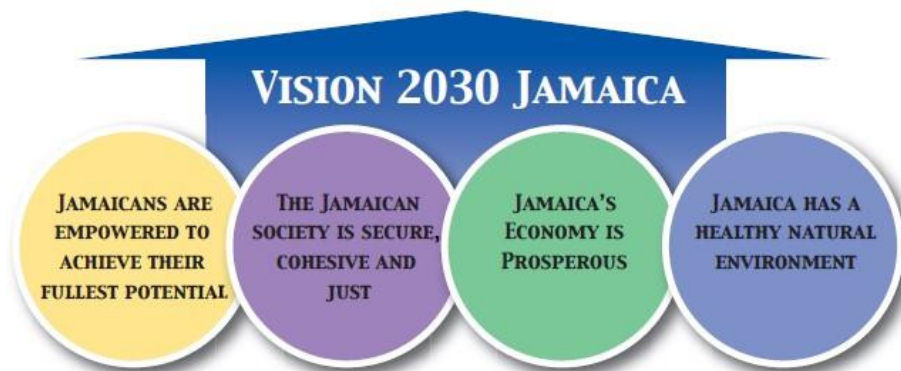




Update on Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan and MTF 2015 - 2018

OVERVIEW

Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan is Jamaica’s first long term national development plan, which covers the 21-year period 2009 – 2030. The plan presents a strategic roadmap for Jamaica to achieve developed country status by 2030; and is now in its 8th year of implementation. This development will be sustainable and inclusive, engaging all Jamaicans in the plan design and implementation processes and providing equitable opportunities to all Jamaicans to benefit from development. Vision 2030 Jamaica is built on a results-based management framework, comprising 4 goals, 15 national outcomes and a strategic and operational framework geared towards the achievement of the goals and outcomes. The achievement of the goals and outcomes is embodied in the Vision Statement “Jamaica, the place of choice to live, work, raise families and do business”.



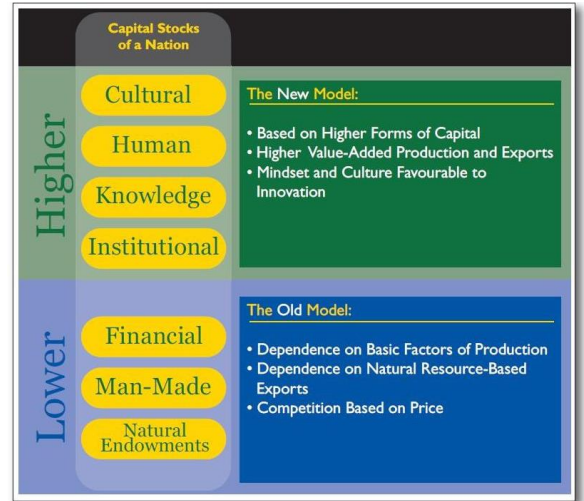
Jamaica's National Goals

The Vision 2030 Jamaica Plan Design and Implementation Process has been highly participatory and is stakeholder driven. The plan development process was launched in 2007; and implementation of Vision 2030 Jamaica commenced in 2009 with the launch of the Plan Document and the first 3-year Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF) for fiscal years 2009/2010 – 2011/2012. The MTF is the implementation mechanism for Vision 2030 Jamaica, with each MTF comprising a medium term strategic programme to advance the implementation of the National Development Plan, based on the nation’s development aspirations and guiding principles as articulated in the plan.

Progress in the achievement of the goals and outcomes of Vision 2030 Jamaica is measured through use of national outcome indicators aligned to the 4 goals and 15 national outcomes. These indicators signal the extent to which the implementation of strategic priorities under

Vision 2030 Jamaica is achieving the intended results. In FY 2015/16, 67 indicators – 20 more than the 47 indicators utilized in FY 2014/15 - were utilized to assess progress in meeting medium term targets and advancement towards 2030 targets and goals.

Vision 2030 Jamaica has introduced a new paradigm or model for our country’s development – one which is redefining the strategic direction for Jamaica – one that puts the country on a different path – a path that will lead to sustainable prosperity. To do this, Vision 2030 Jamaica proposes that our country makes an urgent yet bold choice to advance the country’s higher forms of capital – our cultural, human, knowledge and institutional capital – whilst at the same time adding value to the lower forms of capital through the application of science and technology.



The Plan is underpinned by a range of key attributes that contributes to it being cited as a best practice in development planning regionally and among development partners. Some of these attributes include:

- Long term planning horizon with a strategic focus
- Bi-Partisan engagement and support
- High levels of stakeholder involvement and engagement
- Involvement of children and youth
- A well-defined implementation framework (MTF)
- Robust monitoring and evaluation framework
- Underpinned by the principles of sustainability
- Alignment with key national and international frameworks (e.g. SDGs)
- A focus on transparency and accountability (performance reporting)

IMPLEMENTING VISION 2030 JAMAICA

Vision 2030 Jamaica is implemented through a series of Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Frameworks (MTFs), which identify the priority outcomes, strategies and actions for each three-year period from 2009 to 2030. The MTF, underpinned by a results-based management approach, is an operational document designed to achieve realistic, specific, high priority national outcomes and targets towards the achievement of longer-term goals. While the implementation of the MTF is undertaken by identified stakeholders that are engaged in

carrying out priority actions within the context of their respective mandates, the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) through the Vision 2030 Jamaica Secretariat has overall responsibility for coordinating the implementation, monitoring and evaluation process.

Three MTFs have been developed to date – MTF 2009 – 2012, MTF 2012 – 2015 and MTF 2015 - 2018. The third MTF, which covers the period 2015-2018 will consolidate the gains made in the previous MTFs for 2009-2012 and 2012-2015, and strengthen the foundations for achieving the country’s long term development results, taking into account the current developmental challenges and the global context. Cabinet Decision 35/15 approved MTF 2015 – 2018, which presents the priorities over the medium term to move Jamaica forward towards:

Achieving Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development

MTF 2015 – 2018 NATIONAL AND SECTORAL PRIORITIES

The medium-term priorities for the MTF 2015-2018 are identified at two levels: i) National; and ii) Sectoral. The priorities at the national level represent the most important areas for the country to focus its efforts and resources over the medium term from 2015-2018, to address the greatest challenges to national development at this stage of implementation. The priorities at the sectoral level represent the most important strategies and actions to be implemented within each sector over the medium term, based on the key development needs identified for each sector. It should be clearly understood that the national priorities represent a sub-set of the priorities at the sector level, being those strategies and actions that have been identified as having the greatest impact on national development and the greatest contribution towards achievement of the national goals and outcomes.

The Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF) 2015-2018 is based on four (4) broad strategic areas or Medium Term Themes, which are aligned to the four (4) National Goals of *Vision 2030 Jamaica*. The four Medium Term Themes to be addressed under MTF 2015-2018 are:

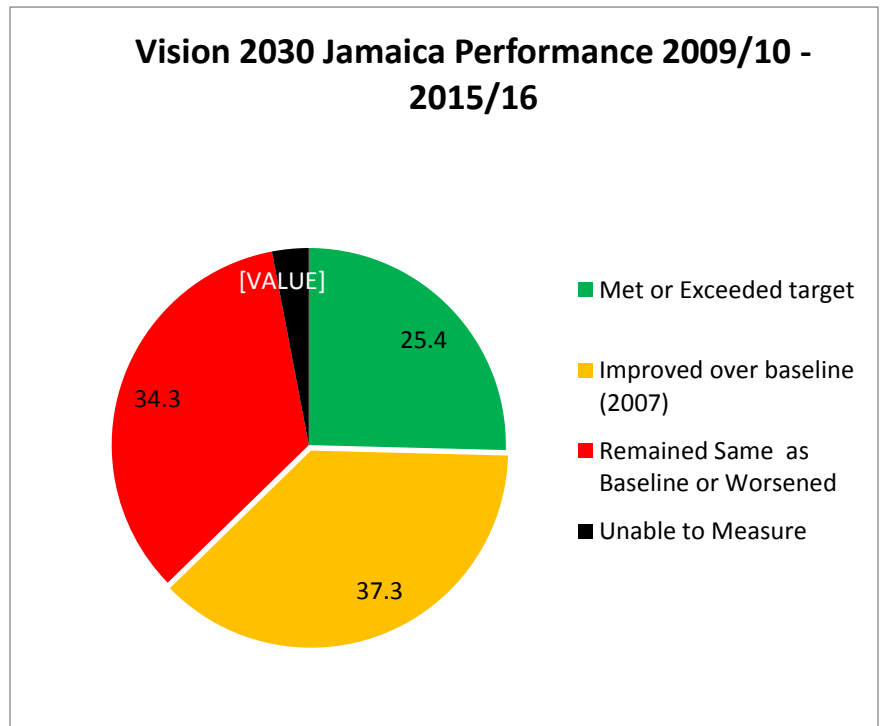


These medium term themes are directly aligned to eight (8) of the 15 National Outcomes, under the four National Goals of *Vision 2030 Jamaica*. By virtue of this alignment, the eight prioritized national outcomes are:

1. A Healthy and Stable Population
2. World Class Education and Training
3. Effective Social Protection
4. Security and Safety
5. Effective Governance
6. A Stable Macroeconomy
7. An Enabling Business Environment
8. Hazard Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change

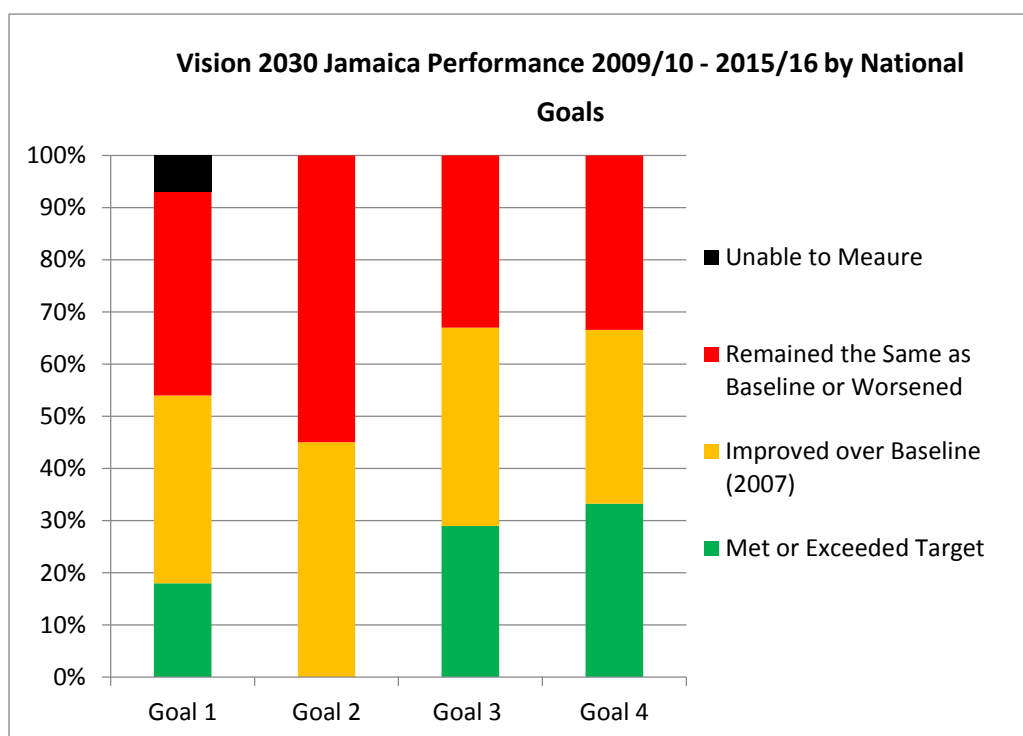
ASSESSING JAMAICA’S PERFORMANCE UNDER VISION 2030 JAMAICA – 2009/10 – 2015/16 - DASHBOARD OF PERFORMANCE

The overall progress of implementation of Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan under successive MTFs (2009-2012, 2012-2015 and 2015-2018) has been mixed. A summary of the progress made under the framework of national outcome indicators and targets for the Vision 2030 Jamaica - National Development Plan indicates that of a total of 67 indicators, 62.7 have shown improvement over the baseline year 2007 based on results to 2015, while 34.3 per cent showed no improvement or worsened relative to the baseline year of 2007.



This can be further broken down as follows:

- 25.4 per cent of the Vision 2030 Jamaica targets for 2015 have already been met
- 37.3 per cent of indicators showed some improvement towards achieving the targets
- 34.3 per cent of indicators showed no improvement or worsened.
- 3 per cent could not be compared in this way due to lack of agreed targets for the relevant period

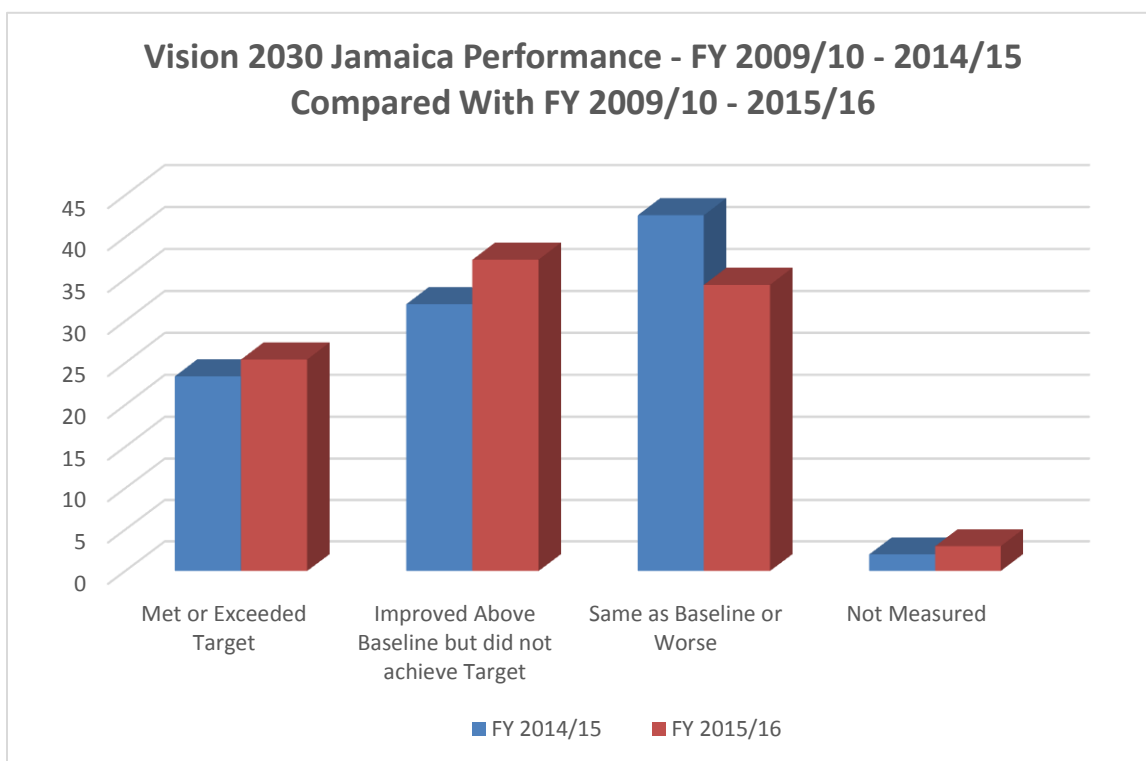


Some examples of the “green”, “yellow” and “red” indicators are presented in the table below:

Green	Yellow	Red
Life Expectancy at Birth	Human Development Index	Gross enrolment rate at tertiary level
Population Growth Rate	Percentage of labour force that is certified	Poverty headcount ratio
Grade 4 Literacy Rates (male, female)	Control of Corruption Index	Case Clearance Rate
Annual inflation rate	Fiscal balance as a percentage of GDP	Government Effectiveness Index
Debt to GDP ratio (Fiscal Year)	Nominal GDP per capita	Real GDP annual growth rate
Percentage change in foreign exchange earnings from tourism	Percentage of renewables in energy mix	Ease of Doing Business Ranking
Percentage of children in consumption quintile 1 receiving PATH benefits	Agriculture production index	Export earnings of Manufactures
Housing Quality Index	Category 1 Crime Rate Murder Rate	Proportion of households with access to secure tenure
Hazard damage as a	Environmental Performance	Poverty in rural areas

percentage of GDP	Index	
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A comparison of performance from 2009/10 – 2014/15 with that up to 2015/16 shows a general improvement in 2015/16. The assessment indicates that of a total of 67 indicators: 17 of the Vision 2030 Jamaica targets for 2015 (or 25.4 per cent) were met based on results to 2015, compared to 23.4 per cent of targets which were met in 2014; 25 indicators (37.3 per cent) showed some improvement over the baseline year 2007 but fell short of the 2015 target, compared to 32 per cent of targets in 2014; and 23 indicators (34.3 per cent) showed no improvement or worsened when compared to the baseline year of 2007 based on results to 2015 (by comparison 42.6 per cent of indicators showed no improvement or worsened in 2014). Two indicators (3 per cent) could not be compared in this way due to lack of adequate data or targets. It should be noted that performance is measured against the 2015 target for indicators with 2013, 2014 and 2015 data, and against the 2012 target for indicators with pre-2013 data. It should therefore be noted that the country’s performance on the Vision 2030 Jamaica framework of national outcome indicators and targets has shown improvement in 2015 over the performance in 2014.



Over the current review period, indicators related to the social areas displayed the weakest performance. Overall, the country’s performance in regard to the Vision 2030 Jamaica framework of national outcome indicators and targets has shown improvement in 2015 over the performance in 2014. However, the country has continued to fail to meet its targets for economic growth and unemployment, based on the performance to 2015.

A SYNOPSIS OF THE FIRST YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION OF MTF 2015-2018

National Goal 1: Jamaicans are Empowered to Achieve Their Fullest Potential

Population and Health

Key strategic priority areas pursued in the area of Population and Development included modernization of the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System; establishing a National Identification System (NIDs) and a coordinated National Statistics System (NSS); and strengthening the policy, programmatic and information systems frameworks to support mainstreaming migration and development in national development, including effective engagement of the diaspora. Priorities pursued under the area of health included strengthening of primary health care and service delivery throughout the care pathway, and the national health information system; development of health infrastructure; improving maternal and child health; development of mechanisms for sustainable health financing; disease surveillance, and prevention and control of emerging and re-emerging diseases (communicable and non-communicable diseases) and disease epidemics, including care and treatment. Specific areas of progress included:

- The Preparatory Phase (Phase One, 2011-2015) of the NIDS Project was completed, which included the establishment of critical elements of the NIDs framework as well as identification of key resource and capacity requirements.
- A Draft National Policy and Plan of Action on International Migration and Development and a Draft Diaspora Policy were both completed and stakeholders engaged in reviews.
- A Situational Analysis to inform the development of the National Health Research Agenda and Policy was completed.
- The implementation of the National Health Information System (NHIS) Strategic and Action Plan continued.
- A Draft Quality Assurance (QA) Framework was developed, including the QA Policy, QA Standard for Health Care and related Audit Tool, and the Terms of Reference for the QA Committee.

The rate of population growth reduced from 0.3 per cent in 2012 to 0.2 per cent in 2013, 2014 and 2015, achieving the target of slowing the population growth rate to 0.35 per cent or less by 2015. Adult life expectancy at birth was estimated at 74.15 years following the 2011 population census, up from the previous estimate of 74.13 years, and higher than the target of 73.4 years to be achieved by 2015 under the Vision 2030 Jamaica framework. Under a revised system of calculating the Human Development Index (HDI), Jamaica's score on the HDI increased from 0.710 in 2008 to 0.719 in 2014 with a ranking of 99 of 188 countries, and the classification of Jamaica in the second highest tier/quartile referred to as countries with "High Human Development". However, the 2015 target of ≥ 0.754 was not achieved. The indicator relating to non-communicable diseases "unconditional probability of dying between the ages of

30 and 70 from main non-communicable diseases (NCDs)” worsened in relation to the baseline period.

Education and Training

In FY 2015/16, there was progress in key areas necessary to achieve world class education and training delivery and outcomes. There was continued focus on the advancement of the policy frameworks for the governance of all levels of the education system, including regulation of standards in the education sector as a whole under proposed revisions included in the Jamaica Teaching Council (JTC) Bill. Continued focus was given to developing quality assurance mechanisms through institutional strengthening, revised and more learner-centred curricula and relevant diagnostic tools, and formalized and documented guidelines and other procedural frameworks. Also, there was continued focus on TVET and STEM/STEAM integration and the alignment of training with market demands, including improving access to labour market information. The thrust to strengthen opportunities for lifelong learning continued through such initiatives as the High School Diploma Equivalency Programme (HSDE). Some specific areas of focus included:

- the Early Childhood Commission (ECC) collaborated with its parent ministry, Ministry of Education¹, by providing support and guidance to rationalize 118 basic schools for the establishment of 58 infant departments.
- Work advanced in the development of the National Standard Curriculum (NSC) for the grades 1 – 9 levels, including revisions based on the results of the review and pilot.
- The national literacy programme was strengthened with the completion of the National Literacy Report 2015 and the development of Lesson and Assessment Planning (LEAP) resources, which will be uploaded to the MOEYI’s website.
- the Draft Guidance and Counselling Policy was finalized.

Attendance rates for the 2014/15 school year at the early childhood, primary and secondary levels were below the respective 2015 targets, and the enrolment rate at the secondary level also fell below the 2015 target. The overall grade 4 literacy rate (86.3 per cent) fell short of the 2015 target by 0.2 per cent, while the gender disaggregated rates for Grade 4 literacy achieved the targets. The numeracy rate for 2013/14 also did not achieve the 2015 target. The percentage of students that passed five (5) or more CSEC subjects including English Language and/or Mathematics for the 2014/2015 school year increased to 39.5 per cent, up from 38.6 per cent for the 2013/2014 school year and achieved the 2015 target. The gross enrolment rate at the tertiary level declined from 28.9 per cent in 2013/2014 to 28.3 per cent in 2014/2015, well below the provisional target of 35 - 45 per cent enrolment set for 2015.² Labour force quality improved over the period, with 24.6 per cent of the total labour force having vocational

¹ Changed to Ministry of Education, Youth and Information in March 2016

² Gross tertiary enrolment measures the actual number of students enrolled in tertiary institutions divided by the total number of young people in the age cohort for attendance at tertiary institutions. The gross enrolment rate declined in 2012 and 2013 mainly due to an increase in the estimated size of the youth cohort following the 2011 Census.

or professional certification in 2014, up from 24.4 per cent in 2013.³ However, this performance was still well below the provisional target of 30.0 per cent for 2015, set under the National Development Plan.

Social Protection

In FY 2015/16, there was continued focus on strengthening the governance, policy and programmatic framework for social protection, including the implementation of the Jamaica Social Protection Strategy (SPS, 2014), and developing the capacity and resources of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security towards the achievement of sustainable and inclusive development, and the protection of the vulnerable. Key areas of progress, included:

- Four sub-committees of the National Social Protection Committee (NSPC) were convened, commencing April 2015: Social Transfers, Social Services and Infrastructure, Income Security, and Human Resource Development.
- The Social Protection Strategy Monitoring and Evaluation Framework was completed in October 2015.
- The Draft National Policy on Poverty and National Poverty Reduction Programme (Green Paper) was developed and approved by Cabinet in December 2015, subject to requested amendments.
- Over 360,000 vulnerable Jamaicans were impacted by the conditional cash transfer programme - Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH), and close to 110,000 Jamaicans were beneficiaries under the National Insurance Scheme (NIS)⁴.

The indicators used to measure performance under Vision 2030 Jamaica showed mixed results, with the most recent data available up to 2012. The poverty rate increased from 16.5 per cent in 2009 to 17.6 per cent in 2010 and to 19.9 per cent in 2012. The percentage of children in Quintile 1 receiving PATH benefits increased from 68.2 per cent in 2009 to 72 per cent in 2010 to 82.3 per cent in 2012, well above the target of 80 per cent set for 2015. However, the percentage of PATH beneficiaries in consumption Quintiles 1 and 2 increased from 66.5 per cent in 2009 to 67.1 per cent in 2010, but then fell to 61.7 per cent in 2012, below the target of 70 per cent set for 2015, as well as below the baseline figure of 75 per cent in 2007.⁵

National Goal 2: The Jamaican Society is Secure Cohesive and Just

³ Based on STATIN Labour Force Surveys

⁴ Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS) Annual Report, FY 2015/16, page iii.

⁵ Ministry of Labour and Social Security

In FY 2015/16, the strategic priorities pursued to advance progress towards the achievement of planned development outcomes for security and safety encompassed strengthening the governance, institutional, legislative, policy and programmatic frameworks for security and safety as well as necessary capacity building. This included:

- the continued implementation of the National Security Policy (2013), which comprises the framework for the development and implementation of strategic actions to address national security and safety challenges and achieve planned national development outcomes.
- Strengthening the capacity of national security institutions and arrangements to address security and safety concerns and infusing a rights-based approach in policing and improving the relationship between the citizenry and the police. This included improving professionalism in the JCF and the vetting of personnel serving in the private security industry; the training in and use of less lethal weapons by police personnel; proximity and community policing; improved social marketing and coordination of community based crime and violence prevention initiatives and developing a community of practice; and the continued implementation of projects and programmes that involve a strong social development component such as the Citizen Security and Justice Programme (CSJP) and Unite for Change (UFC).
- Strengthening data and information institutional arrangements and systems to improve investigative and decision making capacities – this included the establishment of the Institute of Forensic Sciences and Legal Medicine (IFSLM) as a department of the Ministry of National Security (MNS) in April 2015; and the passage of the Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) Evidence Act 2015, which came into effect March 31, 2016.
- Securing the border and territorial waters; reducing the threat of terrorist activities; strengthening capacity for cyber-security through the training of 12 members of the JCF in Ethical Hacking and Computer Hacking Forensic Investigation, and eight officers in Social Media Forensics.
- Strengthening the management, rehabilitation and reintegration of clients of correctional services as well as the reintegration of involuntarily returned migrants.

Two hundred and seventy-six (276) category 1 crimes per 100,000 population were committed in 2015, a decline of 14.3 per cent from 322 per 100,000 population in 2014. The murder rate increased to 44.3 per 100,000 population in 2015, up 20.1 per cent from the murder rate of 36.9 per 100,000 population in 2014. These rates remain above the targets for the category 1 crime rate and murder rate set for 2015 under the National Development Plan, of 182 per 100,000 population and 35 per 100,000 population, respectively. However, in 2015, the category 1 crime rate was at its lowest since the implementation of Vision 2030 Jamaica commenced in 2009. The murder rate, on the other hand, was at its highest since 2010, though falling within the range of fluctuations over the period. The rate of recidivism for 2015 did not meet the 2015 target and was worse than the baseline year, 2007.

With respect to Governance One key accomplishment over the 2015/16 period was the entrenchment of local government in the Constitution. The Act titled “The Constitution (Amendment) (Local Government) Act” will allow for local authorities to perform regulatory functions to facilitate the management, improvement and development of resources of local communities. It also will allow Parliament to make provision for local authorities to generate and spend their own revenue, and to provide for the holding of local government elections. The three strategic laws under the Act, that would further advance local government reform and citizen participation in governance - Jamaica Social Welfare Commission Act, Local Government (Unified Service & Employment) and, Local Government Financing and Financial Management Act were promulgated in March 2016.

With respect to the justice system, the institutional capacities of the legislature and court system were strengthened and made more relevant to the needs of the modern Jamaican state through legislative reform and systemic changes. The legislative process was strengthened through the development of: a Drafting Manual; and a Progress Progression Monitoring Tool for the Office of the Parliamentary Counsel (OPC) under the Justice Undertaking for Social Transformation (JUST) Programme. A new Court Administration Division (CAD) of the Supreme Court was established to replace the previously existing Court Management Services (CMS) through the passage of the Judicature (Supreme Court) Amendment Bill 2015.

Focus was also given to strengthening systems of accountability and transparency within the justice system in support of effective governance. There was progress in advancing processes for holding public officials accountable in regard to corruption and strengthening the state’s capacity for prosecution of offences.

Jamaica’s most recent scores for the five Worldwide Governance Indicators tracked under the National Development Plan showed slight improvements under the indicators rule of law and control of corruption index. With respect to rule of law, whilst the 2015 target has not been met, there has been some improvement over the years. The same is true for the control of corruption index. With respect to the Control of Corruption Index (CPI), the 2015 results indicate that Jamaica advanced 16 places from number 85 of 175 countries in 2014 to number 69 of 168 countries in 2015.

With respect to the case clearance rate, Vision 2030 Jamaica National Outcome Indicator Framework represents a crude measure that demonstrates the number of cases cleared in a given year as a percentage of the total new cases filed in that year – in the Parish Courts. An assessment of data up to 2015 measured against the target of 95 for 2015 and 2018 showed that the target was achieved in 2013 but that performance of the indicator fell below the target in 2014 and 2015. Since the implementation of Vision 2030 Jamaica commenced in 2009, the case clearance rate was at its lowest in 2014 at 79.6 per cent; it recorded gains in 2015 – increasing to a rate of 87.0 per cent.

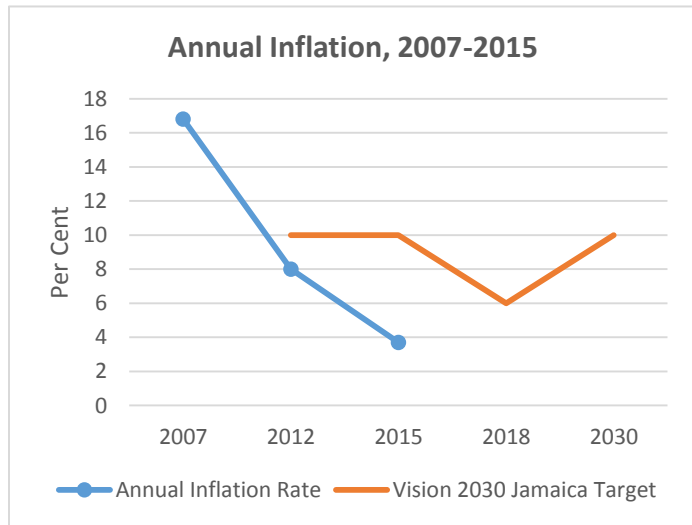
Further assessment of court statistics shows that for Parish Courts, 29 per cent of the total 576,334 cases set for trial in 2015 were disposed of (198,369) - a quarter (25%) of cases set for trial were cases brought forward (146, 792). Hence, 71 per cent or 392,219 of the cases set for trial were pending at the end of 2015.

The achievement of developed country status by 2030, includes an effectively functioning court system in Jamaica. This requires the achievement of annual case clearance rates of a minimum of 100% per year prior to 2030 to reduce the number of cases brought forward. Case clearance rates below 100% indicate delay, backlog or congestion in the court system. Jamaica has had a longstanding challenge regarding the timely disposal of cases, which has impacted the legitimacy of and trust in the judicial system.

National Goal 3: Jamaica’s Economy is Prosperous

Stable Macro-Economy

- Key reforms were advanced in 2015, chief among these were the establishment of a Cash Management Unit in the Accountant General Department, the tabling and passage of legislation governing the tax regime in the Special Economic Zone (SEZ), the completion of the pilot testing of ASYCUDA World at the Kingston port, and the full implementation of the Banking Services Act which assigned overall responsibility for financial stability to the Bank of Jamaica (BOJ).
- The annual inflation rate fell from 6.4 per cent in 2014 to 3.7 per cent in 2015, meeting the 2015 target of less than 10 per cent. This was the lowest rate recorded since 1967 when the rate was 3.6 per cent; and the fifth consecutive year of single-digit inflation.
- The debt to GDP ratio is estimated to end March 2016 at 126.8 per cent of GDP, a 3.7 percentage point reduction compared with the previous year and 5.2 percentage points better than targeted for FY 2015/16.



Enabling Business Environment

- The installation of the Applications Management and Data Automation System (AMANDA) system in 17 Local Authorities and key referral agencies
- Amendments to key pieces of legislation including the Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Act, 2015 and the Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Act, 2015
- Improvements in key indicators used to measure business environment conditions. In the 2016 Doing Business Report, Jamaica registered a higher ranking on the ease of doing business moving up 7 places to 64th (out of 189 economies). This placed Jamaica as first in the Caribbean in the ranking on the ease of doing business, and sixth in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Business and consumer confidence improved reflecting increased optimism about current economic conditions and expectations of improved business conditions and job prospects.

Strong Economic Infrastructure

- Transport infrastructure benefitted from progress in infrastructure development projects, including the completion of the North-South Link of Highway 2000; the signing of a concession agreement between the Port Authority of Jamaica (PAJ) and Kingston Port Terminal, a significant step towards the privatization of the Kingston Container Terminal (KCT); and the commencement and continued implementation of several projects at the Norman Manley International Airport (NMIA).
- Progress was made in expanding the broadband network across the island via the deployment of Community Access Points (CAPS) within publicly accessible spaces including high schools, public libraries and select post offices.
- The impact of ongoing investments in and integration of ICT was seen in the country's performance on a range of international indices. The country improved its ranking (82) on the Networked Readiness Index⁶ (NRI), but fell down to a ranking of 105 on the ICT Development Index (IDI)⁷.

Energy Security and Efficiency

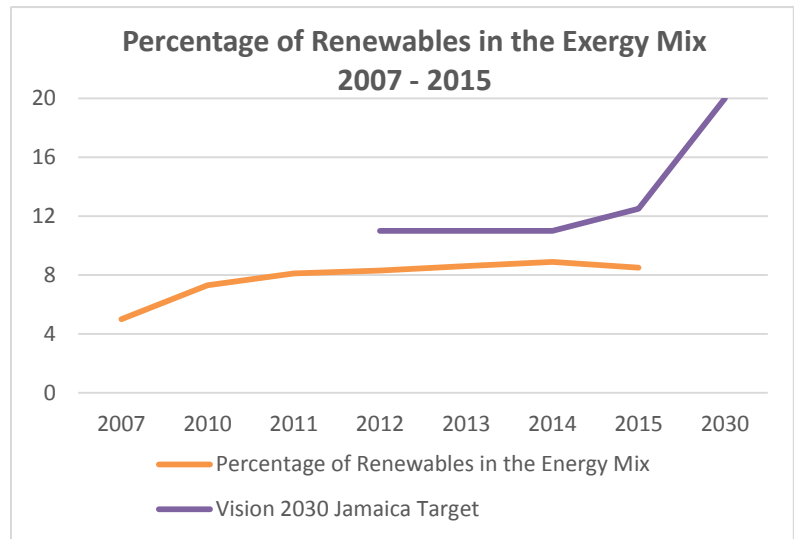
Efforts over the 2015 – 2016 period also included modernizing the energy infrastructure as well as amending regulatory and legislative frameworks. In terms of the legislative framework, the Electricity Act, 2015 was passed and repealed the 100-year old Electric Lighting Act, the Electricity (Frequency Conversion) Act and Electricity Development Act, which previously governed the electricity sector. This new Act also consolidates and modernizes the laws relating to the generation, transmission, distribution, supply, dispatch and use of electricity.

Across the region, Jamaica's National Energy Policy 2009 – 2030 has been cited as a forward-looking and dynamic framework and is viewed as a model that policy-makers can adopt and adapt.

⁶ Measured by the annual Global Information Technology Report

⁷ Reported in the Measuring the Information Society Report

For the last nine years the renewable energy contribution to the total energy mix has improved moving from 5.0% in 2007 to 8.5% in 2015. Despite these increases in renewable energy, the 2015 target for the percentage of renewables in the energy mix has not been met. Jamaica has over 72 megawatts (MW) of installed renewable energy capacity from hydro, solar and wind power plants. There also was a drop between 2014 and 2015 of renewables in the energy mix due primarily to a reduction in the amount of energy produced by hydropower plants.



The introduction of several initiatives have positively influenced the share of renewables in the energy mix over the years: namely the full roll-out of ethanol blended with gasoline in 2009; the recommissioning of Constant Spring Hydroelectric Power Station in 2009; and the commissioning of Wigton Windfarm Phase II (2010), and the new Maggoty Hydro Power Plant in 2014. The percentage of renewables in the energy mix may have been far greater except that the West Kingston Power Plant commissioned in 2013, resulted in 60MW of fossil fuel based capacity being added to the grid. The renewable resources currently captured for the energy mix calculations include hydro generation, wind generation, bagasse and ethanol consumption.

Internationally Competitive Industry Structures

- The approval of additional certificates for the Bureau of Standard Jamaica (BSJ) and the University of the West Indies (UWI) Pesticides Research Laboratory, which increases the number of accredited conformity assessment bodies (CABs) in the country
- The launch of the National Export Strategy II (NES II) 2015-2019 in August 2015
- The implementation of 49 (40 product standards and 9 service standards) national standards for goods, services, processes and practices by the BSJ.
- Improved performances of the economic indicators for key industries. Notably, the growth rate of export earnings from the bauxite and alumina industry increased to 5.4 per cent up from 1.9 per cent in 2014 and above the target range of 2-4 per cent for 2015. Also, the percentage change in labour productivity of the Construction and Installation Sector, increased to 6.0 per cent for 2014, 3.0 percentage points above the target for 2015, 2018 and 2030 of 3.00 per cent.
- All the indicators for tourism, except for percentage (%) change in tourism arrivals (stopover) met or exceeded the 2015 target; with % change in foreign exchange

earnings from tourism and the % change in the number of persons employed in the accommodations sector exceeding the 2018 target.

National Goal 4: Jamaica has a Healthy Natural Environment

With respect to the environment, Jamaica's score on the Environmental Performance Index improved. The country's score on the EPI increased to a score of 77.0 in 2016, up from a score of 58.3 in 2014, while Jamaica's ranking under the EPI improved to 54th out of 180 countries, up from 55th out of 178 countries in 2014. The 2016 ranking represents an 18.76-point improvement in the overall score to 77.02 compared with 2014. Jamaica had a high score in four of the eight core issues assessed—Biodiversity and Habitat (90.5), Health Impacts (91.3), Air Quality (91.9), and Water and Sanitation (77.7). Although scoring higher than most Caribbean countries, the country recorded a low score (24.8) for the fisheries indicator, demonstrating, among other things, the current challenges with the harvesting of marine species at unsustainable rates.

With respect to hazards, 2015 represented the second year in a row, in which the June/July months experienced the worst drought conditions, with 12 out of 14 parishes recording normal to extreme drought. The drought conditions had a negative impact on both the water and agricultural sectors. During 2015, three key policy and legislative framework pieces were undertaken that are expected to have positive impacts on the country's ability to reduce its vulnerability to natural hazards and adapt to the impacts of climate change. These are: the promulgation of the National Climate Change Policy and Action Plan; the Promulgation of the Disaster Management Act (2015); and the advancement of work on the National Policy on Disaster Risk Reduction.