



JAMAICA

NATIONAL DIASPORA POLICY

WORKING DOCUMENT

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LIST OF ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS

DAD	-	Diaspora Affairs Department
GOJ	-	Government of Jamaica
ICT	-	Information and Communication Technology
IMDP	-	National Policy on International Migration and Development
IMF	-	International Monetary Fund
IOM	-	International Organization
M&E	-	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDAs	-	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MFAFT	-	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
MSME	-	Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
MTF	-	Medium Term Socio-economic Framework
NGOs	-	Non-Government Organizations
NWGIMD	-	National Working Group on International Migration and Development
ODA	-	Official Development Assistance
PIOJ	-	Planning Institute of Jamaica
PPP	-	Public-private Partners
SDG	-	Sustainable Development Goals
UK	-	United Kingdom
USA	-	United States of America

FOREWORD

To be inserted

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Preamble

The National Diaspora Policy reflects the commitment of the Government of Jamaica (GoJ) to pursue Diaspora related strategies and initiatives that are mutually beneficial to national development processes and the wellbeing of its Diaspora population. The Policy is in keeping with Vision 2030 Jamaica –National Development Plan and is a comprehensive framework and guide to harness the power of the Diaspora to ensure that Jamaicans at home and abroad are empowered; the Jamaican society is secure, cohesive and just; the economy is prosperous; and that the health of the natural environment is enhanced.

The GoJ through the work of its respective Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) will work assiduously to ensure that there is an improvement in the engagement and integration of Jamaicans with all aspects of national development and that the rights of Jamaicans in the Diaspora are protected and their contributions acknowledged and valued. The GoJ also commits to enacting this legislation to ensure that its foreign policies and negotiations consider the issues and challenges being faced by the Diaspora population that may impede the achievement of their fullest potential.

Background and Policy Context

Migration is closely intertwined with the development of countries worldwide. *In the case of developing countries they are both countries of origin and destination of migrants.* These migrants and descendants eventually become part of the Diaspora and have needs in their countries where they reside.

Within this context, Jamaica has commenced the implementation of a National Policy on International Migration and Development of which Diaspora and Development is an

integral component. Diaspora development within the context of the migration and development nexus is considered to be a positive consequence of the migratory patterns of Jamaicans and their descendants. The migration and development nexus is premised on the basis that migration provides opportunities for enlarging a person's freedom while facilitating opportunities for social and economic advancement.

The GoJ has committed to providing an enabling environment for the realization of the vision, goals, outcomes and actions of the National Diaspora Policy as well as establish and implement the necessary legislative, policy and governance frameworks required for the successful implementation of the Diaspora Policy.

Purpose of the National Diaspora Policy

The purpose of the policy is to establish the Government's commitment to broad inclusion of the Diaspora in nation-building, recognising the tremendous capacity, interests and resources within the distinct Diaspora groupings and aligning programmes and initiatives to respond to the opportunities and challenges being faced by the Diaspora.

The policy envisages that by 2030, there will be transformative engagements and partnerships providing an enabling environment for the empowerment of the Jamaican Diaspora to realize their fullest potential and enhance their wellbeing while optimizing contributions to national development.

The policy anticipates that strategies and plans to be developed will establish systems and processes. These will enable the delivery of goods and services and the necessary mobilization resource for engagement programmes. The initiatives generated by the Diaspora will utilise this framework as the basis for preparation, planning and prioritisation. The policy also serves as a framework for creating standards and protocols to facilitate mutually beneficial engagement of the Jamaican Diaspora.

Guiding Principles

There are nine guiding principles that encompass the beliefs and values of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade and serve to inform the operations of the Ministry in Diaspora matters. The guiding principles are: patriotism, inclusive participation, trusted partnerships, inter-generational engagements, respect for human rights, gender equity, evidence-based approach, mutuality and communication. They foster a culture of understanding regarding the importance of the Diaspora to Jamaica's sustainable development path and provide a foundation that underpins the conceptualisation and context of the policy. These Guiding Principles align with the global thrust for credible engagement of Diaspora in economic and social life.

Policy Goals

Eight major policy goals have been established for the National Diaspora Policy. These treat with Diaspora engagement and facilitation of their partnership in national development, including through their human capital inputs; promotion of the well-being of Jamaicans at home and abroad; and the engagement of young people.

Key Thematic Areas

Building on the established guiding principles and the eight major policy goals, the Diaspora developed; by consensus; ten thematic areas of interest to shape this policy document. It is anticipated that active participation from the Diaspora, the Government and its partners, will enable strategies related to these key thematic areas, namely:

1. Socioeconomic engagement and participation
2. Human exchanges, transfers and philanthropic initiatives
3. Integration and reintegration
4. Economic inflows, investments and trade
5. Physical environment, safety and security
6. Governance

7. Engagement of Diaspora Youth and Young Adults
8. Diaspora Tourism and cultural exchanges and inclusions
9. Legislative and policy reform
10. Data and Information

Policy Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade (MFAFT) is the lead entity tasked with ensuring the successful implementation of the National Diaspora Policy. The Diaspora Affairs Department (DAD), within the Ministry, will have primary responsibilities for policy implementation and monitoring. Through strengthened capacities, partnerships and the facilitation of an enabling environment for Diaspora engagement and involvement, the Government will facilitate the implementation of a governance framework to guide the successful implementation of the strategies derived from these thematic areas. The strategies will have implementation plans which will include appropriate, measurable and achievable metrics and targets. A monitoring and evaluation framework will be integrated and aligned with Jamaica's International Migration and Development Policy to support the National Diaspora Policy.

In executing this responsibility, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade will work in collaboration with the Planning Institute of Jamaica, the National Working Group on International Migration and Development (NWGIMD) and the Diaspora Advisory Board or its successor body.

Financing

Funding to support the implementation of the National Diaspora Policy will largely be secured through the Government's annual consolidated budget. Through diversified sustained partnerships, the Government will seek to raise additional funding from international partners, private sector and the Diaspora to support specific components of the Policy.

1.INTRODUCTION

1.0 Background

Diaspora, refers to groups of people/persons who identify themselves as being from Jamaica, and who often share certain values, generational and cultural linkages. In the past, technology and distance often played an inhibiting role in preventing the Diaspora from connecting effectively with their 'homelands', and arguably facilitated more effective and thorough assimilation and integration of the Diaspora into new host countries. More recently however, and particularly in the past two to three decades, the communications revolution and rapid transformation of transportation has made it much easier for people to migrate and explore international linkages and business opportunities. This has entailed members of the Diaspora attempting to utilize their cross-cultural skills to their own benefit, often developing people-to-people links across diverse sectors including business, trade and science.

The Jamaican Diaspora is defined as the collective of long-term emigrants and their descendants, who are currently resident abroad. The Diaspora has long been a strategic partner to the Government of Jamaica in its development pursuits. However, this partnership has largely been passive with and typified by the absence of formal recognition, engagement and placement of a value of its contribution to national development. Jamaica has the second highest Diaspora population among Caribbean islands (behind the Dominican Republic) with particularly large numbers of skilled emigrants among the ranks living abroad.

For the purpose of this Policy, Diasporic engagement and 'Diaspora and Development' can be considered a three-fold issue:

- development of the Diaspora in the host country
- Involvement of the Diaspora in homeland development

- partnership and interaction between the Diaspora and institutions in the country of origin

Therefore, Diaspora and Development connotes a host of issues regarding: the Diaspora, the home country, the relationship between the two; the relationship between the Diaspora and host country; and the interaction between governments in the home and host countries, including issues relating to rights, citizenship, protections, the environment and governance.

The renewed attention given to Diaspora and Development in the global community in the last decade has revived questions on how Diaspora can contribute to development. The various meetings of the Global Forum for Migration and Development since 2007 have promoted a growing awareness on how migration and specifically Diaspora gains - both economic and social remittances – can be harnessed to contribute to the development of the Diaspora, countries of origin and countries of destination. The political will to integrate Diaspora into development planning at the national level has involved concrete efforts, which resulted in the need to formulate a policy that will guide strategic actions over the next decade and a half. Of equal importance are the strategies and initiatives to address the well-being of our Diaspora in their respective locations.

1.1 Policy Context

Jamaica's history and development have been significantly shaped by the forces of migration. Jamaicans migrated in the 19th and early 20th Century to the Cuba, Panama, Costa Rica among other countries in Central America. We acknowledge the significance of the Windrush Generation's post WW migration to Great Britain. The paths for migration diversified since the country's independence in 1962 and with the opening up of opportunities for migration and employment in countries such as the United States of America (USA), United Kingdom (UK) and Canada. The result of this movement is a large group of Jamaicans and their offspring, which currently reside across the globe.

For the purpose of this Policy, Jamaica's definition of its Diaspora is consistent with that used by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), in which the Diaspora is broadly defined as individuals and members or networks, associations and communities, who have left their country of origin, but maintain links with their homeland. This concept covers settled expatriate communities, migrant workers based abroad temporarily and second/third- generation migrants and beyond.

In recognition of the value and importance of the migration and development nexus and the role the migrants play as development agents in influencing the national development landscape, the Government of Jamaica believes that it is timely and necessary to establish and maintain mutually beneficial relationships with the Diaspora and make known their commitment to advocate, serve and respond to the needs of its Diaspora population which is estimated at three million inclusive of 1.6 million first generation.

1.2 Purpose of Policy

The National Diaspora Policy aims to achieve the following outcomes:

1. Increased trust and co-operation between the Diaspora and Jamaica and greater confidence in engaging with Jamaica;
2. The strengthening of systems and mechanisms for the establishment and extension of investment and support for businesses operating in the Diasporic economy;
3. The development of a more cohesive approach to the Diaspora that addresses some of the more pressing challenges faced by this group at home and in the countries in which they reside;
4. Overall strengthening of engagement between the Diaspora and Jamaica through improved systems and processes, including communication;

5. Enhanced contribution of the Diaspora in Jamaica's social and economic development;
6. Reduction of costs, scaling up and strategic targeting of philanthropic engagement as informed by national and community development plans;
7. Increased role of the Diaspora through Diaspora diplomacy and activism; Greater national and cultural affinity to Jamaica;
8. Increased understanding among the Diaspora and Jamaicans at home of the variety of ways in which they may partner for mutual benefit; reduction in duplication in roles and functions of existing organizations in the Diaspora;
9. Strong engagement with private sector and civil society who serve the Diaspora
10. Increased communication and coordination between the Diaspora and the Government and Jamaicans at home;
11. Stronger and more empowered Diaspora communities and a more prosperous Jamaica.

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

HISTORIC MIGRATION PATTERNS AND GROWTH OF THE DIASPORA:

Jamaica's history and development has been significantly impacted by migration. In the 19th to early 20th century there were discernible waves of migration beginning with Panama and Costa Rica, respectively, to build railways and to work in the banana industry and build the Panama Canal. Additionally, Jamaicans also migrated in lesser numbers to Nicaragua, Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, and Cuba to work in among other development project such as banana plantations and Forestry Projects¹.

Migration Pattern of Jamaicans in the Modern Era

Traditional Destination Countries

During the post-World War II era there was mass migration from Jamaica to the United Kingdom. Five hundred and thirty-six² persons journeyed on the HMS Empire Windrush and arrived at the Tilbury Docks on the 22nd June 1948. They included masons, welders, carpenters, electricians, painters, cabinet makers, clerks and accountants.

Up to 1962, over 82,000³ accepted the British Government's invitation to assist with the reconstruction efforts to rebuild the country from the ravages of war. However, given the public outcry and fear displayed by the locals to the increasing numbers of non-white population, a stringent immigration law, entitled " The Commonwealth Immigrants Act in 1962" was implemented. Its purpose was to stem the flow of migrants entering Britain.

¹ Elizabeth Thomas Hope: Migration in Jamaica – A Country Profile 2018

² Arthur Torrington, Chairman Windrush Foundation, UK

³ Economic and Social Survey, Planning Institute of Jamaica 1960, 1965

New opportunities for Jamaicans to emigrate emerged with the enactment of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 in the United States of America, as well as the Immigration Appeal Board Act of 1967 in Canada. This opened new doors to Jamaicans and enabled the emigration of tens of thousands in specialized occupational classes.

Factors of Migration

The main factors that led to this exodus of Jamaicans during this period were their ambitious search for better economic opportunities and the belief that their status would improve by migrating and family reunification. This resulted in the creation of Diaspora communities in Britain, Canada and the United States of America. The allure of higher incomes and international capital played a decisive role in influencing the direction of Jamaican labour to these countries. On the other hand, the implementation of more stringent immigration policies in destination countries have since significantly influenced the numbers of persons entering these host countries up to the current millennium

Migration to Non-Traditional Destination Countries (post 1990)

Since the 1990s, there has been a significant increase of Jamaicans migrating to other Caribbean states, Africa, Middle East, the Far East and Oceania. See table on statistics from selected countries (Appendix 1). The main motivation continues to be the increasing employment opportunities and attractive remuneration especially, in critical professional categories. A significant number of teachers, nurses and other professionals were recruited by developed and emerging economies.

Size of Diaspora

The Diaspora consists of first-generation Jamaicans and their descendants of up to five generations. The specific size of the Diaspora population is undetermined; however, a

working estimate is 3 million⁴. Of that number 1.6 million represents the first generation⁵.

Jamaican Diaspora in the United States of America

The Diaspora population in the USA is estimated at 1,124,120⁶. The largest Community is located in metropolitan centres of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. The next largest concentration of Diasporans resides in the South East region, mainly in Miami, Orlando and Tampa in Florida; Atlanta, Georgia; and Houston, Texas. There are fewer numbers in the West and Midwest regions.

Jamaican Diaspora in Canada

The size of the Jamaican Diaspora in Canada stands at 309,485 with the majority residing in the Province of Ontario⁷. There are approximately 257,055 residing in the Province of Ontario who cited their ethnicity as being Jamaican. A significant number of Jamaicans also live in other provinces including Quebec, Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia.

Jamaican Diaspora in the United Kingdom

The size of the UK Diaspora is documented as 143,000⁸, (Office of National Statistics UK 2011) however, the figure is estimated as closer to 800,000 and includes individuals born in Jamaican and those of Jamaican descent. The majority of the population resides in Greater London. Significant numbers of Jamaicans are also to be found in Birmingham, Bristol, Gloucester, Leeds, Manchester, Nottingham, Preston, Sheffield, Wolverhampton, among other areas.

⁴ Prof. N. Ying, JDI, 2014 – Summary of Size and Geographical Distribution of the Jamaican Diaspora

⁵ Appendix 1 Selected statistics of the Jamaican Diaspora

⁶ 2017 American Community Survey, Estimates

⁷ Statistics Canada 2016 Census

⁸ Office of National Statistics ,UK Census 2011

Jamaican Diaspora in other Caribbean Islands

There are smaller numbers of Jamaicans in other Caribbean islands such as Antigua Barbuda, the Cayman Islands, The Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago. See Appendix 1.

Jamaican Diaspora in Australasia

The population size of Jamaicans in Asia and Australia is approximately 2,295. The most populous countries are Australia, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea. See Appendix 1.

Jamaican Diaspora in Africa

There are Jamaican communities across the African continent in several countries including Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The numbers are however, yet undetermined but under research.

PROFILE OF JAMAICAN DIASPORA

The Jamaican Diaspora is diverse in composition. It must be noted that the Jamaican-born tertiary-educated community residing abroad was estimated in 2010/2011 to be 48.1% of the total population of tertiary educated in Jamaica. Additionally, there exist a large cohort of second, third and fourth generation Jamaicans who are highly educated.⁹ Along with age at migration, the gender composition of the migrants tends to fluctuate. Below age 20, females outnumber males; however, from 20 - 49 years the pattern changes from year to year. After age 49 the females usually outnumber the males.¹⁰

⁹ Elizabeth Thomas-Hope "Migration in Jamaica: A country profile 2018", IOM

¹⁰ Ibid

Diaspora Philanthropy

Jamaicans abroad have an abiding affinity to Jamaica and in this regard, continue to make significant donations to their communities, as well as to educational and health institutions in the country. According to statistics from the Health for Life and Wellness Foundation of the Ministry of Health contributions received from the Diaspora and Friends of Jamaica for the period January to December 2017 amounted to USD\$9,129,499.27¹¹. The Medical Missions facilitate the provision of free medical services to the underserved populations across Jamaica.

Similarly, the education sector receives significant support from the Diaspora inclusive of alumni associations and other charitable organisations. This support is in the form of scholarships, grants, educational materials and equipment. Contributions processed through the National Education Trust (NET) in 2018 stands at US\$184,307.51, the majority coming from the USA. There is no available data on the quantum of contributions received from the network of Alumni Associations in the UK, USA and Canada.

Diaspora Organizations

There are large numbers of Jamaican Diaspora organizations in the three major Diaspora locations as shown below:

Jamaican Diaspora Organizations in major Diaspora Locations	
Diaspora Region	Number of Jamaican Diaspora Organizations
USA	256
Canada	65
United Kingdom	108
Total	429

¹¹ Health for Life and Wellness Foundation 2019

Source: Jamaican Overseas Missions in the USA, UK, & Canada ¹²Diaspora organisations have historically, among other functionalities, been instrumental in remitting philanthropic donations to Jamaica and within the Diaspora through faith based and non-faith based organisations and/or charities or as individuals. These gifts are largely sent to schools, hospitals and clinics, churches and in some cases, to individuals in desperate need.

An assessment of these groups and associations (Ying et al, 2010, op cit) indicate that they are organized around major need sectors as follows:

- a. *Education*
- b. *Charitable Foundations*
- c. *Social Services*
- d. *Healthcare*
- e. *Business, Investment and Trade*

Needs Served by Diaspora Groups and Associations:

1.Education:

Education interest groups in the Diaspora, in particular alumni associations make significant contributions to a variety of educational institutions in Jamaica.

These groups also include Nurses Associations, Religious Affiliations, Private Groups, Teachers Networks and the Diaspora Education Taskforce, all which provide the following:

- Financial assistance, infrastructure and services to education institutions in Jamaica.
- Professional skills and best practices.

¹² Embassy of Jamaica, Washington D.C. - 17 Associations registered on their database
Consulate General of Jamaica, Miami - 119 Associations registered on their database
Consulate General of Jamaica, New York - 120 Associations registered on their database
High Commission of Jamaica, London - 108 Associations registered on their database
High Commission of Jamaica, Ottawa - 15 Associations registered on their database
Consulate General of Jamaica, Toronto - 50 Associations registered on their database

- Social network for members in the Diaspora locations.
- Professional development workshops for middle and senior management in select educational institutions.

2. Charitable Foundations:

These are legal entities for delivering social services and financial support for activities in the Diaspora as well as in Jamaica

3. Social Services:

These groups and associations provide a range of social services, namely, counselling, mentoring, mediation, and enabling for members and groups primarily in Diaspora locations and to a lesser extent in Jamaica.

They include:

- a. Youth Clubs and Youth Leadership Organizations
- b. Cultural Clubs and Organizations
- c. Faith-based Organizations

4. Healthcare:

An estimated 300 medical missions visit Jamaica annually from the United States of America, Canada and the UK. They provide a wide range of services free of cost inclusive of general surgery, vision screening, dental, ophthalmology, immunization and pharmaceutical services. The medical teams also donate medical equipment and pharmaceutical supplies and contribute to infrastructure development of hospitals and health centres.

5. Business, Investment and Trade:

There are several trade organisations based in the metropolitan centres of the USA, particularly in Connecticut, Florida and Georgia which facilitate business, and trade in goods and services with Jamaica. There is a need to expand these organisations

across Diaspora regions and create and develop business networks thereby strengthening linkages and relationships with the Jamaican private sector.

STRATEGIC VALUE OF THE JAMAICAN DIASPORA

Diaspora as drivers of economic development & investment

It has been recognised that Jamaican nationals abroad represent a wealth of human capital (skills, knowledge and expertise), social capital (relationships and networks) and financial capital. In 2016, the Economic Growth Council (EGC) indicated in its publication; *Call to Action*; that optimising the power of the Jamaican Diaspora was a key element that could assist in driving the country's economic growth agenda.

In an effort to facilitate and enable greater interaction between the Diaspora and Jamaica, the EGC proposed several initiatives that are being considered, inclusive of the repurposing of the Jamaican Diaspora Foundation and Jamaica Diaspora Institute, issuance of a Diaspora Bond, creation of business-to-business networks and the establishment of a One Stop Shop to enable Diaspora investor requests, among others.

Export of Non-traditional Foods

With respect to trade, the Diaspora represents a key market for Jamaica's exports, particularly for non-traditional export foods. With the steady increase in the number of Jamaicans residing in the United Kingdom, the USA and Canada, the demand for Jamaican domestic produce increased, giving rise to a market for local fruits, vegetables, ground provisions, sauces, condiments and baked products.

Top agricultural exports to the USA, Canada and the UK, are yams, sweet potatoes, papaya, dasheen, pumpkins, mangoes, breadfruit and callaloo. During the period 2005 and 2013, the major market for agricultural exports was the USA. In 2017 total exports

grossed USD\$554,052 compared to USD\$464,660 the previous year. The outlook for non-traditional exports to the three main destination countries remains positive as the demand for indigenous food products gradually increases.

Diaspora Investments

According to a study conducted by CAPRI, the current value of Diaspora Investment in Jamaica is US\$1.2 billion as at 22nd June 2017.¹³ The findings of the research on the Economic Value of the Diaspora, suggest that there are three principal areas in which the Diaspora invests in Jamaica, namely, investments in banks, business and the stock exchange. It is imperative therefore, that greater efforts be made to attract more Diaspora investments in economic development projects.

Remittances

It is recognised that the Diaspora contributes a significant portion of the country's foreign exchange earnings. It is estimated that Jamaica receives USD\$2.2 billion annually in remittances which represent 16% of the country's Gross Domestic Product¹⁴. More than ninety percent (90%) of the total remittances received in Jamaica originate from the three countries with the highest concentration of the Jamaican Diaspora – Canada, USA and the UK (CAPRI 2017). Remittances are crucial to the livelihood of thousands of families in Jamaica. In a survey conducted by the Bank of Jamaica (BOJ) in 2010, it was revealed that approximately 85% of remittances were utilised for the payment of utility bills as well as to cover basic consumption expenses.

Diaspora Tourism

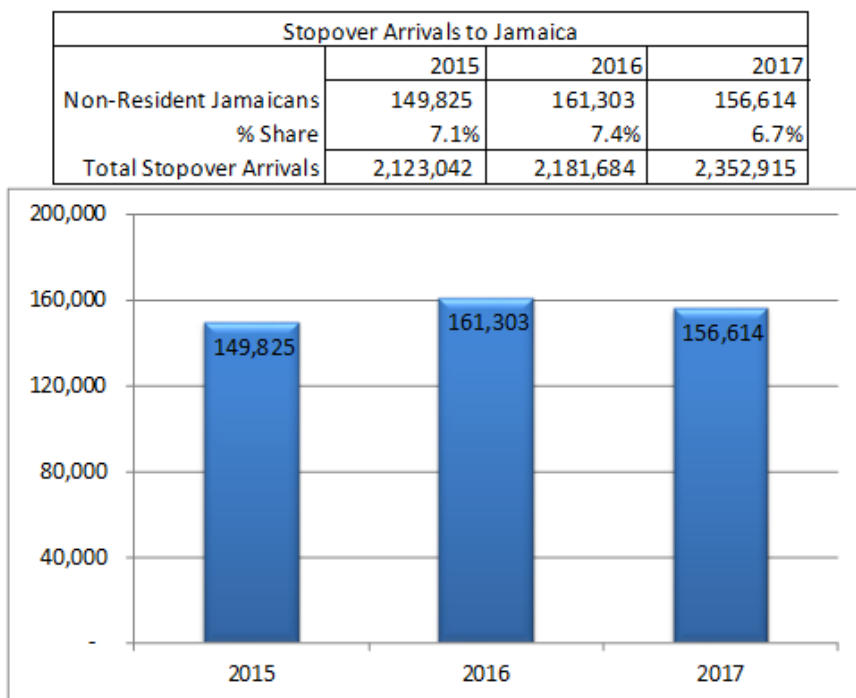
The Jamaica Tourist Board has provided data for the period 2015 – 2017 which indicates that the Jamaican Diaspora accounts for approximately 7% of all stop over visitors to the island. It is significant to note that the data is understated with respect to the total Jamaican Diaspora arrivals as those Jamaicans that have acquired a foreign

¹³ Caribbean Policy Research Institute-Economic Value of the Diaspora

¹⁴ Economic Value of the Jamaican Diaspora : CAPRI May 2017

passport and use it to enter the island are considered as “*Foreign National Arrivals*”. Therefore, there is an unknown percentage of Jamaicans who live abroad and who travel to Jamaica on foreign passports that are not accounted for in the data¹⁵.

The chart below illustrates Diaspora stop-over arrivals as tourists during the period 2015-2017:



There is a need to devise targeted programmes for the various segments of the Diaspora population based on their locations. This is of particular relevance to the younger generation. This is one of the issues that the Policy is designed to address.

¹⁵ Jamaica Tourist Board, Research and Market Intelligence Department 2019

DIASPORA CHALLENGES

Host Country Challenges

The Diaspora, especially in the principal destination countries face wide ranging socio-cultural challenges which impact not only their well-being but also the sustainability of the Diaspora communities. These challenges are related to the imposition of harsh immigration legislation, discrimination and deportation.

The Windrush Immigration Crisis and Carding in Canada and the harsher Immigration Legislation in the USA are examples of critical issues which adversely impact our Diaspora's well-being. Summaries of these critical current issues are more fully set out in Appendix 2. The Government's role in the promotion and protection of the wellbeing and welfare of the Diaspora will be dealt with in cross-cutting thematic areas in the Policy.

The abovementioned challenges indicate the need to develop a structured framework which will guide the engagement of the Diaspora in all its dimensions. It is also critical that the necessary resources are secured and provided to ensure the successful implementation of the Policy.

Key Challenges Informing the Thematic Areas of the Policy

The above situational analysis has identified some of the critical challenges which the Government of Jamaica has to consider in the Policy and in elaborating an Action Plan.

These include:

- **Creating a governance mechanism** that facilitates human and capital transfers, Diaspora investor requests and Diaspora philanthropy. This will require a public-private partnership to finance and staff this entity. A small Diaspora Affairs Department does not have the capacity to manage the ranges and complexity of activities.
- **Streamlining the procedures for philanthropic donations** which continue to be a source of concern from the Diaspora notwithstanding the strides made.
- **Establishment of a singular communication network** and platform to disseminate information to the Jamaican Diaspora globally.
- **Enhancing service delivery to Jamaicans worldwide** which must be factored into the strategic business plans of Ministries, Departments and Agencies, as well as the private sector.
- **Improving data collection and research** on the size, composition, location and experiences of the Jamaican Diaspora which would give a better profile of individuals and communities in their respective locations. Further, the data and research will inform engagement strategies, particularly those geared to enhance the welfare and wellbeing of the Diaspora, the development of targeted initiatives including those related to trade, investment and the tourism sectors.
- **Attracting and building the relationship with the younger generation** so that they maintain an affinity with Jamaica.
- **Reducing the high levels of crime** in Jamaica which impact the Diaspora's confidence to either return to live, undertake short term consultancies or invest in Jamaica.
- **Reducing the transaction cost of remittances**, in addition to promoting financial literacy and programmes for recipients.

- **Addressing the lack of portability of social security benefits** for Diasporans when they return to Jamaica.

3. THE NATIONAL DIASPORA POLICY

3.0 Vision Statement

To create transformative engagements, relationships and partnerships which provide an enabling environment for Diaspora empowerment so that full potential can be achieved and wellbeing enhanced for our Diaspora, while optimizing contributions to national development.

3.1 Policy Aim and Goals

The Diaspora Policy goals are a universal call to action for strategic partnerships to ensure that the Diaspora is empowered to reach their fullest potential in the countries where they reside; enjoy peace and prosperity; and contribute to the sustainable development of their homeland, Jamaica.

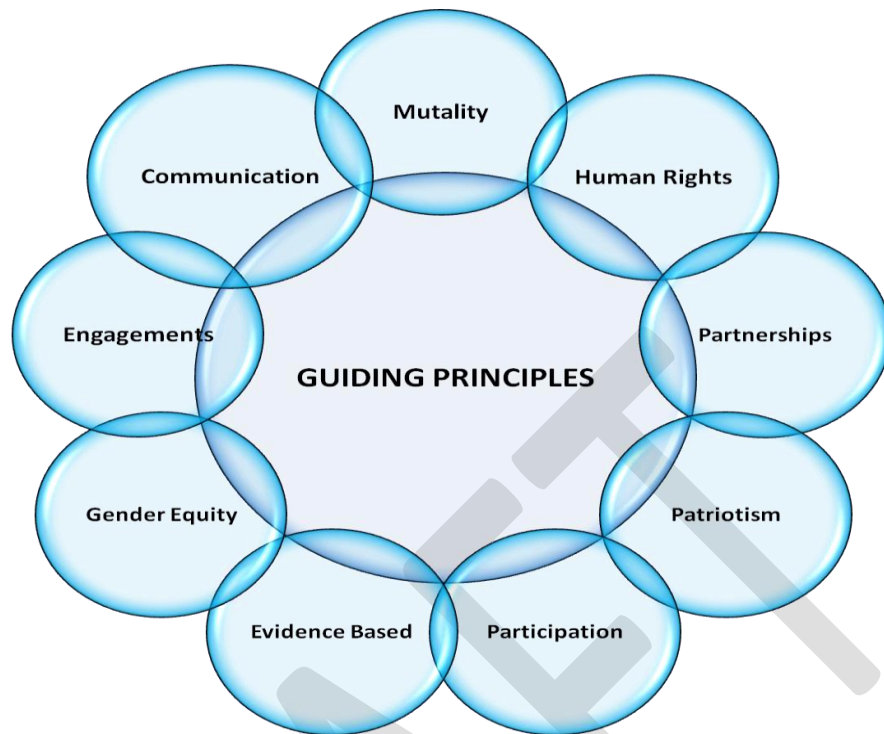
The aim of the National Diaspora Policy is to establish a framework for the coordinated engagement of the Diaspora through the realization of the following eight (8) goals:

- Goal 1:** Increase Diaspora engagement and participation in national development planning
- Goal 2:** Facilitate and recognize Diaspora institutional mechanisms, networks and partnerships
- Goal 3:** Create enabling environments that optimize Diaspora investment, trade and advocacy

- Goal 4:** Promote research and measurement of Diaspora contributions to development
- Goal 5:** Enhance service delivery to Diaspora populations
- Goal 6:** Promote human capital exchanges, return and integration of diaspora populations
- Goal 7:** Promote the wellness and safety of members of the Diaspora and Jamaican communities at home and abroad.
- Goal 8:** Promote specific programmes and activities for engagement of youth and young people

3.2 Guiding Principles

The people-based and service-driven values of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade are based on several broad inter-connected philosophies. They are represented in the nine (9) principles set out in the chart below, and inform the Ministry's operations in Diaspora matters, irrespective of changes in its goals, strategies or operations.



These guiding principles will foster not only a culture of understanding of the importance of the Diaspora to Jamaica’s sustainable development path, but also provide a foundation that underpins the conceptualisation and context of the policy.

a. Patriotism

National identity, pride and cultural affinity with “Brand Jamaica” are tenets which will be embraced by all Jamaicans and future generations, at home and within the Diaspora.

b. Inclusive Participation

Provide all stakeholders with sustainable opportunities for inclusion, participation and contribution to development dialogue and processes, regardless of sex, age, ability, health, religion, beliefs, political ideology, or socio-economic status.

c. Trusted Partnerships

Advocate collaborative efforts that promote trust, confidence and engagement in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Diasporic interventions and relations in host countries and in Jamaica.

d. Inter-generational Engagements

Recognize the value of engagement and involvement of all generations of Jamaicans and their descendants that reside in host countries.

e. Respect for Human Rights

Guarantee and affirm an equitable platform that recognizes the inherent dignity, inalienable rights and non-discriminatory practices in the delivery of goods and services, access to and utilization of resources and opportunities, regardless of gender, age or ability.

f. Gender Equity

Enable an equitable platform that recognizes the inherent dignity, inalienable rights and non-discriminatory practices in the delivery of goods and services, access and utilization of resources and opportunities, regardless of gender identity.

g. Evidence - based Approach

Commit to continuous data collection, measurement, monitoring and evaluation regarding Diaspora engagements, interventions and relations.

h. Mutuality

Mutually respectful engagement, dialogue, and delivery to serve the interest of Jamaica and its Diaspora and to ensure the needs and rights of the Diaspora are addressed under the host country fulfillment of the SDGs.

i. Communication

Facilitate open, transparent flows of information, data and feedback in a timely manner enabling knowledge sharing and informed decision making.

3.3 Pillars of the Policy –



The Five Pillars of the National Diaspora Policy are based on the five areas of critical importance to our Diaspora objectives and embodied in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 Agenda¹⁶. These are: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership.

The interlinkages and integrated nature of the Diaspora Policy are of paramount importance in ensuring that the purpose of the Policy is realized. If, in turn, we realize Jamaica’s ambitions across the full extent of the Policy, the lives of all will be profoundly improved as we aim, together with the rest of the world, to ensure that no-one is left behind.

In the context of the National Diaspora Policy, the enabling strategies that will stimulate actions in areas of critical importance will therefore be centered around:-

- **People – Jamaicans and their descendants at home and abroad**

¹⁶ <https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/2030agenda-sdgs.html>
Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 Agenda: A plan of action for people, planet and prosperity

Ending poverty and hunger, in all their forms and dimensions, and to ensure that all human beings can fulfil their potential in dignity and equality and in a healthy environment.

- **Planet - places of origin and destination**

Protecting the places of origin and destination from degradation, including through sustainable consumption and production, sustainably managing its natural resources and taking urgent action on climate change, so that it can support the needs of the present and future generations.

- **Prosperity - well-being of Jamaicans and their descendants**

Ensuring that all human beings can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives and that economic, social and technological progress occurs in harmony with nature.

- **Peace - Jamaican communities**

Fostering peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence. There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development.

- **Partnerships**

Mobilizing the means required to implement this National Policy through revitalised global partnerships based on a spirit of strengthened global solidarity, focussed in particular on the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable.



3.4 Policy Objectives

The overall objectives of the Policy are:

- a. Develop and implement strategies that strengthen Diasporic outreach, empowerment, engagement and relations

- b. Provide guidance for the design, implementation and monitoring of initiatives that facilitate Diaspora participation in national development
- c. Maintain and create standards and guarantees to enhance wellbeing of Diaspora in host countries.
- d. Improve inter-sectoral coordinated partnerships that provide mutual benefits and opportunities for investments.
- e. Enhance measures to improve service delivery and protection of the Diaspora and their rights.
- f. Create platforms for the value measurement of the Diaspora and their contributions to development at home and abroad.
- g. Catalyze the implementation of strategic programmatic interventions that promote and incentivize investment, exchanges and transfers of human, social and economic capital.
- h. Align legislative provisions with agreed and approved Diasporic reform provisions.

3.5 Policy Thematic Areas and Strategies

It is anticipated that with active participation from the Diaspora, the Government and its partners will enable strategies and processes related to the key thematic areas as defined by the Diaspora, to be developed. The individual strategies proposed for each thematic area are the means by which the vision, goals and objectives of this Diaspora Policy are expected to be achieved.

Strategies pursued under each thematic area will aid in accomplishing one or more of the stated Policy goals and the synergies among the thematic areas will undoubtedly lead to the realization of the shared vision for the Jamaican Diaspora.

THEMATIC AREA 1: SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT AND INVOLVEMENT

The Government of Jamaica understands the importance of engaging its Diaspora and facilitating their participation in national development, inclusive of dialogue and processes. Engagement and participation methods will also facilitate and present avenues for the Diaspora to communicate their concerns, interest, opinions and recommendations on matters concerning their own well-being in countries where they reside, as well those affecting stakeholders residing in Jamaica. The abovementioned thematic area is related to the following specific policy goals:

Goal 1: Increase Diaspora engagement and participation in national development planning

Goal 2: Facilitate and recognize Diaspora institutional mechanisms, networks and partnerships

Goal 3: Create enabling environments that optimize Diaspora Investment, trade and advocacy

Strategies:

Government and its partners will:

- a. Assess the feasibility of establishing a Diaspora agency focused on strengthening and sustaining relationships and partnerships in the Diaspora and addressing support needs of the Diaspora.
- b. Implement policies, programmes and projects that support the building of networks and synergies around national priorities Promote good governance among Diaspora communities.

- c. Facilitate institutional strengthening programmes and initiatives between home and destination countries for Diaspora engagement.
- d. Increase opportunities for structured dialogue among Diaspora members and Jamaica's Overseas Missions to discuss matters critical to Diaspora integration.
- e. Increase the use of technology to enable virtual interface between Diaspora and government representatives.
- f. Encourage the establishment of structures to enable active engagement on issues pertaining to the Diaspora's well-being and welfare
- g. Increase the number of Consulates-General in specific locations, where feasible
- h. Engage in bilateral and multilateral agreements on issues of Diasporic importance
- i. Forge partnerships with governments within traditional and non-traditional destination countries to promote dual citizenship and advocacy for voting rights in home country

3.5.2 Human Capital Exchanges and Philanthropy

THEMATIC AREA 2: HUMAN CAPITAL EXCHANGES AND PHILANTHROPY

Improved human capital transfers will result from deliberate inclusion of the Diaspora in programmes which encourage brain circulation, virtual or physical participation, cyclical or permanent return of talent and expertise. This type of engagement and exchange serves Jamaican overseas, their businesses based in the Diaspora while simultaneously supporting Jamaican organizations in their bid to innovate and modernize markets internationally. The abovementioned thematic area is related to the following specific policy goals:

Goal 1: Increase Diaspora engagement and participation in national development planning

Goal 2: Facilitate and recognize Diaspora institutional mechanisms, networks and partnerships

Goal 6: promote human capital exchanges, return and integration of Diaspora populations

Government and its partners will:

- a. Develop a database of persons in the Diaspora that can be utilized for opportunities in technical, scientific, and professional arenas, academic and entrepreneurial exchanges, job placements and consultancies as well as in research and development in Jamaica
- b. Formulate and promote the visibility of sector and skill-specific groups/knowledge networks within the Diaspora, including lawyers, security experts, technology, science and innovation
- c. Advertise government consultancies and contracts within the Diaspora
- d. Strengthen engagement mechanisms with Diaspora partners and practitioners to fill resource and knowledge gaps
- e. Create and sustain talent initiative programmes that utilize the skills, expertise and identification of opinion interlocutors within the Diaspora
- f. Increase data collection and accounting of charitable donations from the Diaspora
- g. Increase liaison between charities and philanthropic initiatives in the Diaspora and local planning and development agencies to ensure greater synchrony between donations and the developmental needs of communities and Jamaica at large.

THEMATIC AREA 3: INTEGRATION AND RETURN

Recognizing that the overall health and wellness of emigrants is impacted by their physical and social surroundings and emotional and mental health, the ability to access supportive information, goods and services is critical for their integration in countries where they reside and their return to Jamaica. The abovementioned thematic area is related to the following specific policy goals:

Goal 1: Increase Diaspora engagement and participation in national development planning

Goal 2: Facilitate and recognize Diaspora institutional mechanisms, networks and partnerships

Goal 6: promote human capital exchanges, return and integration of Diaspora populations

Goal 7: Promote wellness and safety of members of the Diaspora and Jamaican communities at home and abroad

The Government and its partners will:-

- a. Improve awareness and understanding of emigrant and Diaspora experience
- b. Facilitate access to statutory and voluntary services in countries where the Diaspora resides
- c. Support the integration of the aged, forced returnees, returning residents and vulnerable groups into Jamaican communities
- d. Reduce logistical channels associated with return
- e. Develop an emigrant support programme that provides guidance, direction and logistical support for settlement in host countries

- f. Connect emigrants and Diaspora to local community based organizations that are linked to social development processes
- g. Address ongoing social issues, including child protection, the need for increased opportunities for youths, women and excluded groups such as the disabled.

3.5.4 Economic Flows, Investments and Trade

THEMATIC AREA 4: ECONOMIC FLOWS, INVESTMENTS AND TRADE

A large Diaspora population in global markets, with a strong appetite and affinity for Jamaican culture, products and services is a valuable and growing market for Jamaican businesses and entrepreneurs. Diaspora capital markets can contribute significantly to national development by mobilizing savings for investments and providing long-term alternatives to facilitate wealth creation. The abovementioned thematic area is related to the following specific policy goals:

Goal 1: Increase Diaspora engagement and participation in national development planning

Goal 2: Facilitate and recognize Diaspora institutional mechanisms, networks and partnerships

Goal 3: Create enabling environments that optimize Diaspora Investment, trade and advocacy

Goal 6: promote human capital exchanges, return and integration of Diaspora populations

Given the critical nature of the relationship and linkages of economic remittances, investments and trade to Jamaica's sustainable development, Government and its partners will:

- a. Create an enabling environment to attract Diaspora investments to foster entrepreneurship, business development, innovation, and direct investment (including Diaspora bonds, financial and money market instruments) for priority sectors of the economy.
- b. Develop a formalized approach to Diasporic trade with focus on fresh and processed foods
- c. Develop an educational campaign to apprise the Diaspora of trade issues of concern to Jamaica arising from their markets to secure their support and involvement in advancing Jamaica's interests.
- d. Partner with private entities to facilitate research, dialogue, development and implementation for the safe and efficient transmission of remittances and promote financial literacy for migrants and recipients of their transfers to enhance volume, management and development impact of remittances.
- e. Launch an education and public awareness campaign on the various uses of remittances
- f. Mobilize remittances for investments and for national development purposes
- g. Support the use of technology, for example mobile wallets to facilitate financial transactions for the unbanked sector of the Diaspora
- h. Expand and strengthen existing transfer monitoring systems for remittances (inclusive of baseline, monitoring, impact evaluation) to estimate the overall impact of flows (to and from Jamaica) on national development.
- i. Promote greater compliance and competition within the remittance transfer markets to facilitate further reduction in remittance charges and greater benefits to migrants and migrant households.
- j. Re-evaluate regulatory framework for remittance industry.

THEMATIC AREA 5: SAFETY AND SECURITY

The Government of Jamaica recognizes the impact of crime on its citizens at home and in the Diaspora, as well as its impact on the economy. It will continue to investigate and support measures for addressing this issue, through partnerships with the host country, the Diaspora, international development community and Jamaicans at home. The Government will also undertake awareness-raising initiatives, including public education and advocacy aimed at empowering the Diaspora and those at home towards increasing formalization and reducing the risks for deviance and criminality. The above-mentioned thematic area is related to the following specific policy goals:

Goal 7: Promote well-being of members of the Diaspora and Jamaican communities at home in abroad.

Government and its partners will:

- a. Heighten its engagement with its international partners, to address transnational criminal activity
- b. Improve communication and exchange across relevant Ministries as well as with international development partners in addressing issues of transnational crime;
- c. Strengthen linkages at the local government level to enhance the contributions of the diaspora in local sustainable planning processes
- d. Enhance safety and security measures through the strengthening of immigration policies
- e. Forge bilateral agreements which are geared at preventing clandestine migration, human trafficking and labour exploitation of Diaspora members with irregular migrant status
- f. Implement policies that support the regularization of Diaspora members' immigration status

- g. Provide strategies for the exchange of information across relevant Ministries, inter-state agencies as well as IDPs to address trans-national criminal activities
- h. Support crime prevention and reduction initiatives established by members of the Diaspora through partnership with key professionals such as lawyers, counsellors, alternative dispute resolution specialists
- i. Establish public education programmes on security issues to assist members of the Diaspora with their resettlement and integration in Jamaica
- j. Strengthen the linkages across MDAs to facilitate Diaspora Contribution at the national and sub national levels.

3.5.6 Governance

THEMATIC AREA 6: GOVERNANCE

Governance, advocacy and policy coherence are indispensable agents to the integration of reciprocal Diaspora relations. Transparent, accountable and participatory governance structures allow for the agitation of increased development benefits and assist the Diaspora to fulfill their fullest potential in host countries. Transparency and accountability in governance are critical ingredients to enable policy coherence and the facilitation of advocacy. The abovementioned thematic area is related to the following specific policy goals:

Goal 5: Enhance service delivery to Diaspora populations

Government and its partners will:

- a. Enhance and enable diplomatic and consular representation and reach in host countries to cultivate confidence and trust in governance mechanisms
- b. Build networks of business, professional and community leaders

- c. Establish training and capacity building programmes for national and Diaspora institutions
- d. Facilitate research cooperation between research institutions in the Diaspora and Jamaica
- e. Support the strengthening of Jamaican associations and charitable foundations
- f. Devise mechanisms and initiatives to extend its outreach to Jamaicans and their descendants who reside in countries outside of the major Diaspora locations
- g. Examine legal and technical requirements needed for the participation of the Diaspora in the national democratic process of the countries where they reside
- h. Support the design of public education campaigns that build awareness among Diaspora members of their rights and responsibilities in the countries where they reside, as well as provide information on policy changes that affect the wellbeing of the Diaspora.

3.5.7 Engagement of Diaspora Youth and Young Adults

THEMATIC AREA 7: ENGAGEMENT OF DIASPORA YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

It has become increasingly evident that the engagement of the second, third and fourth generation Jamaicans, especially the youth in the Diaspora, is vital for the sustainability of the Diaspora movement. In that regard, the promotion of cultural connectivity and linkages, as well as the creation of a sense of identity are key elements to strengthen the affinity of young Diasporas with Jamaica.

Also of importance is attracting and building a strong relationship with the 3rd and 4th generation Diaspora so that they maintain an affinity with Jamaica, as they are more likely to have less affinity to Jamaica than their parents. The abovementioned thematic area is related to the following specific policy goals:

- Goal 1:** Increase Diaspora engagement and participation in national development planning
- Goal 2:** Facilitate and recognize Diaspora institutional mechanisms, networks and partnerships
- Goal 6:** Promote human capital exchanges, return and integration of Diaspora populations
- Goal 8:** Promote specific programmes and activities for engagement of youth and young adults.

Government and its partners will:

- a. Devise special programmes aimed at connecting youth in the Diaspora with youth in Jamaica
- b. Promote initiatives to encourage the second, third and fourth generation to become citizens of Jamaica
- c. Facilitate cultural and educational exchanges aimed at fostering national affinity
- d. Develop public private partnerships to allow for mentorship and coaching of youth in the Diaspora
- d. Facilitate the development of a database of young professionals to leverage their skills and expertise
- e. Develop specific tourism initiatives to attract the younger generation
- f. Increase the number of festivals and events that promote Jamaica's cultural heritage
- g. Use social media platforms to engage young people

3.5.8 Diaspora Tourism and Exchanges

THEMATIC AREA 8: DIASPORA TOURISM AND EXCHANGES

Recent emigrants are familiar with the culture and as such, Diaspora tourists are generally more willing to stay in locally owned or smaller accommodations (including with friends and relatives), eat in local restaurants, and buy locally produced goods than other international travelers.

The Diaspora can help open markets for new tourist destinations in their countries of origin. As Diaspora tourists travel to less-visited regions to see friends and family or participate in various cultural events, they will promote the creation of new restaurants, attractions, and general services for tourists outside of the major cities. These pioneering tourists might choose to invest in businesses in the region after making connections on their visits. The abovementioned thematic area is related to the following specific policy goals:

- Goal 1: Increase Diaspora engagement and participation in national development planning.
- Goal 2: Facilitate and recognize Diaspora institutional mechanisms, networks and partnerships
- Goal 6: Promote human capital exchanges, return and integration of Diaspora populations
- Goal 8: Promote specific programmes and activities for engagement of youth and young adults.

Government and its partners will:

- a. Create programs dedicated specifically to Diaspora tourism
- b. Offer educational and cultural exchange programs
- c. Promote and support heritage and sporting events
- d. Increase linkages among Jamaica's cultural products and tourism industry, including hoteliers and tour operators
- e. Leverage the skills, expertise and the capital available within the Diaspora to create a strong community-centred tourism product
- f. Explore and facilitate the development and implementation of an incentive programme geared towards medical, business, heritage and eco-tourism
- g. Improve local capabilities to plan and develop controls and regulations, monitor and track approvals, service customers and enforce planning regulations
- h. Implement talent imitative programme

- i. Increase affinity of the Diaspora through sports partnerships with national sporting bodies.

3.5.9 Legislative and Policy Review

THEMATIC AREA 9: LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY REVIEW

The participation of the Diaspora in the areas of policy and legislation is to be accomplished through the inclusion of a member of the Diaspora with the appropriate area of expertise on policy development committees. In other instances, where policies and legislation are already in existence, efforts should be made, moving forward to include a member of the Diaspora on the implementation and review committees. The reality is that ICTs now afford the participation of the Diaspora in numerous areas of Jamaican life. As such, participation does not need always be physical but can be facilitated virtually. The abovementioned thematic area is related to the following specific policy goals:

Goal 1: Increase Diaspora engagement and participation in national development planning

Goal 2: Facilitate and recognize Diaspora institutional mechanisms, networks and partnerships

Goal 6: promote human capital exchanges, return and integration of Diaspora populations

Government and its partners will:

- a. Amend and or formulate policies and pieces of legislation that encourage return migration
- b. Review the transaction cost for Returning Residents
- c. Engage the Diaspora through parliamentary processes and agreed mechanisms

- d. Review Jamaican Constitution, Nationality Act and other relevant pieces of legislation relating to citizenship, rights attached to same and immigration
- e. Examine provisions for unconditional landing status for second generation and beyond when holding a non-Jamaican passport
- f. Mainstream Diaspora participation in the implementation and monitoring of existing policies

3.5.10 Data and Information

THEMATIC AREA 10: DATA AND INFORMATION

Generally there is dearth of consistent and reliable information on the Jamaican Diaspora. The lack of data affects the development of policies and strategies and hinders effective engagement. The Government is aware that in order to develop robust policies to inform and support the Diaspora's welfare and well-being, timely, accurate and reliable data on size, location, composition and experiences are critical in ensuring engagement, analysis of migratory trends and development of bilateral agreements on migrants' rights.

Mapping of the Diaspora and developing a methodological framework for estimating the Diaspora composition, experiences, skills and expertise and willingness to participate in areas of national development are some of the critical indicators required for robust planning. The abovementioned thematic area is related to the following specific policy goals:

Goal 1: Increase Diaspora engagement and participation in national development planning

Goal 2: Facilitate and recognize Diaspora institutional mechanisms, networks and partnerships

Goal 4: Promote research and measurement of Diaspora contributions to development

Goal6: promote human capital exchanges, return and integration of Diaspora populations

The Government and its partners shall:

- a. Create an integrated database with expanded migration indicators and systemically update datasets to meet current development needs
- b. Promote and aggressively market Diaspora mapping in destination countries
- c. Develop baseline indicators for setting benchmarks on Diaspora engagement and the expected benefits
- d. Develop robust methodology to capture complex transnational migratory patterns
- e. Publish annual statistics on Diaspora composition, skills, expertise as well as investment preference to facilitate Diaspora engagement
- f. Develop a programme for linking websites in the public and private sectors in Jamaica and the Diaspora with vital Diaspora information

4. POLICY COHERENCE

The proposed policy is in keeping with the spirit, thrust and provisions of several national policies, legislation, and strategic documents. The policy recognizes the breadth and comprehensive nature of the interactions required for policy success and underscores the high levels of integration expected within the society and economy. Coherence is achieved not only through synergies among the policy documents, but also with regard to symbiosis of actions and focused development objectives.

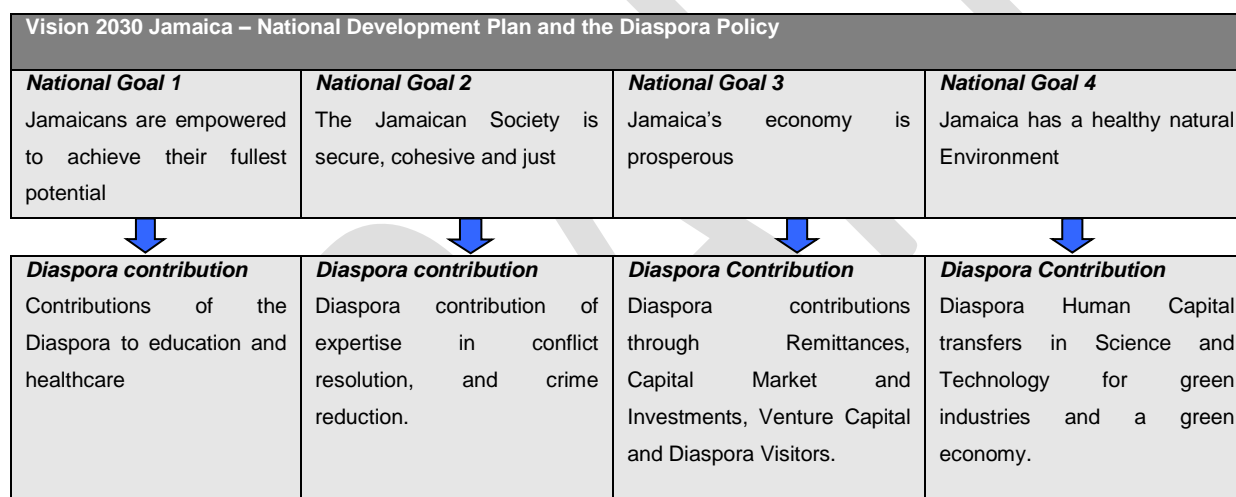
The National Diaspora Policy is aligned to Vision 2030 Jamaica National Development Plan, the Medium Term Socio-Economic Framework and policies which are linked to Jamaica's International Migration and Development Policy (IMDP). The IMDP

incorporates consideration of other related government policies and international and regional agreements.

4.0 Vision 2030 and Diaspora

The Diaspora is dynamically linked to the core goals of Vision 2030. The Jamaica Diaspora Policy aims to work in partnership with the Diaspora towards achieving the goals of national development expressed in Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan.

The figure below illustrates this.



4.1 Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework 2018-2021(MTF)

From the outset of Jamaica's MTF, the large Diaspora was noted as one of the country's main advantages. The aims of the MTF are also aligned to Vision 2030 and also notes a number of priority sectors for economic enhancement and competitiveness. These include the development of a logistics hub, ICT Parks, tourism and creative industries. These sectors are incorporated within the National Diaspora Policy as key areas in which the Diaspora is already engaged to different degrees and in which engagement can be enhanced in line with the MTF. Other areas relating to the

environment, health and education are also prime areas for Diasporic involvement; particularly given the recognised role of the Diaspora in assisting the country in meeting healthcare and education and training needs.

The Strategic Growth Agenda which seeks at the same time to facilitate economic growth/employment has four (4) particular areas:

- Economic Growth/Job Creation
- The Logistics Hub Initiative
- MSME Sector/Entrepreneurship/Innovation
- Competitiveness/Ease of Doing Business.

By way of elaboration on the Logistics Hub Initiative, this intervention is envisaged to be a game changer that will see Jamaica graduate from the abovementioned decades of anaemic economic growth. A critical modality for the realization of the Hub Initiative is the public-private partnership (PPP) approach.

Also tied in with the Entrepreneurship/Innovation aspect of the Growth Agenda are the specific areas of ICT and animation. This is deemed to be an area that can make inroads against the high level of youth employment currently estimated at twenty - two percent (21.8%).

4.2 The National Policy on International Migration and Development Policy

The National Diaspora Policy is integrally related to Jamaica's International Policy on Migration and Development (IMDP) and therefore is influenced by policies which are linked to the IMDP. See Appendix II. The IMDP notes that even though the Diaspora plays a significant role in Jamaican development, particularly through remittances and contributions to health and education, there is scope for tapping further into potential areas of the Diaspora, particularly in the areas of business, investments, trade and

skills and technological transfers (IMDP, 2013:12). The National Diaspora Policy seeks to introduce policies and strategies aimed at addressing some of these challenges.

Jamaica has enacted several laws which are particularly relevant for the Diaspora and their ability to engage with Jamaica. These include the Charitable Organisations (Tax Harmonisation) (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2013, which now makes it easier for the Diaspora to donate and partner with philanthropic and community groups at home, in key areas such as health and education, which have traditionally benefited from significant partnership with the Diaspora. Indeed, this marks a significant commitment by the Jamaican Government to ease the constraints faced by the Diaspora and their local partners in the area of philanthropy.

Key legislation relevant to the Diaspora includes those relating to citizenship, and the resulting rights attached to this status and immigration. These included are the Jamaican Constitution and the Jamaica Nationality Act. Of particular import for the involvement of the second and third generations are provisions allowing for a claim of citizenship by descent, for those whose parents or grandparents were Jamaican, as well as opportunities for unconditional landing status for the same group when holding a non-Jamaican passport.

INTERNATIONAL LAWS AND CONVENTIONS
UNITED NATIONS TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD AGENDA 2030 FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS
LOCAL LAWS
VISION 2030 JAMAICA



5. STAKEHOLDERS

- Government of Jamaica
- Diaspora
- Private Sector
- Non-Government Organizations and (NGOs) and Civil Society
- International Community and Development Partners

STAKEHOLDER ROLES

The thrusts and provisions of several national plans, policies, legislations and strategic programmes increasingly recognize the breadth and comprehensive nature of interactions necessary to harness the power of the Diaspora. To achieve this, efforts have to be timely, sequenced and integrated to bring about the desired reciprocal changes, outcomes and impact. Also, the management and facilitation of efforts have to be trusted and timely to ensure that the best interests of the plethora of diverse stakeholders are served.

5.0 Government of Jamaica

The Parliament, Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the Government acknowledge that their role in Diaspora partnerships is critical and assume responsibilities for same. GoJ defines its roles both as a driver and facilitator of the National Diaspora Policy as it works to:-

- Build and transform capacities to meet the changing needs of the Diaspora in a more timely and meaningful manner

- Forge and maintain strategic partnerships at the sub national, national and international levels with interest groups, foreign governments and those with affinity to Jamaica, serve the needs of persons who have left or need to leave, or want to support Jamaican's growth
- Recognize the value and worth of diasporic contributions to homeland and domicile countries
- Create an enabling environment that reduces the obstacles that hinder effective reciprocal engagement
- Catalyze the advancement of partnerships
- Implement a wide range of programmes and activities at the local, national and international levels that build on and develop two-way Diaspora engagement.

5.1 Diaspora

As beneficiaries and partners, the Diaspora will play a crucial role in the development and implementation of the Diaspora Policy. This involves acting as investors, partners, marketers, networkers, and key collaborators with the Government of Jamaica, businesses and civil society. The Diaspora will also be key informants and funders in the monitoring and implementation of this Policy.

The Diaspora Advisory Board or its successor body, Foundations and Organizations in the Diaspora will be linked to and/or made part of the institutional arrangements for Diaspora Administration and Governance.

5.2 Private Sector

The private sector has historically been a role model in Diasporic engagement and has garnered much experiential knowledge through its years of offering goods and services to the Diaspora. The private sector will offer vital lessons to the Government on

engaging with the Diaspora, as well as potentially assist in providing funding for the implementation of this policy. As the recipient of investments from the Diaspora, the private sector will also play an active role in helping to inform the development of investment options and awareness of opportunities for scaling up and diversifying the uses of remittances among recipients. The private sector is also well-placed to partner with the government in its effort to increase the amount of information on the Diaspora including their capacity, location, interests, resources and numbers and aid in the design of more targeted services and assistance. As such, public-private partnerships will be a definitive feature of the Policy, with private sector actions complementing those of the GOJ.

5.3 Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and Civil Society Organisations

Non-Government Organisations include: academic institutions, voluntary and community groups, faith-based groups, the media and beneficiaries of the Diaspora's philanthropy. These groups are important in encouraging engagement between the Diaspora and Jamaica, at the national and community levels and also serve as sources of feedback on needs. They also have a role to play in monitoring and evaluating the Policy for effectiveness and identifying areas for improvement.

The role of academic and research institutions is important in providing the site for the Diaspora to contribute their human capital and transfer of technology through partnerships and exchanges. Academic institutions will be the source of valuable research and insights in the implementation of this policy.

5.5 Digital and Social Media

The media will play an important role by providing information, contributing to awareness raising and education to the public and communicating in a timely manner the achievements of the Diaspora policy.

5.4 International Community and Development Partners

This group has played a major role in the more recent evolution of engagement between Jamaica and its Diaspora. This has been through the information on best-practices, funding and technical assistance. It is expected that this form of engagement and support will continue with the international community acting as a key partner to the Government and people of Jamaica in assisting in the full implementation and review of this policy including assistance with funding.

6. FINANCING

The areas for funding for the implementation of the Diaspora Policy fall under the following major areas:

- a. Strengthening the staffing of the Diaspora Affairs Department and Jamaica's Overseas Missions in the MFA&FT.
- b. Staffing for the Secretariat for the Diaspora Coordinating Board
- c. Technical studies, research and report commissioned by the Diaspora Coordinating Board
- d. Enhancement of ICT capacity and operational application to enable more effective communication between the Government and the Diaspora.

6.1 Contributions from the Government

The Government is fully cognizant of the environment in which it currently operates. This is one marked by fiscal constraints and ongoing vulnerability to economic threats, which limit the extent to which the Government can fund the implementation of the strategies under the National Diaspora Policy. As such, the approach will be diversified sources of funding. Through the principles of partnership and mutual gain, the Government will adopt a proactive approach to identify financing to support the implementation of the National Diaspora Policy.

6.2 Contributions from International Community and Development Partners

the sustained interest and the key role played by international development institutions in assisting Jamaica towards the development of its engagement with its Diaspora (e.g. the IMDP and National Diaspora Policy), the Government will approach this community for continued support under the National Diaspora Policy. It is recognized that the incentives for further collaboration reside not only on the side of Jamaica since further engagement in areas such as Diaspora mapping and other recommendations contained in the implementation plan offer this community an opportunity to develop best practices and tools that can potentially be replicated in other settings. Furthermore, host countries in which the Jamaican Diaspora currently have a sizeable population also represent a source of assistance, recognizing that the implementation of the recommendations contained within the National Diaspora Policy will also have positive consequences for these countries. As noted within the IMDP, financial support need not only be to Government but also directly to civil society organizations.

6.3 Contributions from the Private Sector

The local private sector has also been active partners and the Government of Jamaica will continue to encourage the development of strategic collaboration between the

Diaspora and local businesses for mutual economic gain. The Remittance companies will be enlisted to provide financial support for implementation of the policy.

Additional opportunities exist for funding the various activities and goals under this policy. As such, the Government will collaborate with the private sector and other relevant public bodies to encourage the use of existing innovations and emerging developments in sourcing and distributing funds for project development at all levels, including national, community, as well as at the individual level. Opportunities for funding will also come from cost recovery from bodies providing services directly to the Diaspora.

6.4 Contributions from the Diaspora

Key partners will be constituents within the Diaspora through their roles as funders, marketers and networkers for Jamaica. The Diaspora has already demonstrated a desire and commitment to assist Jamaica in investment funds and charitable donations. Opportunities for funding will be created through greater variety of measures and opportunities for investing and charitable giving, including, the gift of money, time and skills, and direct engagement in initiatives that complement the activities of Government.

7. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

A Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and related systems will be developed and implemented to track the progress of the implementation of the policy. The focus of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) will be the efficiency and effectiveness of the strategies as well as the expected results of the Policy and their impact on national development and the progress and prosperity of the Diaspora.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade will have overall responsibility for the Monitoring and Evaluation of the Diaspora Policy. In executing this responsibility, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade will work in collaboration with the Planning Institute of Jamaica, the National Working Group on International Migration and Development and the Diaspora Advisory Board or its successor body.

The focus of this collaboration with the NWGIMD will be to:

1. Establish Performance indicators within a Logical Framework incorporating the Goals, Purpose, Outcomes, Key Expected results of the policy, means of verification of achievements, contingencies and key inputs – human and financial resources, physical facilities and ICT tools and equipment – for the efficient and effective implementation of the policy
2. Obtain research and mission critical data for M&E of the policy
3. Establish an ICT driven M&E Reporting system to indicate on a timely basis achievements and warning signals / risks
4. Conduct periodic Formative Evaluation to use achievements, challenges, opportunities and lessons learnt for continuous assessment and continuous improvement of the Policy Implementation Process.

5. Ensure that there is harmonization of the Diaspora Policy with the National Policy and Plan of Action for International Migration and Development.

There will be an overall review of the policy, in terms of its continuing relevance and impact every 6 years, consistent with the review cycle for the National Policy and Plan of Action for international Migration and Development.

The key bodies that will be involved in the overall policy review will be the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Cabinet and Parliament.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1- JAMAICAN DIASPORA POPULATION -SELECTED COUNTRIES

COUNTRY	POPULATION	SOURCE
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	16,000	Immigration Department
AUSTRALIA	1,022	Australia Bureau of Statistics 2016 Census
COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS	5,572	Statistical Office, Nassau 2010
BELGIUM	232	Dept. of Statistics, Belgium 2018
CANADA	309,485	Canada Census, 2016
CAYMAN ISLANDS	16,000	Dept of Statistics Cayman Islands 2017
FRANCE	511	Dept. of Statistics, France 2018
HUNGARY	11	Immigration & Asylum Office Hungary 2018
INDONESIA	3	Embassy of Indonesia, Tokyo 2018
JAPAN	814	Ministry of Justice Japan June 2018
LUXEMBOURG	13	Dept. of Statistics, Luxembourg 2018
MALAYSIA	10	Malaysian Embassy, Japan January 2018
NETHERLANDS	1,275	Dept. of Statistics, Netherlands 2018
NEW ZEALAND	387	Statistical Authority, New Zealand 2013 Census
PHILIPPINES	18	Dept. of Justice, Bureau of Immigration, Philippines 2018
SOUTH KOREA	59	December 2017, Korean Immigration Service
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	8,000	Ministry of National Security T&T (JHC Port of Spain)2018
UNITED KINGDOM	143,000	Office of National Statistics UK 2011
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	1,124,120	2017 American Community Survey, 1 year estimates
TOTAL	1,626,519	

APPENDIX 2 Diaspora Challenges

Host Country Challenges

Impact of Immigration Legislation in the USA

With respect to immigration legislation, the USA implemented the “*Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act*” in 1996 which continues to have far reaching implications. The Act expanded the categories of criminal offenses inclusive of those previously regarded as removable offences, new definitions of crimes of moral turpitude. Further the law became retroactive with the resulting effect of doubling the numbers of Jamaicans removed from the USA. With technological advancement, law enforcement bodies are now interconnected which allows easier identification and detection of persons who may have an immigration violation. Added to this, is the provision where Lawful Permanent Residents are required to renew their “green cards” every ten years. This now subject them to new background checks which trigger an enquiry by the relevant authorities if they have an offence.

Over the last two years, the United States Government has strengthened its resolve to tighten its borders and develop a comprehensive plan for immigration reform. One aspect addressed persons who came to the USA as children known as the “dreamers”. They were offered temporary protection under the Deferred Action for Early Childhood Arrival. Under the plan, those who meet education and work requirements and show good moral character will be able to obtain a work permit. Some 6,000 Jamaicans who fall in the aforementioned category would obtain protection from deportation. This Executive Order is now the subject of legal challenges by the current Administration.

Another potential threat that would impinge on migration of Jamaicans to the USA is the possible implementation of the legislation that would curtail US citizen siblings to sponsor their Jamaican siblings. This is a very important pathway which has led to the migration of thousands of Jamaicans to the USA.

Windrush Immigration Crisis in the UK

In the UK, the Windrush Generation and their descendants have been adversely affected by successive immigration legislative changes culminating in a Bill passed in 2014 that required systematic checks of one's immigration status, including when opening a bank account, securing driving license, renting accommodation and accessing the National Health Service. Thousands lost their jobs, housing, welfare and pension benefits and ultimately their livelihood because they were unable to provide sufficient documentary or other evidence to substantiate their claims to having been long term residents with a right to remain in the UK. The resultant effect was those who could not prove their right to remain in the UK was subjected to removal orders, confined for extended periods in detention centers while seeking legal appeals and indeed scores were deported, some wrongfully.

The Government of Jamaica played a proactive role in advocacy, information sharing, daily monitoring of developments, and provided feedback and updates. The plight of our UK Diaspora was escalated to the highest levels of the UK Government resulting in their apology for the handling of the Windrush Immigration Crisis and thereafter there was an articulation of procedural steps to assist those affected. The Government of Jamaica reaffirmed that every effort should be made to ensure that the injustices experienced by the Windrush Generation victims should be redressed so that they are able to feel a sense of the restoration of the dignity of which they have been robbed.

The matter of compensation for victims remains a priority issue. The UK Government instituted a Windrush Compensation Consultation with the assistance of an Independent Advisor of Caribbean heritage. The Government of Jamaica, for its part, made a submission with respect to the design of the compensation scheme. In April 2019, the UK Government implemented a Windrush Compensation Scheme for those individuals who did not have the right documentation to prove their status in the UK and suffered adverse effects on their lives as a result. Individuals may claim losses related to

employment, immigration fees, detention and removal, housing, health, education, driving licenses, banking and impact on normal daily life.

Impact of Community Contacts Policy in Canada

A major challenge of the Diaspora is discrimination especially as it relates to policing. In Canada, the Community Contacts Policy otherwise referred to as “Carding” has significantly affected minority communities over many years. The practice which dates back to 1957 involves the random stopping and questioning of individuals not suspected of any offence or suspicious activity. These checks also involve the supplying of identifying information which is recorded in law enforcement databases.

Over the last several years street checks have been subject to increasing scrutiny given its disproportionate number of information on minority groups, particularly blacks being recorded in the law enforcement database. Instead of capturing people involved in criminality, it has recorded the identity and personal information of individuals who did not have any criminal history. There are significant ramifications for the Jamaican Diaspora Community as negative contact with the police erodes trust and confidence, reducing levels of co-operation and support of the law enforcement officials. Additionally, the stigma derived from negative interactions with law enforcement, even while innocent, can potentially impact their immigration status and ability to find work, access social welfare services as well as housing.

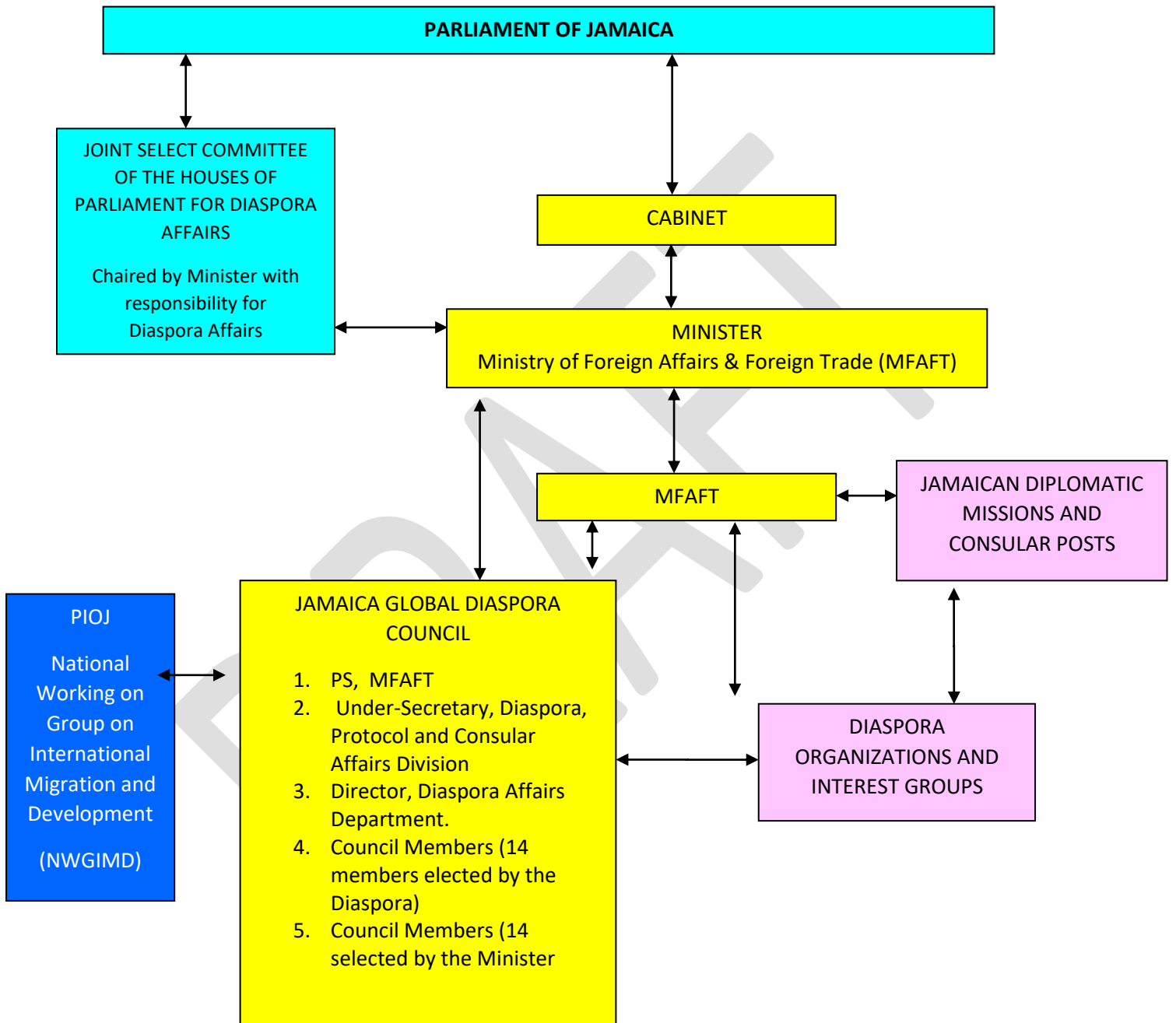
In 2017, Canadian Government appointed Justice Michael Tulloch of the Jamaican Diaspora, to conduct an independent review to assess the effectiveness of new regulations, introduced in 2016. The regulations indicated that individuals should be duly informed by Police that they would not be required to provide identifying information during street checks.

Justice Tulloch’s Report included wide ranging recommendations inclusive of the methodologies being utilised by the Police; the discontinuation of the random collection

of personal information of individuals randomly stopped by the Police; definition of the terms 'identifying information' as well as 'suspicious circumstances'

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APPENDIX 3 – Governance & Administration Structure & Relationships for Diaspora Policy Implementation



APPENDIX 4 - LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

The instruments listed below are selected based on their relevance to the eight thematic areas outlined in the policy. The approach is primarily to present a synopsis of the main elements of the laws and related instruments. A critical analysis of the adequacy of these laws pertaining to their linkages to development will be undertaken at a later stage.

MIGRATION LEGISLATION

- **The Jamaican Constitution (Order in Council) 1962** is the highest law in Jamaica and gives force and effects to other laws of the country. It addresses relevant issues such as [a] citizenship; [b] fundamental rights and freedoms of individuals; [c] institutions which are forefront in the political governance of the country; [d] political representation; and [e] the roles of the executive and the judiciary in legal and economic development.
- **The Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms (Constitutional Amendment) Act (2011)** addresses in total the fundamental rights and freedoms afforded to all Jamaicans (i.e., life, liberty, security of persons, freedom of thought, freedom of expression, opinion, freedom of assembly, freedom of movement, the right to equality before the law, rights of children, right to a passport, etc.). In addition, it also deals with protection of property rights, the right to due process, freedom of religion, and the status of marriage.
- **The Jamaica Nationality Act (1962)** examines the rights, procedures and conditions of accessing Jamaican nationality. The Act examines the [a] retention of nationality; [b] minors; [c] naturalization; [d] conditions regarding deprivation of citizenship; [e] evidence requirements for citizenship; and [f] regulations and offence.

- **The Passport Act (1935)** embodies the legal force of this identifying document to be used primarily for the purpose of international travel. It covers [a] document issue and renewal; [b] document validation; [c] power (through the Minister) of representative institutions overseas; [d] appointment of officers; [e] fees; and [f] offenses and penalties.
- **The Aliens Act (1946)** examines the [a] retention of nationality; [b] eligibility for admission and restriction on landing; [c] inspection and detention of aliens; [d] supervision and deportation of aliens; and [e] revocation and variation of orders.
- **The Foreign Nationals and Commonwealth Citizens (Employment) Act (1964)** addresses [a] employment controls of foreign nationals; [b] application for and production of work permits; and [c] offences and penalties.
- **The Extradition Act (1991)** deals with [a] extraditable offences; [b] application of provisions to stipulated Commonwealth and foreign states; [c] extradition to and from approved states; [d] proceedings for extradition; and [e] appeals and repeals (for Jamaica).
- **The Immigration Restriction (Commonwealth Citizen) Act (1945)** outlines provisions for [a] general powers of immigration officers; [b] prohibited immigrants; [c] persons deemed not prohibited; [d] certificate of identity upon re-entry; [e] orders for leave and removal; [f] extension of leave to remain; [g] in-transit passengers and crew; [h] visitors; [i] warrants and places of detention; and [j] recovery of expenses.
- **The Emigrant Protection Act (1925)** cover [a] application to leave the island; [b] need to procure a permit to travel; [c] powers of the Minister (country provisions, reparation fees etc.); [d] registration of recruiting agents; [e] obtaining documents by false pretenses; [f] offences for false documents; [g] penalties and the powers of constables; and [h] agreement with foreign country.

- **The Caribbean Community Act (2005)** encompasses [a] treaty having force of law; [b] financial provisions; [c] evidence; [d] objectives of the Community; [e] non-discrimination; [f] the organs of the Community and their roles; and [g] Councils for Human and Social Development, and Foreign and Community Relations.
- **The Caribbean Community (Free Movement of Skilled People) Act (1997)** incorporates provisions for [a] indefinite and provisional entry of skilled persons; [b] qualification and occupations required for the issue of a qualifying certificate; [c] spouses and dependents; [d] revocation of permission; and [e] offences and penalties.
- **The Caribbean Community (Establishment, Services, Capital and Movement of Community Nationals) Act (2006)** includes [a] the rights of establishment (movement of restrictions, and treatment of monopolies, etc.); [b] provision of services; [c] movement of capital and foreign exchange provisions; [d] safeguard measures, security restrictions; and [e] appeals.

TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- **The Jamaica Promotions Corporation Act (1990)** deals with [a] establishment and functions of the corporation (i.e., trade and industry, export, investment activities in all areas of the Jamaican economy, etc.); [b] financial powers of the organization; and [c] regulations and exemptions from stamp duties.
- **The Fiscal Incentives (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2013** which took effect on January 1, 2014, repealed approximately 10 pieces of legislation under which incentives had previously been granted. While arrangements were made to validate incentives granted prior to that date, no further such incentives could be granted. This was in compliance with a structural benchmark under the then current IMF Extended Fund Facility; Incentives repealed included those granted under the Export Industry Encouragement Act (1956); The Hotels (Incentives) Act; The Resort Cottages (Incentives) Act; The Shipping (Incentives) Act; the Industrial Incentives Act and the Industrial Incentives (Factory Construction) Act.

SOCIAL SERVICES

- **The National Housing Trust Act (1979)** deals with [a] establishment of the NHT, management and functions; [b] contributions; [c] benefits; [d] rates of interest, administration; and [e] offences and penalties.
- **The National Health Fund Act (2003)** deals with [a] establishment of the Fund; [b] beneficiaries of the Fund; [c] policy directions; [d] fund resources; [e] tax revenue exemptions; [f] specific diseases and specified medical conditions; and [g] penalties for false declarations.
- **The National Insurance Act (1966)** pertains to [a] insured persons and national insurance contributions; [b] descriptions and rates of benefits and contribution conditions; [c] old age benefits; [d] invalidity benefit; [e] widow and widowers benefit; [f] orphan and special child benefits; [g] funeral grants; [h] maternity benefits; and [i] claims and adjudication.
- **The Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Act (1988)** involves [a] application in Jamaica of orders made abroad (registration, confirmation, conversion to Jamaican currency, change of address, transmission of documents, etc.); [b] application abroad of orders made in Jamaica (transmission, variation and revocation of orders made in courts abroad or in Jamaica, provisional orders; [c] admissibility of evidence; [d] appeals; and [e] designation of reciprocating countries.
- **The Registration of Titles Act (1889)** covers [a] the power to repeal laws and practices; [b] procedure in bringing Land under the operation of the Act; [c] caveat against registration; [d] registration of land with doubtful title; [e] re-registration by plan; [f] establishment of a register book; [g] provision as to certificates; [h] transfers, leases, mortgages and charges; [i] subdivision by lots; [j] execution of instruments; [k] powers of attorney; [l] fees and duties; and [m] offences.

- **The Land Development Duty Act (1958)** includes [a] the power of the Minister to declare a special development area; [b] duty on capital gains; [c] betterment charges; [d] appeals; and [e] penalties for false statements and offences, etc.

FAMILY

- **The Children (Guardianship and Custody) Act (1957)** involves [a] rights of surviving parents; [b] power of parents to appoint testamentary guardians; [c] power of guardians; [d] power of the courts; and [e] enforcement of orders for payment of money.
- **The Children (Guardianship and Custody) (Amendment) Act (2016)** allowed Jamaica to accede to the Hague Convention on Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. It has responded to concerns expressed within the Diaspora and otherwise about the difficulties in recovering children abducted to countries with different legal systems and social structures but which are also party to the said Hague Convention.
- **The Child Care and Protection Act (2004)** focuses on [a] children and protection of children; [b] the Children's Advocate and Child Register; [c] general provisions for care of children; [d] child employment and exposure to health risks such as smoking and drug use; [e] licences for special homes for children; and [f] conditions of detention for children and criminal responsibility of minors.
- **The Children (adoption of) Act (1958)** entails [a] establishment and functions of the Adoption Board; [b] power to make adoption orders; [c] evidence of consent by parties; [d] intestacies, wills and settlements; [e] jurisdiction and procedures; and [f] appeals and provisions.
- **The Maintenance Act (2005)** includes [a] obligation of spouses during marriage and cohabitation; [b] obligation of parties on termination of cohabitation; [c] obligation of non-minors; and [d] maintenance orders, the power of courts and payments under the Act.

- **The Marriage Act (1897)** pertains to [a] roles and responsibilities of marriage officers; [b] notices under the Foreign Marriage Act; [c] licences and stamp duties; [d] provision for a register; [e] duties of civil registrars and marriage officers; and [f] offences (tampering, falsification of documents, provisions related to punishment, etc.).
- **The Matrimonial Causes Act (1989)** covers [a] suits for dissolution and nullity; [b] recognition of foreign decrees; [c] practice and procedure of the courts; and [d] injunctions and other orders.
- **The Family Property (Right of Spouses) Act (2006)** includes [a] use of the Act in place of rules of common law and equity; [b] entitlement to and transfers of interest in the family home; [c] property agreements and property rights; [d] division and disposal of property; and [e] powers of the Court.
- **The Inheritance (Provisions for Family and Descendants) Act (1993)** covers [a] application for financial provisions from the deceased's estate; [b] time limit for applications; [c] the power of the courts; [d] interim orders; [e] termination of orders upon remarriage of former spouse; and [f] contracts to leave property by wills.
- **The Status of Children Act (1976)** includes [a] equality of status, provisions in wills and protection in trusts; [b] evidence of parenthood and the power of the courts, paternity; and [c] blood tests, blood samples, and attendant regulations.
- **The Judgements (Foreign) (Reciprocal Enforcement) Act (1923)** is inclusive of [a] enforcement of judgement in foreign courts; [b] precedence of courts; and [c] jurisdiction in the Commonwealth.

CULTURE AND HERITAGE

- **The Jamaica Cultural Development Commission Act (1968)** covers the promotion of cultural programmes and activities throughout the island and organizing celebrations of national interest.
- **The Jamaica National Heritage Trust (1985)** refers to a corporate body with the power to purchase, hold and dispose of land and other property. It covers the [a] protection of national monuments and heritage; and [b] tax and duty exemptions.
- **The Tourism Enhancement Act (2004)** covers [a] payment of fees or dues and transfer to a Fund; and [b] accounts, audit and reporting.

GENERAL

- **The Representation of the Peoples Act (1951)** pertains to [a] franchise and registration of electors; [b] electoral procedures; [c] procedures on polling day; [d] halt of the taking of the poll on election day; [e] procedures subsequent to polling day; [f] voiding of the taking of a poll; [g] financial provisions; [h] administrative provisions; and [i] offences and penalties.
- **The Statistics Act (1949)** empowers the Statistical Institute of Jamaica to carry out its functions and includes [a] establishment and functions of the Institute; [b] control of exchange of information; [c] exemption from tax and duties; [d] power to direct taking of censuses; [e] access to public records; and [f] major offences and penalties.
- **The Criminal Justice (Administration) Act (1960)** examines the management of the local criminal justice system with regard to day-to-day operations, institutions, policies and procedures, and work flow priorities.
- **The Bank of Jamaica Act (1960)** deals with the establishment of the Bank and its Constitution. In addition it addresses specifics such as [a] capital and reserves; [b] currency, coinage and legal tender; [c] foreign currency dealings; [d] money transfer

and remittances; [e] supervision and estimation of banking and financial operations; [f] relations with government; and [g] accounts and reports.

INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND DEVELOPMENT AREAS

- **Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) 1948** was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948. It is a pioneering instrument representing a global expression of rights entitled to all human beings. It consists of 30 articles, elaborated in international treaties, regional human rights instruments, national constitutions and laws.

The Hague Convention 1930 was a codification conference held in The Hague to formulate acceptable rules. The Convention recognizes the right of each state to determine its nationality laws while recognizing the nationality laws of other states. This covers the nationality of married women and children. Only certain questions on the conflict of nationality laws were agreed upon at this Convention, however, this subsequently motivated the United Nations to strive for a permanent commission (International Law Commission) to proceed with the codification of international law.

- **International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) 1965**, of which Jamaica is a signatory (signed August 1966 and ratified June 1971), commits members to condemn racial discrimination and pursue means to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination and racial segregation. Currently there are 86 signatories and 175 parties.
- **International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) 1966** is a treaty aimed at ensuring that the economic, social and cultural rights of individuals are protected. It includes the right to self-determination, the right to non-discrimination, the equal rights of men and women, the right to work, the right to form trade unions, the right to health and the right to an adequate standard of living. The Covenant, as of July 2011, has 160 parties. Jamaica was a signatory on December 1966 and ratified the treaty on October 1975.

- **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) 1966** states that every human being has the inherent right to life, which shall be protected by law and no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life. The treaty also speaks to the right of each individual to freely determine his/her political status and the equal right of men and women to enjoy their civil and political rights. Jamaica was a signatory on December 1966 and ratified on October 1975. As of March 2012 the Covenant has 74 signatories and 167 parties.
- **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) 1979** commits states to condemn discrimination against women and pursue measures to eliminate discrimination against women. It stipulates that states commit to the full development and enhancement of women. Jamaica was a signatory in July 1980 and ratified the Convention in October 1984. As of July 2011, 187 states have ratified the treaty. The United States of America is the only developed nation that has not ratified the treaty.
- **Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), 1989** - under this convention, a child is deemed to be any human being not yet attaining age eighteen (18), unless under a state's own domestic legislation majority is attained earlier. This treaty speaks to the rights of the child. It commits states to taking appropriate measures for ensuring that the child is protected against all forms of discrimination or punishment. It stipulates that all actions concerning children shall have the best interests of the child as a primary consideration. Jamaica signed the treaty in January 1990 and ratified in May 1991.
- **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006** promotes, protects and ensures the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities, and to promote respect for their inherent dignity. As of July 2012 there are 153 signatories and 117 parties. Jamaica signed and ratified this instrument on March 2007.

- **The American Convention on Human Rights, 1969** commits states to ensuring that persons are free and that the rights and freedom of those persons are recognized without discrimination. Jamaica signed and ratified this convention.
- **United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000** promotes cooperation to prevent and combat transnational organized crime. It consists of three protocols:
 - i. Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children
 - ii. Protocol against smuggling of migrants by land, sea and air
 - iii. Protocol against the illicit manufacturing and trafficking in firearms.

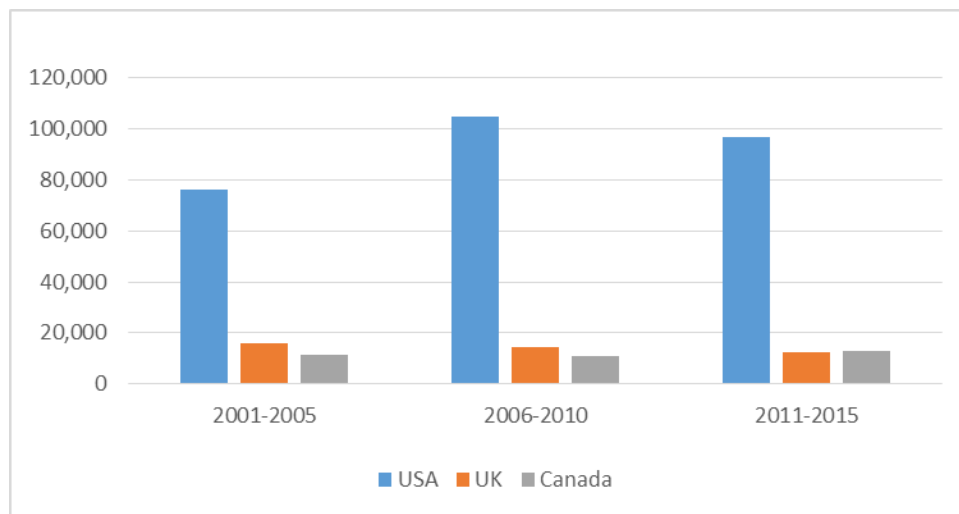
Jamaica signed on September 2001 and ratified on September 2003. As at August 2012, the Convention had 147 signatories and 170 parties.

- **General Agreement on Trade and Services (GATS), 1995** is a treaty of the World Trade Organization created to extend multilateral trading to the service sector. All members of the WTO are signatories to GATS.
- **The CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME)** is aimed at creating one large market among participating states. The key elements of the CSME include the free movement of goods and services, the free movement of labour, the free movement of capital and a common trade policy.

**APPENDIX 5 Export trends for non-traditional food exports during the period
2012-2017: STATIN (USD 000) Annual**

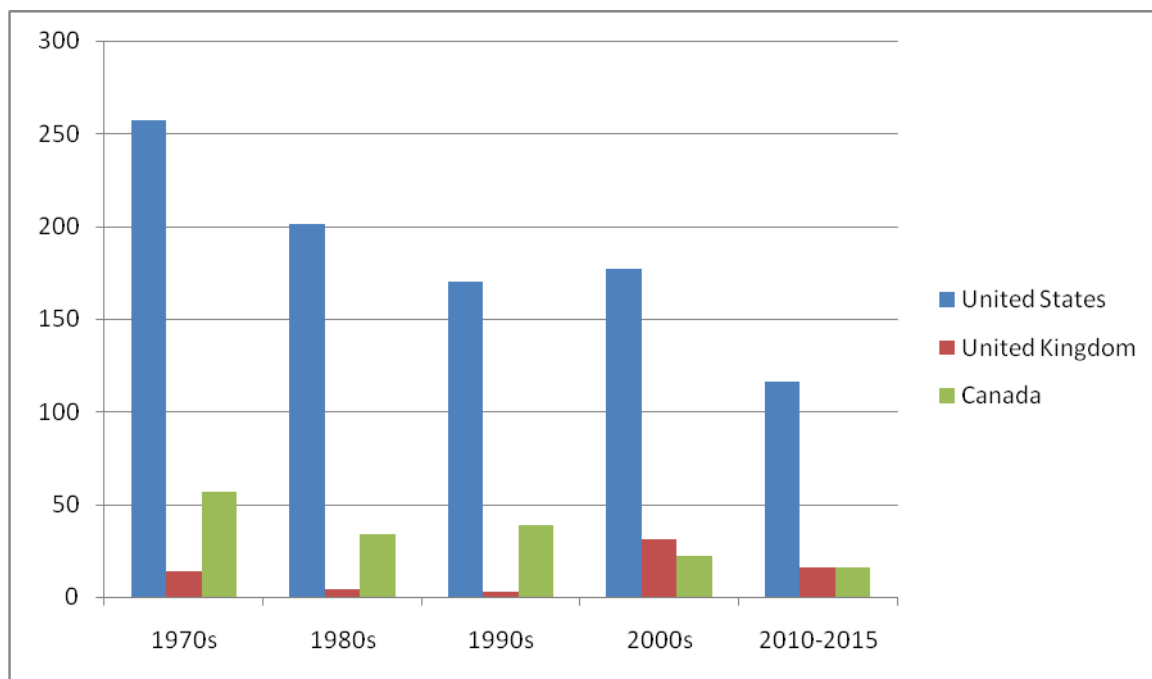
2012-2017 Non Traditional	2012	2013	2014	2015 2016	2017	
Total Non-Traditional Exports	846,696	719,628	596,007	436,259	464,660	554,052
Food:	144,385	152,720	146,483	137,412	169,755	181,274
Pumpkins	531.0	708.0	461.0	365.0	245.0	257.0
Other Vegetables & Preparations thereof	2,425	2,666	2,225	2,240	2,488	2,675
Dasheen	1,658	1,563	1,387	1,024	1,445	1,496
Sweet Potatoes	2,838	3,565	2,621	2,701	3,066	3,335
Yams	19,610	22,221	22,141	21,698	25,761	29,496
Papayas	4,471	3,365	3,777	4,247	4,426	4,386
Ackee	13,873	15,543	11,925	14,876	21,077	15,886
Other Fruits & Fruit Preparations	7,040	5,682	5,620	4,293	5,867	6,122

Appendix 6 - Total 5-year flows of Jamaican emigrants to the USA, Canada and the UK, 2001-2015



Sources: Authors calculation based on data obtained from PIOJ - ESSJ 2016, USA Yearbooks 2010, 2011, and 2015” Thomas Hope 2018”

Appendix 7 Jamaican Emigration to the USA, UK and Canada by Decade 1970's - 2015 (In the Thousands)



GLOSSARY

Circular migration – the temporary movement of migrant workers based on labour needs of origin and destination countries.

Country of destination – the country that is a destination for migratory flows (regular or Irregular) (*IOM, International Migration Law, Glossary on Migration 2nd Edition, 2011*)

Country of origin – the country that is a source of migratory flows (regular or irregular) (*IOM, International Migration Law, Glossary on Migration 2nd Edition, 2011*)

Dependents – individuals requiring financial and related support in a family. Legally this refers to individuals under 18 in a family but there are cases where the elderly, college students and adults with disabilities fall into this category.

Diaspora – Jamaicans and their descendants who reside outside of Jamaica (Taken from Introduction)

Economic Development – progress in an economy as measured through internationally accepted qualitative and quantitative measures on overall standard of living and economic wellbeing. This is inclusive of improvements in education and human capital, international competitiveness of goods and services, health, literacy, environmental sustainability, technology, democracy and social inclusion.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) – value of all finished goods and services produced within a nation within a specified time period

Gender – a term that refers to socially constructed differences between the sexes and to the social relationships between men and women. These differences are shaped over the history of social relations and change over time and across cultures.

Globalization – any form of societal change having a transnational dimension.

Governance – the exercise of economic, political and administrative authority to manage a country's affairs at all levels. It comprises the mechanisms, processes and institutions through which citizens and groups articulate their interests, exercise their legal rights, meet their obligations and mediate their differences

Family – a group of individuals (normally related) living under one roof relating to one household head

Human Development - a process of enlarging people's choices and building human capabilities (the range of things people can be and do), enabling them to live a long and healthy life, have access to knowledge, have a decent standard of living and participate in the life of their community and the decisions that affect their lives.

Human Rights - any condition that recognizes a reaffirmed faith in fundamental human rights and dignity and worth of the human person. This declaration commits all member states to universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, gender, language, or religion.

International migration - Movement of persons who leave their country of origin, or the country of habitual residence, to establish themselves either permanently or temporarily in another country.

Involuntary return migrant – a person who has been compulsorily returned to his/her country of origin, transit or third country on the basis of administrative or judicial act. (*IOM, International Migration Law, Glossary on Migration 2nd Edition, 2011*)

Irregular migrant - A person who, owing to unauthorized entry, breach of a condition of entry, or the expiry of his or her visa, lacks the legal status in a transit or host countries. (*IOM, International Migration Law, Glossary on Migration 2nd Edition, 2011*)

Irregular migration – migration that takes place outside the norms and procedures established by the origin, transit and destination country.

Migrant- A person moving to another country or region to better their material or social conditions and improve the prospect for themselves or their family. (*IOM, International Migration Law, Glossary on Migration 2nd Edition, 2011*)

Migration – The movement of a person or a group of persons, either across an international border, or within a state. (*IOM, International Migration Law, Glossary on Migration 2nd Edition, 2011*)

Official Development Assistance - Flows of official financing administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as the main objective, and which are concessional in character with a grant element.

Policy – a plan or course of action intended to influence and determine actions, decisions, and other matters; a course of action, guiding principle or procedure considered expedient, prudent or advantageous

Policy Coherence - the systematic promotion of mutually reinforcing policy actions across government Departments and Agencies creating synergies towards achieving the agreed objectives. Within national governments, policy coherence issues arise between different types of public policies, between different levels of government, between different stakeholders and at an international level.

Pull factors - the factors present in another country that pressure or motivate the migrant to seek or reside in that country

Push factors - the factors present in a migrant's country that pressure or motivate the migrant to leave the country of origin and seek to reside elsewhere

Remittances – transfer of resources (in cash or kind) made by foreign workers to their home country.

Return Migration - the movement of persons returning to his or her country of origin. Return migration may or may not be voluntary.

Sustainable Development - meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs

Voluntary return – return based on the voluntary decision of the individual. This is absent of physical, psychological, or material coercion