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THE JAMAICA LABOUR PARTY

MANIFESTO

2016

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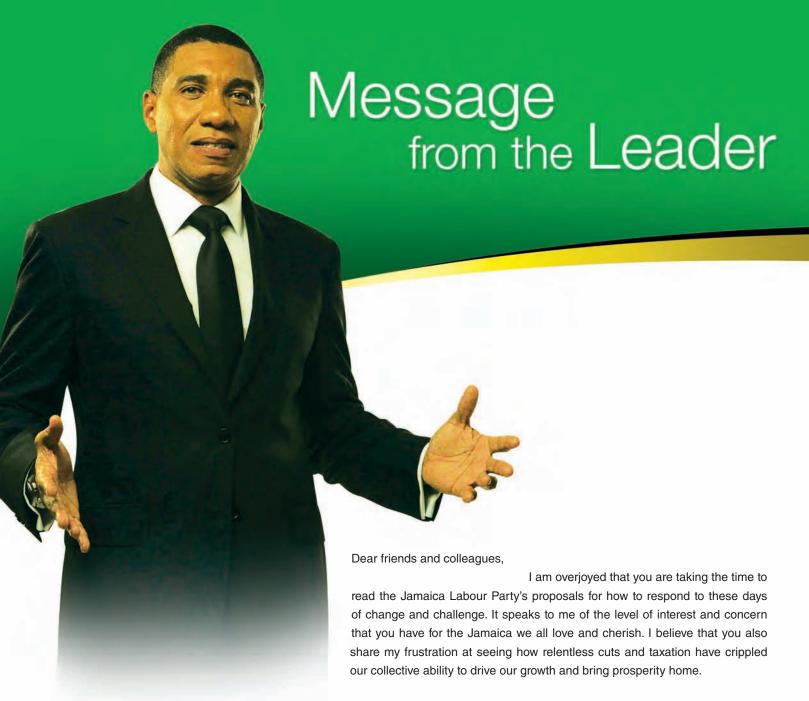


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The JLP seeks to create an investor-friendly environment in which the interests of business - the engine that drives job creation - are connected via a simple, single point of reference to the needs of job-seekers: the Ministry of Economic Development and Job Creation. The Jamaica Labour Party is very clear in its focus and delivery objectives for the next five years:

Firstly we must put our country back on the path to robust economic growth, facilitating broad and sustained job creation and employment for every Jamaican who is able and wants to work. Secondly, in order to keep Jamaica on the path of continuous improvement, we must foster healthy, educated, and socially well-adapted citizens. We are focused on both Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and "GWB" (General Well-Being).

When our society can provide many of our nurses, police, teachers, and young people who have acquired reasonable skills training and jobs, relief from P.A.Y.E. taxes, and the opportunity to save and own their own homes through reasonable and affordable mortgage payments, the benefits to all will be both economic and social.



I remain very proud to say that in our last term in office, the JLP Government presented Jamaica with an impressive list of changes that made a real difference in people's lives:

- · We passed the Charter of Rights, finally entrenching basic rights to be guaranteed to all Jamaicans
- We started a process of transforming the governance climate by having key Parlimentary Committees such as Public Administration and Appropriations Committee, chaired by members of the Opposition
- We established INDECOM, which today is reaping the reward of lower extrajudicial killings across the island
- We instituted ways to ensure a fairer distribution of resources to the community level, regardless of which party is in Government, via the Constituency Development Fund (CDF)
- We restored the confidence of international lenders and investors; we had held the dollar stable for 2 years at around JA\$86 to US\$1; brought interest rates down to 6.25%, their lowest level in decades; held approximately US\$2B in the NIR; cut interest rates to single digits and even mortgage rates were brought down to less than 10%.
- And yet, these business-friendly measures did not detract from our ability to care for the vulnerable: at the same time, we doubled benefits under PATHE; brought 100,000 more people into the social safety net; and improved the water supply to over 88,000 rural residents

In 2016, we are coming back to finish the job we started in 2007. We are coming back to restore law and order. We are coming back to pull the shell-shocked urban areas back to life. We are coming back to bring Government processes into the 21st century.

I know you will have even more thoughts about how we can make things better after you have read our plans and vision. I would be delighted if you would take the next step and share those thoughts in conversation with your colleagues and friends, and put your votes behind the plans you feel represent the best hope for all of our futures.

The JLP is united, strong and ready to give Jamaica good government and a real chance for progress. The decision is yours: continue with things stagnant as they are, or grasp the opportunity to join with us in a Partnership for Prosperity and change things for the better. Please, choose prosperity.

In faith,

Andrew Holness

Party Leader



We will reform government and establish a Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation.

The new Ministry will ensure that investments are rapidly facilitated to avoid government obstacles and duplication or working at cross-purposes. This Ministry will cultivate public-private partnerships, to bring economic opportunities to life in the shortest possible time. It will ensure the coordination of resources to minimize red tape and maximize efficiencies.

In addition, we will foster collaboration across all Ministries to ensure that where Government invests, people see the returns. For example, where the Ministry of Agriculture invests in improvements to markets, the Ministry of Tourism can assist and promote these as new destinations.



We will immediately restore the benefits at the Junior Stock Market to grow equity financing for start-up and expansion of small to medium size businesses. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) form the most stable base for job creation at the community level.



We will reform the tax system.

This means leaving you with more of your income to support your family. This means lower taxes and a business-friendly tax system. We will again reduce transfer taxes, stamp duties, and estate taxes. We will get rid of P.A.Y.E. tax for everyone who earns a basic salary of JA\$1.5m or less. When workers take home more money, they spend more. More spending means more jobs.



We will list on the Jamaica Stock Exchange several state-owned enterprises such as the UDC and Factories Corporation.

These corporations have significant asset bases which can be properly packaged and placed on the stock market with realistic investment plans that would attract new capital and unleash the economic and job creation potential latent in them.



FOR GROWTH



We will fix Jamaica's water infrastructure.

We will make strategic capital investments in water. Jamaica is not short of water, this government does not know how to manage it. The investment in water will reduce the impact of drought on the economy, and will also boost agriculture and housing construction.



We will create a special council of investment ambassadors. These representatives will be empowered to specially seek out large investors from all over the world and bring them to Jamaica. Jamaica must improve its international profile as an investment destination and not merely as anemerging market to which money can be lent.



We will reform the NHT, the Jamaica Housing Agency and the Mortgage Bank. We will expand affordable housing construction and reduce interest rates on mortgages. We will create a 50-to-60 year mortgage to make payments easier.



We will invest in improving skills to attract higher-value investments and more meaningful jobs. Economic growth must mean jobs for our people—real jobs, with a future. While we will seek investments that match the available skill sets, we are committed to improving the skills of Jamaicans to attract higher-value investments to sustain long-term economic growth. We are particularly excited about our compulsory education and skills policy. All our young people who are not in a job or currently in school will have the opportunity to develop their knowledge, skills, and attitude through a National Apprenticeship Programme and a National Service Programme, where they earn a stipend whilst gaining a skill, certification and work experience.

POINT PLAN & JOB CREATION

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We will advance Jamaica as a digital society.

An important step on this path is to digitize government records and put more business processes online. This will improve the efficiency and accessibility of government, removing a major impediment to the growth of businesses. And this is just one area in which we will employ the young people we have trained under the national apprenticeship and service programmes.



We will revitalize and rebuild our town centres and cities.

There is so much value lying idle in our real estate in blighted urban areas. However, government has to lead the way with a clear vision, policy and commitment to partnering with the private sector to make our towns and cities attractive and comfortable for residents and businesses again. We will start with the redevelopment of the Kingston waterfront and market district and the hugely exciting Vernamfield Corridor. This will be partially funded by the listing of the UDC on the stock market.

These are just 10 of the many innovative and exciting things we will do to place Jamaica on the path to economic growth and job creation, the path to prosperity.



WORKING OR OWNING A BUSINESS



LOOKING FOR WORK

Free doctor visits and hospital care for the elderly and disabled

More tests available for early detection of illness

Tax credits for paying health insurance premiums

Simplified retirement and social security benefits system

e-Home, the Work From Home Initiative

Easier mechanisms for making tax payments and social security contributions

Land title assurance so farmers can pass the business to the next generation

Affordable loans to get into farming and agribusiness

Healthy lifestyle education programmes help keep us fit and reduce lifestyle diseases

PAYE tax break for persons earning less than \$1.5m

Longer term mortgages that

Integrated transport planning for cargo and passengers



New career option: Agricultural Technician opens up independent work in landscaping and farming

Incentives restored toJunior Stock Market to make capital available to growing businesses

Access to affordable housing for all

Jobs in early childhood education

Support for better parenting



On the job training opportunities

National Apprenticeship Programme and National Service Programme

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A hospital for Portmore!

e-waste policy and laws

National Apprenticeship Programme and National Service Programme



Expansion of Bustamante Children's Hospital

Safer schools through strong safety and security policy

Strong Early Childhood Development Policy leads to more accessible day care options









The Map to Prosperity

Health sector stakeholders' committee to ensure good management continues

More jobs created in the health sector

New Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation

Citizens can buy shares in some state enterprises placed on the stock exchange, for long-term wealth creation

PAYE tax break for those who earn less than \$1.5m

Skills upgrading available to all ages

Technology Innovation Fund Greater law enforcement against praedial larceny means our local food basket thrives

ICT Act, Data Protection Act & Amendment of Electronic Transactions Act will give people and businesses freedom to do business online

Performance standards make public sector jobs more dynamic

Career development with HEART Trust / NTA

Better SLB Terms. Lower interest rates, longer re-payment periods Regular audits of health facilities

More education programmes to treat and prevent HIV/AIDS

CREM - making quality educational material available to all schools

National Apprenticeship & Service Programmes

No Mandatory Auxilary fees at High School Uni

Universal Internet access means a world of new learning opportunities

Child-centred education systems

Roll-out of Grade 4 Assessment to detect learning challenges early

Fix Adoption Process
Review CDA & OCR to ensure systems
work better in the interests of our
children

95% immunization coverage by 2020

A single National ID card from birth through your lifetime

FINANCE & THE ECONOMY



The simple fact is that our tax system is inefficient and inequitable. It makes it difficult for compliant businesses to pay taxes; provides a web of incentives that are distortive and complex to navigate; creates an unequal playing field for businesses in different sectors; and concentrates the burden of funding on a narrow band of taxpayers.

Apart from legislation, little has changed during the last four years. The average business doing its best to comply with the law, finds itself handicapped by the many bureaucratic hoops through which it must jump. This is a situation that serves to drive more transactions 'underground' into the informal economy; to discourage able people from registering businesses; and sends signals to investors, to look elsewhere for an easier business climate.

The focus of the Jamaica Labour Party is very clear: robust economic growth, and facilitating broad and sustained job creation. The laser beam of the next government's attention will be on providing our young people with reasonable skills training and jobs, affordable student loan payment plans, relief from income taxes for entry-level employees, and the opportunity to own their own homes through affordable mortgages.

One Ministry for Economic Growth and Job Creation

Time and again we have seen good initiatives started by the private sector, coming to a halt because of a lack of cooperation between different agencies in government. We envision a single ministry, designed to serve as a single focal point and action centre for any initiative that has potential to create jobs and grow revenues.

Simplified Taxation System

The JLP reforms will simplify the tax system and increase its overall efficiency. We will also expand the tax net by:

- reducing stamp duties and transfer taxes on land transactions
- · reducing estate duties
- merging NHT, NHF and NIS deductions into one Social Security Deduction

Create More Jobs in the Utilities and Infrastructure Sector

We will use economic clusters to encourage synergies, cost savings and heightened efficiencies in the search for new jobs and new economic approaches.

One such unit will be formed from what is now a triad of problem entities, with missed targets and rampant poor performances: the water, energy and housing sectors. Early in the new term, we intend to convert these three into an interconnected growth triangle which will improve service delivery and create thousands of new jobs.

There is a very strong and practical basis for anticipating real employment growth in these sectors. In the case of water catchment and storage, for example, our plans for promoting water harvesting mean that people will be employed to install the gutters on roofs and prepare catchment tanks. This is just one of many examples where entry- and secondary-level jobs would be created.

Reducing the Debt Burden on Students

We will find and secure new funding arrangements to make the very burdensome student loans much more manageable, for responsible student-borrowers, over a longer period of time.

The JLP government will seek grant funding and financing from non-government guarantee bonds issued by special purpose institutions which will be created to facilitate lower cost and longer-term student loans to help financially stretched young Jamaicans to finance their education. These bonds which will be tradeable, will be made attractive to long term investors.

A Boost for Low Income Earners

We will raise the minimum wage from 6,200 to 8,200 per week. We will remove PAYE taxes for those workers earning a basic salary of 1.5 million or less.

Focus on Small and Medium Enterprises

We believe in small and medium businesses as engines of growth.

Apart from our return of incentives to the Junior Stock Market, we will seek to both empower and remove the blockers for small businesses by:

- Capacity Building: facilitating access to entrepreneurship courses, management skills and basic accounting
- Clearing bureaucracy: establishing a Division within the Ministry of Growth & Job Creation specifically focussed on the needs of small business
 - Access to Credit: once again expanding lending through the DBJ

Online Information and Automation of Government Services

The Ministry responsible for ICT will be mandated to ensure greater openness in government

by making more information available online. In parallel, government will also have more records and business processes digitized, for greater administrative efficiency, and as a homegrown way to employ young persons trained (data entry, records management) through the National Apprenticeship Programme.

Developing Domestic Business

The Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation will seek to ensure that spending is viewed through the sharp lenses of facilitating and encouraging business transactions with local business houses. The clear objective will be to facilitate and foster local economic growth and job creation.

The apprenticeship program to train young people and help more mature employees transition into new jobs with upgraded skills, and which is a central plank of this manifesto, will provide trained and work-ready Jamaicans to help local businesses grow.

We will make Jamaica the Caribbean region's leading producer of technology through the creation of a Technology Innovation Fund for support of technology based projects and startup companies.

FOCUS ON JOB CREATION

We are confident that our 10 Point Plan for Economic Growth and Job Creation will generate real expansion of the job market and sustained growth in the long term.

Here is a closer look at how we anticipate our strategic approach working.

The Growth Triangle

Our "Growth Triangle" refers to the close connections between housing construction, water, and energy.

Housing construction means both jobs and improved living conditions for home owners and residents.

It is however, heavily dependent on two main inputs which are currently expensive and short in supply: water and energy. Solving the water problem and the energy problem will also lead to more jobs;

We therefore propose to address them as interconnected activities: create jobs in supplying water and energy sustainably, and the improved conditions and costs will lead to an increase in housing construction and development, and thus more jobs. The costs of water catchment and energy saving facilities will be rolled up with the mortgage and not borne up front by the homeowner.

Here are some of the specific activities which are required to address the water and energy needs:

Water

To reduce the strain on water supply, each house must harvest its rainwater; this requires gutters, barrels or tanks and proper filtration to be installed—hands-on work that can be done with a little training.



Training and employing people to do these installations could create over 5,000 jobs in the first year of implementation, growing to 10,000 after 5 years.

In addition, many retrofits also drive other small improvements such as casting of concrete bases to hold tanks; repairs to roofs and plumbing, driving business to handymen in the community.

By the third year, home owners would have seen significant reduction in their consumption from the main supply; would spend less to purchase water; and the central supplies would be able to reach many more homes, farms and businesses as a result.

Solar Energy

In Jamaica we are lucky to have long hours of sunlight which can be converted to thermal energy (heat, for water heating) and electrical energy.

Government tax credits and incentives to help businesses to purchase the equipment means that more businesses can pay for the installations.

Installation of solar panels and solar water heaters on homes, hotels and businesses can create another 5,000 jobs.

These installations typically drive other small improvements, e.g. new wiring or replacing old wiring, which in turn drive jobs for local electricians and business for suppliers.

Within 1 to 3 years, the businesses with alternative energy sources will see their electricity bills reduced and will be less vulnerable to power outages.

In the public sector, an additional 1,500 jobs would also be created in training and installing alternative energy sources for services like water pumping, lighting of public buildings etc.

Alternative Energy Sources

Similarly, the installation of photovoltaic (solar) panels will require training and employment of up to 2,500 persons. To produce more bagasse for alternative energy production, the growing of more sugarcane will result in more income for farmers and up to 4,000 more seasonal jobs in agriculture. Technicians to manage new activities for the conversion of waste to energy will create up to 500 more jobs for workers.

Construction

As has been demonstrated all over the world, construction is one of the fastest routes to stimulating the economy. We will increase construction as a result of lower stamp duty and transfer tax as well as housing market reform. This will generate thousands more jobs.

The rebuilding and urban renewal of Kingston could generate 5,000 to 7,000 jobs in the construction phase and up to 10,000 permanent jobs when the International Financial Center is up and running.

Business Process Outsourcing

The expansion of BPOs at different levels of the value chain, can itself generate 30-40,000 jobs over the next 5 -7 years.

Transport

The integrated multi-modal transport system, rail, sea, land and air will generate 15,000 to 25,000 jobs in construction, maintenance, repair and operations, customer service and spinoff services from the first to fifth year of implementation.

An improved transport network means improved access for cargo and easier passenger movement around the country. This is expected to spur growth in the logistics, tourism, and distribution sectors, leading to an equal number of jobs created after completion (15,000 to 25,000).

Manufacturing & Agri-Business

We anticipate the creation of up to 20,000 jobs in manufacturing and agri-business including value-added processed foods, furniture production, and as we develop a more competitive economy, revived apparel and electronics sectors.

For example, renewed focus on agribusiness in St. Elizabeth with irrigation and processing plants in Black River, Flaggaman, Meyersville, New Forrest and the expansion of the Bull Savannah Plant together with the dual use of the almost dormant Port Kaiser for Agricultural exports will create up to 3,000 new jobs.

Hotels & Tourism

Expansion of the hotel industry and initiatives promoted in the tourism section of this document should generate up to 30,000 jobs.

Small Business Expansion & Miscellaneous Services

Clearing blockers and empowering small business through intervention by the new Ministry of Economic Growth & Job Creation, will stimulate small business expansion. The PAYE tax break and increase in minimum wage will also allow for more spending which will be its own stimulant. We anticipate creation of up to 20,000 jobs.

Jamaica's Sun Coast, Jamaica's Fun Coast

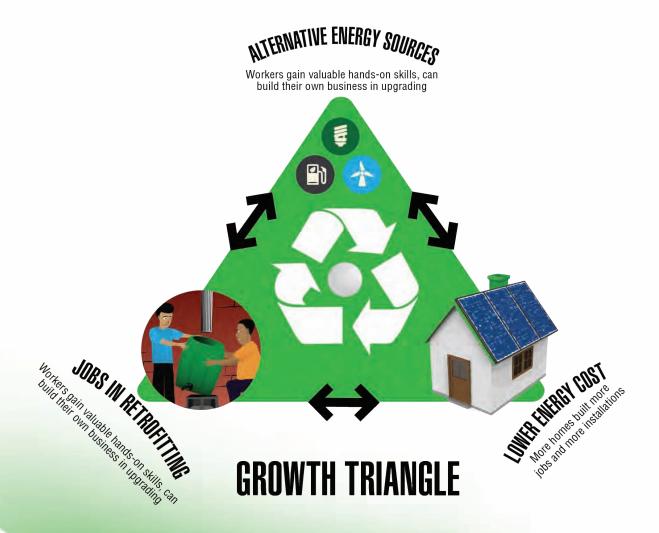
Development Phase: We will develop from Port Royal through Harbour View and East to Morant Point, and brand it as Jamaica's Sun Coast, Jamaica's Fun Coast.

This is anticipated to create upwards of 50,000 jobs. This coast contains 50% of Jamaica's heritage and provides an unequalled opportunity to create new income earning heritage tourism products for the country. We will fast track a development plan for the coastal area from Port Royal to Morant Bay. Developing the engineering and infra-structural criteria for the construction of hotels, villas, casinos, shopping, heritage sites, wet land reserves/parks etc. will generate jobs for architects, environmentalists, urban planners, engineers, financiers, support staff at all levels, providers of accommodation and food service, etc.

Post-Implementation

With developments substantially completed we would see the job pattern moving to the addition of long term and permanent jobs in the servicing and supply of the new communities.

We anticipate approximately 30,000 jobs would be generated in maintenance and landscaping; housekeeping and management services to hotels, villas and vacation homes; maintenance and operation of local transportation; demand for local foods and products; communications and Internet provision and management; travel services; road and other infrastructural maintenance; restaurant, sporting and entertainment businesses, etc.



GOVERNANCE

Corruption impedes economic growth, undermines the rule of law, and tears down the fabric of society.

The Jamaica Labour Party is committed to transforming our society by 2030 and believes fundamentally that this can only be achieved if the rights of the citizens are guaranteed, and corruption tackled in an uncompromising manner.

We are committed to the establishment of internationally acceptable standards of good governance. We simply must bring an end the incidence of institutionalized injustice, abuse of power and rampant corruption.

Under a Jamaica Labour Party Government:

- The rights of every citizen will be protected
- · The abuse of power will not be tolerated
- Officials exercising authority will be held strictly accountable and rigid sanctions will be imposed on persons found guilty of the abuse of power;
- We will operate an efficient and accessible justice and law enforcement system

Leaner Government Operations

The JLP is of the view that there needs to be a reduction in the number of ministries and a more appropriate allocation of responsibilities if we are to avoid overlapping and cumbersome bureaucracy.

We will establish in the Constitution a core of Ministries of government with a limit on the number of additional Ministries that can be created.

The completion of the public sector rationalization will impact the decision as to the core ministries to be established and the subjects affecting each.

Efficiencies in the Public Sector

The Jamaica Labour Party believes that efficiency in the public sector should result in lower costs to tax payers, increased productivity and better customer service.

The JLP government will:

- Introduce automated business processes to reduce bureaucracy, strengthen record-keeping and provide greater accountability
- Implement a National Identification card system with a lifetime identification number. This will simplify the process of official identification for purposes of paying taxes or obtaining benefits. This will also simplify government's processes and reduce costs due to tracking multiple identification numbers. Opportunities for user fraud will also be decreased.

Greater Transparency

We will introduce mandatory disclosure of Integrity Reports by the Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition, and Minister of Finance. In addition, we will make it mandatory that the appointment to sensitive posts be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority in each House of Parliament, thereby requiring consensus between the government and the Opposition. The posts identified include:

- Chief Justice
- President of the Court of Appeal
- Director of Public Prosecutions
- Public Defender
- Contractor General
- Judicial Services Commission members
- Police Services Commission members
- Public Services Commission members
- Governor of the Bank of Jamaica

Greater Representation for Civil Society & the Diaspora

The JLP is committed to the reform of the process by which persons are appointed to the Senate. We will explore the possibility of including in the Senate three (3) independent representatives.

Strengthening Corruption-Prevention Authorities

We will strengthen the framework for corruption prevention and prosecution of corruption through the creation of a single anti-corruption agency, revising the work already under way at the Parliament, but making revisions to ensure its effectiveness. The body will absorb the Corruption Prevention Commission and the Parliamentary Integrity Commission as well as the Office of the Contractor-General.

No More Cover-Ups

We will make provisions for reports from the Auditor General, Contractor General, Public Defender, Corruption Prevention Commission* and Integrity Commission* to be debated within 30 days of submission to Parliament.

*until replaced

We will also provide special resources for the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee and Public Accounts Committee, so that they are more effective in their roles.

Tougher Penalties for Breach of Integrity in Public Office

Swift and appropriate sanctions will be imposed for breaches of the laws which relate to public service and governance, particularly as they relate to - the Corruption Prevention Act, the Financial Administration and Audit Act, the Public Bodies Management & Accountability Act, Contractor General Act and the Procurement Rules and Guidelines.



HUMAN RIGHTS & JUSTICE

Access to justice is a critical feature of democracies. Providing the assurance that our justice system is robust, equitable and impartial is a priority.

The Jamaica Labour Party recognizes that there is tremendous work still to be done in reforming the justice system so that more of our people can have faith in the system. A part of the responsibility falls on our citizens who we need to encourage and empower to participate in the system, but it is still the government's responsibility to ensure the justice systems and infrastructure are more effective, efficient and robust.

In fulfilling our commitment to protecting the rights and freedoms of the people of Jamaica, the next Jamaica Labour Party Government will build on the strides made during our last term of office by continuing to:

- Re-energize the justice reform programme;
- Institute a programme to remove and repeal outdated legislation;
- Reduce criminal and civil case backlogs;
- Strengthen the independence and capacity of the judiciary and the prosecutorial service;
- Modernize and better maintain the courts;
- Provide more court spaces;
- Protect vulnerable groups.
- As a major thrust towards the protection of the rights of our citizens, the next Jamaica Labour Party Government will also establish a Human Rights Commission to ensure that there is an institution focused purely on protecting the rights of Jamaicans. In 2011, we passed the Charter of Rights, enshrining in the constitution, the basic rights of all citizens. The Human Rights Commission will ensure that as we navigate the waters of our changing society, the rights of citizens will always be protected.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

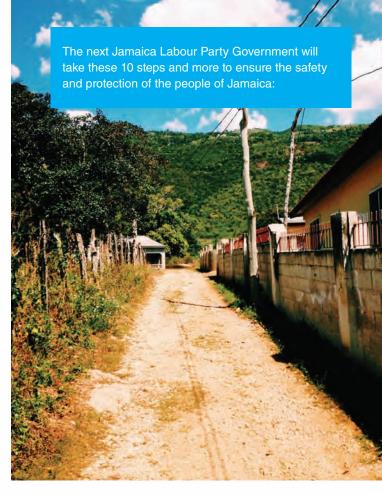
Ensuring safe communities means much more than policing

10 Steps to Safety and Security

- 1 We will make public security and crime control a national priority by committing a minimum percentage of the National Budget as an investment in improved security and crime reduction over the next five years.
- We will move with urgency to make our criminal justice system more efficient and more effective in supporting the efforts of law enforcement. This will be done by increasing the number of court houses, Judges and Prosecutors, as well as abolishing circuit courts and replacing them with permanent high courts.

Legal Aid will be provided to citizens who wish to place civil matters before the courts but cannot afford lawyers. Given our financial constraints as a country, we will co-locate more Magistrate Courts with larger Police Stations in sub-urban and rural districts.

- 3 We will declare "no crime zones" in critical public spaces in which a zero-tolerance approach will be taken to even the smallest infraction of the law.
- 4 Our current approach to treating offenders is ineffective and requires urgent reform. We will take steps within our first 100 days in office to enact or amend laws making provisions for:
 - a) Increased use of non-custodial sentences with strict supervision conditions including electronic monitoring for non-violent offenders.
 - Mandatory minimum prison sentences for violent criminals and certain dangerous categories of crime.
- We will make Plea-Bargaining a more effective tool in our law enforcement and criminal justice efforts. Within our first 100 days in office we will the amend the Plea-Bargaining Law to increase the incentives for criminals to testify against their accomplices especially those involved in gang activities.
- 6 The Jamaica Labour Party will reform our correctional system to ensure that our prisons serve the purpose of reforming offenders and preventing violent criminals from continuing to commit crimes. Our reform of the correctional services will achieve better classification and treatment of offenders on the basis of risk and need.



We will use electronic monitoring to supervise those on parole and early release as well as violent criminals on bail.

- 7 Community-Based Policing is extremely important to effective crime fighting. We will, within our first year in office, construct or deploy 30 small Police Posts in areas identified as crime hot spots to place the police closer to where they are most needed. This will go a far way in keeping communities safe, building citizen confidence, deterring criminal activities and creating the environment for the orderly development and prosperity of communities. In addition:
 - We will establish a minimum of 15 joint Police/ Military posts in high ground areas which criminals regularly occupy or retreat to after unleashing violence on communities.
 - b) We will make it a policy of the Government that every housing development of 400 units or more must have a post to accommodate community Police officers, who will be dedicated to keeping citizens in these communities safe and confident.
 - c) We will set aside a share of 2% of the road maintenance budget to build out CCTV systems.

- d) We will also give an incentive for commercial companies to invest in CCTVs and link them to the police network.
- 8 Current inadequacies in the police's ability to move around and respond to situations as they should, undermine our crime management capabilities. The Jamaica Labour Party Government will take an "out of the box" approach to building Police Mobility during our first two years in office by purchasing 600 used motor vehicles and 400 motor bikes to ensure uniformed and hidden patrols can reach every part of the country.

We will use 5% of the motor vehicle budget to buy adequate supplies of fast-moving service parts and panels to ensure fast return to service when vehicles require maintenance and repairs.

9 Effective supervision of police personnel on the frontline is of critical importance to professional and successful law enforcement.

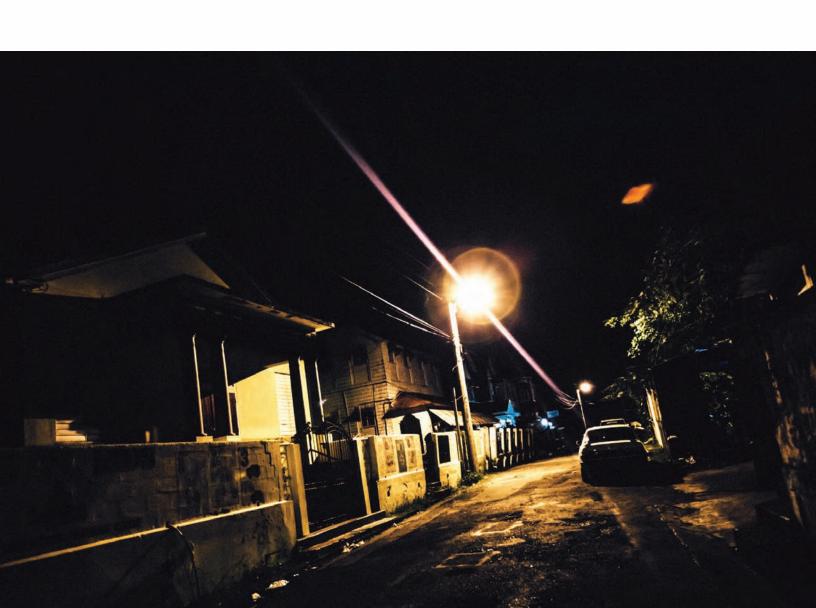
Within our first 2 years in office we will enhance the Establishment for supervisory ranks in the Jamaica

Constabulary Force (JCF), that is, personnel between the ranks of Corporal and Inspector, to ensure effective supervision, accountability and attention to duty in such critical areas as: community policing, proximity policing, agro and industrial protection, investigations and crime scene management and service delivery at police stations. These numbers will be worked out in consultation with the Police High Command.

10 The Jamaica Labour Party regards the welfare of Police Personnel upon retirement as a matter of importance. We will create the accommodation to allow members of the Police Force to invest a percentage of their wages in a pension scheme to be managed by the Private Sector, which will assure them of greater income replacement upon retiring from the JCF. And we will ensure that retired personnel continue to benefit from Government-funded health insurance scheme.

This 10 point plan for effective crime management and citizen security will, combined with our proposals for economic growth and job creation, make Jamaica a safer, more peaceful and more prosperous society.

We can turn around our fortunes as a country.





EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Children's successful outcomes require a shared vision, sound policy based on best practices, and a framework for planning programmes that are connected to the ways students learn best. We will build on the successes of the institutions created by the JLP during its last administration, such as the National Education Inspectorate (NEI), the Jamaica Teaching Council (JTC), the National Education Trust (NET), the National College of Educational Leadership (NCEL), and the National Parenting Support Commission (NPSC)-(Policy and Strategy). We will also strengthen programmes such as the Alternative Secondary Education Programme (ASTEP) and Career Advancement Programme (CAP) with a view to supporting more effective transitions from primary to secondary school, and to keeping atrisk youth within the education system.

Our objectives in this domain are the following:

- Achieving full literacy and numeracy by the end of primary school
- Strengthening teaching skills, school leadership and management skills
- · Expanding school facilities and infrastructure
- Improving levels of teaching resources
- Reducing violence and anti-social behaviour
- Stimulating greater parental involvement

Plans to achieve these include the following:

- Remove Mandatory school fees at secondary schools by increasing funds per child in the national budget.
- Reform the Students' Loan Bureau. Increase funds available for loans through re-financing; and make payments easier by lowering interest rates, extending re-payment periods, and calculating loans on the reducing balance.
- Provide annual maintenance support for all schools. We intend to increase annual maintenance allocation to all schools to support building of sufficient classrooms.
- 4. Incentivize enrolment in Tertiary programmes through scholarships, grants and other tools.
- 5 Review the operations of the Early Childhood Commission with a view to improving oversight of the sector, and complete the Early Childhood Development Policy.
- 6. Strengthen the teaching of literacy and numeracy at the early childhood level to ensure readiness for Primary Schools.
- 7 Roll out the Age 4 Assessment programme across the island, ensuring that children's challenges are detected earlier so that appropriate intervention may start earlier.
- 8 Complete the review of the Education Act and Regulations (1980), and pass the amendments recommended to address matters which directly or indirectly impede students' success.
- 9 Strengthen the framework for social workers and mental health care professionals to be involved in school settings, with a view to providing appropriate support for schools, families and communities with high levels of disciplinary challenges and anti-social behaviours.
- 10 Implement the licensing of teachers to ensure that our teachers are appropriately trained and deployed in their areas of competency.
- Include a basic mandatory special education component in teacher development to ensure that teachers are competent in identifying special needs in children, and a mandatory literacy component for all primary and Early Childhood teaching curricula.
- 12 Ensure that teacher training includes gender sensitive pedagogical approaches to strengthen the focus on optimizing education for our boys.
- 13 Increase the use of locally produced food and juices in our schools.
- 14 Streamline the provision of structured physical education in primary schools.

- 15 Review the operations and programmes of the National Parenting Support Commission (NPSC) with a view to strengthening support of good parenting practices.
- 16 Increase the number of functioning PTAs in schools to support the facilitation of better school / home relationships and increased parent involvement.
- 17 Work closely with the new Ministry of Economic Growth & Job Creation to ensure relevance of curricula and training programmes.
- 18 Implement a National Equivalency Policy in Certification to ensure greater acceptance of general education and technical education.
- 19 Develop an ICT in Education Policy. This will address use of technology in administration, as well as teaching; will seek to give all students access to current technologies; and will equip all teachers with ICT skills to complement delivery of the curriculum.
- 20 Incorporate local culture and talent in curricula and develop additional, relevant media content for use in schools.

Leveraging New Technologies in the Administration of Education

In keeping with the JLP's commitment to use technology to automate and streamline government processes, key technological advances will be introduced to the Ministry of Education or further developed, including:

- Implementation of the CREM, the Central Repository for Educational Material which was established when in 2011; this will ensure that all schools with connectivity will have access to quality educational material.
- An Executive Dashboard to complement the Enterprise School Management System,
- School Inspection Software to enable planning, conducting, recording and reporting on all school inspections
- The Examination Management Information System (EMIS) to enable greater sharing of examination data



HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Universal Access to Efficient and Effective Health Care For All Jamaicans

Healthy citizens make happy and productive citizens, which leads to greater national productivity and growth. Therefore, we give our pledge to the Jamaican people, that health will take centre stage in the JLP government.

Eliminating Political Influence from the Health Sector

A JLP government would reduce political interference in the appointment of regional and hospital leadership, by setting up a committee of stakeholders to make appointments in the sector.

Universal Coverage

We will continue our policy of universal access to health care for all Jamaicans, and extend services to include more preventive, diagnostic and specialist services.

The introduction of a no user fee policy for all public health facilities, by the JLP government in 2008 gave citizens greater access to health care.

Undeniably, more users meant that greater demands were made on our public health facilities and health care workers. However the JLP remains committed to extending access to health care. We need to reduce the pressure on the public health facilities by:

- · increasing the numbers of mobile clinics
- upgrading and equipping health clinics and centres in strategic locations,
- increasing the numbers of community health workers.

Greater Investment in Hospitals and Clinics

The JLP government will seek to infuse more cash in the health sector. One of the sources of additional funding, will be from the fees collected from casino gambling.

This additional funding will allow for the renovation and upgrade of our health care infrastructure, so as to offer a modern, effective and efficient service, able to accommodate the increased demand.

Select hospitals will be targeted in the first phase.

We will honour our promise of providing the highly populated, rapidly developing "Sunshine City" of Portmore with its first hospital.

Tax Credits for Insurance Premiums

A national health insurance scheme, "The Wellness Plan" will be introduced in two phases, in order to provide basic health insurance for all Jamaicans. We will provide incentives by offering tax credits on insurance premiums paid by employers and employees. Facilities will be put in place to enable hospitals to accept health insurance payments.

- The first phase will target the elderly, poor and vulnerable persons. Beneficiaries will receive doctors' visits, in hospital visits (including room and board), hospital outpatient visits, eye exams and other benefits.
- The second phase will be extended to persons aged 35 – 60 years old and the scheme will be expanded to include mammography, pap smears, colon and prostate cancers tests

Development of a Health Tourism and Offshore Medical Industry

A JLP government will promote health tourism, as part of an integrated industrial policy.

Firstly, we would seek to establish the legal and regulatory framework for health tourism. Opening up this avenue for funding of the health sector will be tied to improvements in health care facilities for Jamaicans, particularly those in the rural areas.

Strengthen Preventive and Primary Health Care Service Delivery

We will encourage Jamaicans through widespread public education, to take responsibility for their good health and make right choices. "Eating right and living right" can not only serve to reduce fatalities from non-communicable diseases such as cardiovascular disease, hypertension, diabetes and cancer; it also serves to reduce the burden placed on health services due to preventable, lifestyle-induced ailments.

Preventive measures will include intensification of the National Immunization Drive, with a view to achieving 95% coverage within five (5) years.

A JLP government will also ensure collaboration between the Ministries of Health and Education, to reduce the impact of

preventable, communicable diseases on children, and promote structured physical education in primary schools.

Emphasis will be placed on strengthening primary health care services, by upgrading the primary health care facilities; improving access to pharmaceuticals and encouraging appropriate referrals, in order to rationalize the use of hospital services.

Increase the Workforce of Medical/Health Personnel in Critical Areas

This can be achieved by:

- Training health workers in specialist areas that are in short supply;
- Recruiting workers from overseas, in order to complement the local workforce
- Offering incentives and improved remuneration and conditions of service, to ensure adequate retention

Better Management of Public Health Facilities

We will review the operations of the Regional Health Authorities (RHAs), and maximize autonomy on personnel management, financial management and decision-making, by restoring the hospital health board structure.

To make our health facilities management more effective the JLP government would also:

- establish performance targets;
- implement effective monitoring mechanisms for the delivery of health services to ensure patient satisfaction, including independent audits of health facilities
- introduce systems to ensure transparency and accountability
- institute sanctions for administrators who violate reporting requirements
- improve the system of surveillance and response of the Ministry of Health,

Health Information Technologies

A JLP administration will develop an effective health information network. This is in keeping with our belief that we must move towards becoming a digital society. We will undertake the digitization of hospital records, in order to safeguard patients' medical information and allow easy access to them by authorized person when needed, regardless of where the patient is entering the system.

Opportunities to Outsource to the Private Sector

The divestment of various support services such as housekeeping, laundry services, ground and building maintenance and catering, will be pursued. Specialist services in hospitals such as the laboratory facilities, ultra sound, radiotherapy and the radiology unit, will also be divested.



HOUSING

We have too many housing institutions doing the same work. In these austere times we need to consolidate and focus our energies on ensuring our people have homes. This is one of the most important roles of government.

It is time, especially in the face of tight fiscal space, to rationalize our housing institutions by reforming two significant entities; and utilizing the synergies between the three primary housing agencies.

Together with institutional alignment, we will:

- Implement more public-private partnerships to build housing solutions
- Introduce more cost effective building technology, in order to reduce housing costs
- Promote longer term mortgages, to drive down recurrent costs to homeowners
- Lower real estate taxes, to drive down transaction costs to potential homeowners

Institutions:

- A. HAJ: This body will focus on the development of housing at all levels in the public sector and will build on behalf of government and the NHT. The HAJ will engineer partnerships with the private sector, engaging the skills of our local developers and engineers. It will be responsible for all housing construction projects in the public sector.
- B. NHT: After reform of its governance structure, the NHT will work solely to ensure that its funds are used for the intended purpose, in particular, financing for-low income contributors.
- C. The Mortgage Bank of Jamaica would again expand an active secondary mortgage market and focus on private sector financing and public private partnerships to stimulate housing at all levels.

The Housing Fund will be resourced and re-vitalized to focus on the offer of 50-60 year (inter-generational) mortgages, rural housing, and housing for very low income and indigent persons. The proposed intergenerational mortgages will give young persons the option of starting on the home ownership path by combining with a family member on mortgages with lower monthly payments. The "intergenerational" mortgages will also allow the NHT and the Housing Agency of Jamaica to craft and develop a secondary mortgage market that would provide liquidity from pension funds and other investors to this very important housing and job creation sector.

The drive to ensure lower interest rates as well as the construction of more and more affordable housing in all markets, will ensure that among other persons, young persons who currently have little or no hope of purchasing their own home, will have a chance to live their dream.





Andew Holness

St. Andrew West Central





Juliet Holness St. Andrew East Rural



Fayval Williams St. Andrew Eastern



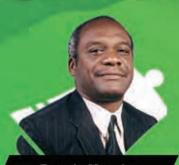
Juliet Cuthbert Flynn St. Andrew West Rural



Beverly Prince St. Andrew East Central



St. Andrew North Central



Dennis Messias St. Andrew Southern



St. Andrew South Western

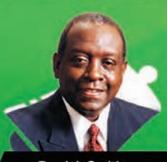


St. Andrew South Eastern



Headley Wilson

St. Andrew Eastern



Derrick Smith

St. Andrew North Western



Delroy Chuck

St. Andrew North Eastern



Trevor Webb

St. Andrew Western

PARTNERSHIP FOR PROSPERITY



Everald Warmington
St. Catherine South Western



St. Catherine East Central



Welton Sutherland
St. Catherine Southern



St. Catherine South Eastern



Robert Montague



Delano Seiveright
St. Thomas Eastern



Dr Norman Dunn St. Mary South Eastern



Dr. Christopher Tufton
St. Catherine West Central

St. Mary Western



Daryl Vaz

Portland Western



Dr. Andrew Wheatley

St. Catherine South Central



Derron Wood

Portland Eastern



James Robertson

St. Thomas Western

Dwight Peccoo

St. Catherine Eastern



Newton Amos

St. Catherine North Western



Kerensia Morrison

St. Catherine North Central



Leslie Campbell

St. Catherine North Eastern

PARTNERSHIP FOR PROSPERIT



Olivia Grange St. Catherine Central



St. Ann North Eastern



Manchester North Eastern



Clarendon North Western



Clarendon South Eastern



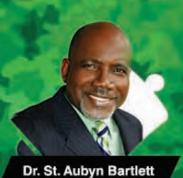
Pearnel Charles Clarendon North Central



Omar Frith Manchester North Western



Hidran McKulsky Manchester Southern



Manchester Central



Othniel Lawrence St. Ann North Wesstern



Ian Anderson St. Ann South Western



St. Ann South Western



Clarendon Central





Kent Gammon

Clarendon South Western



Dennis Meadows

Trelawny Northern



Floyd Green

St. Elizabeth South Western





Marisa Dalrymple Phillibert

Trelawny Southern



Desmond Mckenzie

Kingston Western



Robert Chin

Kingston Central



Brian Wallace

Hanover Western



George Wright

Westmoreland Central



Caswell Pinnock

Clarendon Northern



Dixeth Palmer

Westmoreland Western



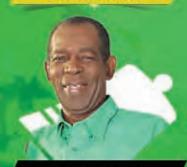
Andrea Walters

Westmoreland Eastern



Franklin Witter

St. Elizabeth South Eastern



J.C.Hutchinson

St. Elizabeth North Western



Dr. Saphire Longmire

St. Elizabeth North Eastern



Mariene Malahoo-Fort

St.James West Centeral



Heroy Clarke

St. James Central



Edmund Bartlett

St. James East Centeral



David Brown

Hanover Eastern



Dr. Horace Chang

St. James North Western



Homer Davis

St. James Southern



Quite simply, water is life. Too many homes and farms are deprived of this precious commodity. We have made significant improvements in Jamaica's storage and distribution systems before, and we will do it again.



- Invest in increased water production by building new water treatment plants, deep water drilling in the hills and bringing water from the North Coast where it is abundant, to the South Coast where the larger part of our population resides.
- Reduce non-revenue water by 30% fixing old leaking pipes which will generate more water to be purchased which will in turn increase revenues
- Increase the percentage of rural homes with access to potable water from 60% to 85%
- In urban areas, to increase reliable supply of water to 95% of homes
- Incentivize use of water conserving technology in daily life such as showerheads/faucets etc.
- Encourage rain-water harvesting in rural drought prone areas
- Optimize the National Irrigation Commission to expand irrigation lands and expand the use of drip irrigation to conserve water
- List the National Water Commission on the Jamaica Stock Exchange, making 49% available for public purchase
- Rehabilitate the sewage collection system below Cross Roads, and expand sewer collection in the suburban areas. Introduce sewage collection systems in high population areas like Spanish Town, and Savanna-la-Mar, important for sustainable development, growth, expansion and healthy living.
- Re-forest our watersheds with tree-planting programmes.



TRANSPORT

The Vision 2030 plan for Jamaica includes transport as a major pillar of development. In 2007, we set out a 6 year (2009-2015) integrated multi-modal Transport Plan encompassing Road, Rail, Sea and Air. These remain pivotal to developing the Logistics Hub concept which we introduced.

This Plan capitalizes on our geographical location which allows us to move goods and services quicker than any other country, in order to achieve growth by targeting the Maritime and Aerospace industries as a primary driving force to create growth and jobs.

We will endeavour to follow a 1-3-5-7 programmatic approach. Year 1: Re-assess; Year 3: Implement; Year 5: Complete; and Year 7: Country starts to reap full benefits.

Road

Having completed the investments by the Chinese in the North-South Highway we will:

- implement the plans laid out for the South Coast Highway to Morant Bay
- reinstate the Highway 2000 phase from Glenmuir in Clarendon to Williamsfield in Manchester
- Connect this Highway to the Vernamfield Airport and Enterprise Zone.
- This will provide Vernamfield with access to the Port of Kingston and the Norman Manley International Airport (Road-Sea-Air connection).

We will ensure the development of Economic Zones along the North-South Highway on the lands provided to the developer as part of the concession agreement in order to stimulate employment in the areas through which the Highway passes.

We will improve the safety on our roads to reduce road fatalities to the under-300 deaths which we achieved during our time in office.

We will rationalize the rural-urban transport structure, distributing real economic costs to all users of public transport ,to reduce the burden of transport costs now imposed on rural passengers.



Rail

We will immediately reopen and review the rationalization of the Railway by implementing:

- · Selective passenger service
- Heritage Tourism
- Cargo linkage from Kingston Port to Vernamfield (sea to air connection)
- Cargo movement creating hundreds of new jobs in the rail revival
- Ultimately the opening of the rail service through to Montego Bay to facilitate cargo, passenger, heritage and hospitality traffic.

Sea

We will:

- Implement the dredging of the Kingston Harbour and re-examine the development of Fort Augusta to accommodate the expanding port development
- Revisit and examine the development of smaller ports into marinas to take advantage of the sailing and powerboating visitor markets
- Pursue the establishment of an energy port at Port Esquivel with dry docking facilities
- Revisit the development of cruise shipping in Kingston, taking advantage of the Palisadoes strip to the Port Royal heritage site.



Air

Air transport opportunities represent tens of thousands of new jobs in direct employment. We will:

- Implement our Strategic National Air Transport policy for all aerodromes
- Develop Tinson Pen as an Enterprise Zone Logistics Park
- Prioritize the upgrading of the NMIA Air Traffic Control facilities
- Build out the development of Vernamfield to become the passenger and logistics hub for the world, using 'Open Skies' agreements to connect the Far East via Africa to Jamaica and on to the Southern Hemisphere
- Establish an Aerospace College at Vernamfield similar to the Caribbean Maritime Institute to train Jamaicans and internationals alike to meet the growing demand for air crew and technicians; it is estimated that China alone will need 20,000 pilots in the next 10 years.

- Provide facilities for flying schools
- Establish Maintenance and Repair (MRO) facilities for the industry
- Establish air cargo facilities including cold storage and pre-inspection facilities
- Expand the General Aviation sector to attract the private aircraft owners as visitors for tourism and business.
- Create free zones for logistics development and passenger development
- · Repackage the privatization of the NMIA
- Complete the Ian Fleming Airport to become a link in the logistics chain, to enhance Tourism growth as a hub for the Caribbean and to accommodate the time sharing development of private air craft ownership
- Reserve land space to accommodate the future establishment of an aerodrome at Duckenfield

MINING AND ENERGY

Among the primary imperatives of a new JLP government will be the need to lower the cost of energy and minimize the long-term impacts of fossil-fuel consumption.

Our dependence on imported oil with its cyclical price volatility continues to threaten our prospects for economic growth. We intend to deploy a multifaceted strategy to create a more competitive energy environment. This will include:

- Modernising the electricity generation infrastructure.
- Diversifying the fuel mix by increasing use and development of renewable energy sources
- Strengthening regulations and institutions
- Promoting energy efficiency and conservation

Develop and Implement a Green Energy Policy.

As part of this process, we will:

 Implement mechanisms geared toward the promotion of energy efficiency and conservation;

- Review the National Energy Policy (NEP) to set out an effective regulatory framework, with the aim of protecting the environmental, social and economic interests of Jamaica;
- Improve energy infrastructure with the objective of reducing Jamaica's energy carbon footprint.

Consistent with our Green Energy objectives, we will:

- Reduce electricity consumption in the Public Service through an energy efficiency programme. A target will be set for the reduction of national demand for energy over a 5 year period;
- Work with relevant agencies and distributors to ensure an adequate supply of energy efficient appliances – refrigerators, air conditioning units, washers, dryers, ovens and televisions;
- Encourage the most efficient type of electricity generation alongside alternative energy sources;
- Enforce energy efficiency standards and codes for appliances and buildings, with the goal of reducing energy consumption in new buildings by 50% by 2020 and ensuring that all new buildings use zero net energy by 2025.



Renewable Sources

Efforts to promote the use of renewable energy sources such as Solar and Wind will continue with the development of Standardised Net Billing Contracts and the necessary legal and regulatory frameworks strengthened to facilitate private investment in these areas.

- A Waste to Energy Project will be pursued and implemented
- Hydroelectric Power Projects, in particular the Mahogany Vale Project, will be pursued
- Other fuel sources will continue to be evaluated and analysed.

Helping Business to Become More Energy Efficient

We will continue to focus on the modernisation and upgrading of the electricity generation sector according to the Least Cost Expansion Plan, requiring local operators to replace or upgrade obsolete units.

The DBJ will be encouraged to deepen its links with Small Business Enterprises to provide technical assistance to and promote the use of the J\$1 Billion SME Energy Loan Facility to foster energy efficiency.

We will see to the provision of credit facilities at concessionary interest rates, especially in the MSME sector, to improve their energy conservation efforts.

Renegotiation of the JPS License will include provisions for Net Billing and Power Wheeling.

Getting the Best Price for Costly Imports

A Strategic Review will be conducted at the Petrojam Refinery to ensure that it is serving its mandate to the people of Jamaica and to ensure that fuel users pay the most competitive price for all types of fuel. The petroleum reference price mechanism will again be reviewed in light of new developments in the global energy markets and the best policy implemented.

We will pursue negotiations with the United States government to make Jamaica a hub for purchase and distribution of LNG.





ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION

Stewardship of the environment is a core value of the Jamaica Labour Party.

Climate change is a real phenomenon. We as a people are the best and most effective tool we can deploy in the battle against the effects of climate change. Our attitude, mindset, and actions must change and in every way, reflect greater sensitivity and care for the environment which sustains us as inhabitants.

A critical starting point is the restoration of good working relations between the Government of Jamaica and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). While there may be disagreements from time to time, the relationship between the Government and environmental advocates should not be characterized by antagonism and hostility.

The Jamaica Labour Party appreciates the work and advocacy of these groups. Where our environment is concerned, they stand in the vanguard. The diligent effort and dedicated service provided by these men and women go a long way in educating our citizens and government where environmental best practices are concerned.

Sustainable development is about reconciling our development interests with our interest in protecting and respecting the environment. We must develop, but we must do so on a sustainable basis.

The Jamaica Labour Party Government is committed to doing the following:

- Facilitate collaboration between various ministries in transforming the Riverton City Dump into a green landfill - a true landfill.
- Implementing regular re-planting projects for deforested areas in our watershed zones.
- Make the Cockpit Country a "no-mining" zone
- Implement a policy of waste separation, beginning with Government-owned/public institutions, then moving to businesses, commercial and industrial wastes, and finally the wider population.

Implement an Electronic-Waste Policy (e-waste policy).
 This policy will establish protocols for the recycling, reuse and/or proper disposal of such electronic wastes as: TVs, radios, air conditioning units, refrigerators, batteries, and mobile devices.

The Jamaica Labour Party recognizes that the consumption cycle is just that – a cycle; it virtually never ends. An e-waste management framework will help to create a new industry, which will meaningfully include persons who already use material from the dump in an unregulated and arbitrary way.

 Review existing laws and regulations and implement measures for improved enforcement.

The Jamaica Labour Party is also committed to increased public education and heightened national awareness where environmental best practices are concerned. We must lift the profile of our campaign for good and responsible management of our environment. A programme of public education is critically important because we still have low levels of awareness of climate change and an understanding of its effects on us as a country.

The effects on our ways of life and our ability to sustain economic activities are already starkly evident, for example with what is happening with the shoreline in Negril, the Hellshire beach in Portmore and other parts of the island where there has been significant beach erosion over the years. The longer periods of drought and increasing average temperatures are also carrying an ominous message, which we need to hear, and heed.

Even as we work towards more harmonious practices in our use of the land, air and water, we must also as a society deal with the reality of changes in climatic conditions. We must therefore be prepared for more unpredictable and extreme weather. This must include, when selecting designs for planned sporting facilities in communities, taking into account that these buildings may be called into services as shelters during and after hurricanes or other natural disasters.

ICT (INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY)



The JLP Government will make ICT, under a single regulatory body, a focal point for increasing employment and diversification and for improving Government services to citizens.

Steps to the Digital Society

- Establish true universal access, making Internet access to essential Government and educational services free
- Introduce eHOME: (The Electronic Home-based Mode of Employment), the "Work from Home" initiative to boost productivity by reducing time lost in transit
- Work closely with the Ministry of Education to ensure effective use of technology to support teaching and learning as well as improved administration
- We will repeal the 15-year old Telecommunications Act and replace it with a new ICT Act.

Technology Innovation Fund

Make Jamaica the Silicon Valley of the Caribbean

Innovation leads to prosperity. We have to invest more in technology innovation and cultivate a more sustainable and vibrant environment for start-up initiatives.

The JLP Government will create a Technology Innovation Fund (TIF) to catalyse the growth of technology-based ventures. Start-ups without funding don't start. And in hard economic times venture capitalists may not always be around. So we must create

a sustained fund that will always be there to foster technology innovation.

As a nation we must move from simple consumption of technology to becoming participants in the production of technology, whether software or hardware. We have a growing number of young people with ICT skills, students and experienced business people who can develop the opportunities. With the correct support, we can make Jamaica the Silicon Valley of the Caribbean.

Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) "in a real sense"

To date, business process outsourcing has been nothing more than a code for "call centre jobs". While these are good options for entry-level employment, they do not create a secure future for our people, nor do they create opportunities to harness the students and experienced workers from all sectors who have skills to contribute in:

- Programming & web design
- Data Analysis and Database management
- Accounting
- Legal advisory services
- Other administrative support services

With the support of the ICT Regulator, the existing BPO business development channels will go further afield to source job opportunities, and develop a useful, up to date database of local persons willing to take jobs in outsourced service provision. Jamaicans have had to leave home for too long to find these overseas opportunities: it's time for our country to compete with the best by keeping our people right here in the comfort of our own communities and provide these services to the world.

Better ICT Governance Practices in Government

ICT governance does not just mean oversight of the IT networks and tools; it means transforming how we fulfil the role of government by making better use of the IT networks and information and communications tools available. We will place specific emphasis first in some key areas we believe can make an immediate difference in people's lives:

- Using ICT in administration of the education system
- Making health records digital
- Equipping schools with management information systems for teacher registration, examination records, and day to day school administration
- Enabling Government to process electronic payments and accept electronic signatures for certain transactions

Harmonize ICT Legislation Under the Appropriate Agency

The purpose of the Electronic Transactions Act was to do the following:

- facilitate electronic transactions (this means less reliance on cash and in-person payments, including payments to Government, and can reduce the overhead of dealing with paper documents for accessing a host of Government services)
- promote the development of the legal and business infrastructure to implement secure electronic commerce (this opens up the world to our local merchants, who will be able to sell safely online)
- eliminate barriers to electronic commerce (e-commerce) resulting from uncertainties over writing and signature requirements
- establish uniformity of legal rules and standards regarding the authentication and integrity of electronic documents
- facilitate electronic filing of information with Government agencies and statutory bodies and to promote efficient delivery of Government services by means of reliable electronic documents.

It is clear that with the wide-ranging implications and the close connection to the technologies which must be employed and overseen, that it is inappropriate to manage this Act through the Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce.

The JLP Government will bring the Electronic Transactions Act back under the Technology portfolio. This Act and others must be reviewed and strengthened in light of new technologies and international best practices.

Pass a Data Protection, Privacy & Sharing Act

Ensure Privacy and Security of Everyone's Private and Confidential Information - My Data, Your Data and Your Neighbour's Data

With increased use of technology and the use of electronic methods of storing data, we must ensure that we maintain confidence among the people of Jamaica that their personal information is safe and secure.

The protection of my information, your information and the information of ALL citizens of this country IS A RIGHT, NOT A PRIVILEGE. Outside of the Constitution there is no detailed legislation yet, that speaks to this in the context of today's digitized reality.

We must ensure that with the new ways in which information is stored, shared and accessed, citizens are protected. The providers and gatekeepers of this information must be held accountable for its use. Digital information is much easier to access and manipulate. Measures must be put in place to ensure that personal information is kept secure. This is why the Data Protection Act is so important. Without this level of confidence among our people and businesses, many of the proposed initiatives aimed at improving the efficiency of Government services and the conduct of business transactions, will no doubt fail.

e-Waste Legislation

Let us for a moment think about the number of electronic items we use and throw away from time to time: televisions, refrigerators, microwaves, printers, desktop and laptop computers, batteries and the like.

All of these items have some form of electronic component or volatile chemical inside. Recycling these electronic components has become a valuable alternative to mining for these high-value and sometimes rare metals such as silver, gold and rare earth elements.

Recent reports have shown that by 2017 the annual volume of e-waste will increase to an estimated 65.4 million tonnes. It goes without saying that we need to capitalize on this.

There are countless establishments island-wide full of end-of-life electronic equipment. What's worse, without a viable place to send these items, many would already have ended up in our landfills, where they risk contaminating the soil and water.

We need to engage the telecoms providers, appliance retailers and repair shops, IT Service Providers and any entity that sells,



repairs or stores end-of-life of electronic devices, and create an environment for e-waste reclaiming and recycling to be profitable.

e-Waste is big business worldwide, and we cannot afford to miss this boat. By putting the policies and legislation in place, Jamaica can carve out our niche and reap the benefits of a lucrative market.

TOURISM

The Tourism Competitiveness Task Force was established to identify important barriers to a more competitive tourism sector and develop effective solutions. The Committee is comprised of representatives of key public and private sector bodies involved in tourism.

Building on the findings of this and other inquiries, as well as consultation with many stakeholders in the sector, the Jamaica Labour Party proposes to strengthen Jamaica's tourism products by treating each sub-sector with the focussed attention it deserves.



Traditional/Mainstream Tourism

We are formulating a strategic plan for the development of Portland and St. Thomas as a distinct tourist resort area, to take advantage of their unique attributes as well as providing a new economic catalyst to mitigate the decline in sugar and banana industries.

We will continue to:

- Encourage the development of new state-of-the-art attractions beyond the five (5) that were opened in 2011
- Promote the expansion of marinas in Ocho Rios and Montego Bay which, together with the Port Antonio Marina, will be marketed to attract mega-yacht visitors and sport-fishing activities
- Enhance Jamaica's Duty-Free Shopping Appeal; we will establish a new regime for in-bond merchants to enhance Jamaica's appeal as a duty-free shopping destination
- Provide grants and concessionary loans for the upgrading of small hotels and villas and assisting them in developing programmes for advertising and marketing.



Heritage and Eco-Tourism

As the world markets become more sensitive to the ecological and cultural damage caused by unfettered and insensitive development, eco-tourism has emerged as a significant high-value market opportunity.

The Jamaica Labour Party government will provide renewed support for the development of South Coast adventure and eco-tourism, and will:

- Declare the Cockpit Country a "no-mining" zone and encourage the development of environmentally friendly attractions. The Ministry of Tourism will be responsible for the development of usage guidelines for the development of ecotourism and adventure tourism in the Cockpit Country.
- Draft ecotourism guidelines for the development of caves, sinkholes and shafts have been prepared. Guidelines on trails and water features are being developed.
- Establish a sophisticated craft training centre on the north coast to enable our craftsmen to produce high quality craft items and ensure that our craft vendors can preserve indigenous skills while earning a decent living.



Health & Wellness Tourism

The Jamaica Labour Party Government will:

- Promote the development of wellness facilities to take advantage of our natural spas as well as facilities geared toward long-stay convalescents.
- Make the worldwide market more aware of our revised local regime in respect of personal ganja use and medicinal marijuana availability. Development of medicinal marijuana is a large potential growth area both in terms of its export potential and as a draw for medical tourists.
- Work through our diplomatic corps and the new Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation to attract healthcare entrepreneurs to encourage them to establish medical facilities offering clinical and surgical procedures to foreign patients.

internationally and regionally.

Skills Development for the Tourism Industry

Establishment of a Hospitality College

We will pursue development of a hospitality college, either as an independent entity or as a college of one of our existing universities, to train persons for all levels of the tourism sector.

Teaching the Value of Tourism in Schools

We will develop a tourism-related course to be taught in schools and to be an accredited curriculum subject to increase awareness and appreciation of the value of tourism to the nation as well as to prepare our young people for employment and other forms of engagement in the tourist industry.

AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

A JLP government will make the agricultural sector a modern, attractive and productive enterprise for Jamaicans; in particular, our young people.

Revival of the Cocoa and non-Blue Mountain Coffee Industries

The cocoa industry has been on the decline for years. Today, there are only 3,000 persons involved in the industry, compared to 9,000 in 2006. Yet worldwide, cocoa retains a high value as its benefits are being better understood as more than just a food product—its therapeutic, cosmetic and medicinal benefits are emerging rapidly and commodity prices are strong.

Firstly, the JLP Government will conduct a brief study of why these industries collapsed; and then appropriate remedial measures would be implemented, to 'breathe new life' into the industries.

Upgrade the Fresh Food Markets

Markets are key to connecting farmers and fishers with the rewards of their time and investments. Without markets that are conveniently located and connected by strong transport links, farmers will remain limited to their own communities and vulnerable to the ups and downs of seasonal production.

A JLP Government will invest in making markets the portals to farmers' success, providing an attractive, convenient, sanitary and modern atmosphere.

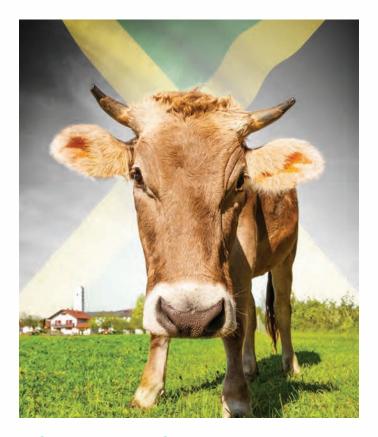
With improved sanitation, amenities for customers and vendors and proper promotion, these markets can also become tourist attractions.

Establish Agricultural Economic Zones (AEZ)

These economic zones will grade, package and process all produce. This will enable our local produce to be competitive with foreign produce, in terms of appearance and quality. The AEZs will be privately operated with farmers' equity and participation.

Develop Products for Niche Markets and Exotic Foods

The production of spices and herbs, such as turmeric, ginger, thyme and sorrel will be encouraged, with the technical support to minimize and appropriately manage diseases. Also, a programme of orchard production will be initiated for fruits such as; mangoes, guava, soursop, june plum, passion fruit and avocado.



A Comprehensive Strategy Against Praedial Larceny

This will involve emphasizing greater law enforcement effort, community policing initiatives, technology usage and prosecution of not just the persons stealing, but also those buying the stolen produce. Law enforcement agencies must infiltrate communities with high incidences of theft and send a strong message to would be thieves.

Ultimately, praedial larceny will decline, when potential perpetrators are engaged in production and earning incomes above the subsistence level.

Investment in Irrigation Water and Rainwater Harvesting

The most direct path to sufficiency of water for agricultural and home use is to make better use of the natural resource where it is found: as rainwater and surface water. We will promote the creation of ponds, catchment areas and micro-dams and create better incentives for households to harvest rainwater.



Re-establish Production and Marketing organizations (PMOs)

To better coordinate extension services support and marketing efforts, better linkages must exist between different geographical areas; between buyers and sellers; and between the local and export markets.

Increasing Productivity through Modern Technology

Some of the modern technology to be applied, include: greenhouse technology, hydroponics, and tissue culture. These will increase yield, improve the quality of the produce and rationalize the use of scarce water. Training and technical support will be extended by the government to assist farmers where needed.

Introduce a National Agricultural Health Protection System

This system will allow farmers to detect diseases early and to recommend treatment before the diseases create widespread damage. The system will be linked to the local university network.

FOREIGN POLICY

Foreign Policy Must Drive our Economic Policy

When we think of foreign relations, we must consider two types of relationships:

- Relationships with other nations, overseas and regional and international organizations
- Relationships with the Jamaican Diaspora

Our foreign policy, international public relations efforts, and the way we staff and support our outward-facing corps of representatives must be in line with our objectives for these relationships.

Finding a Better Balance in CARICOM

Jamaica needs to begin a process of clinically re-examining its role within CARICOM. Nothing short of a comprehensive assessment of our CARICOM membership is required at this time.

The cries of our manufacturers and other business interests are deafening. Structural imbalances within CARICOM are palpable. Concerns regarding Rules of Origin and the Common External Tariff have gone unaddressed for far too long.

Northern Caribbean Economic Convergence: New Developments & Opportunities

A momentous development is taking place before our eyes: the opening up of Cuba via normalized relations with the United States. The result we must anticipate is a complete reconfiguration of the north-western Caribbean as a geo-political and economic space.

Another factor that will play in the transformation of trade, is the ongoing expansion of the Panama Canal. The new canal, scheduled for completion in 2017, will accommodate unprecedented volumes of even larger cargo vessels.

The time is ripe to pursue efforts at getting Jamaica in a position to benefit at as an international logistics centre.

Services: The New Export Growth Pole

Much will revolve around the services side of the equation. Opportunities within the services sector are tremendous and these opportunities are at our finger tips. We should not undervalue certain advantages which in fact have high business value to the American market.

- Our population are native English speakers;
- Our location is in relatively close proximity to the largest economy in the world



- We have to date only scratched the surface of the enormous opportunities which exist in relation to:
- The Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) sector—much more than call centres!
- Establishing Jamaica as an International Financial Centre (IFC)
- The provision of logistics-related services
- Positioning Jamaica as an aviation hub to handle a growing share of the nearly 10 million passengers already passing through the northern Caribbean (Dominican Republic and Cuba)

Better Energy Agreements

The matter of energy cannot be left out of the equation. While talks have occurred with the United States, we need to convert talk into action. We must secure outcomes following those discussions and ensure that LNG from the United States is leveraged to form part of our energy mix here in Jamaica.

The suggestion that Jamaica could be the hub for the distribution of LNG to other countries in the region is worthy of active consideration.

Diaspora Relations—A Missed Opportunity

Concerns have been raised over the years by persons in the Diaspora, mainly in the United States, Canada, and United Kingdom, about the lack of information about opportunities available to them.

In addition to the familial ties that bind us ever, the World Bank estimates that the Jamaican Diaspora has some US\$5.4 Billion in savings. The US\$800 million which we acquired recently on the international bond market is less that 20 percent of those savings.

There is every indication that the Diaspora stands ready to invest in their country, once they can be satisfied that the environment is conducive to such investments. A Jamaica Labour Party government will make the environment ready for investment.

On the matter of engaging the Diaspora in our parliamentary process, as part of our proposed independent members of the Senate, we will propose that the Governor-General select a representative of the views of the Diaspora.



INTERNATIONAL TRADE & INVESTMENT

The objectives are:

Increased Trade Out of Jamaica, and Increased Investment into Jamaica.

To achieve this we will:

- Place greater emphasis in our diplomatic service on trade and investment promotion and facilitation. This involves strengthening relations with traditional trading partners and forging strategic relationships with new and emerging partners
- Promote Jamaica as the centre of trade, commerce, finance, innovation and lifestyle in the Caribbean, making the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation a key point of contact in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade

Closer Ties with Jamaicans Overseas

- More effective consular services in protecting the interests of Jamaicans abroad
- Foster a stronger voice in global affairs, through regional collaboration
- · Repatriation of High Value Skills
- Greater leveraging of the Diaspora in diplomacy, investments and trade
- Engage the diaspora to assist/contribute to national development. There needs to be a coordinated effort to this end, as there is a repository of skills set in the diaspora that needs harnessing.
- Agency for philanthropy in the Diaspora. Many organizations overseas are making their contributions to education, health and other critical sectors. This is one way of centralizing these activities.

Establishment of a Diaspora Fund

Implementation of a Returning Residents Policy. Returning residents have significant resources to invest. However, their efforts for reintegration in the Jamaican society are stymied and discouraged by bureaucracy and other impediments. There needs to be stronger support for them.

YOUTH

Young people in Jamaica are not a homogenous group; they confront very diverse realities. Acknowledging that "youth" can refer to a wide group of people with different values, aspirations, family backgrounds and motivations, we commit to pursue policies and programmes that will empower our youth, promote and encourage the participation of young people in all aspects of sustainable development.

A JLP government will:

- Create a new and expanded National Apprenticeship Programme and National Service Programme. Our aim is to enable youth not enrolled in school or employed, to be enrolled in a training, apprenticeship or service programme. This will provide young people with job skills, while allowing employers to develop a potential employee trained specially for their company.
- The Service programmes will combine training, mentorship and voluntary service. We will encourage youth to be involved in meaningful activity in building their community, while developing necessary life and work skills. We will ensure that building on the existing core, every student leaving the education system will be certified at a functional level of education and competent in a skill. We also commit to establishing a component of the programme to focus on the rehabilitation of young offenders, with proper support systems to assist in their reintegration into society.

The JLP's general push for job creation will embrace and require the skills and energy of young people. That they have relevant training, certification and where possible experience from these programmes, will dove tail with our plans for economic growth and job creation.

Make Young People a Part of Decision Making

Create Youth Advisory Councils starting with the Ministries responsible for Youth and Education. These Councils will enable youth perspectives to be represented at the highest decision-making level of government. This will inject the innovation of youth, as well as the very practical input needed from the persons expected to be impacted by the policies developed.

Create a National Youth Foundation to provide finance and technical support for the Youth Advisory Councils and entities such as the:

- National Secondary Students Council (NSSC)
- Jamaica Union of Tertiary Students (JUTS)
- Jamaica Youth Ambassador Programme (JYAP)
- National Youth Council of Jamaica (NYCJ)

Revitalise the National Youth Parliament to give young Jamaicans the opportunity to learn first-hand about our democracy and to influence decision-making.

Ensure that all parishes have at least one Youth Information Center and network all YICs, to offer a core set of services, giving all youth access to an agreed set of services.

Promote and expand "Values Streaming through Sports", as a medium to transfer knowledge of wellness and healthy sexual reproductive health choices.





Protecting the Vulnerable

- Revise the Adoption Policy and amend the Adoption Act to provide for a more sensitive and efficient process geared at bringing together loving permanent families.
- Revive the Possibility Programme for street children
- Conduct an operational review of the CDA and OCR and ensure that systems are optimized in the interest of our children.

Start Transferring Business Skills Early

- Expand the pool of funds available for lending at the Jamaica Youth Business Trust.
- Establish Youth Business Incubators to support the following growth areas: the creative industries, agro processing, ICT and tourism.
- Infuse entrepreneurial studies and financial literacy into the curriculum of primary and secondary schools to promote innovation, enterprise, and responsible risk taking in our youth.

The voices, ideas and energy of our young people are integral to Jamaica's sustainable development. The JLP remains strongly committed to maintaining our youth at the centre of our development strategy. A JLP government will ensure that our youth participate in policy and practice in meaningful ways and that they benefit positively to facilitate a fair and just start to their adult lives.

GENDER ISSUES

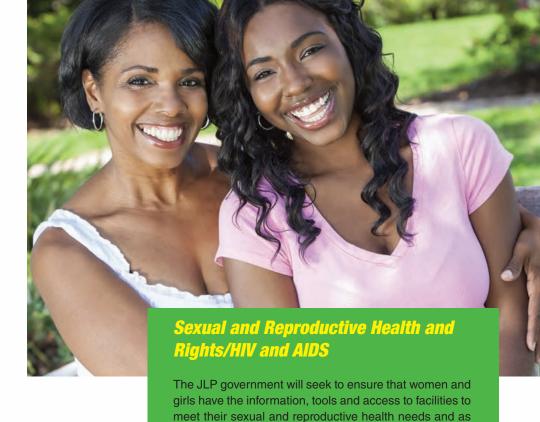
The JLP is committed to the principles of gender equality and balance. When we have true gender equality we will see equal numbers of women and men operating at all levels, including leadership. We have therefore identified several areas of focus for the next 5 years, in line with the 2011 National Policy for Gender Equality, Vision 2030 and other international and regional agreements and conventions.

The JLP will continue its commitment to gender mainstreaming in public sector entities, i.e. taking conscious steps to assess the different implications for women and men, of any planned policy action, including legislation and programmes.



Gender-based violence continues to be a major concern of the JLP. Far too many of our women and girls are subject to various forms of abuse including sexual abuse and domestic violence. The Party will continue to address these issues through the following actions:

- Enactment of legislation against Sexual Harassment
- Continued sensitization about Human Trafficking
- Establishment of Permanent and Temporary Shelters for women victims of domestic violence with appropriate accommodation for children
- Review of Legislation on Sexual Offences, Domestic Violence and Childcare and Protection
- Implementation of the National Strategic Action Plan to Eliminate Gender-Based Violence
- Putting resources in place to improve livelihoods of rural women through new and existing programmes



Decent Work for Domestic Workers

The JLP recognizes the worth of domestic workers and their contribution to national development.

outlined in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), with a view to reducing early and unplanned pregnancies.

The JLP Government commits to Jamaica's ratification of the ILO Convention 189, Decent Work for Domestic Workers, to improve the lives and working conditions of domestic workers.

Men and Masculinities

The JLP recognizes that boys are now forming a critical vulnerable group and that men and boys tend to be under-represented in education.

In keeping with the SGD goal 5, a focus will be placed on the boy child. The JLP Government will strengthen training programmes targeting unattached and vulnerable youth. We will also ensure that counselling programmes are made available



CULTURE, CREATIVE INDUSTRIES, ENTERTAINMENT AND HERITAGE

Culture, as the way of life of a people, has shaped the Jamaican social, economic and political landscape in very fundamental ways, particularly in its role in the creation of Brand Jamaica and in the consolidation of our national identity. The following are just a few of our extensive policy and programme prescriptions to enhance the reach and output of the Culture, Creative Industries, Entertainment and Heritage sector.

Culture, Cultural Identity Consolidation and Implications for Partnerships with the Ministry of Education

- Strengthen collaboration between the Ministry and Agencies responsible for Culture, Creative Industries, Entertainment and Heritage and the Ministry of Education in the planning and staging of Jamaica Day
- Promote greater collaboration between the Ministry and Agencies responsible for Culture, Creative Industries, Entertainment and Heritage and the Ministry of Education in training of cultural agents in schools.

Culture, Creative Industries, Entertainment, Heritage and Brand Jamaica consolidation and promotion

Establish 21st century museum of the Jamaican People:
 A National Museum to share our history and culture, with smaller permanent exhibitions in the Institute of Jamaica network to enable wider reach to all Jamaicans

Creative Industries and Entertainment Development and Promotion

- Activate and invigorate the Culture and Creative Industries Council as an overarching mechanism for the integration and regulation of policies and programmes in this area.
- Collaborate with UTECH Design and Entrepreneurial Centre and the Edna Manley College for the development

- of regular programmes to upgrade and enhance the design elements of our Craft sector, with assistance from Latin American partners.
- Include the Creative Industries and Entertainment sector within the National Export Strategy.

Artists Development and Support

- Use of a Creative Industries and Entertainment Fund to facilitate incubation, development, promotion and marketing of leading young artists in various areas of Creative Industries and Entertainment, such as music, film, fashion and art.
- Appoint a panel of leading Music Industry experts to discover, develop and promote young artists for global reach in the Industry.

Support for Cultural Communities

- Provide funding for cultural communities such as Maroons and Rastafari to promote and grow their festivals to international standards and promotion.
- Support the staging of commemorative celebrations in Rastafari community (50th anniversary of the arrival of Emperor Haile Selassie in April 2016)
- Promote regular meetings in support of cultural communities to ensure continuity and transfer of information and traditions within the communities and the country at large.



SPORTS

Sports is so very important to each and every one of us, and in an Olympic year, the whole country will band together in a few months as we rally behind our superstars and bright new stars. On a daily basis however, so much more can be done to foster our natural abilities and international brand as high performers.

Community Integration

Sport has long be seen as a vehicle for social integration which keeps communities together and is a persuasive tool in promoting shared interests alongside fostering a keen sense of civic pride. Parish Councils must exercise even greater leadership in bringing schools, voluntary sport clubs, National Governing Bodies of sport, health and the private sector together to forge partnerships, unblock barriers to participation and improve the local sport delivery system. Their understanding of communities will enable them to target opportunities and encourage mass participation.

Sports Tourism

We will intensify efforts to establish an extensive sport tourism programme that will, among other things, provide discounted prices to athletes that wish to use our sports facilities (especially during their winter season). These sports training facilities should be equipped to meet international standards and include gymnasium, swimming pool, indoor halls, cycling velodrome, squash courts, conditioning units, hockey fields (grass & synthetic), athletic track (cinder & synthetic) and outdoor courts (such as lawn tennis courts).

• Training and certification of Sports Professionals
We will enhance greater partnership between the Government and
our local sporting bodies to enhance the training and certification
of our local coaches (and those aspiring to be coaches) not only to
meet local but also international standards that would deem them
qualified/certified to ply their trade across the globe.



We will also look beyond coaches, and at creating a marketplace and providing expanded training for other sport professionals such as Sports Physicians and Specialists, Physiotherapists, Sports medicine physicians, Exercise Physiologists, Sports Nutritionists, Sport Administrators/Managers, etc.

Improving Facilities

We will forge partnerships between Jamaican / international entities to tap into funding opportunities for sport and community development. Jamaica has more than 1600 sporting facilities; including track and field, football, netball etc. These existing facilities need to be rehabilitated. Other facilities should be built. The facilities located in our nation's schools should be considered in this venture as this would negate the need to procure land while improving the facility to which school children would have access.

Research in the area of sport sciences

We will promote the importance of conducting research in the field of sport. The days of relying solely on 'raw born talent' is a thing of the past, especially in light of the many advances in approaches to preparation of athletes for competition. There is also a great need to conduct research on our population as it relates to their participation in sporting activities in order to develop strategies to improve the health of our citizens. This consultation will be undertaken in conjunction with the Ministry responsible for health.



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PARTNERSHIP FOR PROSPERITY



ON ELECTION DAY FEBRUARY 25, 2016 VOTE LLD X

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