

**TECHNICAL COOPERATION ON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT
FROM THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY OF JAMAICA
TO THE MINISTRIES OF LABOR OF BARBADOS, GRENADA, SAINT KITTS & NEVIS AND SAINT LUCIA**

Kingston, Jamaica – September 10 to 14, 2018

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY

Jamaica's programs and initiatives addressing youth -including the Housing, Opportunities, Production, Employment (HOPE) Programme, the Youth Upliftment Through Education (YUTE), and specific efforts of the HEART Trust- have been recognized as some of the most promising efforts in the Caribbean to combat the high levels of youth unemployment. This was especially clear during the Regional Forum "Towards Concrete Solutions to Addressing Youth Unemployment in the Caribbean", held in Bridgetown, Barbados on December 6, 2017, in the framework of the XX Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML) of the OAS.

As a follow-up to this Forum, the OAS selected a proposal submitted by the Ministry of Labour and Social Partnership Relations of Barbados to the Inter-American Network for Labor Administration (RIAL), to learn first-hand Jamaica's experience. Later and also as a follow-up to the Forum, the Ministries of Labor of Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Saint Lucia were also invited to participate, thanks to the generosity and willingness to cooperate of the Jamaican Government.

OBJECTIVES

It is expected that, during the technical cooperation, the delegates will be able to:

- Engage those agencies that have created interventions/programmes that are working that are effective in bridging the transition between school and the world of work;
- Examine any projections and labour market trends that influence the directions of studies/curricula for prospective young workers;
- Understand the processes/steps used by the Providing Country to determine how best these can be applied/adapted to each of the participating countries situations;
- Engage policy makers and some persons from the business community that actively participate in youth employment interventions to discuss labour policies and linkages to education and youth

policies with a view of revisiting and revising each country's policies and creating plans of action for necessary adjustments by the various policy makers; and

- Have a general discussion on how to create that buy-in and commitment to addressing those identified gaps in the various policies and or the needs of the various players—government, private sector employers and the youth.

PARTICIPANTS

JAMAICA - MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY

Mrs. Colette Roberts-Risden
Permanent Secretary

Mrs. Andrea Miller-Stennet
Director of Manpower Services

Mrs. Andrea Patterson-Morris
Planning, Research and Monitoring Unit

Mr. Lyndon Ford
Labour Component Coordinator (ELE)

Mr. Steven Kerr
Human and Community Development Manager

BARBADOS - MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL PARTNERSHIP RELATIONS

Ms. Marva Howell
Deputy Permanent Secretary

Mrs. Yvette Walcott-Dennis
Senior Placement and Counselling Officer in the Barbados Employment Career and Counselling Service of the Ministry

Mrs. Tricia Browne
Administrative Officer I

GRENADA - MINISTRY OF LABOUR

Mrs. Lima Frederick
Permanent Secretary

SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS - MINISTRY OF LABOUR, SOCIAL SECURITY AND ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS

Mrs. Shernel James
Acting Labour Commissioner

SAINT LUCIA - MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE, PORTS, ENERGY AND LABOUR

Mr. Celestine Alexander
Employment Officer with responsibility for Local Employment

IMPORTANT ADDRESSES

The Knutsford Court Hotel (All participants will be staying here)

16 Chelsea Avenue,
Kingston 5,
New Kingston,
Jamaica W.I.
T. (876) 929-1000

Ministry of Labor and Social Security

1F North Street,
Kingston, Jamaica

AGENDA

TIME	ACTIVITY	PARTICIPANTS / VENUE	OBJECTIVES
DAY 1 – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2018			
8:30– 8:40 am	Welcome & Greetings	Deborah Patrick Gardener (Mrs)- Chief Technical Director Labour Division Mrs. Jeanelle van GlaanenWeygel, OAS Representative in Jamaica	In this opening session the Chief Technical Director and the Director, Industrial Relations and Allied Services will be officially welcome the delegation to Jamaica and to the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, and the OAS Representative of Jamaica will provide an introduction to this activity, as part of the OAS Inter-American Network for Labor Administration (RIAL), and review its main objectives. The Director of Industrial Relations will present an overview of the activities involved in the study Tour.
8:40-8:50 am	Objective and Overview of Study Tour	Gillian Corrodus (Mrs) Director of Industrial Relations and Allied Services	
8:50-9:45am	Presentation on countries experiences	Members of the Delegation	The objective of this session is to highlight the experiences of the participating countries in terms of the policies, programmes, and the specific interventions employed in the respective countries to address challenges faced by youths in particular, in the labour market. Central to this is the issue of vulnerable youths and programmes that are undertaken to assist them in the transition from school to work.
9:45 – 10:05 a.m.	Tour of Electronic Labour Exchange Department (Introduction to LMIS Website)	LMIS Team 1F North Street	(1) Provide information about the Electronic Labour Exchange (ELE) which is an internet-based employment system that facilitates the efficient matching of job seekers with employers. (2) To facilitate the observation of the processes involved in carrying out the functions of the Department. This includes the use of the Labour Market Information System (LMIS) in providing access to opportunities for Jamaicans to register and be matched to a potential job. Accurate and reliable information is also provided to assist job seekers to make informed decisions in relation to their careers.

10:10 – 10:40 a.m.	Meeting – Senior Director	Mrs. Andrea Miller-Stennett Director Manpower Services Mrs. Andrea Patterson-Morris PRMU	The objective of this meeting is to provide an overview of the roles and functions of the ELE and Planning Research and Monitoring Departments and how they work together to promote the employment services offered by the Ministry .
10:45 – 11:30 a.m.	Presentation - Planning Research & Monitoring Unit (PRMU)	PRMU Team	Through this presentation participants will be provided with information on some of the labour market studies which have been completed by the Ministry's Planning Research & Monitoring Unit. Findings of the studies will also be shared.
11:30 – 12:00 p.m.	Meeting- Planning Institute Of Jamaica	Steven Kerr- Human and Community Development Manager ELE Conference Room	During this meeting the composition, role and functions of the Labour Market Information Technical Labour Advisory Committee will be highlighted.
12:05 – 1:05 p.m.	LUNCH (ELE Conference Room)		
1:05 - 2:00 p.m.	Meeting – Social Security Meeting – Steps to Work	Mrs. Elsa Marks-Willis Project Director Mr. Kareeme Morrison Manager of Steps to Work 14 Heroes Circle	This session will provide an overview of the public assistance and social intervention programmes available particularly to vulnerable youth and how these are applied in seeking to address the myriad of issues faced by this target group. Of critical importance is the collaborative approach between the Labour and Social Security Divisions to promoting labour market attachment and entrepreneurship.
2:00 – 2:50 p.m.	Meeting – Housing, Opportunities, Production, Employment Programme (HOPE)	Lieutenant Colonel Rickman National Coordinator for HOPE Programme	Information on the Prime Minister's initiative to support and assist at-risk youth in building their lives to become productive citizens.
2:50 – 3:30 p.m.	Meeting and Interacting with HOPE Interns	Mr. Kaldren Edwards HOPE Intern Supervisor 14 Heroes Circle	Participants will learn of some of the challenges which HOPE interns encountered and how the programme has assisted in addressing these.
3:35 – 4:40 p.m.	Discussion – ELE Youth Employment Processes	Labour Component Co- ordinator Mr. Lyndon Ford ELE Team	The discussion will provide information on the process of preparing candidates for the job market and job matching activities across the island. This session will focus on the operations of the On- the- Job Training Project

DAY 2 – TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2018			
9:00 – 9:30 a.m.	Courtesy Call –Ministry of Labour & Social Security	Hon. Shahine Robinson Minister of Labour and Social Security Dunston Bryan (Mr) Permanent Secretary (Acting) S6 Conference Room Mrs. Jeannelle van GlaanenWeygel, OAS Representative in Jamaica	The objective of the Courtesy Call is to provide an opportunity for the Permanent Secretary and Minister to welcome delegates to Jamaica and to briefly engage them on the importance of the work that the Ministry is performing to address employment related issues affecting the youth in particular. OAS Representatives may also engage in this part of the program.
9:40 – 10:10 a.m.	Meeting/Presentation- Ministry of Education	Mr. Denworth Finnikin National TVET Director ELE Conference Room	During this session role of Technical Vocational Education and Training in preparing young persons for the world of work. The standards setting, assessment and certification process will also be discussed .
10:30 – 11:00 a.m.	Presentation – The MultiCare Youth Foundation and New Employment Opportunities for Youth (NEO) Jamaica	Mr. Joe Matalon Chairman The MultiCare Youth Foundation and Barrington Bryce Project Coordinator NEO Jamaica	An overview of one non-government agency's involvement in the provision of solutions to the employment problems with which many of our youth are grappling through The MultiCare Youth Foundation (formerly Youth Upliftment Through Employment, the executing agency for the New Employment Opportunities for Youth (NEO) Jamaica. It is a business, government and civil society partnership which seeks to strengthen public sector dialogue around youth training and employment.
11:00 – 12:00pm	Testimonials	Selected mentors and mentees, and youth	Mentors, mentees and youth providing testimonials of their experiences of the impact of the programmes offered by the Foundation
12:15 - 1:15 p.m.	LUNCH (ICD Board Room)		
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.	Dunoon Technical High School	Sharlene Brooks Project Officer The MultiCare Youth Foundation	The session will focus on soft skills training provided under Passport-to-Success to poor and vulnerable youth so that they can acquire the confidence, reliability, and teamwork skills necessary to succeed in school, work, and life.
2:45 – 4:00 p.m.	Presentation: IDB Consultant	Branka Minic (Mrs)	The session will provide insight into approaches from school to work transition from a global perspective. The role of the international donor community in providing financial and technical support for projects to facilitate/promote youth employment will also be discussed.

DAY 3 – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2018			
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.	Meeting – HEART Trust NTA/NYS	Aston Spencer	This session will provide an overview of the national Training Agency, its mandate, the crucial role that it plays in the provision of many training options to prepare not only the youth but also adult clientele for the labour market by training to global standards.
10:10 – 11:15 a.m.	Employer’s Visit- City of Kingston Cooperative Credit Union (COK)	Employer Representative	The session will provide an opportunity for participants to interact with the young persons who were placed with this organization by the ELE through the On The Job Training (OJT) Programme. It will also give the participants a chance to learn more about the Programme from the perspective of a participating employer.
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	LUNCH (ELE Conference Rooms)		
1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Site Visit-First Heritage Co-Operative Credit Union	Employer Representative	The session will provide an opportunity for participants to interact with the young persons who were placed with this organization by the ELE through the On The Job Training (OJT) Programme. It will also give the participants a chance to learn more about the Programme from the perspective of a participating employer.
2:15 – 4:00 p.m.	Employer’s Visit-Celebration Brands/Red Stripe	Employer Representative	The session will provide an opportunity for participants to interact with the young persons who were placed with this organization by the ELE through the On The Job Training (OJT) Programme. It will also give the participants a chance to learn more about the Programme from the perspective of a participating employer.
DAY 4 – THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2018			
6:30 – 6:45 a.m.	Gathering at MLSS 1F North Street	Study Tour Participants & ELE Team	
6:45 – 8:30 a.m.	En Route to St. Mary	Study Tour Participants & ELE Team	
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.	Jamaica Producers Tour & Factory Site Visit	Jamaica Producers Management Team	The session will provide an opportunity for participants to interact with the young persons who were placed with this organization by the ELE through the On The Job Training (OJT) Programme. It will also give the participants a chance to learn more about the Programme from the perspective of a

			participating employer.
10:30a.m. — 12:00 p.m.	St. Ann Chamber of Commerce Jamaica Hotel and Tourist Association (St. Ann Chapter)	Member Of Chamber	The role of the private sector and the value of public sector /private sector partnership in catering to the needs of job seekers will be highlighted
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.	LUNCH (Mystic Mountain Restaurant – (Ocho Rios)		
2:15 – 3:00 p.m.	Employer Visit -SNAP Branding Meeting & Interacting OJT Candidate	Ms Belinda Duhaney - Regional Parish Office	The session will provide an opportunity for participants to interact with the young persons who were placed with this organization by the ELE through the On The Job Training (OJT) Programme. It will also give the participants a chance to learn more about the Programme from the perspective of a participating employer.
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.	Jewels Paradise Cove Hotel and Spa & Meeting & Interacting OJT Candidate	Jewels Paradise Cove Team	The session will provide an opportunity for participants to interact with the young persons who were placed with this organization by the ELE through the On The Job Training (OJT) programme. It will also give the participants chance to learn more about the Programme from the perspective of a participating employer.
4:30 – 6:00 p.m.	En Route to Kingston	Study Tour Participants & ELE Team	
DAY 5 – FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2018			
7:00 – 7:15 a.m.	Gathering at MLSS 1F North Street	Study Tour Participants & ELE Team	
7:15 – 10:20 a.m.	En Route to Falmouth: Visit to Historic Sites	Study Tour Participants & ELE Team	This tour will give the participants a chance to see some of the most interesting tourist attractions in Jamaica.
11:00 – 12:00 p.m.	Montego Bay Hilton Rosehall Hotel & Spa : Meet & Greet Candidates	Hilton Rosehall Team	The session will provide an opportunity for participants to interact with the young persons who were placed with this organization by the ELE through the On The Job Training (OJT) Programme. It will also give the participants a chance to learn more about the Programme from the perspective of a participating employer.



LUNCH (Hilton Rosehall Hotel& Spa- Montego Bay)