



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government

MEDIA RELEASE

CARILED partners with local Municipalities to build capacity in Local Economic Development (LED) Strategic Planning

Kent House, Maraval. August 4th 2016 : The Caribbean Local Economic Development Programme (CARILED) in collaboration with the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government welcomed six (6) partner municipalities in Trinidad to a three day Local Economic Development (LED) Strategic Planning Workshop from August 2nd to 4th. The workshop aimed to enhance the capacity of these municipalities through increasing their understanding of the lead role of local governments in development and the LED Strategic Planning process. The training presented a methodology for advancing development of communities and supports the aim of empowering local governments during the ongoing local government reform process.

The workshop highlighted local economic development strategies, methodologies to developing LED Strategic Plans and explained how LED Strategic Plans relate to the existing Municipal Development Plans.

Topics included how to conduct visioning exercises, identifying municipal assets and local economic drivers, methods for public engagement and participatory planning as well as long term planning tools for connecting both physical and economic development plans. It included tools to move the plans into action involving community stakeholders. Discussions and activities included interactive exercises to have participants put into practice the learning over the 3 days. The workshop was facilitated by a Canadian municipal volunteer who is the Chief Administrative Officer of the Sunshine Regional District in British Columbia.

The workshops were held at Kent House - Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government and facilitated discussion and cross learning among local government elected officials, Ministry staff, municipal staff and community stakeholders across the municipalities of Point Fortin, Princes Town, Chaguanas, Sangre Grande, Couva/Tabaquite/ Talparo and San Juan/Laventille.

Ms. Shivdi Singh, the National CARILED Coordinator, supported discussion and learning at the workshop together with Ms. Marion Villanueva, the CARILED Programme Director.

Corporate Communications Unit

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About CARILED

The Caribbean Local Economic Development programme (CARILED) is undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada provided through Global Affairs Canada. It is a six year program launched in May 2012, with headquarters in Trinidad and Tobago, and sub-offices in Saint Lucia (OECS) and Ottawa, Canada. The programme is being implemented by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), in partnership with the Caribbean Association of Local Government Authorities (CALGA), the Caribbean Forum of Local Government Ministers (CFLGM) and the Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF). The program, focused on local economic development, currently works in seven Caribbean countries to develop models of LED that can be shared throughout the region. It partners with Caribbean local government authorities and their corresponding ministries, to develop and implement programs and services and create business-friendly conditions to support the growth of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). For more information on CARILED, please contact cariled@fcm.ca.

FOR MEDIA ENQUIRIES ONLY, please contact kizzannleesam@fcm.ca



PHOTO: Participants in the CARILED Training workshop held at Kent House, Maraval.

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