

**BUILDING A VALUES DRIVEN SOCIETY  
CIVIL SOCIETY AND LOCALIZED PLANNING**

# STRUCTURE OF PRESENTATION

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# INTRODUCTION

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- ✘ EITI will thrive best in a values driven society
- ✘ Transparency and accountability must be more than a methodology for revenue reporting in extractive industries
- ✘ It must be part of a national value system that includes equity, efficiency, non discrimination, fairness and equality.
- ✘ Localized planning supported by Civil Society will take us from T&A as habit and practice to T&A as culture

# POTENTIAL OF EITI

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- ✘ The work of the EITI has the potential to:
- ✘ Build more participatory democracies,
  - More involvement of ordinary people in decision making
- ✘ Craft fair and just societies
  - Meet the needs of all the sub-groups
- ✘ Change the way we govern ourselves.
  - New ways of operating
- ✘ Help to maintain a stable society
  - Little conflict

# TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN EITI

- ✘ Values are unifying principles that help people to identify with each other in a larger way on the basis of their shared humanity(R. Barrette)
- ✘ In a plural society such as Trinidad and Tobago any attempt to use the revenues from the extractive industries to meet the needs of all stakeholding sections of the society stands the best chance of success through values based decision making.

# TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY IN EITI

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- ✘ In examining the role of transparency and accountability in the EITI , they are dealt with as necessary processes for exposing, collecting and managing the revenues from the extractive industries in a manner that benefits all citizens.
- ✘ While transparency and accountability are useful as processes within the extractive industries sector, they will be more effective if they form part of a national value system to which the leadership and citizenry subscribe.

# TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY IN EITI

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- ✘ The EITI causes governments and energy based organizations to *practice* transparency and be *held* accountable for publishing what they earn, publishing what they spend and publishing what they pay. What is required however is an ethos that causes governments and energy based organizations to *be* transparent and accountable.

# TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY IN EITI

- ✘ Values speak more to lifestyle than to process and even though values must be operationalized by process, the starting point ought to be attaching sufficient importance to the concepts so that they become a way of living rather than a way of doing. It is easier to practice transparency and accountability in the extractive industries sector if transparency and accountability are embedded in the national psyche as principles to which we collectively subscribe across all areas of endeavour.

# TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY IN T&T

- ✘ A National Values Assessment in 2012 showed that neither transparency nor accountability played any part in the personal values of the sample we assessed. The closest personal value showing up was integrity. Neither did these two values appear in the current cultural values. The respondents did not see either transparency or accountability playing a role in the current or existing culture of Trinidad and Tobago. Fortunately the picture changed when we examined the desired culture. Accountability was the most prominent value desired by the respondents.

# TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY IN T&T

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- ✘ What was most curious about the results was the three foremost values. The most prominent personal value was ambition. The most prominent current culture or collective value was corruption and the most desired value was accountability. One is left to ask whether persons are of the general view that corruption is the only way to fulfill their ambitions but really desire to have their needs met in more legitimate ways?

# TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY IN T&T

- ✘ This assessment supported the absolute need for the operations of EITI in Trinidad and Tobago especially in the area of monitoring government expenditure of the revenues from the extractive industries because the top ten current culture values and the huge gap that existed between the current and desired cultures suggested that the needs of the people were not being met.

# TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY IN T&T

- ✘ The level of cultural entropy at the time was 75%. It is here that there was clear evidence of where things stood as far as unmet needs were concerned because “cultural entropy (dysfunctionality) is the measure of the level of fear, anxiety, unhappiness and frustration that people feel about being able to meet their basic needs and satisfy their growth needs (the extent to which they can get, have or experience what they value) in the environment/context in which they live.

# TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY IN T&T

- ✘ When it is juxtaposed against the work of TTEITI, measuring cultural entropy through the mechanism of periodic national values assessments can be a useful tool to assess the efficacy of the efforts to direct government's spending to meeting the needs of the people. Much more importantly is the enhanced capability that values assessments give to nations to ascertain exactly how and where monies should be spent if the needs of the people are to be met.



# TRANSPARENCY&ACCOUNTABILITY IN T&T

✘ (b) *We have to eliminate:*

✘ Corruption

Crime and  
Violence

✘ Blame

Ad Hoc  
Governance

✘ Nepotism

Bureaucracy

✘ Waste of Resources

Low  
Productivity(Liming)

✘ Discrimination

Conflict/Aggression

# TRANSPARENCY&ACCOUNTABILITY IN T&T

- ✘ ©*And bring about:*
- ✘ Commitment to Nation Building
- ✘ Mental, Physical, Social and Spiritual Well Being
- ✘ Concern for Future Generations
- ✘ Good Humour and Fun
- ✘ Transparency and Integrity in Public Life
- ✘ High Levels of Achievement.

# LOCALIZED PLANNING

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- ✘ To fully benefit from EITI we must: Build a Values Driven Society by
- ✘ Implementing a culture change process
- ✘ Conducting periodic national values assessments
- ✘ Implementing leadership development programmes and public awareness campaigns
- ✘ Implementing a programme of values based education in all schools.”

# LOCALIZED PLANNING

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- ✘ These highly participatory activities are recommended as baseline planning tools to assist decision making on targeted government spending:
- ✘ .comprehensive community/constituency profiles,
- ✘ community/constituency needs assessments
- ✘ and community/constituency budgets that are gender responsive.

# COMMUNITY/CONSTITUENCY PROFILES

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- × PROGRAMS
- × PEOPLE
- × INFRASTRUCTURE
- × ORGANIZATIONS
- × RESOURCES
- × PROCESSES

# IMPORTANCE TO EITI

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- ✘ They provide a comprehensive description and understanding of the community/constituency from both a physical and human perspective
- ✘ They facilitate the activities required for implementing a community/constituency enterprise development strategy, community/constituency development and community/constituency empowerment strategy
- ✘ They provide evidence on which to base decisions for spending on the common good based on the demographics of the community/constituency
- ✘ They tell us where the strengths and weaknesses lie to facilitate social reengineering for community/constituency survival and renewal.
- ✘ It provides a baseline for monitoring and evaluating growth and development and for measuring community resilience.

# COMMUNITY/CONSTITUENCY NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

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- ✘ The CNAs tell us what are the strengths, concerns and needs based on what is important to the community and how satisfied they are with it. Community strengths are determined when persons are satisfied or very satisfied with features deemed to be important or very important. Concerns are derived from features rated as important and unsatisfactory or unimportant and unsatisfactory. Needs are those features rated as very important and completely unsatisfactory

# IMPORTANCE TO EITI

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- ✘ They specify not only what gaps exist but where they are.
- ✘ They are road maps for action planning and decision making on spending
- ✘ They rank issues in order of importance for attention
- ✘ They provide a basis for community prioritization and enable accurate targeting of needs
- ✘ They clearly identify opportunities for economic development
- ✘ They assist in enhancing the quality of life and enable satisfaction of community needs and concerns.

# COMMUNITY/CONSTITUENCY DEMOGRAPHIC RESPONSIVE BUDGETS

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- ✘ These are comprehensive statements of estimated revenue and expenditure that are specific to each community/ constituency. These estimates are incorporated in the national budget under Local Government. They are not only gender responsive but also responsive to the other demographics of the community/constituency. They are built on the basis of the community profiles and needs assessments.

# IMPORTANCE TO EITI

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- ✘ They enable estimation of the revenues generated by the community/constituency
- ✘ They facilitate a costing of actions to be taken to meet the needs of the people
- ✘ They enable governments to prioritise spending requirements and make allocations for each community/constituency
- ✘ They prevent wasteful spending and support transparency and accountability.
- ✘ They encourage more widespread approval of the national budget
- ✘ They involve ordinary people in the budgetary process

# ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY

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- ✘ Have their leadership educate themselves about PWYP and EITI
- ✘ Place the EITI on their meeting agendas to educate and update their membership on its work
- ✘ Seek opportunities to participate in the work of the EITI
- ✘ Partner with the EITI to conduct public education in the communities in which they function and among their stakeholders.
- ✘ Advocate for and participate in the establishment of the underlying frameworks to support the objectives of the EITI
- ✘ Build values based organizations and become strong advocates and activists for building a values driven society

# ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY

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- ✘ Resist and seek to dismantle those structures that are inconsistent with the pillars and principles of PWYP and EITI.
- ✘ Lobby strongly for National Values Assessments to be conducted every three years and for the introduction of other cultural transformation tools along with EITI to restructure the value system.
- ✘ Seek to understand how their visions and missions are helped or hindered by what is happening with revenues from the extractive industries.
- ✘ Stop asking where the money gone or going and start saying “this is where we want the money to go.”

# CONCLUSION

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- ✘ It is insufficient for Transparency, Accountability and other key values to be adhered to only through Memoranda of Understanding , written policies and procedures or even legislation. We must not surrender until a positive value system that supports democracy and stability is built into the DNA of the nation and becomes our culture. We must get to the stage where we are not transparent and accountable because of what we do. Instead, we do what we do because we are transparent and accountable.