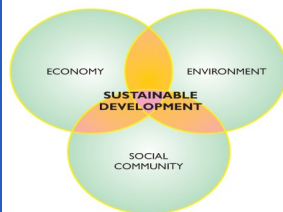




INTERNATIONAL & INDUSTRY LIAISON UNIT

TRADE BEAT



During the 1987 report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (Brundtland Commission), the new concept of sustainable development was presented to the world. So recognized was this concept, that it shaped the way in which the international community approached its agenda, regarding economic, social and environmental development. The Brundtland Commission's report defined sustainable development as "development which meets the needs of current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs".

So what does this mean? Let us take for instance, if we cut down a tree today to get its wood, sustainable development dictates that for every tree that we cut down, a new tree should be planted, some advocates would say two, in order to ensure that future generations will have the use of sufficient trees to get wood, when they require it. This concept is promoted globally by international organizations, especially those with an environmental agenda. As a world community, we must preserve or regenerate our natural resources, making way for our future generations to enjoy them. As such, the international community has developed specific global goals on sustainable development to fulfill our universal needs. Consequently, at the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Summit, held on 25 September 2015, world leaders adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change by 2030. The SDGs represent a new, universal set of goals, targets and indicators that the UN will use to frame its agendas and political policies by the year 2030.

World leaders have an unprecedented opportunity this year to shift the world onto a path of inclusive, sustainable and resilient development"

- Helen Clark, UNDP Administrator.



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The Sustainable Development Agenda

On 1 January 2016, the **17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** officially came into force. The SDGs came out of a UN Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015, captioned - **Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**. This Agenda is essentially a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity, which includes, seeking to strengthen universal peace and to eradicate global poverty through collaborative partnership, in order to heal and secure our planet. Over the next fifteen years, the implementation of the SDGs, which universally applies to all countries, should see the mobilization of efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind.

The SDGs build upon the success of the eight (8) **Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)** coming out of the UN Millennium Summit held in September 2000. The MDGs formed a blueprint addressing global issues such a poverty reduction, providing universal primary education, combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, all by the target date of 2015. The SDGs call for action by all countries, poor, rich and middle-income to promote prosperity while protecting the planet, recognizing that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and addresses a range of social needs, including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.



Sustainable Development Goals

- Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
- Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Sustainable Development Goals

- Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
- Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries
- Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
- Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Sustainable Development Goals

- Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
- Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

* Acknowledging that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change



“The seventeen Sustainable Development Goals are our shared vision of humanity and a social contract between the world’s leaders and the people,” said

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

“They are a to-do list for people and planet, and a blueprint for success.”

In order to achieve the 17 Global Goals, governments are expected to take ownership of them and establish national frameworks for implementing the SDGs. Although they are not legally binding, countries have the responsibility to follow-up and review the progress made in implementing the SDGs, which will require quality, accessible and timely data collection. Regional follow-up and review is also required by the UN and will be based on national-level analyses, which will contribute to follow-up and review at the global level.

The Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR)

The Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) is a publication of the UN aimed at strengthening the science-policy interface at the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development. The HLPF replaced the Commission on Sustainable Development, as the main international platform for providing political leadership and guidance on sustainable development issues at the UN. The GSDR informs the HLPF, and is responsible for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The GSDR is a strong evidence-based mechanism that supports sustainable development policy, and uses an assessment-of-assessments approach in documenting and describing specific policy-relevant issues, based on information gathered from Members. The GSDR is global in coverage, and accounts for the perspectives of the five UN regions, drawing on extensive inputs from the UN system. Reports into the UN system comprises inputs from the Regional Commissions, scientists, government officials and stakeholders at all levels, including representatives of academies of sciences, key international assessments, and relevant UN expert groups. The GSDR represents a continuous initiative by the UN, and will be guided by the expressed needs of the HLPF Member States.

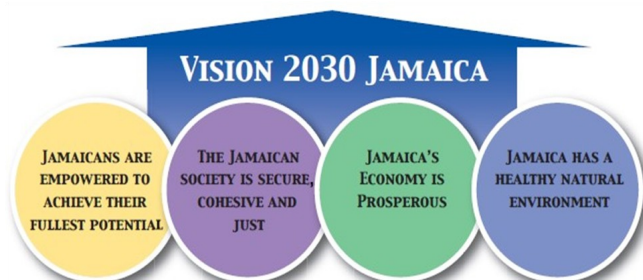


Jamaica’s Vision 2030

The national vision statement regards *“Jamaica, the place of choice to live, work, raise families and do business”* by the year 2030. This deadline is of significance, as it coincides and is closely aligned with the envisioned date for the UN SDGs. Jamaica’s Vision 2030 was first published in 2009 by the Planning Institute of Jamaica, and represents a long term strategic development plan, prioritized around four (4) main national goals with attached outcomes.

In order to achieve this vision, Jamaica’s first priority is to ensure equitable access to modern education and training, appropriate to the needs of each person and the nation. Quality and timely healthcare access is also envisioned, as well as to sustain the environmental and cultural treasures of the island, for all future generations. Jamaica’s Vision 2030 is to be achieved by creating prosperity through the sustainable use and management of natural resources, as well as advancing scientific and technological knowledge capabilities.

The National Goals



Jamaica’s Vision 2030 is built upon four (4) strategic goals for national development, that are linked to fifteen (15) national outcomes. These outcomes have their own national strategy to ensure their delivery, and reflect the desired changes in development conditions, that should lead to the achievement of the national goals. Each outcome is aligned to a specific national goal, which collectively provides a roadmap for achievement and success under Vision 2030 Jamaica.

Under Goal 1 in order for Jamaicans to be empowered to achieve their fullest potentials, four (4) national outcomes have been identified. These outcomes relate to population, education and training, social protection and culture. In order to achieve the first national outcome - **A Healthy & Stable Population**, it is recognized that to truly realize Vision 2030, population planning must be incorporated into the overall development plan. Various issues relating to the populace must be considered, such as gender, youth, working



Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan

NATIONAL GOAL	NATIONAL OUTCOMES
# 1 Jamaicans are empowered to achieve their fullest potential	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Healthy & Stable Population 2. World Class Education & Training 3. Effective Social Protection 4. Authentic & Transformational Culture

STATISTICAL INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA

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age, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, when formulating a comprehensive strategic plan. A balanced and sustainable growth rate in population is also identified as corollary to a healthy and stable population. There is a commitment regarding the health sector to build on its positive attributes, while recognizing areas for improvement such as mortality rates among mothers and infants. Reforms to the health sector should see improvements in life expectancy, averaging 76 years of age for both male and female by 2030. This will be bolstered by encouraging a healthy lifestyle among the population, with a health promotion approach taken by the sector. The provision of primary healthcare access should be delivered to all by 2030, with significant improvements targeted for secondary and tertiary care. Partnerships among private and public sectors will also be enriched to enhance governance, management and resource levels within the health sector.

Role of Customs for Vision 2030

Under National Goal 3: Jamaica’s economy is prosperous, six (6) National Outcomes have been identified, consisting of **National Outcome 8 - An enabling Business Environment**. Of particular importance, is the role of customs and trade which has been identified as critical to creating a competitive and enabling business environment supporting economic growth and development. This objective rests on the efficiency and transparency of public institutions, particularly customs, which would see a reduction in transaction costs associated with much of customs processing. The proposed strategy consists of enhancing the institutional and regulatory framework for business investments and operations, and developing efficient local and external markets for goods, services, labour and capital. Business opportunities for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, should see improvements, due to an overall streamlining of bureaucratic processes. This would be facilitated by improvements to the customs and clearance processes for imports and exports, ensuring the full implementation of Automated systems such as the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA) and the Export Paperless Licensing System.





SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Looking Ahead

The national development plan—Vision 2030 Jamaica, outlines each national outcome contained within each national goal, and provides a comprehensive mapping of objectives with expectations and delivery strategies. Similarly the SDGs provide global outcomes for the global goals and tracks progress made through the GSDR. If every nation remains closely aligned with the SDGs, ensuring accountability and deliverables for each goal, the 2030 target date will be achievable. Partnerships among national and international organizations, as well as private and public entities are central to the global vision.



**JAMAICA CUSTOMS AGENCY
INTERNATIONAL & INDUSTRY LIAISON UNIT**

Myers Wharf
New Port East
P.O. Box 466
Kingston 15

Phone: 8769225140-8 ext.3028/3182
E-mail: international.liaison@jacustoms.gov.jm



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We're on the Web!
<http://www.jacustoms.gov.jm>



The CARICOM Desk of the International and Industry Liaison Unit is committed to raising the level of awareness on topics relating to the Caribbean Community, as well as issues concerning the wider topic of international trade, to both our internal and external stakeholders. Our monthly newsletter seeks to highlight global trade topics and their importance to Customs Administrations worldwide and specifically how they affect the Jamaica Customs Agency. As we realize our vision of becoming a modern Customs administration delivering excellent service, we recognize the importance of knowledge transfer in delivering our objectives and use this forum as our way of contributing to the vision of the JCA. The International Liaison Unit is located at the Myers Wharf head office and our officers are available to respond to your queries and clarify any points of concern.

Prepared by: CARICOM Officer—Marsha Wilson-Maxwell