



Caribbean Local Economic Development Project (CARILED) December 2016 Update

Happy New Year to our Partners and Stakeholders!



Mrs. Marion Villanueva, Program Director

On behalf of the entire CARILED team across the Caribbean and Canada, I want to wish all readers a warm and Happy New Year! It is indeed bittersweet to write my very last holiday greeting, as CARILED entered its final quarter of program activities in January 2017. The engagement and positive feedback from our 36 Caribbean and 21 Canadian partner communities has led to a new understanding by Local Authorities of their role in local economic development and a range of local economic development results over the last 5 years.

I want to take this opportunity to also acknowledge the tireless efforts of our dedicated team members, volunteers and consultants, whose continued dedication has inspired others to action, and created much positive change in the lives of many local government practitioners and micro entrepreneurs. Our final series of learning activities, scheduled to take place in February and March 2017, will highlight much of the lessons learned, good practices and successes since our launch in 2012. It is my sincere hope that the relationships and partnerships between Canadian and Caribbean municipalities formed under CARILED continue well beyond the active project period, that will close in March 2017.

Do continue to visit our social media and website pages to keep up-to-date on the local economic development activities in the Caribbean, and do not be shy about volunteering to be a part of positive changes in your country!

Marion Villanueva – Program Director, CARILED

CARILED examines challenges to women business owners



Vieux-Fort, Saint Lucia

From 2014 to 2016, CARILED commissioned seven country studies to examine the challenges faced by men and women business owners. The studies looked at influencers like policies, elected officials, and proximity to services, e.g. training and financing. The remaining study (Gender and MSMEs in Dominica, 2016) showed that women are showing promising areas of growth in accessing finance, although more work needs to be done to encourage confidence in applying for formal sources of financing, such as loans. Like the other countries, women in Dominica were more likely to become entrepreneurs to support family members, but less likely to become formal businesses and take financial risks to grow their companies. As such, women were less likely to seek training, financing and mentorships, all of which were proven areas needed for financial success among Caribbean entrepreneurs. The complete Gender and MSME Country Studies are now available on www.cariled.org.



Canada



Dominica Phase 2 Community develops LED Strategic Plan



Portsmouth, Dominica

The Portsmouth Town Council has embraced the partnership offered by the CARILED program to bolster its local economic development strategic direction. There was an increase in interest from local partners following the start-up of CARILED activities in Portsmouth as a Phase 2 community, and the May 2016 LED 101 workshop.

The community then participated in a validation process of the Local Area Economic Profile, and supported the drafting of a LED Strategic Plan, spearheaded by the Portsmouth Town Council. The LED Strategy was completed by June, adopted by council, presented to the community and circulated to relevant partners.

Jamaica Holds Local Government Month 2016



Clarendon, Jamaica

Jamaica kicked off its Local Government and Community Month under the theme 'Rebuilding Civic Pride in Your Community and Mine' with a church service on October 31, 2016. The local government celebrations ran from November 01 – 30, 2016, and consisted of a range of activities in parishes to highlight the role of local government in sustainable development. CARILED partnered with several local agencies, parishes and municipalities, to support awareness building around the role of local government in LED.

CARILED also supported LED deepening activities, firstly hosting orientation workshops from November 07 – 11, 2016 in Kingston, Jamaica, and later presenting on LED during the OAS Sustainable Cities Course, 10th Edition from December 6-9, 2016 in Montego Bay, Jamaica. To learn more visit <http://cariled.org/news/jamaica-celebrates-local-government-month-2016/>.

Elected Officials Training in Guyana



Herdmanston Lodge, Guyana

On August 15, 2016, CARILED in collaboration with the Ministry of Communities launched training programs for newly elected officials. There are currently four modules in the training series: Leadership, Governance and Community Engagement; The Legal Framework for Local Councils; Intergovernmental Relations and Partnerships for Enhanced Service Delivery and Good Practices in Local Government Planning.

In Q3, Module II on the Legal Framework was facilitated by Mr Vincent Alexander, a Local Resource Person on November 3, 4 and 18. Module III was completed on November 23 & 24 and 30 2016 and was facilitated by Mr. Danny Joseph, Councillor and Mr. Mike Dolter Chief Administrative Officer from the town of Truro in Nova Scotia.

The fourth module will be held on January 10, 11 and 16, 2017 and will be facilitated by other Federation of Canadian Municipalities volunteers. The workshops are delivered to five municipalities, namely 3 in Region 6 (New Amsterdam, Rose Hall, Corriverton), Georgetown and Linden, 4 NDCs – Enmore, Plaisance, Mocha-Arcadia and Soesdyke and RDCs 4& 6 in this pilot phase. The completed manual will be used by the Ministry of Communities to guide replication to other Local Government Associations.

LED Rolls forward in Trinidad and Tobago



Ramsaran Street, Chaguana, Trinidad and Tobago

In Q3, local government took center stage in Trinidad and Tobago. Local government elections in Trinidad were held in October and new Councils were sworn in later that month. Earlier that month, the Cabinet of Trinidad and Tobago approved local government reform policy, and embarked on a public awareness campaign to promote the local government reform agenda and highlight areas of the reform, such as upcoming increases to local governments' powers and resources. To view this draft local government reform document or learn more about the reform consultations, visit [the website for the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government](#). CARILED also concluded its support of the advancement of national policy that embeds LED under a rural development strategy. This strategy formed part of a recently completed Rural Development Policy Proposal, that is pending Cabinet approval.

In early 2017, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, in partnership with CARILED, will host a week long training and orientation for newly elected councillors, that will include the concept of LED driven by local government. Other LED developments in Trinidad and Tobago are:

Business Improvement Area Development in two municipalities - Customization and beautification of two Trinidad locations in High Street, Princes Town and Ramsaran Street, Chaguana have been underway with practices that replicate the approach taken by the Ontario Business Improvement Area. To date, 12 solar lights were installed between Persads D Food King and Trinkets Limited on High Street, and wrought iron work was installed along LED lights on Ramsaran Street. These efforts were done through partnerships between local business owners and the municipal councils;

Formation of LED Advisory Committees - The creation of a Local Economic Development Planning Advisory Committee (LED-PAC) for the Sangre Grande Regional Corporation comprising of representatives from ten (10) agencies, including the College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTATT) took place in Q3. Four meetings have been held to date and the Committee is currently in the process of analysing economic data in preparation for the development of the LED strategic plan. COSTATT is also pursuing the customization of training programs to support and meet the needs of the economic strategies that will be advanced in Sangre Grande.



High Street, Princes Town, Trinidad and Tobago

EODB Consultations conclude in Tobago



Lowlands, Trinidad and Tobago

On September 13, 2016, a workshop was held with representatives from a wide cross-section of the local business sector and associations on the Ease of Doing Business (EODB) in Tobago. The workshop focused on the results of an assessment conducted on the barriers faced by MSMEs doing business in Tobago. The participants also examined and validated the various issues identified through a prior survey and consultation. Other areas discussed were the concerns, opinions and recommendations from the business sector on the regulations, procedures and MSME support services provided by the national government and the Tobago House of Assembly.

Some priority areas identified to improve ease of doing business were the creation of a business help desk and a revolving fund.



Caribbean Events and Conferences



The Caribbean Association of Local Government Authorities (CALGA) convened its biennial executive meeting, from 6-9 October 2016 in Roseau, Dominica. CARILED was represented at that meeting by Regional Program Manager, Mr. Olaf Fontenelle, who facilitated a presentation on the Terms of Reference (TOR) for a Caribbean Position Paper on Local Government and LED in the Caribbean, a key result of the Suriname Regional Policy Dialogue attended by LG Association Representatives, CALGA and the CARILED Technical Working Group (TWG) in April 2016.

Further to the meeting, a formal request was made for CARILED's assistance in the development of a 5-year Strategic Plan for CALGA, since the current plan expires in December 2016. CARILED has since secured technical assistance for the purpose of jointly drafting a Caribbean Position Paper and conducting a Strategic Planning exercise for CALGA. Currently, preliminary consultations are underway with CALGA members, to culminate in a two-day Strategic Planning Workshop and Position Paper review, during 24-25 January 2017. To learn more about CALGA, visit www.calga.org.

International Events and Conferences



Bogota, Colombia

CARILED hosted the only Caribbean delegation to attend the 5th United Cities and Local Governments Congress, a World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders that took place in Bogota, Colombia from October 12 – 15.

The delegation included Deputy Mayor Waneka Arrindell of Linden, Guyana; Alderman Anthony Roberts of San Juan/Laventille, Trinidad and Tobago and Chairman of the Trinidad and Tobago Association of Local Government Authorities (TTALGA); Councillor Ralston Frazer of Belmopan, Belize; and Marion Villanueva, Program Director, CARILED. The delegates participated in various sessions on common concerns of local governments and also met with local government association counterparts, including members of the South African Local Government Association (SALGA).

The delegates then proceeded to a Federation of Canadian Municipalities learning exchange involving three international programs: PM-LED, CISAL and CARILED and focused on a study visit to La Guajira in Colombia. The study program provided a unique forum for sharing issues of common interest, lessons and exchanging advice among peers.

The study program provided a rare opportunity to discuss and learn on-site about three of FCM's international programs, while bringing together a range of representatives from local governments associations and municipalities, such as sitting mayors, officials, and members of various local government partner organizations. The delegates expressed plans to try out some of the new ideas or approaches upon their return to their respective municipalities.

Local Development Project (LDP) Updates

Since 2012, CARILED approved 44 Local Development Projects in support of local economic development across seven countries. Currently there are 15 active projects receiving direct support from CARILED.





Petite Martinique, Grenada

Skills Training for Empowerment

The Petite Martinique Youth Furniture Apprenticeship has moved forward with the refurbishment and equipping of the Fishermen’s Coop Building to support furniture building and other skilled based activities.

Nine IMANI youth (8 males and 1 female) completed the Life Skills training, and Phillip Powell, a Federation of Canadian Municipalities volunteer, supported the creation of an operations and marketing plan.

Additional training on business development, marketing, furniture design and other technical skills will take place in Q4.

CARILED Staff support Hope in Southern Trinidad



Hope Centre, San Fernando, Trinidad

Since 2014, CARILED staff contributed food hampers to selected children’s or in need-family homes in Trinidad and Tobago. In this final year, the staff agreed to support both a food hamper and gifts for the 15 children housed at the Hope Centre, an orphanage located in San Fernando, Trinidad and Tobago.

Staff rallied together to donate two large boxes of food, along with several gifts for the kids in December. We encourage our partners and stakeholders to remember those in need during this upcoming year, and to give back to your community and its members!

Staff Updates

The CARILED team bid farewell to Ms. Huguette Labrosse, Senior Financial Analyst and Ms. Natalia Ramdoo, Project Officer during Q3, and wished them both the best of luck in their new career paths. Ms. Patrice Stephen also departed on maternity leave and welcomed a beautiful baby boy in December.

Ms. Rachel Hunte will be Acting Accountant until March 28, 2017. The team also welcomed Ms. Joelle Bonaparte, Finance Officer and Mr. Christian Ndashimye, Senior Financial Analyst during this quarter.

Upcoming Activities

Activity	Location	Date(s)
Local Economic Development in Jamaica	Jamaica	February 08 – 09, 2017
Local Economic Development in Belize	Belize	February 16, 2017
Local Economic Development in Guyana	Guyana	February 21, 2017
Local Economic Development in the OECS	Saint Lucia	March 07 – 08, 2017
Local Economic Development in Trinidad and Tobago	Trinidad & Tobago	February 17, 2017
Local Economic Development in the Caribbean	Trinidad & Tobago	March 14, 2017
CARILED Technical Working Group Meeting	Trinidad & Tobago	March 15, 2017



CARILED Staff and Local Economic Development Officer Listing



CARILED Headquarters

Ms. Marion Villanueva, Program Director

Programs

Ms. Kizzann Lee Sam, Regional Program Manager (Knowledge & Communications)

Ms. Shivdi Singh, National CARILED Coordinator, Trinidad and Tobago

Ms. Noris Tochon-Farah, Program and Administrative Assistant

Mr. Olaf Fontenelle, Regional Program Manager *(Based in Saint Lucia Country Office)*

Finance & Operations

Ms. Susan Andrews-Kent, Administrative Assistant and Receptionist

Ms. Joelle Bonaparte, Finance Officer

Ms. Rachel Hunte, Acting Accountant and Operations Coordinator

Ottawa Office

Mr. Philip Kelly, Program Manager

Mr. Christian Ndashimye, Senior Financial Analyst

Ms. Petronila Michael, Program Assistant

CARILED OECS Sub-Regional Office

Mr. Felix Finisterre, CARILED OECS Sub-Regional Office Coordinator

Mrs. Dolores Hunt, Accounts and Administrative Assistant

Country Staff

Belize

Ms. Leidi Urbina, National CARILED Coordinator

Ms. Jasmin Peralta, Accounts and Administrative Assistant

Guyana

Mr. Roger Rogers, National CARILED Coordinator

Ms. Charishma Persaud, Accounts and Administrative Assistant

Jamaica

Ms. Stephannie Hutchinson, National CARILED Coordinator

Mrs. Hannah Wright-Taylor, Accounts and Administrative Assistant

Local Economic Development Representatives

Belize

Mrs. Barbara Elrington, Local Economic Development Manager, Belize City

Ms. Jasmine Swan, Local Economic Development Officer, Belize City

Ms. Keyla Magaña, Local Economic Development Officer, Belmopan

Mr. Kenny Chan, Local Economic Development Officer, San Ignacio Santa Elena

Mr. Jorge Aldaña, Local Economic Development Officer, San Pedro

Dominica

Ms. Vincienne George, Local Economic Development Officer, (Soufriere-Scott's Head-Gallion and Woodford Hill)

Ms. Pearl Lockhart, Deputy Town Clerk (Portsmouth)

Grenada

Ms. Vinisha Cudjoe, Local Economic Development Officer, Carriacou and Petite Martinique



Guyana

Mr. Vrishaal Garbaran, Community Development Officer

Mr. Satya Dayaram, Community Development Officer

Jamaica

Mr. Damion Young, Local Economic Development Officer, Clarendon

Ms. Sophia Kerr-Reid, Director of Planning, Hanover

Mr. Dominic Cobran, Local Economic Development Officer, Kingston and St. Andrew

Ms. Angella Edwards, Local Economic Development Officer, Manchester

Ms. Nicole Condappa, Director of Planning, Portland

Mr. Sean Jarrette, Local Economic Development Officer, Portmore

Ms. Christina Francis Lowe, Local Economic Development Officer, St. Elizabeth

Mr. Tamoy Sinclair, Local Economic Development Officer, St. James

Mr. Ennis Edwards, Local Economic Development Officer, Trelawny

Saint Lucia

Ms. Darnally Estava, Soufriere/Fond St. Jacques

Trinidad and Tobago

Ms. Jillian Quashie, Local Economic Development Officer, Point Fortin

Ms. Stacy Ramroop, Local Economic Development Officer, Sangre Grande

Mr. Ernest Tambie, Local Economic Development Officer, Couva-Tabaquite-Talparo

Ms. Ana-Regina Soochit, Local Economic Development Officer, Chaguanas

Mr. Hans Paul, Local Economic Development Officer, Princes Town

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