

SAINT LUCIA

NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS TOWARDS THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

Presented by: Honourable Alva Baptiste

Minister for External Affairs, International
Trade and Civil Aviation

MAP OF SAINT LUCIA



Background

- ▣ The United Nations General Assembly convened a high-level meeting in 2010 to review progress on the MDG targets and agreed on a concrete action plan to accelerate progress towards their full achievement by 2015.
- ▣ The meeting called on the UN System to continue informing the global debate on development and to lead the international discussion on a post 2015 development Agenda
- ▣ In moving toward a post-2015 Agenda, the UN Development Group (UNDG) developed a proposal for national consultations to be conducted in 50 countries across the world

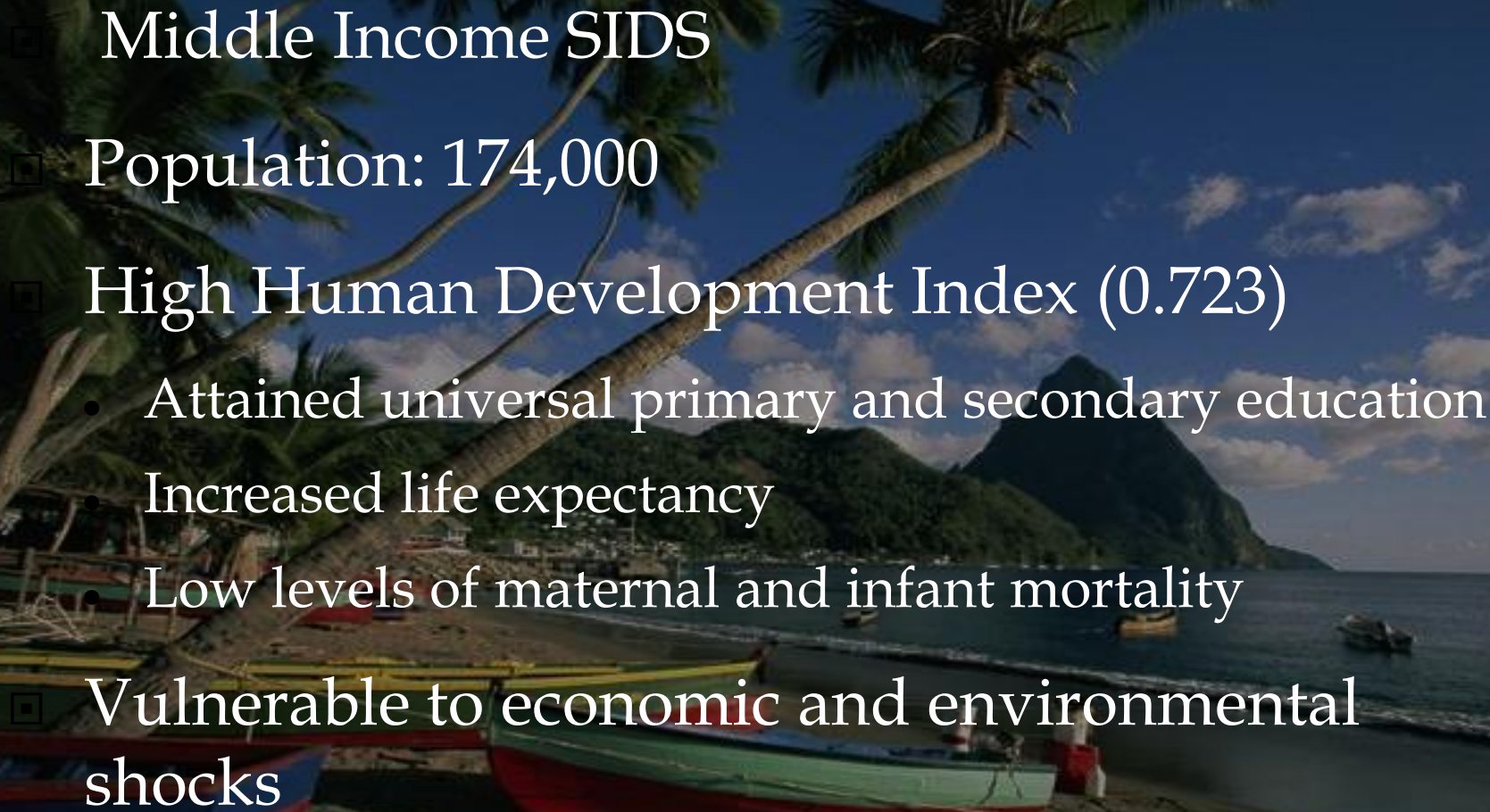
Background Cont'd

- ▣ Saint Lucia is one of 50 countries selected to conduct national, post-2015 consultations.
- ▣ This selection presented an opportunity to engage in a comprehensive development dialogue, the outcome of which would guide the country's own national development strategy
- ▣ It also affords Saint Lucia and Saint Lucians the ability to interact with the global community and to offer points for consideration for the post 2015 development discussions of small developing states

Background Cont'd

- ▣ It also affords Saint Lucia and Saint Lucians the ability to interact with the global community and to offer points for consideration for the post 2015 development discussions of SIDS within the region and across the world.
- ▣ It is anticipated that by June 2013, all selected countries' reports will be completed and will feed into a global UNDG report which will inform post-2015 discussions.

Saint Lucia at a glance

- Middle Income SIDS
 - Population: 174,000
 - High Human Development Index (0.723)
 - Attained universal primary and secondary education
 - Increased life expectancy
 - Low levels of maternal and infant mortality
 - Vulnerable to economic and environmental shocks
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- A tropical beach scene with palm trees, a mountain in the background, and colorful boats on the sand. The image is used as a background for the text.

Main Priorities for Saint Lucia:

- Recent assessments of Saint Lucia's performance on the 2015 MDGs suggest that gains have been made in several areas including education and health indicators.
- However, there is a need for repositioning and reprioritizing of development goals and targets.
- Therefore, it is suggested that the thrust of the development agenda over the next 15 years should include actions that will fulfill the following outcomes:

Main Priorities Cont'd:

thrust for local development agenda over the next
15 years

- ▣ Reduction of poverty, inequality and inequity
- ▣ Inclusive, employment-led growth
- ▣ Health and wellbeing
- ▣ Sustainable agriculture and enhanced food security
- ▣ Environmental stability

Main Priorities Cont'd:

thrust for local development agenda over the next
15 years

- ▣ Education, training and human resource development
- ▣ Citizen security
- ▣ Promotion of good governance
- ▣ Increase in connectivity-improved access to new information and communication technologies
- ▣ Economic resilience

Strategy for National Consultations

- ▣ Saint Lucia's National Consultations for the post-2015 Development Agenda (The Future We Want) was launched on February 11, 2013.
- ▣ The Consultation process will be undertaken over a 4 to 5 week period.
- ▣ The Main Priorities highlighted previously will be used to stimulate discussion, generate questions, raise doubts and prompt recommendations and solutions.

Strategy for National Consultations Cont'd

- ▣ It is recognised that other areas might be identified during the discussions, for inclusion in the "Future We Want For Saint Lucia"

Strategy for National Consultations Cont'd

- ▣ The Consultations will be undertaken through a variety of mechanisms including:
 - Face to face – through town hall meetings, focus group discussions, expert group meetings, rap sessions especially with women, children and youth, and one on one interviews with key opinion leaders

Strategy for National Consultations Cont'd

- Mass Media – conversations will be encouraged through the various Television and Radio Talk Shows
- An open ended questionnaire will be circulated via the newspapers to accommodate persons who wish to be more structured and coherent in their contributions

Strategy for National Consultations Cont'd

- Virtual and electronic means – people will be able to converse (e-consultations, social media: face-book, twitter), if they are unable to directly participate in the various meetings. This method is intended to accommodate the Diaspora in particular.

Strategy for National Consultations Cont'd

- Internal discussion within well organised community-based groups, civil society organisations and other non-state institutions around the country. They will be invited to share their views and vision of the future of Saint Lucia.

Strategy for National Consultations Cont'd

- Feedback mechanisms – These will include sharing reports or survey results, requesting additional inputs and suggestions.
- Validation – will take place during focus groups and meetings by using participatory visual methods to provide instant feedback to participants about what they are discussing.

Strategy for National Consultations Cont'd

- An intense public service announcement campaign is at the core of the Communications Strategy for the National Conversations. Members of the public will be notified of the dates, times and venue for each activity through notices aired on TV and Radio; and placed in newspapers and other popular print media.

Strategy for National Consultations Cont'd

- The results of the country consultations will be disseminated through:
 - ◆ Two stakeholders meetings – one in the north and the other in the south of the island
 - ◆ Two call-in programmes – one on radio and the other on television
 - ◆ Summary of the findings will be published in the print media and posted on-line

Thank You

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION