



Caribbean Local Economic Development Programme

Borough of Point Fortin, Trinidad and Tobago Local Area Economic Profile



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- The Chief Executive Officer (now on Pre-Retirement Leave), Ms. Patricia Bradshaw and the Acting Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Donnamay Taylor, graciously shared their insights and placed the resources of the Corporation at our disposal.
- A team of enumerators, led by Ms. Arlene Breaux and including Mr. Kerry Lucio, Mr. Ruthger Fraser, Mr. Christophe Henry, Mr. Garnet Woods, Mr. Randy Medina, Mr. Ryan Ross and Mr. Michael Pierre carefully administered the survey instrument to the micro, small and medium sized enterprises in the municipal corporation.

1.0 LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

“The purpose of local economic development (LED) is to build up the economic capacity of a local area to improve its economic future and the quality of life for all. It is a process by which public, business and nongovernmental sector partners work collectively to create better conditions for economic growth and employment generation” World Bank 2006:1

To build a strong local economy it is essential to:

- i. Understand the unique local conditions that either enhance or reduce the potential for local economic development.
- ii. Have a collaborative process involving local government, private sector and civil society.

This profile sets the background against which local economic development planning will take place in the Borough of Point Fortin.

2.0 AREA INFORMATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

2.1 LOCATION AND BACKGROUND

The Borough of Point Fortin is located on the southwest peninsula of the island of Trinidad, and is approximately 100 km by road south of Port of Spain. The Borough is made up of twelve distinct sub-divisions – Point Fortin Proper, Techier Village, Clifton Hill, Gonzales, Cochrane, Newlands, Point Ligoure, Egypt Village, Hollywood, New Village, Fanny Village and Cap de Ville.

Figure 1: Location of Point Fortin



What became the Borough of Point Fortin started out as three agricultural estates for the cultivation of cocoa and coconuts. When oil was discovered in the area in the early part of the last century, the area became an oil town with settlement and land use dictated by the needs of the oil industry. Since then the fortunes of the area have been tied to oil.

Photo 1: Welcome to Point Fortin



The Borough of Point Fortin has a strong sense of community history and pride. The community has adopted as the vision statement of Point Fortin – the preferred place to live, work, invest and recreate. Many burgesses (citizens) make an effort to inform newcomers about the importance of the community to the nation’s economy and cultural life, and the success of local festivals is testament to the interest of the “Point” Diaspora in

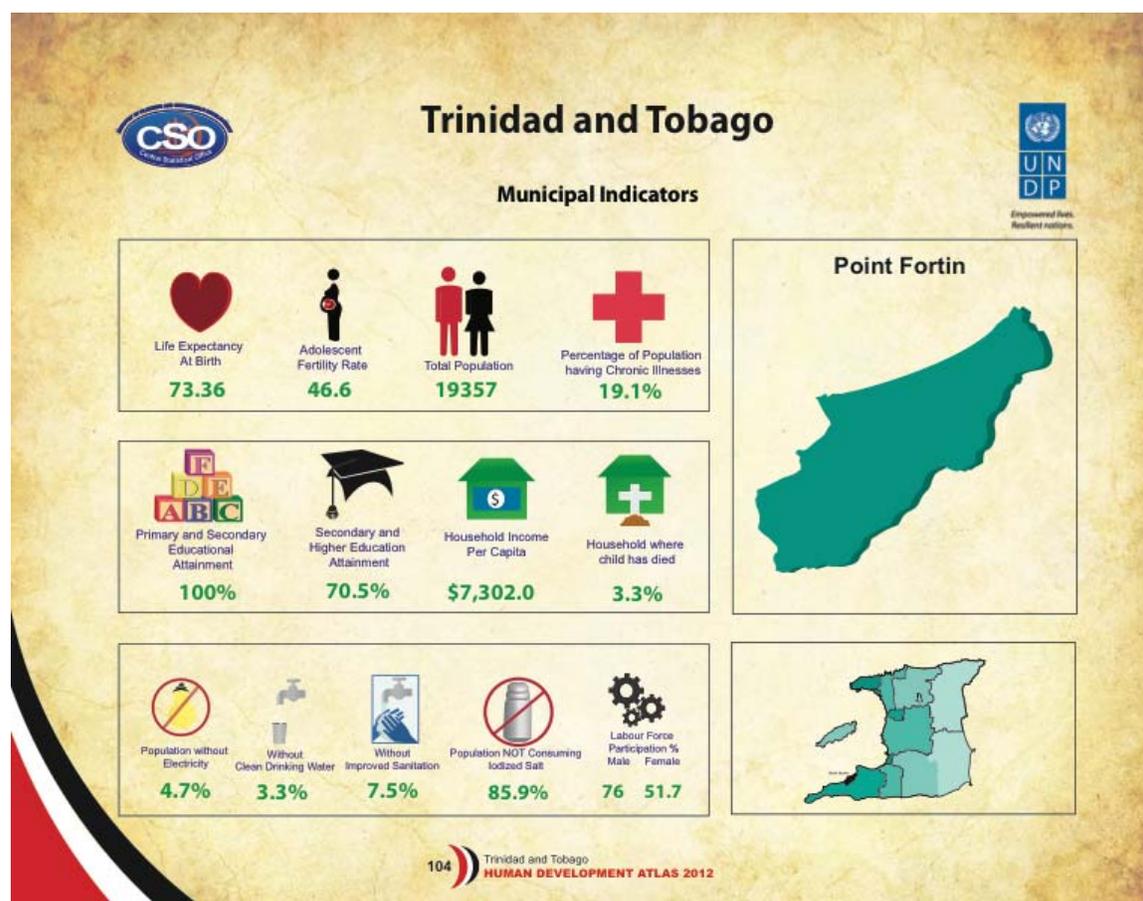
returning to reconnect and celebrate.

The Borough was incorporated in 1980 and the political management is Borough Council of eight members of whom six are elected and two are appointed. The Borough has limited autonomy and does not have an independent ability to raise revenue.

Photo 2: Victor Chin Kit Park



Figure 2: Summary of Human Development Indicators



Source: Trinidad and Tobago Human Development Index Atlas 2012

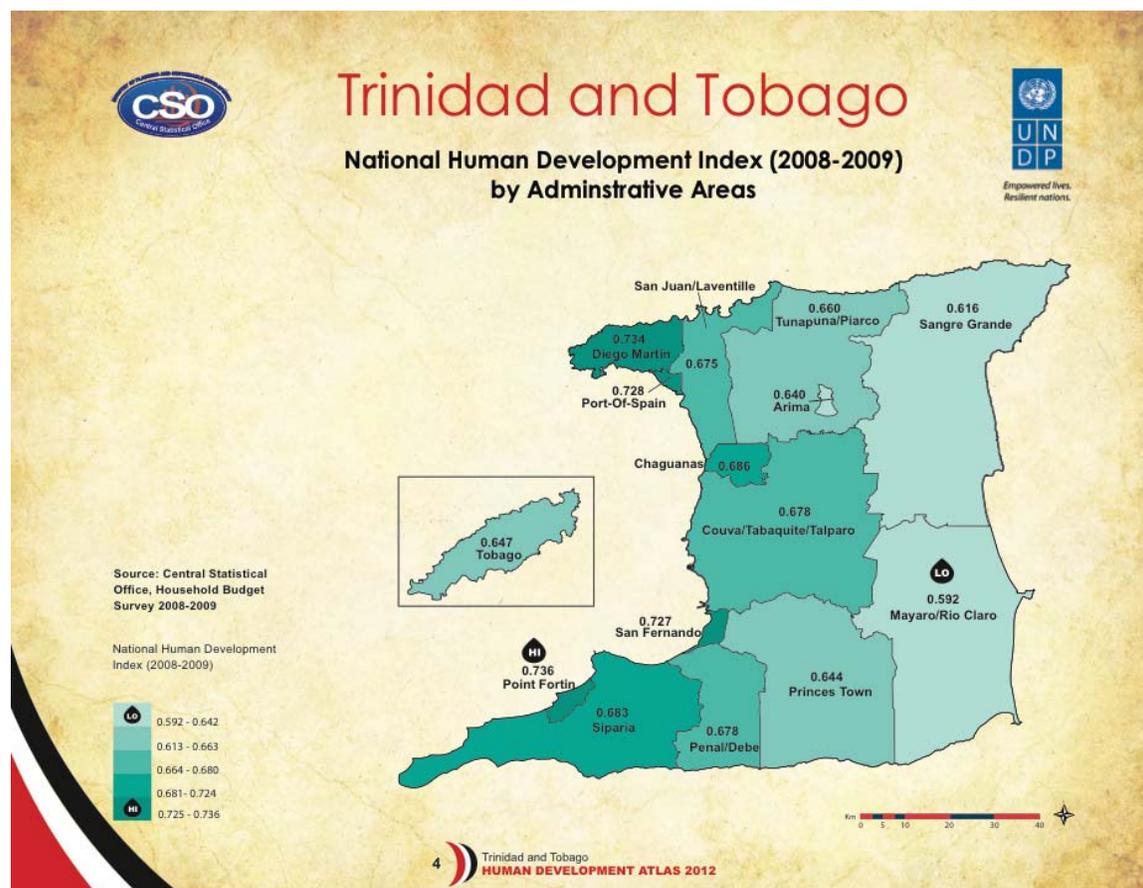
2.2 GEOGRAPHY

Point Fortin covers an area of 25 square km and is the small municipality by area in the country. It is bordered on the north by the coast of the Gulf of Paria, with several beach areas. Parts of the coastal zone are susceptible to erosion and while there flooding is not widespread there are areas which experience incidents of flooding.

2.3 DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

The 2011 Census indicates a total population for Point Fortin as 20,235, of which 10,097 were males and 10,138 were females. The population has grown from 18,941 from the last census in 2000 for an average annual growth rate of 0.6%. The Point Fortin Municipal Development Plan forecasts a growth in population to 25,000 by 2020. The population density of the Borough is 809 persons per km² up from 762 per km² in the last census.

Figure 3: Overall Ranking on the Human Development Index



Source: Trinidad and Tobago Human Development Index

Out of the four indicators relating to the National Human Development Index, Point Fortin ranked the highest in primary and secondary educational attainment. In Point Fortin 100% of the population have a primary and secondary education attainment, while 70.1 per cent have an attainment rate level of secondary and higher. The Borough had the lowest percentage of the population with chronic illness (19.1%). In the overall national human development index, Point Fortin ranked the highest among the administrative areas in the country (Map 2-1).

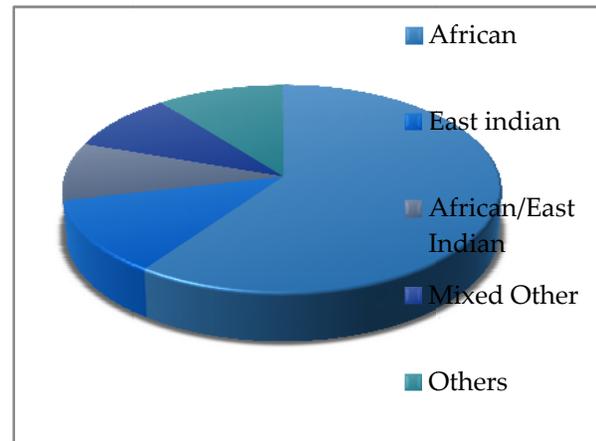
While on a comparative basis, the Point Fortin community scores better than most in terms of female participation in the workforce and in terms of secondary school attainment; anecdotal concerns are expressed in the community on both of these items with access to tertiary educational programs seen as a barrier to growth.

Point Fortin has a majority African descended population as seen in Table 1 and Figure 4.

Table 1: Ethnic Distribution of Population

Ethnic Group	Total	Percentage
Total Population	20,161	100
African	12,003	59.5
Caucasian	9	...
Chinese	25	...
East Indian	2,321	11.5
Indigenous	19	...
Mixed - African/East Indian	1,802	8.9
Mixed - Other	1,835	9.1
Other Ethnic Group	32	...
Not Stated	2,115	10.5

Figure 4: Ethnic Breakdown of Population

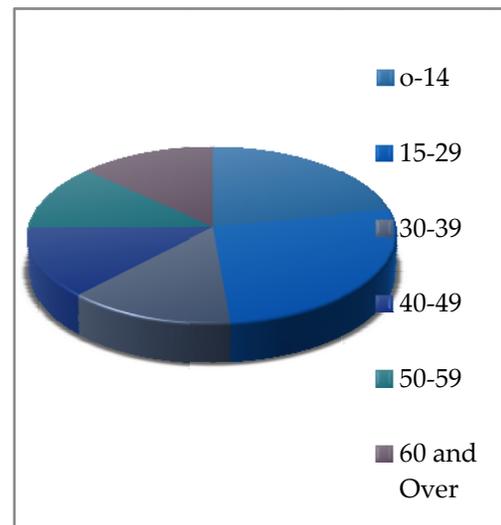


The median age of the population in Point Fortin is 31.5 years. The age distribution is shown in Table 2 and Figure 5.

Table 2: Point Fortin Age Distribution of Population

Age Group	Total	Percentage
Total	20,161	100
0-14	4,390	21.8
15-29	5,407	26.8
30-39	2,737	13.6
40-49	2,574	12.8
50-59	2,433	12.1
60 and Over	2,621	13

Figure 5: Age Distribution of Population



2.4 UTILITIES

According to the Central Statistical Office¹ in 2008-2009, 3.3 percent of the population of the Borough was without a clean drinking water supply. Lack of access to an improved water supply was indicated where the water supply was more than a thirty minute walk from the dwelling. Relatedly, 7.5% of the population did not have access to improved sanitation.

The population without electricity was put at 4.7%.

2.5 LOCAL GOVERNMENT SYSTEM

The framework of the current Trinidad and Tobago local government system was put in place in the late 1950s. The essential element of this framework is that local government bodies operate within very limited areas of autonomy as an extension of the central government. Every change in Government in the country since independence had brought a stated intention to reform local government in terms of giving more and wider autonomy so that these bodies could respond more effectively to citizens' needs. According to a White Paper on Local Government Reform, which was released in 2009, there has been a "plethora" of commissions and committees, which have presented reports. However, there has not been fundamental change".



¹Central Statistical Office, Human Development Atlas, 2008-2009

In the White Paper, the then Government recognized “that the current Local Government system is inefficient, ineffective and unable to cope with the changing dynamics of the various Municipalities and that responsibilities are duplicated by other ministries and departments”.

Since 2005, the Government has taken as the benchmark for local government reform, among other things, the **Aberdeen Agenda** emerging from the Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF) 2005, which subscribed to good practices for local democracy and good governance such as accountability, transparency, equitable service delivery and continuous capacity development and the **Auckland Accord**, 2007 which emphasized the need for promoting development through local leadership.

At present, the Borough of Point Fortin is one of fourteen municipal corporations making up the local government system in Trinidad and Tobago. Municipal corporations do not have an independent revenue base and depend entirely on the central government for allocations from the national budget². The areas within which municipal corporations function are largely administrative and tend not to be strategic. Planning in Trinidad and Tobago is done almost exclusively at the national level. Although there was an effort to develop municipal spatial development plans. But it must be noted that these plans were limited to spatial development and not broader socio-economic issues. Even so the terms of reference for each plan and the aspect of the management of the development of the plans were managed by the Ministry of Local Government.

In the current system, local government agencies have some responsibilities for public health, including dumps and landfills; property development; municipal security; parks and playgrounds. In Table 2-3, the sharing of these responsibilities is shown with the attendant duplication and lack of autonomy for locally-driven economic development.

Table 3: Municipal Corporation Responsibilities

Area of Responsibility	Municipal Corporation Autonomy	Other Government Agencies
Public Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issuing of food badges • Registration of food premises – hotels, restaurants, bars, supermarkets and shops • Provision of public rest rooms • Rodents, insect vector and vermin control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Health

²One source of revenue for municipal corporations was the land tax. However, the collection of land taxes has been suspended as the central government reviews the overall revenue administration of the country.

Area of Responsibility	Municipal Corporation Autonomy	Other Government Agencies
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning of septic tanks and cesspits • Garbage collection 	
Property Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building and land development control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town and Country Planning Division • Ministry of Health • Ministry of Works and Infrastructure
Recreation and Public Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of recreation grounds, stages, squares and parks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs
Community services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of public markets • Provision and maintenance of parks and sporting facilities • Control of public stages, recreation grounds and parks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision and maintenance of public cemeteries and burial grounds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Disaster Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster preparedness and management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management
Roads, drains and other physical infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of drains and minor water courses • Maintenance of secondary roads, bridges and culverts • Maintenance of street signs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Works and Infrastructure

In general, the White Paper recognised a need to decentralize power and authority from Central Government and to expand the functional base of local government authorities while give them greater financial autonomy as a means for more effective service delivery; and the encouragement of greater citizen participation and involvement in Local Government Affairs

2.6 LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET

The Borough's budget has two components – a recurrent budget and a development budget. The recurrent budget meets the operational costs of the corporation, including personnel. The development budget is supposed to build the capacity of the municipality to meet future needs.

Table 4: Point Fortin Development Budget (2011-2013)

Project Description	2011	2012	2013
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Project Description	2011	2012	2013
Total	10,366,905	15,700,000	17,400,000
Drainage and Irrigation	1,827,108	2,000,000	3,000,000
Development of Recreational Facilities	999,874	1,000,000	1,000,000
Freedom of Information Act	50,000	50,000	-
Improvements to markets and abattoirs	499,558	500,000	300,000
Development of cemeteries and cremation sites	200,000	200,000	200,000
Canine Control Programme	50,000	50,000	-
Establishment of Playgrounds	995,568	700,000	400,000
Local Roads and Bridges	3,000,000	3,500,000	5,000,000
Local Government Building Programme	1,532,343	1,500,000	1,500
Equipment purchases	-	900,000	1,000,000
Municipal Police Sub Station	397,975	1,000,000	1,000,000
Computerisation programme	499,500	700,000	1,000,000
Electrification Programme	200,000	200,000	200,000
Laying of Water Mains	-	300,000	400,000
Disaster Preparedness	114,979	300,000	300,000
Establishment of Fan Fest Centre	-	200,000	200,000
Administrative Services	-	100,000	100,000
Environmental Protection and Rehabilitation	-	500,000	500,000
Establishment of Spatial Development Plan	-	2,000,000	1,000,000

3.0 LAND USE AND RESOURCES

3.1 LAND USE

The area that would become the Borough of Point Fortin changed fundamentally in the early 1900s when a large agricultural estate was bought for oilfield development. Eventually, two neighbouring estates were also absorbed by the petroleum company and control over all of the property was vested with the company which would eventually become Petrotrin.

Photo 3: Point Fortin Port Facilities



The core of Point Fortin was essentially built as a company town, with public structures and facilities constructed and maintained by the Shell Oil Company. The ramifications of this situation, both positive and negative, continue to be felt in present day Point

Fortin. Some public infrastructure was relatively well built by the company and continues to serve the community.

On the other hand, many people have raised the concern that most vacant property in the community is controlled by the oil company which, though it is state-controlled, is not generally perceived to be supportive of community interests.

There is currently a lack of available land within the Borough for industrial development. The local government is interested in developing a new industrial estate to provide additional employment lands but a proposal has been stalled for several years and there is concern that it will not proceed. Similarly, waterfront property that might be made available for private development is not within local control. There are also concerns that squatters are occupying company property and thereby avoiding local regulation and participation in sanitary and water systems.

3.2 RESOURCES

3.2.1 NATURAL RESOURCES

The natural resources of the area are oil (onshore and offshore) and natural gas (offshore). However as noted the exploitation of these resource is conducted in an “enclave” framework in that the economic impact is not felt significantly in the Borough.

Given the small size of the Borough, land resources such as arable land and forests are limited or non-existent.

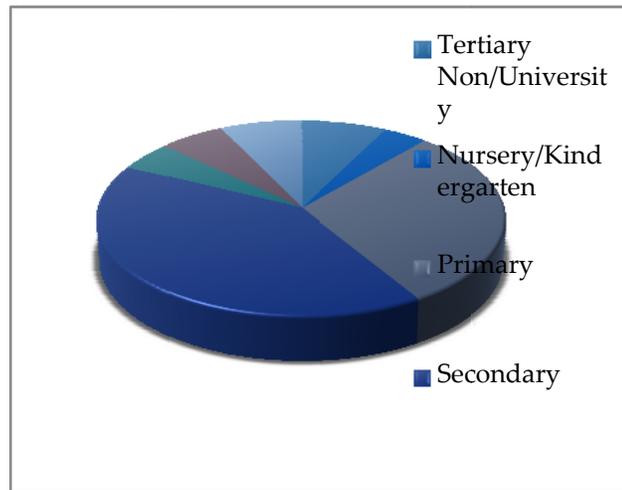
3.2.2 HUMAN RESOURCES

The education attainment within the Borough showed that by 2008-2009 the percentage of the population, which had attained a primary and secondary school level education, was 100% for males and 100% for females. (CSO 2011:159). At the same time, 56-5% of the population had attained a level of secondary and higher.

Table 5: Level of Education Attainment

Level of Education Attainment	Percentage
None	1.5
Nursery/Kindergarten	3.6
Primary	27.6
Secondary	37.9
Post Secondary	4.2
Tertiary/Non University	9.2
Tertiary/University	7.1
Other	8.9

Figure 6: Highest Level of Educational Attainment



4.0 AREA ECONOMY

4.1 INTRODUCTION

Point Fortin’s economy is dominated by the oil and gas industry along with the service and retail sectors. The Trinidad and Tobago Central Statistics Office identifies 436 business establishments within Point Fortin in 2007. However, based on records of the Point Fortin Borough Corporation and a detailed visual confirmation of the businesses in the area, the number of active micro, small and medium-sized businesses, which are in operation, is just over 200. The majority of these businesses are located along the Point Fortin Main Road from the Guapo roundabout into the downtown area and on some of the side streets of the Main Road. Smaller commercial areas exist along the Southern Main Road in Cochrane Village and Guapo Village while some commercial enterprises are located in a scattered manner within primarily residential areas like Fanny Village and Cap de Ville.

The Atlantic LNG Plant and the Petrotrin facilities dominate the central portion of the community, immediately adjacent to the downtown. These facilities provide hundreds of relatively high-paying jobs along with a significant portion, approximately 45%, of the national GDP. There is concern in the community, however, that a large percentage of the workers do not live in Point Fortin and their wages are lost to the local economy.

Because of the size of the Corporation, it was possible to conduct a detailed observation of the businesses in the area. Some 219 businesses, which could be classified as MSMEs, were observed. Of these 73 were determined to be in retail; 59 were in food and beverage sales,

including bars and restaurants; 79 were in various forms of service delivery and 9 were in agriculture and agriculture related activities.

There is a strong seasonality to the retail trade in the Point Fortin community. Interview respondents indicated that as much as 70 percent of business takes place between December and May, a period which encompasses Christmas to the annual Borough Celebrations.

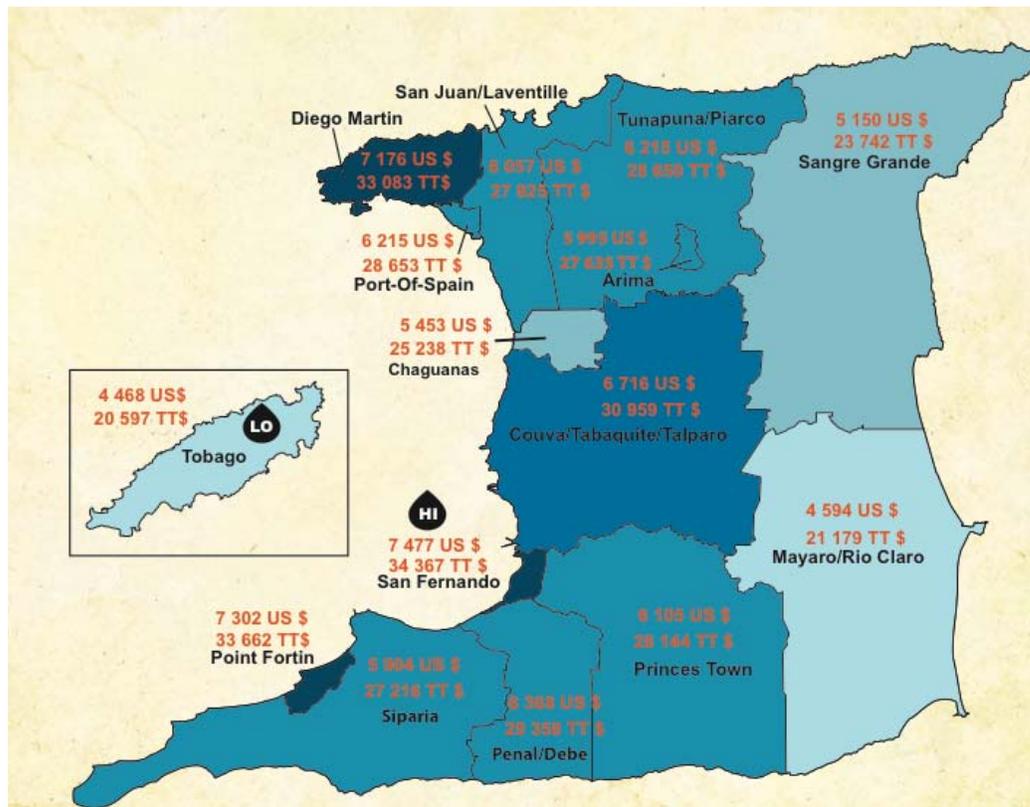
4.2 EMPLOYMENT

Detailed employment and income statistics are not available disaggregated by municipality in Trinidad and Tobago. This information on Point Fortin is part of statistics for the entire southwestern peninsular of Trinidad. Unemployment is a significant concern in Point Fortin and surrounding areas. While the national unemployment rate is recorded at 4.9%, the rate in the southwestern peninsula is as high as 18.1%. This reinforces the appearance that the economic impact of the oil and gas industry is no longer as significant as it was.

4.3 HOUSEHOLD INCOMES AND TRENDS

The household per capita income of Point Fortin in 2008-2009 was estimated to be US\$7,302 (or TT\$33,662). This was the third highest household per capita in the country, see Figure 7.

Figure 7: Household Income Per Capita



4.4 ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

4.4.1 NUMBER AND TYPE OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

There are some 250 businesses in the Borough of Point Fortin, just over 200 are micro, small and medium size. This number was developed from data from the Borough Corporation and was visually confirmed. The other businesses in the borough are either large companies in the energy industry - Atlantic LNG and the Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (PETROTRIN) - or are branches of companies that are headquartered elsewhere in Trinidad and Tobago.

There are different kinds of registration in Trinidad and Tobago. A business may be registered with the Companies Registry of the Ministry of Legal Affairs. A business may also be registered with the Board of Inland Revenue for the purpose of paying taxes without being registered with the Ministry of Legal Affairs. Finally, a business may be registered only with the Borough Corporation for health and other purposes without being registered with any national-level authority.

In the sample of businesses from the MSME survey, the majority of respondents were sole proprietorships, with many of them not registered with any national agency.

The main economic activity in the Borough is energy, particularly oil and gas. Atlantic LNG and PETROTRIN are the main businesses involved in this area. Based on the contribution to GDP the economic activity from this sector accounts for more than 95% of all the economic activity generated within the physical boundaries of the Borough. However, operations of the energy sector are only located in Borough and there is little or no integration of the sector in the local economy.

In the early days of the development of the energy sector, a large part of the growth of Point Fortin was to support the oil industry. However, at present a far smaller percentage of residents in Point Fortin work in the industry. Because so many employees in the energy industry commute to their jobs, the multiplier effect of having these large operations located in Point Fortin is significantly reduced.

As noted above, the economy of Point Fortin used to be based on agriculture, particularly cocoa and coconut farming, but the advent of the oil industry and the oil companies acquiring exploration rights on the agricultural estates caused the demise of agriculture. The primary economic activities in Point Fortin outside of the operations of the energy companies and government operations are commercial retail and food and beverage establishments (including, supermarkets, restaurants and bars and entertainment establishments).

Most of the commercial retail establishments are small-scale family-owned businesses. On the other hand, within the food and beverage sector, all the national and international chains operating in Trinidad and Tobago have branches in Point Fortin. There are, however, many family-owned food outlets in operation.

4.4.2 CLUSTERS

Point Fortin has a rich cultural heritage and significant community cultural assets as a result. Persons who have migrated from Point Fortin continue to harbour strong links with the Borough. Quite a number nationally recognised cultural and sporting personalities have roots in the community. It appears therefore that the best bets for a viable cluster are in cultural tourism bringing together food, creative industries (such as entertainment, music, and celebration) and sport.

Photo 4: Supa Blue



The core of the cluster could be the Point Fortin Borough Week celebrations, which is a major event on the national calendar which is a major draw for the domestic tourist segment and the 'visiting friends and relatives' (VFR) segment plan trips to Trinidad and Tobago.

4.4.3 POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT

Point Fortin is the smallest municipal corporation in Trinidad. Energy companies hold large portions of the land in the Borough as leases. These two variables help to define the potential for development in Point Fortin. It is worth noting that there has been a proposal to extend the boundaries of Point Fortin to include La Brea. Such a move will increase the critical mass and the viability of Point Fortin, as it would now include the tourist attraction of the Pitch Lake, the Vessigny Beach area and other attractions that could be incorporated in a cultural and heritage tourism product.

There is limited potential for expansion of existing businesses, particularly MSMEs, unless there is an inflow of new customers into the Borough. New customers for the Borough businesses can come from an increase in domestic and other tourists. The attraction of additional tourists will require development of infrastructure, improved product development of sites and attractions, improved branding and improved marketing and promotion. There would also have to be deliberate business expansion and retention strategies and investment generation marketing and promotion.

4.5 MSME PROFILE

4.5.1 MSME COUNT

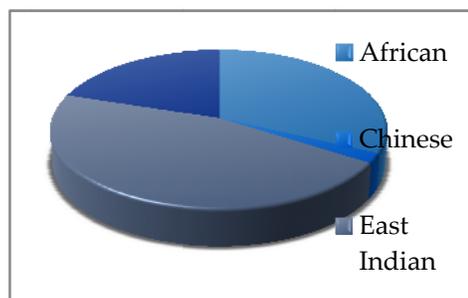
The principal tool for the analysis of the MSME sector in Point Fortin was a self-selected sample survey of MSMEs. A self-selected sample was used in light of the difficulty of obtaining a sample frame of integrity for the MSMEs in the area. Three different sources of information were used to build a sample frame, a list of business obtained from the Point Fortin Borough Corporation, the list of members from the Point Fortin La Brea Chamber of Commerce and the Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago (TSTT) telephone directory. It was determined that no combination of these sources was completely satisfactory. Starting first with the lists procured from the sources described, appointments were made for enumerators to visit by telephone. Based on the responses to the requests for appointments as well as the concerns with the sample frame it was decided to use the drop-in method.

Enumerators visited all business places in the Borough, which were open over a five-day period and requested the participation of the business. Fifty business out of an estimated 219 participated in the survey for a response rate of just under 25%

Based on the sample the breakdown of business ownership by ethnicity is at Table 5 and Figure 4. In fifty-six percent of the businesses the principal owner was male, while 32% were headed by females and 12% were headed jointly by males and females.

Table 6: Business Ownership by Ethnicity **Figure 8: Business Ownership by Ethnicity**

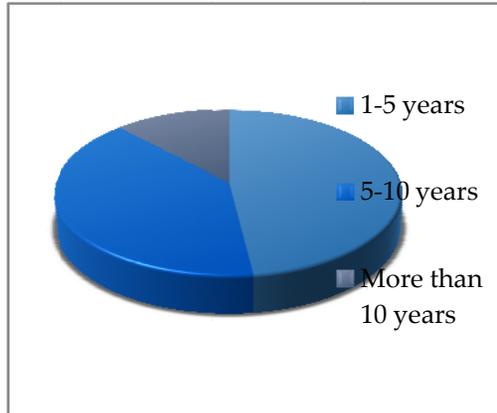
Ethnicity	Percentage
African	32
Chinese	2
East Indian	46
Mixed	20



In terms of the legal status 62% of respondents classified themselves as sole proprietorships; 36% as partnerships and just 2% as limited liability companies. None of the companies were operating for less than one year; while 48% were in operation for 1 to 5 years; 40% for 5-10 years and 12% for more than 10 years.

Table 7: Length of Time in Operation **Figure 9: Length of Time in Operation**

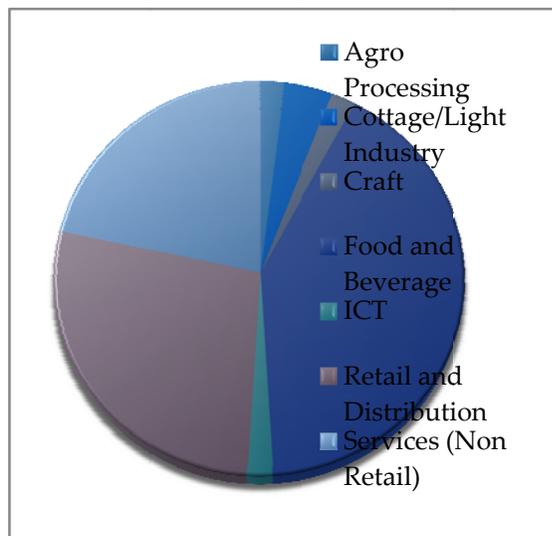
Length of Operation	Percentage
1-5 years	48
5-10 years	40
More than 10 years	12



The single largest sector represented was food and beverage (42%); followed by Retail and distribution (28%) and non-retail services (22%). It is noteworthy that in a former agriculture area there were no companies in the sample which were involved in primary agriculture or animal husbandry and only four businesses were involved in agro processing. On the other hand, almost half of the businesses were involved in the food and beverage sector indicating that primary materials for this sector are sourced from outside the Borough.

Table 8: Distribution of Businesses by Sector **Figure 10: Distribution by Sector**

Sector	Percentage
Agro Processing	2
Cottage/Light Industry	4
Craft	2
Food and Beverage	42
ICT	2
Retail and Distribution	28
Services (Non Retail)	22



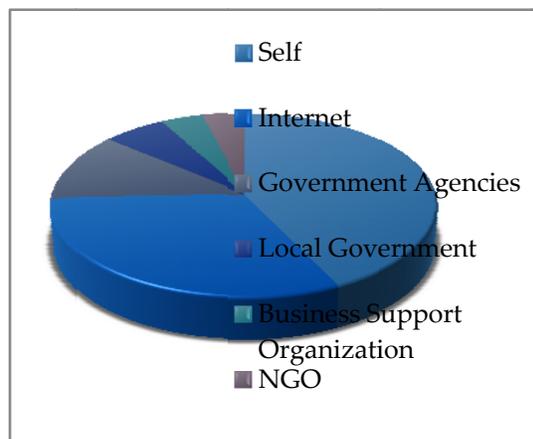
4.5.2 MSME SUPPORT SERVICES

Thirty-four percent of respondents indicated that they needed business support services. Of these 65% indicated that they provided these services for themselves, implying either they did not know where to access support services or were unable to find them. Forty-eight percent relied on the Internet. Only 18% received support services from Government agencies and 6% of respondents indicated that they received support from NGOs. The use of support services is indicated in Table 9.

Table 9: Providers of MSME Business Support Services

Provider of Business Support	Percentage
Self	65%
Internet	48%
Government Agency	18%
Local Government	9%
Business Support Organization	6%
Other	6%
NGO	6%
International Organization	0%
University	0%
Technical/ Vocational Institute	0%

Figure 11: Providers of Business Support



For those businesses that sought support services, the relative frequency for the services identified is seen in Table 10 and Figure 12.

Table 10: Support Service Needed

Support Services Needed	%
Skills training	34
Book Keeping	18
Management training	18
Mentoring	14
ICT Training	12
Product Development	10
Packaging	2

Figure 12: Business Support Services



The areas of support which businesses indicated they were unable to access are reproduced in Table 11

Table 11: Frequency of Unmet Business Support Needs

Support Area	Frequency of Unmet Needs
Funding	15
Business Planning	7
Skills Training	3
Book Keeping	1

4.5.3 MSME SUPPORT INSTITUTIONS

Point Fortin Borough Corporation

The Borough Corporation has considerable facilitative potential. The Corporation is the first stop for many approvals and permits, which MSMEs require for starting and operating businesses. The Corporation should explore, within its resources, how it can reorient its interaction with the MSME community to facilitate business expansion and retention

NEDCO

The National Entrepreneurship Development Company was established in 2002 as the implementing agency for the Government’s policy on small and micro enterprise development. NEDCO is wholly owned by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago. The services offered by NEDCO are:

- Funding – loans in three categories
 - I – Up to \$50,000
 - II - \$50,001 to \$100,000
 - III - \$100,001 to \$250,000
- Training–NEDCO offers standard training modules as well as training in needs-based areas. The standard training modules are in the following areas:
 - Characteristics of Successful Entrepreneurs
 - Opportunity Identification
 - Strategies for Success
 - Basic Business Skills
 - Effective Management Techniques
 - Business Planning
 - Record Keeping & Cash Management
 - Marketing for SMEs
 - Importing & Exporting
 - Stock Control & Promotion
 - Why Entrepreneurship?

- Total Quality Management.
- A to Z of Running a Small Business
- Business advisory services – The main advisory service offered is business plan development
- Business Incubation – The National Integrated Business System (IBIS) mix of business development support, infrastructure and operational and financial support to assist the micro and small enterprises by providing assistance in the areas of mentoring, start-up procedures, infrastructural support, Information Technology, operational support, financing and opportunities for access to markets in one location.
- Promotion–NEDCO facilitates participation in marketing and distribution initiatives such as NEDCO’s annual Trade Fair and NEDCO Day at it local centres.

NEDCO has a network of local centres. In point Fortin the NEDCO Centre is located at 26 Guapo Road, Cap de Ville.

Point Fortin South Western Chamber of Commerce

The Point Fortin South Western Chamber of Commerce was formerly known as the Point Fortin La Brea Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber’s membership reflects the importance of heavy industry in the area with a predominance of members from construction and contracting. There are also members from a range of professional areas such as finance and services.

A review of the membership listing on the Chamber’s website indicates that very few of the MSMEs in the Borough are members. There is an opportunity for the Chamber to be a valuable source of mentoring and business support for the development of the MSME sector.

Credit Unions

There are two credit unions with offices in Point Fortin:

New Antilles Credit Union
 Bushy Park
 Point Fortin

And

The First National Credit Union
 8-10 Techier Road
 Point Fortin.

New Antilles is a Point Fortin based institution with only the one office in the Borough. The First National Credit Union has six branches indicating a wider asset base.

The National Energy Skills Centre

The National Energy Skills Centre (NESC) is a non-profit foundation established in 1997 by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago in partnership with major industrial enterprises.

The NESC's training prepares graduates for employment in the construction and maintenance trades across all sectors of industry in Trinidad and Tobago. While the company was originally established to meet the needs of the Energy Sector, it now offers multi-sector training, opening doors for graduates to a variety of employment opportunities.

NESC offers more than 20 different programmes grouped under four headings:

- 4- year apprenticeship training
- Industry-specific programmes
- Welding courses
- Short courses

The NESC programmes could be a valuable source of skilled workers for the development of the municipality.

NESC has a nine training campuses and one is located in Point Fortin at the corner of Volunteer and Richardson Roads. The Point Fortin campus offers seven programmes:

- Industrial Mechanical Maintenance
- Industrial Electrical Installation
- Advanced Welding (GTAW & FCAW)
- Shielded Metal Arc Welding
- Pipe Fitting/Fabrication
- Sound Recording and Music Production
- Information Communication Technology Short Courses

Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme

The Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme (YTEPP) Limited is a training organization with a focus on Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) throughout Trinidad and Tobago. The company plays a strategic role in addressing the issues of youth unemployment as well as retrenched and displaced citizens. YTEPP Limited offers a diverse range of vocational courses in 12 occupational areas. Training is conducted in six-month, nine-month and 10-month cycles. The Programme is open to eligible persons who are interested in entrepreneurship or acquiring Level I and II (pre-craft and craft) technical vocational training.

YTEPP has a training centre in Point Fortin located at the Point Fortin East Secondary School, Egypt Village, Point Fortin. The Point Fortin centre offers training in the following areas:

- Dress Making and Design
- Events Decorating
- Hotel Room Attendant

- Patient Care Assistant
- Small Business Management

The Ministry of Food Production

The Ministry of Food Production offers extension and other services to farmers and fisherfolk. The Ministry provides training and awareness interventions for the general public and for youth. The Ministry has one of its two main locations for the County of St. Patrick in Point Fortin, located at, Reid Road, Point Fortin.

4.5.4 SOURCES OF FUNDING

The principal sources of funding for the MSMEs surveyed were commercial banks followed by family savings and credit unions.

Table 12: Principal Source of Funds

Source of Funds	Percentage
Commercial Bank	40
Credit Union	12
Government Agencies	6
NGO	2
Family Saving	26
Micro Finance	2

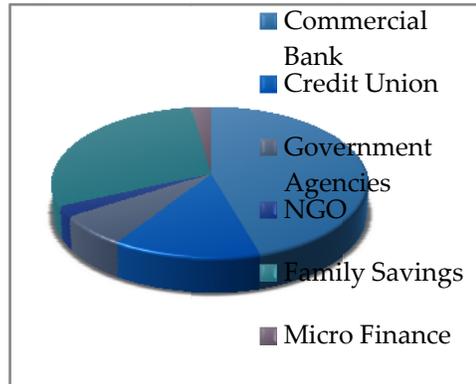


Figure 13: Principal Source of Funds

4.5.5 EMPLOYMENT

The average number of employees in the establishments surveyed was 5.5; while the modal number (the number most frequently reported) was 4 employees. If the average number is used for the 219 businesses then employment in the MSME sector in Point Fortin can be estimated at some 650 persons. In most of the businesses owners drew on family members and most of the other employees were drawn from within the Borough.

4.5.6 EXPORTS

None of the MSMEs surveyed exported or sold their products or services outside of the Borough of Point Fortin, except when the purchasers of those goods and services come into the Borough.

4.5.7 INCOME GENERATED

We were unable to determine the income generated by the sector, since many respondents felt that this information was confidential and did not share it. It should be noted though that some respondents did admit that they were unaware of the income generated by their businesses or what it was worth. It could be inferred that besides those who admitted that they did not know the income generated there were others in the same position but did not say so.

Taken in conjunction with the stated need for book keeping and business planning support, this could certainly be one area for capacity building and skills training for business retention and business expansion in the Borough.

4.5.8 CHALLENGES

Respondents most often cited crime; limited parking and traffic congestion in Point Fortin and transportation between Point Fortin as the main challenges faced by businesses.

4.6 OTHER FACTORS AFFECTING MSMEs

4.6.1 INFRASTRUCTURE

The Point Fortin Business district and the areas where other MSMEs are located in the municipality have good infrastructure in the form utilities – water, electricity and information and communication technology. The most significant infrastructure deficit is in transportation.

Between San Fernando and Point Fortin the road moves from dual carriage highway to a single carriageway on an often winding, at times hilly route. The passage through La Brea is made worse by the geological formation associated with the Pitch Lake. The proposed San Fernando to Point Fortin Highway will resolve the deficit of connecting Point Fortin with points north of the Borough.

In Point Fortin itself, the Main Road serves as the focal point of the central business district and the major thoroughfare connecting points north of Point Fortin with the rest of the south western peninsular. Traffic congestion during business hours and the shortage of parking places negatively affect businesses.

4.6.2 ELECTRICITY

The residents of Point Fortin benefit from the presence of heavy industry which require a good uninterrupted source of power. The recent construction of a new power station in the area adds to the reliability of supply.

4.6.3 SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Education Facilities

One hundred percent of the residents of Point Fortin have at least a primary school education. There are adequate primary schools in the Borough with a mix of government schools and parochial schools. There are two Government secondary schools. In addition, the National Energy Skills Centre and the Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme have centres located in Point Fortin. These provide a mix of academic and technical and vocational training. The question that needs to be asked, particularly with regard to NESC and YTEPP is whether the training programmes take into consideration the specific needs of Point Fortin or whether they are driven from the national perspective only.

Photo 5: NESC Point Fortin Campus



Health Facilities

Photo 6: Point Fortin Area Hospital



Point Fortin has a Government Health Centre and an Area Hospital. There are also medical practitioners in private practice. Additionally, both Atlantic LNG and PETROTRIN have

medical personnel attached to their facilities, though these are for their staff.

Cultural and Sporting Facilities

Photo 7: Point Fortin Civic Centre



Point Fortin is acknowledged as one of the cultural and sporting incubators in Trinidad and Tobago. Several prominent cultural artistes and sportsmen have their origin in Point Fortin and this serves to reinforce Point Fortin's position as one of the cultural centres in the country. The focal point of cultural and sporting activity has traditionally been the Mahaica Oval and the Point Fortin Civic Centre. One of the projects under the Spatial Development Plan has been the upgrade of the facilities at the Oval, including construction of a

new pavilion and improvements to the field.

In addition to these main facilities, Point Fortin has 20 recreational grounds and parks and the secondary schools have sporting grounds.

Photo 8: Mahaica Oval Re-Development Project



The centrepiece of cultural life in Point Fortin is the Borough Anniversary

celebrations, culminating with Borough Day. Borough celebrations are both street festival and staged performances.

4.6.5 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Environmental protection for all of Trinidad and Tobago falls under the purview of the Environmental Management Authority and municipal corporations have only limited responsibility mainly for solid waste management; public health issues related to insect vector, canine and rodent control; environmental issues related to land and building development within the guidelines of the Town and Country Planning Division.

4.6.6 NATURAL HAZARDS

The Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM) in its analysis of hazard impact for 2006-2011 ranks Point Fortin's susceptibility to natural hazards as low. The most prevalent hazards in Point Fortin are fire, flood and landslides. Landslide susceptibility is greatest in the centre of the Borough and the flood susceptibility is greatest in the north.

4.6.7 ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION

Point Fortin has been the site of oil exploration for one hundred years. As a consequence the area has been affected especially in the locations of onshore wells.

Photo 9: Pumpjack (Nodding Donkey) Oil Pump



4.6.8 PROTECTED AREAS

Point Fortin has wetlands with mangrove and mangrove is a protected species in Trinidad and Tobago. There is also a coastline and all coastlines are protected in Trinidad and Tobago.



- Identify any protected areas that could impact economic activity

5.0 LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

5.1 INTRODUCTION

The model for Local Economic Development (LED) varies from community to community as it is most successful when it is developed and driven from within by local leaders and stakeholders. In general, however, a successful LED model will include a commitment and resources from local government, along with the private business, public institutional and education sectors.

In Point Fortin, there is no evidence of formalized LED development. There is no identified home for LED from a government perspective and there are obstacles that inhibit the Borough's ability to initiate LED. The Southwestern LED project that is a partnership of Atlantic LNG, the Interamerican Development Bank and the University of the West Indies, comes closest to this model. While it appears no to be driven by the local community, it is an excellent learning opportunity for both Point Fortin and the rest of the country.

5.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT STRCUTURE AND APPROACH TO LED

Local governments in Trinidad and Tobago, like the Borough of Point Fortin, operate largely as extensions of the central government, with significant limits on local autonomy and resource allocation. Planning, purchasing, budgeting and staffing are largely controlled by the Ministry of Local Government and the Ministry of Planning.

Within this context the Borough of Point Fortin has envisioned for itself “a process of sustainable development and an improved quality of life in the Borough,” with a goal to “to achieve simultaneous improvement of the social, economic, environmental, and physical conditions in the Borough of Point Fortin.” (BPF 2010)

<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong sense of community • Strong sense of loyalty among persons no longer living in the area • Cultural assets • Oil and gas natural resources • Presence of the two large corporations with Corporate Social Responsibility programmes 	<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements in the transportation infrastructure, especially the San Fernando to Point Fortin Highway • At the national planning level, Point Fortin viewed as an area of comprehensive national growth opportunities • Downstream linkages with the energy sector for small and medium size enterprises • Conversion of natural and cultural assets into economic activity
<p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trinidad and Tobago local government system not conducive to community generated LED with limited local autonomy ○ Low participation by community in development planning ○ Low level of public-private dialogue ○ Weak business support organisation • Infrastructure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ High concentration of community facilities in Point Fortin Proper and low level of servicing of outer 	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outward migration of talented citizens, especially • Industrial accidents from large industrial facilities • Inadequate human capital pool to meet the needs of the Borough

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Congestion in the central business district ○ Inadequate transportation infrastructure into the Borough • Economy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Heavy reliance on energy sector with little diversification 	
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In Trinidad and Tobago, local governments do not raise their own revenues and there is no longer a land tax in place. This disconnect means that one of the primary motivators for local government LED development – increased economic activity and land values leading to increased local revenue – does not exist.

At present, consultations on Local Government Reform are taking place across Trinidad and the government’s proposed Policy on Local Government Transformation and Modernisation contained several proposals apparently designed to shift the locus of control towards the local community, including the restoration of some form of land tax. In terms of economic development, the proposed policy discusses the need for greater revenues and some additional flexibility at the local level and also suggests a multi-agency approach to support community-based projects in tourism, agriculture, manufacturing, arts and crafts etc. For the most part, however, economic development seems to be organized around investment attraction at a pan-national level and capital investment projects at the local level.

CARILED is interested in advancing MSMEs as a basis for LED in the target communities and specifically addressing disparities in participation by youth and women. In Point Fortin, the local government administration has an understanding of the importance of MSMEs and the need to involve under-represented sectors of the population, such as women, in local development initiatives. In the past, funding for unemployment training has been targeted towards female- led single parent households. These dollars have since reverted to general make work relief projects. Most of the recreational and community infrastructure projects planned by the local government include space for small vendors to provide entrepreneurial opportunities.

5.3 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

In 2010, the Ministry of Local Government initiated a process which resulted in the Borough of Point Fortin Municipal Development Plan (MDP). This comprehensive plan captures current land uses along with constraints and opportunities, as well as conceptual plans for community

growth along with proposed land uses. Although not specifically intended as an economic development strategic plan, the document makes recommendations in terms of priority projects that will benefit the community and align with the growth plan.

The Point Fortin Municipal Development Plan identifies several key issues that have an impact on local development, including:

- i. A need for better access to the community. A new highway to San Fernando, a water taxi service and a downtown transit hub are discussed in this regard.
- ii. Excess congestion in the downtown core of Point Fortin.
- iii. A need to diversify the economy away from the dominance of the petroleum sector.
- iv. The importance of attracting private sector investment and developing public-private partnerships to enhance development.
- v. Utilizing the natural and cultural assets of Point Fortin to maximize economic development through activities such as agriculture, fishing, resort development and cultural tourism.
- vi. A need for better services in the areas of advanced education and training as well as social programs, housing and healthcare. Several projects, identified through this planning process, have continued to the implementation stage, including
 - a. The redevelopment of the Mahaica Oval Sports Facility. This historic cricket and soccer ground is located in the heart of Point Fortin and has a long history as an important asset in Trinidadian sport. At present, the Borough Corporation is using funds from the MDP implementation budget to construct the grandstand and they are actively seeking private partners to assist with construction and operations of ancillary facilities.
 - b. Development of improved facilities at Guapo and Clifton Hill Beaches.
 - c. Expansion and redevelopment of Coronation Park, including the development of a new tennis facility.

The Ministry of Local Government and the Borough of Point Fortin administration have a high regard for this plan and it is likely that both will continue to look to this document as additional opportunities for advancing development come forward.

5.4 EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT MSME AND LED

Several agencies are currently offering programs and assistance to support the development and expansion of MSMEs in Point Fortin. The National Entrepreneurship Development Company (NEDCO) has an office in Point Fortin to deliver a small business loans program to the

PointFortin and Siparia community. The office works with approximately 30 clients per year and does offer some training for their clients.

A new NEDCO initiative is the National Integrated Business Incubator System (IBIS). This initiative will provide structured training over six months to selected entrepreneurs, assist them to develop a business plan and then provide space at minimal cost along with the potential of affordable long term financing for the fledgling business. The Point Fortin / Siparia area will pilot this initiative.

The Southwest LED Project is funded by Atlantic LNG and the InteramericanDevelopment Bank and is being implemented by the University of the West Indies. Theprogramme has the following four objectives:

- o Integrating stakeholders in public and private sectors and building institutional capacity for local economic development;
- o Developing new or expanded business activities in key non-energy sectors in the region, including tourism, agriculture and fishing;
- o Supporting human capital development and the creation of employment opportunities for unskilled youths; and
- o Transferring the LED programme’s best practices to other regions.

Atlantic’s contribution is US \$1.1 million the IDB financing is US\$775,000. The local steering committee is taking a very grassroots approach to development. The project is supporting the efforts of several small enterprises that are based on local agricultural and craft products. It has also supported business plan training and has identified lagging school performance as a key to LED success. The project will hold a conference in June 2013 on economic development in extractive areas.

6.0 POINT FORTIN LED ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

6.1 ISSUES

- i. Transportation Access. Point Fortin is not that far from larger population centres and markets but current highway infrastructure impedes access which impacts on potential investment, consumer prices, labour market mobility and access to tertiary education.
- ii. Retail Space and Rents. Point Fortin’s CBD is spatially constrained and the demand for space results in rates that are not affordable for MSEs and start-ups. The Point Fortin Market Vendors’ Mall does provide affordable space but requires renovation and modernisation.
- iii. No evidence of consistent, accessible avenues for MSE and start-up training and

- support. No consistent programming to encourage entrepreneurship among youth.
- iv. There is no formal mandate for LED within local government and national initiatives are not supported by funding staff on the ground in the local community. ©
 - v. Public Security. Some respondents indicated a reluctance to invest in businesses and farms because of concerns about theft. Others reported pressure (and incentives) to use cash transactions instead of invoicing. CCTV cameras are being installed to address crime situation but there is no overall strategy to address causes of crime.
 - vi. Access to capital is an ongoing challenge for MSEs. Some are dealing with repercussions of credit union collapse.
 - vii. Ownership of much of the community's vacant properties rests with PetroTrin and local authorities have little input or control over access to property or use of these lands.
 - viii. A relative lack of good quality accommodations inhibits business, sport, and leisure visitation to Point Fortin.

6.2 OPPORTUNITIES

- i. Very positive and proactive local political, administrative and community leadership. Strong interest in learning more about LED and in leveraging existing assets to assist in development.
- ii. Potential for local government reform process to result in additional revenues, flexibility and autonomy for development decisions at the local level.
- iii. Well-researched and supported Municipal Development Plan which describes projects like the Mahaica Oval Redevelopment and Guapo Beach Facility as the basis for diversification.
- iv. New space for vendors at planned car park, beach facilities and recreation areas including Coronation Park.
- v. Borough Celebrations are significant attractor which could be further developed as a business generator. Success could also form basis for a new event at another time of year.
- vi. Southwest LED Project is underway and provides opportunities to advance LED objectives.
- vii. Derelict Sea View motel and bar property at Clifton Hill Beach is currently held by the Borough Corporation and the property represents a good opportunity to circulate a

Request for Expressions of Interest for hotel development.

- viii. Using the Municipal Development Plan as a starting point, work with Petrotrin to identify and free up lands that are important to the development of Point Fortin, either as residential, commercial or industrial properties.
- ix. Expanding tertiary education offerings in Point Fortin to enhance resiliency and competitiveness in the modern economy.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CARILED PARTICIPATION

7.1 MAHAICA OVAL PROJECT

The redevelopment of the Mahaica Oval was identified as a priority project in the Point Fortin Municipal Development Plan (2010). Since that time, the project has moved forward and construction is underway on the grandstand facilities. There is interest in expanding the project, adding additional facilities that will make the complex attractive to visiting professional teams for training and to larger events. Provision is to be made within the complex and in the neighbouring car park development to provide flexible space that can be used for smaller vendors or special events that would increase the return to the community.

The project requires assistance in the form of a market assessment, business plan and promotional material aimed at attracting private investment. CARILED should consider funding a technical expert to provide guidance on scoping this process and advancing it to a reasonable state. I have had a preliminary discussion with Blair Macintosh of the Ontario Sport Alliance because of his previous involvement with sports capital facilities, including the soccer complex at Treasure Beach, Jamaica. There are other Canadians with significant experience and expertise in public/private sports facility development.

7.2 CLIFTON HILL BEACH DEVELOPMENT

The Point Fortin Borough Corporation has title to a derelict commercial facility at Clifton Hill

Photo 10: Point Fortin Beachfront



Beach. Despite its proximity to the Atlantic LNG complex, this site has significant potential for private investment for a hotel facility that would address an important void

in the Point Fortin economy. CARILED could consider technical assistance to package this opportunity for a Request for Expressions of Interest as a hotel development.

7.3 MSME BUSINESS ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

Consistent, accessible advice and training for small business is not currently available in Point Fortin. In every discussion and interview conducted during this mission, respondents agreed that a front line office that could provide advice and run regular training courses in subjects like business planning, financing options and basic bookkeeping, would be very useful. If the Trinidad and Tobago government would fund a pilot, CARILED could provide technical assistance based on existing models of small business support like the Ontario Small Business Enterprise Centres.

7.4 SOUTHWEST LED PROJECT

Given the momentum established by this project, the fact that it is supported by a community-based steering committee and that it is oriented towards small scale enterprises with a focus on diversification, it would be appropriate for CARILED to actively assist in the project's implementation. CARILED should seek a formal partnership with the Southwest LED and determine what technical assistance could be provided through CARILED to advance and perhaps accelerate achievement of the goals of the project.

Lessons learned from the Southwest LED Project could prove valuable to CARILED's activities in other regions in Trinidad and Tobago and across the Caribbean project area.

7.5 RECIPROCAL EXCHANGES

CARILED should give consideration to bringing key local government personnel from Trinidad to spend time with Canadian municipal and economic development administrations. Seeing LED in action and exchanging ideas from an active municipal standpoint could prove beneficial both to the individuals involved and to their home communities.

8.0 TOOLS USED

8.1 MSME SURVEY

CARILED MSME PROFILE QUESTIONNAIRE

Your views are important to developing LED intervention strategies to support the sustained development of micro, small and medium enterprises. Please provide as accurate information as possible.

Ref:

Municipal		Sub division		Code		Initials	
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SECTION A:

PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENT

1. Are you: Over 35 years old: under 35 years old:

2. Gender: Male: Female:

3. What is your position in this business?

4. What is the ethnicity of the principal owner(s) of the business?

African	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amerindian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/>	East Indian	<input type="checkbox"/>	European	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	Syrian/Lebanese	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed	<input type="checkbox"/>				

5. Gender of the Principal owner(s) of the business:

Male: <input type="checkbox"/>	Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	Both: <input type="checkbox"/>
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SECTION B:

PROFILE OF THE BUSINESS

6. What is the legal status of the business:

Sole Proprietor: <input type="checkbox"/>	Partnership: <input type="checkbox"/>	Cooperative: <input type="checkbox"/>	Limited Liability: <input type="checkbox"/>
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7. Is your business currently registered (if Sole Proprietor/Partnership/Cooperative): Yes: No:

8. How long has the business been in operation:

1 year or less: <input type="checkbox"/>	1-5 years: <input type="checkbox"/>	5-10 years <input type="checkbox"/>	More than 10 Years <input type="checkbox"/>
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9. What is the approximate value of the combined assets of the business (buildings, equipment, etc) worth:

\$_____ TT Not Sure

10. On average, what is your monthly/annual revenue: \$_____ TT Not Sure

11. Give an estimate size of the manufacturing space or farm :

Size:	sqft	m ²	acres	hectares	(Please Circle the units)
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12. Where does the business obtain its principal source of funds? (tick all that apply):

Commercial Bank	<input type="checkbox"/>	Credit Union	<input type="checkbox"/>	Development Bank	<input type="checkbox"/>	NGO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family Savings	<input type="checkbox"/>	NEDCO	<input type="checkbox"/>	Micro Finance	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Other: Specify: _____

13. How many people, including yourself and any family, work in the business:

Male	Female
------	--------

14. Are non-family members employed in the business? : Yes: No:

a. (If yes) how many of them come from outside this municipal corporation: _____

15. Are you able to find sufficient employees with the skills necessary for the business in the local area? Yes: No:

a. What skills were you required to access outside of your area?

SECTION C:

MARKET PROFILE

16. What are the main activities or sectors in which you operate? (Please tick all that apply):

Agro processing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Animal Husbandry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cottage/light industry	<input type="checkbox"/>
Craft	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fisheries	<input type="checkbox"/>	Food & Beverage	<input type="checkbox"/>
ICT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Primary agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Retail & Distribution	<input type="checkbox"/>
Services (other than retail)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tourism:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>

Specify _____

17. What is the Primary market of the business

Within the Corporation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Country-wide	<input type="checkbox"/>	Regional	<input type="checkbox"/>	International	<input type="checkbox"/>
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18. Do you export? Yes: No:

a. (if Yes) Your primary export market: _____

b. (if Yes) What Percent of your sales come from exports?

c. (if No) Would you like to export?: Yes: No:

d. Which three Countries would be your priority?

SECTION D: BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

19. Have you have ever needed business support assistance and training?

Yes: No:

a. (if Yes) and you have received business support assistance and training (for this business), who provided it (tick all that apply)

Self	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local Government	<input type="checkbox"/>	NGO	<input type="checkbox"/>
International Organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Business Support Org.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Government Ministry	<input type="checkbox"/>
University	<input type="checkbox"/>	Technical/ Vocational Inst	<input type="checkbox"/>	Internet	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>				

b. (if Yes)What types of business support/assistance & training was received (tick all that apply)

Mentoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	Management Training	<input type="checkbox"/>	Business plan preparation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Market Information	<input type="checkbox"/>	Product Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	Agri Extension services	<input type="checkbox"/>
Market Access	<input type="checkbox"/>	Book-Keeping	<input type="checkbox"/>	Labelling / packaging	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skills Training	<input type="checkbox"/>	ICT Training	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quality Management	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other: _____

- c. (if Yes) & you have not received such support, please specify what type of support you could not get:

- d. Are you able to access all the business support assistance you need in the (Insert municipal corporation)? Yes: No:

20. How does the business keep abreast of changes and development that could affect your business? :

21. What kinds of technical assistance do you need now to grow your business?:

22. On a scale of 1-5, indicate the impact of the issues that are likely to hinder the development of your business (with 5 being the most likely):

ISSUES	Least Likely			Most Likely	
	1	2	3	4	5
Access to credit					
Access to raw materials					
Bureaucracy					

Business support services					
Corruption					
Crime					
Energy costs					
Government Regulations					
Infrastructure					
Management skills					
Market					
Marketing					
Packaging of your products					
Parking					
Price of your products					
Quality of your products					
Traffic congestion					
Transport					

23. What Government regulations do you believe hinder the growth your business? (please be as specific as you can):

24. Do you use the internet for business related purposes? Yes: No:

a. (if Yes) For what business purposes do you use the internet?

25. What do you think the Central Government can do to make businesses like yours grow?

26. What do you think the (insert Name of the Local Government Authority) can do to make business like your grow?

Additional Comments from Enumerator:

Thanks for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.

8.2 TRUST IN GOVERNANCE

Ref:

Municipal		Sub division		Code		Initials	
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1.	Are you: More than 35 years <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 35 years: <input type="checkbox"/>					
2.	Gender: Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>					
3.	What do you consider your ethnicity: African <input type="checkbox"/> East Indian <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed <input type="checkbox"/> Amerindian <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>					
4.	Do you know the name of your local government representative <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Y		N		
Y		N				
On a scale of 1 to 5, how strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements, where 1 is strong disagreement and 5 is strong agreement:						
5.	I trust the central government of Trinidad and Tobago <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5		
6.	I trust the local government authorities in my area <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5		
7.	I am satisfied with the performance of my local government representative <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5		
8.	The local government is doing a good job <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5		
9.	The elected local government representatives are competent <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5		
10.	The local government officials are competent <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5		
11.	All residents of the corporation have access to the local government authorities <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5		
12.	Decisions by the central government authorities are normally heavily influenced by business interests <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5		
13.	Decisions by the central government authorities are normally heavily influenced by the ethnic group controlling the government <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5		
14.	Decisions by the local government authorities are normally heavily influenced by business interests <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5		
15.	Decisions by the local government authorities are normally heavily <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5		

	influenced by ethnic group controlling the corporation					
16.	Local government authorities distort facts in their favour	1	2	3	4	5
17.	The local government authorities have effective consultations with residents in the area	1	2	3	4	5
18.	The local government authorities listen to the concerns of ordinary citizens	1	2	3	4	5
19.	The local government authorities makes decisions in a fair and transparent manner	1	2	3	4	5
20.	The local government authorities have their priorities right	1	2	3	4	5
21.	The local government authorities deliver services efficiently	1	2	3	4	5

22.	<p>What are the issues with which you are most satisfied with the performance of your local government representatives:</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
23.	<p>What are the issues with which you are least satisfied with the performance of your local government representatives:</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>

8.3 LAEP PROFILE QUESTIONNAIRE

Municipal		Sub division		Code		Initials	
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SECTION A – GENERAL INFORMATION (To be completed by the enumerator)							
1.	Name of Key Informant						
2.	Gender of Key Informant (circle one)	M		F			
SECTION B -							
3.	Are you under 35 years of age? (circle one)	<35		>35			
4.	What do you consider your ethnicity?						
SECTION C							
5.	What factors do you believe hinder economic development in (insert the name of the local government corporation)?						
6.	What factors do you believe hinder economic development in this subdivision?						

7.	<p>What resources do you believe this subdivision has that can be used for economic development?</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
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8.	<p>What resources do you believe this subdivision has that can be used for economic development?</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
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SECTION D - CRIME

9.	How serious is the impact of crime on business in the area (where 1 is lowest impact and 5 is highest impact)	1	2	3	4	5
10.	How satisfied are you with the efforts of the authority to fight crime in the area (where 1 is lowest impact and 5 is highest impact)	1	2	3	4	5
11.	Do you agree that crime in the areas is committed mainly by one ethnic group (where 1 is lowest agreement and 5 is highest agreement)	1	2	3	4	5
12.	Is praedial larceny an issue in the area (circle one)	Y		N		DK
13.	Is the police represented on local community councils or committees in the area	Y		N		DK
14.	Are there neighbourhood watches in the area?	Y		N		DK

9.0 SOURCES OF INFORMATION

9.1 PERSONS INTERVIEWED

Name	Organization	Position
His Worship Alderman Clyde Paul	Point Fortin Borough Corporation	Mayor
Ms. Patricia Bradshaw	Point Fortin Borough Corporation	Chief Executive Officer (On Pre-Retirement Leave)
Ms. Donnamay Taylor	Point Fortin Borough Corporation	Acting Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Jenson Alexander	The Cocoa and Coffee Industry Board of Trinidad and Tobago	Board Member
Mr. Marlon Richardson	NEDCO	Business Development Officer
Ms. Rebecca Gookool	University of the West Indies	Researcher
Ms. Monica Lessey	Ministry of Agriculture	Administrator (Ret.)
Mr. Mayon Murray	First national Credit union	General Manager
Ms. Anatasia Rodriquez	Cap de Ville Grocery	Owner
Ms. Aisha Donaldson	Ministry of Local Government	Regional Planner
Various	Point Fortin Public Market	Vendors

9.2 SECONDARY RESOURCES

Borough of Point Fortin (2011) 31st Annual Celebrations Yearbook (2011)

Borough of Point Fortin 32nd Annual Celebrations Yearbook (2012)

CARILED (2013), CARILED Mission Report – LED In Trinidad and Tobago, March 2013

CARILED (2012), Socio-economic Analysis (CARILED Inception Mission) Draft Report, April 2012

Government of Trinidad and Tobago (2012), Trinidad and Tobago 2011 Population and Housing Census Demographic Report

Lall, Raphael John South Western Chamber President: Push for Pt. Highway Project from both ends, Business Guardian 2013-01-09

Ministry of Local Government, National Spatial Development Strategy for Trinidad and Tobago
Local Government

Government of Trinidad and Tobago (2012), Trinidad and Tobago Atlas of Human Development 2012

Ministry of Planning and Sustainable Development (2012), Building Competitive Advantage- Six Strategic Business Clusters and Enablers.

Ministry of Local Government, 2009. Draft White Paper on Local Government Reform, Port of Spain, Ministry of Local Government, Government of Trinidad and Tobago,

Palo Seco Agricultural Enterprises Limited (2010), Final Draft Municipal Development Plan

Policy on Local Government Transformation and Modernisation

Rodríguez-Pose, Andrés and Tijmstra, Sylvia (2009), CAF Working Papers On The Emergence And Significance Of Local Economic Development Strategies N° 2009/07

Swinburn, Gwen; Goga, Soraya & Murphy Fergus (2006), Local Economic Development: A Primer Developing And Implementing Local Economic Development Strategies And Action Plans, World Bank/Cities of Change/Bertelsmann Stiftung

9.3 WEBSITES:

Central Statistical Office of Trinidad and Tobago: www.cso.gov.tt

Point Fortin Borough Corporation: <http://www.pointfortinborough.com>

Point Fortin/South Western Chamber of Industry and Commerce: <http://pfswcic.webs.com/>

National Energy Skills Centre: <http://www.nesctt.org/>

Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme: <http://www.ytepp.gov.tt/>

Government of Trinidad and Tobago, Ministry of Finance: finance.gov.tt

Government of Trinidad and Tobago, Ministry of Planning and Sustainable Development: planning.gov.tt

Government of Trinidad and Tobago, Ministry of Local Government: localgov.gov.tt

