

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE, TODAY!!

"Tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today!"

NDC



NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS

POLICY AGENDA

- Including -

Its Foundation, Philosophy & Objectives

2017 - 2030



INVESTING IN THE FUTURE, TODAY!!

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SECTION I



Message from the Party Leader

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Message from the Party Leader

The Foundation and Formulation of our Policy Agenda

After considerable reflection, careful analysis of local, regional and international realities, medium and long-term trends and ongoing consultations with many stakeholders and social partners in our society, the executive members of the NDC have envisioned a Grenada in which we collectively wish to live. Taking all of the contributions into consideration, the NDC's Policy Committee has developed a policy framework necessary to help get us there.

Our party maintains that while it is useful and even desirable for opposition parties to expose wrongdoings and criticize the conduct and policies of the government, this is not enough. We must set out an alternative vision, policies and programs for evaluation and scrutiny by the public, i.e., programs which we will seek to implement should we form the government following general elections. Our party has sought to do just that!

Ultimately, the question we sought to address is: How to create sustainable prosperity in Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique? We began with the acknowledgement that no nation can beg or tax its way to prosperity. Instead, we must develop a strategic plan that places our entire nation on a long-term path of sustainability, producing our way to prosperity while increasing sustainable opportunities for everyone.

This policy framework seeks to provide guidelines for the successful development and implementation of policies that promote actions toward achieving sustainable prosperity. Our thrust is to ensure that the guidelines recommended are coherent and mutually reinforcing for the sectors of growth and development.

It is important to point out that this policy framework defines the broad goals and objectives of the NDC, and is intended to serve primarily as a guide for decision making. Such prescriptions would involve a detailed plan of action designed to achieve specific results within the context of the broader policy objectives set out in the Policy Agenda with greater focus on specific issues. They will be found in an Election Manifesto which will be produced at a later date.

Hon. V. Nazim Burke



INTRODUCTION

In this section, we provide a brief background to the current political situation in Grenada, the genesis, role and evolution of the NDC, and the consultative and participatory process employed by the NDC in the formulation of its new Policy Agenda. This information is important to ensure that readers of the new Policy Agenda have an understanding of the context in which the proposed policy framework to transform Grenada has been developed.

BACKGROUND

Twenty-Nine (29) years ago, in 1987, a few good men had the courage to break away from a Government they helped establish. They walked away from the comfort of Ministerial positions and formed a political party, the National Democratic Congress (NDC), choosing as its bedrock, the principles of good governance, transparency, accountability, respect for the rule of law and the institutions of the state; and as its symbol, the Heart.

Less than three years after their bold and courageous decision, they contested the General elections in Grenada and won the majority of seats in the parliament and, with the help of an independent minded MP, went on to form the Government in 1990.

Having inherited a badly broken economy, the new government set about the task of rebuilding the economy and restoring international creditworthiness by embarking on a genuine Home Grown Structural Adjustment Program. The implementation of that program gained the attention and approval of the international financial community, including the multilateral institutions and regional governments. By 1995, fiscal and debt sustainability had been achieved and Grenada was declared to be once again credit worthy.

In the 1995 election campaign, the opposition New National Party (NNP) led by its present leader, Dr. Keith Mitchell, promised the electorate to abolish income taxes if elected. On the strength of that promise, the NNP won the election and proceeded to abolish income taxes. To finance its operations, the new government resorted to uncontrolled borrowing, accumulating a mountain of debt at commercial rates of interest, failing to deploy those resources into productive economic activity and, at the same time, guaranteeing hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of loans to international crooks and criminals. Between 1995 and 2008, the national debt ballooned from 372 million to 1.8 billion; the official unemployment rate reached 24.9 percent; 37.7 percent of the population were living in poverty and the international credit rating agencies rated Grenada the country with the worst credit rating in the entire Caribbean.

In 2008, our party came into office amidst much hope and expectation. Most Grenadians felt that they had finally seen the back of Dr. Mitchell once and for all and looked forward to a better quality of life under a new NDC government. Unfortunately, the excitement of the change of government was short lived. Within seven weeks of the NDC getting into office, the world economy plunged into a deep economic crisis, the worst of its kind since the great depression of 1929-33.



The net effect of this crisis was a significant reduction in remittances from abroad, tourism earnings, and foreign direct investment, resulting in a reduction in construction activity, an increase in unemployment and a general slowdown in economic activity.

Unfortunately, our commitment and determination to build Grenada into a dynamic, prosperous and stable democracy, capable of sustaining a high quality of life for all its people was obstructed by the selfish political ambitions of a few individuals. While the people reposed their confidence in us with the expectation that we would responsibly manage the affairs of state and steer the ship out of the turbulent waters, there were individuals who undermined the authority of the Prime Minister, trying to form a government within the government and a party within the party, rendering the party and its organs largely dysfunctional.

Thanks to the resolve and determination of our members these individuals were expelled from our party and have now found their natural habitat. Understandably, in the wake of this internal crisis, our party could not secure the confidence of the people to manage the country's affairs for another term and we suffered defeat at the polls in 2013.

This experience has been an invaluable lesson on the critical importance of maintaining unity within our party which we have achieved by the efforts of a dedicated, committed and patriotic team.

In the lead up to the 2013 general elections, the NNP, led by Dr. Mitchell promised Grenadians a new economy under the slogan "We Will Deliver."

Within weeks of coming into office, the Government embarked upon a Structural Adjustment Program with the IMF. The Government imposed a 3-year wage freeze on public workers and at the same time imposed 28 different new and increased taxes, levies, charges and duties. To make matters worse, the government has abandoned many of the social safety net programs developed and maintained by the former NDC administration, including the Free School Books Program, the Duty Free Barrels Program, the Education Refund Program and the Energy for the Poor Program.



Renewal of the NDC for Governance

In the aftermath of our election defeat in February 2013, we embarked upon the task of diligently rebuilding our party and regaining the trust and confidence of the Grenadian people. As we embarked upon this journey, we held steadfast to the belief that our mission must not just be to win the next election; it must be to transform Grenada into a strong stable democracy, capable of sustaining a high quality of life for its entire people. We must prepare and provide for the next generations.

To that end, we have been engaging Grenadians of all walks of life talking and sharing with them, listening to them and soliciting their views on the state of our nation today and what they want for themselves, their families and our country. The more we hear from our people about their hopes and aspirations, the more convinced we become that our people deserve more, and our country can do better.



The Vision

***As a result, the NDC established a vision of:
“A Green, Equitable and Prosperous Grenada for All.”***

This vision continues to be our primary source of inspiration and guidance, and we are convinced that: “A better Grenada is Possible.”

This vision envisages Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique:

- A nation that is just, free, independent and self-reliant.
- A nation that is a model of sustainable development for small island developing states.
- A Grenada that is stable, peaceful, friendly, safe and secure.
- A nation which embraces diverse faith communities and their harmonious interaction with each other and with other groups in society, embracing diversity and practicing tolerance at all times.
- Being transformed into an eco-friendly, fair, equitable, dynamic, prosperous and stable democracy, capable of sustaining a high quality of life for its entire people.
- A nation in which everyone has an equal opportunity to realize his/her potential and enjoy the fruits of his/her labour without fear or discrimination.
- A nation whose people take pride in their culture, heritage and patrimony.
- A country where the environment is protected and preserved for the use and enjoyment of the present and future generations.
- A nation in which poverty and ignorance have been abolished and Grenadians are taking their rightful place among the community of nations.



The Mission

***“To build a prosperous Grenada, based on environmentally sound principles,
and a just and equitable society”.***



Values and Attitudes

The NDC now re-emphasizes as its core values and attitudes: honesty, integrity, transparency, accountability, self-respect, tolerance, patriotism, equality, justice and good governance (which includes respect for the rule of law and the institutions of the state). We firmly believe that these critical and important values are prerequisites for sustainable economic and social development of Grenada. Furthermore, the NDC is adamant that every Grenadian needs to be self-reliant and patriotic. Self-reliance is what will break the pervasive dependent mentality, and make us more independent.

Making Grenada a better place for all, building a strong and sustainable economy is paramount. At the same time, the preservation of our traditions and heritage, the protection of our environment and putting people first, are fundamental core principles.

Twelve Core Principles

As we engage Grenadians, we have adopted these twelve (12) Core Principles to which we subscribe and aspire, as we seek to form the Government of Grenada:

1. Acknowledging the Supremacy of God:

That as we offer ourselves for public office and service to the people of Grenada we acknowledge the Supremacy of God, upon which the State of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique is founded.

2. Showing Patriotism:

That in offering ourselves for public office and service to the people of Grenada, we regard ourselves as the custodians of the sovereignty, patrimony, national heritage, national pride and national integrity of Grenada; and commit ourselves to the defense of these sacred tenets. As such, it is an act of national betrayal for persons holding public office to engage in behavior that rob Grenadians of, undermine or discredit these sacred tenets.

3. Demonstrating a High Level of Personal Integrity:

We submit to the principles of good governance; namely, commitment to the principles of democracy, personal integrity in public life, transparency in our dealings in the name and on behalf of the citizens of Grenada, accountability to those who elect us to office, respect for the Supreme Law, the Constitution, the rule of law and the institutions of the state.

4. Advancing the Principles of Self-Reliance:

That our country must depend less on others and be more self-reliant. That our people are given the opportunity to earn a decent living and to uphold their self-esteem. There must be a government that will create laws, institutions and support mechanisms that would allow our people to convert their business ideas and dreams into sustainable commercial reality. They want to be given the opportunity to create wealth.

Rather than depending on other countries for everything we need, we must make better use of our own people and our own resources, buying from the rest of the world only the things we cannot produce ourselves and selling to the rest of the world the unique things that we have which others want but do not have.

By self-reliance, we mean the capacity and determination to seek and extract from within our own circumstances and environment the resources, opportunities and energies we require to advance as a nation.

5. Securing Grenada's Economic and Social Development:

That our government would develop a well thought out and realistic long term plan for the sustainable economic and social development of the country.

- a plan to pursue the fullest development of the human and material capabilities of our country.
- We will develop a plan that will protect our environment and mitigate the risks from climate change;
- We will develop a plan that will bring sustainable, equitable and inclusive economic growth, sustainable jobs, greater economic opportunities and an improved standard of living for all Grenadians.
- Grenadians should not elect succeeding governments that would simply embark upon policies, programs and projects that they (government officials) hope would increase their chances of winning the next election but which have no real prospects for improving the economic and social life of the citizens in the long run.

Furthermore, if one government embarks upon policies, programs or projects that, by all objective standards, are good for Grenada and then loses the elections, that the new government would pick up where the former government left off, and proceed to implement or continue to implement those good policies, programs and projects.



6. Putting People First:

That the government must unite our people and build national consensus after adequate representation, open debate and democratic participation by all stakeholders.

That the government will give priority to the health care needs of Grenadians; and place the education of their children at the forefront of decision making.

That the Government must ensure that hospitals and health facilities are adequately equipped and staffed, and that basic medicines and supplies and services are available to all.

7. Empowering the Youth:

That the government will do more to engage and empower our youth. The national statistics show that young people constitute the majority of our population, and therefore they must be given a seat at the decision-making table.

- They must have a say in the formulation and implementation of public policy at the highest level;
- They must be regarded, not as a problem to be solved, but as a resource to be utilized;
- They must be partners in the construct of a new Grenada

Therefore, facilities and opportunities must be created for them to fully realize their potential and for the country to benefit from their talent, energies and enthusiasm.

8. Education First:

That the government will ensure that every Grenadian child gets a first class education. Every parent harbors the hope and the dream that their children should not be deprived of a proper education because they cannot afford to provide adequately for their educational needs, or cannot afford to pay the fees, or cannot afford to pay to sit the CXC subjects or send them to university. These challenges should not be reasons to deprive our children and youth from achieving their true potentials.

9. Protecting the Poor, Vulnerable and Disadvantaged:

That the government will make adequate provisions for the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups by designing and implementing suitable policies and measures to ensure their personal safety, security and equality.

To this end, we will do everything that is reasonably possible to control or reduce the cost of living and to maintain adequate social safety net programs so as to ensure that the most disadvantaged among us do not descend into abject poverty and destitution.

10. Protecting Women and Children Against Violence:

That the government will ensure better and effective systems to protect our women and children from all forms of violence, especially sexual and domestic violence, which have become a scourge on our nation.

11. Recognising the Value of the Diasporian Community:

We will be a government that will understand, acknowledge and appreciate the significant contribution being made by Grenadians in the Diaspora to the economic and social development of our country; appreciate the tremendous untapped potential for the Grenadians in the Diaspora to contribute to the economic and social transformation of Grenada; and is committed to taking the necessary steps to incorporate the Grenadian Diaspora in the long term development plan for Grenada.

If we are to win the trust and confidence of the people, we must embrace these aspirations and capture the imagination of the people. We must demonstrate, not merely by words but by our daily conduct that we understand and share these aspirations and are committed to struggling for their fulfillment.

12. Creating a Social Partnership:

That the government would engage in genuine consultations with the people before making important decisions affecting their daily lives so that their views and sentiments can be fully aired and taken into account.

Furthermore, that the government will pursue a genuine and patriotic policy of inclusion of all Grenadians in the process of nation building regardless of political affiliation.

A NDC government would recognize and promote competence and excellence; and develop a system of rewards based on merit rather than relationships and association.



Our Political Philosophy – Good Governance

The political philosophy and value underpinning our party is good governance. Good governance is a term used to describe the effective and efficient management of public resources in response to critical needs of a society. It suggests ways for people in public service to think more deeply, judge more wisely, and act more responsibly in making and implementing policy decisions. Good governance is accountable! This means that government has an obligation to report, explain and be answerable for the consequences of decisions made on behalf of the people it represents. Good governance is transparent! This means that the populous should be able to follow and understand the decision-making process, understanding clearly how and why decisions are made, what information, advice and consultation have been considered, and the required legislative requirements. Good governance follows the rule of law! This means that decisions are consistent with relevant legislation. Good governance is responsive! This means that government should always do its best to serve the needs of its constituents while balancing competing interests in a timely, appropriate and responsive manner.

Good governance is equitable and inclusive! A community's wellbeing results from all of its members feeling that their interests have been considered in the decision-making process. Good governance is effective and efficient! Government should implement decisions and follow processes that make the best use of evidence-based knowledge, best practices, and its available resources to ensure the best possible results for the nation. Good governance is participatory! Anyone affected by or interested in a decision should have the opportunity to participate in the process for making that decision.

Our Belief in Self-Reliance

After much reflection, we have come to the inescapable conclusion that any economic and social philosophy embraced by our party, if it is to have any real and substantial connection with the Grenadian people and their aspirations, must find its moral authority and justification in the philosophical belief in self-reliance.

By self-reliance, we mean the capacity and determination to seek and extract from within our own circumstances and environment the resources, opportunities and energies we require to advance as a nation.

Our commitment to Transforming Grenada



The NDC team has committed itself to transforming Grenada into a dynamic, prosperous and stable democracy, capable of sustaining a high quality of life for its entire people.

Of course, most things in life are easier said than done. We must not pretend or assume, for a single moment, that the task facing us is an easy one. Many difficulties and challenges stand in our way.

Yet, we are confident that with the right leadership our people will rise above the difficulties and conquer the challenges that we face as a nation. We are blessed with the natural resources, we have the talent, we have the determination and the resilience and we have the pride in ourselves and our country. What we need are capable leaders to chart the course and harness the great potential of our country.

Grenada continues to operate well below its potential as a nation.

We are unshakably convinced that A Better Grenada is possible. This will only be realized if we develop a collective vision for the future of our country and a long term plan for the sustainable development of our economy and society. Of course, such vision and plan must have the collective input and buy in of the people and will only be successfully implemented if the people, after due consultation, participation decide to take ownership of the plan and make it their own.

NDC's 2030 Vision for Grenada - A Plan of Action. The concern has been expressed by some of our members and supporters that the government will "steal our thunder" by implementing some of our policies and programs; and while we acknowledge that there is a real and practical danger in this concern, at the end of the day, what the NDC team wants is to see Grenada transformed into a dynamic, prosperous and stable democracy of which we are all proud to be a part. It truly matters not which political party makes this dream a reality.

Having said this, however, we remain unshakably convinced that given the record, character and modus operandi of the present NNP administration, it is incapable of positively transforming neither itself nor our country. The chronic and pathological deficiencies exhibited by this organization over the past 21 years leave no doubt that a regime change is not only desirable but absolutely necessary. This is why we are engaged in this mission.

Ultimately, the question that must be addressed is this: How do we go about constructing this better Grenada?

We start from the realization that no country can simply beg its way to prosperity; no country can tax its way to prosperity.

If we are to place our country on a long term path of sustainable development, we must produce our way to prosperity. We must get our economy growing and keep it growing- increase the size of the economic pie so that everyone can get a larger slice.

Economic Growth – Job Creation

Economic growth is closely connected to job creation. But we must not view employment as an end in itself. Instead, we must regard employment creation as the means through which we will empower our citizens, raise their self-esteem, guarantee their income security, improve their quality of life and, in the process, build our country. As growth-enhancing projects and activities are embarked upon, many of our unemployed will return to gainful and productive activity, the size of our economic pie would be increased and every Grenadian would be in a position to get a larger slice.

Parish	Poor Population	
	Count	%
St. George	11,263	35.1
St. George's Town	630	15
St. John	3,478	36.7
St. Mark	2,347	54.5
St. Patrick	6,392	56.7
St. Andrew	13,195	44.9
St. David	3,637	29.5
Carriacou	437	6.6
All Grenada	41,379	37.7

2008 Poverty Data by Central Statistics Office - Grenada

Economic Growth must be Sustainable, Equitable and Inclusive

But we must grow in a manner that is sustainable, equitable and inclusive. This means that while increased growth and employment creation would be a frontline policy objective as we seek to grow and develop, we must:

1. Ensure that the policies, programs and development projects that we approve, adopt and embark upon do not destroy our environment. Instead, they must allow us to enjoy what we have while preserving their essential natural attributes so that our children and future generations can also get to enjoy our homeland;
2. We must seek to achieve a more sensible distribution of income from the economic growth we enjoy so that all Grenadians can benefit, not just a few; we can reduce poverty in the process and raise the standard of living of living for everyone;
3. As we seek to grow and develop, we must provide a space for every Grenadian, regardless of political, religious beliefs and affiliation and ensure that no Grenadian is left behind.

Sustainable, equitable and inclusive growth can only be accomplished by a committed, credible and capable government. Serious policy makers understand that sustained growth does not just happen. It must be chosen as an overarching goal by a country's leadership.

To that end, Government must constantly seek to anticipate the actions required to sustain the economy's momentum. Government and citizens alike must realize that successful development always entails a long term commitment and a fundamental bargain between the present and the future.

To strengthen our performance, we must improve our competitiveness. We must use the global economy to our benefit by importing ideas, technology and know-how from the rest of the world and using it for productive purposes; not just for consumption.

At the same time, we must exploit the increased global demand for goods and services by producing the goods and services for which there is significant demand and attracting investments to supply that demand. Simply put, we must import what the rest of the world knows and export what they want.

Potential Growth Pillars

However, before we can meaningfully embark on such a strategic path, we must first of all identify those sectors of the national economy that have the greatest potential for transforming our economy and society. By transforming our economy, we mean moving from a two pillar economy consisting of tourism and agriculture to a five pillar economy that is more diversified and resilient to external shocks and capable of generating higher employment and income opportunities for all our people.

In embarking on this journey, we will not be trying to reinvent the wheel. During our tenure in office between 2008 and 2013, we were able to determine, after careful consideration and reflection that the five sectors with the greatest potential to transform the Grenadian economy were the following:

1. Agriculture and Agribusiness
2. Education, Health and Wellness Services

3. Tourism and Hospitality Services
4. Energy Development (renewable and non-renewable); and
5. Information Communications Technology (ICT).

Having identified these potential pillars of growth, we commenced the development of the requisite governance (legal and institutional) arrangements to support them, identified the "game-changing projects" in each of these sectors and commenced the mobilization of the human and material resources to get these projects going.

In relation to the human and material resources required, it is our firm belief that the two most potent change- agents at our disposal are the youth and the Grenadians in the Diaspora. This is why we consider the empowerment of these two groups as critical to our sustainable future and are determined to invest in them.

Every citizen must understand and embrace these transformational sectors. Our curriculum and scholarships must be fully aligned with these sectors to avoid disconnect and mismatch between our education system and our economy (young people with qualifications and no jobs or available jobs with no qualified people). We are committed to achieving these goals.

Furthermore, we must ensure that our policies are coherent and mutually reinforcing for these five sectors. With that in mind, we recognize the critical importance of investing resources in the development of Public infrastructure (which cuts across, facilitates and reinforces the development of all five transformational sectors) and in building and strengthening the institutions of governance, which improves the ease and efficiency of doing business and also creates a climate of certainty, predictability and stability. We are committed to doing so.

But while we focus on economic growth, job creation, business development and wealth creation, we must not lose sight of the other things that are important to our people. Man cannot live by bread alone. If we are to be deserving of their trust, our Policy Agenda must also address the full range of core values to which they aspire.



SECTION II



THE POLICY AGENDA

A Framework for a Well-ordered and Equitable Society

A Framework for Economic Growth and Sustainable Job Creation

A Framework for Personal, Social and Physical Development

**A Framework for the Development and Empowerment of Carriacou and
Petite Martinique**

A Framework for Diaspora, Regional and International Cooperation

Implementation Framework

THE POLICY AGENDA

In presenting this Policy Agenda we must point out, for the avoidance of doubt, that, being a policy statement, it defines the broad goals and objectives of our party and is intended primarily as a guide for decision making. Although there are some specific proposals stated, developing comprehensive specific and achievable policy prescriptions is a work in progress. Such prescriptions would involve a detailed plan of action designed to achieve specific results in the context of the broader policy objectives set out in this Policy Agenda, with greater focus on specific issues. Such prescriptions will be Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Time-bound (SMART) and will be found in an Election Manifesto to come later.

After considerable reflection, self-criticism, restructuring and rebuilding, listening to and consulting with stakeholders of our society, we have committed ourselves to transforming Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique (Grenada). To do this, we need a mandate from you - the people of Grenada, to commence

the transformation process. With that mandate, a National Democratic Congress (NDC) Government will implement policies derived from a Policy Agenda which we have developed to build a society in which no Grenadian would feel excluded and in which all will have an opportunity to achieve a decent quality of life.

The following is a summary of the 26 major aspects of our Policy Agenda, grouped in five distinct but connected categories. These are the NDC's General Policy Covenants with the people of Grenada.

A FRAMEWORK FOR A WELL-ORDERED AND EQUITABLE SOCIETY

1. NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY, NATIONAL HERITAGE, NATIONAL PRIDE AND PATRIOTISM

Promote, protect and defend our National Sovereignty, National Pride and National Heritage, Patriotism and the spirit of community among our people. Restore a sense of pride in being Grenadian, fostering unity and oneness among all Grenadians and command respect for our country at home and abroad.

We intend to:

- Undertake a comprehensive review of the Citizenship by Investment Program to determine whether the benefits that may be associated with such a program justify the national security and reputational risks associated with the program.
- Undertake an inventory of all Diplomatic passports issued in name of the Government of Grenada and the holders of such passports with a view to determining the suitability of the holders to hold Grenadian diplomatic passports.
- Enact the necessary constitutional or legal amendments to require that all persons becoming Grenadian Citizens by naturalization know and can recite the National Anthem and National Pledge.
- Enact the necessary legal amendments to require that the National Flag fly over all government buildings and offices at all times.

- Ensure that a course in Grenadian history become a part of the curriculum of a primary school education.
- Recognize our national heroes and martyrs as well as those who have made a significant contribution to our country's development by giving due regard to their contribution.
- Restore, re-create and develop our National Parks, National Zoo, Botanical Gardens, National Museum, and National Archive and strengthen and enforce existing laws relating to their preservation.
- Amend the Constitution of Grenada so as to identify and catalogue all buildings, sites and places constituting part of our national heritage and declaring them to be the patrimony of the people of Grenada, forever protected and preserved for their use and benefit and not subject to sale, lease, gift or other disposition.



2. INCLUSION AND NATIONAL RECONCILIATION

Pursue a genuine and effective policy of inclusion and National Reconciliation of and among all social and economic groups as well as every Grenadian in the process of decision-making on matters affecting national development.

We intend to:

- Develop and adopt policies and practices to ensure that the employment, promotion, transfer and secondment of persons in the public service and the appointment of persons to Boards, Commissions and other Government agencies are based on merit and not on political affiliation.
- Consistently engage all stakeholders (including the business community, the trade unions, the NGO's and the national Clubs and Associations) in discussions on all major matters affecting national development and solicit their advice/ input/ suggestions and criticisms.
- Dedicate a day to be called Memorial Day to commemorate the lives of all those who lost their lives as a direct result of political turmoil in Grenada and to serve as a permanent reminder and national commitment that this should never happen again.
- Recognize and honour citizens of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique who, through their personal feats and individual accomplishments, have brought recognition and acclaim to our country and engendered national pride and a heightened sense of patriotism among our people by appropriately naming buildings and/ or other physical structures, streets or institutions in their honour. In this regard we propose to rename the Grenada National Stadium, the "Kirani James National Stadium".
- Recognize the contributions made by former national leaders and their governments or government officials to our national development by appropriately naming buildings and/or other physical structures, streets or institutions in their honour.

3. INTEGRITY IN PUBLIC OFFICE

Restore high moral and ethical standards in the exercise of public office by ensuring that the Integrity in Public Life legislation is enforced and those required to file returns with the Commission do so in accordance with law.

We intend to:

- Ensure that the Financial Intelligence Unit Act is enforced and that politically exposed persons are not put to head the organization.
- Ensure transparency and Accountability in government by enacting a Freedom of Information Act, whereby all citizens, including the opposition parties, the media, the NGO's and civil society in general, would have the right of access public information except for sensitive state information including that relating to national security and the personal medical, banking and taxation records of individual citizens.
- Enact an Election Financing Law that would prevent the actual purchasing of an election by a party with deep pockets as a result of financing from a foreign Government or from international crooks and criminals.

4. INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Build and strengthen our institutions of democracy, so as to ensure predictability, a peaceful environment, stability, national consensus and continuity in Government.

We intend to:

- Complete the construction of the National Parliament- the emblem of our democracy.
- Undertake and complete the construction of a proper Court facility- Halls of Justice.

- Improve the functional efficiency of the judicial system. This should include the establishment/ introduction of a system of probation, plea-bargaining and a system of parole in the criminal justice system. This should also include a system of pardons whereby criminal records for crimes committed while being a minor may be expunged so as to give the young person a second chance in life
- Complete the project of digitizing of the record at the Deeds and Land Registry
- Properly staff and outfit the Court Reporting Unit so that litigants will not have to wait years for case transcripts.

5. CONSTITUTION REFORM

Undertake and complete the reform of the Grenada Constitution, so as to create a national Constitution which reflects the aspirations of the people, has the tangible input of the people, and build a better bond between the people and the Constitution.

We intend to:

- Establish a Constituent Assembly to complete the reform the existing Constitution after comprehensive public consultations on the Grenada Constitution with the citizens of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique at home and Diaspora.
- Ensure that the reform process adequately and progressively addresses all of the major gaps and ambiguities identified by the 1985, 2006 and 2010 Constitution Review Commissions and Bodies of Grenada including, but not limited to : the tenure of office of the Prime Minister, fixed date for the holding of general elections, the introduction of the system of proportional representation in parliament, the citizens right of recall of their parliamentary representative and the election and tenure of the Governor General of Grenada.
- Advocate for the reform of the Upper House of Parliament (Senate) so as to stipulate that at any given time the Senate will have no less than three Youth Senators- 30 years of age or younger- at least of one of who must be male and of whom one of whom must be female - to represent the interests of our youth in the National Parliament.
- Advocate for the reform of the Constitution to provide for the Upper House of Parliament (Senate) to have two (2) additional members, so as to make a total of fifteen (15) Senators, one of whom shall come from Civil Society and the other from the Youth.
- Advocate for the reform of the qualifications of election to the lower House

(House of Representatives) so as to permit Grenadians nationals who have pledged allegiance to a foreign country, other than a commonwealth country, to run for elected office in Grenada without having to surrender their citizenship of the foreign country.

- Advocate for the reform of the Constitution of Grenada so as to identify and catalogue all buildings, sites and places constituting part of our national heritage and declaring them to be the patrimony of the people of Grenada, forever protected and preserved for their use and benefit and not subject to sale, lease, gift or other disposition.
- Advocate for the reform of the Grenada Constitution so as to provide for

the establishment of a National Planning Commission of Grenada, and for Preparation and legislative approval by Parliament of a National Sustainable Development Plan every 10 years with the responsibility for the oversight of the Plan residing in the Planning Commission.

A FRAMEWORK FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE JOBS CREATION



6. ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT


Stimulate the economy and provide a stable basis for long term, sustainable, equitable and inclusive growth and development, while raising productivity levels and creating and sustaining long term employment, income generation and wealth creation opportunities for our citizens. In this regard, a ten-year National Economic Plan will be developed. We will also overhaul the taxation system so as to render the taxation regime, simpler, equitable and predictable and develop and maintain a package of poverty alleviation and social protection measures, having special regard to the aged, the persons with disability and the unemployed.

We intend to:

- Undertake and complete the development of a ten-year National Economic Plan as an integral part of National ten- year Plan for the Sustainable Economic and Social Development of Grenada.
- Expand the productive sectors of the economy-especially Agriculture, Agro-industries, Fisheries and Light Manufacturing- so as to create long term stable employment, income and a strong revenue base for public finance.
- Remove the self- imposed constraints to the development of tourism and seriously develop the tourism product.
- Fully develop the opportunity for Grenada to become a world class exporter of Education, Health and Wellness services.
- Encourage the development of a full range of ICT services aimed creating a

knowledge- based export services sector (ICT Export Services).

- In cooperation with the private sector, consciously develop and implement an export promotion strategy aimed at identifying and promoting niche products and services, and specific target markets (Trade Policy/Export Promotion). This strategy should include and make adequate provisions for the cultural and entertainment industries.
- Fully explore and develop the opportunities in the blue economy including especially fish, shrimp and conch farming as well as sea moss production and organic fertilizer production.
- Fully pursue the sustainable development of Grenada's Energy resources- both in hydrocarbon potential and renewable energy so as to achieve greater energy security and independence, reduce our carbon footprint and to substantially reduce, over time, the cost of energy to the nation.
- Lay a proper foundation for the support and



development of the productive sectors by investing in the development of public physical infrastructure and supporting institutions

- Develop a program together with the necessary institutional and logistical arrangements to carefully manage the country's debt (Debt Management).
- Strengthen the climate and institutional framework for national economic performance by fostering a genuine partnership with civil society (Institutional Arrangements).
- Overhaul the fiscal architecture of Grenada-especially as it relates to ad hoc concessions and incentives, licenses, levies and fees- so as to bring it in line with the present day trade, investment and economic realities and requirements (Fiscal Reform). Simplify and render more effective the bureaucratic process for the granting of incentives to investors and making the process more transparent and predictable, including providing, on an upfront basis, a clear indication of the priority areas, clear statements on eligibility criteria, clear commitments regarding applicable time frames and a clear articulation of the respective roles of the respective institutions including the GIDC, Customs and the Department of Inland Revenue.
- Undertake a comprehensive review of the present tax mix with a view to reducing the tax burden on the middle income earners, increasing disposable incomes and stimulating small business expansion and development. A stated objective of this review would be to eliminate all nuisance taxes, fees, charges and levies.
- Overhaul the taxation system so as to render the taxation regime, simpler, equitable, predictable, while broadening the tax base and raising compliance levels through greater efficiency in tax administration (Tax Reform and Administration).
- Develop and maintain a package of poverty alleviation and social protection measures aimed at cushioning the impact of the increased cost of living and reducing the incidence of poverty-having special regard to the aged, the disabled and the unemployed (Poverty Alleviation).

7. RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Pursue the balanced development of the country by showing due regard and sensitivity for the development needs of our rural parishes and communities. In the case of Carriacou and Petite Martinique, introduce local government so that the people can have a greater say in the management of their own affairs.

We intend to:

- Incorporate Rural Development and Local Government at the ministerial level to provide policy guidance to the Cabinet in this area and to supervise the implementation of relevant government policy.

8. CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Recognize and accept climate change as a true and real global phenomenon; understand and appreciate its negative consequences for our environment, economy and society; adopt policies, measures and practices aimed at adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change; embrace the philosophy of Green Growth and Development; and adopt and deploy policy frameworks and programs aimed at achieving environmentally sustainable economic progress.

We intend to:

- Foster economic growth and development, while ensuring that natural assets continue to provide the resources and environmental services on which our well-being relies.

- Focus on the synergies and tradeoffs between the environmental and economic pillars of sustainable development.
- Adopt and employ a low -carbon development strategy by ensuring that our national economic development plans and strategies encompass low-emission and/or climate-resilient economic growth.
- Develop a regulatory framework to reduce systemic risk and improve the investment environment for green businesses, especially small and medium enterprises; encourage green investment, protect environmental assets and set standards for sustainable production and consumption (including by government itself);
- Protection and investment in natural capital, including through incorporation of the value of natural capital into national accounts;
- Encourage low carbon technologies and green innovation through direct investment, tax incentives and other measures;
- Invest in the retraining, and retooling of the labour force to facilitate the shift from “brown” to “green” jobs.
- Place emphasis on greening those sectors of the economy and society that consume the most resources or generate the most waste including energy, food, housing and transport;
- Invest in human resource development, through education, skills training and sector strategies aimed at reducing poverty and economic inequality.

9. AGRICULTURE and AGRIBUSINESS

Reposition the agriculture sector, including agro industrial development, fisheries and poultry, as one of the five (5) pivotal sectors of the national economy, so as to strengthen our food and nutrition security, reduce our dependence on imported food, increase exports and foreign exchange earnings and employment.

We intend to:

- Undertake and complete the development of a National Land Use Plan which among other things, identifies, sets aside and protects by the force of law, all lands suitable and intended for agricultural and agro-industrial use.
- Actively pursue the processing of our agricultural produce into a wide range of processed items including processed foods, cosmetics, toiletry, medicinal, chemical and industrial inputs, processes and products;
- Direct investment in productive infrastructure including the construction of at least one major agro processing plant.



- Encourage and incentivize the serious development of Organic farming and exotic farming as special niche economic activities.
- Spearhead the creation of Centers of Agricultural Excellence-at least one in each parish- to showcase model agricultural farms and/ or production units which can serve as prototypes for farmers and at the same time become special tourist attractions to be visited by tourists at a cost.
- Rearrange and strengthen the legal, regulatory and institutional, and occupational environment for the operation of Agriculture and Agribusiness. This would include the restructuring of the Marketing and National Importing Board (MNIB) so as to make its primary focus the sourcing and provision of agricultural inputs to farmers on the most favourable terms and the provision of markets for farmers' agricultural and agro-industrial produce and products.
- Introduce a suitable incentive structure for entrepreneurs.
- Develop and implement the appropriate Institutional support mechanism to assist farmers in securing financing for agriculture.
- Embark upon a radical replanting program of our traditional crops- cocoa and nutmegs
- Introduce new economic crops and crop varieties, where appropriate, and improve farmer education in relation to harvesting and production techniques so as to enhance yields.
- Introduce legal and policy measures designed to bring the large tracts of idle agricultural lands into production.
- Seriously improve crop recovery safeguards against praedial larceny by introducing a new legal and institutional framework for combating this scourge and for compensating farmers who are the victims of praedial larceny.
- In conjunction with other OECS countries secure crop insurance for our farmers so as to protect them against lost from natural disasters.
- Provide vigorous marketing support to Agriculture and Agri- business. This would include the development of a nationwide integrated marketing network

linking producers to hotels, supermarkets and marketing boards by nationwide computer network.

- Develop and implement a National Fishing Support Program for local Fishermen aimed at providing better training in modern fishing techniques, securing larger and better equipped boats and better and more reliable refrigeration capacity and facilities to protect their catch.
- Work closely with the local Poultry Farmers to ensure that the production and consumption of local poultry is significantly increased.

10. SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Develop and implement a Small Business Development Program and Job Creation Program aimed at creating income and employment opportunities primarily for young entrepreneurs between the ages of 20 and 30.

We intend to:


- Create the legal and institutional framework to support this initiative

11. TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY SERVICES

Remove the constraints to the development of the Tourism and Hospitality industry, so as to take full advantage of our natural attributes and the unique opportunities available.

We intend to:

- Significantly increase the amount of dollars each tourist spends in Grenada by consciously and vastly developing the quality of our tourism product.
- Identify and create an inventory/ Registry of all Tourist Sites in the country and develop a plan for their full development and conversion into standard tourist attractions. Such a plan should provide for the physical and infrastructural development of these site (including access, restaurant and sanitation facilities and other necessary guest services), the proper documentation of its history, the training of tour guides to assist tourists, the business and ownership structure for their operation.
- Embark upon joint venture arrangements with both local and international private sector for the expansion of physical hotel plant.
- In accord with the philosophy of Balanced Development, actively encourage the development and expansion of Boutique hotels in the parishes outside of St. George by developing and implementing a Small Hotel Incentives Program to assist small Hotels (50 rooms or less) operating in, wishing to establish operations in the outer parishes. Such a plan should consider, among other things, assistance in financing or



refinancing their operations and developing their facilities.

- Develop a comprehensive Tourism Marketing Plan aimed at re-branding and repositioning Grenada as a tourist destination.
- Develop a comprehensive eco-tourism plan for Grenada that uses as its platform our beaches, mountains, forests, lakes and rivers.
- Establish a Foreign Language Desk at the Board of Tourism to coordinate and facilitate the foreign language service requirements of the tourism sector.
- Develop, expand and refine the skills set available to workers in the tourism sector by expanding and upgrading the Culinary, Food and Beverage and Hospitality training programs available at TAMCC and providing for a suitable system of accreditation and certification upon completion of such programs.
- Seriously develop the infrastructural, institutional, human resource and managerial framework for the development of Yacht Tourism. This would include the development of a clear policy framework for the development, expansion and/ or improvement, operation and maintenance of Marinas and Yachting facilities; the administrative procedures for Yachts entering Grenadian ports; the environmental guidelines to be adhered to by Yachts so as to minimize the impact of Yachting; the promotion of Grenada as a safe haven for Yachts during the hurricane season; the development of ancillary services required by Yachtsmen, including mechanical repairs, air-conditioning, marine electronics, electrical repairs, painting, carpentry, fibre glassing and related services; the development of the appropriate curriculum at TAMCC to provide training for and awareness among Grenadian youth of the opportunities in the field of yachting.

12. EDUCATION HEALTH AND WELLNESS SERVICES

Fully explore and develop the opportunities available to Grenada to become a world class exporter of Education, Health and Wellness services by maximizing the opportunities presented by the history and presence of St. George's University; the large alumni of world class expert physicians and specialists wishing to maintain a relationship with Grenada; the natural abundance of medicinal herbs, spices and Sulphur springs; and the peaceful, unblemished and calming environment.

We intend to:

- Construct, in collaboration with St. George's University, a new modern Public Hospital with teaching facilities as the centerpiece to the development of the Education, Health and Wellness Sector. This facility will be named the Sir Eric Gairy Memorial Hospital.
- Actively encourage and attract the establishment of specialty clinics (boutique hospitals) to deliver specialty care - in areas such as hip replacement, fertility, cosmetic surgery, post-operative recuperation and drug rehabilitation- and provide adequate incentives and proper legal and regulatory framework for their establishment and operation.
- Actively encourage the establishment of a Marine Life Sciences and Aquatic Medicine educational facility in Carriacou with internationally accredited program, so as to attract students from around the world wishing to study marine life sciences and aquatic medicine.

13. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Accelerate the economic and social transformation of our country through Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and pursue the use, application and development of ICT, not merely as a means to an end, but as an economic sector in its own right that will improve economic wealth, reduce poverty and create a sustained economic base for national development.

We intend to:

- Re-establish the ICT Centre for Excellence and Innovation as a premier institution for training of our Youth in ICT.
- Seek and establish cooperation/ partnerships Agreements between the Centre for Excellence and Innovation and global ICT firms and Institutions of learning so as to ensure that the curriculum and training methodologies employed meet international best practices and that at the end of their training our students will obtain internationally recognized certification and accreditation.
- Create an Outsourcing Centre as an adjunct to the Centre for Excellence and Innovation to facilitate employment on the international market of persons trained at the Centre.
- Establish a Science and Technology Incubator for young scientist, mathematicians, engineers and computer programmers in collaboration with the UWI, SGU, TAMCC and other universities and the Private Sector.
- Provide Internet connectivity to all rural communities throughout Grenada Carriacou and Petit Martinique and in collaboration with the Private Sector service providers ensure that access to the internet is significantly improved. Develop and implement a program to attract software and e-commerce companies to establish operations in Grenada by providing a generous fiscal incentive package for investment in technology and related areas.
- Through these software and e-commerce companies, develop a full range of remote processing services directed at creating a knowledge- based Export Services Sector in such areas as the following:
- Offshore Shipping.
- Offshore low-tech Information Services (such as Data Entry Services, and Telemarketing.
- Cultural Services such as prerecorded music, live bands, Choirs and other live singers, Dance Troupes, Craftwork, Painting and Sculpture, videos, TV films, movies, and Plays.
- TV and Radio rights to major sporting and cultural events in Grenada.
- Finance and Accounting Services, Translation Services, Transcription Services
- Educational Services through institutions such as SGU and TAMCC Catering for students from across the globe.
- Medical Services including Surgery, Consultancies, Medical check – ups and Rehabilitative care.
- E-learning, animation, data Search, integration and Management, Network Construction, Website



Development and Computer programming.

- Establish a National Research Institute staffed by our best Scientists to undertake ongoing research into and development of new and existing crops, products, processes and techniques to be applied in production and delivery of goods and services. Encourage research into technologies that will lead to the eradication of poverty, improve our self-reliance and increase our earning capacity.

14. ENERGY

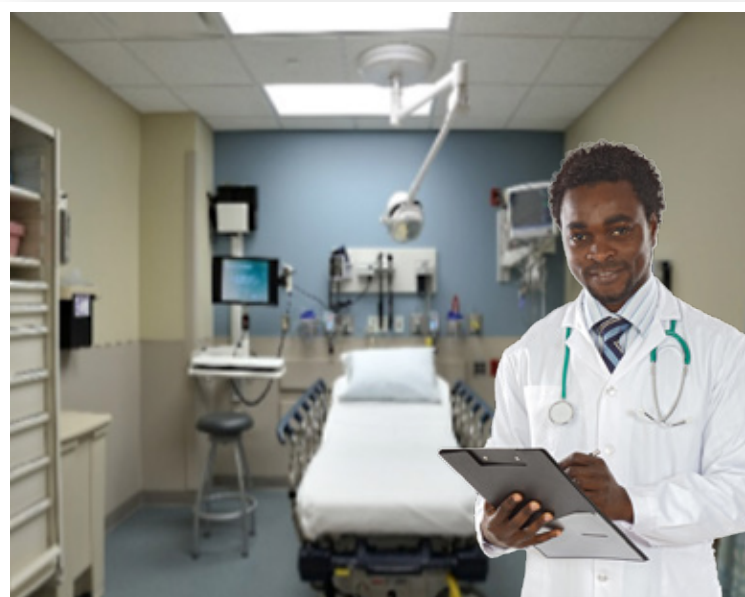
Strive to significantly improve our energy security, energy independence and stability of supply of sustainable energy resources by providing adequate and affordable energy to all sectors of society as a prerequisite for a decent quality of life; reducing our carbon footprint by weaning our economy and society off the total dependence on diesel and gasoline and transitioning to renewable energy both for electricity generation and transport; and maximizing the efficiency of energy use in production, storage, distribution and end-use.

We intend to:

- Update, where appropriate and implement the Grenada National Energy Policy.
- Fully pursue the implementation of the Cooperation Agreement concluded with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago for the exploration and exploitation of non-living marine resources. Retain the services of qualified experts to resume and conclude negotiations with the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela with a view to resolving our maritime boundaries once and for all.
- Conduct discussions/negotiations with the Global Petroleum Group (GPG) with a view to arriving at a common understanding as to outstanding rights and obligations under the Production Sharing Agreement concluded between the Government of Grenada and GPG with a view to beginning to realize our hydrocarbon potential.

- Conduct discussions/ negotiations with Grenlec and other stakeholders with a view to achieving an integrated mix of regulation and economic and market-oriented approaches to promoting energy security, independence, accessibility, affordability and efficiency within the electricity sector and to promoting best industrial and environmental practices and enact appropriate legislation at the conclusion thereof.
- Promote research and development into energy efficiency and renewable energy technology.
- Create the legal and institutional support mechanism to allow Grenada to take fullest advantage of funding and technical assistance from the Green Financing Funds and Mechanisms established for adaptation, mitigation and financing green development.
- Establish a National Energy Commission, whose historic mandate shall be to guide the implementation of our strategic energy policy objectives and coordinate all national policies aimed achieving same.

A FRAMEWORK FOR PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT



15. HEALTH CARE

Improve the quality and delivery of Health Services in Grenada by focusing on Promotive, Preventative, Curative and Rehabilitative health services to all individuals and families throughout Grenada; create, equip and staff new specialized care facilities; upgrade existing facilities; re-organize and reprioritize existing facilities and resources; ensuring that our medical institutions are adequately equipped and staffed and that basic medical supplies are available for the care and treatment of patients; and ensure the continuous training and upgrading of skills of all health care providers at all levels.

We intend to:

- Re-organize the Community Health Service to provide equitable distribution of services, placing the emphasis on strong community participation in the planning, implementation and monitoring of all Community Health Services.
- Reactivate and establish Primary Health Care Teams in every parish.
- Expand school Health Programs to all Primary and Secondary school in collaboration with the diaspora communities.
- Ensure the availability of Medical and Nursing service in every district Medical Station.
- Establishing a Public Relations Department to get feedback in an effort to improve the system.
- Establish a Dialysis unit to treat patients requiring Dialysis treatment on an ongoing basis.
- Facilitate the establishment of an oncology centre specializing in the care and treatment of cancer patients In collaboration with the private sector,
- Provide financial assistance to nurses wishing to receive specialized training in areas such as Dialysis, Oncology and Psychiatry.
- Upgrading and expanding the programs offered at the Grenada School of Nursing.
- Introduce a National Health Insurance Scheme.
- Develop and implement a national prevention and control program in

collaboration with the drug control counsel for prevention of drug abuse and addiction.

16. EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Radically develop and streamline the human resources capacity of the country by ensuring that opportunities for education and training and re-education and retraining are available to all persons; that the quality of education and student achievement is significantly improved and that the knowledge and skill set of our workforce are brought in line with our socio-economic requirements, objectives and priorities.

We intend to:

- As part of the National Plan develop a plan for the country's human resource development for which the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development will be responsible.
- Restructure the national education system so as to ensure that the aptitude of young students can be determined at an early stage in their primary education; that the curriculum is available to pursue their aptitudinal development and that the infrastructure is developed for the pursuit of such interests.
- Upgrade the primary school curriculum so as to include courses and programs that would assist teachers and students in identifying students' aptitude at an early age.



- Standardize the curriculum in all national primary schools.
- Introduce Spanish, French and Civics as compulsory courses in the primary and secondary school system (up to Form 3).
- Introduce courses in agriculture, culture (theatre, dance, music and voice training), and technical/ vocational courses- in addition to the traditional academic stream- in primary schools.
- Equip the primary schools with technology appropriate machinery, equipment, instruments and tools required to pursue and sustain the academic, technical and vocational programs.
- Reintroduce the Free School Books Program
- Institute a genuine program to address the growing problem of truancy
- Encourage schools to organize vacation camps through which students can acquire life skills, develop their social skills and boost their confidence and self-esteem. Revise the secondary school curriculum to provide for three (3) streams of education namely, an academic stream; a technical/ vocational stream (that would include plumbing, electronics, electrical, air conditioning, mechanics, woodwork and arts and craft, welding and other disciplines) and a specialty stream (that would include agriculture, sports, performing arts (including dance, theatre, music and voice training), secretarial/ office procedures, and bookkeeping, marine studies and other disciplines).
- Redesign the school curriculum so that all secondary school students would receive three complete years of general secondary education following which they would enter their special streams based on aptitude for 2 years.
- Establish and / or upgrade specialty schools where student can pursue their specialty education in agriculture, fishing, sports, performing arts and fashion, secretarial/ office procedures and marine studies giving careful consideration to the physical location of these schools.
- Establish a fully accredited polytechnic where students in the technical/ vocational stream can pursue their specialty education.
- Institute a comprehensive program of student counseling so as to assist students with their career choices as well as in developing life and social skills.
- Regularize the employment of all teachers in the teaching service who have been employed as contract workers for a period in excess of two years
- Strive to ensure that within 10 years all teachers in secondary schools hold a university degree.
- Provide all secondary school teachers (who have been in the system for 3 years or more) an opportunity to continue their higher education and obtain a university degree without any compromise in their salaries or other employment benefits.
- Introduce teleconferencing and other advanced telecommunications media in all our secondary schools through which our best and specialist trained teachers will be selected and used to teach courses nationally by such methods.
- Strive to ensure that no individual is denied a tertiary education due to lack of personal financing on the part of the individual.
- In collaboration with the local financial institutions Introduce a Government Sponsored National Student Loan Scheme under which students wishing to pursue their university education will obtain a student loan to be repaid commencing only after completion of their studies.



17. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND EMPOWERMENT

Develop and implement, in conjunction with youth organizations and Businesses around the country, a comprehensive program for the holistic development of our youth so as to endow them with the education, training and skills; employment and entrepreneurial opportunities; appropriate avenues and facilities for the release of their creative energies (especially in sports and the performing arts); avenues and opportunities for their direct participation in the development and implementation of public policy; material resources; and intergenerational guidance and interventions, which would enable them to take their rightful place as the future leaders of our nation and contribute fully to the sustainable development of our country. We will propose the appointment of Youth Senators in our Parliament and promote the appointment of young persons to the Boards of Directors of State Owned Enterprises and Statutory Bodies.

We intend to:

- The development of our youth and their involvement in national affairs continue to occupy our minds. A new NDC government will establish a National Youth Service and Apprenticeship Programme, a National Youth Council, a National Students Council, and revive and strengthen the National Youth Parliament to give young people a greater say in the affairs of the State, and provide greater channels for their holistic development. The voice of young people must be heard at every level of the decision-making process.
- In the appointment persons to serve as members of the Boards of Directors of State Owned Enterprises and Statutory Bodies and Commissions reserve at least one position for a youth 30 years of age or younger to sit on each State Owned Enterprise and Statutory Body and Commission.
- Build on the IMANI Program by developing and implementing, in conjunction with the private sector, a Human Employment and Resource Training (HEART) program for our youth between the ages of 15 and 20 so as to provide them with skills training and employment through practical on the job learning experiences.
- Grant tax relief to companies for monies expended on the trainees and ensuring that the relief structure is tied to the number of candidates taken by the company.
- Provide training, finance and support systems for young entrepreneurs.
- Initiate a "Business Buddy" program whereby retired professionals, middle

and senior executives can provide assistance to young and emerging entrepreneurs on a voluntary basis.

- Inculcate healthy lifestyles among young people, as a means of stopping the spread of HIV/AIDS and other lifestyle diseases
- Develop Sports as an industry that brings other health and social benefits to young people.
- Get young people involved in agriculture and agribusiness using modern technologies
- Develop the Cultural and entertainment Industries so as to increase career choices for young people
- Putting in place clear indicators of effective youth development for monitoring and evaluation.

18. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Provide personal, social and income security to the most vulnerable members of our society by eradicating the social, institutional and systemic obstacles that have created and fostered economic and social imbalances and inequalities in our society.

We intend to:

- Broaden the mandate, reorganize and significantly strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Social Development to discharge responsibility for the development and implementation of the country's social development plans and policies as they relate to Family Life and Parenting; Child Care and Development Services, including daycare services; Family Support Services, including Family Counseling, Child Protection; Juvenile Justice; Adolescent Parents; Substance Abuse; Gender Relations, including domestic violence; Care of the Elderly; Disability Services; Income



security, including old age pension and social assistance; National Health Insurance and Pension Schemes.

- As much as possible, provide financial support to NGOs which provide opportunities and support mechanisms for integration of PWDs into national social and economic life through sports, education and economic empowerment.
- Establish a National Disabilities Advisory Council, led by a Person with a Disability to advise government on issues relating to the community of persons with disabilities.
- Take measures to ensure that, as far as practicable, all new and existing public buildings are more disabled friendly and accessible to PWDs.

19. HOUSING

Ensure that all Grenadians have a home in which they have security of tenure, adequate shelter and privacy, access to potable water and proper sanitation facilities, together with basic electricity services by utilizing innovative and creative programs and plans, including programs to facilitate young professionals and entrepreneurs.

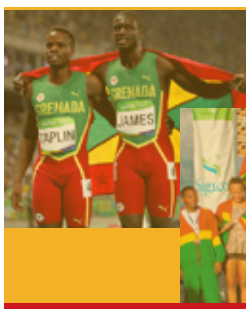
We intend to:

- Develop and implement a Public Sector Housing Program ("Starter Homes Project"), aimed at providing better access to housing and better housing conditions to low and modest income families.
- Strengthen the human and material resource capacity of the Ministry of Housing and the Grenada Housing Authority so as to better deliver housing services to the low and modest income families.
- Promote and assist in the design of lower cost housing so as to maximize their structural and environmental integrity, minimize the cost of maintenance, and facilitate the prospects for incremental expansion/ extension.
- Integrate disaster mitigation practices into the design and construction of the homes.
- Adopt appropriate planning and infrastructure standards in the development of housing settlements.

20. PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT (INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT)

We will develop and implement a comprehensive plan for the physical development of the country while protecting the environment for the convenience and benefit of our people and to facilitate orderly development of investment projects. We intend to:

- Upgrade existing legislation so as to better provide for the development and implementation of a comprehensive land use and zoning plan for the country; the administration of the system for the physical development and improvement of private lands; implementation of a tenable land tenure system; the management of natural resources; conservation of forests, national parks, centers of national Heritage and other protected areas and sites; coastal areas and marine resources, beach protection; solid waste management, pollution; climate change and other environmental matters.
- Re-structure, substantially upgrade and adequately staff the Physical Planning and Development Authority so as to provide greater capacity to independently and efficiently discharge its mandate.
- Establish an Environmental Protection Agency as an independent Agency charged with the responsibility to supervise and coordinate the protection of our environment and the promotion of sustainable environmental practices.



21. SPORTS

Provide an environment where our sports men and women could achieve their highest level of performance; to develop Grenada into a regional centre for sporting activities and to fully explore and take advantage of the opportunities to realize significant economic gains from sporting activities, especially for the benefit of our youth.

We intend to:

- Upgrade and fully implement the Existing National Sports Policy, developed under the previous NDC administration.
- Remove the responsibility for the promotion and marketing of sports as an economic activity from the Ministry of Sports and assign that responsibility to the National Sports Council to perform these functions.
- Ensure that the mandate of the National Sports Council includes: responsibility for the identification and development of local sporting talent; ongoing training for the physical education teachers in all primary and secondary schools; the continuous development of local and internationally competitive and innovative sports; recreation and sports related Tourism; the development of national programs for each and every area of sporting activity; and the development of a national Sports Tourism calendar.
- Develop a comprehensive plan for marketing Grenada as a sports destination.
- Provide incentives to employers who allow athletes paid time off work to represent Grenada at sporting events.
- Develop and embark upon a well-considered program to train persons in the areas of sports medicine, sports education, sports psychology, physiotherapy, sports nutrition, medical services, proper management of sporting facilities and activities, coaching, athletic welfare, and the funding and promotion of sports tourism.
- Provide financial, educational, and other assistance to our national sports men and women during training and participation in competitions, to cover their costs including transportation, training, equipment and per diem requirements.
- Provide all national athletes with medical insurance benefits during active representation of the country.
- Actively seek to secure more scholarships for Grenadian athletes at all levels to further their academic education.

22. CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Restore cultural strength, traditional values and National identity to our society while developing suitable avenues for the release of the creative energies of our people, especially our youth.

We intend to:

- Introduce Performing Arts into the curriculum of all primary and secondary

schools so that theatre, dance, music, voice training and comedy can all be introduced to our children from a very early age.

- Encourage and support the establishment of a school for the performing Arts as one of our specialty schools where our youth with an aptitude for such activities can pursue the refinement and development of their talent at the secondary and post-secondary level.
- Provide institutional support to artistic and creative products, which have the potential for wealth creation and income generation for the artiste. Our objective is to support the artiste in his quest to earn a living from his God-given talent. New levels of support will be given to the performing arts, as well as the visual arts.
- Encourage greater Private Sector investment in the Creative Arts including the establishment of a National Centre for the Performing Arts through appropriate tax incentives.
- Actively seek out and embrace opportunities for the training of our artistes to hone their creativity, as well as acquire capabilities in related disciplines.
- Reintroduce the National Arts Festival for schools so as to encourage a spirit of healthy competition among our young artistes, and inspire them to be the best they can be.

23. NATIONAL SECURITY, DISASTER PREPAREDNESS and BUILDING RESILIENCE

Enhance our national security by strengthening our Police, Immigration, Fire and Prison Services. Improve our disaster preparedness by improving our capacity to adequately prepare for and respond to natural disasters. Cooperate fully with international law enforcement agencies in the battle against international crime.

A FRAMEWORK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND EMPOWERMENT OF CARRIACOU AND PETITE MARTINIQUE



24. CARRIACOU AND PETITE MARTINIQUE

Empower the people of Carriacou and Petite Martinique, and afford the residents, in a fair and equitable manner, the opportunity to realize their fullest potential and to build a vibrant and modern economy and community, while preserving their cultural heritage and traditions; enjoying a decent quality of health, education and social protection; and facilities for their participation in, and enjoyment of sports, recreation, culture and entertainment.

We intend to:

Public infrastructure and public services

- Significantly improve the quality of public infrastructure and supporting facilities including the airport, seaport, public roads, air services, yachting facilities and water supply. Continue to improve, upgrade and enhance the main and secondary roads, including, in particular the reconstruction and reopening of the island road in Carriacou and the development of village roads in Petite Martinique.
- Extend the Airport Runway so as accommodate aircrafts with carrying capacity of at least 50 passengers; introduce night landing facilities and construct suitable terminal building facility.
- Devise and adopt appropriate measures to improve the supply, storage, and distribution and thereby security of supply and safety of water to residents, including the establishment restoration and maintenance of already existing public catchments; the rehabilitation and improvement of

existing ground water supply systems; the exploration and development of other potentially productive ground water sources; and the proper maintenance and more efficient utilization of the desalination plants.

- Undertake and complete the construction of a Ministerial Building for the Ministry of Carriacou and Petite Martinique Affairs.
- Significantly upgrade the range and quality of public services, including health services, offered to the residents so as to reduce the cost and inconvenience of having to travel to Grenada for basic services.
- Upgrade the Princess Royal Hospital so as to provide a wider and more improved range of services.
- Upgrade the protective services and facilities to more effectively serve the people of Carriacou and Petite Martinique, paying particular attention to the provision of proper fire service coverage for the airport and the introduction of emergency and rescue services to address the proposed tourism expansion and increase recreational boating activities



Tourism

- Ensure that the Tourism Master Plan developed for the nation includes a well-developed plan for the holistic development of Tourism in Carriacou and Petite Martinique which, among other things, define the type and extent of tourism to be pursued on the islands and seek to utilize the unique natural and cultural/historical attractions of the islands to create a distinct element of Grenada tourism brand.
- Promote and market Carriacou and Petite Martinique as an ideal tourist destination for cruise and stay over visitors as well as Yachtsmen and women.
- Restore, conserve and enhance the key attractions (offshore islands, historic sites, festivals, nature trails scenic views, etc.).
- To facilitate the development of the islands for ecotourism and as the water sports centre of the Grenada Tourism brand.

Fisheries

- Expand and develop the fishing industry while protecting the eco-systems and habitats which support marine life.
- With the help of an appropriate international agency or friendly government, undertake a detailed assessment of the commercial fisheries resources in the area including lambi, lobster, oyster reef and inshore fish and other commercially viable marine life.
- Establish policies and standards for harvesting and processing of shell and fin fish and formulate appropriate training for fishermen.
- Facilitate the establishment of fishing centers at Hillsborough, L'Esterre and Petite Martinique and improve and upgrade the fishing center at Windward.
- Develop and deploy policies and measures to ensure that the fishing Centers are equipped with the necessary utilities and supplies including water, fuel, waste disposal, ice making equipment, fishing gear storage, Freezer space, landing and berthing facilities.
- Facilitate the development of Petite Martinique as the primary fishing centre of the Grenadines by, among other things, Improving the marketing system for fisheries, in particular resolution of problems relating to the sale of fish in MARTINIQUE and Guadeloupe Fully explore the economic feasibility of establishing a fish processing plant in Petite Martinique with a view to creating additional income and employment opportunities for the residents.

Agriculture and Agribusiness

- Strive to significantly improve the food and nutrition security of the islands by increasing the production of traditional food and food crops.
- Provide better extension and farm labour services to farmers
- Promote Carriacou as major livestock farming centre in the by facilitating the introduction of special breeds and providing special extension services and support to livestock farmers, including the reliable and sustainable supply of animal feed, the immunization against infections and disease and protection from loss through theft and destruction by dogs.
- Facilitate the better utilization of agricultural lands in relation to specific site capabilities for various crops and livestock farming activities.
- Undertake agricultural research into the introduction of new crops, especially high quality and high yielding fruits and vegetables as a means of boosting production and supplying food for the tourism sector.
- Promote organic farming involving mixed cultivation, restricted soil tillage and the use of organic fertilizers and natural harvesting techniques.

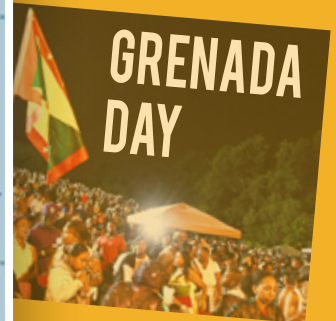
Education Health and Wellness Services

- Enter into discussions with St. George's University with a view to establishing a Carriacou campus specializing in Marine Biology and Aquatic Medicine.

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE -

Actively preserve and promote the unique history, cultural heritage and traditions of the islands by protecting sites and features of archaeological and historical interest and natural heritage sites; supporting the local museum and providing support to cultural festivals and activities organized to protect and promote these traditions.

A FRAMEWORK FOR DIASPORA, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



25. DIASPORA INTEGRATION

Develop and implement, in conjunction with Grenadians in the Diaspora, a plan for their full integration in the sustainable economic and social development of the country and its people.

We intend to:

- Establish a National Diaspora Commission, comprised of Grenadians living at home and in the Diaspora, to fully engage Grenadians at home and in the Diaspora;
 - to fully examine and categorize the nature of the relationship between Grenadians living in the Diaspora and those living at home;
 - to assess and quantify the contribution being made by Diasporans to the Grenadian economy and society;
 - to identify, assess and categorize the potential which exist for Grenada to benefit from the presence of Grenadians living in the Diaspora;
 - to determine the needs and concerns of Grenadians living in the Diaspora which must properly be addressed by Grenadian policy makers;
 - to make recommendations on the most appropriate institutional arrangements, instruments, mechanisms and initiatives for realizing those potential benefits and addressing those needs and concerns.
- After adequate consultations with the Grenadians at home and abroad, act upon the findings and recommendations of the Commission by putting in place the necessary legal and institutional framework, staffing and equipping the institutions and allocating the necessary resources to give effect to our development objectives. Advocate for the reform of the qualifications of election to the lower House (House of Representatives) so as to permit Grenadians nationals who have pledged allegiance to a foreign country, other than a commonwealth country, to run for elected office in Grenada without having to surrender their citizenship of the foreign country.

26. REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Adhere and observe all regional and international treaties and agreements to which Grenada is a signatory; strive to ensure at all times that in the development and pursuit of our foreign policy, the focus and objective must be to advance Grenada's vital national interests and development and to that end, we will do all that is within our power and capacity to promote the deeper integration of the OECS, CARICOM and the wider Caribbean region.

We intend to:

- Review Grenada's Foreign Policy to ensure greater focus on securing credible, bankable Investment opportunities and greater resource mobilization;
- Strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its overseas missions to implement Government's Foreign Policy more effectively;
- Develop a Career Foreign Service;
- Make concerted efforts to ensure that relations with Grenada's traditional allies are maintained and strengthened; aggressively pursue the establishment and development of ties with non-traditional allies including the newly emerging economic powers.

IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

Strong Policy, Institutional, Legislative and Regulatory Frameworks



Successive governments over the past years have developed and implemented various strategies toward poverty reduction, education, economic growth, environmental protection and more recently, sustainable development. From time to time, these have been implemented under the overall frameworks of National Development Plans (NDP's). Some NDPs were designed and implemented as overall strategic frameworks for the various interventions before being abandoned decades later following the introduction of policies. We believe that successful Small Island Development States (SIDS) are those which seek deeper understanding of their unique characteristics, features and circumstances to ensure that human development activities take place within the safe and just operating space of our tri-island state. Meeting the basic human needs in SIDS requires serious commitment of policy-makers. To this end, policies are developed and adopted to provide guidance for effective management of the political economy. With the development of this policy framework, the NDC has shown its commitment to achieving the goals of sustainable development and creating sustainable prosperity. We will use this policy framework to guide the development of policies and programs for each government sector. As knowledge evolves, we will adopt new and relevant strategies and approaches to ensure that our goals for the sustainability of the tri-island state can be met.

Achieving our Objectives

Our policy-making approach, which combines evidence of what works with robust policy frameworks and design, realistic implementation planning, monitoring and evaluation, stakeholder engagement and adaptation to changing circumstances, requires a comprehensive system to identify capacity gaps and needs. It will focus on the ways in which to address them, utilizing the appropriate instruments and methodologies for closing the gaps. The following four strategies will be employed to reflect the NDC's commitment to policy-making practice and ensure that its goals and objectives are achieved.

First, policy-makers will embrace the values, principles, perspectives and priorities of sustainable development. This requires having an ability to see the bigger picture, maintain awareness of evidence-based practices through ongoing learning initiatives, remain open to emerging ideas and trends, learn and adapt, and ensure that the interventions in support of sustainable development are adequate.

Second, policy-making practice will implement a knowledge repository system to harness the collective human intellect of all decision-makers. This can serve as a useful instrument to help maximize the potential of decision-makers to successfully develop and implement policies that support the goals of sustainable development.

Third, the concept of "creating shared value" will guide our stakeholder engagements toward successful collaboration. This concept was introduced as a prescription for approaching stakeholder engagement in a way that builds and fortifies relationships, while tapping into the collective brain trust of the system. In the process of careful and coherent discussions, participants often develop a deeper appreciation of societal needs and an ability to collaborate across sectoral boundaries to find appropriate solutions to problems. The buy-in of participants is crucial to

the success of policy-making practice. The NDC has embraced the notion that collaborating with stakeholders requires principled leadership. This calls for humility, willingness to learn and grow, offering more questions than answers, listening more than speaking at times, creating the space for stakeholders to gain a deeper understanding of the wholeness of the problem or issue - where they feel safe to share their perspectives, where their voices are heard and taken into consideration, where they take ownership of the initiatives and solutions they have agreed to, and hold themselves accountable for creating successful outcomes. Fourth, we will develop policies for a formal recognition - reward system to acknowledge and recognize the extraordinary efforts of policy-makers and other leaders who support and promote the NDC's vision toward sustainable prosperity.

Implementation Planning, Monitoring, Evaluating and Feedback Mechanisms

The focus of our implementation planning, monitoring, evaluating and review plan is on relevance, performance, and ensuring that our policy interventions produce results that support the goals of sustainable development for SIDS. All four functions have potential to contribute to the achievement of the sustainable development goals and objective for SIDS by supporting decision-making, accountability, learning, and capacity development.

Looking Ahead

One of the greatest challenges facing the tri-island state is learning how to better meet the needs and aspirations of our citizens, while nurturing and protecting the natural environment, and ensuring equity in the distribution of public benefits. Achieving adequate progress toward the attainment of sustainable development in each sector and sub-sector for human development requires vital responses to the emerging challenges. It also requires team-building efforts, openness, evidence-based knowledge, fairness, justice, respect for self and others, and thoughtful, mature reflection about possible solutions to the problems or issues that exist.

This policy document draws heavily on the optimization of quality of life for all our people. Our goal is to integrate the activities of economic growth, environmental protection, and social equity in an effort to transform our development trajectory, create sustainable prosperity, and improve the quality of life and well-being of Grenadians.



