UNFPA SUPPORTS THE RELEASE OF THE 2011 CENSUS REPORT

The Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago launched its 2011 Population and Housing Census Demographic Report on 19 February 2013. Having commenced the field work in early 2011, it is the first time in the country's history that it took less than two (2) years to deliver the completed report. It is also the third (3rd) amongst Caribbean Community (CARICOM) countries to release a report from the 2011 censuses. Key technical assistance and capacity building was provided by UNFPA in the production of the 2011 Census, particularly in its design, in the cleaning and coding of data, and in the production of the statistical tables.

Some of the findings noted in the launch were:

? A slowdown of population growth by one-tenth of a percentage point from ten (10) years ago with a current population of 1,328,019 comprising 666,305 males and 661,714 females.

? An aging population with its ratio of persons 65 years and over relative to the population of 15 years and younger at 30, with close to one half of the population over the age of 40 (520,351) and significant declines in the population ages 10-19.

? Declines in the population of the nation's two (2) major cities.

? Increases in the number of households, but declines in household size.

? 29.8% of the population received up to primary education; 43.5% up to secondary education; and 14.6% exposed to some tertiary education, with more women than men with
Let's Unite to End Violence Against Women

The United Nations Secretary General's message on International Women's Day, was delivered by the Acting Resident Coordinator Barton Clarke, during the Ministry of Gender Youth and Child Development's commemoration of International Women's Day on 8 March 2013 at the Centre of Excellence, Macoya.

Atrocities of violence against women which had permeated the local and global scene was reflected upon. Barton Clarke through the UN Secretary General's message urged members present to consider the human family, bearing in mind the relationship and responsibility we have each other. "Our outrage of violence against women should be converted into action."[Read More]

UP COMING EVENTS

World Population Day
(11 July 2013)

Nelson Mandela International Day
(18 July 2013)

International Friendship Day
(30 July 2013)

International Day of the World's Indigenous People
(9 August 2013)

International Youth Day
(12 August 2013)

GOVERNMENT OF TRINIDAD ADN TOBAGO ADOPTS UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM 2013 WORK PLAN
World Humanitarian Day  
(19 August 2013)

International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and of its Abolition  
(23 August 2013)

International Day Against Nuclear Tests  
(29 August 2013)

International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances  
(30 August 2013)

Since 1959 the UN has designated International years in order to draw attention to major issues and to encourage international action to address concerns which have global importance and ramifications.  

2013 is....


The UN Country Team composed of representatives of the UN funds and programmes, specialized agencies and other UN entities accredited to Trinidad and Tobago, works together, to ensure the delivery of tangible results in support of the development agenda of the Government.

The purpose of the meeting was to adopt and agree on the 2013 Work Plan which will guide the work of the UN System's strategic support to the Government and people Trinidad and Tobago in 2013. [READ MORE]

UNICEF SUPPORTS NATIONAL CONSULTATON ON A STRATEGY FOR CHILDREN

The Trinidad and Tobago Government and UNICEF recently held a national consultation entitled 'Visioning and Planning for Children in Trinidad and Tobago'.

The key objective of the one-day national consultation was to bring together government ministries and departments working for children in Trinidad and Tobago to develop a strategic plan for cooperation between Government of Trinidad and Tobago and UNICEF.

The vision for children is expected to fit into the country's Framework for Sustainable Development and the Medium-Term Policy Framework (2011-2014) that outlines a strategic shift for economic and social transformation, and prioritizes poverty reduction and human capital development and health care. The programme contains nationally defined targets central to the country's development over the period 2011-2014. [READ MORE]

UN HABITAT HOSTS PARTICIPATORY SLUM UPGRADING PROGRAMME WORKSHOP
The United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-HABITAT, the UN agency for human settlements, mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all hosted a regional workshop at the Carlton Savannah hotel from 12 - 16 March 2013.

The meeting brought together implementing partners comprising of Antigua and Barbuda, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago. The aim of the workshop was to bring the partners 'up to speed' with the participatory slum upgrading programme principles, methodology and practices for slum upgrading and prevention; to share knowledge and experiences as well as set national goals for PSUP implementation period. [READ MORE]
The Chairman of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 committee Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea Ambassador Kim Sook at the invitation of the Government of the Republic Trinidad and Tobago visited the country to discuss the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540. The target audience for the two day workshop which took place from 18 - 20 April 2013 in Port of Spain were Government officials from the various ministries. The workshop was chaired by the Multi-lateral Division of the Minister of Foreign Affairs under the leadership of His Excellency, Ambassador Dennis Francis.

The UN was invited by the Government to share with participants the importance of International Cooperation. The participants were informed that as countries unite in their determination to use laws, capabilities and political will, the message sent to proliferators is that there are no safe havens within the boarders, air space, or territorial waters for their deadly trade.

**ECLAC LAUNCHES REPORT ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

The Director of The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) subregional headquarters for the Caribbean Ms.
Interested in a career or experience in development?

The UN is currently recruiting for the following positions:

Current UN Vacancies

Diane Quarless together with the Honourable Ms. Ramona Ramdial, Minister of State in the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources Ms. Hannah Bleby, First Secretary, Development, AusAid launched, a series of regional reports on climate change on Friday 12 April 2013.

These reports are the culmination of a project implemented by ECLAC, with the support of the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), on the development of economic frameworks to assess the economic and social impacts of climate change in the Caribbean. The principal objective of this project is to prepare the Caribbean region to more effectively respond to climate change, while fostering a regional approach to reducing carbon emissions by 2050. The reports also highlight recommendations for cost-effective adaptation and mitigation measures in response to projected regional impacts of climate change on the agriculture, coastal and marine resources, energy, health, tourism, and water sectors. [READ MORE]

NATIONAL CONSULTATION ON THE POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA & NATIONAL PREPARATORY CONSULTATION FOR SIDS CONFERENCE IN SAMOA

The United Nations System in Trinidad and Tobago together with its Non Resident Agencies supported the Government of Trinidad and Tobago in hosting a consultation on the Post 2015 Development Agenda and national priorities for the third international conference on Small Island Development States (SIDS) Conference.

The consultation held on 10 May 2013 at the Hilton Hotel Trinidad was opened by the Minister of Planning & Sustainable Development Senator the Honourable Dr. Bhoe hendradatt Teware, Vice President of the Senate, the Honourable Mrs. Lyndira Ouidt and UN Resident
Coordinator Richard Blewitt. The consultation brought together over two hundred (200) persons comprising of civil society organizations, youth, elderly, disabled persons and Government officials. [READ MORE]

STAFF ON THE MOVE

Appointment of United Nations Resident Coordinator / UNDP Resident Representative

Mr. Richard Blewitt (UK) commenced his appointment as the United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, on Thursday 25 April 2013.

Prior to this appointment, Richard was CEO of HelpAge International (2007-2013). He worked for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent as Acting Director of Policy and Communications (2006) and as Director of Movement Cooperation (2004-2006). He served with the British Red Cross Society (BRCS) as Director of Strategy, Planning, Coordination and IT (2002-2004), Director of International BRCS (2001-2002), and Head of Programme Development and Advise Department (1998-2001). From 1997-1998 he was with the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs as Consultant Advisor. Richard had various assignments with Save the Children Fund (UK). [READ MORE]

Representative Appointed for the Caribbean UN Women Multi-Country Office

Prior to her appointment as UN Women Representative and Head of Multi-Country Office - Caribbean, Christine Arab (Canada) was the Chief of the Asia and Pacific Section at UN Women Headquarters. Ms. Arab took up the post of Chief of AP after completing a special assignment as one of the advisors on the UN Women Transition Team during the establishment of the new UN Entity.

Prior to her posting in New York, Ms. Arab was the UN Women Representative in Albania - a “Delivering as One” UN Pilot Country; the Chief Technical Advisor for a UN Women (then UNIFEM) Women and Peace Building Programme in the Southern Caucasus; special advisor to the Eastern Europe and Central Asia UNIFEM Sub-Regional Offices; and temporarily Officer In Charge (OIC) of UNIFEM Afghanistan’s office in 2003. [READ MORE]
New Procurement Officer for UNAIDS Regional Support Team

Andrew de Gannes joined the UN family in April 2013 as the Operations Officer with the UN AIDS Regional Support Team. After having worked with the British Petroleum Trinidad and Tobago Office, Solus Ltd and Optik Technologies.

Andrew comes to the UN with 17 years of experience. He holds a B.Sc in Business and an LLB degree. Andrew is looking forward to being a contributor to the goals of UNAIDS; he enjoys watching movies, tv while exercising, reading and cooking.

Communications Officer for UNDP

Sharon Ramsaran is a Strategic Communications and Public Relations professional with over fifteen years' experience in the private, public and NGO sectors.

Her experience spans from leading TTPost Customer Service Department to win the Prime Minister's Award for Service Excellence, managing many international brands including Kodak and Snapple, and local household brands such as Squezy. At the Ministry of National Security, Sharon’s brainchild, a public education campaign titled, Behind Prison Walls won the Prime Minister's Award for Innovation. The pioneering campaign connected the national community to prisoners to enable dialogue on the need for a reintegration penal policy. Her experience also includes working at the Caribbean HIV&AIDS Alliance where she was responsible for communications of eight countries, bringing attention to vulnerabilities of most-at-risk populations in HIV and AIDS.

Sharon holds a Master’s Degree in Business Administration, a Post Graduate Degree in Marketing, and is presently completing a Master's Degree in Strategic Planning. She holds certificates in public relations, journalism, protocol, mediation and radio broadcasting.
Mark Toolsie Joins UNDP as Procurement Associate

Mark Toolsie joins UNDP as Procurement Associate. Coming to the UN with approximately five years experience in procurement and eight years in engineering, Mark has worked with major local companies such as the National Infrastructure Development Company Ltd, The Urban Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited, Coosal’s Construction Company Ltd, the Vehicle Management Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago and the Metal Industry Company Ltd. He holds a M.Sc in Production Engineering and Management, B.Sc in Mechanical Engineering, Diploma in Financial Management and is currently pursuing certification from the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply.

Mark is looking forward to working with the local and international personnel of UNDP and to being part of a team that is making a difference in the development of the country. Mark enjoys watching movies, football, cricket and running.

UNDP SAYS GOODBYE TO GOVERNANCE PROGRAMME OFFICER

Jens Ulrich Poppin said goodbye to his colleagues and partners on Monday 10 June 2013 as he moves on to take the next step in his career development. During Jen’s tenure with UNDP he managed the UN Volunteer Programme and the Democratic Governance portfolio. Some of his achievements include the CEO Report on Corporate Social Responsibility, projects on the development of a national CSR Policy and the Institutional Strengthening for the Parliament and joint action on anti-corruption matters.

Jens is excited about his future role as the British Council’s new Director Partnership Caribbean starting where he will be developing the organisation’s resource mobilization framework as well as for forging new strategic alliances with partners in Government, Civil Society and the Private Sector.
GEF-SGP Programme Assistant Moves on to Higher Education

Sasha Jattansingh concluded her assignment as GEF Small Grants Programme Assistant in June 2012 following a year of dedicated service to civil society-led projects that conserve the environment while enhancing people’s wellbeing and livelihoods.

While at the UNDP Sasha was involved in the planning and coordinating of the United Nations Day 2012 event which showcased two GEF SGP funded projects being executed by local civil society organisations. Another noteworthy event which Sasha was proud to be a part of was the recently concluded GEF SGP UNDP Knowledge Fair 2013, which was the first of its kind in the Caribbean region for the GEF SGP. It has always been a dream to work at the United Nations Development Programme says Sasha and I am honoured to have been part of the United Nations system and to have contributed to the work of the UNDP in Trinidad and Tobago. Sasha will be pursuing further studies for PhD later on this year.
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