

A VISION FOR JAMAICA

National Vision Statement

“Jamaica, the place of choice to live, work, raise families, and do business”

The Vision

From bustling townships and cities to the “irie” countryside, we are a people of tremendous God-given talent and potential. Out of diverse hardships we remain strong and deeply spiritual. Jamaica, an island gem basking in brilliant sunshine where cool waters cascade from the mountains to the fertile soils of the valleys below.

As a united family at home and abroad, we commit to a vision in which:

- we ensure equitable access to modern education and training appropriate to the needs of each person and the nation
- we provide quality and timely healthcare for the mental, physical and emotional well-being of our people
- our children and our children’s children can continue to enjoy the unique environmental and cultural treasures of our island home
- we seek out and support the entrepreneurial talents and creativity of our people
- we create prosperity through the sustainable use and management of our natural resources
- we create and advance national prosperity and security by vigorously seeking, learning, generating, and applying scientific and technological knowledge
- we provide full access to efficient and reliable infrastructure and services
- we are the premier destination to visit and do business
- we hold to and build on those positive core values and attitudes that have made us distinctly Jamaican
- we resolve conflicts through dialogue and mediation
- we treat each other with respect and dignity
- we all have a meaningful voice in the decision-making of our country
- we create a safe and secure society
- we know our rights and responsibilities and stand equal before the law
- Our families contribute positively to the society and nurture, protect, encourage and support their members

We especially seek to create a secure future for our vulnerable population in ensuring that:

- each child has equal opportunity to develop his or her full potential through access to the best care, affection and protection
- our youth are empowered to contribute meaningfully in building and strengthening the communities to which they belong
- our elderly and persons with disabilities are fully integrated within society, have access to appropriate care and support services and are treated as valuable human resources
- no one falls into, or remains in poverty for lack of adequate support

“One love, one heart, one Jamaica”

FOREWORD

FOREWORD

This Plan has been produced in the midst of a global financial and economic crisis that is the most serious since the Great Depression of October 1929. While Jamaica has to respond to short-term emergencies, it cannot lose sight of the strategic and long-term requirements for development. We must continue to plan, even though we operate in a dynamic global context, and deal with the consequences while we grasp the opportunities to prosper.

Many social and economic problems pre-exist the current crisis. Partly due to our neglect of long-term issues, our nation has suffered from a number of inadequacies since achieving Independence in 1962 which has led to: poor GDP growth performance, high levels of debt, unacceptable levels of unemployment and poverty, crime and violence, low levels of skills, weak infrastructure, and uncompetitive industries that produce low value commodities.

This weak national performance has been exacerbated by very rapid urbanization, migration and globalization which have had a negative impact on the structure and stability of the Jamaican family. The result has been a weakening of social capital and the emergence of negative social values and mindset that we must overcome if the society is to advance rapidly. Jamaicans have expressed a clear wish to break out of this vicious cycle of low performance and build a quality society. In response to this wish, the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) was mandated by

Government to guide the process of preparing a long term national development plan to enable Jamaica to achieve developed country status by 2030.

Previous planning efforts floundered, partly because they were perceived as being owned only by the Government of the day. This Plan is therefore, broad-based in scope, non-partisan and inclusive, the recipient of input from the public and private sectors, Trade Unions, NGOs, external agencies and ordinary citizens. The final product is a National Development Plan which captures the very diverse needs and aspirations of our people.

This yearning for a secure and prosperous future is encapsulated in the vision statement: **“Jamaica the place of choice to live, work, raise families, and do business”**. This vision embodies the clear message that emerged from the inclusive planning process.

This reveals that that hopes and dreams of our people transcend mere growth in per capita income, although this is considered a worthy goal. Important issues that emerged during the consultation phase were for: *greater access and opportunities; efficient delivery of health, education, justice and security services; a more inclusive society which fosters a greater sense of hope, particularly the young; greater development of rural areas; protection of the environment; and a strong desire to preserve the positive and transformational aspects of our culture and heritage.*

By 2030, we see Jamaica as a country having a vibrant and sustainable economy, society and environment; a high level of human capital development; greater opportunities and access to these opportunities for the population; and a high level of human security. Developed country status for Jamaica is, therefore, a definition crafted from our realities and aspirations and against which we will measure our achievements and successes.

Vision 2030 Jamaica is the strategic guide or roadmap to achieve this level of development. Through short- and medium-term priorities, policies and programmes which are captured in the Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF), the Plan provides dynamism and flexibility. This framework for implementation facilitates consistent monitoring and evaluation and allows domestic as well as global changes to be reflected and incorporated in the planning process.

We will not achieve developed country status overnight; the change will be gradual. To achieve this goal requires leadership, partnership, national will and

commitment for transformation, a sense of urgency about the unsustainable nature of the current path, and a passionate desire to achieve greatness.

Today, our children, from the tiny boy in Aboukir, St. Ann, to the teenage girl in Cave, Westmoreland, have access to technologies that were once considered science fiction. They seek opportunities to realise their full potential. This Plan is to ensure that, as a society, we do not fail them.

We have a duty to ourselves, to the sacrifices of past generations and to the hopes of future generations, to preserve the best of our country and to transform the worst. The outcome in 2030 is dependent on the decisions we make today.

I invite all Jamaicans, as well as our global partners, to join in the next stage of this exciting journey: the successful Plan implementation of **Vision 2030 Jamaica**.

Wesley Hughes, CD, PhD
Director General
 Planning Institute of Jamaica

MESSAGE

FROM THE GOVERNOR GENERAL



**His Excellency, The Most Honourable
Patrick L. Allen, ON, CD, PhD**
Governor General

It is fitting that the ***Vision 2030 Jamaica - National Development Plan***, which is being tabled in Parliament, is the result of widespread consultations with stakeholders across Jamaica, as it embodies the kinds of positive conversations that we must have if we are to express our concerns one to another, define our common goals and identify pathways toward achieving them.

The four overarching national goals that have been identified speak to empowerment, social security, economic prosperity and the health and well-being of Jamaicans living in a healthy natural environment. These are goals with which every Jamaican can identify, as they seek to address pertinent issues that relate to their ability to provide for their families in a secure and enabling environment. This is especially important during this period of economic uncertainty.

If we are to achieve these national goals and impact the country's development in

a sustainable way, we must draw upon those values, skills and attributes that are right with Jamaica. It will require transformational leadership at every level in the society, a willingness to work with each other and the use of our natural resources in the best ways possible.

But perhaps most importantly, the realization of the ***Vision 2030 Jamaica - National Development Plan*** will require the input of our youth who must have a sense that they are at the centre of our nation's development. We must engage them and involve them in the transformation process.

I believe in the ability of every Jamaican to contribute in a meaningful way to the accomplishment of the ***Vision 2030 Jamaica - National Development Plan*** and I applaud the Planning Institute of Jamaica for so ably leading the process of change.

Patrick L. Allen
Governor-General

MESSAGE

FROM THE PRIME MINISTER



The Honourable Bruce Golding, MP
Prime Minister

My fellow Jamaicans, we are now embarking on a path of national transformation through Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan - a vision of a new society that is inclusive of the dreams and aspirations of all Jamaicans; a society that is secure, humane and just; and a place for which we all take responsibility in owning and protecting for future generations.

We are all agreed that our country has underperformed for much of the post-independence period in critical areas such as economic growth, justice, security and the delivery of social services. We have also not done enough to protect and nurture our young and care for our natural and cultural environment. We are committed to changing this.

Vision 2030 Jamaica demands commitment by us as a Government and society in general, that will accelerate

economic growth, improve social welfare, and prepare us to face the challenges of integrating into the global economy. Our economy must be prepared to trade with the rest of the world efficiently and competitively if we are to enjoy a secure and prosperous future.

The current, severe global economic crisis affecting the local and international landscape has left many countries reeling. This is the context within which we must start the long process of coordinating and accelerating the implementation of the strategies and programmes set out in Vision 2030 Jamaica. This long-term Plan forcibly drives home to us, the point that our survival cannot be guaranteed by doing “business as usual”. The Plan requires us to draw on our creative energies as a people, and to summon up the will to succeed. The crisis provides us with great challenges, but equally so, great

opportunities to pursue development with new approaches and new sources of national competitiveness.

Vision 2030 Jamaica places strong focus on the enhancement of our human resources, particularly first-class education and training. Our education and training system must be transformed if we are to be globally competitive. A stable macroeconomic environment which lends itself to attracting increased investments that will serve as a stimulus for job creation; greater investment in crime fighting, constitutional reform and improved governance; and the preservation of our natural and built environment, are critical pillars of the Plan.

I remain undaunted and resolute in my commitment to lead this transformation process. Victory and success hinge on sustained public-private partnership and dialogue, which were central to the development of Vision 2030 Jamaica. I am satisfied that the wide-scale consultations held among critical stakeholders in the planning process has resulted in a truly national output. This planning process has bridged all sectors in the society, including, Government ministries and agencies, private sector, academia and civil society to harness and incorporate the widest possible range of technical expertise, experiences and skills. The Plan has strong political support from the Opposition, which initiated its formulation. This is the first

long-term plan that can make such a claim, and this speaks to its sustainability.

To all who are directly involved in the day to day implementation of Vision 2030 Jamaica, I challenge us to be more efficient and effective in serving with devotion and integrity and to improve the capacity of the State to deliver. To our private sector, non-state actors (NGOs, CBOs and trade unions) as well as our international partners, I appeal for your continued support during this the implementation phase. There is much work to be done in improving health, education, infrastructure, rural development, strengthening the family, changing the mindset, and transforming values. The Government cannot do this alone; the support of the entire country - every community, village and town is needed. This partnership is the essence of Vision 2030 Jamaica.

I am determined to lead the implementation process to build a country where opportunities abound for our people; a country that is no longer 'held hostage' to mounting debt; and a country where the future generation can enjoy a better way of life than our generation. I have every confidence that Vision 2030 Jamaica - National Development Plan is the 'road map' that will take us there; and make "Jamaica, the place of choice to live, work, raise families, and do business".

Bruce Golding
Prime Minister of Jamaica

MESSAGE

FROM THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION



**The Most Honourable
Portia Simpson Miller, ON, MP**
Leader of the Opposition

Our beloved National Anthem, itself a prayer for structured guidance to our country's development has enshrined within it the abiding request of our Father to "Give us vision lest we perish".

Yet the process of visioning is not just occasioned by spirited prayer. It depends upon a structured and committed process of consultation, alignment and realignment to ascertain the true priorities of the nation.

Jamaica's history has been replete with opportunities to have developed a blueprint upon which our society would have been engineered. For several decades and for myriads of reasons the committed space to have allowed us to do that have to an extent evaded us. This is not to say there have not been efforts that have advanced our developmental agenda. The National Industrial Policy

and the Tourism Master Plan for Sustainable Development stand out as two recent examples of the recognition of the need for visioning and forward planning and the measured tangible outcomes that confirm this to be a critical component of nation building.

It is therefore fitting that the Planning Institute of Jamaica has successfully spearheaded the process of developing Vision 2030 Jamaica, National Development Plan. Vision 2030 Jamaica will provide a structured rubric that allows us to measure, refine and achieve the agreed targets and outcomes that will advance Jamaica's march to Developed Country Status.

We must ensure that just as the process to date has centralized the need for consultation and participation that the implementation and execution of the

various strategies and activities will continue to benefit from the full participation of the citizenry and of all interest groups.

Our collective ownership of this process will redound to the nation's benefit. Once properly implemented and monitored the past inequities that have affected many in our society will be corrected. The achievement of this Plan and its successful implementation will be seen by future generations of Jamaica as a treasured part of our collective

patrimony. On this measurement we cannot fail; or the outcomes we all agree to be necessary for the attainment of Developed Country status will be unnecessarily denied us.

I intend to always be the greatest advocate for this process and avail my energy and focus and that of the People's National Party, within and without the Parliament to its success.

Portia Simpson Miller
Leader of the Opposition

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Vision 2030 Jamaica - National Development Plan was prepared with the invaluable contribution, dedication and commitment of the Jamaican people, at home and in the Diaspora, who dared to act decisively to specify their vision of a secure and prosperous future by 2030.

Specifically, the PIOJ thanks all those who contributed their resources, time and intellect to initiate, prepare and finalize the Plan, including: the Government of Jamaica and the Opposition which mandated and guided the process; the Ministries, Departments and Agencies; the Cabinet Office; the many stakeholders including students, academia, officials and technical staff in the public and private sectors; non-governmental organizations; the man-in-the street; trade unions and civil society, who assisted in crafting the Vision and providing the scope and direction for the Plan.

The PIOJ pays special tribute to the Chairpersons and members of the various Task Forces drawn from the public and private sectors and civil society who generously gave of their time, technical and creative ideas, and worked assiduously to develop the draft sector plans. Their work was highly complemented by the external review panels which provided critical review, intellectual advice and comments, referenced by their extensive experience and perspectives, thus laying the foundation for the formulation of this integrated Plan.

The PIOJ is also indebted to the Plan Advisory Group (PAG), led by the Hon. Karl Hendrickson, and consisting primarily of industry leaders who brought the unique perspectives from their respective fields to the early stages of the Plan formulation process.

We are also grateful to the following individual Consultants, who at short notice provided significant assistance: Dr. Neville Beharie, who helped to clarify and articulate the issues for integration of the sector plans into the National Development Plan; Mr. Michael Fairbanks, who brought international and transformational perspective to the process; Dr. Weishuang Qu, from the Millennium Institute, and Dr. Damien King, UWI, for providing technical expertise in building the T21 Jamaica Model, and in training the PIOJ core model team, for on-going use and application of the model, respectively; Mrs. Dawn Sewell-Lawson, for developing the results-based performance framework for monitoring and evaluation of the Plan; Mrs. Carole McDowell, for her technical review and editing of the final draft of the integrated Plan; and Ms. Gina Sanguinetti, who edited the first draft of the document.

Vision 2030 Jamaica has drawn from the work of the Education Transformation Programme, Jamaica Justice System Reform, the PIOJ Dialogue for Development Series, PIOJ 50th Anniversary Conference, published works, the lessons of previous national development plans, and international best practices.

Jamaica owes much to the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and other international development partners, which provided financial and other resources to start and maintain the process.

Finally, the PIOJ acknowledges the work of its staff, in particular the Plan Development Unit, which worked tirelessly to complete this Plan.

NATIONAL VISION

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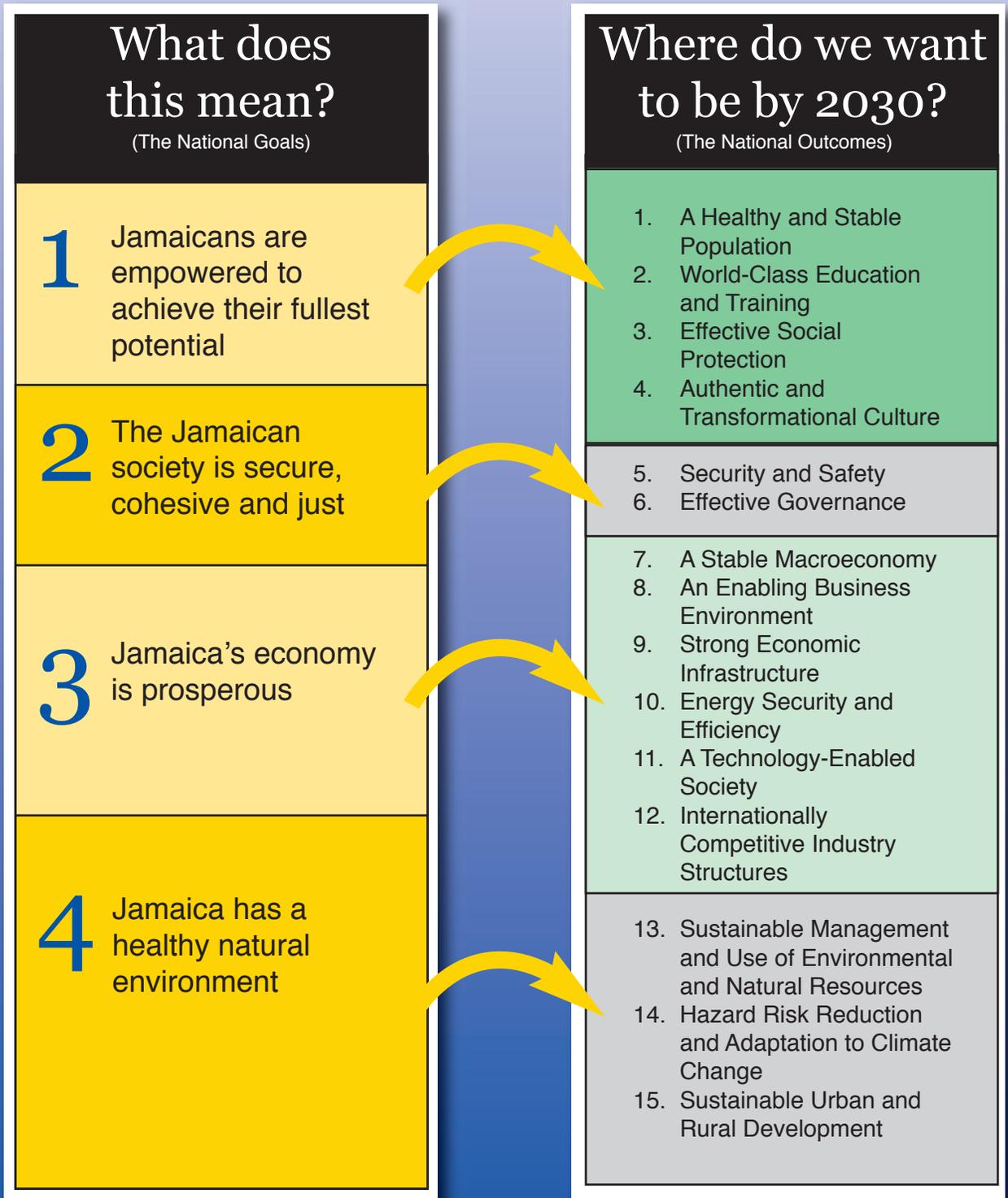


Figure 1: Vision, Goals & Outcomes

What do we have to do?

(The National Strategies Linked to Goals & Outcomes)



Table 1: National Strategies Linked to Goals and Outcomes

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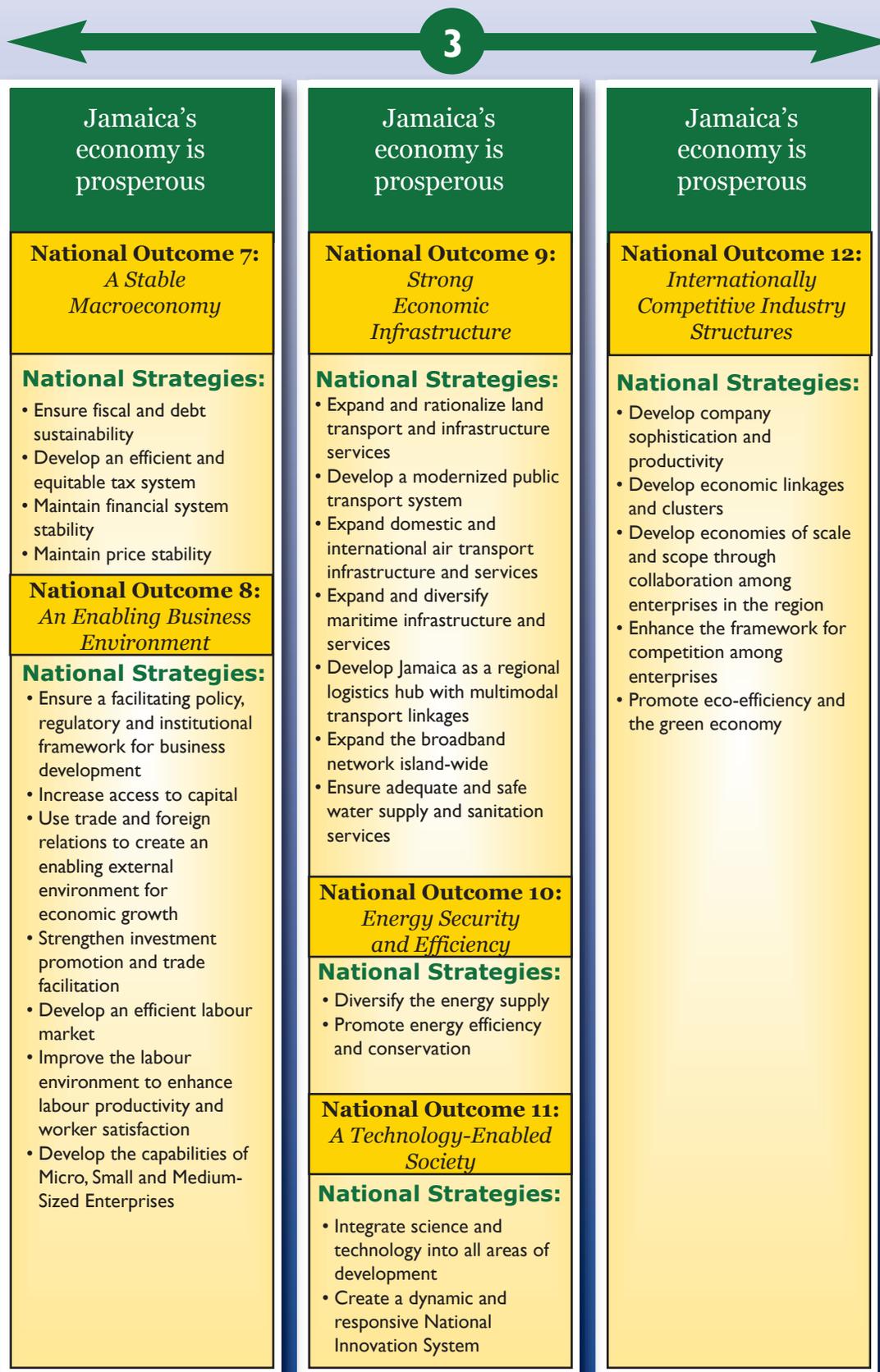


Table 1: National Strategies Linked to Goals and Outcomes (Cont'd)

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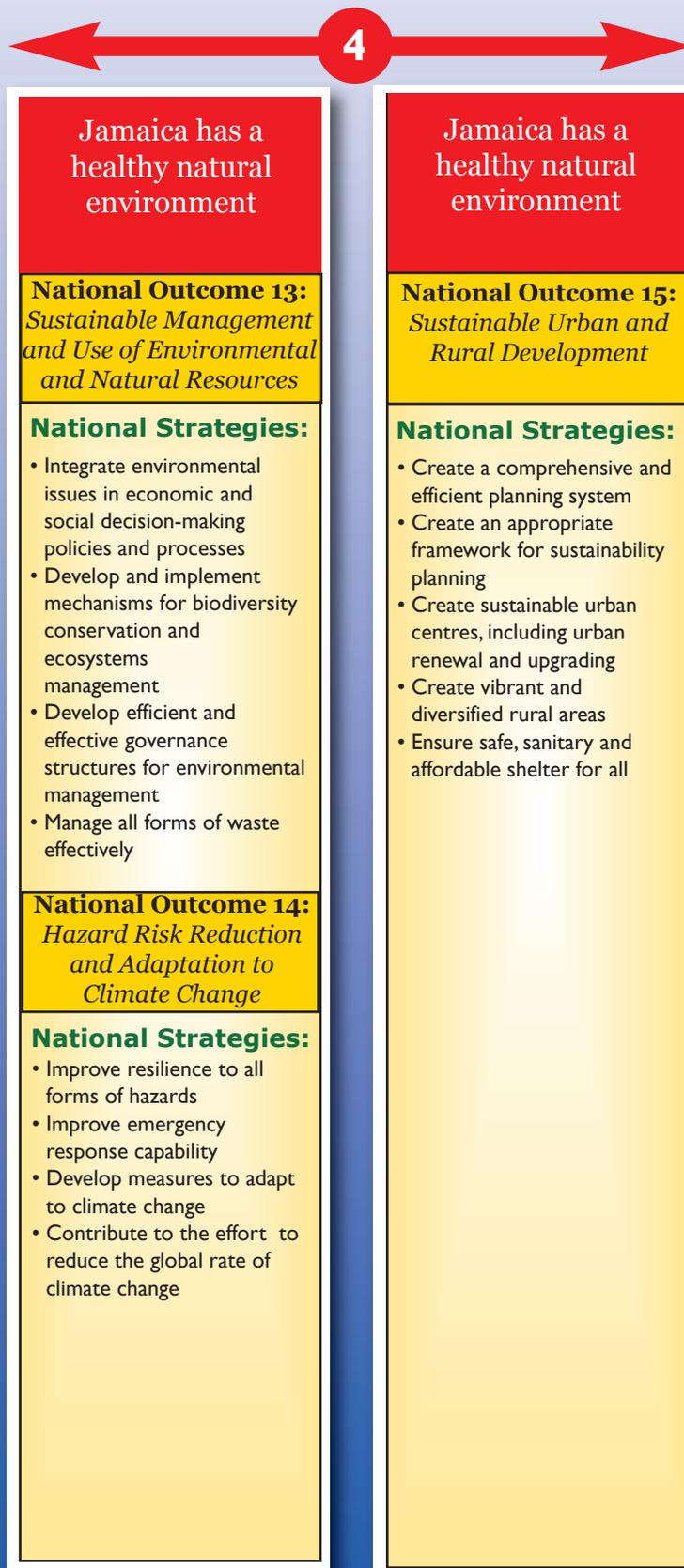


Table 1: National Strategies Linked to Goals and Outcomes (Cont'd)

Selected Socio-Economic Indicators Jamaica (1970-2007)

INDICATORS	1970	1980	1990	2000	2005	2006	2007
Real GDP ¹ (Growth) %	11.9	-5.7	6.3	0.9	1.0	2.7	1.4
Debt/GDP (%)		107.4	128.7	88.7	119.1	117.5	111.4
Average Annual Unemployment Rate (%)		27.4	15.3	15.5	11.2	10.3	9.9
Average Annual Exchange Rate (J\$=US\$1.00)	0.83	1.78	7.24	43.08	62.50	65.88	69.06
Inflation (%)		28.6	29.8	6.1	12.6	5.7	16.8
Population ('000)	1,861.3	2,183.8	2,414.9	2,597.1	2,656.7	2,669.5	2,682.1
Population Growth Rate (%)	1.5	1.1	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
Life Expectancy at Birth (years)				72.2	73.3	73.3	72.4
Adult Literacy (% of ages 15 and older)				79.9	79.9	85.5	86.0
Gross Primary Enrolment ('000)		427.3	339.0	325.3	326.4	318.7	310.0
% Population below Poverty Line				18.9	14.8	14.3	9.9
Access to Piped Water (%)				66.6	n/a	67.8	70.2

¹ GDP figures used for 2000 - 2007 utilize the 1993 System of National Accounts and 2003 base year.

NATIONAL VISION



Photograph contributed by JCDC