

BARBADOS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REPORT 2017

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Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs & Investment

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The economic landscape for Barbados remained challenging during the year 2017. Internal reserves were low and continued to slip, the fiscal deficit and debt level remained high and unsustainable despite moderate progress in the implementation of the 2017 financial and budgetary measures. Economic growth, while registering an increase for the third consecutive year has been significantly affected by the continued fiscal adjustment.

The fiscal measures, which have been in progress since 2013 (with the implementation of the 19-month adjustment programme) while meeting some level of success over the years has not been sufficient in fostering the adjustment needed to reduce the fiscal imbalances. This resulted in government falling short of its desired objectives. Further fiscal adjustment continued in late 2016 as the larger than expected deficit persisted placing increased pressure on the financing challenges. A large portion of government's financing needs was therefore met by the Central Bank of Barbados (CBB) and the National Insurance Scheme (NIS) during the 2016/17 fiscal period, while commercial banks reduced their exposure to sovereign debt by approximately 4.8 percentage points.

The 2017/18 fiscal period however, witnessed a reversal of this stance as commercial bank domestic financing increased by approximately 171 per cent, following an increase in the Barbados dollar securities reserve requirement on two occasions. The first, in June 2017 from 10 per cent to 15 per cent, which allowed CBB net financing to decline by 0.5 per cent of GDP. The second increase took effect on December 01, 2017, requiring commercial banks to hold 18 per cent of their domestic deposits in stipulated securities.

This tightening of the monetary policy allowed the Central Bank to significantly

reduce its financing to government while safeguarding the country's currency peg. Barbados' currency peg to the US dollar has been facing downside risks due to, inter alia, the continuous recourse to short-term debt financing issued by government and accommodated by the Central Bank of Barbados.

During 2017, fiscal adjusts continued with emphasis on curtailing: the high level of debt, the unsustainable fiscal deficit, and the looming Balance of Payments (BOP) risks as financing challenges from official creditors and commercial banks intensified. While the increase in the mandatory securities reserve requirement by the CBB cushioned the impact from the fall in lower investments in Government paper by commercial banks, roll-over risk remained elevated. The government being faced with the urgent need to address the financing constraint and to mitigate other associated risks sought to introduce further fiscal adjustment to reduce the fiscal deficit.

As a result of the cumulative impact of the 2016 and 2017 budgetary measures the fiscal balance narrowed by \$125.8 million at the end of the financial year 2017/18. The deficit now stands at 4.9 per cent of GDP. Notwithstanding this achievement, overall central government debt remained high and unsustainable, climbing by an additional \$295.8 million to reach \$13,582.5 million or 137.3 per cent of GDP (market prices).

The external current account continued to narrow primarily as a result of lower import trade stemming from sharp declines in consumer and capital goods. Higher fuel import prices abated the pace of the declining deficit, while the capital and financial accounts deteriorated recording a surplus of \$81.2 million, representing a 6.8 per cent increase when compared to 2016. This deterioration was driven by an increase in net official outflows and lower private inflows.

Consequently, the net international reserves fell to \$334.7 million, the lowest in the post 2007-2008 global financial crisis, and reflecting levels prior to the turn of the second millennium.

Notwithstanding the developments of the fiscal and external sectors; the Barbados economy recorded growth for the third consecutive year, albeit at a much slower pace. This growth however, remains fickle and mirrors the low investment appetite signalled in the Moody's and Standard and Poor's lowered credit ratings which were issued during the first quarter of 2017. Real gross domestic output moderated to 0.4 per cent compared to 2.5 per cent in 2016. The loss in the growth momentum was attributed to three principle factors: i) the increased pace of fiscal adjustment; ii) a slowdown in the tourism sector and iii) delayed implementation of foreign funded investment projects.

Evidence of the decline in the growth momentum was manifested in domestic spending patterns. Government consumption expenditure tightened, falling by 6.7 per cent which contributed to the overall 0.6 per cent decline in consumption expenditure during 2017. Notwithstanding the fact that there were some improvement in the investment of building assets (by 0.7 per cent); gross capital formation fell by 1.7 per cent driven by a reduction in the acquisition of new and fixed assets (by 4.7 per cent).

Despite the low investment environment some key sectors showed resilience during 2017. The construction sector in particular, increased output by 25.6 per cent; while the accommodation and food services sector expanded by 4.6 per cent. Additionally, the financial and insurance sector and real estate sectors also grew by 3.7 per cent and 1.1 per cent respectively.

Per Capita Income (at basic prices) was estimated at Bds \$30.5 thousand, representing an increase of 2.2 per cent from over 2016 figure of Bds \$29.9 thousand.

The average unemployment rate at the close of the year 2017 stood at 10.0 per cent, a marginal increase of 0.3 percentage points over the previous period, representing an end of year total of 14,300 unemployed persons. Of the total unemployed 7,200 persons were males, an increase of 300 males compared to 2016. Over the same period, the number of unemployed females declined by 100 persons.

The average rate of inflation climbed to 4.4 per cent from 1.5 per cent in 2016 attributed primarily to the pass-through effects of higher international oil prices and the fiscal adjustment measures of government during late 2016, and mid-2017.

As it relates to social development efforts in 2017, the Government of Barbados sought to fortify its efforts to expand the provision of educational services. Hence, an additional \$1.9 million or a 0.4 per cent increase was allocated to the budget when compared to the \$484.6 million approved for the financial year 2016/2017.

Emphasis in the health sector continued to be on the development of policies and programmes to ensure the provision of quality health services to the public of Barbados. In this regard, the Ministry of Health continued to focus on the identification of new approaches to financing healthcare in Barbados with a view to ensuring continued universal health coverage to the population of Barbados. A key area of focus during 2017 was the strengthening of the health system to improve the capacity of public health and medical laboratory networks.

The resident population was estimated at 274.4 thousand persons at December 31, 2017. This represented a decrease of approximately 944 persons when compared with 275.4 thousand persons at the end of 2016.

As the year 2018 turns, the Barbadian economy will more than likely continue to face further macroeconomic challenges. With the international reserves dipping well below the

international benchmark of 12 weeks, persistent credit rating downgrades and the slowing of the economy due to increased fiscal adjustment efforts, confidence is waning. It is further anticipated that business confidence will remain low until the results of the forthcoming elections are established and the policy direction post-election is concretized.

Notwithstanding, the general elections it is imperative that Government

continues to build on the gains it has already made on reducing the fiscal balance by intensifying its efforts to strengthen the public finances, address the weakened external position and implement a framework for sustainable growth. Timely and effective implementation of these measures and a reversal of the decline in international reserves remain pivotal to strengthening Barbados' outlook.

I. INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

According to the IMF World Economic Outlook, global growth for 2017 was revised upwards to 3.7 per cent as a result of the increased global growth momentum and the expected impact of the approved reduction in the US tax policy for personal income and corporation taxes.

The cyclical recovery across the global economy reflected a rebound in activities in investment, manufacture and trade. This current cyclical upswing provides the ideal opportunity for structural and governance reforms to boost potential output and to enhance growth through adjusted specific fiscal policy initiatives that seek to ensure that public debt dynamics are sustainable and excessive external imbalances are reduced.

Growth in world trade and investment, especially in the crude oil sector of Emerging and Developing economies caused the prices of commodity exports and oil to rise. As a result, inflation rates rose due to the continuous cyclical recovery in demand and the increase in commodity prices. Hence, in order to strengthen financial stability structural policies such as improvements in health and education systems, labour market governance and business climate reforms were implemented. Moreover, expenditure reforms sought to enhance the quality of public

spending by presenting mechanisms that prioritized and evaluated the efficacy of public projects, and strengthened institutions to foster growth given the fiscal constraints.

A reduction in energy subsidies, the introduction of fiscal rules, stabilization funds, and medium-term expenditure frameworks fostered institutional credibility and restored fiscal space and sustainability. Tax reforms such as broadening the tax base, eliminating loop holes and unnecessary preferences e.g. avoiding base erosion and profit shifting, and strengthening tax administration and collection to reduce avoidance were approaches used to mobilise revenues to create the fiscal space required to fund needed development priorities.

In the Advanced economies such as China and the Euro Area structural reforms helped to reallocate factors of production to more productive sectors thus increasing the output levels and growth. Non-economic factors such as geopolitical tensions, domestic political discord, and other factors such as the effect of weather related disasters and a shift towards protectionism in advanced economies created capital outflow pressures, reduced confidence and other problems that led to severe financial instability for the global market sentiment.

TABLE 1.1-1
Indicators of Economic Performance in Advanced Economies
2016 - 2017

Country	Real GDP (% change)		Unemployment Rate (Annual Avg.) (% change)		Consumer Price Index (% change)	
	2016	2017e	2016	2017e	2016	2017e
United States	1.6	2.3	4.9	4.4	1.2	1.1
Japan	0.9	1.8	3.2	2.8	-0.2	1.0
Germany	1.7	2.5	4.3	3.7	0.4	1.1
France	1.3	1.8	9.8	9.4	0.3	1.1
Italy	0.9	1.6	11.5	11.2	-0.1	1.1
U.K	2.0	1.7	5.0	4.4	0.7	1.0
Canada	1.3	3.0	7.0	6.4	1.6	1.2

SOURCE: IMF World Economic Outlook 2017

II. REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

OVERVIEW

Across the Region economic growth was generally weak around 1-2 per cent as deep-rooted structural problems, tight fiscal constraints, and the reluctance of the private sector to invest as they previously did. Hence, a transformed, dynamic, innovative employment generating private sector is essential at this time.

COUNTRY PERFORMANCE 2017

Individual country performances in the Region reflected similar weak

performances throughout most productive sectors with the exception of primarily manufacturing, construction, tourism and energy. In all countries the potential for growth exist but the mobilisation and careful management of local resources through taxes is a necessary condition that must be exploited. Significant progress was seen throughout the Region in reforming the financial sector. Banks suffered high levels of non-performing loans that constrained credit availability and economic activity, as well as increase their vulnerability to shocks

III. THE BARBADOS ECONOMY

OVERVIEW

Real output in goods and services slowed significantly in 2017 as the Barbadian economy recorded its third consecutive year of growth. The rate reached a very moderate 0.4 per cent in 2017 down from 2.5 per cent in 2016. The loss in momentum reflected three principle factors: i) the increased pace of fiscal adjustment which were estimated to be around 6 per cent of real GDP; ii) a deceleration in the tourism sector and iii) delayed implementation of foreign funded investment projects. Fiscal measures announced in late 2016, coupled with further fiscal adjustments in mid-2017 contributed to the slowdown in real output. This was amplified by inflationary pressures caused by higher international oil prices.

The increased pace of fiscal adjustment was used to address the high debt level, the unsustainable fiscal deficit, and the declining foreign reserves. It helped to reduce the fiscal deficit by \$125.8 million at the end of the financial year 2017/18, which lowered the deficit to 4.9 per cent of GDP, the lowest level for the past five years. Notwithstanding the smaller fiscal deficit, central government's debt rose by an additional \$295 million contributing to the already high and unsustainable debt level. Central government debt for the year 2017 ended at 137.3 per cent of GDP.

The external current account continued to narrow primarily as a result of lower import trade stemming from sharp declines in consumer imports. However, higher fuel import prices pushed against the pace of the declining deficit. Importation of capital goods also declined which reduced the use of foreign reserves. But, a deterioration in net official inflows

contributed to an overall loss of \$334.7 million in net international reserves. As a result, the country's foreign reserves fell to the lowest level in the post 2007-08 global financial crisis

In the face of a deceleration in the tourism sector, the average unemployment rate closed the year at 10.0 per cent, a marginal increase of 0.3 percentage points over the previous year 2016. On the price side, the average rate of inflation climbed to 4.4 per cent from 1.5 per cent in 2016.

A. GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

The decelerated rate of growth in output in 2017 was the result of moderate performances in the key foreign exchange earning sectors, especially tourism. This sector, measured as the accommodation and food services sector, grew by 4.6 per cent. Since tourism is one of the largest sector accounting for almost 15.0 per cent of GDP, its contribution to growth is significant, especially when its indirect effects on the economy are considered. This explains why a drop in the sector's growth rate by just over half in 2017 resulted in a dramatic slowdown in overall economic activity.

Of the other major sectors, only the 'finance and insurance' as well as the construction subsectors registered growth above 2.0 per cent. The latter was directly related to the delayed implementation of foreign funded investment projects. The minor sector of mining and quarry grew by a whopping 25.6 per cent but its share of GDP to total output represents only 0.44 per cent.

Table 3.1-1
Real Gross Domestic Product
2013-2017

	(\$M and Percentage Change)									
	2013R	%	2014R	%	2015R	%	2016R	%	2017R	%
Agriculture and Fishing	112.6	2.3	109.7	-2.5	110.2	0.4	109.0	-1.0	105.5	-3.3
Mining and Quarrying	20.7	26.7	28.8	39.1	37.4	29.9	32.4	13.2	40.7	25.6
Manufacturing	490.1	-2.7	468.9	-4.3	491.3	4.8	485.2	-1.3	487.8	0.5
Electricity, Gas & Water										
Supply	221.0	-0.1	221.3	0.2	217.4	-1.8	219.0	0.7	214.8	-1.9
Construction	495.0	-1.8	501.7	1.4	495.7	-1.2	482.8	-2.6	492.9	2.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	794.7	-0.2	768.2	-3.3	793.9	3.3	785.8	-1.0	753.7	-4.1
Transportation and Storage	388.4	-1.8	416.7	7.3	433.6	4.0	492.8	13.7	495.6	0.6
Accommodation and Food										
Services	1042.1	-3.1	1061.8	1.9	1144.8	7.8	1256.7	9.8	1314.9	4.6
Information &										
Communications	544.6	-7.3	549.0	0.8	537.8	-2.0	570.9	6.2	549.7	-3.7
Financial & Insurance	771.7	-1.1	772.5	0.1	799.1	3.5	820.5	2.7	850.7	3.7
Real Estate	845.6	1.1	854.9	1.1	864.3	1.1	873.8	1.1	883.4	1.1
Business Services	730.4	-4.1	756.9	3.6	805.6	6.4	813.4	1.0	794.9	-2.3
Public Administration,										
Defense & Social Security	564.1	0.6	509.0	-9.8	488.0	-4.1	483.3	-1.0	481.0	-0.5
Public Education	286.8	0.7	281.2	-1.9	276.9	-1.5	273.1	-1.3	275.4	0.8
Public Health	108.4	-1.5	103.7	-4.3	99.8	-3.7	98.3	-1.5	99.1	0.8
Personal & Other Services										
Incl. of Private Edu. & Health	368.8	-2.6	363.3	-1.5	355.9	-2.0	347.1	-2.5	345.5	-0.4
		-		-				-		
FISIM Adjustment	131.0	14.6	108.9	16.8	106.4	-2.3	93.7	11.9	91.0	-2.9
Total Value Added at Basic										
Prices	7653.9	-1.5	7658.5	0.1	7845.1	2.4	8050.5	2.6	8094.8	0.6
Taxes less Subsidies on										
Products	1174.0	-1.2	1162.1	-1.0	1190.8	2.5	1209.1	1.5	1201.7	-0.6
Gross Domestic Product at										
Constant Prices	8827.9	-1.4	8820.6	-0.1	9035.9	2.4	9259.6	2.5	9296.5	0.4
Real Gross Domestic Product										
per Capita('000)	27.6	-1.7	27.6	0.2	28.4	2.6	29.2	2.9	29.5	1.0

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

Three major sectors that reflect the strength of domestic spending, whole and retail, information and communication and business services, all declined by in excess of 3.0 per cent. The declines are consistent with the policy emphasis on fiscal restructuring.

GDP EXPENDITURE APPROACH

Signs of weaker growth prospects in sectoral output for 2017 were evident in domestic spending patterns. Personal expenditure as a share of nominal GDP declined, reflecting six or seven consecutive

years of frozen wages and salaries in the public sector. Spending power fell as fixed incomes from jobs were also affected by the removal of almost all allowances and deductions for Pay-As-You-Earn. Aggregate demand in the economy was therefore suppressed. This was particularly evident in the impact on private consumption (gross capital formation) which fell by 1.7 per cent.

During the year government consumption expenditure tightened, falling by 6.7 per cent to end with a percentage share of 12.2 per cent of nominal GDP. Overall consumption expenditure for the year 2017 declined by 0.6 per cent.

Gross capital formation reduced by 1.7 per cent, driven by a reduction in the acquisition of new and fixed assets by 4.7 per cent, reflecting the low appetite for investment spending. There was some improvement in the investment of building assets which expanded by 0.7 per cent after a two-year downturn. However, this uptick

was not significant enough to offset the overall decline in fixed capital formation.

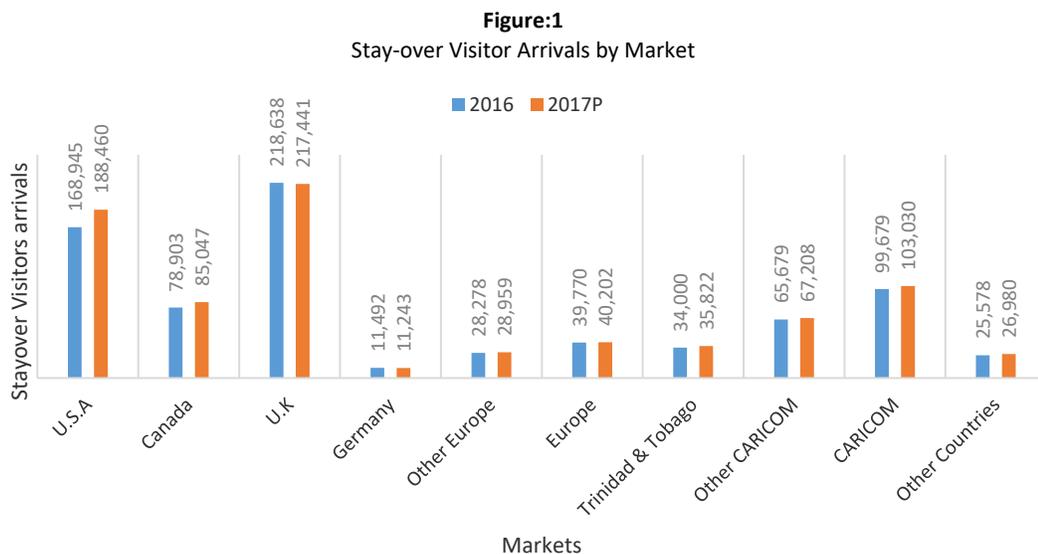
PER CAPITA INCOME

In 2017, Per Capita Income (at basic prices) was estimated at Bds \$30.5 thousand, representing an increase of 2.2 per cent from 2016 at which time the per capita income was estimated at Bds \$29.9 thousand.

B. SECTORAL PERFORMANCE

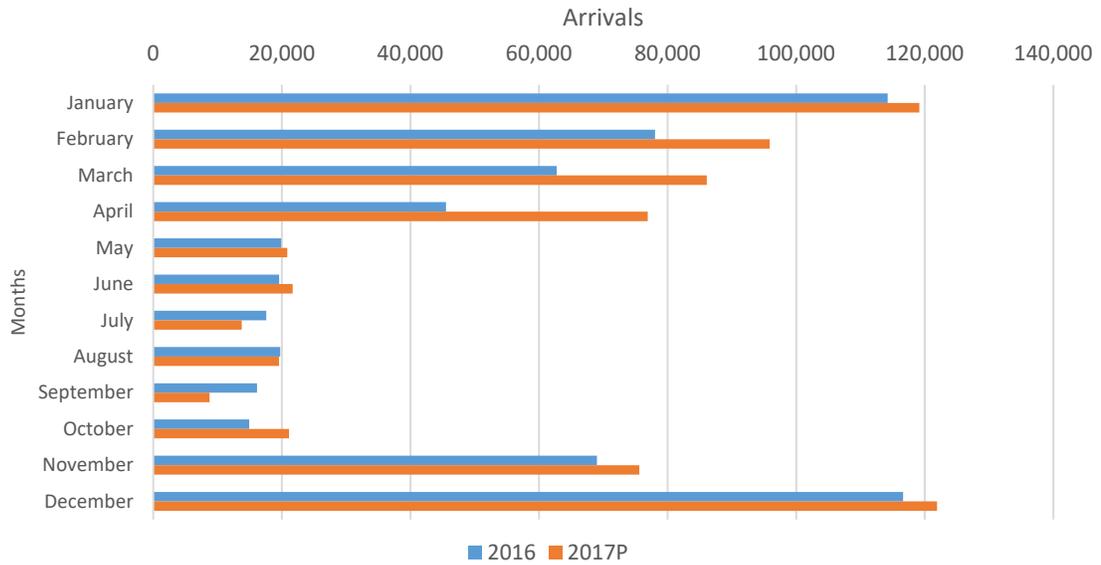
ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICES INDUSTRY

The Accommodation and Food Services industry, which is a proxy for measuring the tourism sector, remains one of the principal engine of growth in economy and a key generator of foreign exchange and private sector employment in the country. From 2013 to 2017, the industry accounted



SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

Figure:2
Cruise Passenger Arrivals (January to December)



SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

for on average 12.8 per cent of the share of real GDP and approximately two-thirds of the real GDP generated by the traded sector. In 2017, it registered a record number of stay-over arrivals as a five-year growth trend in the U.S.A market persisted, while other markets held their own. In addition, the industry experienced favorable increases in visitor spend, especially from its two major markets.

As a result, real output in the tourism industry expanded by 4.6 per cent in 2017 from the previous year, buoyed by some improvement in the aggregate length of stay. Its contribution to real GDP/output reached BDS\$1,314.9 that is equivalent to 14.1 per cent share. Notwithstanding, the industry's increased share of real GDP, Commercial Bank credit to the sector declined to \$378.1 million in 2017 from \$391.2 million in 2016. This is reflective of

the failure of a strategy to refresh the tourism product, which is essential to maintaining the competitiveness of the industry.

STAYOVER VISITORS

During 2017, total stay-over arrivals stood at 661,160 visitors, an increase of 4.7 per cent over 2016 levels. As in 2016, tourist arrivals peaked in December 2017, reaching 72,339 arrivals; whilst September recorded the fewest arrivals in the year with 34,347 arrivals. The average length of stay of visitors fell from 9.3 days in 2016 to 8.9 days in 2017.

Increases in stay-over arrivals were recorded in all markets with the exception of the United Kingdom (UK) and Germany, which affected length of stay. Two major markets, the United States of America and Canada performed exceptionally well as a

Table 3.2-1
Total Stayover Visitor Expenditure by Expense Item
2016 - 2017

Item	Percentage Share		Total Expenditure US\$'000		Actual Change	Percentage Change
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2017/2016	2017/2016
Accommodation	49.7	50.3	490,264	514,675	24,411	5
Meals & Drinks	23.5	26.8	231,856	274,436	42,580	18.4
Transportation	7.3	6.9	71,888	70,939	-949	-1.3
Entertainment/Recreation	4.8	3.9	47,301	39,846	-7,455	-15.8
Souvenirs	3.2	2.5	31,758	25,977	-5,781	-18.2
Shopping	3.6	3	35,880	30,181	-5,699	-15.9
Other Spending	7.8	6.5	77,322	66,744	-10,578	-13.7
Total	100	100	985,728	1,022,798	37,070	3.8

SOURCE: Caribbean Tourism Organization

result of increased airlift and higher disposable income resulting from strengthening economies. Arrivals from the two markets grew by 11.6 per cent and 7.8 per cent, respectively. These growth rates accounted for 25,659 tourists out of the increase of 30,680 in total arrivals between 2016 and 2017.. There was also an uptake in arrivals from Canada (6,144 more visitors or 7.8 per cent); Trinidad and Tobago (1,822 more visitors or 5.4 per cent) and 'Other Countries' (1,402 more visitors or 5.5 per cent).

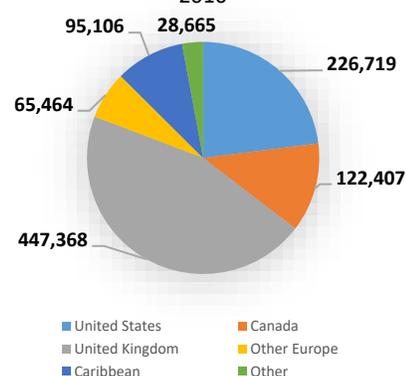
Despite a falloff in tourist arrivals from the previous year, the United Kingdom remained the leading tourist market, accounting for 32.9 per cent or 217,441 of stay-over visitors, followed by U.S.A (28.5 per cent) and CARICOM (15.6 per cent). The weak performance of the UK market may be attributed to increases in holiday prices and growing competition from other destinations, especially in the Asia/Pacific region and Africa/Middle East. The aftermath of the Brexit decision also had an impact on travel patterns, as growth in the UK economy slowed following the 2016 referendum. Fluctuations in the strength of

the pound has meant a generally weaker pound against the United States dollar, leading to higher holiday costs.

CRUISE PASSENGER ARRIVALS

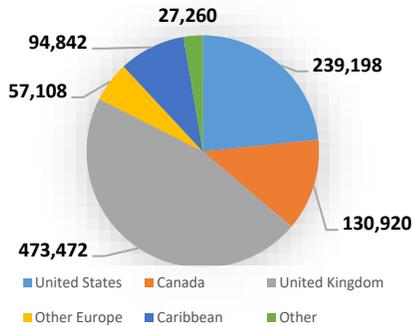
In 2017, there were 506 cruise ship calls at the Bridgetown Port, 82 more calls than in 2016. Cruise passenger arrivals increased by 14.7 per cent to reach 681,211 arrivals in 2017, compared to the 594,096

Figure 3 - Visitor Expenditure by Market 2016



SOURCE: Caribbean Tourism Organization

Figure 4 - Visitor Expenditure by Market 2017



SOURCE: Caribbean Tourism Organization

arrivals reported in 2016. December and January 2017 were the peak months for cruise passenger arrivals with 121,898 arrivals and 119,148 arrivals respectively.

Robust growth in cruise passenger arrivals was observed in the months of February through March, increasing by 22.9 per cent, 37.2 per cent and 68.9 per cent respectively over 2016 levels. In contrast, a steep decline in arrivals was recorded for September 2017, when compared to September 2016, possibly as a result of hurricane activity in the region. The summer months also suffered somewhat from a reduction in capacity, as only two (2) vessels docked in Barbados on a consistent basis. The reduction in capacity was further exacerbated by Carnival Corporation assigning the Carnival Fascination, a smaller vessel, to the itinerary that calls at Barbados

VISITOR EXPENDITURE

According to the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO), total visitor expenditure for 2017 was estimated at US\$1.06 billion or US\$39.7 million more than during 2016. Stayover visitor expenditure rose to US\$1.02 billion in 2017 from US\$985.8 million recorded in 2016, while Cruise expenditure increased by 7.6

per cent over 2016 levels to stand at US\$36.9 million.

STAYOVER VISITORS (EXPENDITURE)

Declines in spending were recorded in the majority of categories of expenditure for stayover visitors, with the exception of Accommodation and Meals & Drinks, which accounted for the bulk of visitor spend. When compared with 2016, expenditure on Accommodation in 2017 is estimated to have increased by 5.0 per cent to reach US\$514.7 million; while spending on Meals and Drinks was estimated at US\$274.4 million in 2017, an increase of 18.4 per cent from the previous year.

There was moderate growth in visitor spend in the three major source markets, led by Canada, which grew by 6.9 per cent that is from US\$122.4 million in 2016 to US\$130.9 million in 2017. Followed by United Kingdom and United States, recorded increases of 5.8 and 5.5 per cent, respectively. In contrast, declines in expenditure were observed from Other European countries (12.8 per cent), and "other countries" category (4.9 per cent), while spending from the Caribbean market remained largely unchanged.

CRUISE PASSENGERS ARRIVALS

Transportation continued to be the largest item of cruise passenger expenditure, estimated at US\$8.2 million in 2017. This represented a decline of 4.8 per cent when compared to the US\$8.7 million reported in 2016. Other items that accounted for large shares of cruise passenger expenditure in 2017 included Duty Free Purchases which increased by 16.4 per cent; Meals & Drinks rose by 11.9 per cent to stand at US\$6.5 million; while spending on Tours Purchased On Board the ships stood at US\$4.3 million, representing an increase of 17.8 per cent.

Table 3.2-2
Total Cruise Passenger Expenditure by Item (US\$'000)
2016 – 2017

Item	2016	2017	Actual Change	Percentage Change
Meals & Drinks	4,792.60	5,090.90	298.3	6.2
Transportation	8,658.00	8,238.60	-419.4	-4.8
Tours Purchased on Board	5,852.50	6,547.60	695.1	11.9
Duty-Free Purchases	6,125.40	7,131.40	1,006.00	16.4
Local Handicrafts & Souvenirs	3,416.60	3,874.50	457.9	13.4
Shopping	2,632.10	2,959.20	327.1	12.4
All Other Spending	2,835.00	3,084.30	249.3	8.8
Total Expenditure	34,312.30	36,926.70	2,614.40	7.6

SOURCE: Caribbean Tourism Organization

THE TOURISM LOAN FUND (TLF)

The Tourism Loan Fund continued to provide loans for the refurbishing and upgrading of eligible hotels and attractions during 2017. The fund also provided loan financing for the construction of facilities and attractions. The TLF did not receive capital funds from the government during the review period; however, disbursements and approvals from the Fund totalled BDS\$338,947 and BDS\$775,000 respectively. The amount available for lending as at December 2017 was approximately BDS\$7.46 million.

SMALL HOTELS INVESTMENT FUND (SHIF)

During the review period, the Small Hotels Investment Fund (SHIF) continued to assist small hotels with marketing, management, procurement of joint services and refurbishment. There was no capitalization of the Fund by government for the review period; however, BDS\$5.1 million was disbursed. One (1) loan totalling

BDS\$2.6 million was approved, which depleted the Fund leaving a mere \$0.5 million available for lending at the end of December 2017.

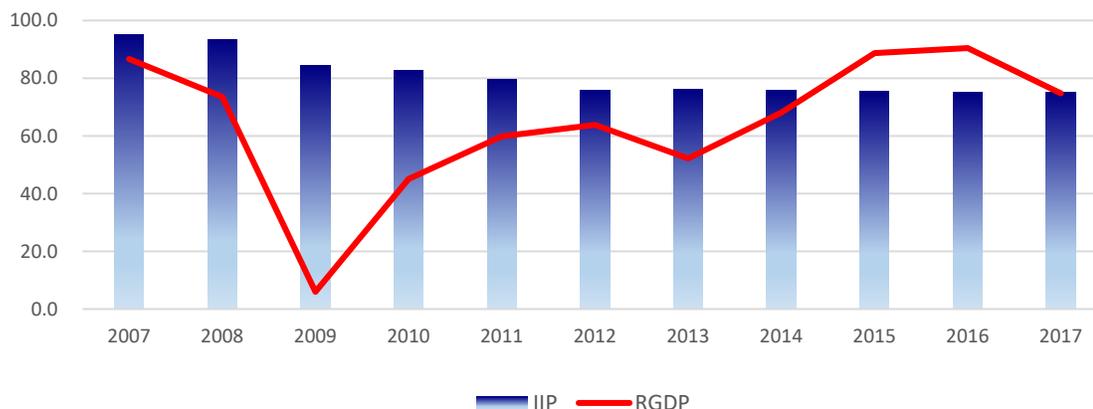
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

The industrial sector continued to be impacted by sluggish demand which had persisted since 2012. However, industrial output in 2017 grew for the first time since 2013, albeit at a very marginal rate of 0.1 per cent as measured by the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), which for 2017 stood at 75.1 points. During 2017 the mining and quarrying sector grew by 8.2 per cent in contrast to the decline of 0.6 per cent recorded in the electricity, water and gas sector and the stagnant performance of manufacturing.

MANUFACTURING

Production of manufactured goods in 2017 was constant at 56.5 points when

Figure 5
Annual Index of Industrial Production
(1994=100)
2007-2017



SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

compared with 2016. While the sub-sectors of beverages and tobacco, wooden furniture and non-metallic mineral products grew by 22.3 per cent, 9.5 per cent and 5.1 per cent respectively, output was offset by declines, in the sub-sectors of chemicals (13.1 per cent), other manufacturing (5.3 per cent) and electronic components (3.5 per cent).

At the end of 2017 employment within the industrial and related services establishments surveyed by the Barbados Investment and Development Corporation (BIDC) stood at 10,300 persons, which represented an increase of 0.4 per cent over 2016. Additionally, total investment in BIDC assisted companies during 2017 declined by 13.3 per cent to reach BDS \$28.9 million, which is on par with the 13.7 per cent decline in total commercial bank credit to the manufacturing sector at December 2017.

In 2017, the BIDC assisted eleven (11) small enterprise start-ups and recorded investment of BDS\$411,500 in these newly established enterprises. Although there was increased investments in new companies during the period, this

was not significant enough to offset the down turn in expansions (investment in existing companies).

The stagnant performance of the sector can be attributed to import competition, high production costs, and a prevailing consumer appetite for imported goods, which have dulled demand for domestic goods and blunted the sectors growth potential.

AGRICULTURE AND FISHING

The Agriculture and Fishing industry, has historically played a larger role in the Barbadian economy. However, in recent decades as result of a structural shift in the economy, the industry has accounted for a relatively small share of real GDP, registering 1.1 per cent of real GDP in 2017 and averaging 1.2 per cent from 2013 to 2017.

In 2017, the industry's output at basic prices increased by 3.6 per cent, with nominal GDP rising to \$129.5 million from \$125.0 million in 2016. Increases were

Table 3.2-3
Local Agricultural Production ('000 kgs)
2014 - 2017

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change over 2016
Sugar ('000 tonnes)	15.7	10.8	7.0	10.1	44.3%
Root Crop Production	2746.4	3214.1	4456.7	2420.3	-45.7%
Vegetable Production	4433.6	4247.1	2602.2	3729.2	43.3%
Livestock and Dairy Production	25,417.79	27,068.02	26,920.19	26,938.77	-0.07%
Cotton Lint ('000 kgs)	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	
	21	17.7	13.7	5.8	-57.7%

SOURCE: Agricultural Planning Unit, Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and Water Resource Management

reported in both the contribution of sugar cane (59.0 per cent) and non – sugar agriculture (1.9 per cent) to nominal GDP, which stood at \$6.9 million and \$122.6 million respectively.

The expansion of the contribution of non-sugar agriculture to nominal GDP was mainly driven by growth in the livestock and fishing sub-industries. The livestock sub-industry contribution to nominal GDP increased by 3.8 per cent to reach \$83.8 million in 2017. Additionally, a strong performance in the fishing sub- industry led to an increase of 23.2 per cent in the contribution to nominal GDP to stand at \$14.8 million.

For the fourth consecutive year, the contribution of the Food–crop sub-industry continued on a downward trajectory, falling from \$27.9 million in 2016 to \$24.0 million in 2017. Additionally, the contribution of other cultivation to nominal GDP fell from \$37.7 thousand in 2016 to \$18.9 thousand in 2017.

Provisional figures indicate that Commercial Bank Credit provided to the agricultural sector increased to \$6.9 million

from \$6.4 million in 2016. The livestock sub-industry received the largest share of credit with estimated financing of \$3.7 million provided, an increase of 6.1 per cent from the previous year. Financing provided to the sugar cane sub-industry also rose by 44.6 per cent to stand at \$749 thousand. However, there were declines in the credit provided to the Food Crops sub-industry (2.8 per cent) and other forms of agriculture (5.5 per cent), which fell to 1.36 million and 1.03 million respectively.

SUGAR

During 2017 a total of 132,845.1 tonnes of cane were harvested, a substantial increase (59.1 per cent) over the 82,485.4 tonnes of cane reaped in the previous year. Of the total cane harvested, independent plantations accounted for 64.6 per cent, followed by Barbados Agricultural Management Estates (35 per cent) and small farmers (less than one percent).

The 2017 sugar crop, yielded 10,102.4 tonnes of raw sugar from the 132,845.1 tonnes of cane delivered to the Portvale Factory. This represented an

improvement of 43.8 per cent over the 7,026.1 tonnes produced in 2016. There was a noticeable decline in the throughput from the cane to sugar conversion, where it required 13.15 tonnes of cane to produce one tonne of sugar; compared to 11.87 tonnes in 2016.

Domestic exports of raw sugar to the European Union (EU) were valued at BDS\$6.3 million in 2017, down from BDS\$6.2 million in 2016. The receipts were derived from exports of 5,825.6 tonnes in 2017 compared to 6,007.3 tonnes in the previous year. The selling price for sugar per tonne in the EU market increased by 6.2 per cent from 2016 to stand at \$1,104.00 per tonne in 2017.

NON- SUGAR AGRICULTURE

COTTON

In the 2016/17 cotton season, cotton seed production fell by 46.8 per cent, with 18.4 thousand kilogrammes of seed cotton being produced from 89.6 hectares, compared to 34.6 thousand kilogrammes of seed cotton produced from 171.7 hectares in the previous season. Lint production also declined by 57.4 per cent to stand at 5.8 thousand kilogrammes at the end of 2017, the lowest output recorded over the past five years. The number of running bales produced fell to 26 in 2017 from 57 bales during the previous year.

The late planting of the crop and the decline in the number of the private farmers participating in the industry were some of the factors that contributed to the low level of production reported. Another issue facing the industry, regards the management of the crop, where farmers are generally unable to adequately address the pest and weed issues encountered.

VEGETABLE AND ROOT CROP PRODUCTION

In 2017, overall vegetable production increased from 2.6 million kilogrammes in 2016 to 3.7 million kilogrammes in 2017, with improvements recorded in the majority of crops monitored. Hot peppers production recorded the largest increase of 295.7 per cent during 2017, with production levels moving from 37.5 thousand kilogrammes in 2016 to reach 148.3 thousand kilogrammes in 2017. Cucumbers production increased by 185.5 per cent to stand at 714.51 thousand kilogrammes, thus returning within the vicinity of pre-2016 production levels.

Other commodities, which recorded significant improvements in production included: sweet peppers which grew by 122.0 percent or 167.3 thousand kilogrammes; string beans increased by 127.5 thousand kilogrammes or 93.1 per cent; cabbages grew by 133.3 thousand kilogrammes or 39.5 per cent; lettuce increased by 146.8 thousand kilogrammes or 33.4 per cent; and okras grew by 79.8 thousand kilogrammes or 30.6 per cent.

Root crop production declined by approximately 45.7 per cent during 2017 to stand at 2.4 million kilogrammes. Peanuts, was the only commodity that recorded an improvement during the review period, expanding from approximately 11.2 thousand kilogrammes in 2016 to 21.1 thousand kilogrammes in the year 2017.

Despite being the leading root crop commodity for Barbados, sweet potato production fell by 59.7 per cent during 2017 to 1.2 million kilogrammes. This followed a spike in production during 2016, when approximately 2.9 million kilogrammes were produced.

Yam production contracted by 52.1 per cent to an estimated 181.4 thousand kilogrammes in 2017, representing the lowest level of production over a 10-year period.

LIVESTOCK AND DAIRY PRODUCTION

During 2017, livestock production expanded by 18.6 thousand kilogrammes from 26.9 million kilogrammes in 2016. However, with the exception of veal, milk and poultry production, declines in output were recorded for all other livestock products.

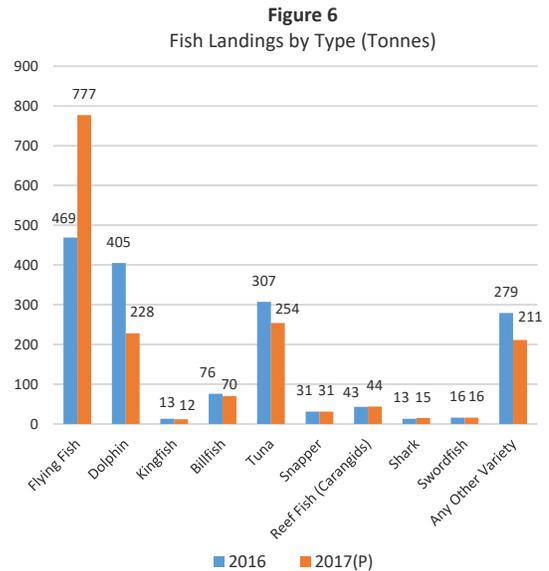
Turkey production contracted by 134.8 thousand kilogrammes, a decrease of 51.5 per cent compared to 2016. Egg production was significantly affected by some issues with the laying bird population; as a result, 19.6 million less eggs were produced during 2017 than in the previous year, equating to a 21.0 per cent decline in production.

Chicken production continued to be the flagship of the livestock sector accounting for 58.7 per cent of total livestock, with an output of 15.8 million kilogrammes in 2017, 908.5 thousand kilogrammes more than in 2016.

FISHERIES

Notwithstanding the presence of sargassum weed and its effects on flying fish in particular, the total fish catch increased in 2017 to an estimated 1,658 tonnes, compared to the 1, 652 tonnes landed in 2016. Flying fish accounted for the bulk (46.8 per cent) of the island’s fish catch with 777 tonnes reported. However, despite the increase in landings from 2016 (by 308 tonnes), the 2017 flying fish catch remained the fourth weakest reported over the last twenty-years.

With the exception of swordfish, which remained unchanged, the annual



SOURCE: Fisheries Division

landings of the majority of major large pelagic species groups, namely tunas, billfish and kingfish were reduced by 17.3 per cent, 7.9 per cent and 7.7 per cent, respectively from the previous year.

Additionally, landings of sharks in 2017 increased by 15.4 per cent from 2016; while turpits and pot-fish landings fell by 31.8 per cent and 40.4 per cent respectively.

Dolphinfish landings fell by 43.7 per cent to stand at 228 tonnes in 2017; representing the lowest reported catch within the past the twenty-years. This decline in dolphinfish catch may be attributed to a number of factors including the low availability of flying fish, which form a major part of the dolphinfish’s diet.

Over the review period, it was reported that a number of fishers were targeting dolphinfish directly associated with the floating Sargassum mat, which tend to be juveniles. The continuous catches of juveniles may have negative implications for the replenishment and abundance of subsequent generations of the stock. This scenario is of great concern in the context of sustainability of the stock and the fishery. As such, the Fisheries Division is continuing

Table 3.2-4
Food Import Bill (BDS\$)
2014 - 2017

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017
Beef	\$21,362,317	\$26,619,290	\$22,030,780	\$21,927,301
Pork	\$15,393,384	\$13,341,821	\$13,551,868	\$14,579,032
Lamb	\$14,487,242	\$11,515,727	\$9,602,649	\$13,581,110
Poultry	\$6,569,512	\$5,167,065	\$5,756,090	\$6,670,534
Fish	\$31,968,809	\$34,274,358	\$30,905,359	\$32,253,400
Dairy and Eggs	\$70,695,490	\$61,268,437	\$56,743,008	\$60,247,586
Vegetables Fresh and Chilled	\$22,213,201	\$22,632,553	\$26,435,176	\$28,261,166
Vegetables Frozen and Dried	\$3,874,164	\$4,331,358	\$3,868,058	\$4,457,366
Root Crops	\$286,339	\$260,911	\$357,167	\$208,416
Nuts	\$1,601,159	\$1,910,720	\$1,723,781	\$2,207,194
Fruits	\$29,483,575	\$32,712,392	\$33,344,812	\$32,331,388
Coffee, Tea and Spices	\$7,381,821	\$8,552,071	\$7,405,709	\$8,290,440
Grain and cereals	\$89,318,226	\$73,518,865	\$74,631,352	\$66,938,503
Oils and fats	\$22,657,369	\$20,057,353	\$19,061,406	\$19,502,860
Processed Goods	\$171,319,463	\$174,130,821	\$168,182,238	\$182,443,666
Juices and Concentrates	\$10,245,007	\$8,077,909	\$11,514,869	\$11,295,939
Other Food Preparations	\$67,750,432	\$70,929,374	\$74,067,239	\$85,609,476
Beverages	\$36,625,195	\$41,572,969	\$42,193,397	\$38,598,391
Alcoholic Beverages	\$47,577,073	\$55,470,151	\$54,683,875	\$54,948,020
Total	\$670,809,778	\$666,344,145	\$656,058,833	\$684,351,788

SOURCE: Agricultural Planning Unit, Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and Water Resource Management

efforts to legislate a minimum size limit for dolphinfish to curb the practice of harvesting of juvenile dolphins.

Sea Egg Fishery

In 2017 the Fisheries Division continued its collaboration with fisher divers to assess the status of local sea-egg stocks. Based on the survey results and following consultations with the divers it was decided that the stock abundance was too low to allow for opening of a fishing season.

Lionfish

A fishery for lionfish continues to develop in Barbados with more members of the general public expressing interest in

obtaining lionfish. Unfortunately, records of landings of the species are not routinely collected at most markets and the quantity of the species being delivered directly to end consumers such as restaurants are unknown. However, in 2017 a total landing of 0.6 tonne of lionfish was recorded.

FOOD IMPORT BILL

The Barbados food import bill for 2017 stood at BDS\$684.4 million, representing an upturn of 4.3 per cent from the previous year. This increase was mainly fuelled by increases in expenditure recorded in the majority categories of imports, with the exception of beef which fell by BDS\$ 103,479; root crops fell by BDS\$148,751; fruit imports declined by BDS\$1,013,424;

Table 3.2-5
Importation of Select Crop Commodities
2014 – 2017

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change over 2016
Root Crop Imports ('000 kgs)					
Cassava	0.018	0.19	0.41	0.027	-93.4
Eddoes	76.36	108.16	151.91	135.63	-10.7
Sweet Potato	24.17	11.09	6.29	34.57	449.6
Yam	51.18	84.09	107.74	63.4	-41.2
Onion	1,711.57	1,715.65	1,758.12	1,954.16	11.2
Peanut	453.677	482.16	421.12	402.049	-4.5
Vegetable Imports ('000 kgs)					
Beans (String)	3.05	0.71	0.402	0.323	-19.7
Beets	31.13	37.09	48.56	54.45	12.1
Cabbage	379.35	471.71	552.66	566.82	2.6
Carrot	525.43	625.73	729.86	807.6	10.7
Cucumber	15.07	13.19	61.71	8.08	-86.9
Lettuce	549.36	670.46	769.6	781.68	1.6
Melons	401.75	481.3	474.84	523.53	10.3
Okras	0	0.014	-	0.059	-
Peppers (Hot)	2.45	2.04	18.07	1.5	-91.7
Peppers (Sweet)	158.92	187.01	222.07	278.83	25.6
Pumpkins	278.81	173.281	236.45	301.5	27.5
Tomato	156.21	245.58	295.33	338.69	14.7

SOURCE: Agricultural Planning Unit, Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and Water Resource Management

and grains and cereals declined by BDS\$7,692,849. Additional declines were also observed in imports of “other food preparations” and “juices and concentrates”, which fell by BDS\$ 3,595,006 and BDS\$ 218,930 respectively.

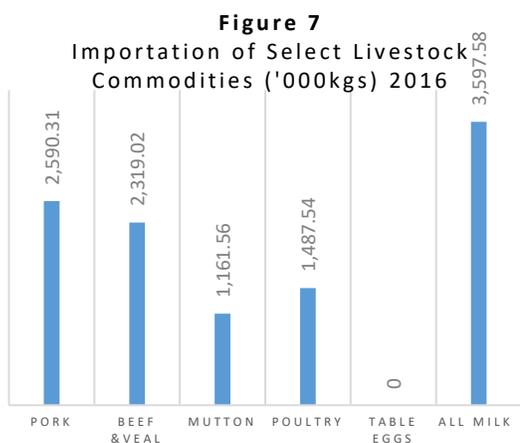
The category of “processed goods” remained the largest contributor to the food import bill, accounting for 26.7 per cent or BDS \$182.4 Million of the food import; followed by “other food preparations” which accounted for 12.5 per cent or BDS\$ 85.6 million of food imports. The category of grains and cereals for which local production is limited, also accounted for a significant portion of the food import bill, representing 10.3 per cent of expenditure.

During 2017, imports of fresh or chilled vegetables accounted for BDS\$ 28.3 million or 4.1 per cent of the total food import bill, while frozen or dried vegetables represented 0.7 per cent of food imports. The country remained largely self-sufficient in the production of root crops in 2017; as such the value of imports for this category of commodities was estimated at BDS\$ 208,416, less than 1.0 per cent of the food import bill.

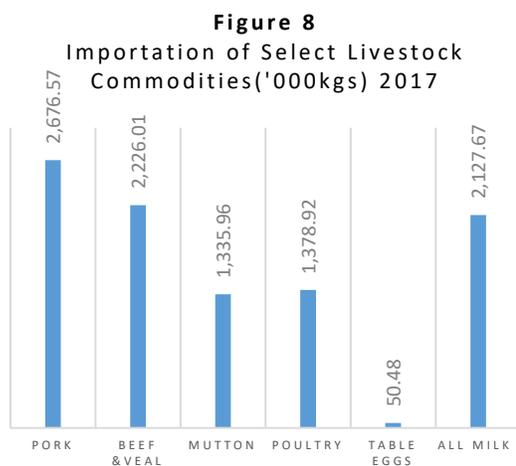
Collectively, meat imports were responsible for 13.0 per cent of the food import bill for 2017, with a total value of BDS \$89 million. The importation of meat products included Beef (BDS\$ 21.9 million),

Pork (BDS \$14.6 million), Lamb (BDS \$13.6 million), Poultry (BDS \$6.7 million) and Fish (BDS \$ 32.2 million).

Dairy and eggs were collectively responsible for BDS\$ 60.2 million (or 8.8 per cent) of the food bill; with approximately BDS\$0.5 million being attributed to eggs (not including the cost of eggs for hatching baby chicks).



SOURCE: Agricultural Planning Unit, Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and Water Resource Management



SOURCE: Agricultural Planning Unit, Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and Water Resource Management

IMPORTS OF SELECT "FRESH OR CHILLED" CROPS

During the review period, imports of pumpkin (27.5 per cent) and sweet peppers (25.6 per cent) increased significantly to stand at 301.5 thousand kilogrammes and 278.8 thousand kilogrammes respectively. Notable increases were also reported in imports of tomatoes which grew by 43.4 thousand kilogrammes or 14.7 per cent; beets imports grew by 5.9 thousand kilogrammes or 12.1 per cent; carrots imports increased by 77.7 thousand kilogrammes or 10.7 per cent; and melons imports increased by 48.7 thousand kilogrammes or 10.3 per cent during 2017.

Onions accounted for the largest volume of imports among the root crops commodities, with 1.94 million kilogrammes recorded, representing an 11.2 per cent increase over the previous year.

The total volume of sweet potato imported in 2017 increased by 449.6 per cent over 2016 levels to stand at 34.6 thousand kilogrammes.

SELECT LIVESTOCK AND DAIRY IMPORTS

Overall, 9.8 million kilogrammes of select livestock and dairy imports were observed, a drop of 12.2 per cent from the previous year. This reduction can be attributed to the decline in imports in the majority of categories; with the exception of mutton products and fresh pork and ham cuts, which expanded by 15.0 per cent and 3.3 per cent respectively.

While there was no comparative figure for the imports of table eggs for 2016; in 2017 imports of 50.5 thousand kilogrammes of eggs, approximately 1.1 million units, were recorded.

Table 3.2-6
Number of New International Business Entities Licensed for 2011-2017

International Business Entities	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
International Business Companies (IBCs)	511	393	438	442	383	346	293
International Societies with Restricted Liability (ISRLs)	28	27	30	30	38	117	59
International Trusts (ITs)	15	78	51	46	35	28	32
Private Trust Companies (PTCs)							1
Exempt Insurance Companies (EICs)	21	8	0	14	10	9	12
Qualifying Insurance Companies (QICs)	2	4	0	2	2	4	8
Offshore Banks	2	1	0	2	0	0	0
Total	579	511	519	536	468	504	405

SOURCE: International Business Division, Financial Services Commission (FSC) & Central Bank of Barbados

Imports of milk recorded a significant reduction of 40.9 per cent, or 1.5 million kilogrammes in 2017, declining to 2.1 million kilogrammes from 3.6 million kilogrammes in 2016. Other commodities recorded decreases in the quantity imported, including poultry, which declined by 7.3 per cent and beef, which recorded a 4.0 per cent decrease in comparison with 2016 imports.

THE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ADF)

During the review period, there was no new capitalization of the fund by the government. Total funds disbursed in 2017 amounted to \$3.8 million. Two (2) loans amounting to (\$360,000) and two grants totalling \$903,744 were approved. The total amount available for lending as at December 2017 was \$256,675.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES

During the review, Government remained focused on delivering the legislative structure and effective accompanying systems, processes, and enforcement measures necessary to ensure the sustainability and viability of the

international business sector as a major contributor to Barbados' economic development. However, 2017 was a challenging year for the Government of Barbados in its quest to regulate the international business sector, in a global environment focused on demands for amendments to Barbados' legal framework in the areas of anti-money laundering, the countering of terrorist financing, effective exchange of information, tax transparency and harmful tax practices.

NEW COMPANY FORMATION AND ENTITIES LICENSED

At the end of December 2017 the number of new international business entities licensed stood at 405, representing a decline in new company formation of 19.6 per cent over 2016. This decline in new company formation for 2017 was led by declining growth in International Societies with Restricted Liability (ISRLs) (49.6 percent) and International Business Companies (IBCs) (15.3 per cent), which stood in contrast to growth in the number of Qualifying Insurance Companies (QICs) (100 per cent), Exempt Insurance Companies (EICs) (33.3 per cent) and international Trusts (ITs) (14.3 percent). There was only one (1) new Private Trust

Company (PTC) licensed in 2017, while no new Offshore Banks were registered in 2017, continuing the trend of the past 2 years.

The number of international business entities renewed and active at the end of December 2017, stood at 3337, which represented a decline of 3.5 per cent over 2016. This decline was singlehandedly caused by an 8.2 per cent decline in IBC renewals over 2016, as growth in ISRLs (27.3 per cent), QICs (17.4 per cent), EICs (6 per cent) and stagnant growth in FSCs and Offshore Banks was unable to offset the overall decline.

CONSTRUCTION

During the period 2013 to 2017, the performance of the Construction has been on a downward trajectory, with the contribution to real GDP averaging \$493.6 million, the equivalent of 5.5 per cent the share of real GDP on average. The contraction of the construction sector was due primarily to a slowdown in both private and public building projects and delayed tourism-related projects. Construction activity increased by an estimated 2.1 per cent in 2017, attributing \$492.9 million to real GDP, compared to 482.8 million in the previous year.

PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAMME

HOUSING RELOCATION

Airport Relocation Project

In order to facilitate the Grantley Adams International Airport (GAIA) Expansion Project, 75 households from the designated clear zone of the Grantley Adams International Airport were to be removed and relocated elsewhere. The programme entailed the construction of replacement

units at Lead Vale, Fairy Valley and Pilgrim Place B in Christ Church, to re-house 70 impacted households and the compensation of five (5) families.

Previously, 64 houses were constructed and occupied and six (6) property owners opted to receive compensation and have been paid. During the review period the house at Lot 95 Fairy Valley was completed.

White Hill to Farmers Phase II, St. Thomas

In 2017, the Cabinet of Barbados approved the relocation of five (5) additional houses via Public Tender. One (1) resident was relocated to his replacement house.

JOINT VENTURE PROGRAMME

The Cabinet of Barbados in May 2009 approved a new Joint Venture Housing Programme between the National Housing Corporation and the Private Sector. To date the following projects have been undertaken:

Housing Every Last Person (H.E.L.P) Programme

The H.E.L.P Programme was launched in 2008 with the intention of addressing the demand of Barbadians for reasonably priced houses. In 2017 construction was completed on fifty – one houses under this programme; while the sale of forty-four houses were finalized in the period, equating to sale receipts of \$5,808,817.95.

Rent-to-Own Programme

Launched in 2010 the “Rent-to-Own” Programme at Airlie Heights Development provides housing options for low income earners. Under this programme,

a contractual agreement is arranged between a tenant and a landlord for a period of seven (7) years in the first instance, during which time a proportionate part of the rent (70 per cent) is applied to the purchase price. At the end of the seven (7) years, a purchase contract is executed once the tenant exercises his option to purchase.

To date, 101 families have benefited under this programme. In 2017, 60 new tenancies were created. Three sales were completed in this period at the total cost of \$402,316.20

500 Lots Programme

Under this initiative NHC Board approved the allocation of lots at Pool, Henley, Guinea and Cherry Grove in St John, and Branch-bury and Easy Hall in St Joseph. This programme entails the provision of five hundred (500) lots at \$5.00 per square foot. The sales of twenty- two (22) lots were completed within 2017 under this programmes.

PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME

ROAD WORKS

In 2017, the Ministry of Transport and Works (MTW) employed a variety of methods such as milling, road rehabilitation, road reconstruction and maintenance and rehabilitation to maintain public road infrastructure to an acceptable standard for public use.

MILL AND PAVE PHASE 1 & 2

During the period under review, six (6) roads were completed under this programme, when compared to three (3) roads completed in the previous year. The programme was accelerated in its second phase; as four roads were completed in: Cane Garden; St. Philip; Royal Plum Road; St.

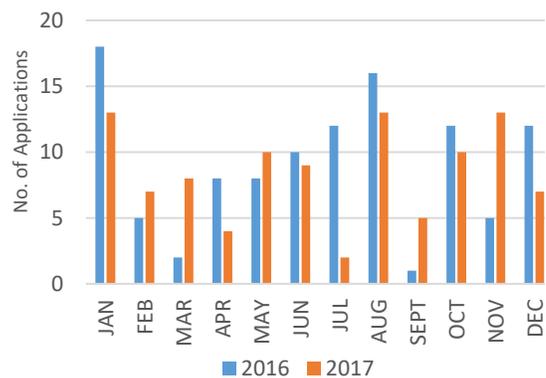
Philip; Durants, Christ Church, and Strakers Tenantry, St Michael. Four roads are presently ongoing, and seven roads are yet to start.

ASPHALT REINFORCEMENT /PATCHING PROGRAMME

Over the last two years, Barbados experienced severe weather conditions that further deteriorated the road infrastructure. Coupled with increasing motor vehicle usage, overall road quality was impacted significantly. Resources were allocated to all depots across the island to respond to the developments in the road stock and as a result, 1,863 roads were patched in 2017, compared to 2,940 roads patched during 2016. During the year, road patching largely concentrated at the South Point, Prospect and Prince Road depots. Areas surrounding Golden Ridge, Belleplaine and Deacons saw the lower end of road patching activity during the year.

ELECTRICAL INSPECTIONS

Figure: 9
Applications Received by the Building Standards Authority 2016-2017



SOURCE: Ministry of Transport and Works

The Government Electrical Engineering Department 6,031 electrical inspections in 2017, which represented a

decline of 5.0 per cent or 327 less inspections when compared to the previous year of 2016, where a total of 6,358 inspections were conducted. Barbados maintained an average of around 500 inspections per month across the country. The indicators showed that with respect to the density of inspection activity, the parishes of St. Michael, St. Philip and Christ Church made up the majority of inspections, accounting for 58.8 per cent of overall electrical inspections undertaken during the year.

BUILDING STANDARDS

The Building Standards Authority is mandated to ensure a minimum level of building requirements for all construction on the island. During 2017, a total of 101 applications were received by the Building Standards Authority, representing a decrease of eight (8) applications from 2016.

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

In 2017, the contribution of the Electricity, Gas and Water Supply industry to real GDP fell to \$214.8 million from \$219.0 million in 2016; representing the lowest output recorded for the industry within the past five years. Despite the decline, there was marginal increase in domestic crude oil production, which was attributed to the use of sand control for some of the newly drilled wells; in addition to some re-completions. There were also favourable developments in the renewable energy market, with a rise in sales of electricity from renewable energy sources and an increase in the number of connections to the national grid reported. In contrast, there was a noticeable falloff in Natural Gas production from the previous year, which was mainly due to a decline in associated gas, as well as the conservative use of the swing gas wells.

OIL & GAS PRODUCTION AND RESERVES

Over the review period, three (3) wells were commercialized to help boost production, as well as sand control operations employed. Additionally, the drilling programme resulted in five (5) wells being brought online. Domestic crude oil production amounted to 233,489 barrels (bbls) in 2017, an increase of approximately 0.3 per cent over 2016. Conversely, natural gas production fell by 13.1 per cent in 2017 to 526,861 thousand cubic feet (mcf), when compared to 606,473 mcf produced in 2016.

According to the Barbados National Oil Company Limited (BNOCL) as at December 31st 2017, crude oil reserves were estimated at 2.53 million (bbls), an increase of 32.0 per cent over the 1.91 million bbls reported in 2016. Natural gas reserves also expanded to 5,055,120 thousand cubic feet in 2017 from 3,292,000 mcf in 2016.

OIL AND GAS SALES AND CONSUMPTION

The sale of Oil and Natural gas fell in 2017. In particular, Oil sales declined by 3.4 per cent to 232,896 bbls in 2017 from 241,202 bbls in 2016; while Natural gas sales from the Barbados National Oil Company decreased by 37.0 per cent from 467,868 mcf in 2016 to 293,567 mcf.

Gas sales by the National Petroleum Corporation (NPC) to the public increased by 16.6 per cent in 2017, with estimated sales of BDS\$20,192,084 compared to sales valued at BDS\$17,312,200 for 2016. The volume of natural gas sold in 2017 also increased to 14,826,206 cubic metres (m³); the equivalent of 3.9 per cent above the amount sold in 2016 (14,267,429 m³). The increases in volume and value reported was due solely to the importation of liquefied natural gas (LPG).

The expansion programme of the NPC continued in 2017, with an addition of

0.77 miles to the distribution network and the inclusion of 373 new customers.

ELECTRICITY

Sales of electricity for 2017 stood at 944.0 million kilowatts per hour (kWh), representing a marginal increase of 0.04 per cent when compared to 2016. Of the total sales of electricity, it is estimated that 36.2 million kWh or 3.8 per cent were from renewable energy sources. The overall increase in electricity sales was largely due to a rise in customer demand, with the largest category of users continuing to be the domestic sector, which accounted for 34.0 per cent of total sales or 324.0 million kWh.

In 2017, the Barbados Light & Power Co. Ltd (BL&P) invested approximately BDS \$62.0 million to upgrade its capital infrastructure in order to expand its services to accommodate forecasted demand for the year.

FUEL IMPORTS

For 2017, the fuel import bill was estimated at BDS \$353.3 million, which represented a decrease of 4.0 per cent when compared with the figure of BDS \$367.1 million for 2016. The estimated decrease in the import bill was mainly due to a reduction in petroleum prices.

Gasoline imports declined by 3.7 per cent to stand at 764,449 bbls in 2017; whilst imports of diesel expanded from 472,078 bbls to 536,840 bbls in 2017. Additionally, imports of fuel oil fell by 19.6 per cent below 2016 levels (1,513,745 bbls) to stand at 1,217,417 bbls in 2017.

CONSUMPTION OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

The volume of gasoline consumed during 2017 was estimated at 772,265 bbls, which represented a marginal increase of 0.7 per cent when compared with 767,206 bbls of gasoline consumed for 2016. The consumption of diesel for 2017 was estimated at 503,635 bbls, or 19,470 bbls more than in 2016. Conversely, declines were recorded in the consumption of fuel oil (0.14 per cent) and kerosene (4.6 per cent), which were estimated at 1,194,795 bbls and 546,068 bbls respectively.

LOCAL RETAIL OIL PRICES

The policy of monthly price adjustment for the major fuels: gasoline, diesel, kerosene and LPG continued during 2017, as a result the retail prices of the products were more reflective of their imported prices. In the case of gasoline, the average retail price for 2017 was \$3.09 per litre or 11.0 per cent above the average retail price of \$2.79 per litre in 2016. The average retail price for diesel rose to \$2.31 per litre in 2017, 18.0 per cent above the price of \$1.96 per litre for the same period in 2016. While the average retail price for kerosene during 2017 was \$1.16 per litre or 25.0 per cent above the average retail price of \$0.93 per litre for 2016.

The retail prices for LPG, were adjusted in a similar fashion as the average retail price of the 100lb cylinder was recorded at \$151.85, 5.0 per cent above the average retail price of \$144.08 for the previous year. With regard to the 25lb cylinder, the average retail price was \$43.06

for 2017, an increase of 5.0 per cent when compared with \$41.14 in 2016.

The average retail price for the 22lb cylinder for 2017 was \$38.06, an increase of 5.0 per cent when compared to \$36.34 for 2016. However, average retail price for the 20lb cylinder decreased by 3.0 per cent in 2017 from \$33.04 in 2016 to stand at \$34.06.

During 2017, the price structure of refined petroleum products experienced some changes such as, increases in throughput fees on gasoline and diesel, excise tax, marketers' margin, National Social Responsibility Levy (NSRL) as well as the introduction of cross subsidies on gasoline and diesel to keep the throughput fees on fuel oil and aviation fuel unchanged. These changes to the structure of refined petroleum products generally contributed to the increase in prices.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER ACT 2013

In 2017, 53 licenses were offered to new applicants to supply electricity to the national grid. The amount of licensed renewable energy totaled 30 mega-watts (MW), of this 27 MW were connected to the grid at the end of 2017.

The Renewable Energy Rider (RER) made provision for Renewable Energy (RE) systems up to 500kW and applicants submitted larger applications for licenses. In addition, the RER removed the limit which stated that the production must be no greater than 1.5 times the consumption.

RENEWABLE ENERGY FEED IN TARIFFS

The demand for renewable energy was boosted through the delinking of the feed in tariff from global fuel costs. A fixed price of BDS 41.6 cents was set for electricity purchased from photovoltaic (PV) systems, and BDS 31.5 cents for electricity purchased from wind systems.

PV SYSTEMS AT SCHOOLS

Over the review period, the Division of Energy and Technology (DET) outfitted Bayley's Primary School, St. Catherine's Primary School, Selah Primary School and Half Moon Fort Primary School with PV systems. A total of 70kW of PV was installed to meet the electrical energy needs of the schools.

Additionally, the second phase of the PV system project was commenced, which involved the identification and interconnection of the emergency lighting circuits to the backup component of the PV system.

ENERGY EFFICIENT LIGHTING AND AIR CONDITIONING RETROFIT PROGRAMME

The Energy Efficient retrofit programme was completed in 2017 and a number of Government owned buildings were facilitated through a technical assistance programme from the Peoples Republic of China. This included the distribution of 25,000 energy efficient lights and 1,000 air-conditioners.

Over 45 Government institutions were retrofitted with Light-Emitting Diodes (LED) lights and air-conditioned units, with the bulk of the inventory going to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH), the Barbados Defense Force (BDF), the Government Electrical Engineering Department (GEED) and the Barbados Community College (BCC).

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE) - CARIBBEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY FUND

In January 2017, the Government of the United Arab Emirates launched the US\$50.0 million Caribbean Renewable Energy Fund which was established for Caribbean developing states to promote the increased use of renewable energy. To date,

two projects submitted by the Barbados Water Authority (BWA) were approved under this facility, including: 1) the installation of a 500kW ground mount photovoltaic farm on 1.5 acres of land at the Bowmanston water pumping station; and 2) the installation of a 500kW solar carport covering approximately 35,000 sq. ft. of parking area at the Bridgetown Sewage Treatment Plant. This solar carport is expected to produce 38.0 per cent of the energy needs of the treatment plant.

CARIBBEAN CENTRE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY (CCREEE)

During 2017, the Agreement to establish Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREEE) was signed by ten (10) member countries at the heads of Government meeting in Grenada held in June. These countries were: Barbados, Belize, Jamaica, Trinidad, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Grenada, Suriname and Guyana.

For the year 2017, Barbados and Dominica were the two (2) of the ten (10) countries which have ratified the agreement.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FRAMEWORK (SEFB)

Sustainable Energy Investment Programme (Energy Smart Fund)

During 2017, under the Energy Efficient Lighting Facility, the Enterprise Growth Fund continued to partner with Caribbean LED Ltd. to implement a final phase of the facility by providing five (5) free light emitting diodes (LEDs) to a number of residential customers of BL&P through the issuance of vouchers.

This third phase distributed 11,575 lights, at a cost of BDS \$245,159.82. This facility was closed in April 2017. A total of

BDS \$1,219,887.60 was disbursed under this Facility.

The remaining three (3) of the five (5) main facilities under Component one, including: The Technical Assistance Facility, the Pilot Consumer Finance (PCF) Facility and the loan Energy Efficient Lighting Distribution Facility were completed during 2017. The Air Conditioning Trade-In Facility was cancelled due to challenges in disposal of the air conditioning gas.

Under Technical Assistance Facility, 36 applications were submitted to the DET of which 28 totaling BDS \$449,674.50 were for firms to undertake energy audits and/or renewable energy designs. In total, BDS \$440,191.10 was distributed under this facility.

The Enterprise Growth Fund Limited (EGFL) partnered with Massy Stores (formerly DaCosta Mannings Retail Ltd.) and Unicomer Barbados Ltd., for the implementation of the Pilot Consumer Finance Facility and disbursed BDS \$498,839.83 to Massy Stores and BDS \$499,618.57 to Unicomer. Approximately 2,600 customers benefitted from 20.0 per cent rebates or up to \$500 for purchasing renewable energy and energy efficient equipment, including energy efficient refrigerators, washing machines and solar water heaters.

Under the Energy Efficiency Retrofit and Renewable Energy Finance Facility, a total of twenty (20) loans totalling BDS \$16.5 million were approved. A total of BDS \$16.3 million were disbursed to loan applicants, of which BDS \$15.5 million was disbursed from IADB resources and BDS \$810,116 from project reflows and interest to this fund. These loans enabled businesses to implement photovoltaic (PV) systems and energy efficient retrofits. These projects totaling 1.727 Mega Watts (MW) of PV systems, energy efficient refrigeration and

cooling and energy efficient lighting are expected to save 3,782 MW of energy per year. The combined output of these energy efficiency and renewable energy measures are projected to save the equivalent of 2,225 bbls of oil.

*PUBLIC SECTOR SMART ENERGY (PSSE)
PROGRAM*

In 2017, the Government of Barbados and BL&P signed a contract for the procurement and installation of LED street lighting across Barbados. The procurement of the LED Fixtures by the BL&P commenced in September 2017.

Under the Electric Vehicles component, procurement activities for the remaining (6) six electric cars at a cost of BDS \$636,315.00, was completed and the vehicles were allocated to: the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade; the Barbados Defence Force; the Ministry of Environment and National Beautification; the Ministry of Transport, Works and Maintenance; Financial Intelligence Unit, Attorney General Office; and Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training.

With regard to the Ocean Energy component, preparatory work was conducted to procure the consultant for the Marine Spatial Mapping and Ocean Energy Locational Guidance Services Consultancy. This consultancy will cost BDS \$61,000.00 and should produce a series of locational guidance maps and a final report identifying areas suitable for installation of four (4) selected ocean energy technologies (i.e. Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC), Fixed Offshore Wind, Floating Offshore Wind, and Offshore Wave Energy).

TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE

The contribution of the Transport and Storage industry to real GDP expanded to BDS\$495.6 million in 2017 compared to BDS\$492.8 million in 2016, marking four years of continuous growth, well above the average output (BDS\$445.4 million) recorded during the period 2013 to 2017.

Notably, in 2017 the Road Traffic (Amendment) Act, 2017 was introduced, which included new provisions aimed at reinforcing road safety, such as prohibiting the use of cell phones when driving; legislating the use of breathalysers; enforcement for disabled parking; and facilitating random drug and alcohol testing for Public Service Vehicle (PSV) operators.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT PROGRAMME

BARBADOS TRANSPORT BOARD

Over the period, the Board operated seventy-four routes and 105 school trips as part of its network of services; with bus fare remaining at BDS\$2.00. The level of service with respect to bus availability was projected to have declined over the 2016/2017 financial year. On average, only 101 buses were available to cover the Board's monthly commitments, when compared to an average of 113 buses for FY 2016/17.

During peak times, the Transport Board required one hundred and seventy-eight (178) buses to provide its scheduled services. However, the Transport Board has not recently had any injection of new buses into its fleet. Furthermore, the existing fleet is aged and there is a chronic challenge with bus availability as funding, access to parts

and frequent defects affected the reliable provision of services. By the end of 2017, the Barbados Transport Board maintained an overall fleet of approximately 155 buses, which included two buses with wheel-chair facilities for the disabled.

In an effort to become more self-sufficient and assist with the reduction in expenses related to the repairs and maintenance of the buses, the Board purchased the following tools and equipment and undertook the following activities, during the period under review:

- A Texa Diagnostic System to test engines and transmissions for the 2006 Marco Polo buses.
- An injection Test Bench, which is used for the repair of injection pumps.
- Twelve used engines from China.
- 4 – 4 Post Rotary Lifts.
- The construction of a platform to facilitate the installation of a 4 Post Rotary Lift at the Speightstown Depot.
- The construction of a covered area with 3 bays to provide shelter for the servicing of buses at the Speightstown Depot.
- The construction of a similar platform at Weymouth to house a 4 Post Rotary Lift.
- Construction of the nurse's quarters at the Mangrove depot.
- Continued refurbishment of Oistins sub-depot.
- Minor repairs to the operations department.
- The purchase of two (2) 2014 Golden Dragon buses and the retrofitting of another bus to boost the Charters' revenue.

BARBADOS TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

The Barbados Transport Authority was established as the entity responsible for the planning, regulation and monitoring of public transport vehicles and the public transportation system. During 2017, the authority undertook the following activities:

- Implementation of the Transport Authority Service Integration (TASI) project on two routes – Princess Alice Terminal to Sturges and Fairchild Street Terminal to Edey Village.
- Development of the legislative framework to support the operations of the Constitution River Terminal (CRT).
- Design of the vehicular traffic flow within the CRT.
- Design of the pedestrian traffic flow within the River Terminal.
- Development of a vending policy for the River Terminal area.

Barbados Licensing Authority

The Barbados Licensing Authority registered an estimated 53,644 drivers in 2017 compared to 49,156 drivers registered in 2016. Two thousand one hundred and

eighty-three licences were cancelled in 2017, 639 more than the 1,544 reported in 2016. There were also 2,735 new licences issued in 2017, up from 2,007 in 2016, representing an increase of 728 persons or 36.2 per cent.

The number of persons taking the regulation test increased by 30.0 per cent over 2016 to stand at 6,172 in 2017. However, the failure and passing percentage rates remained constant in 2017, despite the increase in persons sitting the examination.

A total of five thousand two hundred and twelve persons took driving tests in 2017, an increase of 14 per cent over 2016 levels (660).

The passing and failure rates for 2017 were sixty (60.0) per cent and forty (40.0) per cent respectively, showing an increase in the passing rate when compared to 2016.

Vehicle Claims

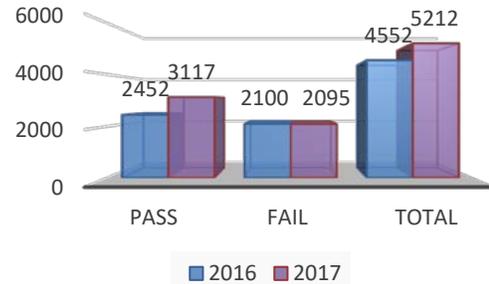
The Ministry of Transport and Works provides drivers whose vehicles are damaged due to the quality of the road infrastructure with a reimbursement of up to \$2,500.00. During 2017, the MTW paid a total of \$19,348.27 in claims, compared with \$23,822.04 in the previous year

C. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

OVERVIEW

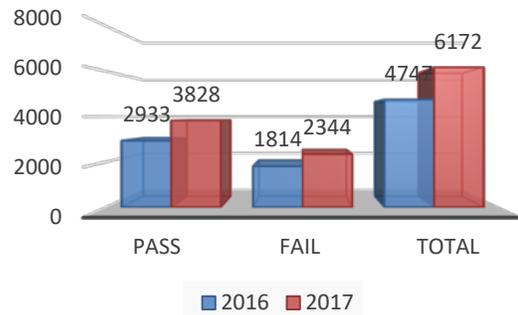
The external current account continued to narrow primarily as a result of lower import trade stemming from sharp declines in consumer and capital goods. Higher fuel import prices also abated the pace of the declining deficit. At the end of 2017, the balance on the external current account was \$377.2 million or

Figure 10:
Number of Driving Tests Taken
2016-2017



SOURCE: Ministry of Transport and Works

Figure 11:
Number of Regulation Tests Taken
2016-2017

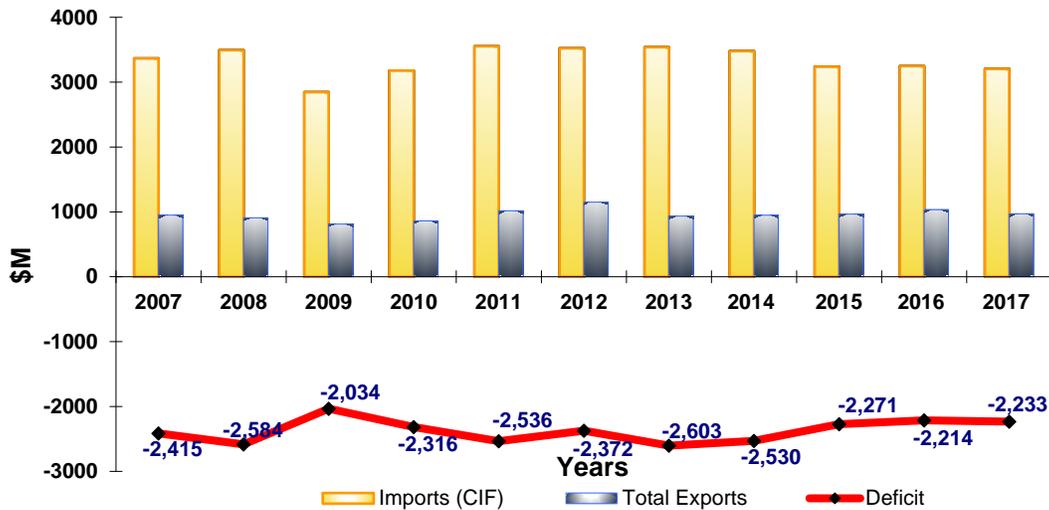


SOURCE: Ministry of Transport and Works

approximately 3.8 per cent of GDP (at market prices).

The counterpart subaccount to the Barbados’ current account deficit, the capital account, registered a small surplus. This surplus, as reflected by the decline trade balance over the years has also been decreasing in size moving from a surplus of \$1,076.9 million in 2011 \$81.2 million at the end of 2017. This measure however, represented a 6.8 per cent increase when compared to the ending balance of 2016. The small surplus was reflection of weakened state of affairs driven primarily driven by a combination of increased external debt service obligations and low capital inflows.

Figure 12
Visible Trade Balance (2013 – 2017)



SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

Consequently, net international reserves fell to \$334.7 million, the lowest in the post 2007-08 global financial crisis. This represented 6.7 weeks of import cover indicative of a decline of just over half of the stock of reserves at the end of 2016. Symbolic

DIRECTION OF TRADE

Barbados’ trade balance remained relatively constant over the last three years after demand for imports softened in 2015. Total exports likewise were relatively constant despite suffering a marginal falloff in 2017.

EXPORTS

The value of domestic exports increased by just \$5.1 million over the 2016 figure of \$504.6 million. The key sectors

which contributed to this outcome was the sugar industry which increased export earnings by 91.1 per cent or \$6.5 million. This was followed by increases in the food and beverage as well as the other machinery and Transport Equipment sector which both recorded increased export earnings of \$2.6 million. Notwithstanding this increase however, a number of declines were recorded in major areas including lime cement production by \$4.4 million and printed matter by \$1.3 million.

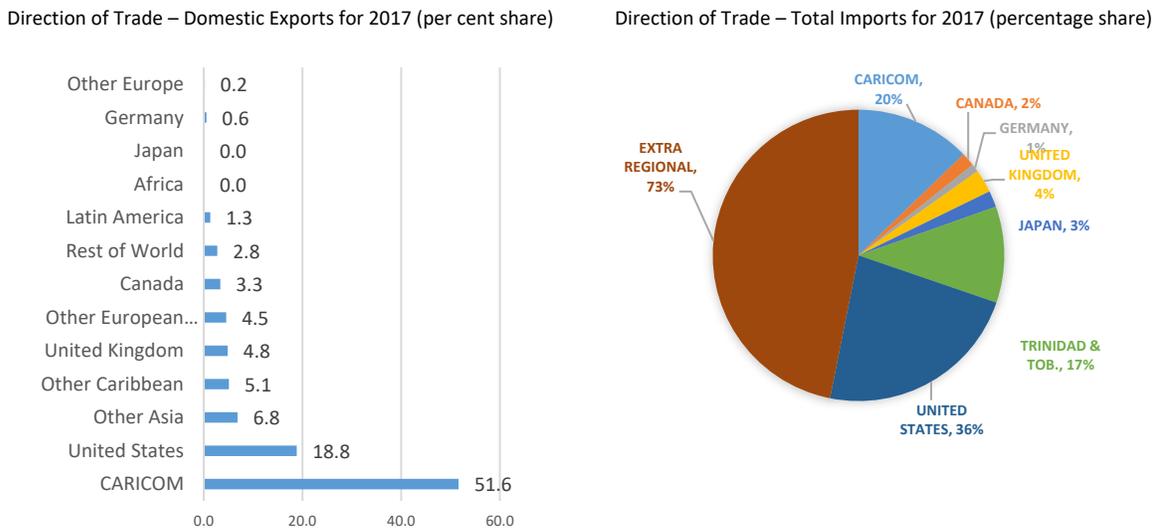
The primary market for Barbados’ domestic exports continued to be the CARICOM region, which accounted for a 51.6 per cent share in the reporting period. This represents a 3.0 percentage points increase over the previous year. This increased share resulted from weaker performances in larger export markets such the Asian territories and Caribbean region (exclusive of Trinidad and Tobago) which declined by

Table 3.3-1
Balance of Payments
2011 – 2017

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Current Account	-1100.8	-781.8	-782.5	-865.8	-577.1	-411.6	-377.2
Total Exports (fob)	950.3	1130.1	935.2	948.8	965.8	1039.7	970.8
of which Domestic Exports	568.3	592.8	534.1	539.4	486.3	510.5	509.7
Imports (CIF)	3651.2	3559.3	3538.4	3478.3	3236.2	3297.8	3200.3
of which Retained Imports	3195.8	2961.7	3124.3	3068.8	2756.7	2768.6	2739.2
Services (Net)	1393.9	1724.5	1642.7	2136.3	2203.0	1772.1	1882.7
of which Tourism	1453.2	1629.5	1724.4	2201.5	2279.7	2077.1	2026.9
Income	-600.3	-344.8	-389.2	-394.9	-425.9	-442.9	-447.5
Transfers	-78.1	-17.8	-26.4	-29.0	3.9	-65.0	-75.9
Capital and Financial Account	1076.9	299.2	504.4	724.6	425.4	76.4	81.2
E and O ¹	15.0	525.6	-35.5	51.9	26.2	89.3	22.0
Overall Surplus/Deficit	-8.9	43.0	-313.6	-89.3	-125.5	-245.8	-273.9
Net Official Financing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
IMF Credit	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other M.A. ²	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other F.I. ³	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Change in Foreign Reserves (CBB Basis) (-increase/+decrease)	8.9	-43.0	313.6	91.7	125.4	246.0	-126.6
Adjusted by:							
Commercial Banks' Position(net)	522.7	340.5	-164.1	23.8	256.7	0.0	0.0
IMF Resources	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Change in NIR(IMF Basis) (-increase/+decrease)	8.9	-43.0	313.6	89.3	125.5	245.8	273.9

SOURCE: Central Bank of Barbados

Figure 13
Direction of Trade – Domestic Exports and Imports for 2017 (per cent share)



SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

- Rest of the World includes Germany, Latin America, Africa, Other Europe, Japan and Other Countries

47.1 per cent and 24.9 per cent respectively. Other key markets such as the Canadian market fell by 3.3 per cent respectively.

The total value of imports (cif) for 2017 decreased by 1.3 per cent to reach \$3,204.0 million compared with the \$3,247.3 million recorded in 2016. Retained imports accounted for 64.0 per cent of total imports or \$2739.2 million representing an increase of 25.2 million over the previous year. The increase in retained imports was driven by increased demand for intermediate goods which increased by 5.1 per cent or \$51.2 million.

During 2017, total imports (CIF) stood at \$3,204.0 million, a decrease of 1.3 per cent or \$43.3 million. The falloff in imports was registered in the majority of source markets with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago, Canada and Japan.

The Asian territories (excluding Jan) recorded the largest decline by value by an estimated \$63.1 million. This was followed by the Caribbean territories (excluding Trinidad and Tobago) which fell by \$44.0 million compared to the previous year. The Value of imports from the United States declined by \$32.9 million, representing the third largest decrease by country. Trinidad and Tobago on the other hand recorded significant growth by an estimated value of \$101.2 million or 23.2 per cent. Japan and Canada imports grew by \$4.1 million and \$2.7 million respectively. The CARICOM market being the second largest source market for imports, accounted for a 20.0 per cent share of total imports. Trinidad and Tobago alone accounts for a 17.0 per cent share of total imports. The United States, the

Table 3.4-1
Current Revenue by Source 2012/2013 - 2017/2018

Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Taxes on Income and Profits	746.2	627.9	666.1	723.5	821.3	819.0
Taxes on Property	146.6	131.1	164.3	187.5	135.1	189.9
Taxes on Goods and Services	1,130.6	1,137.7	1,074.3	1,248.8	1,292.4	1,470.8
Taxes on International Trade	201.2	193.6	223.7	231.6	242.9	223.9
Other Taxes	11.2	11.6	11.0	10.1	9.4	10.0
Special Receipts	44.5	81.2	83.5	35.7	42.8	192.3
Non-Tax Revenue	113.4	94.0	107.7	111.0	104.3	166.3
Grant Income	33.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.8	3.1
Loans and Advances	0.0	0.0	57.5	18.1	0.0	0.0
Total Revenue	2,427.2	2,277.1	2,388.1	2,566.5	2,657.0	3,075.2

SOURCE: Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment

Table 3.4-2
Central Government Expenditure by Item 2012/2013 - 2017/2018

YEAR	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Employment Expenses	882.3	871.8	803.7	787.1	784.4	781.1
Wages and Salaries	816.9	807.8	743.9	729.0	726.5	723.6
National Insurance Contributions	65.5	64.0	59.8	58.1	58.0	57.5
Goods and Services	391.8	382.2	341.6	441.3	393.1	391.9
Amortization	540.7	671.3	798.3	883.3	805.5	971.3
Interest	568.9	608.7	653.8	672.5	742.5	783.8
Current Transfers	1,233.6	1,261.5	1,119.9	1,184.5	1,141.5	1,263.3
Total	3,617.4	3,795.5	3,717.3	3,968.8	3,867.0	4,191.3

SOURCE: Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment

second largest import source market declined by approximately 1.0 per cent.

Imports from all extra-regional sources (i.e. excluding CARICOM and Caribbean countries) accounts for up to 73.0 per cent of all imports.

D. FISCAL DEVELOPMENTS AND PUBLIC FINANCES

The fiscal adjustment measures that started in 2013 and reformulated in 2015,

finally met some level of success with a lowering of the deficit in 2017, for the first time in six years. The decline also reflected further fiscal adjustment in late 2016 that continued in 2017, but financing of the deficit, nevertheless, became increasing problematic. The fiscal efforts still proved insufficient as the national debt continued to grow and sources of financing became less reliable. An increasingly larger portion of government's financing needs had to be met by the Central Bank of Barbados and the National Insurance Scheme (NIS) as

commercial banks reduced their exposure to sovereign debt by approximately 4.8 percentage points in 2016/17.

However, the 2017/18 fiscal period witnessed a reversal of this stance as commercial bank domestic financing increased by approximately 171.0 per cent following an increase in the Barbados dollar securities reserve requirement on two occasions. The first, in June 2017 from 10 per cent to 15 per cent which allowed CBB net financing to decline by 0.5 per cent of GDP. The second increase took effect on December 01, 2017, requiring commercial banks to hold 18.0 per cent of their domestic deposits in stipulated securities.

During 2017, fiscal adjustment efforts continued placing emphasis on curtailing: the high level of debt, the unsustainable fiscal deficit, and the looming BOP risk as financing challenges from official creditors and commercial banks intensified.

While the increase in the mandatory securities reserve requirement by the Central Bank will cushion the impact from the fall of commercial banks holdings of Government paper, roll-over risk remained elevated. The government having now faced the urgent need to address the financing constraint and to mitigate other associated risks sought to introduce further fiscal adjustment to reduce the fiscal deficit.

As a result of the cumulative impact of the 2016 and 2017 budgetary measures the fiscal balance narrowed, reducing it by \$125.8 million at the end of the financial year 2017/18 a reduction of 0.6 percentage points compared to 2016/17. The deficit now stands at 4.9 per cent of GDP.

This outcome was attributed to an overall improvement in tax receipts, in which an additional \$75.2 million. The increase in tax revenues was attributed in part to the National Social Responsibility

Levy (NSRL) and excise taxes on fuel (gasoline and diesel) which yielded an additional \$124 million and \$76.0 million respectively. Bolstering the revenue intake also was the newly introduced foreign exchange commission, which yielded an additional \$53.2 million. Quite notably corporation taxes rounded off the top four contributions to tax revenue with a \$33.1 million increase receipts.

Total public expenditure on the other hand increased by 8.3 per cent. Driving the increase in public expenditures were government's principle repayments on debt and related interest payments which together amounted to an additional \$181.5 million in expenses. Amortization payments alone accounts for a \$155.8 million increase. Following the increase in debt related payments were increases in transfers, which accounted for a \$71.0 million increase. This increase was largely attributed to increases in grants to public institutions which increased by an estimated \$46.9 million followed by increases to retirement and other benefits by \$4.6 and \$14.3 million respectively.

There were some savings realized however in the categories of wages and salaries to the tune of \$13.6 million, which within fiscal year 2017/2018 represent the fourth largest category of expenditure. There was also a marked decline in capital expenditure over the review period by \$56.3 million \$44.3 million of which represents capital formation.

FISCAL POLICY FRAMEWORK (2017)

The 2017 Financial and Budgetary proposals set-out to achieve two broad objectives to move as close as possible to a balanced budget with a view to reducing the dependence on Central Bank financing and Secondly, to reduce the demand for foreign exchange. With a total size of \$537.6 million

in revenue and expenditure adjustment, the budget set-out to achieve the aforementioned objectives.

The increase in the national social responsibility levy (NSRL) from 2.0 per cent to 10 per cent represented the major revenue measure for the budget yielding approximately \$218 million in additional revenue. The commission on the sale of foreign exchange was also introduced to curb the demand for foreign exchange and was estimated to yield around \$52 million. Other revenue measures included the increase in excise taxes on petroleum fuels, particularly gasoline and diesel to raise an additional \$50 million and the sale of state assets in the form of the BNTCL would realise a potential \$70 million in net proceeds.

An additional \$82 million were targeted for savings in expenditure coming out from expenditure the Mid-term Financial and Economic Review exercise. This would be accompanied by the proposed debt re-profiling exercise of two of government's principle holders of government securities, the Central Bank of Barbados and the National Insurance Scheme. A target of \$70 million is set for the debt re-profiling exercise. In addition to the fiscal measures other reform areas included:

- productive sector reform by reducing the cost of doing business in critical sectors;
- establishing a Competitiveness Awareness Commission and Operational Unit;
- implementing the new National Energy Policy;
- implementing fiscal adjustment through: Public Financial Management reform including the passage of the Financial

Management and Audit (State Owned Enterprises or "SOEs") Act;

- reforming SOEs, including: mergers, operational consolidation and divestment;
- completing tax policy reform and tax administration upgrade;
- stabilising debt growth and reduction through fiscal reform, debt management and debt profiling; and
- Reforming key social sectors such as: health, education, sanitation, social care and environmental protection.

FINANCING

The overall deficit estimated for 2017/2018 stood at \$1,480.0 million and was financed primarily from domestic sources totaling \$1,372.8 million, while foreign financing amounted to \$107.2 million. The major sources of domestic financing were Treasury Bills to the tune of \$562.8 million followed by \$400.0 million worth of Treasury notes.

The foreign financing component, was capitalized mainly through project financing, in which the major source was the Caribbean Development Bank to the tune of \$43.1 million. The Inter-American Development Bank also contributed \$24.0 million, while the People's Republic of China contributed \$15.8 million to round of the top three project financing sources.

DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS

Total debt service payments at the end of December 2017 stood at \$1,561.5 million compared to \$1,593.6 million at the end of the year 2016. Total amortization payments amounted to \$810.2 million

Table 3.5-1
Commercial Bank Deposits (\$M)
(2012-2017)

Type of Deposit	2012	2013R	2014P	2015	2016P	2017
Demand	2453.8	2762.0	2878.8	3574.4	4158.9	4218.1
Savings	4237.9	4387.1	4493.0	4500.9	4448.8	4408
Time	1668.6	1405.2	1123.9	959.0	837.8	762.2
Total Deposits	8360.3	8554.3	8495.7	9034.3	9445.4	9,388.30

SOURCE: Central Bank of Barbados

representing a 6.8 per cent decline when compared to the \$869.4 million registered for the previous year. Domestic debt service stood at an estimated \$1,169.2 million while foreign debt service payments amounted to \$392.3 million.

NATIONAL DEBT

At the end of 2017, central Government debt increased by \$295.8 million to \$13,582.5 million or 137.3 percent of GDP (market prices) in comparison to the corresponding period in the previous year. Domestic debt stood at an estimated \$10,763.6 million or 108.8 percent of GDP (market prices).

Short-term domestic debt rose by 11.5 percent to \$4,223.5 million when compared to the corresponding period in 2016, and accounted for 31.1 percent of total national debt. During 2017, long-term national debt declined by 1.9 percent to \$6,540.1 million or 48.2 percent of total debt. On the other hand, the foreign debt, which consisted primarily of foreign bonds, was estimated at \$1,180.7 million, while loans from international financial institutions stood at \$982.0 million.

E. MONEY, BANKING AND CAPITAL MARKETS

OVERVIEW

During the period under review, the banking sector, which continued to be highly capitalised, experienced a 2.0 per cent increase in the demand Commercial bank credit compared to the corresponding period in 2017 as a result in increased personal loans while commercial bank deposits decreased by an estimated 0.6 per cent.

Total money supply, which comprised primarily narrow money (M1), increased by \$106.0 million or 2.3 per cent to reach \$4,809.2 million. Demand deposits contributed significantly to money supply by an additional \$81.4 million, representing a 2.0 per cent increase over the preceding period.

Total commercial bank deposits decreased by an estimated 0.6 per cent to \$9,388.3 million during 2017. Of this total, deposits in local currency stood at \$8,798.5 million, an increase of 0.1 per cent when compared with the previous year. Deposits in foreign currency, declined by 10.2 per cent to reach an ending balance of \$589.8 million.

The credit union movement saw an increase in its membership by 5.4 per cent to reach approximately 195,000 individuals representing just over 67 per cent of the population.

As at December 2017, membership of the credit union movement recorded a 5.4 per cent increase to reach approximately 195,000 members. This increase was only 0.1 percentage points higher than the 5.3 per cent growth in membership seen in the previous year.

The Barbados Stock Exchange Inc. (BSE) experienced a slowdown in activity as overall trading volume and value decreased by 63 per cent and 64 per cent respectively.

COMMERCIAL BANK DEPOSITS

Total commercial bank deposits decreased by an estimated 0.6 per cent to \$9,388.3 million during 2017. Of this total, deposits in local currency stood at \$8,798.5 million, an increase of 0.1 per cent when compared with the previous year. In contrast, foreign currency deposits declined by 10.2 per cent to \$589.8 million.

The overall decline in commercial bank deposits was led primarily by Government agencies whose deposits decreased by \$3,391.5 million during the review period. Private individuals' commercial bank deposits, which accounted for the second largest decline, decreased by \$105.7 million, followed by statutory bodies whose deposits fell by 21.2 percent.

Over the review period, time deposits decreased by \$75.6 million, while savings deposits declined by \$40.8 million. However, demand deposits grew by an estimated \$59.3 million.

Time deposits decreased by \$75.6 million during the review period while

savings deposits declined by \$40.8 million. Demand deposits however, grew by an estimated \$59.3 million over the review period which reflected an increased desire for precautionary liquidity.

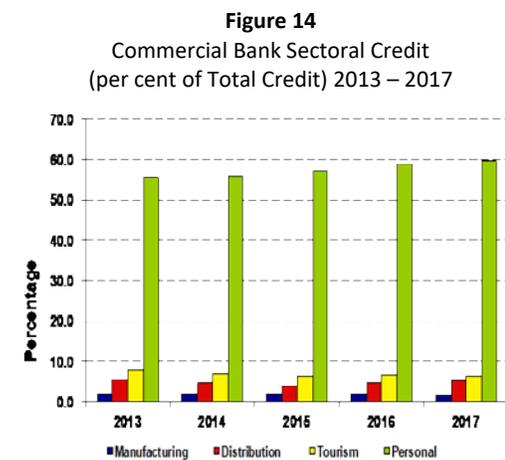
COMMERCIAL BANK SECTORAL CREDIT

At the end of 2017, total commercial bank credit stood at an estimated \$6,004.6 million an increase of 2.0 percent compared to the corresponding period in 2016. This increase was largely attributable to personal credit, which increased by \$106.9 million to register a total of \$3,573.5 million.

This outturn was followed by the distribution and the professional services sector, which benefited from an increase of \$53.5 million and \$35.9 million respectively with year-end totals of \$320.3 million and \$588.2 million.

MONEY SUPPLY

In 2017, the total money supply increased by \$106.0 million, or 2.3 percent, to \$4,809.2 million. Demand deposits represented \$81.4 million of total money supply, a 2.0 percent increase over the



SOURCE: Central Bank of Barbados

preceding year. The total notes in circulation increased by \$17.8 million at the end of the review period.

BANK REGULATION AND SUPERVISION

The Central Bank of Barbados ('the Bank') continued to operate in a dynamic financial sector during the year 2017. At the end of the period, the number of financial institutions regulated by the Bank was forty-five compared to forty-four a year earlier. In 2017, one new entity was licensed under part III of the Financial Institutions Act (FIA) and one license application was pending under the International Financial Services Act (IFSA).

Total assets in the domestic banking sector declined by 1.8 per cent to \$15.04 billion when compared to the end of 2016. The international banking sector experienced a more robust performance with total assets increasing year-on-year by of 8.9 per cent and totalling \$80.08 billion at the end of the year 2017.

The Bank in its pursuit to improve the regulatory framework and ensuring compliance with international standards and best practices embarked on core initiatives. These initiatives included continued work on updating legislation, and drafting guidance notes to support the continued implementation of the Basel II capital adequacy rules. In addition, risk profiles on financial institutions continue to be refined through; offsite surveillance, various onsite inspections, and meetings with the directors and senior management of both domestic and international banks. During 2017, the Bank conducted risk-focused onsite inspections in the areas of credit risk management, operational risk, anti-money laundering/combating the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT), and corporate governance for some of the domestic licensees. Additionally, AML/CFT and corporate governance inspections were

completed for several of the international banks.

Other regulatory areas of interest during the 2017 period involved the 'Inclusive Framework ("IF") on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting' in which Barbados became the 101st jurisdiction to join the framework. By joining, Barbados has committed to work on an equal footing with all other Inclusive Framework members on the implementation of the BEPS package and on developing further standards to address the remaining BEPS issues.

Also on the policy development agenda were matters pertaining to credit reporting, deposit insurance and withdrawal of correspondent banking which were all matters being discussed and formulated at the regional level under the umbrella of the CARICOM Secretariat. It is hoped that the outcome of these deliberations will help foster increased harmonisation of policy within the region.

NON-BANK FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

CREDIT UNIONS

During the review period the number of active credit unions declined to thirty-three. This decline was anticipated given smaller credit unions experienced some challenges during the year. Given that there was a merger of one smaller credit union into a larger one, it is anticipated that there will be the likelihood of more mergers of this type to occur. This is particularly evident given that the smaller credit unions lack the economies of scale that would allow them to invest in the new technologies that would improve services to their members and support their regulatory commitments. Furthermore, if general economic conditions remain weak it is unlikely that new entities will emerge in the near future, and as such, it is expected that the number of institutions could continue to decline.

MEMBERSHIP:

As at December 2017, membership of the credit union movement recorded a 5.4 per cent increase to reach approximately 195,000 members. This increase was only 0.1 percentage points higher than the 5.3 per cent growth in membership seen in the previous year. This growth reflects the relevance of the sector on a whole despite the challenges faced by smaller institutions. Given the average growth rate for the last three years has been approximately 5 per cent, it is therefore expected that membership will continue along this trajectory.

ASSETS:

At the end of 2017, total credit union assets stood at \$2.2 billion, compared to \$2.0 billion in the previous year, an increase of 8.9 percent. This was primarily driven by an increase of \$97.0 million in gross loans and a \$30.6 million increase in cash held by the institutions. Growth in credit union assets is expected to be positive for the year ended December 31, 2018.

LOANS TO MEMBERS:

Gross loans to credit union members increased from \$1.5 billion in 2016 to \$1.6 billion at the end of 2017, an increase of 6.3 percent. In light of growing economic uncertainty, it is anticipated that the growth rates for loans be moderate.

The level of loan delinquency within the credit union movement is also experiencing a marginal increase as defined by the non-performing loans (NPLs). As at December 2017, the value of NPLs stood at \$128.0 million dollars; \$10.7 million dollars higher than the value reported as at December 2016.

Table 3.5-2
Registrants For Exempt, Qualifying,
Management And Holding Companies (2017)

Domicile	Registered	New Licences	Total Registered
Exempt Companies			
Canada	101	2	103
USA	59	5	64
Other	36	5	41
Total	196	12	208
Qualifying Companies			
Canada	32	2	34
USA	1	1	2
Other	13	5	18
Total	46	8	54
Management Companies			
Barbados	25	1	26
Holding Companies			
Barbados	11	0	11

SOURCE: Financial Services Commission

MEMBERS' SAVINGS:
REGULAR DEPOSITS

For the period under review, members' regular deposits increased by 7.0 per cent to reach \$1.2 billion. This trend is expected to continue in 2018 as credit unions continue to offer more attractive interest rates than commercial banks,

TERM DEPOSITS

Members' term deposits increased by 12.4 per cent to reach \$310.9 million during 2017. Similarly, to that seen during 2016, the growth rate of term deposits continues to outpace that of regular deposits.

For the period under review the sector has not seen a significant increase in the number of requests for corporate

deposits. As such these types of deposits continue to account for less than 1 per cent of total deposits.

NON-MEMBERS' DEPOSITS:

Non-members' deposits comprise less than one per cent of the total liabilities. Credit unions may be less willing to accept deposits from corporate bodies unless there is a concomitant increase in demand for loan products which will make access to this source of funds profitable. At current there has been a significant increase in interested companies wishing to utilize the deposit services of the credit unions.

STATUTORY RESERVES:

As at December 2017, the statutory reserves increased by approximately \$16 million dollars or 9.6 per cent to reach \$183.6 million from the prior year. Over the last three years, the growth rates of the reserves have been steadily increasing. Overall the capital position of the industry remains adequate, and during the year ended December 2017, total equity and reserves have increased by 9.3 per cent. Net Earnings of the industry improved during the review period. As at December 2017, Net income for the industry stood at \$19.7 million, a 21.2 per cent increase over the figure reported on year prior.

BARBADOS STOCK EXCHANGE

OVERVIEW

2017 proved to be a challenging year for the Barbados Stock Exchange Inc. (BSE). Overall trading volume and value decreased by 63 per cent and 64 percent respectively. The negotiated markets – Put Through and Block Trade – were the only markets to record increases while the Regular Market suffered declines as the

number of transactions, conducted after the closure of SLU Beverages Limited's takeover offer to purchase all issued and outstanding shares, in Banks Holdings Limited have contracted; there was no activity on the Junior Market. There continues to be an improvement in the total number of trades being conducted despite the absence of transactions conducted either pursuant to, or after, takeovers; transactions of this nature would have been the basis for improvements in the year ended December 31, 2016. Bond Market activity also declined as the total face value traded during 2017 fell below the corresponding value in 2016.

The extraordinary transactions occurring during 2017 were as follows:

- i. There were two (2) Block Trade transactions reported, resulting in a total of 9 trades being conducted, which saw 2,519,171 shares in The West Indies Rum Distillery Limited trading at \$10.2; 3,184,403 shares in Goddard Enterprises Limited trading at \$11.05; 351,433 shares in Sagicor Financial Corporation Limited trading at \$2.42; 130,000 in Insurance Corporation of Barbados Limited trading at \$3.70 and 71,485 in Cave Shepherd and Company Limited trading at \$4.02.
- ii. There was one (1) transaction conducted pursuant to a takeover. On February 27, 2017, Trinidad Cement Limited was the sole security trading 111,513 shares at \$1.51 closing sixty-six (\$0.66) cents above its share price on February 24, 2017. These transactions represent the trades pursuant to Sierra Trading's takeover offer for Trinidad Cement Limited;

Two securities were delisted from the board of the BSE during 2017. On January

Table 3.5-3
Securities Exchange Trading (Selected Markets)
2006 – 2017

Year	Shares			Total Volume No.	Value (\$M)
	Common No.	Preferred No.	Put- thrus No.		
2006	12,842,607	1,123	342,799	643,431,592	2,072.9
2007	155,339,232	NA	2,584,811	162,385,901	597.3
2008	71,880,741	NA	5,912,068	78,516,134	537.6
2009	7,450,244	NA	2,756,141	10,428,654	49.5
2010	10,690,300	NA	32,180	13,783,646	71.3
2011	16,162,861	NA	890,195	17,228,797	242.6
2012	7,974,092	NA	531,269	39,468,161	193.3
2013	6,448,758	NA	2,959,128	22,322,178	77.8
2014	5,734,749	NA	1,629,561	7,364,310	21.9
2015	19,905,540	NA	4,872,460	42,846,295	262.4
2016	1,602,099	NA	644,887	37,458,413	233.9
2017	1,622,358	NA	698,036	13,825,596	83.1

SOURCE: Securities Exchange of Barbados

9th, Massy Holdings Limited was delisted from the board of the BSE while Trinidad Cement Limited was delisted from the board of the BSE on March 6th, 2017.

As at December 31, 2017, all market indices recorded improvements. The Local, Cross-Listed and Composite Indices recorded increases of 19 per cent, 8 per cent and 17 per cent respectively. The year on year Market Capitalization measure comparison produced mixed results with only the Local Market Capitalization measure recording an increase of 19 per cent. The Cross-Listed and Composite Market Capitalization recorded declines, the former recording the largest decline of 56 per cent. The negative Cross-Listed Market Cap performance can be attributed to the delisting of Massy Holdings Limited and Trinidad Cement Limited.

F. EMPLOYMENT, INFLATION AND LABOUR MARKET

EMPLOYMENT

At the end of 2017, 129.9 thousand persons were employed in Barbados, representing a decline of 1,000 persons from the previous year. The number of persons employed included 66.2 thousand males and 63.7 thousand females.

The unemployment rate stood at 10.0 per cent, an upturn of 0.1 per cent from 2016. Of the 14.3 thousand unemployed persons recorded in 2017, 7.2 thousand persons were males compared to 6.9 thousand males recorded in the previous year. Over the same period, the number of unemployed women declined by 100 persons.

Table 3.6-1
Employment by Occupation ('000)
2016 - 2017

Category	2016	2017
Legislators, Seniors by Occupational Group	10.7	10.6
Professionals	14.7	16.1
Technicians and Associate Professionals	14.4	14.6
Clerks	14.2	14.2
Service Workers, Shop and Market Sales Workers	28	26.4
Skilled Agriculture & Fishery Workers	4.1	4.2
Craft & Related Workers	17.1	16.6
Plant and Machine Operation and Assemblers	7.4	7.7
Elementary Occupations	22	18.5
Not Classifiable	0.3	0.9
Total	132.9	129.9

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

The total labour force was estimated at 145.2 thousand persons, a reduction of 0.75 per cent from the prior year's figure of 146.3 thousand persons. The composition of the labour force at the end of the year under review equated to 75.1 thousand males and 70.1 thousand females. In comparison to the previous three years' yearend figures, the female subgroup of the labour force contracted by 2.4 per cent however the male component continued to grow.

The overall labour participation declined by 0.3 per cent to stand at 65.9 per cent. The male participation rate stood at 71.4 per cent in comparison to 69.9 per cent in 2016. A decline of 1.9 per cent was also recorded in the female participation rate to stand at 60.9 per cent.

An estimated 75.2 thousand persons or 34.1 per cent of the adult population was

categorized as not seeking employment. Of the total number of inactive persons, 42.6 thousand persons are retired; 13.7 thousand persons are in school and 4.0 thousand people are incapacitated. The remaining persons are classified to be keeping house, voluntary idle, other or not classified. The keeping house subgroup stands at a noteworthy 11.7 thousand individuals with the latter subgroups containing marginal figures.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION

At the end of 2017, the Wholesale and Retail Trade Sector provided the main source of employment in the country, accounting for 20.3 thousand jobs in comparison to the 23.9 thousand persons employed in the sector during the previous year. Other major sectors of employment includes Accommodation & Food Services and Construction, Mining & Quarry contributed which 15.0 thousand and 13.3 thousand jobs respectively; followed by Public Administration & Defense that provided 9,600 jobs.

Declines in employment were observed in all sectors of the economy with the exception of: Education which grew by 33.3 percent to contribute 7.6 thousand; Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing which increased by 11.1 per cent to stand at 4 thousand persons; Manufacturing which increased by 3.5 percent to stand 8.9 thousand; Other Services Sector which grew by 7.0 per cent to stand at 4.6 thousand and Finance and Insurance which grew by 3.8 per cent to stand at 5.5 thousand.

In 2017, 26.4 thousand persons were employed as Service Workers/ Shop workers, followed by 18.5 thousand persons employed in elementary occupations. The majority of other person were employed in the following occupations: craft & related

Table 3. 6-2
Employment by Major Industrial Division
2017 ('000)

	2016	2017
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	3.6	4.0
Construction, Mining & Quarrying	14.6	13.3
Manufacturing	8.6	8.9
Elec. Gas, Steam, Water & Air		
Conditioning Supply	2.0	2.9
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23.9	20.3
Transportation & Storage	5.9	6.9
Accommodation & Food Services	15.2	15.0
Finance & Insurance	5.3	5.5
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	4.8	4.2
Administrative & Support Service	8.7	7.4
Public Administration & Defense	11.4	9.6
Education	5.7	7.6
Human Health & Social Work	7.2	6.6
Other Services	4.3	4.6
Activities of Households as Employers	5.8	4.8
Other Groups	7.0	8.1
Not stated	0.0	0.2
Total	133.8	129.9

SOURCE: Statistical Service Labour Force Survey, Barbados Statistical Services

workers (16.6 thousand jobs); professionals (16.1 thousand); Technicians and Associate Professionals (14.6 thousand jobs); and clerks (14.2 thousand jobs).

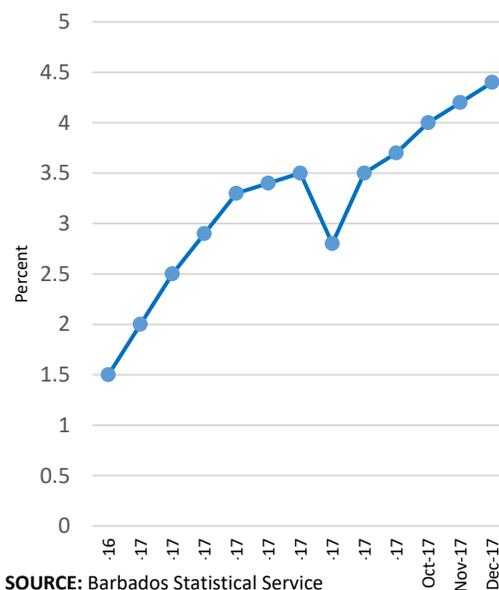
DISTRIBUTION OF THE LABOUR FORCE

During the period of review, the number of persons employed in the 22 to 44 age category stood at 64.8 thousand persons, followed by 57.7 thousand persons in the 45 to 64 age category, and 5.5 thousand in the 65 and over age category.. Only 1.9 thousand persons were employed in the 15 to 19 age category.

The 20 to 44 age category accounted for the highest number of unemployed, with 8,7 thousands. Unemployment in the 15 to 19 and 45 to 64 age categories were 1.5 thousand and 4.0 thousand, respectively.

Figure 15

Inflation Dec- 16 to Dec-2017



SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

INFLATION

According to the Retail Price Index, at the end of December 2017, the twelve-month average rate of inflation was 4.4 per cent in comparison to 1.5 per cent recorded at the end of December 2016.

Increases were recorded in all categories of the Retail Price Index during the period with the exception of clothing and footwear, which declined by 9.2 per cent.

In particular, increases were recorded in food and non- alcoholic beverages (6.6 per cent), alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics (10.1 per cent), housing, water electricity, gas and other fuels (9.1 per cent); furnishings, household maintenance (11.8 per cent); Health (2.1 per cent); transport (9.1 per cent); communication (0.1 per cent); recreation and culture (2.3 per cent); education (9.9 per cent); restaurants(5.9 per cent); and miscellaneous, goods and

Table 3.7-1

Import and Export Licenses Processed in 2017

Month	CARICOM Import Licences	Extra-regional Import Licences (excluding vehicles)	New Vehicles	Used/ Reconditioned Vehicles	Temporary Vehicle Imports	Export Licences	Total
January	154	1145	306	215	4	-	1824
February	165	757	265	156	-	-	1343
March	134	1035	156	253	1	-	1579
April	132	831	53	128	2	-	1146
May	205	963	204	291	37	-	1700
June	156	1965	130	237	-	-	1488
July	144	1058	308	144	-	-	1654
August	156	1077	186	302	19	-	1740
September	156	934	133	159	-	-	1382
October	163	918	467	182	20	-	1750
November	238	1217	129	207	9	-	1800
December	132	1014	257	158	-	-	1561
Total	1935	11914	2594	2432	92	0	18967
%	10.2	62.8	13.7	12.8	0.5	0	100

SOURCE: Division of Commerce and Small Business Development

Table 3.7-2

Number of Price Monitoring Inspections and Surveys Conducted In 2017

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Inspections and Other Surveys Conducted	718	621	857	554	624	740	344	427	482	644	796	387	7194
%	9.98	8.63	11.91	7.7	8.67	10.29	4.78	5.94	6.7	8.95	11.06	5.39	100

SOURCE: Division of Commerce and Small Business Development

equipment and routine

Overall, the all items index increased by 7.1 per cent, moving from 172.7 index points at the end of December 2016 to 185.0 index points at the end of December 2017.

G. COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

During 2017, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) promoted commerce and consumerism through the use of licensing, price monitoring, enforcement of standards, verification of measuring devices and dispute resolution mechanisms.

In 2017, 18,967 applications for import licences were processed, representing a 1.4 percent decline over 2016. The decline was fuelled by a reduction in applications for extra-regional import licences (excluding vehicles) and new vehicle import licences of 5.5 percent and 3 percent, respectively. Applications for import licences increased for used/reconditioned vehicles (17 percent), CARICOM (4.4 percent) and temporary vehicles (206.7 percent). No export licences were issued during 2017.

In 2017 the DCCA conducted 7,194 price monitoring inspections and other surveys, a decrease of 3.4 percent over the previous year. Additionally, 4,359

Table 3.7-3

Number of Verification of Weights And Measures Inspections Conducted In 2017

Month	Weigh-bridges	Floor, Counter, Bench and Platform Scales	Fuel Pumps at Service Stations (Nozzles)	Storage Tanks	Supermarkets Visited to Verify Net Weight of Pre-packaged Goods
January	4	17	4	-	2
February	2	44	28	-	5
March	-	33	20	-	1
April	1	10	22	-	3
May	-	-	55	-	2
June	2	3	148	-	-
July	3	17	9	-	1
August	-	79	42	-	-
September	-	-	61	-	-
October	1	4	-	-	-
November	-	4	180	-	4
December	-	-	45	3	8
Total	13	211	614	3	26

SOURCE: Division of Commerce and Small Business Development

containers were inspected for the enforcement of standards and 838 measuring devices were tested.

CONSUMER CLAIMS TRIBUNAL

During 2017, the Consumer Claims Tribunal held 20 sittings and adjudicated 51 cases in comparison to the 15 sittings and 32 cases adjudicated in 2016.

Eight (8) cases were resolved with the claimants awarded total compensation of BDS\$20,934.38. Additionally, 15 cases were adjourned and one case dismissed/withdrawn while in 2016, four (4) cases were resolved, \$3,559.69 in total compensation was awarded and 9 cases were adjourned.

THE FAIR TRADING COMMISSION

During 2017, the Commission conducted investigations of mergers and alleged anti-competitive practices in several sectors, including agriculture and distribution.

The Commission considered an application for the approval of a merger between BNTCL Holdings Ltd., a subsidiary of the Sol Group of Companies and the Barbados National Terminal Company Ltd. (BNTCL). The Commission subsequently decided against the proposed merger.

In 2017, 1,268 persons contacted the Commission for guidance on consumer matters.

The Commission conducted 195 unannounced store visits to ensure compliance with the Consumer Protection Act (CPA). Ten (10) stores contained signs which were deemed to be in breach of the CPA and were required to remove them. Moreover, eleven contracts were reviewed and clauses that were found to have been in breach of the CPA were highlighted.

UTILITY REGULATION

The Commission issued Standards of Service Decisions for Cable & Wireless (Barbados) Limited (C&W) and the Barbados Light & Power Co. Ltd. (BL&P) during 2017.

The amendment and formulation of standards, including billing accuracy, new definitions and target times, and a complaints' procedure, were executed for C&W. To this end, C&W is required to inform consumers of the standards for breaches.

During 2017, all BL&P standards of service were amended with the exception of the Simple Service Connection, which is a new standard. Amendments included new timelines for the processing of claims and targets for reliability indicators.

Eight (8) guaranteed and twelve (12) overall standards of service were developed for the Barbados Water Authority during 2017 to address issues such as installation, wrongful disconnections, field appointments, meter reading, minimum/maximum water pressure and repair of ruptured pipes.

The Commission addressed 50 formal complaints and responded to 304 queries, the majority of which were related to the telecommunications sector.

H. SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

In 2017, the Government continued its commitment to fostering the development of the small business sector through the adaptation and implementation of the Small Business Development Centre (SBDC) model. To this end, collaborations were held with the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) and the Organisation of American States (OAS) for the development

of a comprehensive platform for small businesses. The OAS has produced two reports, namely, "Barbados in the Cruise Tourism Global Value Chain" and "Barbados in the Rum Global Value Chain".

During the review period, six (6) applications were received, a total of twenty-one (21) were processed and six (6) were approved for concessions under the Small Business Development Act Cap. 318C. Additionally, 49 applications for duty free exemptions were processed over the same period.

The Central Bank of Barbados issued guarantees for liquidity support to two (2) companies in the amount of \$217,475.09 during 2017.

BARBADOS YOUTH BUSINESS TRUST

During 2017 the Barbados Youth Business Trust disbursed five (5) grants at a value BDS\$4,320.00 and has 57 outstanding loans at a value of BDS\$597,313.00. The current default rate is 29.1 per cent.

The BYBT provided technical assistance to 126 micro and small businesses, in the form of training at a value of BDS\$16,800.00 and in non-grant funding for start-up research and support at a value of BDS\$4,180.00. Also assisted in retaining 26 jobs represented by seven (7) male-owned and 19 female-owned businesses while helping to create 20 jobs (nine (9) males and 11 females) with assisted entrepreneurs.

ENTERPRISE GROWTH FUND LIMITED

The Enterprise Growth Fund Limited (EGFL) during 2017 disbursed four (4) grants at a value of BDS\$1,114,433.90; and 12 loans at a value of BDS\$12,577,004.06 while creating 30 jobs. The EGFL, has 142 outstanding loans with a

total value of BDS\$119,738,489.70 and a default rate of 21 per cent.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The Rural Development Commission (RDC) disbursed 112 loans totalling BDS\$412,496.80 primarily in the areas of agriculture and livestock production and retail during 2017.

The RDC created 92 jobs and assisted with the creation of another 38 jobs over the same period.

At the end of 2017, the Commission had 441 outstanding loans totalling BDS\$3,331,406.08 and a default rate of 83 percent.

BARBADOS AGENCY FOR MICRO ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT (FUNDAACCESS)

The Barbados Agency for Micro Enterprise Development disbursed 16 grants totalling BDS\$13,950.00 and 103 loans totalling BDS\$4,483,016.00 with a default rate of 17.8 percent in 2017.

Fund Access provided training at a cost of BDS\$10,000.00, assisted with the creation of 144 jobs, assisted with the retention of 2,052 jobs, and provided technical assistance to 25 micro and small businesses at a cost of BDS\$54,828.

There were 796 outstanding loans totalling BDS\$22,688,978.00 during the period under review.

YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP SCHEME

During 2017, the Youth Entrepreneurship Scheme (YES) provided BDS\$182,758.40 in technical assistance to 101 micro and small businesses.

YES expended BDS\$50,550 for personal development, basic business management, intermediate management and advanced training for 337 of its clients. In total, YES provided assistance for the creation of ten (10) new jobs and the retention of 29 full time jobs per month.

I. FOREIGN TRADE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The Government continued to pursue the foreign trade and foreign policy goals of Barbados, with the major initiatives pursued for 2017 aimed at ensuring that the economic and social well-being of Barbados and its people were advanced.

WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION

During 2017 activities continued in preparation for Barbados' participation at the Eleventh Ministerial Meeting, of the WTO, which was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina in December of 2017. Barbados remained active during these discussions to ensure that our interests were accommodated.

The Ministerial Conference ended with a commitment from members to secure a deal on fisheries subsidies which delivers on Goal 14.6 of the Sustainable Development Goals. Under the ministerial decision on fisheries subsidies, members agreed to continue to engage constructively in the fisheries subsidies negotiations with a view to adopting an agreement by the next Ministerial Conference in 2019. The intention is to develop comprehensive and effective disciplines that prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, and eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

In addition, members took a number of other ministerial decisions, which included extending the practice of not imposing customs duties on electronic transmissions for another two years, and they committed to continue negotiations in all areas.

CARICOM

The discussions during the meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development paid particular attention to crafting an appropriate trade-related response to the countries which have been adversely impacted by the passage of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. The meetings also refined the position of the Region in the lead up to the Eleventh Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organisation.

CARICOM and the Republic of Cuba have shared strong and fraternal relations that were forged since the establishment of diplomatic relations more than four decades ago. A fundamental pillar of the strong bond between CARICOM and Cuba is the Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement, which was signed on 5 July, 2000 and ratified by Barbados in April 2006. The Agreement provides for, among other things, the promotion and expansion of trade in goods and services, by means of free access to the markets of the Parties. With respect to trade in goods, the Agreement prescribes reciprocal preferential trade between the CARICOM More Developed Countries (MDCs) of Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago with the Republic of Cuba. The Least Developed Countries of CARICOM are not required to engage in the liberalisation of their markets.

During 2017, discussions at consecutive Joint Commission Meetings between the two parties led to the formation of the Second (2nd) Protocol of the Trade

and Economic Cooperation Agreement between the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Government of the Republic of Cuba. The Protocol offers:

- Expanded preferential market access (i.e. duty free access) offered by Cuba to CARICOM countries on a list of approximately 326 items. These items include meat, fish, dairy produce, fruits and vegetables, beer, rum, cement, soaps, articles of apparel and clothing; and
- The establishment of Contact Points to facilitate communication between the Parties on trade barriers, new trade and investment opportunities and other matters covered by the Agreement.

The Second (2nd) Protocol to the Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement was signed by CARICOM and Cuba during 2017 in the margins of the Forty-Fifth (45th) Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) in Georgetown, Guyana. This Protocol will allow the CARICOM/Barbados' private sector further market access opportunities into the Cuban market.

RELATIONS WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION

The Joint CARIFORUM-European Union Council of Ministers met in Brussels in 2017. This meeting was preceded by the meetings of the Senior Officials, the CARIFORUM-European Union Trade and Development Committee and the CARIFORUM Council of Ministers. The major outcome of the Joint Council meeting was agreement by the European Union to establish a Special Joint Committee on Trade in Services. This committee is expected to be a formal means by which the Region can

engage the EU with respect to matters such as access for professional services providers. The Trade and Development Committee meeting reached agreement on an amendment of Annex IX to Protocol 1 on overseas countries and territories and the Establishment of a List of Arbitrators. These two decisions were signed at the Joint Council Meeting by the lead spokespersons from the European Union and CARIFORUM side.

The Meetings noted that there was progress on establishing the Special Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries. The Special Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries will seek to enhance competitiveness in the Agricultural sector and address sustainable management of resources in fisheries. The first meeting of this Special Committee was held in October 2017. The Trade and Development Committee received a report on the deliberations of the Committee.

The CARIFORUM-European Union (EU) Meeting on the protection of Geographical Indications (GIs) and the CARIFORUM-EU meeting on Agriculture and Fisheries was held in Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic, over the review period.

GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS

The Meeting agreed that priority should be given to an Intra-CARIFORUM agreement to ensure protection of regional Geographical Indications (GIs) among Member States prior to the conclusion of the current negotiations of the CARIFORUM-EU agreement.

Member States also resolved to carry out further work on the eligible GI products previously identified, with special attention given to the elaboration of the underpinning technical specifications.

THE 11TH EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND
CARIBBEAN REGIONAL INDICATIVE
PROGRAMME

Initiatives in 2017, sought to programme these funds in a manner which would be beneficial to Barbados and the Region. EUR 97.1 million has been programmed to date with approval pending for additional projects. Barbados stands to benefit from the funding which has been allocated to the private sector programme which will be executed by the Caribbean Export Development Agency (CEDA) and those allocated to Regional Integration which will be executed by the CARIFORUM Secretariat in Guyana.

Barbados is represented on the Board of Directors of the CEDA and continued to participate actively in the discussions which identify the mandates and priorities for the Agency. In 2017, Barbados assumed chairmanship of the Board for an initial period of one year with the possibility of an extension. The Eleventh European Development Regional Private Sector Development Programme was launched during 2017 in Barbados. It is capitalized to the tune of €24 million.

CAPACITY BUILDING

The World Trade Organisation hosted the Regional Trade Policy course in Barbados for the fourth consecutive year during 2017. Regional Trade Policy Courses (RTPCs) are eight (8) weeks long intermediate-level training courses targeted to junior and mid-level government officials from WTO Members and Observers working on trade-related issues. The courses are co-delivered by officials from the WTO Secretariat and trade policy specialists/academic experts from the region. RTPCs' key objectives are to: deepen participant's understanding of the of the WTO Agreements and the functioning of the

WTO; explore relevant trade policy issues in their regional context; increase participant's autonomy to work on WTO issues through the use of WTO information resources; and, facilitate the strengthening of participant's trade-related professional network. Twenty-one (21) participants from the Region participated in the last cohort.

During 2017, approximately fifty (50) persons benefitted from capacity building in the area of Trade Facilitation in the context of the Economic Partnership Agreement between CARIFORUM and the European Union. Participation was drawn from the public and private sector as well as civil society.

Barbados remains the pilot in the regional project geared towards the identification of Non-Conforming Measures in domestic legislation which conflict with the provisions in trade agreements to which Barbados is a party. The Ministry continued to engage stakeholders on the preliminary findings in respect of the existing provisions which are enshrined in legislation and which conflict with the obligations under trade agreements. In this regard, a number of consultations were undertaken.

The Ministry continued to work with the Technical Committee on Business and Trade Facilitation in order to finalise the process toward the submission of technical proposals relative to the implementation of the World Trade Organisation Trade Facilitation Agreement.

Ministry continued its involvement with other line Ministries and the private sector aimed at advancing Barbados' interests in the ongoing negotiations at the multilateral level as well as those with Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica for the expansion of market access under the respective trading arrangements.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

MARITIME DELIMITATION

During the review period, the Governments of Barbados and Saint Lucia signed an Agreement establishing the maritime boundary between the two countries. The Agreement was signed in the margins of the 38th Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM. The delimitation of maritime boundaries under United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) to which these States are party, facilitates the effective governance of the maritime spaces over which the countries exercise jurisdiction.

CARICOM SINGLE MARKET AND ECONOMY (CSME)

At the thirty-eighth regular meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community there was a Comprehensive Review of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME). Within the CARICOM Quasi-Cabinet of Heads of Government, the Prime Minister of Barbados, identified challenges faced by Member States in implementing the CSME. The discussion centered on the need to accelerate the implementation and use of the CSME and proposals to solve the foreign exchange difficulties affecting trade among Member States. It was noted that the CARICOM Secretariat, the University of the West Indies (The UWI) and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) would collaborate to undertake an assessment on the economic impact of the CSME as requested by Member States.

The Heads of Government approved the Implementation Plan for the CSME 2017-2019 and instructed the CARICOM Committee of Ambassadors (CCA) to complete within six (6) months. The procedures to which Member States would adhere on the Refusal of Entry of CARICOM

Nationals. The relevant Organs and Bodies were mandated to meet to consider and advise, no later than the Thirty-Ninth Regular Meeting of the Conference in 2018, on the matters requiring guidance, in particular those relating to The Bahamas, Haiti and Montserrat and to the definition of a CARICOM National. It was agreed that a special meeting of the Conference would be held to have a comprehensive discussion on the CSME and the Secretariat was mandated to assist Member States, where possible, in setting up or refining the consultative structures among the policy-makers, implementers and users of the CSME.

Date	Agreements
March 24, 2017	Visa Abolition Agreement with the People’s Republic of China
March 2017	Visa Waiver Agreement with the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR)
May 3, 2017	Double Taxation Agreement with Cyprus.
May 9, 2017	The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade on May 9, 2017 signed the Barbados-Canada Air Transport Agreement on behalf of the Government of Barbados.
July 6, 2017	Maritime Boundary Delimitation Agreement between the Government of Barbados and the Government of Saint Lucia
October 31, 2017	Technical Cooperation Agreement with the People’s Republic of China, which allowed the release of funds for the Hope Project and the UWI Food Security Project.
December 6, 2017	Protocol to the Barbados-Mauritius Double Taxation Agreement.
December 8, 2017	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Cuba and Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) on Multi-Destination Tourism.

SOURCE:OECD

IV. SOCIAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

A. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

OVERVIEW

Education continued to be an engine of economic and social development. During 2017, at the nursery level, the Maria Holder Nursery School at Oldbury, St. Philip was opened; while at the primary level, training for parents took place in the area of positive behaviour management practices. In the area of secondary education, a partnership was established between Sam Lord's Castle Inc. and five (5) selected secondary schools to facilitate the attainment of Caribbean Vocational Qualifications (CVQs) and future employment.

EDUCATION BUDGET

Approved expenditure of the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology

and Innovation (METI) for financial year 2017/2018 totalled \$486.5 million, which represented approximately 10.8 per cent of government's projected expenditure. This allocation was \$1.9 million more or a 0.4 per cent increase when compared to the \$484.6 million approved for the financial year 2016/2017.

Primary Education received \$156.8 million, while Nursery Education received \$0.28 million. Primary Education showed an increase of 2.0 per cent, while Nursery Education showed a significant decline of 41.0 percent when compared to the allocations for 2016/2017.

Secondary Education received \$132.8 million, which represented an increase of 1.3 per cent over the previous year's allocation. Tertiary Education was allocated \$131.9 million, a 0.1 per cent

Table 4.1-1
Education Expenditure FY 2015/2016 – FY 2017/2018

Programme	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
Central Administration	15,843,304	17,406,382	15,378,888
Teacher Training	6,024,557	6,112,785	6,145,000
Primary Education	169,222,051	153,744,160	156,829,310
Nursery Education	552,286	474,552	279,850
Education Sector Enhancement Programme (ESEP)	9,671,928	11,360,948	6,098,100
Secondary Education	126,779,888	131,086,936	132,838,350
Tertiary Education	125,617,405	131,843,550	131,942,600
Special Services	35,072,158	32,584,146	37,011,500
HIV/AIDS Prevention	225,000	0	0
Poverty Alleviation and Reduction	0	0	10,000
Total	489,008,577	484,613,459	486,533,850

SOURCE: Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation

increase over the figure for the previous year.

The allotment to Special Services of \$37.0 million reflected a 13.6 per cent decline over the previous year's allocation. Teacher Training received \$6.1 million in 2017/18 while Central Administration received \$15.3 million.

SKILLS FOR THE FUTURE (SFTF)

The Skills for the Future (SFTF) Program is a US\$20.0 million investment financed by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and by the Government of Barbados. It is being implemented within twelve (12) secondary schools and selected Post-Secondary Institutions. The programme's main objective is to support the Government's Human Resource Development Strategy (HRDS) by improving the quality and relevance of secondary and post-secondary education and the effectiveness of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

The aim of the programme is to ensure that graduates from secondary and post-secondary institutions attain the academic and life skills needed to enter the labour market and to continue further education. The program also seeks to facilitate the school to work transition and reduce the proportion of unattached youth.

At the end of 2017, 3,240 persons were trained and 1,934 persons were certified under the Competency Based Training Fund (CBTF). Also, during the year, twenty-five (25) educators from secondary and post-secondary institutions were trained and certified in the area of leadership.

BARBADOS ACCREDITATION COUNCIL (BAC)

REGISTRATION OF TERTIARY EDUCATIONAL PROVIDERS

Twenty-five (25) tertiary educational providers were registered with the Barbados Accreditation Council (BAC) at the end of 2017.

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION OF CARICOM SKILLS QUALIFICATION

Barbados accounted for the majority of Certificates issued, out of the 166 Certificates of Recognition of CARICOM Skills Qualifications.

SCHOOL MEALS DEPARTMENT

An average of 26,817 lunches were prepared and distributed daily without incidence of food borne illness. A total of 4,795,271 lunches were served during the period, at a cost of \$5,962,473.37.

NURSERY AND PRIMARY

The drive to expand Early Childhood Education continued during the year. The new Maria Holder Nursery School at Oldbury, St. Philip was opened in January 2017. Also, regular monitoring by the education officers continued in nursery, primary and special needs schools.

During the review period, over 500 visits were made to include monitoring management and organizational practices and the supervision of succession exercises with newly appointed principals. The captured information pertains to the physical condition of the schools, school rolls, staff, instructional plans, and health and fire safety certification.

Additionally, in accordance with the thrust to engender a culture of greater moral fibre and more positive social behaviour within the nation's student population, the Nursery and Primary Section hosted a session in positive behaviour management practices for parents.

CARIBBEAN VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS (CVQS)

TEACHER TRAINING

Teacher training occurred in CVQ Assessment Level 4 which included areas of Internal Verification, Master Training and External Verification.

CARIBBEAN CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY LEVEL COMPETENCE (CCSLC)

A total of 3,314 students, consisting of 1,418 males and 1,896 females from eighteen (18) (10 public and private schools, were examined for CCSLC in 2017. 1,160 students, representing 35.0 per cent of the total, gained a grade of Mastery, while 1,856 students, representing 56.0 per cent of the total, gained a grade of Competence.

CARIBBEAN SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE (CSEC)

In June 2017, a total of 5,203 students, consisting of 2,352 males and 2,851 females from public and private schools, were entered for CSEC examinations. Of this total, 4,579 students or 88.0 per cent of students, gained passes in at least one (1) subject, while 2,549 students or 49.0 per cent of students, gained passes in five (5) or more subjects. In addition, 67.0 per cent of CSEC examinations taken by students of public and private schools resulted in passes at Grades I to III.

CARIBBEAN ADVANCED PROFICIENCY EXAMINATIONS (CAPE)

A total of 2,009 students, consisting of 764 males and 1,245 females from public and private schools, were entered for CAPE Units 1 and 2 in June 2017. 65.0 per cent of the students, or 1,306 students, received at least one (1) pass at either Unit 1 or Unit 2. In addition, 91.0 per cent of examinations taken resulted in passes at Grades I to V for CAPE Unit 1, while 92.0 per cent of examinations taken resulted in passes at Grades I to V for CAPE Unit 2.

TERTIARY EDUCATION

ERDISTON TEACHERS' TRAINING COLLEGE (ETTC) TEACHER TRAINING

During the year, teacher training was completed for the fifth cohort of participants in Physical Education and Certificate in Special Needs Education.

In addition, the Bachelor of Education Programme was introduced in September 2017.

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

Collaborative efforts between the Erdiston Teachers' Training College (ETTC), the University of New Brunswick and Wheelock College were pursued, with the focus to effect national policies and educational initiatives.

SAMUEL JACKMAN PRESCOD INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (SJPI)

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

An initiative was undertaken to offer to the general public an opportunity to write the Entrance Examination face-to-face and online for a user friendly process.

Table 4.1-2
Barbadian Students Enrolled at UWI by Faculty 2015/16 – 2016/17

Faculty	2015/16			2016/17		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Social Sciences	790	1,715	2,505	752	1,471	2,223
Science & Technology	410	294	704	381	318	699
Medical Sciences	45	117	162	37	130	167
Law	81	160	241	72	145	217
Humanities & Education	97	287	384	72	243	315
Total	1,423	2,573	3,996	1,314	2,307	3,621

SOURCE: University of the West Indies – Cave Hill Campus

EDUCATION TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT UNIT (ETMU)

The Education Technical Management Unit (ETMU) expended \$1.7 million on the execution of the enhancement projects and for termite treatment.

EDUCATION SECTOR ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME (ESEP) I - THE LODGE SCHOOL REFURBISHMENT

Under this programme, the new school hall at the Lodge School was refurbished and training for primary school teachers to enhance the quality of primary education was conducted.

The Maria Holder Memorial Trust is expected to construct six (6) new nursery schools inclusive of the costs of the land acquisition, design and oversight. In addition, there were ten (10) installations of photovoltaic solar energy systems at primary schools.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND EXHIBITIONS

For the year 2017, there were twenty – six (26) Barbados scholarships, twenty (20) exhibitions, six (6) National Development Scholarships and seven (7) Special awards.

STUDENT REVOLVING LOAN FUND (SRLF)

During 2017, the SRLF processed 426 loan applications, of which 387 were approved. The value of the loans disbursed totalled \$9,788,930, with a delinquency rate of 32.8 per cent (calculated as the percentage value of loans in repayment).

BARBADIAN UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ENROLLED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES (UWI) BY FACULTY 2016/2017

The faculty of Social Sciences enrolled a total of 2,223 Barbadian students, a decrease of 11.3 per cent or 282 students. Females enrolled were 1,471 or 40.6 per cent and males enrolled were 752 or 20.8

per cent of the overall total number of students enrolled. This faculty recorded 61.4 per cent of the overall total number of 3,621 Barbadian students enrolled at the University of the West Indies (UWI) during the review period.

The faculty of Humanities and Education enrolled a total of 315 students, a decrease of 18.0 per cent, comprising of 243 females (77.1 per cent) and 72 males (22.9 per cent). This enrolment figure reflected 8.7 per cent of the overall total enrolment of students for the academic year. The faculty of Science and Technology recorded a total enrolment of 699 Barbadian students, while Law and Medical Sciences recorded enrolment of 217 and 167 students respectively. Of these totals, the females dominated the ratio of male to female enrolment except for Science and

Technology where there were 381 males to 318 females enrolled.

BARBADOS INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT AND PRODUCTIVITY (BIMAP)

The Barbados Institute of Management and Productivity (BIMAP) continued to offer a number of certificate courses, diplomas, seminars and short courses, and Bachelor's as well as Master's programmes during 2017. A total of 1,698 students were enrolled in 2017. This was 284 persons more than the previous year's total enrolment of 1,414 persons. The overall student enrolment consisted of 26.0 per cent males and 74.0 per cent females. For 2017, In addition, there was an increase in the number of new students enrolled in the Certificate in Management Studies, the Master's programmes with Liverpool and Walden and Information Technology Professional Certification. In addition, eighteen (18) persons completed training in

Table 4.1-3
Barbados Vocational Training Board Enrolment and Output of Skilled Manpower 2017

Skills	Enrolment			Output		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Agricultural	13	3	16	5	2	7
Apparel & Sewn Product	1	122	123	1	97	98
Art & Craft	1	25	26	1	25	26
Automotive	101	5	106	99	7	106
Beauty Care & Services	34	262	296	34	258	292
Commercial	2	24	26	3	16	19
Hospitality	113	314	427	99	286	385
Information Technology	24	35	59	22	32	54
Machine and Appliance	13	0	13	10	0	10
Other ¹	381	89	470	295	74	369
Total All Skills Programme	683	879	1,562	569	797	1,366

SOURCE: Barbados Vocational Training Board

National Vocation and Caribbean Vocational Qualifications (C/NVQs) Levels 2 and 3 during the year. The decline to eighteen (18) persons, from 733 a year earlier, was due to the conclusion of training for Competency Based Training Fund (CBTF) projects in 2016.

BARBADOS VOCATIONAL TRAINING BOARD

For 2017, a total of 1,562 persons, consisting of 683 males and 879 females, enrolled in skills-training courses. Of this total, 1,366 persons, 569 males and 797 females completed these courses. This resulted in an output to enrolment ratio in the skills programmes of approximately 87.0 per cent, a decrease of 1.4 per cent when compared with 88.4 per cent in 2016. Males dominated enrolment in the Agricultural, Automotive, Machine and Appliance and Other areas of skills-training. On the other hand, female enrolment was higher in the Apparel & Sewn Product, Art & Craft, Beauty Care & Services, Commercial, Hospitality and Information Technology areas of skills-training during the year.

PROMOTION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:

During 2017, the Government of Barbados undertook a number of initiatives geared towards the promotion of science and technology and innovation such as: The Biennial Science and Technology Symposium and Speak Off, the First Global Robotics Olympics; The Annual Science and Technology Camp, Annual Caribbean Youth Science Forum (CYSF), Computer Coding and Introduction of Robotics.

B. CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORTS

OVERVIEW

Barbados continued to promote and reinforce the significance of culture as one of the major catalysts needed to inspire

economic growth by diversifying its product portfolio. Culture therefore has the potential to generate new revenue streams that flow towards expanding the foreign exchange reserves.

In this pursuit, the Culture and Heritage Sector embarked on several initiatives for the period 2017, which included the introduction of economic stimuli geared towards investment and tax incentives to encourage and increase cultural exports and trade activities for creative goods and services. In addition, the Ministry worked with the Heritage Sector partners to facilitate the establishment of the Barbadian Creative Cultural Brands for large scale commercial activity.

NATIONAL CULTURAL FOUNDATION (NCF)

The National Cultural Foundation executed several developmental programs such as Crop Over, National Independence Festival of Creative Arts (NIFCA) and Caribbean Festival of Arts (CARIFESTA). Training initiatives were offered in Theatre Arts, Music, Visual Arts, Steel pan and percussion, Literary Arts and Dance.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (YDP)

Fifty- four (54) community-based projects were implemented to aid with youth development and included entrepreneurial activities, training in a variety of sporting disciplines and life skills development exercises. Thirty-nine (39) individuals/ organisations were given financial aid, equipment, technical assistance and Assistance-in-Kind services.

Total value of assistance approved and disbursed was BDS\$80,348.46 of the BDS\$471,798.51 requested.

Additionally, collaborative programmes were held with schools to offer

guidance in career planning and sexual and reproductive health.

YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP SCHEME (YES)

The Youth Entrepreneurship (YES) Scheme made major strides as most of the activities under its work programme remained on stream and within budget. The scheme leveraged its people, financial resources and technology to not only meet and exceed client expectations but also foster social development and promote economic growth by empowering hundreds of young entrepreneurs to develop micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

YES, facilitated MSMEs by allowing them to gain access to capital, providing solution-based responses to critical needs, networking of accountants, marketing consultants, specialised technical assistance, mentoring, counselling and business advisory services and entrepreneurial education and training.

One hundred and one MSMEs were given technical assistance with an associated value of BDS\$182,758.40. YES assisted with the creation of jobs for 131 Entrepreneurs and supported the Employees review of the financial statements for ten (10) businesses.

BARBADOS CULTURAL INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (BCIDA)

In 2017, the Barbados Cultural Industries Development Authority (BCIDA) continued to pursue its mandate on the development aspect of the cultural industries economy that concentrates on strategy to promote access to international markets. This strategy would enhance the region’s market share and creativity in a competitive international industry.

C. POPULATION

The resident population was estimated at 274.4 thousand persons at December 31, 2017. This represented a decrease of 944 persons when compared

Table 4.3-1
Births, Deaths and Infant Mortality 1997-2017

Year	No. of Live Births	No. of Deaths	Natural Increase	Infant Deaths
1997	3784	2297	1487	50
1998	3612	2471	1141	28
1999	3882	2428	1454	39
2000	3762	2430	1332	63
2001	4051	2407	1644	66
2002	3812	2295	1517	55
2003	3748	2274	1474	37
2004	3473	2424	1049	64
2005	3508	2162	1346	29
2006	3414	2317	1097	38
2007	3537	2213	1324	46
2008	3547	2476	1071	65
2009	3550	2419	1131	31
2010	3366	2195	1171	34
2011	3283	2421	862	45
2012	3185	2403	782	35
2013	3020	2276	744	22
2014	2902	2580	322	29
2015	2876	2554	322	23
2016	2522	2580	-58	34
2017	2574	2632	-58	23

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service.
Figures are collected as registration occurs.

with 275.4 thousand persons at the end of 2016. There were 132.3 thousand males, a decline of 371 males when compared to 132.7 thousand males in 2016. Females accounted for 142.1 thousand, a decline of 573 females when compared with 142.6 thousand in 2016. Females accounted for 51.8 per cent of the resident population.

The birth rate for 2017 increased to 9.4 per thousand from 9.1 per thousand the previous year. There were 2,574 live births in 2017, an increase of 52 births when compared with 2,522 in 2016. There were 1,352 male births in 2017, compared with 1,302 in 2016, while there were 1,222 female births compared with 1,220 in 2016.

The rate of population growth remained at -0.4 per cent in 2017. In 2017, the natural increase in population (the difference between births and deaths) declined by fifty-eight (58) persons.

In 2017, the death rate increased to 9.6 per thousand of the population, compared with 9.3 per thousand in 2016. There were 2,632 deaths recorded at the end of 2017, representing an increase of 52 when compared with the 2,580 deaths recorded in 2016. Male deaths accounted for 1,356 or 51.5 per cent of total deaths; while there were 1,276 female deaths.

Infant mortality declined in 2017 and was recorded at a rate of 8.9 per thousand births, representing a decline of 4.6 per thousand births when compared with 13.5 per thousand in 2016. There were twenty-three (23) infant deaths, eleven (11) less than the previous year, consisting of sixteen (16) males and seven (7) females.

D. HEALTH

During 2017, the Ministry of Health made significant strides in developing appropriate plans and strategies to assist in strengthening Barbados' health system.

Barbados hosted the third face-to-face meeting of the Country Working Group for the Sustainable Health Agenda of the Americas (SHAA) 2018-2030 and had the privilege to serve as vice chair of this working group, along with Panama. The Sustainable Health Agenda for the Americas 2018-2030 (SHAA2030) is a framework that reflects the highest level of strategic planning and policy for health in the Americas. The Agenda represents the health sector's response to commitments made by countries in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Millennium Development Goals, and the Health Agenda for the Americas 2008-2017, as well as future and emerging regional public health challenges.

The Ministry of Health held national consultations on its draft Strategic Plan for Health 2018-2023 during the months of April and July 2017. The aim of the consultations was to develop a comprehensive and responsive national plan that meets the present and future needs of the people of Barbados, given the existing challenges. The Plan will also be developed in such a way that critical strategies are identified, which will allow Barbados to ensure Universal Health Coverage and meet its international obligations. Additionally, under this new plan, emphasis will continue to be placed on strengthening the Ministry's response to the fight against Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), strengthening of Primary Healthcare as well as managing new and re-emerging Communicable Diseases.

In addition, the Cabinet of Barbados approved the National Breastfeeding Policy for Barbados in January 2017. At the heart of this policy is support for exclusive breastfeeding for the first six (6) months of an infant's life. Through a public-private partnership, a four (4) bed renal dialysis unit was set up at the David Thompson Health and Social Services Complex and has been in operation for the last twelve (12) months. This arrangement represents a unique pioneering approach to healthcare

management in Barbados, with the integration of aspects of tertiary care in the primary healthcare setting. It has also allowed the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) to expand its dialysis services to Barbadians.

Laboratory services are an important component of any health care system, playing a critical role in the diagnosis and treatment of patients and for disease surveillance in the island. A key area of health system strengthening has been improving the capacity of public health and medical laboratory networks. This project will serve to improve laboratory services in Barbados and provide support to the wider Caribbean.

HEALTH BUDGET

The allocation to the Ministry of Health for the fiscal year 2017-2018 was \$327.7 million. This represented 7.2 per cent of Government's projected total expenditure for the period. This allocation represented a

decline of \$5.0 million or a 1.5 per cent when compared to the previous fiscal year's allocation of \$332.7 million.

Hospital Services, which include emergency, acute and secondary and tertiary care, at the QEH as well as mental health services at the Psychiatric Hospital, received approximately 56.5 per cent of the total allocation. The second largest allocation was assigned to the Care of the Elderly Programme, which received 10.9 per cent and the third largest allocation, 9.7 per cent, was allocated to the Primary Health Care Programme.

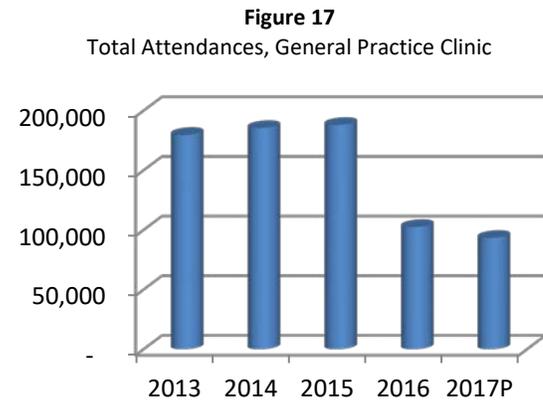
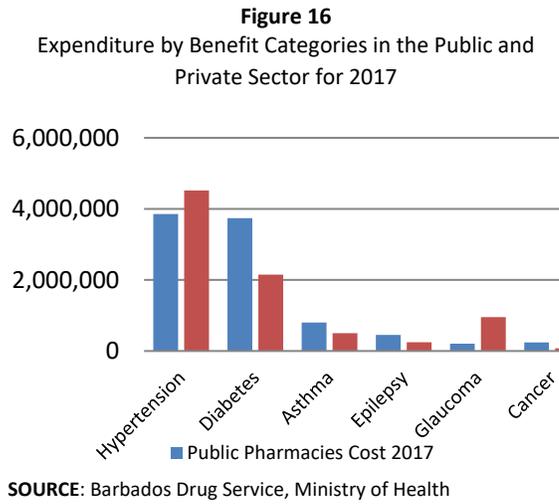
Further budgetary allocations were as follows: Direction and Policy Formulation Services \$18.6 million or 5.7 per cent; Care of the Disabled received \$2.9 million or 0.9 per cent; the Pharmaceutical Programme received.

Additional funding in the amount of BDS\$700,000, as well as technical support, was secured through the Pan American

Table 4.4-1
Health Expenditure by Programme Head
FY 2015/2016 – FY 2017/2018

Programme	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
Direction and Policy Formulation Services	19,019,278	29,227,612	18,554,938
Primary Health Care	28,392,504	29,348,812	31,652,353
Hospital Services	192,365,214	182,080,578	185,044,189
Care of the Disabled	2,822,452	2,866,227	2,933,274
Pharmaceutical Programme	26,189,635	26,776,581	27,448,509
Care of the Elderly	36,383,181	35,805,302	35,575,685
HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Project	10,269,428	10,914,920	10,746,115
Environmental Health Services	16,017,955	15,720,673	15,671,731
Poverty Alleviation and Reduction Programme	0	0	67,575
Total	331,459,647	332,740,705	327,694,369

SOURCE: Planning and Research Unit, Ministry of Health (Based on approved estimates of expenditure)



Health Organization’s (PAHO) Biennial Work Programme, to support the execution of activities in a number of programme areas. The main areas of collaboration include: Disaster Preparedness, Surveillance and Response; Vector Control, Non-Communicable Diseases and risk factor reduction; Determinants of Health and Promoting Health throughout the life course; and Health Systems Development.

HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Health Information Systems provide the basis for evidence-based decision making as it relates to patient care and resource management within the health sector. During the year, work continued on the phased implementation of a Health

Information System (HIS) as part of an eHealth strategy.

The implementation of the Health Information System (MedData) across the public health care system was instituted both from an institutional perspective and a module (functionality) perspective. To date, the Electronic Medical Record (EMR), Admission Discharge and Transfer (ADT) and two (2) of the three (3) components of the Maternal Child Health (MCH) modules have been implemented in all nine (9) of the Polyclinics. These modules have also been implemented in the Records and Oncology Departments of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH).

Other initiatives undertaken under the eHealth strategy include the implementation of a Laboratory Information Management Systems (LIMS) at the new Public Health Laboratory to facilitate timely results as well as the expanded utilisation of Telemedicine solutions at the QEH.

AMALGAMATION OF LABORATORY SERVICES

The construction of a new multi-purpose, state-of-the-art laboratory was completed in November 2017. The total construction cost of the laboratory was estimated at BDS \$18.2 million. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the State Department of the U.S. Government have invested grant funds in the sum of BDS \$12.0 million towards the construction of the laboratory, while the Barbados Government allocated BDS \$6.2 million towards the cost.

The Laboratory consists of nine (9) Departments: Biosafety Level 3 Suite (BSL-3) (tuberculosis testing), Serology, Molecular Biology, Clinical Microbiology, Immunology, Waters and Food Quality, Mycology and Air Quality, Enterics and

Table 4.4-2
Expenditure on the Number of Prescriptions Filled
2011 - 2017

Year	Public Sector			Private Sector		
	No. Rx's	Expenditure (\$)	\$/Rx	No. Rx's	Expenditure (\$)	\$/Rx
2011	924,461	9,770,712	10.57	1,003,035	16,256,051	16.21
2012	1,113,756	10,723,068	9.63	875,075	10,643,027	12.16
2013	1,148,438	11,668,138	10.16	855,644	10,474,386	12.24
2014	1,142,913	11,942,056	10.45	887,249	10,787,176	12.20
2015	1,088,428	10,429,755	10.38	799,623	9,408,565	11.77
2016	1,212,237	10,355,831	8.54	814,008	9,026,858	11.09
2017	1,219,412	10,607,135	8.71	811,548	8,916,407	10.99

SOURCE: Barbados Drug Service, Ministry of Health

Parasitology and Quality Assurance and Quality Control. The BSL-3 suite is the only one of its kind in the eastern Caribbean and has the potential to test for biosafety level 3 organisms.

BARBADOS DRUG SERVICE

In 2017, the Barbados Drug Service (BDS) delivered over two million prescriptions at a cost of \$19.5 million in its dispensing services through the public and private sectors. During 2017, an estimated \$8.9 million was reimbursed to the private participating pharmacies for the supply of medication on 811,548 prescriptions. For the same period, \$10.6 million was spent on approximately 1.2 million prescriptions in the public sector.

During the year, a total of \$14.7 million was spent in the six (6) categories of hypertension, diabetes, asthma, epilepsy, glaucoma and cancer. Expenditure on hypertension was \$8.3 million or 47.2 per cent of the total expenditure on drugs in the six (6) categories. Diabetes ranked second

with a \$5.9 million or 33.2 per cent of total expenditure and asthma was third with \$1.3 million or 7.4 per cent of total expenditure. Overall, the treatment of hypertension and diabetes combined accounted for 80.4 per cent of the BDS drug expenditure. In light of these facts, the Ministry of Health continued to place emphasis on health promotion and prevention to reduce the negative impact of non-communicable diseases on the population of Barbados.

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE PROGRAMME

The Polyclinic system continued to provide a range of services that addressed the needs of families. Some of the services provided include: Maternal and Child Health, Immunization, Dental Health, General Practice clinics and Environmental Health services. Provisional data indicated that there were approximately 178,979 attendances at the nine (9) polyclinics at the end of June 2017. According to the provisional data collected up to June 2017, there were 93,128 attendances at general practice clinics.

EXPANDED PROGRAMME ON IMMUNIZATION

Barbados continued to maintain zero cases of polio, neonatal tetanus, measles, rubella and congenital rubella syndrome during 2017. Immunization coverage at the end of September 2017 was as follows: Polio 91.0 per cent; Pentavalent third dose, 91.0 per cent; Measles, Mumps and Rubella, first dose (MMR 1), 90.0 per cent and MMR 2 second dose, 76.0 per cent.

ADOLESCENT HEALTH

As part of a global dissemination and capacity building strategy, the World Health Organization (WHO) is supporting selected early adopter countries to develop adolescent health policies and strategies using the Accelerated Action for the Health of Adolescent (AA-HA!) guidance. Barbados has participated in the round of early adopter country exercises. In this regard, the Ministry of Health is developing a National Adolescent Health Strategy for Barbados.

An AA-HA! Workshop was conducted in October 2017 with a team of multi-sector stakeholders to plan for and apply a systematic approach to the development of the strategy.

To date, the following activities have been completed:

- A comprehensive needs assessment;
- A landscape analysis;
- Priority setting; and
- Identification of programming priorities and related actions using the AA-HA! logical framework for

translating priorities into plans and programmes.

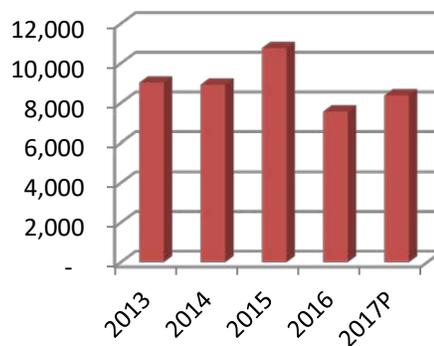
HEALTH PROMOTION

During 2017, activities addressed the risk factors associated with NCDs through the development and dissemination of public service announcements and warning of the dangers of the high consumption of salt and sugar. An exhibit entitled “Sugar Rush” was created to demonstrate the amount of sugar contained in soft drinks and was mounted at the Annual Agrofest Exhibition and the Schools against NCDs Walk, among other community events.

A new public service announcement (PSA) on salt consumption was designed for social media, in collaboration with “Research and Some Sense”. This PSA addressed various aspects of how Barbadians use salt in their diet. The PSA was disseminated via YouTube. A jingle for radio, a public service announcement for television and infographics was also been developed during the period.

One of the hallmarks of the year was the production and broadcast of Series 6 of the “Get Healthy Barbados” television

Figure 18
Total Attendances, Mental Health Clinic



SOURCE: Planning and Research Unit, Ministry of Health
P – Provisional, June 2017

programme. The series consisted of thirteen (13) half hour programmes that focussed on NCD risk factor reduction, as well as the promotion of the Ministry's policies and programmes. A special focus was on measures to address childhood obesity and children were prominently featured in the series. The series has since been re-broadcast on television and has been placed on the internal network at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

During 2017, the National NCD Commission conducted activities, including a Wellness Week of Activities and a one day national stakeholders' consultation on Healthy Foods for Barbadians during March 2017. Participants in the consultation were drawn from a range of organisations concerned with the production, processing and sale of food to the public. The consultation recommended that efforts should be made to prevent marketing and advertising of unhealthy foods to children and other vulnerable populations, recognizing the harmful influence of such activities on dietary choices.

Support was also given to the adoption and implementation of Caribbean Public Health Agency's (CARPHA) Six-Point Policy Package for Promoting Healthy Diets, Food and Nutrition Security to Combat NCDs, Child and Adolescent Obesity.

Legislation requiring picture based warnings on tobacco packaging was passed in Parliament and Gazetted in April 2017.

NUTRITION PROGRAMME

During 2017, the National Nutrition Centre (NNC) and its officers successfully disseminated all of the Food-based Dietary Guidelines in the polyclinics and communities. The recipients were instructed in the proper use of the guidelines and feedback has been positive. The NNC successfully hosted Nutrition Week and the Nutrition Summer Camp. Another school

campus was added to the Nutrition Summer Camp programme for 2017 and the hours of the camp were extended by two hours. In addition, the NNC reviewed the draft on 'Guidelines to Healthier Menus in Schools-for Canteen Operators'.

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMME

Enhancing mental health services for children and adolescents continued to be a primary focus during 2017. In this regard, construction of a Residential Child and Adolescent Unit commenced during August 2017 and is scheduled to be completed in September 2018. The Unit, funded by the Sandy Lane Charitable Trust, is estimated to cost BDS \$6.0 million for construction, purchase of equipment and outfitting for operation.

The residential facility will complement outpatient care provided at the Child Guidance Clinic at the Branford Taitt Polyclinic. A total of 1,216 visits to the outpatient facility were recorded in 2017.

Delivery of mental health services in the community continued to be the overall thrust during 2017. Provisional data indicated that up to June 2017 there were 8,377 attendances at mental health clinics.

QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL (QEH)

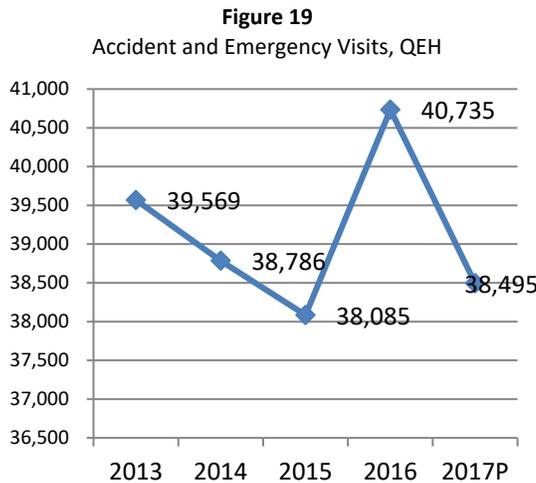
The average length of stay for January to October 2017 in the QEH, including intensive care units (ICUs), was 6.1 days, while the total number of admissions for the same period was 12,854. For the same period, there were 70,748 outpatient visits (old and new cases) and outpatient activity continued to be centred on Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Ophthalmology, Surgery, Orthopaedics and Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) services.

IMPROVING QUALITY AND SAFETY THROUGH HOSPITAL ACCREDITATION

The Laboratory Accreditation (ISO 15189), Baby-Friendly Hospital re-certification and the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) certification were all achieved in 2017. The QEH kitchen is the only public health food service operation in the English-speaking Caribbean to have this distinction, and Barbados is one (1) of two (2) countries receiving international designation for the promotion of breast-feeding.

ACCIDENT & EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

Visits to the Accident and Emergency Department (A & E) declined from 39,569 in 2013 to 38,085 in 2015, with visits to the Department peaking in 2016. Provisional data indicated that at the end of December 2017, there were 38,495 visits.



SOURCE: Queen Elizabeth Hospital
P - Provisional

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION (NGO) PARTNERSHIPS AND PHILANTHROPY

The continued establishment of partnerships and alliances with reputable NGOs and health care institutions has allowed the QEH to expand its surgical capacity in selected areas. The surgical transplant team partnered with a U.K. Charity (Transplant Links Community) to successfully perform its third living-donor kidney transplant. In addition, a number of surgeries were performed on children with scoliosis through visiting arrangements by a surgical team from World Paediatric Project (WPP) from the USA, in collaboration with local surgeons.

Hospital Philanthropy was yet another noteworthy programme introduced as an innovative approach for generating capital revenues to support technology replacement. Accumulated funds generated over the past four (4) years from individuals, religious organizations, the private sector, NGOs and the diaspora have surpassed the \$12.0 million mark.

HIV/STI PROGRAMME

At the end of 2017, 2,248 persons, consisting of 1,300 men and 948 women, had registered for care at the Ladymeade Reference Unit (LRU) since its inception in 2002. Ninety-seven (97) patients, consisting of sixty-three (63) men and thirty-four (34) women were newly registered for care during 2017.

For the year ending 2017, there were approximately one hundred and sixty (160) persons, consisting of seventy-nine (79) females and eighty-one (81) males defaulting from care. The Ministry of Health has developed an initiative to track, initiate and reinstate patients on ARVs who have defaulted from treatment. To date, several persons have been returned to care due to this initiative.

There are approximately two hundred and thirty-four (234) persons, consisting of one hundred and eight (108)

females and one hundred and twenty-six (126) males being seen in private care.

The HIV/STI programme continued to improve the provision of HIV testing services (HTS) in Barbados. At the end of 2017, there were eight (8) sites that provided Rapid Testing (RT) services: six (6) of the nine (9) polyclinics, the Ladymeade Reference Unit (LRU) and the Barbados Family Planning Association. By the end of September 2017, fourteen thousand nine hundred and nine (14,909) RTs were completed.

SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME

Surveillance continued for respiratory viruses, vector borne diseases and injuries during 2017. At the end of December 2017, seventy-six (76) cases of dengue fever were confirmed, a significant reduction when compared to five hundred and eighty-seven (587) cases in 2016 and one hundred and twenty-two (122) cases in 2015.

There were four (4) confirmed cases of Chikungunya and one hundred and twenty-three (123) suspected cases, when compared to sixty-three (63) suspected cases and four (4) confirmed cases in 2015. After a further one hundred and twenty-four (124) suspected and four (4) confirmed cases in 2016, there was only one confirmed case recorded in 2017.

Respiratory infection tended to follow a fifteen (15) week cycle, with three (3) main peaks throughout the year. Influenza was the most common respiratory virus isolated, with seventy-four (74) confirmed cases in three distinct virus types: H1N1, H3N2 and Influenza B. One (1) case of tuberculosis was confirmed in 2017.

Leptospirosis is a vector-borne disease of rodents, which most often occurs in the rainy seasons. There were three (3)

cases in 2015, fifteen (15) cases in 2016 with one (1) death and twenty-two (22) cases with one (1) death in 2017. Public education has focused on helping persons to discourage rodent proliferation by decreasing breeding sites and food sources as well as a reduction of exposure to rodent dropping by the use of appropriate personal protective equipment while gardening or cleaning animal houses.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMME

WATER QUALITY

The Ministry of Health continued to monitor potable water to identify and manage water borne disease hazards and risks, to protect the public's health. Water is sampled to test for chlorine residual and the presence of pathogenic bacteria. The World Health Organization's (WHO) guidelines for potable water quality is used to determine that Barbados' water is in compliance. The WHO guidelines for drinking water indicates that the main parameters pseudomonas, total coliform, enterococci and faecal coliform must all be detectable at less than one (1) milligram per litre (<1 mg/l) for the sample to be deemed satisfactory or potable. A residual concentration of free chlorine of greater than or equal to 0.5 milligram per litre (mg/l) is satisfactory.

Following breaks in the sewage lines in the Hastings area the Ministry of Health conducted water sampling tests on a weekly basis throughout the island. Laboratory analysis of water samples taken throughout the country's distribution system was conducted at the new Public Health Laboratory. Although the potable water lines and the sewerage system are not connected, the Ministry of Health increased its sampling frequency in the area of Hastings to Worthing, Christ Church, with both chlorine residual and bacteriological samples being done on a weekly basis. These samples to date are in compliance with the World Health Organization's guidelines.

FOOD SAFETY

The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Fisheries and Water Resources continued the process of establishing the National Agriculture, Health and Food Control Agency (NAHFCA). During 2017, the development of legislation continued, resulting in a number of draft pieces of legislation (on Food Safety, Animal Health and Veterinary Public Health, Fish and Food Safety Coordination) being completed for consideration by the various stakeholders.

Training was conducted for three hundred and forty-six persons in Food Hygiene at various food establishments, as well as within the Ministry of Health Training Unit.

VECTOR CONTROL

The control and prevention of arbovirus diseases such as Dengue fever, Zika and Chikungunya continued with the adaptation of an Integrated Mosquito Vector Management Programme. There were increased inspections of premises, increased community outreach and education. Emphasis was placed on source reduction by removing containers that had the potential to breed mosquitoes, fogging to destroy adult mosquitoes, and the use of alternative compounds for the treatment of larvae. The programme continues to involve other government agencies, the private sector, civil society and communities to effectively manage the environment to break the transmission of dengue fever, chikungunya and the Zika viruses.

In addition, fish were provided from the Graeme Hall Fish Rearing Facility as a biological control measure. Training in fish rearing management was facilitated by the Pan American Health Organisation for two (2) members of the Vector Control Unit in February 2017. The Ministry of Health also collaborated with meteorological stakeholders locally and regionally to develop a spatio-temporal model for the

proliferation of the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito. The model will support risk forecasting for the viruses spread by the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito: dengue fever, Zika and Chikungunya.

The de-bushing programme, which commenced in December 2016, concluded in March 2017. Six hundred and two (602) lots were de-bushed, with 5,481 loads of debris removed. The purpose of the de-bushing programme is to reduce overgrown vegetation across the island and by extension the proliferation of disease vectors such as rodents which spread leptospirosis.

PORT HEALTH

The Ministry of Health continued to strengthen the Port Health programme to ensure that Barbados complied with the International Health Regulations, 2005, in an effort to protect the local population and visitors from diseases or health risks associated with travel and trade. In addition to the training of local staff, the Ministry of Health, through technical cooperation with the Pan American Health Organization, facilitated the training of points of entry personnel from other regional countries.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) sponsored a number of capacity building workshops in radiation and atomic knowledge at the local, regional and international level. The Ministry of Health continued to work on a national programme with the IAEA and an inventory of all sealed radiation sources in the island was undertaken in May 2017.

E. ENVIRONMENT

During 2017 the Government of Barbados, through the Ministry of Environment and Drainage continued to engage in activities that promote the

conservation and sustainable development of the natural resources.

CLIMATE CHANGE

In 2017, the Ministry concluded the Nationally Determined Contribution Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (NDC MRV) project. This project developed a system to enable the routine compilation of data and information to track Barbados' progress toward the economy-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions targets of 21.0 per cent and 23.0 per cent by 2025 and 2030 respectively, relative to emissions realized in 2008, as well as with indexing our green economy and sustainable development pursuits.

SEWERAGE AND SOLID WASTE PROJECT UNIT

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT & FLOOD RESILIENCE CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROGRAM (USAID) GRANT NO: 538-G2G-GCC-2013)

In November 2013, the Government of Barbados (GoB) entered into an agreement with the Government of the United States of America, acting through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), to execute a Water Resource Management and Flood Resilience Climate Change Program in Barbados. The program seeks to develop adaptation measures to counter the effects of climate change with a focus on water resources management and flood resilience.

The specific program achievements during 2017 were:

- A revised Barbados Storm Water Management Plan to improve the management of storm water flows, overland and subterranean, to reduce the incidences of flooding and other drainage challenges.

- Specific interventions recommended to improve the management of storm water in the flood prone and seriously affected areas of Trents and the Hometown Lagoon in Hometown, St. James.
- For increased incorporation of climate change adaptation, recommendations were made during the national development process.
- Evaluation of the quality of storm water and the impacts of runoff on coastal and marine environments and recommendations to improve storm water quality.
- The upgrade and expansion of the hydrometric data collection system.
- The development and implementation of mechanisms to capture runoff water from rainfall to increase groundwater recharge and the volume of water available to various sectors and to reduce downstream flooding.
- The development and implementation of educational programs that introduce educational materials at the national, community and individual stakeholder levels on climate change impacts, mitigation and adaptation.
- Methods were suggesting to strengthen the capacity of the officers of the Drainage Division and other key Government Agencies under the program to cover all areas under the project related to storm water management, water harvesting and recharge, and storm water quality.
- Recommended improvements to the existing legislative framework.

- Institutional arrangements to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the entities with regards to drainage and flood control.

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

CARIBBEAN TSUNAMI INFORMATION CENTRE (CTIC)

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Government of Barbados and UNESCO/IOC regarding the CTIC was renewed and reactivated with the reinstatement of the interim Director of CTIC in 2017.

INFRASTRUCTURE, INVESTMENT AND CAPITAL WORKS

In 2017, the Coastal Zone Management Unit (CZMU,) constructed four (4) infrastructure projects: one at Rockley, Welches and two (2) in the Hometown area. These projects were to stabilize eroding beaches, enhancing areas where no beach existed as well as providing public amenities. Additionally, the Unit performed minor maintenance on the Rockley Boardwalk and continually perform maintenance inspections of all four (4) sites.

BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION

In 2017, efforts towards the effective conservation, management and sustainable utilization of Barbados' biodiversity, continued through the implementation of programmes, projects and public awareness activities. This included the following:

- World Wetlands Day was celebrated globally on February 2nd 2017 under the theme 'Wetlands for Disaster Risk and Reduction'. The Ministry used the opportunity to raise awareness of the vital role of wetlands in reducing the impacts of extreme events such as storms and flooding, as well as their role in building resilience.
- International Day for Biological Diversity was celebrated globally on May 22nd 2017 under the theme 'Biodiversity and Sustainable Tourism'. The Ministry used the week of the 22th to 26th May 2017 to raise awareness of the significance of managing our island's biodiversity, which is used for tourism in a way that is sustainable for future generations.
- The Ministry organized tours to Harrison's Cave for approximately 300 students of the Wesley Hall Infants School, the St. Christopher's Primary School, St. Bartholomew Primary School and Ellerton Primary School.
- The International Day for Combatting Degradation and Drought (Land Degradation Day) was celebrated on under the theme, 'Our Land, Our Home, Our Future' to increase understanding and awareness of land degradation and drought issues and the importance of conserving our scarce land resources.
- Arbor Day Expo was organized by the National Conservation Commission (NCC) to promote the importance of trees and their impact on the environment along with energy saving techniques.

MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS (MEA)

Barbados is Party to a significant number of Biodiversity related Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEA), including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety; Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES); Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefits Sharing, Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and Drought (UNCCD). Membership in the MEAs commits Barbados to implement national activities towards their implementation, but also provides an opportunity to source grant funding.

One hundred and twenty (120) permits for international trade of endangered species were issued under the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) Permits and the inspection of housing facilities were conducted. Of this total, 108 were export permits, 10 were import permits and two (2) were re-exporting permits.

SANITATION SERVICES

SUSTAINABLE BARBADOS RECYCLING CENTRE

The Sanitation Services Authority (SSA) has responsibility for the monitoring of the Sustainable Barbados Recycling Centre's transfer station and for 2017, 135,316.21 tonnes of waste or approximately 64.0 per cent entered the transfer station.

Additionally, the SSA in conjunction with the Ministry of Health, embarked on a cleanup campaign during 2017 to clean illegal dumps and collect bulky wastes such as washing machines, fridges, stoves, electronics, furniture and scrap wood and metal. There were over 300.0 tonnes

removed from the northern parishes in the final quarter of 2017.

GREEN ECONOMY

YOUTH AND THE GREEN ECONOMY

The Ministry of Environment and Drainage in partnership with the Division of Youth Affairs and the Caribbean Youth Environment Network (CYEN) designed and co-ordinated a Green Economy focused National Youth Consultation (NYC) for 2017. This initiative supported the implementation of Section 9 of the National Youth Policy, which articulates the role of youth in Green Economy and national Sustainable Development matters.

PARTNERSHIP FOR ACTION ON GREEN ECONOMY (PAGE)

In February 2017, Barbados hosted a UN mission from the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) agencies in direct response to Barbados' request for PAGE support. The areas of interest identified by the Government were: Green Skills and Jobs Assessment; Greening the Manufacturing Sector; Green Economy metrics and indicators to evaluate progress and SIDS to SIDS (Small Island Developing States) knowledge transfer and co-operation on inclusive green economy.

Additionally, two (2) delegates from Barbados participated in the 2nd PAGE Ministerial held in Berlin Germany. The Barbados delegation was briefed by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on the outcomes of the February 2017 PAGE Mission to Barbados and the next steps in operationalising the national programme. Those next steps included:

Table 4.5-1
Building Development Applications Processed in 2017

Type of Application	Decision					Total
	Approved	Refused	Approved With Conditions	Withdrawn	Acknowledged	
Residential	1,230	151	55	9	8	1,453
Commercial	45	55	25	14	25	164
Residential/Commercial	2	1	1	1	0	5
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,277	207	81	24	33	1,622

SOURCE: Ministry of Environment and Drainage

- Hiring a UN PAGE Coordinator for Barbados;
- Conducting a stocktaking and inventory of best practices;
- Establishing a Youth engagement and communications strategy in close collaboration with Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth, with the Ministry of Environment and Drainage;
- Designing and conducting a Labour Force Survey Module on “Employment in the Environmental Sector and Green Jobs in Barbados”; and
- Undertaking a feasibility study for the establishment of a SIDS to SIDS green economy knowledge transfer platform.

Table 4.5-2
Complaints Received by EPD in 2017

Section	Number Of Complaints
Air	25
Marine	6
Noise	10
Solid and Hazardous Waste	8
Water Quality	12
Total	61

SOURCE: Ministry of Environment and Drainage

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

POLICY DEVELOPMENT, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The development of a policy for the minimum requirements for the siting and design of vehicle maintenance facilities commenced during the year. An inventory of vehicle maintenance facilities and research was conducted during the review period.

REGULATORY MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT

The Department received one thousand six hundred and fifty-four (1,654) building development applications in 2017

and processed one thousand six hundred and twenty-two (1,622) applications, which included those received during and prior to 2017.

A total of sixty-one (61) complaints were received by the Department during 2017, the classification of these complaints shown in the table below.

Twenty-three (23) requests for assistance with the disposal of hazardous waste were addressed in 2017.

Fifty-eight (58) applications were processed and approval granted for the removal of asbestos containing materials and fibreglass. The removal process was supervised by officers of the Department and the asbestos and fibreglass waste was disposed at the government approved disposal facility at Rock Hall, St. Philip.

Forty-four (44) derelict structures were demolished during the year 2017.

The programme for the inspections of waste disposal sites operated by Sanitation Service Authority (SSA) and known recycling preparation entities was restructured in 2017. As a result, only inspections of disposal sites were conducted in July 2017.

THE NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION (NCC)

UPGRADING AND CONSTRUCTION OF PLAY PARKS

The National Conservation Commission (NCC) received a grant of US\$550,000.00 from the Maria Holder Memorial Trust for the development and upgrading of eleven (11) play parks across the island. To date, parks were completed at Wotton, Christ Church; Green's, St. George;

Crane, St. Philip; Welchman Hall, St. Thomas and Haynesville, St. James.

MAINTENANCE OF PROPERTIES

With the assistance of a donation of BDS \$184,000.00 from the Tourism Development Corporation, extensive renovations were carried out on beach facilities at Worthing and Rockley beaches. This work involved the changing of doors, replacement of toilets, sinks and urinals and the painting of buildings. In addition, extensive work was also carried out at Dover Beach Washroom and the boardwalk of the food court at Rockley beach.

LIFEGUARD SERVICE

The Commission entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Barbados Tourism Product Authority to produce and erect signage which outlined lifesaving tips at nine (9) popular beaches across the island. Signs were erected at: Browne's Beach, St. Michael; Pebble Beach, St. Michael, Brandon's Beach, St. Michael; Folkestone Beach, St. James; Enterprise Beach, Christ Church; Bathsheba, St. Joseph; Almond Beach, St. Peter; Dover Beach Christ Church and Rockley Beach Christ Church.

The Commission restarted the Operation SOS (Save Our Selves) programme during the period July 19th – August 30th, 2017. The programme which is an outreach programme conceptualized by the Commission, is geared towards teaching persons of all ages to swim, as well as to equip them with the knowledge of ocean swimming and its hazards, while using the opportunity to educate them about the marine environment and how they can play their part in protecting it. The programme was free of cost and attracted one hundred and twenty (120) persons, including thirty (30) young cadets from the Barbados Fire Service Summer Programme.

SARGASSUM CLEAN-UP

The island experienced another influx of the Sargassum Sea Weed particularly during the months of May, June and July 2017. Efforts were made to expeditiously and efficiently remove the Sargassum from the coastline of beaches in Silver Sands, Christ Church; Bathsheba, St. Joseph; Bath, St. John; Hastings Rocks, Christ Church; Savannah – Coconut Court beach area – Christ Church; Drill Hall – Pebble area – St. Michael; Long Beach, Christ Church; River Bay, St. Lucy and Skeet’s Bay, St. Philip.

UPGRADING OF RECREATIONAL AREAS

During the period under review, the Commission received a grant of BDS \$34,000.00 from the Barbados Tourism Product Authority (BTPA) to manufacture and install a total of thirty-eight (38) bench tables and five (5) tables at Rockley Beach, Silver Sands Beach, Worthing Beach and Browne’s Beach. The Commission has also signed an agreement during 2017 with a local service provider to provide free Wi-Fi access.

OZONE DEPLETING SUBSTANCES PHASE-OUT PROGRAMME

In 2017, the National Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) Phase-out Support Scholarship was awarded to three (3) second year full-time students enrolled in the Diploma in Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (RAC) Programme at the Samuel Jackman Prescod Institute of Technology (SJPI). The total value of the three (3) scholarships was BDS \$3,195.00.

The Cabinet of Barbados agreed to the ratification of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer on December 14, 2017. Under the Amendment, Montreal Protocol Parties are required to gradually

reduce Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) use by 80.0-85.0 per cent by the late 2040s.

Barbados is required to establish a baseline consumption level by 2024 on the basis of net imports of HFC refrigerants over the years 2020-2023; implement a series of measures to realize a 50.0 per cent phased reduction from the HFC baseline by 2040; and phase-down HFC consumption to 80.0 per cent of the baseline by 2045.

Under the UNEP/UNDP Barbados Hydro-chlorofluorocarbon Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP) Phase I (2013-2020) and the UNDP Technical Assistance Project, the Ministry of Environment and Drainage (MED) transferred approximately USD \$50,000.00 worth of equipment to the SJPI’s RAC laboratory to continue the process of upgrading the RAC laboratory at the institution.

In August, twelve (12) RAC technicians participated in a Train-the-Trainers programme on good RAC service practice. In addition, a technical seminar entitled, “The RAC Industry: Current and Future Trends in the Face of the Montreal Protocol and its Amendments” took place in August 2017 as part of the Public Awareness component of the HPMP.

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)

In 2017, an endorsement letter allocating an additional USD \$500,000.00 to the “Upscaling and enhancing the Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management (GEF-CReW+)” project to support national activities, was submitted to the Global Environment Facility (GEF). This regional project seeks to implement innovative technical small-scale solutions for Wastewater Management in the Wider Caribbean Region, using an integrated water and wastewater management approach and through building on sustainable financing mechanisms piloted, through the Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management.

OTHER EDUCATION, COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION INITIATIVES

June 2017 was celebrated as Environment Month where many of the Ministry's stakeholders and partners took the initiative to design and deliver activities which included:

- The St. Mary's Primary School hosted a Science Fair;
- The St. Stephen's Nursery School hosted a nature and beach walk;
- The Graydon Sealy Secondary School participated in a tour of Turner's Hall Woods under the aegis of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and the National Botanical Gardens (NBG);
- The Future Centre Trust and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) used the month to commence the planning of an extensive Green Knowledge Fair for 2017 with their stakeholders, including the Environmental Education Desk;
- The UNDP also collaborated with Parish Independence Committee of St. George to launch and execute a Parish Project which sought to encourage sound environmental practices at the community level.
- The Caribbean Youth Environment Network (CYEN) hosted a number of educational activities, including an interactive discussion on a popular radio programme.
- The Caribbean Policy Development Center (CPDC) and the UNDP collaborated with the MED in establishing a Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Partnership with The Lodge School.

Other initiatives included the organization of the annual clean-up of the Morgan Lewis Beach where 145 volunteers participated where five thousand three hundred and fifty-two (5,352) pieces of litter were collected which weighed eight hundred and eighty-five pounds (885 lbs.).

The Ministry completed the process of publishing a series of twelve (12) brochures in 2017 and embarked on a public awareness campaign regarding the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals developed under the project "Strengthening Capacities for Strategic Approach to Chemicals Management (SAICM) Implementation and Supporting the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) Capacity in Barbados".

The MED's ongoing partnership with the Community Independence Celebrations Secretariat (CICS) saw outreach in the form of presentations on the Green Economy; review of the 2017 Parish Project Proposals and Judging of the annual parish projects competition. During 2017 there was effort to advance an environmental focus to the Annual Gardens Competition, which resulted in the participation of the Garden competition hopefuls in the National Botanic Garden's Environment Month initiative - '*Gardening Made Easy*'.

The National Conservation Commission celebrated the twentieth (20th) anniversary of the re-establishment of National Arbor Day on September 22nd 2017. Celebrations began with a church service on Sunday September 17th, 2017. After the service, two (2) trees were planted at the church.

The role of the National Conservation Commission in the reconstruction of Arbor Day as a major annual event has become more impactful, as several organizations, inclusive of schools as well as organizations, have independently

planned and executed their own Arbor Day activities.

EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
MODULE (DIPLOMA / CERTIFICATE /
TECHNICAL & VOCATIONAL INSTRUCTORS'
TRAINING) MODULE ERDISTON TEACHER
TRAINING COLLEGE

The Education for Sustainable Development Module was offered to forty (40) post-graduate Diploma in Education students, as well as twenty (20) students from the Technical and Vocational training programme of the Erdiston Teachers' Training College, by the Environmental Education Desk of the Policy Research Planning and Information Unit (PRPIU) of the Ministry of Environment and Drainage. This module was offered for the sixth (6th) consecutive year, by the Environmental Education Desk of PRPIU and has been assessed in order to further meet the needs of the island's educators.

The Module included the development of a Practicum for demonstrating the Sustainable Development concept across a variety of subject areas in both the Primary and Secondary School systems, as well as in Technical and Vocational Tertiary training institutions.

In addition, a special presentation of the Module for Education for Sustainable Development was delivered at the Erdiston Teacher Training College to thirty (30) students of the Post Graduate Education for Leadership Diploma in Education, which sought to prepare Senior Teachers for their role as School Administrators and Principals.

**EXTRA-NATIONAL GOVERNANCE PROCESSES,
PARTNERSHIPS AND COOPERATION
ARRANGEMENTS**

CARICOM ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL
RESOURCES POLICY PROCESS

Barbados, with the support of the CARICOM Secretariat, convened its national stakeholder consultation during August 2017, to review the Draft Policy and associated Action Plan. The objectives of that consultation included the sensitization of national stakeholders on the environmental dimension of the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas; the analysis of the issues impacting the governance of the environmental dimension of this regional treaty; building stakeholder awareness on of the impetus and context for a CARICOM Environmental and Natural Resources Management policy and clearly ascertain the country priority issues to be considered in the articulation of the policy. Following the National Consultation, Stakeholders recommended the following:

- Restructuring of the Draft Policy Framework for consistency with other CARICOM policies;
- Revision of the Vision Statement;
- Incorporation of a Thematic Section of "Air" as a natural resource;
- Mainstreaming of the Sustainable Development Goals, along with all other relevant CARICOM and international policy frameworks;
- Restructuring the Draft Action Plan to more closely align to the Policy Framework; and
- Garnering inputs from all relevant Regional organizations in completing the Draft Action Plan.

GLOBAL ATMOSPHERIC PASSIVE SAMPLING (GAPS) NETWORK

The Global Atmospheric Passive Sampling (GAPS) Network seeks to monitor persistent organic pollutants and priority air pollutants at monitoring locations across the globe. During 2017, under the GAPS project, passive air samplers were retrieved on a quarterly basis and new ones deployed at the monitoring site at Ragged Point, St. Philip. The retrieved samples were sent to Environment Canada for analysis.

DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT MECHANISM FOR PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS IN THE CARIBBEAN

The regional project “Development and Implementation of a Sustainable Management Mechanism for Persistent Organic Pollutants in the Caribbean” include building institutional and human resource capacity to manage the impacts of POPs. The main activity conducted under the project in 2017 was the update of five (5) inventories of persistent organic pollutants.

The inventories were conditionally accepted during the meeting hosted by the project executing agency, the Basel Convention Regional Centre for the Caribbean, which took place in November 2017.

SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL MONITORING PLAN OF PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN STATES

The project entitled “Supporting the Implementation of the Global Monitoring Plan of Persistent Organic Pollutants in Latin America and the Caribbean States” include strengthening national monitoring capacity and building regional analytical capacity for POPs. The project is being funded by the GEF and the activities in 2017 included:

- The deployment and retrieval on a quarterly basis of filters for ambient air sampling at the Caribbean Institute for Hydrology and Meteorology. The filters were shipped to Sweden and Spain for analysis.
- The collection of thirty-two (32) human milk samples to be analysed for persistent organic pollutants.
- The collection of national samples, which include vegetable, pork and soil for analysis for persistent organic pollutants.

F. LAW AND ORDER

OVERVIEW

In 2017, there were 8,358 crimes reported by the Royal Barbados Police Force, representing 4.8 per cent increase in reported crimes from 2016, where 8,004 crimes were recorded. The composition of the crimes included: theft related offences which represented 22.0 per cent of total crimes; drugs related offenses equated to 19.0 per cent of total crimes reported; residential burglary represented 12.0 per cent of total crimes reported; and crimes classified assaults and wounding represented 14.0 per cent of total crimes reported.

Additionally, crimes classified as criminal damage and robberies accounted for 482 and 239 respectively of the total crimes reported in 2017.

DRUG RELATED CRIMES

Due to its geographic location, Barbados continues to serve as a hub for trade that involves established air and maritime routes. There is evidence that

these routes continue to be exploited by criminals engaged in the trafficking of illegal drugs that primarily include both cocaine and marijuana. The available evidence indicates that most of the cocaine moving through Barbados originates in South American belt and is destined for markets in North America, Canada and Europe. Jamaica, St. Vincent and St. Lucia and Canada serve as the primary countries from which marijuana is exported into Barbados.

During the review period, the total cannabis related offences stood at 1,456 compared to the 1,385 crimes recorded in this category in 2016. This includes a marginal increases in crimes reported in the categories of possession of cannabis and imposition of cannabis to stand at 693 and 71 reported offences respectively at the end of 2017.

In 2017, total cocaine related offences stood at 154, representing decline of 29.4 per cent in the reported offences from the previous year. The crimes reported in the category of possession of cocaine declined from 65 offences in 2016 to 44 offences recorded at the end of 2017. A decline of 32.3 per cent was also recorded in category of imposition of cannabis to stand at 3 reported offences.

TRAFFICKING OF FIREARMS

At present, there is no evidence that Barbados is a manufacturer of firearms. However, there is growing evidence that this country continues to be directly involved in the trafficking of firearms. Evidence of the illegal importation of firearms into Barbados is linked to statistics from the RBPF that

indicates that in 2016, seventy-one (71) illegal firearms were seized by the police, while in 2017 a further ninety-four (94) also seized by law enforcement.

G. SOCIAL SERVICES

OVERVIEW

The period under review witnessed a continued commitment to provide quality personal social service programmes which afford citizens a sustainable and acceptable standard of living, an enhanced quality of life and the ability to fully participate in Barbados' overall development.

BUDGET

Table 4.7-1:
Budgetary Allocations in the Ministry of Social Care
(FY 2017/2018)

Department	Bds\$M	%
National HIV/AIDS Commission	3.5	4.8
General Management	3.0	4.1
Family	0.2	0.3
HIV/AIDS Prevention/ Care and Support	1.3	1.8
Community Development Department	6.2	8.3
Welfare Department	23.3	31.3
National Assistance Board	9.0	12.1
Child Care Board	19.2	25.9
National Disabilities Unit	1.8	2.4
Barbados Council for the Disabled	0.3	0.5
Constituency Empowerment	3.1	4.2
Bureau of Gender Affairs	0.9	1.2
Bureau of Social Policy	0.3	0.4
Poverty Alleviation	2.1	2.8
Total	74.5	100

SOURCE: Bureau of Social Policy and Research

The budget allocated to the Ministry of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment and Community Development for the Financial Year 2017/2018 was \$74.5 million of which The Welfare Department received 31.3 per cent; the Child Care Board 25.9 per cent and the National Assistance Board received 12.1 per cent.

THE WELFARE DEPARTMENT

The Welfare Department carried out its mandate for the year 2017 by continuing its National Assistance and Family Services Programmes, together with its developmental programmes. The Department continues to focus on poverty reduction and empowerment with a level of social provisioning that includes the offering of monetary assistance and relief in-kind along with the counselling and rehabilitation of persons affected by family dysfunction, limited life chances, crises and natural disasters.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (MONETARY)

During 2017, there were seven hundred and fifty-one (751) new applications for monetary assistance. This represented one hundred and eighty-eight (188) fewer requests than the 2016 period. This decrease in new applications could be attributed to persons seeking alternative avenues for assistance. Seven hundred and forty-eight (748) of these new applications were processed, inclusive of applications brought forward from the previous year. At December 2017, the number of recipients of monetary assistance was three thousand, six hundred and sixty-five (3,665), a decrease of two hundred and seventy-seven (277) persons when compared to the same period in 2016. Although there was a decrease in applications for monetary assistance for 2017, the reduction in total recipients provided the department with an

opportunity to raise the level of assistance provided to those persons already on the register and in need of additional support. This resulted in an increase of expenditure to \$10.9 million, compared to \$10.4 million for the previous period.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (RELIEF IN-KIND)

Assistance-In-Kind refers to assistance granted with respect to the purchase of items such as food, clothing, spectacles, hearing aids, and dentures. It also includes the payment of utilities (electricity and water), the payment of rent and the cost of burial of destitute persons. As in previous years, food continued to be the highest category of assistance-in-kind requested and granted. During the period under review, there were nine thousand four hundred and sixty-two (9,462) requests for assistance in kind, of which seven thousand four hundred and ninety-four (7,494) or 79.0 per cent were applications for food. Of this total, seven thousand two hundred and eighty-one (7,281) applications were approved. Expenditure for 2017 with respect to assistance-in-kind was \$2,980,345.09, compared to \$3,627,438.14 in 2016. These services were maintained to offer assistance to those in need, with the ceiling being removed from electricity and water payments.

FAMILY SERVICES

During the period January to December 2017, fifty-nine (59) High Court Cases, twenty-two (22) Magistrate Court cases and eight (8) counselling cases were referred to the Family Services Section for investigation and preparation of psychosocial reports, which are critical to the Courts' deliberation. The Section received one hundred and fifty-six (156) inclusive of family problems, child access and maintenance, with the latter accounting for the heaviest in case load. Child support by non-custodial fathers through cash payments continued to be facilitated

through the Accounts Section of the department. At the end of December 2017, eight hundred and forty (840) interviews were conducted as the Family Service Officers shared an Intake System, addressed Walk-Ins and attended to scheduled appointments. One hundred and seventy-nine (179) Cases were actioned and closed during the reporting period, while sixty (60) cases inclusive of those brought forward or re-opened were still pending at the end of 2017.

THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE BOARD (NAB)

The National Assistance Board has as its mandate the provision of services and social care to elderly and indigent clients who were confronted with a number of socio-economic challenges as they endeavour to meet their basic needs.

HOME CARE PROGRAMME

During, January 2017 to December 2017, an average of 954 clients benefited from the Board's Home Care Services. This number consisted of 620 females and three hundred and four (334) males.

SENIORS' RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME

In 2017, the National Assistance Board operated sixteen (16) Recreational Centres, hosted at church halls, community centres and sports pavilions across the island. Three hundred and forty-one (341) persons, mostly female, attended the programme. The Seniors' Recreational Activities Programme's administrative costs are financed by the National Assistance Board, while participants bear other costs, such as those attached to the raw materials, necessary for the functioning of the programme.

CLYDE GOLLOP NIGHT SHELTER FOR HOMELESS MEN

The Clyde Gollop Night Shelter is a thirty-four (34) bed facility offering nightly accommodation for homeless men who have been displaced due to economic and social factors such as unemployment, poor family relations, mental health issues, evictions and incarceration. During the reporting period, the occupancy rate at the shelter was at its maximum occupancy. The average occupancy per night was thirty-one (31) men.

VAUXHALL SENIOR CITIZENS' VILLAGE

The Vauxhall Senior Citizens' Village was established to provide accommodation for the older adults who are capable of living independently and have the capacity to pay rent. The facility currently provides residence for two categories of persons: independent living and assisted living.

At December 31, 2017, the Vauxhall Senior Citizens' Village accommodated 36 persons. In 2017, there were six admissions, four deaths and two transfers to the geriatric hospital. The Village facilitated the transfer of eleven residents from the Black Rock hostel and the Jorris Dunner Senior Citizens' home to the Vauxhall Senior Citizens' Village.

Twenty-nine residents ranging from ages 54 to 97 years have independent living status and pay a weekly rent which is calculated at 35.0 per cent of their income, and ranges from \$33.60 to \$157.00 per week. Rent includes utilities water, telephone and electricity rates. Residents are only required to pay for bottled gas. Seven residents in the age range of 57 to 81 years have assisted living status. Social work intervention was provided for residents who needed assistance from external agencies and families. Social Work students have used their internship period with the National Assistance Board to assist with fire drills and events to celebrate Senior Citizens month and International Day for Older

Persons at minimum cost to the agency, and mobilized occupants of the Clyde Gollop Night Shelter to assist in the beautification of the Village. In 2017, a significant portion of the NAB's budget was spent on maintenance and upgrades to the Village.

LANCASTER HOUSE

Lancaster House provides temporary accommodation primarily for elderly individuals and their families who are homeless as a result of fire and natural disasters such as floods. The facility has three complete living quarters and can accommodate a minimum of three families based on the number of members.

Lancaster House was officially opened on June 14, 2017. During this period, furnishings were purchased and there were ongoing repairs and remedial work to the facility. This was facilitated in part by a monetary donation by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China.

Lancaster House served four (4) families in 2017. A major goal of Lancaster House is to facilitate securing permanent housing for persons residing there. One family of five, was made homeless as a result of a fire. The Urban Development Commission (UDC) and the Poverty Alleviation and Reduction Programme (PARP) partnered to build a three-bedroom home for the family. The house was completed in December 2017.

JORRIS DUNNER ELDERLY DAY CARE CENTRE

The centre has capacity for thirty participants. The centre was officially opened on December 7, 2015, with a roll of six clients. At the close of 2017, the Centre was operating at full capacity with twenty-five female and five (5) male clients.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT SERVICES

The Bereavement Support Services offered care and support to individuals/families that experienced a life-changing event such as severe illness; loss of a loved one, loss of a job among other traumatic events. During the period under review, the Bereavement Support Services provided assistance to 193 individuals.

VULNERABLE PERSONS COMMITTEE

The Vulnerable Persons Committee has responsibility for vulnerable persons, especially the elderly and persons with disabilities before, during and after man-made and natural disasters. In 2017, the Vulnerable Persons Committee updated "The Evacuation of Vulnerable Persons Plan" and also submitted "A Report on Disabled Friendly Emergency Shelters" to the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation and the Ministry of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment and Community Development and the Department of Emergency Management (DEM).

An updated list with the requisite information on those individuals deemed to be vulnerable was prepared and submitted to the relevant Ministries and stakeholder agencies. In 2017 the number of vulnerable persons stood at one hundred and forty-nine individuals.

THE HELPING HANDS VOLUNTEER PROJECT

The Helping Hands Volunteer project provides social and mental stimulation to elderly persons who live alone to provide them with companionship and mental and social stimulation, improving the overall quality of their life. During 2017 one hundred and seventy-four home care recipients utilized this service,

while seventeen volunteers facilitated the service.

EXTERNAL BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

In 2017, 598 services were offered to individuals on the NAB register as well as to NAB entities. Services offered included de-bushing, furniture transfers, equipment transfers, debris removal, assisted house cleaning and maintenance of property. The most highly utilized services were de-bushing and maintenance of property.

THE NATIONAL DISABILITIES UNIT (NDU)

The National Disabilities Unit (NDU) provided a range of assistive devices to increase the mobility and independence of Persons with Disabilities (PWD). During the year under review, the National Disabilities Unit constructed forty-seven ramps and provided for fourteen prostheses..

SIGN LANGUAGE CLASSES

The National Disabilities Unit (NDU) has been sponsoring Sign Language Classes for the community since 2002. In 2017, approximately one hundred and eighty-seven persons benefitted from the programme. There was Basic I & II and Intermediate Classes conducted. Additionally, training of trainers' sessions took place. The Sign Language programme was also conducted in Primary Schools across the island, with 120 pupils benefitting.

THE POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND REDUCTION PROGRAMME (PARP)

The Poverty Alleviation and Reduction Programme (PARP), continued to execute its mission through two programmes:

- The Poverty Eradication Fund; and
- The ISEE Bridge Programme.

POVERTY ERADICATION FUND

The Poverty Eradication Fund (PEF) provides occasional assistance, to persons who contact the section directly or through referrals, with rent or critical utility arrears and; educational offerings. During 2017, one hundred and forty-seven persons made requests, of which, ninety-seven received assistance, thirty-nine are being processed, four (4) were denied, four (4) were withdrawn and three (3) referred to other agencies. Eight (8) organizations requested subventions to assist with programmes to support disadvantaged children, to provide breakfast for school children and to provide training and general skills development. These included Non-Governmental Organizations, Community - Based Organizations, Faith-Based Organizations and one school, of which, seven (7) were assisted and one (1) was pending.

The Stimulating Income Activity programme was launched in 2017. This personal development initiative was conceptualized to encourage individuals applying to the PEF to exploit their skills in a manner which will allow them to improve their circumstances. This programme was completed with the assistance of a social work trained volunteer. The first workshop. was, was attended by nine persons who demonstrated great interest and commitment to their income generating endeavours. Under the housing repairs initiative, six houses were repaired and nine others were identified and short-listed.

IDENTIFICATION, STABILISATION, ENABLEMENT, EMPOWERMENT (I.S.E.E) BRIDGE PROGRAMME (IBP)

The Programme phase of the Identification, Stabilisation, Enablement, Empowerment Bridge Programme (IBP) started with its first group of thirty

households in 2015 for a two-year period from December 2015 to December 2017. The programme's goal is to move poor and vulnerable persons from a state of dependency to one of empowerment. During 2017, twenty intervention visits were conducted by household facilitators to each of the thirty households.

In an effort to promote healthy households, family dynamics counselling was offered to eleven households. Some persons committed to the process and benefited significantly, resulting in greater cooperation among family members, to achieve the goals and meet the needs of the household. Income benefits of \$101,403.06 were extended to households in 2017, while persons were also assisted in accessing various benefits from outside of the programme, notably national assistance grants, child support, funeral assistance, survivor's and permanent incapacity benefits. Food, uniform and furniture vouchers were also provided.

There were six developmental workshops held: a two-part Review and Refocus workshop; one on income generation; one for men, one for the unemployed and two parenting workshops. Further development assistance was offered to unemployed household members in critical areas such as resume writing, development of business cards, developing a cottage industry and finding and securing employment.

Educational development activities were provided for both children and adults including: summer camps; assistance for Common Entrance Examination; assistance with tertiary courses and examination fees, additional lessons for Caribbean Examination Council (CXC) examinations and the hosting of developmental workshops. The improvement of housing conditions, particularly the facilitation of better sleeping arrangements represented

the largest single outlay of funds under the programme.

Utility arrears were paid, ensuring continuation of these critical services, and households were assisted with rent and rental arrears. Several households were assisted in regularizing their housing status and now possess written permission to execute repairs on the land on which they live. Eight (8) houses were identified for repairs through the PEF and processing of the repairs begun while planning permission was received for three (3) houses.

THE BUREAU OF GENDER AFFAIRS

The Bureau of Gender Affairs is the Government's key focal point for the implementation of policies and programmes pertaining to gender and development. The mandate of the Bureau is to integrate a gender perspective in all government development plans and policies to bring about gender equity and equality.

GENDER AND HIV/AIDS PROGRAMME

The Bureau of Gender Affairs, under its Gender Dimensions of HIV Programme, continued its training with student nurses from the Nursing Programme at the Barbados Community College, aimed at creating awareness of the negative impact of stigma and discrimination on persons living with HIV. The Bureau staged three half day workshops for student nurses, a total of 105 student nurses were trained. Training on stigma and discrimination was offered to children enrolled in the Government Summer Camps in 2017. The training was

Table 4.7-2
Total Average Attendance at Government Day Care Centres 2017

Month	Babies		Toddlers		Average Attendance
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
January	152	158	290	248	848
February	153	168	313	259	893
March	169	172	338	275	954
April	146	168	298	260	872
May	163	177	338	277	955
June	137	163	307	249	856
July	138	149	293	234	814
August	136	156	279	225	796
September	151	162	248	232	793
October	144	157	257	239	797
November	152	160	291	256	859
December	133	152	257	223	765
Average/day	148	162	292	248	850

SOURCE: Child Care Board

designed to help boys and girls understand how stigma and discrimination affects the HIV population.

MASCULINITIES

In 2017, the Bureau of Gender Affairs, in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth and the Community Development Department, staged a Men’s Forum, where approximately 60 persons attended.

SIXTEEN DAYS OF ACTIVISM

Cognizant of the need to include men and boys in the fight against gender based violence during 2017, a workshop was staged for young males from secondary schools. The workshop attracted 18 young men. The workshop was designed to introduce the young males to the concepts of gender, masculinity and gender based violence, as well as to provide them with an understanding of how gender and masculinity impacted on gender based violence. The Bureau of Gender Affairs

participated in the popular “Q in the Community” through distribution of some of its literature among the patrons. The Bureau benefitted from the live radio broadcast and later television broadcast.

RESEARCH

The Bureau of Gender Affairs, with the assistance of the National Advisory Council on Gender, prepared the Report for Barbados’ presentation to the Committee for the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in Geneva during May 2017. The Report was prepared in response to a number of issues raised by the Committee emanating from Barbados’ submission of its CEDAW Report 2012-2016.

THE CHILD CARE BOARD

The Child Care Board’s philosophy is based on the premise that children are to be

nurtured, loved and given continuous and consistent care. These universal concepts are outlined in the Articles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which was signed and ratified by Barbados. The Board remained committed to ensuring that the spirit and principles of the Convention are operationalized in its programmes

GOVERNMENT DAY CARE

January to December 2017, the total capacity in the 15 Day Nurseries was 1,116 children; there was an average of 850 children between the ages of three (3) months and four (4) years in attendance. The lowest attendance was registered during the month of December which recorded a total of 765 children. The month of May recorded the highest number of children in attendance with a total of 955. During the year, children were discharged and subsequently admitted to the nurseries at different periods throughout the year, with the largest number of children being admitted in September 2017. There was a total of four hundred and forty-seven children allocated spaces in 2017.

PRIVATE DAY CARE

As part of its mandate, the Board is responsible for the registration of Private Day Care Centres. During the period under review, there were 95 centres known to the Board.

RESIDENTIAL CARE

The Board operated the following seven (7) Children’s Homes:

- Marina Brewster Centre;
- Sterling;
- Ixora (Nightingale Village);
- Lily Cot (Nightingale Village);

- Violet Gittens Centre (Nightingale Village);
- Carole’s Cottage (Nightingale Village); and
- McManus and Ellen Horejsi Centre (Nightingale Village).

The Marina Brewster Centre at Farris and Sterling are the two adolescent homes, which the Board operates. The Nightingale Children’s Village mainly houses children under 11 years of age. However, as the Violet Gittens Centre caters to persons with special needs, where persons at this centre are over the age of 18 years.

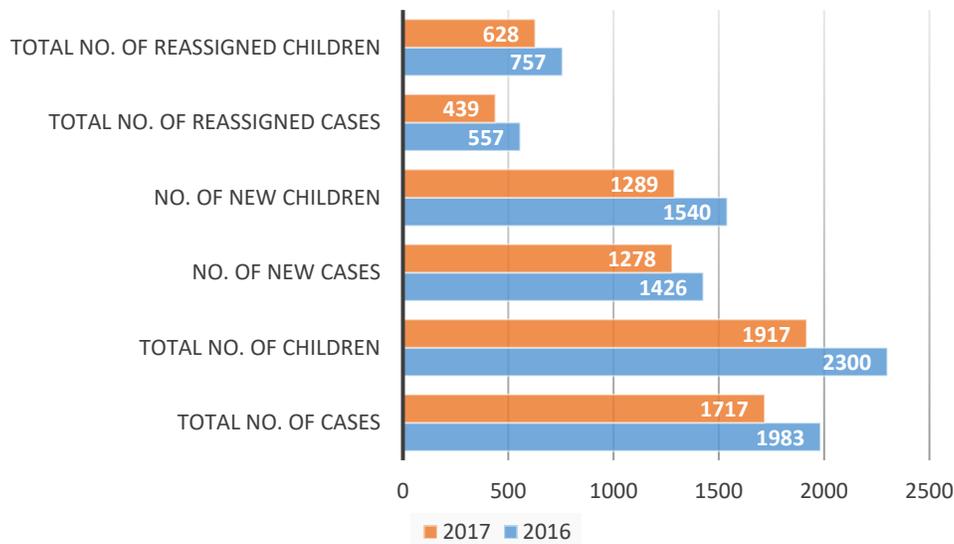
At December 2017, there were 87 children in Residential Care. A total of nine (9) of these children were on extended leave. Five of these are with family members or guardians and being monitored in the community, pending final discharge from Residential Care. One (1) child was at the Psychiatric Hospital and three (3) at the Government Industrial School.

Table 4.7-3

Registered Private Day Care Centres	
Parish	Number of Centres
Christ Church	19
St Andrew	1
St. George	3
St. James	8
St. Joseph	1
St. Lucy	3
St. Michael	46
St. Peter	1
St. Philip	10
St. Thomas	3
Total	95

SOURCE: Child Care Board

Figure 20
Referrals for 2016 and 2017



SOURCE: Child Care Board

OCCUPANCY

There was an average of 90 children in the Board’s homes during the period under review. Of these, 50 were males and 40 were females. The month of March registered the highest number of children with 95 and the month of November registered the lowest with 86 children.

ADMISSIONS & DISCHARGES

Thirty-nine children were assessed as being in need of Care and Protection and were admitted into Residential Care during the year while 47 children were discharged during 2017.

FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION

For the period January to December 2017, the Child Care Board received a total

enquiries as they pertained to adoption and foster care. Seventy-three of the enquiries were related to adoption and 19 were regarding foster care. During the year under review, four (4) children comprising three (3) males and one (1) female were placed with prospective adoptive parents while two (2) male children, were placed in foster care.

The year commenced with the programme monitoring 13 children in adoption and 11 children in foster care. At the end of 2017 the programme had a total of seven (7) children in the foster care program, as four (4) children’s placements came to an end. Officers assigned to the adoption and foster care team carried out 248 supervisory visits with the children as stipulated by the legislation. Six adoption orders were completed during the period while 13 assessments were approved by the Board with 12 of these pertaining to adoption and one (1) to foster care.

INTAKE

The Intake statistics received by the Board indicated a total of 1,717 referrals, showing a decrease of 266 referrals from those received in 2016¹. Of the 1,717 referrals, 970 were non-child abuse matters impacting on 909 children.

984 in 2016² a decrease of 244 cases. The child abuse cases in 2017 impacted on 1,004 children, which represents a decrease of 309 children over the 1313 children registered during 2016.

CHILD ABUSE REPORTS

During 2017, there was a total of 740 child abuse cases, when compared to

PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Fifty-seven referrals were made to the Psychologist during 2017. There were 10 internal referrals and 47 external

Table 4.7-4
Abuse by Type

Month	Physical Abuse		Sexual Abuse		Neglect		Emotional		Abandonment		Total	
	Cases	Children	Cases	Children	Cases	Children	Cases	Children	Cases	Children	Cases	Children
January	10	11	7	7	26	36	5	6	1	1	49	61
February	8	11	16	17	19	20	5	5	0	0	48	53
March	11	11	14	14	17	25	3	5	1	1	46	56
April	12	16	3	3	10	14	2	2	0	0	27	35
May	12	16	10	10	19	32	10	12	0	0	51	70
June	10	12	6	6	20	29	4	6	0	0	40	53
July	12	12	2	2	18	31	4	6	0	0	36	51
August	4	6	6	8	13	21	4	4	0	0	27	39
September	9	10	4	4	24	26	4	4	0	0	41	44
October	6	8	17	17	26	27	6	7	0	0	49	59
November	8	8	7	7	19	23	4	4	0	0	38	42
December	4	4	7	7	15	16	5	5	0	0	31	32
Total	106	125	99	102	226	300	56	6	2	2	483	595

SOURCE: Child Care Board

¹ It must be noted that these figures are approximated as from September to December 2017. The Board upgraded its database system and there were challenges recording the reported numbers.

² Note however that the total number of children affected for the period under review is an approximation which falls below the actual number impacted. This is due to technicalities experienced in the new online intake system which commenced in September 2017.

Table: 4.7-5
RDC Request for Services 2017

Project	# of projects	Estimated costs
New Houses	29	2,364,230.62
House Repairs	167	5,641,288.24
LPO House repairs	17	232,609.48
Ramps	3	9,500.00
Electrical	4	30,300.00
Site Cleaning	1	1,500.00
Water	2	497.62
Wells	17	70,370.00
Cleaning site	1	6,500.00
Bath Facilities Re-site & Repairs	13	56,500.00
Tanks	3	126,000.00
	2	17,900.00
Total – 2017	258	8,550,695.96
Total - 2016	72	1,176,847.08

SOURCE: Rural Development Commission

referrals. Nine (9) referrals were for behavioural issues; eight (8) for sexual abuse; one (1) for neglect; one (1) for physical abuse; 14 for emotional issues and 24 for psychological assessments consisting of: 17 from the Court; five (5) from Adoption & Foster Care and two (2) internal assessments.

THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

HOUSE REPLACEMENT/REPAIR PROGRAMME

During 2017, the Commission received requests for a total of 258 services totalling BDS\$8.5 million; compared to the

seventy-two request made in 2016, which totalled BDS\$1.2 million. The Commission was able to meet 13.5 per cent of the requests which were made in 2017 by providing seventy-four services.

RURAL ENTERPRISE LOANS PROGRAMME

For the period under review, 58 loan applications were approved, valued at \$483,897.15, of which \$412,496.80 was disbursed. The amount of funds approved for 2017 increased by \$196,692.26 or 40.6 per cent when compared with the previous year. Loan repayments totalled \$380,956.56 at the end of 2017.

Table: 4.7-6
RDC Requested Services Provided 2017

Project	Beneficiaries	Paid
Bath Facilities	1	30,000
Cleaning	2	5,100
Electrical	4	28,500
House Repairs	24	532,918.83
LPO House Repairs	9	80,715.90
New House	5	323,765
Painting	2	13,000
Ramp	1	2,800
Rent	1	624
Tank	2	18,400
Utilities	4	895.06
Water	2	800
Well	14	118,382
Well cleaning	3	3,320
Total	74	1,159,220.79

SOURCE: Rural Development Commission

Table 4.7-7

Rural Enterprise Loans Approved in 2017

Categories	Loans Approved	Amt. Approved
Accounting Services	1	10,000
Baking	2	20,000
Computer Repairs	1	3,000
Cosmetology	1	10,000
Pig Production	7	51,182.79
Poultry Production	17	157,554.81
Printing	1	10,000
Retailing	16	133,314.78
Vegetable Production	6	44,904.77
Vehicular Maintenance	1	5,940
Vegetable Production	5	38,000.00
Total	58	483,897.15

SOURCE: Rural Development Commission

DEPARTMENT OF CONSTITUENCY EMPOWERMENT (DCE)

The Department of Constituency Empowerment (DCE) continued to fulfil its mandate of overseeing the management of the 30 Constituency Councils spread across the island. Twelve councils in Phase 2 of the Constituency Empowerment Programme reached the end of their term in office during May 2017. The process of selecting 120 new councilors was undertaken and new councils were installed in October 2017 to serve for a two-year term

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Constituency councils continued to offer programmes with activities which met a wide range of constituency needs. The

main activities executed during 2017 were as follows:

- Five Constituency Award Ceremonies;
- Three Town Hall Meetings;
- Six Constituency Meetings;
- One Karaoke (Fund Raising);
- Two Vendors' Market & Fund Raising;
- Three Home Work Assistance programmes;
- Twelve Skill Training programmes;
- Fourteen Environmental seminars;
- Six Sporting tournaments (cricket/football/ tennis);
- Donations (financial; in-kind; hampers);
- Seven Graduation Ceremonies;
- Thirty Donations to organisations and Groups;
- Eighty-eight football matches and practice sessions; and
- Twenty Domino Matches

SPECIAL PROJECTS

National Senior Games (NSG) during the review period, 350 senior athletes participated in the National Senior Games. Road tennis was included as a sport in the senior games for the first time in 2017. The NSG culminated in the participation of the nation's outstanding senior athletes at the Huntsman Games in Utah, USA.

THE DAVID THOMPSON MEMORIAL
CONSTITUENCY COUNCIL FOOTBALL CLASSIC
(DTMCCFC)

The DTMCCFC tournament, funded by the Department of Constituency Empowerment and the Constituency Councils, continued into its sixth year with the usual resounding impact. The tournament ran from September to December 2017. The constituency councils heavily volunteered and highly participated in the tournament. Managers; sports representatives, coaches and medics were sourced from within each respective constituency for their team and performed well. The level of community support for the tournament was also high.

INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK:
STRENGTHENING HUMAN AND SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT IN BARBADOS

During the period under review, the Strengthening Human and Social Development (SHSD) programme selected the first cohort of 65 households and the second cohort of households was approved in December 2017. To date, Household Facilitators have completed approximately 184 intervention visits to the households. The programme continued to address referrals from other social safety net agencies and to deliver services, through collaboration with Governmental, service organisations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the following areas of intervention:

- Personal Identification - the project facilitated clients who did not possess their birth certificates and their national identification cards to obtain these documents.
- Education support services to beneficiaries - Over \$45,000 was expended in providing Primary and Secondary School Students with books, school supplies, school petty fees and uniforms.

- Welfare services - Through collaboration with the Welfare Department, over \$40,000 in national assistance grants were provided to assist with food vouchers, furniture, appliances, and utilities.
- Directory of Social Services - The Directory of Social Services was revised in 2017. This Directory will show the complete list of the services provided by the Social Safety Net Agencies and will reflect their contact information.
- Employment Services - At December 2017, the National Employment Bureau (NEB) provided counselling services to nine hundred and four (904) unemployed project beneficiaries. Three hundred and ninety-five (395) persons were referred to the: Samuel Jackman Prescod Institute of technology (SJPI); Barbados Community College (BCC), Barbados Vocational Training Board (BVTB) and University of the West Indies (UWI) Open Campus for technical training at December 2017. A Youth Career Extravaganza took place during 2017 and it attracted nine hundred and thirty-one (931) persons and four hundred and ten (410) persons received career counselling.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Community Development Department (CDD) continued to pursue its objectives through a variety of activities: Community Dance Fest (CDF); Community Impact Programmes (CIP); and the Community Art Programme (CAP). In addition, the Department also offered Information Technology courses through the Community Technology Programme (CTP) during the review period.

The HIV and AIDS Community Education Programme which formerly engaged fifteen (15) community centres, only engaged two centres in 2017 due to financial constraints. The Black Bess Committee hosted a soccer tournament and the Grazettes Committee hosted summer beauty camps for teens in the area. Major repairs were completed at Speightstown and Bonnetts Resource Centres. The Gall Hill Community Centre was also renovated and repurposed into a resource centre and the Baywoods Centre was refurbished to accommodate a twelve (12) unit computer lab. The centre at Sargeants and Belleplaine were demolished.

A range of Community Impact programme (CIP) activities were offered ranging from training and income generating activities to children's clubs and to a lesser extent some recreational activities. Reading and other educational activities for children continued at the Eden Lodge, Parkinson and Haggatt Hall centres. There were also Easter and Christmas vacation camps hosted at centres such as Bayville and Greens.

In 2017, a number of persons (mainly females) were trained in approximately sixteen (16) skills areas through the Community Impact Programmes (CIP). Knowledge gained from the CIP helped to form a gateway for some participants to start small businesses and resulted in the expansion and growth of other existing businesses. The department continued to offer the Community Art Programme at the Speightstown, Haggatt Hall, Grazettes and Parkinson centres. Courses include Drawing and Illustration; Computer Graphics and Airbrushing.

During 2017 the Department, in collaboration with Norman Centre, Bridgetown staged an exhibition in the Norman Centre Mall which displayed the work of the artists in the programme. The artists were able to display and sell pieces of

their work to the general public and tourists visiting the temporary gallery.

The Community Technology Programme (CTP) continued to offer ten week programmes at a number of resource centres across Barbados to ensure all Barbadians can meet the rapidly evolving demands of the technological era. The resource centres offering the CTP were increased to eighteen. A great achievement was the CTP being bestowed with Centre and Qualification approval to offer ICT. This means that persons who have done courses under the CTP can now apply to be tested for National Vocational Qualifications.

Also of significant importance in 2017, was the Community Development Department's receipt of permission from the Cabinet of Barbados to introduce three and six months training programmes within the CTP programme for which participants are required to pay a small registration fee. This commenced during 2017 at thirteen resource centres. To date, approximately \$13,000.00 was collected in registration fees.

The information technology for teens programme successfully came off at seventeen centres and this saw approximately 225 teenagers trained. The objectives remained the same: "to create meaningful activities for teenagers during the summer vacation and provide technology training opportunities for those who may not have these at school."

THE NATIONAL HIV/AIDS COMMISSION

All programmes executed and coordinated by the National HIV/AIDS Commission (NHAC) were aligned with the Cabinet-approved National Strategic Plan for HIV 2014-2018: Investing for Results (NSP). The Plan articulates not only the NHAC's mandate to coordinate the National

AIDS Programme (NAP), but its commitment to working with relevant national, regional and international sectors in a financially prudent and evidence-informed manner.

PREVENTION

The prevention programme covers interventions developed and implemented based on evidence collected from research and/or monitoring and evaluation. These interventions are implemented in the public, private and civil society sectors and focus specifically on priority key populations, that is, men, men who have sex with men (MSM) and sex workers (SW), as stated in the National Strategic Plan for HIV 2014-2018: Investing for Results (NSP).

MAN AWARE

During 2017, the NHAC continued implementation of its Man Aware intervention. This intervention is founded on the concept of a man cave and seeks to provide men not only with HIV and other health-related knowledge but also with the tools (condom distribution and demonstrations) to engage in positive health-seeking behaviours such as using condoms correctly and consistently; getting health checks and caring for the male body. During 2017, Man Aware was implemented for twelve (12) days during CARIFESTA from August 20 to 31, 2017.

TRANSITION TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

In the academic year 2017-2018, the National HIV/AIDS Commission (NHAC) launched the Transition to Secondary School Programme (T2S). The goal of Transition to Secondary School Programme (T2S) was to equip First Form students across Barbados with skills to make a successful transition from the primary to secondary school environment before the start of the new school term. Transition to Secondary School Programme (T2S) was initially funded by the European Union, but is now exclusively funded by the Commission. Transition to

Secondary School Programme (T2S) seeks to address knowledge and skills gaps in adolescents entering the secondary school environment for the first time in five primary areas of concern: Drug Awareness; Gender Awareness; Human Sexuality; Bullying, and HIV/STI Prevention.

Subsequently, Transition to Secondary School Programme (T2S) was designed to assess the derivable knowledge of the target group at two levels using a Pre-Test and Post-Test instrument, following the students' participation in T2S workshops. The programme is the first of its kind nationally and was designed to be a preventative approach, for this critical group of the nation's youth to equip them with the knowledge needed to make informed choices.

The third year of implementation was completed in October 2017 for the 2017-2018 Academic Year. The programme was a success in many ways. The inter-ministry coordination and collaboration led to participation from twenty (20) targeted public schools, with 2,807 first form students completing Pre-Test and Post-Test forms. The participating students experienced knowledge transfer, as revealed by statistical analysis of the completed Pre-Test and Post-Test forms.

PROVISION OF GRANTS

The NHAC continued the Civil Society Grant Scheme, a small financial grants programme designed to facilitate the implementation of behaviour change interventions, by Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and private sector agencies that lack the budget to implement HIV programming. CSOs may be awarded a maximum of BDS\$20,000 per project. A total of nine new grant applications were submitted to the Commission in 2017 and of these, three were approved.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

The multi-sectoral nature of the National AIDS Programme (NAP), combined with the role of the Commission as a government-mandated national programme coordinator, necessitates the identification, formation and preservation of strategic partnerships. Such actions are critical to the ensuring longevity of the NAP. In 2017, the commission identified individuals and organisations with which natural programme synergies exist. Active efforts were taken to build and sustain long-term relations with these parties.

Specifically, the National HIV/AIDS Commission (NHAC):

- Established and maintained a multi-sectoral board with representation from government, private sector, and civil society including key populations;
- Conducted its monthly partnership forum consisting of stakeholders from the three (3) sectors;
- Tracked and provided guidance with the formulation and execution the HIV work plan activities of its strategic partners, upon request;
- Identified the comparative advantage of various partner agencies and facilitated working relationships between entities with similar focus and programmes;
- Provided funding and occasionally implemented programmes with agencies that have limited internal organisational support for HIV programming;
- Identified and established relations with non-traditional partners; and
- Conducted a series of programme activities targeting and/or involving

non-traditional partners designed to build awareness of the Commission's work, promote its brand and lay the foundation for building a long-term working relationship.

PROVISION OF SUPPLEMENTAL SOCIAL SUPPORT

Despite not carrying the designation of a welfare agency, the Commission seeks to supplement the external support provided by the Ministry of Health and the Welfare Department. During 2017, the Commission provided temporary assistance to People Living with HIV (PLHIV) who fall outside the ambit of the aforementioned agencies or the capacity of these agencies to render assistance. This additional assistance took the form of provision of school supplies, assistance with housing solutions and nutrition support. A total of thirty (30) persons from the PLHIV community benefited from these services.

The National HIV/AIDS Commission meets monthly with partners from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Housing, including the Rural Development Commission, Urban Development Commission, and the Ladymeade Reference Unit, to discuss and rigorously assess the personal housing needs of clients. Over the past year, this networking Committee convened nine meetings, during which a minimum of eighty (80) clients were considered on the priority list.

Although, given limited resources, challenges continue with the provision of land and physical houses, repairs to existing structures are conducted and rent is paid on a monthly basis for a number of clients, through the Ministry of Housing.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The Commission conducted a number of training programmes, designed to build stakeholder capacity to implement HIV interventions and/or ensure activities are executed according to pre-determined quality standards. Training sessions conducted by the National HIV/AIDS Commission (NHAC) also served to build and/or maintain knowledge of HIV, its modes of transmission, methods of self-protection and negative societal impacts.

STRATEGIC INFORMATION

In 2017, the Commission conducted two HIV research dissemination meetings, which collectively reached an estimated fifty (50) strategic partners in government and civil society. The National HIV/AIDS Commission (NHAC) also launched a number of research and evaluation projects. The research projects provide relevant data, used to inform programme development. The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) projects contribute to an overall assessment of the effectiveness of the NAP as well as determining the extent to which the NSP is on track to meeting its stated objectives and targets.

THE VIRTUAL HIV RESEARCH UNIT

The Commission, in partnership with the University of the West Indies, continued operating the Virtual HIV Research Unit (VHRU), which served as a repository for HIV-focused research conducted in Barbados and the Caribbean. The VHRU made, empirical research readily accessible which assisted stakeholders in Barbados and the Caribbean to design, and implement HIV programming. An additional forty-two (42) abstracts, articles and/or links to these were uploaded to the VHRU during 2017.

THE URBAN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The Commission remained focused on its mandate to provide the services that would assist in the alleviation of poverty, and to enhance sustainable quality of life and high standards of living within the urban population.

HOUSING

The Commission undertook 250 housing and housing related projects during 2017. The total project cost for this period was \$724,925.

TRANSFER OF TITLE PROGRAM

The UDC continued to assist qualified tenants to improve their quality of life and their standard of living under the Transfer of Title program. In 2017, the Board of Directors approved subsidies totaling \$121,748.75, of which \$5,196.86 was paid to the tenants. As a result of the reduction in the funds allotted to the Commission, the outstanding commitments

Table 4.7-8

UDC Housing and Related Projects 2017		
Projects	Amount	Costs \$
New Houses	1	76,000
Wells	23	81,765
Repairs and Renovations	59	386,900
Ancillary Works	165	157,960
Bathrooms	1	17,783
Relocations	-	-
Septic Tanks	1	4,500
Total	250	724,925

SOURCE: Urban Development Commission

in the transfer of title program have increased to \$1,883,949.31.

COMMUNITY ROADS PROGRAMME

The Commission started road works on Banfield Tenantry, Passage Road, St. Michael in January of 2017. This project was a collaborative effort with the Ministry of Transport and Works. At the end of the reporting period the surfacing of the carriage way and drainage were outstanding. A total sum of \$122,742, including professional fees, was spent on this project to date.

The Commission continued the Haggatt Hall road project during 2017 in collaboration with the Ministry of Transport and Works. The final phase of this road which was outstanding at the end of 2016 was completed in February 2017. The road works completed was the laying with asphalt at a cost of \$27,000.00. This brought the total expenditure of this project phase to \$73,000.00, with savings of \$11,000. In addition, preliminary works on the road construction project at Link Road from Seclusion Road to Fairfied, St. Michael also commenced during the period.

V. PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME AND OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

A. PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

During 2017, Government's Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) continued in earnest despite the current economic environment. The major investments in 2017 were concentrated in the areas of Infrastructure, Energy, Environment, Roads and Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building.

NEW AGREEMENTS SIGNED IN 2017

The Government of Barbados signed four (4) new Loan agreements totalling US\$ 63,877,000 in 2017 with the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF). These programmes were the (i) Student Revolving Loan Fund Loan and Grant agreements for US\$7.5 million and US\$250,000 respectively, (ii) Constitution River Flood Mitigation Project (Phase III) Loan and Grant agreements for \$6.877million and US\$250,000 respectively, (iii) Deployment in the use of Cleaner Fuels and Renewable Energies in Barbados for US\$34.0 million and (iv) Tax Administration Infrastructure Reform Programme for US\$15.0 million.

STUDENT REVOLVING LOAN FUND

The Government of Barbados and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) signed a Loan Agreement for US\$ \$7.5 million on January 16, 2017 to finance the recapitalization of the Student Revolving Loan Fund.

CONSTITUTION RIVER FLOOD MITIGATION PROJECT (PHASE III)

The Government of Barbados and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) signed a Loan Agreement for US\$ \$6.9 million on March 27, 2017 to finance the Constitution River Flood Mitigation Project (Phase III). This Project is the final portion of the upgrade of the Constitution River. It involved infrastructure works that will reduce the incidence of flooding in Bridgetown and will enhance public health by mitigating the threat of mosquito-borne diseases. The supporting technical assistance component will improve the sustainability of the investment through the development of a Constitution River maintenance plan, and the conduct of a Climate Vulnerability Assessment of the Constitution River drainage catchment to explore upstream options for improving the resilience of the Project area to flooding. The program will be structured with the following components: (1) Pre-investment study, (2) Infrastructure Works and (3) Technical Assistance.

DEPLOYMENT IN THE USE OF CLEANER FUELS AND RENEWABLE ENERGIES IN BARBADOS

The Government of Barbados and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) signed a Loan Agreement for US\$ 34,000,000 on June 14, 2017 to finance the Deployment in the use of Cleaner Fuels and Renewable Energies in Barbados project. The Program will be implemented over a period of six years. The programme aims to enhance Barbados' energy security and sustainability by diversifying its energy matrix through promoting the use of cleaner fuels specifically Natural Gas for power generation, and increasing the use of Renewable Energy (RE) sources.

The program will be structured with the following three (3) components:

Component 1. Natural Gas Infrastructure will finance two sub-components: Sub-component 1.1 the upgrade of existing Natural Gas infrastructure and Information systems; and Sub-component 1.2 the expansion of Micro Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Facility at Woodbourne.

Component 2. Smart Energy Solutions will finance solutions to increase Energy Efficiency (EE) and the use of Renewable Energies (RE) in NPC-BNOCL facilities.

Component 3. Technical Advisory Services consists of two sub-components: Sub-component 3.1 – Institutional Strengthening will finance consultancy services: (i) to provide training for NPC/BNOCL; and (ii) to develop studies for improving: (a) corporate governance, environmental, legal and regulatory functions; (b) quality management systems; and (c) information technology applications to monitor and control the NG supply chain. Sub-component 3.2- Establishing strategic energy financial assessments and project financing including the possibility of a PPP for energy security. This component will finance consulting services to facilitate project assessments and subsequently the establishment of financing options including PPP projects for the construction of facilities to import LNG and/or deploying energy storage.

TAX ADMINISTRATION INFRASTRUCTURE REFORM PROGRAMME

The Government of Barbados and the Development Bank of Latin American (CAF) signed a Loan Agreement for US\$ 15,000,000 on November 17, 2017 to finance the Tax Administration Infrastructure Reform Programme. The

Programme will be implemented over a two-year period. The Programme's main objective is to improve tax administration processes, with the technological integration of administration systems, modernization of control equipment in customs, and the development of studies in order to support the tax reform process and the fiscal adjustment Programme.

The programme will be structured with the following three (3) components:

Component 1: Integrated Tax Administration System (ITAS) for the BRA. This component is intended to acquire and customize an off the shelf system for the administration of the various enactments under the responsibility of the Barbados Revenue Authority (BRA). It also included various complementary activities, such as the transfer of technical and business application knowledge, ICT for the Barbados Revenue Authority (BRA), training for BRA personnel, officials and final users, business intelligence, etc.

Component 2: Customs Scanners. This component involved the acquisition of scanning equipment for the Grantley Adams International Airport (GAIA) and for the Barbados Port Inc. (BPI) since Barbados depends on the tourism industry, it is critical that both ports of entry (air and sea) are adequately equipped. In recent times slow processing, due to manual operations by the Customs and Excise Department (CED), has had a negative impact on the country's image.

Additionally, this component provided for: (a) investments in infrastructure adaptation in the passenger's arrival terminals at the GAIA and BPI, to accommodate new scanners and facilitate processing and passenger flow; (b) the training of customs, port and airport personnel; and (c) the development and implementation of a reporting solution for the Customs and Excise Department (CED).

Component 3: Support for the Consolidation of the Tax Reform in Barbados This component will have an analysis of the tax reform process to determine the main challenges and achievements, and propose next steps needed to complete the reform. This will include, but is not limited to, a study that will: (a) enhance overall revenue collection; (b) use business intelligence and risk principles to improve identification of revenue leakages; and (c) shorten the tax gap.

PROJECTS COMPLETED

BARBADOS COMPETITIVENESS PROGRAM

The Barbados Competitiveness Program was aimed at increasing the competitiveness of the economy of Barbados. The programme consists of four (4) components. These are: (i) ensuring a coherent framework to support business development, incentives and regulations; (ii) ensuring a coherent Business Development Services (BDS) architecture for business development; (iii) Improving logistics and trade facilitation and enhance access to infrastructure; and (iv) Strengthening public-private dialogue on competitiveness. At the end of the project on August 30, 2017 approximately US \$8.6 million was disbursed by the IDB.

FEASIBILITY STUDY -RIVER PLANTATION DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION SYSTEM

The Feasibility Study for the River Plantation Drainage and Irrigation Systems was to assist the Government of Barbados in determining the most feasible option based on technical, financial, socio-economic, legal, engineering and environmental consideration for the provision of a sustainable irrigation and drainage system for agricultural lands at River Plantation. The Government of Barbados received a technical assistance loan from the Caribbean Development

Bank (CDB) to assist in financing the services of Consultants to prepare a feasibility study for improving water management on agricultural land at the river Plantation, St. Philip. At the end of the project on May 31, 2017 approximately US \$199,478 was disbursed by the CDB.

SMART ENERGY FUND

The general objective of the Smart Energy Fund was to support investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency thus reducing the country's dependence on imported fossil fuels. In addition, it would also reduce spending of foreign currency on energy. The Funds will provide financial assistance to persons desirous of implementing Energy Efficiency (EE) and Renewable Energy (RE) projects, which are still in a conceptual stage. The Inter-American Development Bank provided a loan US \$10.0 million for the capitalisation of a Smart Energy Fund. The loan was signed on February 7, 2011. At the end of the project on June 7, 2017 approximately US \$10.0 million was disbursed by the IDB.

B. OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)

The Organization of American States (OAS) continued its development activities by providing scholarships, fellowships, workshops, meetings and conferences, which aided in the development of human resources in Barbados during 2017. The OAS sponsored twenty-eight (28) persons from Barbados who attended meetings, conferences and/or workshops overseas. The total cost incurred by the OAS was US\$38,267.97. In addition, five (5) workshops/meetings were held in Barbados, which amounted to US\$20,610.80.

The OAS disbursed US\$157,350.30 in project funding to Barbados for three projects during 2017. This total consisted of one national project: “Social Inclusion/Social Protection”, for which US\$59,810.00 was disbursed; and two regional projects: “Expanding the Socio-Economic Potential of Cultural Heritage in the Caribbean”, for which US\$96,540.50 was disbursed, and “Caribbean Sustainable Tourism Awards”, for which US\$1,000.00 was disbursed.

UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATIONS

2017 marked the first year of the 2017-2021 UN Multi-country Sustainable Development Framework (UN MSDF). The UN MSDF is the first regional UN sustainable development framework.

The UN Sub-regional Team (UNST) has partnered with the Government of Barbados to promote sustainable development across the four priority areas of the UN MSDF, which are (in the case of Barbados):

- A Healthy Barbados
- A Sustainable and Resilient Barbados
- An Inclusive, Equitable and Prosperous Barbados
- A Safe, Just and Cohesive Barbados

The normative work of the UNST was also advanced by high level visits to Barbados, most notably by the UN Special Rapporteur on Road Safety in August 2017. The Special Rapporteur, with the support of the UNST, met with the Prime Minister, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Transport and Works, the private sector and civil society to advocate for stronger legislation promoting road safety.

FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

The Food and Agriculture Organization’s (FAO) support to Barbados is based on three priority areas identified in the Country Programming Framework (CPF) for the period 2016 - 2019:

- Agricultural Health and Food Safety;
- Food Production and Productivity (including food and nutrition security); and
- Improved Performance of Agriculture sub-sectors.

During 2017, Barbados continued to receive FAO’s technical support to execute the drafting and updating of the following legislation:

- (new) Draft Food Safety Act;
- (Revised) Plant Protection Act and two sets of regulations;
- (new) Animal Health Act;
- Implementing regulations on (food) safety of fish/seafood; and
- (new) NAHFCA Act.

Furthermore, the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat, based at FAO-Rome, provided a consultant to conduct a full Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) in Barbados, which will help the country identify the gaps that need addressing in order to fulfil its obligations under the Convention.

During November 2017, an FAO Food Safety consultant prepared a draft Domestic Inspection Manual (for food businesses) and conducted training for Food Inspectors. A Pilot to test the Manual application commenced in 2017.

FAO continued assisting Barbados and other Caribbean countries in the production and utilization of roots and tuber crops. The Cassava Value Chain Coordinating Committee, formed in 2015, was renamed the Cassava and Sweet Potato Value Chain Coordinating Committee (CSPVCCC) in 2017, when it was expanded to include sweet potato.

Blended cassava bread production expanded significantly in 2017, with both small and commercial bakeries contributing to this expansion. The CSPVCCC facilitated the upgrade and expansion of the value chain, whereby cassava mash production moved from a public sector entity to a private sector entrepreneur.

Through FAO-mediated cooperation, a specialist from Cuba trained Barbadian farmers in the preparation of silage and other animal feed mixes for small ruminants and pigs. The Specialist formulated technical packages (tech-packs), which are currently being validated with livestock farmers and features inputs including leucaena (river tamarind), moringa, mulberry and cassava (peels, stems and leaves).

FAO obtained and made available approximately one kilogram of certified pigeon pea seeds of a popular variety from the Dominican Republic for testing and multiplication, followed by distribution to farmers in Barbados.

In the fisheries sector, FAO provided a consultant to conduct a comprehensive survey of the Aquaculture sector in Barbados. Information from the survey was validated at a National Stakeholders Workshop in 2017. Furthermore, personnel from the Fisheries Division were provided with extensive training in advancing aquaponics. The industry was also supported with the provision of equipment and materials for the

establishment of an aquaponics demonstration farm.

In 2017, FAO presented the Government of Barbados with a Certificate of Destruction for 10.208 tonnes of obsolete pesticides. Funds from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the EU and FAO supported the removal and destruction of the obsolete stocks, in close collaboration with the Pesticide Control Board of Barbados.

SUPPORT TO HEALTH SYSTEMS

The Pan-American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) provided technical guidance and overall facilitation for the Development of Barbados' Draft National Strategic Plan for Health (NSPH). Eight consultations were held with various interest groups and the public during the NHSP formulation process.

During the period, PAHO/WHO funded and provided technical guidance to assist the Ministry of Health with its electronic health information system endeavours. In particular, PAHO/WHO supported the following critical areas of Health Information and Evidence:

- Review of current primary healthcare sourced electronic health information data and giving guidance on how to "clean the data";
- Training on WHO International Classification of Diseases within the Ministry of Health; and
- Improving skills with the MedData health information platform.

In addition, PAHO/WHO assisted the Ministry of Health to carry out an assessment of national capacity for antimicrobial resistance (AMR) detection and reporting. An automated blood culture machine and related accessories were purchased and donated to the

Microbiology Laboratory at Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Furthermore, PAHO/WHO supported the development of a national, multi-sectoral AMR surveillance, prevention and control for Barbados.

STRENGTHENING THE LEGISLATIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR BARBADOS ON FOOD SAFETY

PAHO/WHO provided technical and financial assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and Water Resource Management (MAFFW) for the development of the Draft Food Safety Bill. This is aimed at improving Barbados' health status and meet its trade obligations with respect to sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures. Meetings were held with officials from the various government offices from each area to highlight the existing gaps in the legislation, to obtain feedback, to determine the needs and priorities, to determine the scope of the proposed legislation and to identify the key elements to be included in the revised new legislation. Consultations were also held with private sector representatives from each area of the Project to identify their key needs and issues. Draft Legislation (Bills and Regulations) was then prepared and submitted to the government officials for their review.

ADOLESCENT HEALTH

PAHO/WHO and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) have supported Barbados' Ministry of Health in the development of an Adolescent Health Strategy as a means to operationalize activities outlined in the Adolescent Policy. The recent launch of the Accelerated Action for Adolescent Health (AA-HA!) provided an excellent opportunity to utilize the guidance and information provided in this reference document to update and finalize the Strategy. Barbados

is in the round of early adopters' countries for the development of an adolescent health strategy using the Accelerated Action for the Health of Adolescents (AA-HA!). The Plan is pending approval by the Ministry of Health.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

In 2017, the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) obtained re-certification from PAHO/WHO as a Baby Friendly Hospital, after assessment by a team of regional experts. The Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative is an effort to ensure that all maternity facilities support mothers in making the best infant-feeding choice, free of commercial interests. The ultimate goal of the initiative is to empower every woman to make health-based decisions concerning infant feeding, and, if breastfeeding is her choice, to support her in breastfeeding her children exclusively for six months and to continue breastfeeding, with complementary food, into the second year of life and beyond. PAHO provided technical support to the QEH in strengthening their services and practices and the knowledge and skills of health personnel at all levels, ensuring that all conditions were established prior to assessment.

PAHO/WHO provided technical and financial support for the development, printing and dissemination of breastfeeding promotional materials, as a means to create awareness that breastfeeding is still the best source of nutrition and growth for infants. This simple act protects children's lives and forms part of the commitment of the Ministry of Health to ensure health for all.

Updated Guidelines and Protocols for improved quality of care of women and neonates were produced during the year. The use of evidence-based guidelines by all healthcare providers in the field of Maternal and Child Health will ensure improved standards of care, and hence

better maternal outcomes for pregnant women. To support this effort, PAHO/WHO supported the review, printing and dissemination of the National Policy on Breastfeeding, the Neonatal Action Plan and the Guide to Postnatal Support Services.

NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs)

PAHO/WHO supported the celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Port-of-Spain Declaration, coinciding with the 45th anniversary of the National NCD Commission of Barbados. The Ministry of Health mounted a series of activities to raise awareness and engage the public on NCD prevention and control including risk factor reduction. The areas selected for technical support are aligned to the National NCD Plan 2015-2019 and the National Childhood Obesity Plan for Barbados.

Barbados was selected as one of the first Caribbean countries to implement salt reduction initiatives using social marketing approaches. Through PAHO/WHO's technical cooperation, infographic cards, messages, audio and visual life-education materials were developed to sensitize persons, particularly young mothers with small children, to the health consequences of excess salt intake. In addition, a jingle was developed by a popular local artist and widely disseminated.

STRENGTHENING LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK ON REDUCTION OF RISK FACTORS AND CREATING A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

PAHO provided a platform during the year to raise awareness of health-related laws with local authorities, particularly on: trading issues, in line with the CARICOM and WTO Trading Framework; and regulation on food labelling, including the set of recommendations on the marketing of

foods and non-alcoholic beverages to children developed by WHO.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

PAHO/WHO supported the implementation of an IPC mentorship programme at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital by sponsoring nationals of other Caribbean Islands to attend the programme and by providing assistance for the procurement of IT equipment.

PAHO/WHO has been supporting Barbados' Ministry of Health in sustaining the vaccination coverage of administered antigens at over 95.0 per cent of the population as well as the elimination of poliomyelitis, measles, rubella and neonatal tetanus. Barbados has also successfully implemented strategies towards polio eradication, with the implementation of the switch plan including replacement of the trivalent oral poliovirus (tOPV) with bivalent oral poliovirus (bOPV) and the introduction of inactivated polio vaccine (IPV). Barbados has also been compliant with containment efforts.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

In response to ongoing public health concerns on Zika, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) partnered with the Barbados Red Cross to conduct school based Zika awareness sessions targeting school children. This entailed mapping of breeding places in and around schools, as well as information dissemination on Zika. More than 1,000 Barbadian adolescents now have improved knowledge and skills to conduct community mapping at their schools, as part of vector control. This initiative complemented ongoing public health awareness, raising efforts aimed at influencing social and behaviour change. Approximately 90.0 per cent of Early Childhood Development (ECD) practitioners in Barbados benefitted from enhanced knowledge and skills to prevent

mosquito borne illnesses and provide psychosocial support for pre-school children affected by Zika. Further, the partnerships resulted in about 5,000 Barbadian students with enhanced capacity to implement practices at their schools to reduce mosquito breeding.

To enhance capacity for the detection and the confirmation of Zika virus infection, PAHO/WHO procured a thermal cycler (PCR machine) and related reagents for the Leptospirosis Laboratory in Bridgetown. The machine was used to determine the magnitude of the Zika virus infection in the population of Barbados and to monitor its spread over time.

In addition, PAHO provided support for the procurement of fogging machines and insecticides, and assisted the Ministry of Health with the design and multiplication of information, education and communication materials.

CAPACITY STRENGTHENING RELATED TO SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS AND HIV

PAHO/WHO provided technical assistance for data collection on HIV and syphilis in pregnant women and their newborns with the view to monitor Barbados' progress towards the elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV and congenital syphilis. Recommendations were made on areas still falling short of meeting the Regional Validation Committee requirements.

The Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) supported Barbados with its development of strategic information and analysis to increase understanding of the state of the AIDS epidemic and, in particular, to track progress made toward achieving the 90-90-90 treatment targets that will set the country on-track to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030 as part of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)

agenda. Through direct technical support, UNAIDS helped Barbados to produce and finalize HIV estimates of high quality for 2017. UNAIDS conducted a technical workshop on HIV estimates, sourcing and using high-level technical experts to strengthen capacity of all estimate-producing countries in the region, including Barbados. Following vetting and approval by Government, UNAIDS analyzed and published regional data on a global platform.

UNDP collaborated with the University of the West Indies HIV/AIDS Research Project and FHI360 in undertaking qualitative research on gender-based violence, HIV and key populations in Latin America and the Caribbean. In Barbados, UNDP supported capacity strengthening of 5 peer interviewers from vulnerable populations (men who have sex with men, transgender women and female sex workers) through in-depth training. The peer interviewers gathered data from twenty (20) participants from the identified populations. The study examined gender-based violence and discrimination as a barrier to health care and other critical services, with particular attention to access to HIV prevention services among the key populations. The findings informed interventions to improve populations' access to health care services and in so doing reduce the national rate of HIV/AIDS infection.

PROTECTION OF THE OZONE LAYER

During 2017, UNDP cooperated with the Ministry and the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic (SJPP) (now the Samuel Jackman Prescod Institute of Technology (SJPI)) to acquire specialised tools and equipment to be used in its Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (RAC) technician training programmes to

prepare and encourage the industry transition to using alternative ozone-friendly refrigerant technology.

EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS

UNDP, with support from the Disaster Programme of the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office (DIPECHO), finalised the implementation of the “Strengthening Resilience and Coping Capacities in the Caribbean through Integrated Early Warning Systems (EWS)” project during 2017, in partnership with the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) and the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH), benefiting Martin’s Bay (St. John) and Shermans (St. Lucy). During the year, the country enhanced its hazard monitoring network through installation, testing and operationalisation of rain gauges in Martin’s Bay.

The alerting component of the EWS was further enhanced through the installation of radio interrupt devices at four radio stations across the island. This complemented the email notification and the CAP smart phone app as alerting mechanisms which were previously installed. Finally, 15 national counterparts were trained in the use and maintenance of the EWS.

ENERGY

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in partnership with the Division of Energy and Telecommunications, continued implementation of the Disaster Risk and Energy Access Management (DREAM) project, which aims to strengthen disaster risk response through technology deployment, awareness-raising, capacity building and institutional strengthening. The renewable energy infrastructure includes the installation of decentralised solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity

generation and battery backup systems at community centres and polyclinics throughout the country. These systems will provide clean energy under normal operating conditions and will also continue to power key points in the event of grid failures, thereby improving the island’s disaster risk response. The first phase of installations commenced in December 2017 and the systems are expected to be handed over in the first quarter of 2018. Phase two procurements commenced in 2017 and those systems will also be handed over in 2018.

The first renewable energy public awareness campaign took the form of a game show “Flip the Switch”, which was successfully completed in the first quarter of 2017. The game show was the result of collaboration between the private sector and Government and based on the positive public response, a similar approach will be used in future public awareness events.

Development of a new energy licensing regime advanced during 2017 and is nearing completion. Once finished, it is expected that this work will lead to a new licensing framework for electricity generation that will reduce risk, increase access to finance for independent power producers (IPPs) and facilitate greater

investment in the domestic renewable energy market.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Following support to the preparation of Barbados’ Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) submitted to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2015, UNDP has since supported the design and operationalisation of the national Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system to track the implementation of the NDC. This system will support development of future greenhouse gas inventories, tracking of

the contribution from adaptation and mitigation actions and other climate change response/resilience building initiatives to achieving the country's climate change commitments. The input to this design process received input from a range of sectors and actors including agriculture, tourism, water, gas and electric utilities, transport, environment, energy and finance.

With UNDP support, the Government of Barbados has completed its Second National Communication (SNC) to the UNFCCC, which is undergoing final technical review prior to Cabinet submission and approval before submission to the UNFCCC. National Communications are the reports that Parties to the Convention must submit periodically, on implementation of the Convention, to the UNFCCC. Developing countries (non-Annex I countries) provide information on greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, measures to mitigate and to facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change, and any other information they consider relevant to the achievement of the objective of the Convention.

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF) - SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME (SGP)

In 2017, the Global Environment Facility-Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP), which is being implemented by UNDP, disbursed a total of US\$243,978.50 to existing grantees, while US\$334,539.26 in grant funding was awarded to 16 new grantees from civil society to address critical environmental issues in the areas of biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, land degradation, international water and the eradication of harmful chemicals. The majority of the new projects were within the focal areas of biodiversity conservation and climate change.

In 2017, there were over forty-three (43) active GEF SGP funded projects in Barbados that collectively address GEF SGP's five environmental focal areas and impact all eleven parishes of the country. Some of the GEF SGP's programme results recorded in 2017 for Barbados aligned to the biodiversity conservation, land degradation and climate change mitigation focal areas.

Project initiatives have led to an additional 994 acres within the Barbados National Park/Natural Heritage Conservation Area (Scotland District) being placed under improved sustainable land management practices and the conservation of indigenous plant species within this area by the grantees. Over 21 community representatives across Barbados are demonstrating the use of renewable energy technology as a tool to mitigate climate, reduce the dependence on fossil fuels, save foreign exchange and in some cases, generate income from the sale of electricity. These initiatives include a number of innovative solar-powered applications such as sustainable

transport in historic Bridgetown, irrigation for pyramid home gardens, rainwater harvesting system and circulation pumps, solar powered fishing vessels and solar-cooled greenhouses.

AN INCLUSIVE, EQUITABLE AND PROSPEROUS BARBADOS

In 2017, the collaborative effort between UNICEF Eastern Caribbean Area (ECA) and OECS Commission for the last two years culminated in a report on Child Poverty in the ECA, including Barbados, providing for the first time disaggregated poverty data on children. The data analysis component was guided by the Global Technical Note developed by UNICEF in 2016 providing recommendations on how to identify and request national poverty

data to develop relevant child estimates. The main data source for this effort has been the datasets from the Country Poverty Assessments (CPAs) which were completed for eleven (11) ECA countries and territories.

This initiative was key to understanding child poverty levels in eleven (11) of the twelve (12) ECA islands. It revealed that child poverty varied considerably across the ECA countries, and while on average one in every three children in the ECA was poor, the poverty rate reached above 50.0 per cent of children in Grenada. Moreover, in every ECA, country child poverty was higher than adult and overall rate and the share of children in poverty was always significantly higher than their share in the overall population. The findings confirmed that children in ECA are disproportionately represented among the poor and a clear concentration of child poverty was among children living in household with four or more children; and in countries with high levels of immigration, the levels were substantially higher among migrant-headed households.

The findings from the analysis not only contributed to monitoring of SDG1 (End poverty in all its forms everywhere), but also facilitated engagement in evidence informed discussions for strengthening social protection systems. The analysis was undertaken in partnership with OECS Commission, Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and Central Statistical Offices (CSOs). OECS Commission coordinated the implementation and UNICEF provided technical contributions throughout the process.

Given that the analysis presented incontrovertibly that child poverty is a serious issue in the ECA, going forward, UNICEF will build on this good practice and will support the mainstreaming of child poverty as an integral component of

the upcoming round of CPAs in all ECA countries and territories.

UNFPA continued to strengthen the technical capacity of the Barbados Statistical Service to conduct demographic analysis, finalize population projections using the 2010 census data and prepare for the upcoming 2020 Round of Population and Housing Census.

Technical support facilitated by UNFPA contributed to strengthening the capacity of the Government of Barbados and the Barbados Family Planning Association (BFPA) to integrate population dynamics in national frameworks and strategies.

CITIZEN SECURITY

The UNDP, in collaboration with the Criminal Justice Research and Planning Unit, Office of the Attorney General, organised a National Evidence-Based Decision-Making Workshop and high-level dialogue. The workshop sensitised key stakeholders about the importance of quality and reliable crime statistics to support analysis and evidence-based decision making on crime and violence. Not only did it increase political and institutional buy-in, the workshop offered a forum for Barbados to learn from the diverging approaches of Jamaica and Belize.

Citizen security remained a key priority for Barbados and the Strengthening Evidence-based Decision Making for Citizen Security in the Caribbean (CariSECURE) regional project seeks to help increase the institutional and technical capacity of Barbados for crime and violence prevention and protection of vulnerable groups in this regard. In consultation with key national stakeholders throughout Barbados and the wider Organisation for Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the project has targeted assistance to Barbados across three components: production of

standardised and disaggregated crime data; automation of national crime data management; and the production of a single and codified National Policy on Crime Prevention.

EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

In partnership with UNICEF, UNFPA led the commemoration of International Day of the Girl Child in Barbados under the theme “Empower Girls: Emergency Response and Resilience Planning”. Key activities included the dissemination of a joint press release and a radio interview to increase public awareness on the heightened vulnerabilities of girls during and post natural disasters particularly as it relates to their sexual and reproductive health. Emphasis was on the need for multi-sectoral partnerships including government, civil society and UN actors to ensure that girls are healthy, empowered and thus more resilient in the face of crises and in the rebuilding of their societies.

World Population Day 2017 was observed in Barbados under the theme “Family Planning: Empowering People, Developing Nations”. UNFPA, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, the Barbados Family Planning Association, PAHO/WHO and the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator, hosted a Media Briefing at UN House. The event brought together several media representatives and offered journalists the opportunity to engage and exchange on how reproductive health programmes, including family planning, contribute to saving lives, empowering women, and help to build a foundation for the realization of rights and sustainable development.

ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

In 2017, UN Women continued to support civil society organisations in efforts to end violence against women and girls. This support included training

sessions for young women and men advocates in January and February 2017 on the international standards related to gender based violence. UN Women also collaborated with the EU funded ‘One in Three’ Project to support a regional training in Barbados, attended by Barbadian civil society representatives. The training’s objective was to strengthen capacity among stakeholders to use effective techniques in preventing domestic violence in the Caribbean.

In support of the Memorandum of Understanding between UN Women and the Office of the Attorney General, UN Women collaborated with the Caribbean Association of Judicial Officers (CAJO), and the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) - Canada funded JURIST programme, to officially handover a draft of the Barbados Gender Protocol in April 2017. The Gender Protocol will be finalised by a committee established by the Barbados judiciary. Follow up sessions with members of the committee as well as a Training of Trainers for judicial officers on how to use the protocol were held throughout the year, with two Barbadian judicial officers attending the regional Training of Trainers.

On International Women’s Day 2017, UN Women collaborated with the Barbados Coalition of Service Industries (BCSI) to hold a session for secondary students, young women in tertiary institutions, entrepreneurs, attorneys at law and young business women and men to explore how the changing world of work could be truly equitable.

UN Women also collaborated with the Barbados non-governmental organisation (NGO) No to Online Abuse and Harassment (NOAH) to launch the project “Combatting Online Abuse through Research and Education”. UN Women is providing technical and financial support to NOAH to complete the research and use the findings to ensure that there are boundaries and responsibilities and

awareness regarding the potential threats ICTs pose such as cyber-related violence, harassment and online insecurity.

During the 16 Days of Activism to End Violence Against Women (25 November 2017 to 10 December 2017), UN Women launched a documentary on social mobilisation to end violence against women at UN House, and held an exhibition called “One in Three” with the World Bank, Interarts and the EU.

In 2017, Barbados submitted its Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) report to the CEDAW Committee. This was the result of the technical assistance that UN Women had provided previously through a project agreement with the Bureau of Gender Affairs. UN Women pledges to support the Government of Barbados through the formal adoption and implementation of the CARICOM Gender Equality Indicators

(GEI). This should result in the development of a national report on the status of women and men using data provided by relevant actors in the Government of Barbados. The GEI will assist the Government of Barbados in reporting on CEDAW, Beijing, the SDGs and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) under the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

UNICEF continued to support the Child Care Board, Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, and the Ministry of Health to build the necessary capacity among frontline actors to better protect children from violence and abuse. Workshops on violence against children, including cyber bullying, were critical in raising awareness of children and young people. UNICEF supported peer on peer mechanisms for children and adolescents to become agents of change in the fight against sexual abuse and cyber abuse and bullying. UNICEF partnership with Crime Stoppers served as a critical

vehicle for dissemination of key information on violence and abuse and services available for children through the Crime Stoppers hotline. UNICEF’s partnership with the Child Care Board in Barbados benefited thousands of students through peer-on peer mechanisms.

UNICEF sustained collaboration with the Ministry of Education in addressing the challenges with indiscipline and violence in schools which has been negatively impacting student achievement. Support centred on building the capacity of educators to mainstream effective school principles and improve school learning environments to better meet the learning and developmental needs to students. This included building national capacities to utilize more child-centred, rights-based disciplinary approaches, strengthening of student participation and parental engagement,

and strengthening life-skills education in schools.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) AND TRANSPORTATION

The partnership of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) with the Government of Barbados, through the Telecommunications Unit, Division of Energy and Telecommunications, Prime Minister’s Office over the years has continued to provide a cohesive avenue for ITU to facilitate a number of initiatives and activities within Barbados.

The nature of ITU collaboration in 2017 primarily encompassed consultancy and support in the following areas:

- National Computer Incident Response Team (CIRT) for Barbados: ITU collaborated with Barbados in determining the next phase in the establishment of National CIRT, through

collaboration in planning for the full operationalizing of the CIRT to bring it to LIVE Status for Barbados and determining the nature of Staff training. The collaboration is ongoing with the anticipation of bringing the operationalization phase to fruition in 2018.

- ICT Indicators & ICT Day: The ITU continues to assist in leveraging achievements of its Member States in ICT through the publication of its “Measuring the Information Society Report”. In the 2017 edition, within the ICT Sector, Barbados has returned to the No. 1 ranking in the Caribbean and at No. 3 in the Americas Region on the ITU Measuring the Information Society (MIS) Report’s ICT Development Index (IDI) rankings. In addition, ITU collaborated with the Telecommunications Unit, Division of Energy and Telecommunications, Prime Minister’s Office in celebrating and participating at the Exhibition on World Telecommunications and Information Society Day (WTISD).
- Internet of Things (IOT) and Digital Financing Capacity Building: The Forum on Internet of Things (IOT): Smarter Living in the Caribbean, which took place from 24 to 26 April 2017, and the Digital Financial Services (DFS) Workshop, which took place from 27 to 28 April 2017 in Trinidad and Tobago, provided participants from ITU Member States, including Barbados, to understand the power of IOT and integrated dynamic ICT ecosystems, as well as m-Financing (digital financing) that can benefit developing economies. In addition, the Keynote Ministerial Address at the

ITU – Digital Financial Services (DFS) Workshop was delivered by Barbados’ Minister in the Prime Minister’s Office with responsibility for Energy, Telecommunications, Immigration and Invest Barbados. His address was on the subject “Digital Financial Inclusion and the Impact on the Financially Excluded and Underserved... A Policy-maker and Regulator Perspective”.

TRANSPORTATION

The Ministry of Transport and Works, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health worked on an amendment of the National Road Safety Act. PAHO/WHO reviewed Road Safety Laws and provided technical support and recommendations to strengthen enforcement in Barbados, with an emphasis on Drunk Driving, before the Road Traffic Amendment Act was introduced to Parliament in November 2017.

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

During 2017, three delegates from Barbados participated in a regional conference entitled “Caribbean Action 2030: Regional Conference on the Sustainable Development Goals”. The conference was organised by the UNDP and several UN agencies, the University of the West Indies (UWI) and the government of Jamaica.

In addition, at the national level, meetings took place to discuss the integration of the SDGs into Barbados’ development plans.

UNFPA facilitated the participation of one hundred and fifty (150) youth leaders from the Caribbean, including Barbados, in the 5th Caribbean Youth Leaders’ Summit held in Jamaica to

dialogue on research and programmatic priorities in governance, peace and security for the SDGs.

EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

The Barbados-European Union relationship continued to be cordial during 2017. This involved continued dialogue regarding the implementation of various sector budget support programmes. The programme portfolio included the 2010 Accompanying Measures for Sugar Protocol (AMSP) Countries, the 10th European Development Fund (EDF), which focused on Human Resource Development, and the 11th EDF, with the focal sector being Energy.

Barbados received the final tranche of €3.94 million or BDS\$8.634 million in 2016, out of an allocation of €50 million. However, several consultancies continued to be implemented during 2017 in the areas of Productivity and specific IT initiatives for the Agricultural and Fisheries sector as a continuation from the 10th EDF. Additionally, an amount of €1 million was allocated to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs to assist with the undertaking of four consultancies aimed at supporting the Government in developing some key fiscal and productive initiatives.

Under the 11th EDF, Barbados received the first tranche of €1.120 million or BDS\$2.66 million on December 22, 2017, after satisfactorily meeting the General Conditions for disbursement. The Financing Agreement for this programme between the European Union (EU) and the Government of Barbados (GOB) was signed on May 18, 2017 and is focused mainly on renewable energy. This Grant is expected to support the energy sector goals of Government of Barbados, as defined in the draft 2013 Government of Barbados Energy Policy. Approximately €3.5 million or BDS \$8.4 million was

allocated to this sector to be disbursed over the next three (3) years.

In addition, the Barbados Public Sector Smart Energy Programme (PSSEP) continued to be implemented by the Division of Energy and Telecommunications, Prime Minister's Office. The Financing Agreement for this programme between the European Union and the Government of Barbados was signed on November 14, 2013 in the amount of €5.8 million or BDS\$15.1 million. This programme is jointly funded between the European Union in the form of a grant and the Inter-American Development Bank as an Investment Loan in the amount of BDS\$36.0 million and is expected to implement a range of renewable energy and energy efficiency measures.

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTRE (CARTAC)

The Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Centre (CARTAC) is one of the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) Regional Technical Assistance Centres located around the world. It was created to help countries to strengthen human and institutional capacity at the national and regional level to design and implement sound macroeconomic policies that promote growth and reduce poverty.

CARTAC's resources are utilised to undertake the following activities:

- Undertake diagnostic work to identify and design measures needed to strengthen specific aspects of economic and financial governance;
- Prepare detailed plans, and assist in the implementation of those plans;

- Review proposals or assessments by governments or other donors for consistency with internationally agreed standards;
- Provide hands-on technical advice and training either by the centre's own advisers or by specially contracted CARTAC consultants;
- Organize training courses, seminars, workshops and the dissemination of best practices; and
- Arrange professional attachments for skills enhancement and development.

CARTAC provided technical assistance in the areas of Public Financial Management; Customs; Tax Administration; Banking Supervision and Regulation; Financial Sector Stability; Real Sector Statistics; External Sector Statistics; and Macroeconomics. During 2017, CARTAC provided technical assistance to Barbados valued at US\$213,025 in seven areas: Public Financial Management (US\$14,886); Customs (US\$22,608); Tax Administration (US\$88,870); Banking Supervision and Regulation (US\$33,728); Financial Sector Stability (US\$19,263); Real Sector Statistics (US\$32,670); and Macroeconomics (US\$1,000).

VI. ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR 2018

The Barbadian economy will more than likely continue to face challenging macroeconomic conditions during 2018, given the increased risks created by the falling level of the foreign exchange reserves, the threat of rising oil prices and limited access to new financing for the Government. The Government must continue to build on the gains it has already made on reducing the fiscal imbalance by intensifying its efforts to strengthen the public finances, addressing the weakened external position and implementing a framework for sustainable growth.

The fiscal deficit for 2017/18 is anticipated to be lower than for the previous year, but is unlikely to achieve its target because of the non-receipt of divestment proceeds and the lower than anticipated revenue yield. Therefore, further consolidation, particularly through structural expenditure reforms, and improved tax administration, is now absolutely necessary in restoring confidence and facilitating private sector activity. Timely and effective implementation of these measures, as well as a reversal of the decline in international reserves, remain pivotal to strengthening the outlook. In

addition, planned tourism related investments will be significant in boosting the foreign reserves if these capital projects are operationalized on a timely basis. Counter to this, foreign debt service and rising international oil prices are likely to erode some of these projected reserve gains.

In addition, adjustment measures designed to contain demand must be accompanied by significant private and public sector capital inflows to boost the reserves. Tourism and international business services also remain critical, along with the emerging renewable energy sector, which has the potential to create energy independence and enhance competitiveness.

Nevertheless, developments in these sectors must be underpinned by speedy implementation of investment projects, emphasizing the importance of service delivery as part of the enhanced productivity thrust. In this regard, efforts to improve business facilitation should provide a framework for strengthening growth prospects to between 0.5 per cent and 1.0 per cent.

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APPENDIX 1
ESTIMATES OF REAL AND NOMINAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT 2013 – 2017

	\$M				
REAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY INDUSTRY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Agriculture and Fishing	112.6	109.7	110.2	109.0	105.5
Mining and Quarrying	20.7	28.8	37.4	32.4	40.7
Manufacturing	490.1	468.9	491.3	485.2	487.8
Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	221.0	221.3	217.4	219.0	214.8
Construction	495.0	501.7	495.7	482.8	492.9
Wholesale & Retail Trade	794.7	768.2	793.9	785.8	753.7
Transportation and Storage	388.4	416.7	433.6	492.8	495.6
Accommodation and Food Services	1,042.1	1,061.8	1,144.8	1,256.7	1,314.9
Information & Communications	544.6	549.0	537.8	570.9	549.7
Financial & Insurance	771.7	772.5	799.1	820.5	850.7
Real Estate	845.6	854.9	864.3	873.8	883.4
Business Services	730.4	756.9	805.6	813.4	794.9
Public Administration, Defence & Social Security	564.1	509.0	488.0	483.3	481.0
Public Education	286.8	281.2	276.9	273.1	275.4
Public Health	108.4	103.7	99.8	98.3	99.1
Personal & Other Services Incl. of Private Edu. & Health	368.8	363.3	355.9	347.1	345.5
Less: FISIM Adjustment	131.0	108.9	106.4	93.7	91.0
<i>Total Value Added at Basic Prices</i>	<i>7,653.9</i>	<i>7,658.5</i>	<i>7,845.1</i>	<i>8,050.5</i>	<i>8,094.8</i>
Taxes less Subsidies on Products	1,174.0	1,162.1	1,190.8	1,209.1	1,201.7
Gross Domestic Product at Constant Prices	8,827.9	8,820.6	9,035.9	9,259.6	9,296.5
Real Gross Domestic Product per Capita (\$'000)	29.6	29.3	29.5	29.9	30.5
NOMINAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY INDUSTRY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Agriculture and Fishing	133.0	127.2	123.3	125.0	129.5
Mining and Quarrying	23.5	21.7	17.9	16.1	21.1
Manufacturing	548.5	523.8	514.2	512.4	510.1
Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	213.3	219.9	224.3	219.4	229.8
Construction	532.5	535.3	531.9	507.8	511.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	923.3	913.2	903.6	908.8	903.5
Transportation and Storage	466.0	474.1	473.8	572.3	593.4
Accommodation and Food Services	1,095.6	1,066.3	1,059.7	1,131.9	1,231.6
Information & Communications	556.5	520.6	508.8	493.0	440.0
Financial & Insurance	764.7	770.8	833.4	822.5	862.1
Real Estate	1,030.0	1,060.5	1,041.6	983.3	972.8
Business Services	658.4	642.8	682.9	711.9	746.1
Public Administration, Defence & Social Security	564.1	509.0	488.0	483.3	481.0
Public Education	286.8	281.2	276.9	273.1	275.4
Public Health	108.4	103.7	99.8	98.3	99.1
Personal & Other Services Incl. of Private Edu. & Health	456.5	499.6	522.8	554.0	559.3
FISIM Adjustment	157.4	138.9	147.7	165.2	171.0
<i>Total Value Added at Basic Prices</i>	<i>8,203.8</i>	<i>8,130.7</i>	<i>8,155.3</i>	<i>8,247.7</i>	<i>8,394.7</i>
Taxes less Subsidies on Products	1,184.6	1,244.8	1,228.0	1,363.7	1,496.2
Gross Domestic Product at Market Prices	9,388.3	9,375.5	9,383.3	9,611.4	9,891.0
Gross Domestic Product per Capita	29.6	29.3	29.5	29.9	30.5

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 2
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY SELECTED SUB-INDUSTRY
(2013 – 2017)
(BASIC PRICES)

INDUSTRY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	\$M
Agriculture						
Total	133.0	127.2	123.3	125.0	129.5	146.4
Sugar Cane	8.6	7.6	3.7	4.3	6.9	7.7
Total Non-Sugar Agriculture	124.4	119.6	119.6	120.6	122.6	138.7
Food Crops	31.1	28.1	27.8	27.9	24.0	36.5
Livestock	76.5	80.3	81.5	80.7	83.8	88.3
Other Cultivation	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fishing	16.7	11.2	10.3	12.0	14.8	13.9
Manufacturing						
Total	548.5	523.8	514.2	512.4	510.1	551.1
Sugar	26.2	18.3	19.4	14.8	9.1	14.0
Food, Beverages & Tobacco	279.1	266.6	261.2	271.8	272.5	277.9
Wood/Wood Products	12.4	10.9	16.1	14.7	14.7	18.2
Paper Products, Printing & Publishing	56.3	52.7	61.3	64.7	63.9	65.1
Chemicals, Oil & Non-Metallic Minerals	71.3	71.6	72.0	67.7	68.3	91.2
Metal Products & Assembled Goods	83.5	84.3	52.9	48.2	49.2	48.8
Other Manufacturing	19.6	19.4	31.2	30.5	32.3	36.0
Total Selected Sub-Industries	681.5	651.0	637.6	637.4	639.6	697.5
Gross Domestic Product at Basic Prices	9,388.3	9,375.5	9,383.3	9,611.4	9,891.0	10,150.9

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 3
INTERNATIONAL RESERVES
(2009-2017)

	\$M							
Year	2010	2011	2012	2013P	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total Foreign Assets/Reserves	2,355.7	2,855.6	3,278.7	2,834.4	2,796.2	2,939.0	2,787.5	2,459.4
Total Banking System (net)	2,027.6	2,527.4	2,905.6	2,433.1	2,365.2	2,498.9	2,311.8	1,977.1
Monetary Authorities (net)	1,437.8	1,414.8	1,457.7	1,144.1	1,052.4	929.4	683.6	394.5
Central Bank Foreign Assets(net)	1,150.2	1,174.1	1,260.6	1,031.8	933.8	868.6	629.3	393.6
Central Government	307.3	263.6	227.3	138.3	149.5	66.0	65.5	32.2
Government Funds	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3
Sinking Funds for								
Foreign Debt	306.9	263.3	226.8	138.1	149.4	65.9	65.3	31.9
Commercial Banks (net)	589.8	1,112.6	1,447.9	1,289.0	1,312.8	1,569.5	1,628.3	1,582.6
Foreign Assets	1,612.8	1,675.8	2,342.4	2,280.7	2,178.0	2,364.3	2,550.2	2,733.3
Foreign Liabilities(short-term)	1,023.0	563.2	894.5	991.7	865.2	794.8	921.9	1,150.7
Other Public Bodies	328.1	328.2	373.1	401.3	431.0	440.1	475.7	482.3
	Apr	Dec	Apr	Mar	Apr	Apr	Mar	Apr
Peak Value During Year	2,394.1	2,832.2	3,746.1	3,347.3	2,942.2	2,842.2	3,038.4	2,931.6

SOURCE: Central Bank of Barbados

APPENDIX 4
DIRECTION OF TRADE – TOTAL EXPORTS
1986 – 2017

(\$ M)

Year	Canada	Caricom	Japan	Germany	United Kingdom	United States Of America	Venezuela	All Other Countries	Total Exports
1986	22.6	96.1	6.8	3.0	46.0	135.1	0.0	247.8	557.4
1987	12.7	75.0	2.7	1.0	65.1	67.6	0.0	98.4	322.5
1988	12.2	94.7	2.7	1.6	66.2	75.6	0.0	101.1	354.2
1989	11.0	123.9	3.2	1.1	48.9	72.8	0.2	113.3	374.4
1990	12.5	131.9	1.1	1.8	78.7	51.9	1.1	151.2	430.1
1991	13.0	135.5	1.4	1.9	43.5	53.4	0.3	165.7	414.7
1992	10.3	130.6	3.2	2.6	75.6	62.3	0.1	95.6	380.3
1993	11.9	140.8	2.2	1.1	59.2	65.0	0.1	94.7	375.0
1994	15.7	122.4	2.2	1.8	73.3	70.5	0.2	80.3	366.4
1995	25.3	178.0	2.9	3.6	71.8	68.7	6.2	107.4	463.9
1996	24.5	201.2	0.9	3.1	93.3	74.2	48.6	115.4	561.2
1997	20.0	200.7	1.9	3.6	96.9	80.7	32.5	129.6	565.9
1998	14.1	219.4	0.8	3.6	71.9	74.6	5.4	116.4	506.2
1999	13.6	235.2	0.6	3.5	69.2	84.4	4.1	117.1	527.6
2000	11.1	236.9	0.6	1.2	71.9	83.3	1.9	138.8	545.7
2001	14.3	216.2	0.4	1.2	60.6	73.5	2.4	150.1	518.7
2002	9.0	210.2	0.3	2.3	52.2	63.3	1.7	144.7	483.7
2003	7.8	201.5	0.2	2.3	55.0	67.3	0.0	165.4	499.5
2004	10.5	211.7	0.1	2.0	60.4	81.3	0.1	190.4	556.5
2005	13.0	268.3	0.1	2.9	60.5	91.9	0.4	275.6	712.7
2006	15.6	304.1	0.5	8.3	66.0	171.2	0.1	316.6	882.4
2007	17.9	326.9	0.1	6.5	94.4	170.2	0.4	333.4	949.8
2008	20.7	315.1	0.1	4.5	82.3	187.4	1.1	297.4	908.6
2009	20.1	282.5	0.2	4.7	65.6	169.7	0.9	268.4	812.1
2010	16.2	291.9	0.3	4.1	105.3	148.5	0.9	294.2	861.4
2011	15.1	389.9	0.0	4.8	110.1	137.0	0.7	359.3	1016.9
2012	20.3	327.4	0.1	2.4	62.5	293.4	0.6	443.6	1150.3
2013	23.8	330.8	0.3	4.5	17.3	165.5	0.5	392.5	935.2
2014	23.3	336.0	0.1	5.8	33.5	157.0	0.4	392.7	948.8
2015	17.4	311.1	0.6	2.2	28.1	310.3	0.1	296.0	965.8
2016	18.3	349.8	0.1	4.2	32.5	349.4	0.3	331.8	1086.4
2017	17.3	323.5	0.1	2.9	28.2	246.1	0.4	348.6	970.8

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 5
DIRECTION OF TRADE – IMPORTS
2000 – 2017

(\$M)

Year	Canada	CARICOM	Japan	Germany	United Kingdom	United States of America	Venezuela	Other Countries	Total Imports
2000	96.5	459.1	120.1	36.6	186.7	943.9	13.8	455.4	2,312.1
2001	80.3	436.4	89.1	36.5	171.9	877.0	8.8	437.3	2,137.3
2002	74.8	463.2	90.1	35.6	157.4	850.7	9.0	460.7	2,141.5
2003	84.8	570.5	106.9	39.5	148.9	891.2	6.1	542.7	2,390.6
2004	107.8	698.7	128.1	41.8	166.5	1,027.7	8.2	647.1	2,825.9
2005	114.4	627.9	165.5	52.2	176.9	1,172.0	11.1	702.9	3,022.9
2006	120.2	857.9	119.7	44.7	189.9	1,205.0	8.4	712.3	3,258.1
2007	118.6	845.6	118.8	61.6	213.9	1,205.9	2.6	798.1	3,365.1
2008	121.4	885.5	126.4	56.3	185.0	1,274.4	2.3	841.7	3,493.0
2009	103.0	752.6	82.8	34.3	134.4	1,054.5	0.9	683.6	2,846.1
2010	106.4	1,046.9	85.8	45.3	128.4	1,036.8	0.3	727.7	3,177.6
2011	112.5	1,200.7	82.6	72.3	143.3	1,115.8	0.6	825.0	3,552.8
2012	96.7	1,306.2	71.7	37.7	132.8	1,083.6	0.3	793.4	3,522.4
2013	99.9	1,185.0	69.3	45.7	143.2	1,153.3	0.2	841.9	3,538.6
2014	81.8	988.9	65.1	48.4	139.1	1,124.2	0.1	1,030.8	3,478.4
2015	76.5	682.2	69.1	53.9	136.5	1,148.5	1.1	1,070.4	3,237.2
2016	73.5	585.3	86.7	66.8	157.8	1,181.8	0.0	1,095.5	3,247.3
2017	76.2	642.5	90.8	43.7	129.6	1,148.9	0.1	1,072.4	3,204.0

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 6
VISIBLE TRADE BALANCE – IMPORTS AND EXPORTS
2000 – 2017

	(\$ M)				
Year	Imports (CIF)	Domestic Exports	Re-Exports	Total Exports	Balance on Visible Trade
2000	2312.1	380.3	165.4	545.7	-1766.4
2001	2137.3	352.7	166.0	518.7	-1618.6
2002	2141.5	333.9	149.9	483.0	-1658.5
2003	2390.6	329.4	170.1	499.5	-1891.1
2004	2825.9	346.9	209.6	551.3	-2274.6
2005	3022.9	427.0	285.7	712.7	-2310.2
2006	3258.1	491.7	390.8	882.4	-2375.7
2007	3365.1	513.5	436.4	949.8	-2415.3
2008	3493.0	526.3	382.3	908.6	-2584.4
2009	2846.1	439.6	372.6	812.1	-2034.0
2010	3177.6	508.2	353.2	861.4	-2316.2
2011	3552.8	534.1	482.8	1016.9	-2535.9
2012	3522.4	592.9	557.4	1150.3	-2372.1
2013	3538.6	534.6	400.7	935.2	-2603.4
2014	3478.4	554.6	394.2	948.8	-2529.6
2015	3236.2	506.0	459.8	965.8	-2270.3
2016	3247.3	524.1	509.6	1033.7	-2213.6
2017	3204.0	509.8	460.9	970.8	-2233.3

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 7
SELECTED DOMESTIC EXPORTS
2000 – 2017

										(\$M)
Year	Sugar	Molasses	Rum	Other		Electrical Component s	Clothin g	Chemicals	Other	Total
				Lard & Margarine	Food & Beverages				Domesti c	Domestic
									Exports	Exports
2000	53.3	0.0	24.5	9.0	51.2	42.9	5.8	47.6	146.0	380.3
2001	44.0	0.0	36.0	9.4	55.6	37.8	3.4	43.4	123.1	352.7
2002	37.7	0.0	35.5	9.3	52.7	28.7	1.4	42.1	126.5	333.9
2003	41.0	0.0	33.6	8.9	36.8	29.4	1.8	41.9	136.0	329.4
2004	44.9	0.0	44.6	10.0	39.0	29.6	1.2	42.4	135.2	346.9
2005	44.4	0.0	50.7	10.9	47.7	56.3	2.6	56.1	158.3	427.0
2006	39.2	0.2	44.3	14.4	42.2	47.3	2.3	60.2	241.6	491.7
2007	37.3	0.0	67.5	15.4	52.8	31.0	1.6	74.6	318.6	598.8
2008	45.0	0.0	66.0	19.8	59.1	27.4	0.9	66.8	241.3	526.3
2009	36.2	0.0	57.2	18.7	48.2	18.1	0.6	58.2	202.4	439.6
2010	19.3	0.0	66.8	18.8	44.5	22.2	0.5	124.0	212.1	508.2
2011	21.2	0.0	70.9	19.1	49.4	22.7	0.6	140.7	209.5	534.1
2012	22.3	0.2	82.4	20.2	53.6	20.4	0.5	128.3	265.0	592.9
2013	15.9	0.2	86.1	20.2	58.1	15.2	0.6	82.9	255.4	534.6
2014	18.1	0.0	78.7	20.0	64.5	18.9	0.4	88.9	265.1	554.6
2015	7.2	0.0	76.3	18.6	58.6	17.0	0.4	93.6	234.3	506.0
2016	13.5	0.0	83.9	19.7	67.6	19.9	0.0	72.7	232.4	509.8
2017	0.4	0.0	79.8	20.2	69.5	20.3	0.0	80.3	240.2	510.7

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 8
RETAINED IMPORTS BY BROAD ECONOMIC CATEGORIES
2000 – 2017

									(\$ M)
Year	Total Consumer Goods	Non-Durables	Durables	Other Manufactured Goods	Total Non-Consumer Goods	Inter-mediate Goods	Capital Goods	Unclassified Goods	Total Retained Imports
2000	881.3	493.5	201.3	186.6	1,265.4	812.1	447.2	6.1	2,146.7
2001	842.7	510.3	162.0	170.5	1,128.5	710.2	411.5	6.8	1,971.2
2002	847.1	533.5	153.5	160.1	1,144.6	732.6	404.5	7.5	1,991.7
2003	915.4	559.3	175.4	180.7	1,305.1	835.3	462.1	7.7	2,220.5
2004	1,044.8	615.8	206.9	222.1	1,571.5	977.0	585.2	9.3	2,616.3
2005	1,216.3	699.2	237.7	279.4	1,694.7	1,094.2	588.6	12.0	2,911.0
2006	1,063.3	665.5	208.9	188.9	1,803.6	1,122.2	666.1	15.3	2,866.9
2007	1,146.9	721.3	222.4	203.3	1,811.3	1,185.7	612.6	13.0	2,958.2
2008	1,213.6	802.1	239.7	171.8	2,182.4	1,557.9	607.1	17.4	3,396.0
2009	1,012.8	704.9	163.0	144.9	1,587.6	1,119.1	456.6	11.8	2,600.4
2010	1,099.6	757.0	186.3	156.3	1,703.9	1,241.4	450.4	12.1	2,803.5
2011	1,222.5	827.1	191.1	204.3	2,046.7	1,495.0	535.3	16.4	3,269.2
2012	1,063.7	772.0	176.5	115.3	1,958.4	1,505.4	439.4	13.7	3,022.1
2013	1,231.8	858.7	188.8	184.3	1,895.1	1,359.8	518.8	16.4	3,126.9
2014	1,226.5	874.2	183.3	184.2	1,857.6	1,310.8	518.1	13.4	3,084.1
2015	1,089.0	807.9	196.6	111.6	1,687.4	1,100.2	575.1	14.0	2,776.4
2016	1,135.9	803.3	206.1	126.4	1,578.1	1,011.4	554.2	12.5	2,714.0
2017	1,143.2	766.8	225.6	150.8	1,596.1	1,062.6	522.9	10.6	2,739.2

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 9
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
(2011/12 -2017/18)

	(\$ M)						
Year	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Current Expenditure	3,264.6	3,616.6	3,795.5	3,682.2	3,889.4	3,826.8	4,191.3
Amortization	454.6	540.7	671.3	774.9	883.3	805.5	971.3
Other	2,810.0	3,075.9	3,124.2	2,907.3	3,006.1	3,021.3	5,162.5
Current Revenue	2,502.2	2,427.3	2,308.4	2,471.7	2,607.7	2,619.6	3,075.2
Tax	2,406.9	2,280.3	2,214.4	2,326.5	2,475.2	2,515.3	2,905.8
Non-Tax*	81.0	113.4	94.0	89.4	115.5	104.3	166.3
Loans and Advances	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Grant Income	14.3	33.5	0.0	55.7	17.0	0.0	3.1
Current Surplus/Deficit	(762.4)	(1,189.3)	(1,487.1)	(1,210.5)	(1,281.7)	(1,207.2)	(1,116.1)
Capital Expenditure and Net Lending	91.9	94.8	143.9	171.3	213.8	181.9	323.0
Capital Expenditure	91.9	94.8	143.9	171.3	213.8	181.9	323.0
Net Lending	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gross Financing Requirements	(854.3)	(1,284.1)	(1,631.0)	(1,381.8)	(1,495.5)	(1,389.1)	(1,439.1)
Overall Fiscal Deficit/	(384.2)	(744.3)	(991.1)	(704.0)	(735.5)	(610.0)	(467.8)
Net Financing Requirements	(399.7)	(203.7)	(319.7)	94.4	147.8	195.5	503.5

SOURCE: Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs

APPENDIX 10
CURRENT REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE BY ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION
(2012/13 – 2017/18)

Year	2012/13R	2013/14R	2014/15R	2015/16R	2016/17	2017/18
CURRENT REVENUE BY ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION						
Taxes on Income & Profits	746.2	634.3	767.7	812.2	795.0	819.0
Taxes on Property	146.5	156.0	122.6	185.9	135.1	189.9
Taxes on Goods and Services	1130.7	1137.7	1116.3	1210.5	1,285.2	1,470.8
Taxes on International Trade	201.2	193.6	223.1	229.8	247.9	223.9
Stamp Duties	11.2	11.6	11.2	10.1	9.4	10.0
Special Receipts	44.5	81.2	61.9	26.7	42.8	192.3
Non-Tax Revenue (1)	113.4	94.0	118.9	115.5	104.3	166.3
Loans and Advances	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-
Grant Income	33.5	0.0	55.0	18.1	0.0	3.1
TOTAL	2,427.2	2,308.4	2,489.1	2,608.8	2,619.7	3,075.2
MEMORANDUM ITEMS						
Total Levies:	44.5	77.1	61.9	51.0	42.8	192.3
Employment Levy	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-
Health Levy	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-
Training Levy	19.0	19.0	15.3	15.3	10.2	20.5
Transport Levy	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-
Environmental Levy	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-
Municipal Tax	0.0	0.0	32.0	0.0	0.0	-
Social Responsibility Levy	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	28.4	143.4
Other	25.5	58.1	38.9	35.7	4.2	28.4
EXPENDITURE BY ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION						
EMPLOYMENT EXPENSES	882.3	871.8	803.7	787.1	784.4	781.1
Wages and Salaries	816.9	807.8	743.9	729.0	726.5	723.6
National Insurance Contributions	65.5	64.0	59.8	58.1	58.0	57.5
Goods and Services	391.8	382.2	341.6	441.3	393.1	391.9
Amortization	540.7	671.3	798.3	883.3	805.5	971.3
Interest	568.9	608.7	653.8	672.5	742.5	783.8
Subsidies and Transfers	1,233.6	1,261.5	1,119.9	1,184.5	1,141.5	1,263.3
TOTAL	3,617.4	3,795.5	3,717.3	3,968.8	3,867.0	4,191.3

SOURCE: Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs

APPENDIX 11
NATIONAL DEBT – CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
2013 – 2017

	(\$ M)				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017 P
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT					
TOTAL DEBT (*)	10,812.5	11,383.9	12,137.1	13,286.7	13,582.5
Domestic	8,144.0	8,539.0	9,308.6	10,453.4	10,763.6
Short-Term	2,542.1	2,710.8	3,276.2	3,788.6	4,223.5
Long-Term	5,602.0	5,825.7	6,032.4	6,664.9	6,540.1
Foreign Debt	2,668.5	2,845.0	2,828.4	2,833.3	2,819.0
Bilateral	0.7	-	-	-	193.4
International Institutions	784.5	828.0	928.3	969.8	982.0
Bonds	1,273.4	1,222.4	1,125.7	1,190.7	1,180.7
Euro-Market Loans	1.5	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.6
Other	608.5	793.5	773.7	672.1	462.2
	2013	2014	2015	2016 R	2017 P
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT					
DEBT SERVICE	1154.5	1263.3	1478.2	1,593.6	1,561.5
Domestic	872.8	973.1	1027.0	1,212.0	1,169.2
Interest	462.7	495.8	509.2	555.5	584.2
Amortisation	410.1	477.3	517.8	656.5	585.0
Foreign	281.8	290.2	451.2	381.6	392.3
Interest	140.1	166.5	166.9	168.7	167.1
Amortisation	141.7	123.7	284.3	212.9	225.2
Foreign Debt Service as % of					
Exports of Goods and Services	7.4	7.7	11.9	10.8	11.0
Central Government					
Foreign Debt as % of GDP	30.1	32.2	31.3	30.6	30.2
Central Government Debt					
Service as % Government					
Revenue	50.7	52.9	57.6	60.0	51.0

SOURCE: Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
Central Bank of Barbados

APPENDIX 12
COMMERCIAL BANKS SELECTED
BALANCE SHEET ITEMS
1997 – 2017

(\$ M)

Period Ended	DEPOSITS				Loans and Advances	Total Assets/ Liabilities
	Demand	Time	Savings	Total		
1997	1,082.6	722.9	1,541.6	3,347.1	1,978.3	4,034.0
1998	1,079.3	738.1	1,698.2	3,515.6	2,315.4	4,311.5
1999	1,142.4	968.5	1,801.2	3,912.1	2,612.1	4,739.2
2000	1,246.4	939.3	1,901.6	4,087.3	2,712.6	4,911.7
2001	1,298.1	1,060.6	2,038.9	4,397.6	2,732.5	5,417.3
2002	2,003.3	962.2	2,176.7	5,142.2	2,910.3	6,267.1
2003	2,137.5	896.1	2,460.2	5,493.8	2,867.0	6,812.6
2004	2,465.5	1,036.8	2,633.3	6,135.6	3,346.1	7,302.8
2005	2,699.4	1,548.0	2,758.4	7,005.8	4,081.8	8,297.3
2006	2,670.3	1,637.9	3,029.6	7,337.8	4,713.7	9,092.7
2007	3,299.7	2,345.2	3,411.3	9,056.2	5,097.1	11,357.2
2008	3,122.3	2,146.1	3,666.5	8,934.9	5,703.0	11,807.3
2009	3,213.1	1,540.5	4,030.1	8,783.7	5,777.8	11,164.5
2010	3,025.0	1,468.5	4,110.2	8,603.7	5,811.4	10,992.5
2011	2,616.0	1,411.5	4,131.2	8,158.7	6,512.5	10,480.3
2012	2,453.8	1,668.6	4,237.9	8,360.3	6,149.1	12,136.7
2013	2,765.0	1,497.3	4,387.1	8,649.4	5,990.8	12,479.9
2014	2,878.8	1,123.9	4,493.0	8,495.7	5,968.3	12,311.6
2015	3,574.4	959.0	4,500.9	9,034.4	5,919.2	12,828.9
2016	4,158.9	837.8	4,448.8	9,445.4	5,888.1	13,301.6
2017	4,218.1	762.2	4,408.0	9,388.3	6,004.6	13,478.8
2017						
Mar	4,053.6	807.7	4,479.6	9,340.9	5,865.8	13,185.1
Jun	4,187.8	787.0	4,449.9	9,424.6	5,867.0	13,284.9
Sep	4,222.4	770.1	4,487.4	9,479.9	5,990.1	13,405.5
Dec	4,218.1	762.2	4,408.0	9,388.3	6,004.6	13,478.8

SOURCE: Central Bank of Barbados

APPENDIX 13
COMMERCIAL BANK CREDIT – SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION
2008 – 2017

(\$ M)

SECTOR	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Agriculture	44.6	45.1	24.9	22.6	16.5	17.2	9.2	5.7	6.4	6.9
Fisheries	2.8	3.0	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.4
Mining and Quarrying	4.9	3.8	2.7	2.0	1.1	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Manufacturing	129.6	136.6	129.8	146.6	111.6	117.3	111.9	114.8	117.6	101.5
Distribution	415.8	335.9	323.1	335.1	374.7	334.8	273.4	229.3	266.9	320.3
Tourism	499.1	482.8	519.1	486.4	506.0	485.5	416.7	377.5	391.2	378.1
Entertainment	64.1	66.0	56.3	22.9	40.4	40.3	29.3	36.1	36.5	34.8
Transport	46.5	43.0	23.4	35.4	35.1	27.7	24.3	29.4	17.9	19.3
Public Utilities	34.7	38.0	27.0	18.1	17.3	24.5	35.8	50.6	71.8	70.9
Construction	425.9	259.3	271.9	241.7	250.3	208.3	208.4	146.3	139.7	144.0
Government Statutory Boards	35.7	45.2	42.3	168.8	181.1	186.1	238.1	212.7	195.6	161.5
Financial Institutions	466.0	416.8	353.1	302.7	326.0	328.9	388.5	309.4	272.0	238.7
	294.6	409.8	305.0	271.7	66.0	23.9	22.3	36.6	14.9	15.3
Professional and Other Services	480.9	675.4	787.7	861.0	664.0	549.3	514.9	619.2	552.3	588.2
Personal	2,634.5	2,679.8	2,750.0	2,763.5	3,201.1	3,332.7	3,339.1	3,393.7	3,466.6	3,573.5
Miscellaneous	123.2	137.3	83.6	105.3	357.5	313.2	355.7	357.2	338.1	351.2
TOTAL	5,703.0	5,777.8	5,811.4	6,512.5	6,149.1	5,990.8	5,968.3	5,919.2	5,888.1	6,004.6

SOURCE: Central Bank of Barbados

APPENDIX 14
SELECTED INTEREST RATES
1990 – 2017
(PERCENTAGES PER ANNUM)

Period Ended	Treasury Bills	Deposits - Minimum Rates				Prime Lending Rate(1)	Barbados Bank Rate	U.S.A. Bank Rate
		Three Months	Six Months	Twelve Months	Savings			
1990	8.06	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	10.25	13.50	6.50
1991	11.30	7.00	7.25	7.50	7.00	14.50	18.00	3.50
1992	6.60	4.00	4.25	4.50	4.00	10.75	12.00	3.00
1993	7.23	1.25	1.25	1.25	5.00	8.75	8.00	3.00
1994	7.77	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	9.75	9.50	4.75
1995	8.27	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	9.75	12.50	5.25
1996	5.61	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	8.75	12.50	5.00
1997	4.91	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	8.75	9.00	5.00
1998	5.70	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	8.75	9.00	4.50
1999	6.05	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	10.00	10.00	5.00
2000	3.85	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	9.50	10.00	6.00
2001	1.97	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	7.25	7.50	1.25
2002	1.51	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	6.75	7.50	0.75
2003	0.64	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	6.75	7.50	2.00
2004	2.76	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	6.50	7.50	3.15
2005	6.26	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	9.15	10.00	5.15
2006	6.56	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.25	10.15	12.00	6.25
2007	4.90	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	9.65	12.00	4.83
2008	4.81	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	9.00	10.00	0.86
2009	3.44	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	7.65	7.00	0.50
2010	3.35	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	7.65	7.00	0.50
2011	3.43	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	7.65	7.00	0.50
2012	3.61	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	7.65	7.00	0.50
2013	3.24	1.25	1.50	1.60	2.50	7.65	7.00	0.50
2014	2.55	0.00	0.00	0.75	0.00	7.65	7.00	0.50
2015	1.76	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.50	7.65	7.00	0.50
2016	3.10	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.20	7.65	7.00	0.50
2017	3.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	4.0	7.00	0.50
2017								
Mar	3.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.25	4.00	7.00	0.50
Jun	3.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.25	4.00	7.00	0.50
Sep	3.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.25	4.00	7.00	0.50
Dec	3.15	0.00	0.00	0.10	1.25	4.00	7.00	0.50

SOURCE: Central Bank of Barbados

APPENDIX 15
EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
2012-2017

	('000)					
Industry	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016R	2017
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.7	3.6	4.0
Construction, Mining & Quarrying	13.0	12.1	12.0	12.1	14.6	13.3
Manufacturing	8.4	9.0	9.5	9.8	8.6	8.9
Elec. Gas, Steam, Water & Air Conditioning Supply	2.9	2.8	2.4	2.9	2.0	2.9
Wholesale & Retail Trade	20.2	20.5	21.2	20.2	23.9	20.3
Transportation & Storage	7.5	6.6	5.7	6.3	5.9	6.9
Accommodation & Food Services	12.7	13.3	15.4	15.8	15.2	15.0
Finance & Insurance	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.5	5.3	5.5
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.5	4.8	4.2
Administrative & Support Service	7.0	6.3	7.2	7.1	8.7	7.4
Public Administration & Defense	9.6	11.6	8.7	9.6	11.4	9.6
Education	6.9	7.5	7.2	7.3	5.7	7.6
Human Health & Social Work	6.6	6.3	6.6	6.8	7.2	6.6
Other Services	5.2	4.9	3.5	3.8	4.3	4.6
Activities of Households as Employers	5.0	5.2	5.0	5.1	5.8	4.8
Other Groups ¹	6.6	6.7	7.0	7.6	7.0	8.1
Not Stated	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2
TOTAL	125.3	126.2	124.8	128.2	133.8	129.9

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

¹ Other Groups includes the following industries: Information and Communications, Activities of Extraterritorial organizations & Bodies, Real Estate & Arts, Entertainment and Recreation.

APPENDIX 16
PRODUCTION OF SELECTED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES
2011 – 2017

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change over 2016
Export crops								
Sugar ('000 tonnes)	23.5	24.5	17.4	15.7	10.8	7	10.1	44.3
Cotton lint ('000 kgs)	2010/2011 5.1	2011/2012 3.8	2012/2013 16.2	2013/2014 21	2014/2015 17.7	2015/2016 13.7	2016/2017 5.8	-57.66
Root Crop Production ('000 kgs)								
Cassava	308.4	184.9	1037.6	552.9	379.1	490.5	478.8	-2.4
Eddoes	19.5	65.3	173.3	74.6	156.6	250.3	161	-35.7
Sweet Potato	506.5	1211.1	1218.1	1231.9	1334.6	2897.5	1167.3	-59.7
Yam	243.1	346.8	751.8	567.1	578.1	378.4	181.4	-52.1
Onion	392.5	550.1	503.8	315.3	757.8	428.7	410.7	-4.2
Peanut	4.6	18.5	87.3	4.6	7.9	11.2	21.1	88.4
Vegetable Production ('000 kgs)								
Beans (String)	270	226.4	112.3	109.2	149.9	137	264.6	93.1
Beets	48.5	28.9	31.5	23.7	43.4	83.6	13.2	-84.2
Cabbage	261.7	311.2	181.6	322.7	360.6	337.5	470.8	39.5
Carrot	145.7	244.5	295.5	310.2	271	134.6	158.2	17.5
Cucumber	1144.8	813.9	823.9	994.3	810.9	250.3	714.5	185.5
Lettuce	499	170.7	213.3	312.7	459.9	439.7	586.5	33.4
Melons	156.3	194.6	381.6	318.9	401.2	197.6	226.2	14.5
Okras	311.8	263.6	215.5	263.6	290	261	340.8	30.6
Peppers (Hot)	82.8	64.8	48.2	92.8	88.5	37.5	148.3	295.5
Peppers (Sweet)	314.3	175.1	487.8	396.3	329.9	137.2	304.5	121.9
Pumpkins	166.4	188	528.9	508.2	308.2	249.3	169.2	-32.1
Tomato	812.9	1033.3	977	781	733.6	336.9	332.4	-1.3
Livestock and Dairy Production ('000 kgs)								
Pork	2657	2541.2	2498.2	2705	2846.7	2663.8	2518.5	-5.5
Beef	150.6	147.5	139.6	153.1	170.6	176.2	156.9	-11.0
Veal	5.3	1.5	3.1	2.8	2	1.2	6.2	416.7
Mutton	113.2	103.7	100.2	100.3	101.8	110.5	95.8	-13.3
Chicken	14405.7	14050.8	13399.4	14391.9	16134.1	14896.8	15805.3	6.1
Turkey	238.4	330	302.8	183.3	190.3	261.8	127	-51.5
Eggs	2107.5	2732.7	3384.1	2915.4	2395.2	4260.6	3366.9	-21.0
Milk	5810.3	6146.1	3987.6	4966	5227.4	4549.4	4862.2	6.9

SOURCE: Agricultural Planning Unit, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security

APPENDIX 17

**SELECTED INDICATORS IN THE TOURISM INDUSTRY
2007-2017**

Year	Accommodation & Food Services			Arrivals		
	Share in GDP (%)	Employment ('000 persons)	Stay-Over Expenditure (\$M)	Stay-Over Visitors	Average Intended Length of Stay (days)	Cruise Passengers
2007	21.9	n.a	1,418.6	562,541	n.a	539,092
2008	15.1	n.a.	1,712.22	567,667	n.a.	597,523
2009	14.4	n.a.	1,522.50	518,564	n.a.	635,212
2010	14.2	12.7	1,448.61	532,180	15.04	664,747
2011	12.8	13.2	1,314.05	567,724	12.18	609,844
2012	12.4	12.7	1,237.15	536,303	12.51	517,436
2013	13.4	13.3	1,406.21	508,520	11.82	570,263
2014	13.1	15.4	1,363.11	519,635	11.97	563,030
2015	12.9	15.8	1,719.50	591,872	11.19	586,615
2016	13.6	16.4	1,445.35	631,513	11.01	594,096
2017	14.6	15.0	1,580.54	661,160	10.63	681,211

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service, Caribbean Tourism Organization

APPENDIX 18
TOURISM ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE 2003 – 2017

Year	U.S.A.	Canada	United Kingdom	Germany	Other Europe	Trinidad & Tobago	Other CARICOM	Other Countries	Total
2003	129,326	49,641	202,564	7,612	21,914	27,530	69,279	23,345	531,211
2004	129,664	50,032	213,947	6,970	23,060	26,492	77,845	23,492	551,502
2005	131,005	47,690	202,765	6,995	19,857	30,889	83,886	24,447	547,534
2006	130,757	49,197	211,520	7,478	21,922	34,480	82,496	24,691	562,541
2007	133,519	52,981	223,575	5,549	21,509	30,404	68,979	36,421	572,937
2008	131,795	57,335	219,953	6,098	25,727	28,385	72,254	26,120	567,667
2009	122,306	63,751	190,632	7,020	23,052	26,289	62,482	23,032	518,564
2010	134,969	72,351	181,054	7,260	23,962	27,259	58,923	26,402	532,180
2011	142,414	71,953	189,150	8,401	27,458	36,825	64,149	27,374	567,724
2012	130,762	72,020	173,519	9,182	27,937	38,005	58,482	26,396	536,303
2013	120,584	67,295	168,733	10,300	30,765	31,614	55,681	23,548	508,520
2014	118,510	65,813	186,858	11,992	32,744	27,915	50,815	24,988	519,635
2015	148,067	74,494	214,175	12,338	28,514	29,659	58,321	26,304	591,872
2016	168,945	78,903	218,638	11,492	28,278	34,000	65,679	25,578	631,513
2017	188,460	85,047	217,441	11,243	28,959	35,822	67,208	26,980	661,160

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 19
DIRECTION OF TRADE WITH CARICOM COUNTRIES
DOMESTIC EXPORTS
2007 - 2017

Country	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	(BDS \$000) 2017
Antigua	17,158	17,667	15,772	12,184	13,579	14,748	14,183	17,699	16,305	16,608	16,143
Belize	4,428	4,311	2,698	3,367	2,694	2,794	3,112	2,505	3,146	3,116	3,389
Dominica	8,562	9,059	6,852	6,177	6,250	5,932	5,764	6,394	6,791	6,793	6,902
Grenada	17,701	17,290	19,283	20,413	15,336	14,037	16,082	18,477	14,975	16,885	16,507
Guyana	18,308	26,285	25,332	28,167	26,822	29,829	42,099	48,441	50,399	45,881	45,055
Haiti	1,650	605	7,283	1,219	1,157	795	1,006	1,575	588	473	867
Jamaica	32,938	30,446	27,710	27,831	28,672	30,381	31,962	29,223	35,839	34,214	36,517
St. Kitts & Nevis	9,804	14,231	8,320	9,956	6,654	6,406	9,019	10,509	11,656	12,365	13,452
St. Lucia	39,379	41,340	32,855	29,570	32,815	32,982	31,133	29,652	28,320	29,803	29,055
Montserrat	528	607	340	306	350	310	394	363	424	747	779
Suriname	9,841	8,488	4,354	8,307	7,000	7,114	11,428	4,844	5,805	7,527	8,532
Trinidad & Tobago	86,855	77,990	54,851	75,530	77,001	114,623	90,767	96,590	66,536	60,952	67,072
St. Vincent	24,412	23,615	21,851	19,265	20,687	18,556	18,946	19,459	19,294	21,730	18,852
Total	271,564	271,934	227,501	242,292	239,017	278,507	275,895	285,731	260,078	257,096	263,120

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 20
FISCAL DEFICIT AND FINANCING
2012/2013 – 2017/2018

	(\$M)					
Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16P	2016/17	2017/18
Total Financing Requirement	1,285.0	1,662.4	1,502.3	1,618.9	1,415.5	1,439.1
Foreign Financing	39.1	542.9	62.7	297.6	141.3	107.2
Project Financing	39.1	92.9	62.7	297.6	141.3	107.2
Inter-American						
Development Bank (IADB)	18.9	45.5	48.0	50.1	38.5	24.0
World Bank (IBRD)	7.4	28.9	11.5	-	-	
Caribbean Development Bank	12.8	18.5	3.2	10.2	3.9	43.1
Corporación Andina de Formento						
(CAF)	-	-	-	150.0	-	11.4
Citibank	-	-	-	87.3	30.9	12.9
European Investment Bank	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Development Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Projects	-	-	-	-	-	-
Republic of China	-	-	-	-	-	15.8
Non-Project Financing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Foreign Commercial	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
Domestic Financing	1,297.6	1,057.8	1,377.2	1,273.0	1,292.5	1,372.8
Government Savings Bonds	20.0	11.1	30.0	90.0	40.0	10.0
Debentures	570.3	373.9	335.0	800.0	425.0	400.0
Tax Reserve Certificates	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tax Refund Certificates	-	-	-	-	-	-
Treasury Bills	513.3	558.5	527.2	383.0	377.5	562.8
Treasury Notes	190.0	114.3	400.0	-	450.0	400.0
Other Domestic	4.0	-	35.0	-	-	-
Total Financing	1,336.70	1,600.70	1,439.90	1,570.60	1,433.80	1,480.00

SOURCE: Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs

APPENDIX 21
POPULATION, RATES OF BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY 1983 – 2017

YEAR	Resident Population at December 31 (^{'000} persons)	Birth Rate (Per 1000 pop.)	Death Rate (Per 1000 pop.)	Rate of Natural Increase (Per 1000 pop.)	Infant Mortality (Per 1000 births)	Rate of Populatic Growth (%)
1983	251.8	17.9	8.2	9.7	24.5	(
1984	255.8	16.7	7.8	8.9	18.4	(
1985	257.0	16.7	8.3	8.4	17.8	(
1986	258.0	15.7	8.4	7.3	19.0	(
1987	258.8	14.8	8.5	6.3	22.3	(
1988	259.4	14.5	8.6	5.9	19.5	(
1989	260.3	15.5	8.8	6.7	18.2	(
1995	264.4	13.1	9.4	3.7	13.2	(
1996	264.6	13.3	9.1	4.2	14.2	(
1997	266.1	14.3	8.7	5.6	13.2	(
1998	266.8	13.6	9.3	4.3	7.8	(
1999	267.4	14.5	9.0	5.5	10.0	(
2000	269.1	14.0	9.1	5.0	17.0	(
2001	270.4	15.0	8.9	6.1	15.8	(
2002	271.3	14.1	8.5	5.6	14.4	(
2003	272.2	13.8	8.4	5.4	9.9	(
2004	272.7	12.7	8.9	3.8	18.4	(
2005	273.4	12.6	7.9	4.9	8.3	(
2006	274.0	12.4	8.5	3.9	11.1	(
2007	274.7	12.9	8.1	4.8	13.0	(
2008	275.3	12.9	9.0	3.9	18.3	(
2009	275.7	12.9	8.8	4.1	8.7	(
2010	276.3	12.2	8.0	4.2	10.1	(
2011	276.8	11.8	8.8	3.0	13.7	(
2012	277.0	11.5	8.7	2.8	11.0	(
2013	277.5	10.9	8.2	2.7	7.3	(
2014	276.9	10.5	9.3	1.2	10.0	-(
2015	276.3	10.4	9.2	1.2	8.0	-(
2016	275.4	9.1	9.3	-0.2	13.5	-(
2017P	274.4	9.4	9.6	-0.2	8.9	-(

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service