

CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP AND EXPERT GROUP MEETING ON INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

**Presented by: Claire Bernard
Planning Institute of Jamaica
May 27- 29, 2015
New York**

Contents



- **Background**
- **Performance on the MDGs (2014 assessment)**
- **Challenges**
- **Governance**
- **Consideration for the SDGs**

Background

- When the MDGs introduced in 2000, Jamaica was in the process of implementing the 1996 National Industrial Policy (NIP) and related strategies having completed the 1990-95 cycle of five -year development plans
- History of 5-year plans since the first 10-year development plan in 1959
- All the plans up to the NIP focused primarily on the macro economy - some emphasis on the social sector and little or no attention to the environment

Background

- The primary emphasis was on turning around the fortunes of the economy which had been in a protracted period of structural adjustment
- The NIP came on the heels of the first Rio Conference on Sustainable Development and therefore reflected the three pillars of SD but the **integration of the pillars was not strong**
 - (skewed towards issues economic, but included poverty reduction, and education)
- The pre MDG period - the preparation of the National Poverty Eradication Programme, 1995, and Jamaica National Environmental Action Plan, 1995 both related to the commitment to Agenda 21
- The poverty programme was an attempt to soften the adjustment experience and was part of the Human Resources Development Programme with significant investments in education, health and social welfare

Background

- Since 2009, Jamaica has embarked on more integrated/sustainable planning through the long term SD plan Vision 2030 Jamaica- National Development Plan
- With four interrelated goals, the plan promotes sustainable prosperity featuring human development, environmental health and viability, economic prosperity and social cohesiveness
- The goals and targets of the MDGs serve as an integrating thread through Vision 2030 underling the thrust towards sustainability planning

Governance

- The institutional and implementation framework for Vision 2030 are linked to a series of 3-year MTF, business strategic plans of MDAs, the budget and relationship with IDPs
- Thematic Working Groups (inclusive & wide stakeholder membership)
- Vision 2030 has M and E framework which monitors progress through biennial reports, dashboard of indicators linked to the Strategic Outcomes of each Goal
- Update to the public on key indicators in the Quarterly Press briefing
- Periodic update to Cabinet

Governance

- These features of Vision 2030 implementation and monitoring are being used to shape preparation for the SDGs
- Also grounded in the Consultation Code of Practice for the Jamaican Public Sector
- A multi stakeholder/inter-ministerial working group co chaired by the MFAFT and PIOJ set up to formulate a National Outcome document for the SDG
- Opportunity for incorporation of SDGs into the MTF 2015-2018 currently under preparation in highly participatory process

Performance on the MDGs (2014 assessment)

- Mixed experience with the MDG targets
- Initially achieved targets of Goal 1 but poverty has been increasing since the 2008 global recession and its negatives impact on Jamaica
- Lagging on a number of targets
 - Goal 3 - promote gender equality and empower women: despite significant gains in the education system
 - affected by relatively low levels of female representation in Parliament (11% in 2011)
 - relatively high female unemployment rate (18% compared to 10% although educational enrolment features higher percentages of girls)

Performance on the MDGs (2014 assessment)

- Goal 4: Way behind in reduction of child mortality; declined by 25% since 1990 but Jamaica cannot achieve the targeted 75% reduction
- Goal 5: Maternal mortality- a) far behind b) on track c) achieved
- Goal 6: HIV/AIDS etc. - Largely on track
- Goal 7: Environmental Sustainability: Achieved one target, lagging with respect to policy integration and unable to properly assess others (biodiversity loss, slum dwellers) because of data availability and definitional challenges, respectively
- Goal 8: Developing Global Partnership- **On track** but problems of indebtedness

Challenges

- MDGs primarily targeted at improved human development through social development while fostering environmental sustainability but lack focus on simultaneously fostering economic development
- The result is that slow growth/no growth, heavy reliance on IDPs and Indebtedness (among some countries) limit ability to consistently invest in social development

Challenges

- Some targets were unrealistic given the development profile of some countries (e.g. middle income) and the level of investment that would have been required to meet them
- The targets measure quantitative change but fails to recognize the cultural nuances which may hinder success; undervalues qualitative changes made
- Reporting requirements are data intensive

Considerations for the SDGs

- Alignment between the SDGs and countries national development plans and aspirations to secure priority investment
- The SDGs should also be aligned to other international agreements to enhance their effectiveness while reducing the likelihood of duplication, and possibly onerous reporting
- SIDS, LDCs should receive special attention, particularly with respect to data management – this is an area of deficiency which lends itself to early intervention
 - ▣ Better data collection capacity needed to assist in proper assessments, development of appropriate strategies and for adequate reporting

Considerations for the SDGs

- Targets must be realistic, might best be described as a range to accommodate all categories of developing countries - with low to high development index
- The SDGs adopted have to be underpinned by the principles of SD and their integration; must demonstrate understanding that social development is one part of the development triangle
 - ▣ Macro economic development to drive job creation
 - ▣ Framework for mutually beneficial trade between developed and developing countries
- Partnerships will be critical - NGOs should be capacitated to be real development partners not alternative governments

Considerations for the SDGs

- Private sector partnerships -IDPs could assist in building economic robustness in developing countries through sustainable investments in the private sector
- Mutual benefit of SDGs to developed and developing countries should be highlighted and become part of the narrative
- IDPs should assist in bridging the financing gap ... performance has to be better than previous where actual investment fell well below pledges

“Jamaica, the place of choice to live, work, raise families and do business”

