

Introduction of the St. Kitts and Nevis Labour Market Information System (LMIS) and next Steps  $\,$ 

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## Introduction

One of the many roles of the Ministry of Employment and Labour is to provide human resource development and training for job seekers, collect employment data and manage the challenges within industrial relations. Through is various departments the ministry aims to provide training, career guidance, job placement, skills matching, job sourcing, collect and analyse labour market information through surveys and services offered by the Ministry including its social protection programmes and services and labour interventions.

Our initial plan was to automate our severance and LSG processing services, however, the information shared by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security has served to broaden the scope of our design. We will endeavour to build a full Labour Market Information System LMIS to improve our data collection and our methods of sharing labour market information with our stakeholders. This system will include a labour exchange component for employment within the Federation as well as for our Canada Caribbean Seasonal Workers Programme, thereby making it a one stop resource centre to enhance the services offered to stakeholders.

This system will have to be accessible for people with physical disabilities and impairments, as such we will have to ensure the necessary features are included to guarantee its useability for all workers.

The LMIS will enhance service delivery and significantly contribute to the Ministry's success in meeting its mandate. We anticipate that this will take a phased approach, given limited resources and along with continuous development in technology, the Ministry will seek more advanced methods of meeting the needs within the market.

To accomplish this, we anticipate the next steps to include:

- A revision of our labour legislation and processes for inclusion of electronic data collection
  which ensures continued compliance and functionality within the law. This will underscore
  the obligation of the Ministry and establish roles of the various departments in maintaining
  the LMIS.
- Collaboration with the department of Technology to complete an analysis of the resources, costs and realistic timeline for building, testing and launch of the LMIS.
- Continued partnership with internal and external stakeholders in meeting our goals which include formulation of surveys and publications.

## Conclusion

This document is submitted for your attention and action. **Jewel Wattley, Head - Policy, Research and Statistics**