



Laying the Foundation
with
SOLID ACHIEVEMENTS
2008 – PRESENT





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Hon. Tillman Thomas

NDC Grenada's Best Choice

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS



FOREWORD

In the General Elections of 2008, the people of Grenada enthusiastically voted in the NDC. On the economic front, the new NDC Administration inherited an economy that had been ravaged by both Hurricane Ivan and a corrupt and inefficient administration. The situation was further compounded by the fact that the global economy was experiencing its worst recession since the Great Depression of 1929.

A bankrupt economy led to rising unemployment and chronic poverty, reducing the society to hopelessness and despair. It was in this situation that the electorate gave the NDC an overwhelming mandate to bring an end to corruption and inefficiency, and restore hope, integrity, inclusiveness, transparency and accountability.

Despite these formidable challenges, the NDC began the task of mobilizing the society to rebuild the economy, create employment opportunities and provide a safety net for the most vulnerable. It has been an uphill struggle, but at the end of the first term there is no doubt that we have climbed to higher ground and laid foundations for sustainable economic growth and job creation.

This document presents our proud record of achievement since we came to office, and shows how far we have come as well as the way forward. Now, more than ever, Grenada cannot afford to turn back to the corruption and recklessness of the past. Let us move forward, united in our efforts to make Grenada a model of social cohesion and prosperity.

The NDC is the Best Choice for Grenada.



THE BIG DIFFERENCE

Good Governance Agenda

- Consultative approach to governance
- Practice of inclusiveness and equity
- Building of institutions: independent functioning
- Respect for Laws and the judiciary
- Freedom of expression: Society can exhale!
- Transparency, accountability and honesty in office





THE ECONOMY

- Introduced prudent macro-economic management policies and practices recognized by international organizations and countries
- Strengthened framework for better management with the establishment of Policy Unit and Debt Unit
- Caused Grenada to climb to 73rd in the Ease of Doing Business Ranking from 98th in 2008
- Grenada ranked among the world's top 10 in Doing Business in 2010.
- Identified five transformational sectors: Tourism and Hospitality services, Agri-business, ICT, Energy Development, Health, Educational and Wellness services
- Mobilized over \$233.9 million in grants over the past four years
- Simplified the tax system with the introduction of VAT and Excise Tax
- Enacted the Investment Promotion Act, which finally gives investors a clear and predictable track on which to run
- Appointed separate Registrars for Court, Deeds and Lands and Corporate and Intellectual Property
- Repealed the National Reconstruction Levy (NRL) thereby releasing \$10 million back into the hands of Grenadians.
- Provided a tax amnesty offering taxpayers a 100% waiver on interest and penalties for full settlement of principal sums owed, providing a welcome relief to members of the business community, as well as other taxpayers who were in arrears.



- Successfully implemented the Value Added Tax (VAT) and Excise Tax in February 2010.
- Established the Office of Private Sector Development (OPSD) to help businesses
- Established a Division of Technical and Economic Cooperation to mobilize additional resources, both financial and technical.
- Established a Debt Management Unit.
- Established a Waste Reduction Unit
- Modernized Customs with the introduction of ASY CUDA World
- Passed a new Insurance Act
- Established a Companies and Intellectual Property Office and enacted supporting legislation
- Conducted a Country Poverty Assessment and developed a Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy
- Reviewed Grenada's safety net programmes
- Developed a New Investment Strategy and reorganized the Grenada Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC).





EDUCATION

- Met commitment of 15% of total budget to Education
- Spent over \$13.5 million on Free Textbooks since the programme was launched in 2008
- Awarded over 600 scholarships including 10 island scholarships over the past four years
- Assisted over 1,463 students with tuition support at a cost of over \$5.9 million.
- Achieved Universal Education: Abolished the Common Entrance Exam
- Revised the curriculum with greater emphasis on vocational training
- Rehabilitated and reconstructed several schools
- Signed an agreement with UWI to locate its Open Campus headquarters in Grenada
- Passed a law on Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) and established the National Training Agency (NTA).
- Instituted extensive teacher training up to the degree level

- Placed 300 new computers in our schools to enhance learning outcomes
- Partnered with LIME to provide free Internet service to all primary schools, resulting in improved overall student performance in all external examinations
- Provided every primary and secondary school with new classroom furniture
- Passed appropriate Law to establish Accreditation Council
- Expanded the TVET programme in 15 Primary Schools and all secondary schools offering vocational subjects; in addition five persons are being trained at the Master's level in Technical subject areas
- Established tertiary education centres in Carriacou and St Patrick



AGRICULTURE & FISHERIES

- Reasserted the importance of Agriculture and food security.
- Boosted agricultural production through the Farm Labour Support Programme.
- Recorded agriculture growth of 9.4% and 8.25% in 2010 and 2011
- Completed and implemented Nutmeg Strategy
- Recorded the doubling of nutmeg production from 1.1 million pounds to 2.2 million pounds; the number of farmers delivering nutmegs more than doubling from 1000 to 2,500 and the volume of exports more than tripling since 2008
- Recorded an increase in cocoa production from 1 million pounds to 1.5 million pounds
- Implemented the Small Farmers Vulnerability Reduction Initiative Project.
- Constructed a state of the art Fishing Complex at Gouyave, St. John. through cooperation with the Government of Japan.
- Commenced the Grenville Market Development. To date Abattoir is 80 % complete, the Market 70% complete, and the Bus Terminus is 50% complete

- Supported Farmers by providing a sizeable injection of farm machinery
- Restored Mirabeau Farm School which now has over 50 students attending
- Rehabilitated government estates
- Established Agro processing plants
- Prepared the way for eventual commencement of farm roads
- Established Farmers Market
- Distributed thousands of plants



TOURISM

- Invested over \$28.1 million in airlift since 2009, resulting in more airlines serving Grenada than ever before
- Completed the National Tourism Strategic Plan which will soon be implemented.
- Enhanced the tourism product with the addition of new cultural products like the Spice Word Festival
- Facilitated the start-up of new tourist attractions including Spice Basket and the Discovery Train
- Focused on developing the dive sector
- Completed Phase I of the cleaning of Grand Etang Lake
- Hosted the Preparatory Diaspora Conference in August 2010 and will host the homecoming this year
- Expanded training in Hospitality Arts
- Established a special VAT rate for Hotels and Guests, allowing Hotels to retain 50%
- Signed MOU with Sandals International Resorts



HEALTH

- Entered into a groundbreaking agreement with St. George's University, addressing fourteen areas of cooperation including the establishment of a clinical teaching programme and the development of a teaching hospital; construction is scheduled to begin in 2013
- Conducted a National School-based Dental programme in partnership with New York University school of Dentistry in which thousands of students benefitted
- Procured and installed key equipment at the General Hospital
- Secured New Radiological equipment and an oxygen plant, which are being installed
- Retrofitted the Elevator at the General Hospital at a cost of EC\$ 809,169.90
- Relocated and upgraded the Snug Corner Medical Station at Beaulieu in St. George's.
- Arranged for the passage of the Health Practitioners Act which provides for registration of Doctors and Allied Health Professionals

- Received a regional award for Grenada's Public Wellness programme
- Agreed on Public/ Private Partnership partner for a new 184-bed General Hospital with clinical teaching facility estimated to cost US \$67 million (EC\$ 181.0 million)
- Redrafted new mental Health Bill and enacted new health Practitioners Act
- Completed feasibility study of National Health Insurance
- Commenced Gynaecological and Paediatric services at Princess Alice/Princes' Royal hospitals



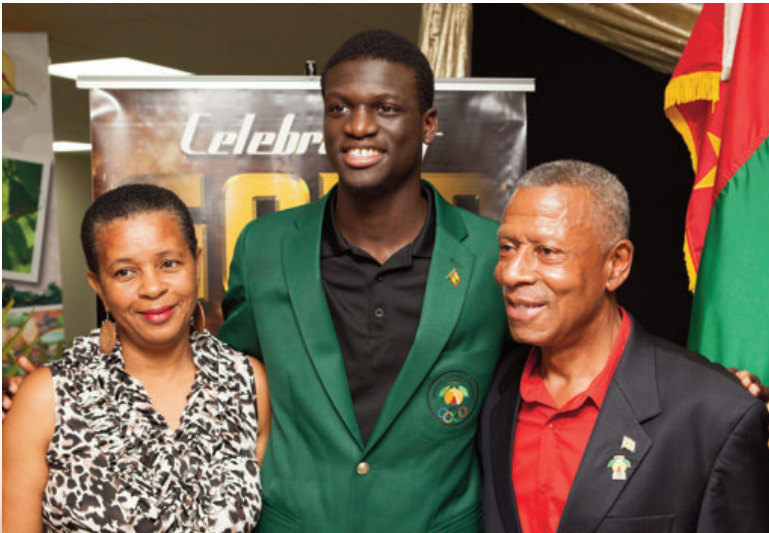
HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



- Through cooperation with the People's Republic of China, 353 housing units were constructed and will be distributed shortly.
- Completed the Simon Bolivar Housing Development at La Calome and distributed homes to 100 families
- Repaired 175 houses across all parishes including Carriacou in 2009 at a cost of \$901,485.86
- Regularized the tenure of persons who were occupying Crown Lands: Mirabeau, Loretto, Mt Horne, Paradise, Beausejour, Frequente, Beaton and LaSagesse
- Rehabilitated six community centres
- Constructed a multi-purpose resource centre in St. Andrew
- Completed the Ford Bridge
- Restored bridges at La Mode, New Hampshire and Mt. Parnassus, with the help of the Chinese.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT & SPORTS

- Implemented the Grenada Youth Upliftment Programme (GYUP).
- Implemented Youth Apprenticeship Programme, with 1376 youths securing jobs since 2008 and 1302 trainees currently on the job
- Completed and reopened the Youth Development Centre
- Currently training dozens of youth at the Information Communications Technology (ICT) centre
- Established the Small Entrepreneurs Development Fund and trained over 150 persons in creating business plans and small business management.





- Completed the National Sports Policy and passed it into law.
- Provided lights for four playing fields with others currently in progress
- Established community access points in various communities providing internet for young persons to access information and training
- Increased opportunities at Mirabeau Farm School, with student enrolment moving from 2 to 52.
- UWI Open Campus providing training opportunities for hundreds of Grenadian youth
- Facilitated Caribbean Youth Empowerment Programme which is currently training hundreds of young people
- Developed health apprentice programme which is currently training 100 plus in various medical disciplines



ENERGY & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



- Completed Maritime boundary delimitation negotiations with Trinidad and Tobago and signed the Treaty on April 21st, 2010
- Signed joint exploration agreement with Trinidad & Tobago
- Secured victory before the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) in the Arbitration matter with RSM Production Corporation over rights to Grenada's potential oil and gas resources
- Approved New National Energy Policy

- Signed a Grant Agreement with EU to provide 1.9 megawatts of Electricity Generating Capacity of Wind Energy in Carriacou. Project launched.
- Introduced Energy for the Poor Programme granting stoves and fuel to 183 families
- Established two Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in Molinere and Beausejour; and the Oyster Bed in Carriacou
- Grenada played a major leadership role in Association of Small Island States (AOSIS)



SOCIAL SAFETY NETS

- Reduced the cost of cooking gas, thereby directly benefitting at least 20,000 households
- Implemented the Duty-Free Barrel Initiative where an average of 8,867 households have benefitted every year, thereby putting \$4 million back into the hands of Grenadians over the past 4 years
- Conducted an audit of safety net programmes to ensure more effective targeting and have now implemented a revised programme benefitting deserving persons
- Launched the \$21.6 million Market Access and Rural Enterprise Development Project (MAREP) both in Grenada and Carriacou.
- Arranged the passage of landmark Family Law legislation including the Child Protection and Adoption Act, Juvenile Justice Act and the Domestic Violence Act – landmark legislation and the first of its kind in the OECS.



CARRIACOU & PETITE MARTINIQUE

- Commissioned the new fish market in Hillsborough
- Completed several roads, including Top Hill-Belair Road.
- Completed the two preparatory phases for Local Government.
- Installed navigational lights at Windward and Petite Martinique
- Constructed Resource Centres at Harvey Vale and Petite Martinique



FINANCIAL SECTOR

- Signed 13 Tax Information Exchange Agreements (TIEAs), surpassing the target of 12 , as set by the Organization for Economic Corporation Development (OECD), and is now ‘white listed’
- Implemented a new Insurance Act which now ensures stronger regulation and supervision of the insurance industry.
- Implemented a new Cooperatives Society Act, ensuring stronger regulation for Credit Unions



OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

- Repealed section of the Criminal code effecting the decriminalization of libel
- Completed the most comprehensive legal modernization programme in the history of Grenada involving a complete revision of laws, including electronic storage and retrieval
- Digitized the Deeds and Lands registry, and valuation maps
- Raised Minimum wage for some categories of workers including security guards, assistants and domestic workers.
- Completed Draft Media Policy
- Established office of the Ombudsman and the Integrity Commission
- Established ICT Centre for Excellence and Innovation
- Launched 12 Community Access Points (CAPS), providing internet access to hundreds of Grenadians





PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

PROJECTS IN PROGRESS AND PROJECTS ON THE WAY

● Grenville Market development - \$35.6 million	Over 100 jobs
● Agricultural Feeder Roads Project - \$54 million	200-300 jobs
● The new Parliament - \$20.3 million	75 jobs
● Lowthers Lane Government Office Complex - \$17 million	50-75 jobs
● National Athletics and Football Stadium - \$85.0 million	80 jobs
● St. George's Market project - \$3.3 million	15 jobs
● Regional Disaster Risk Reduction Programme - \$70.7 million	30 jobs
● Venezuela Multi-Project - \$16.5 million	100 jobs
● St. Patrick's Roads Rehabilitation Programme - \$18.6 million	30 jobs
● St. John's River Feasibility Study and Design - \$18.6 million	30 jobs



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Schools Rehabilitation Projects Phases 1 and 2- \$33 million - SJC (St. Geo, GSS and SDA comp.) 	90 jobs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New General Hospital - \$181.0 million 	200 jobs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● UWI Open Campus - \$11.0 million 	100 jobs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MBIA and Lauriston Airports Upgrade and Extension - \$175.0 million 	150 jobs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Carriacou Wind Energy Project - \$9.6 million 	30 jobs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Soon to be established LPG Plant – \$18.0 million 	15 jobs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● St. Marks Poultry Project - \$25.0 million 	60 jobs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Caribbean Regional Communications Infrastructure Project (CARCIP) - \$27.0 million 	60 jobs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mt. Hartman - 150 room Hog Island Five Star International Hotel - \$405.0 million 	450 jobs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expanded hotel: Sandals acquisition and expansion (La Source) 285 rooms, \$270.0 million 	500 jobs



A FINAL WORD

Our record of achievements in the first term reflects the energy, creativity and commitment of an administration which places the interests of the Grenadian people at the centre of its policies and programmes.

The investments in critical growth sectors in all five transformational pillars provide the take-off for the NDC's economic recovery programme. The emphasis on an expansion of education and training, together with access to credit, will underpin major expansion of small and micro-enterprises and create a new class of entrepreneurs in Grenada. This will help to create the jobs required to satisfy the expanding labour market. The administration's record of integrity, efficiency and good governance will inspire confidence, and continue to attract investments which in turn will create job opportunities in a range of enterprises.

The NDC looks forward to its second term in office with the confidence that we have laid solid foundations for sustained growth and job creation to improve the quality of life of all Grenadian families.



**SOLID ACHIEVEMENT FOR A
BETTER GRENADA
AND A BRIGHTER FUTURE.**

**That's why
the NDC is the
Best Choice.**

