracts, BOT schemes, joint

ventures and privatisation will prove essential if these infrastructure systems are to be financed without being a burden on the Government treasury.

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