

**GOVERNMENT OF JAMAICA**  
**POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**

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**AS AT 1 APRIL 2012**

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POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME  
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| <b>No.</b> | <b>Ministry</b>           | <b>Name of Policy</b>              | <b>Purpose</b>   | <b>Stage</b> |
|------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--------------|
| 1.         | Agriculture and Fisheries | Animal Health Policy               | The policy aims to develop a coordinated, sustainable and internationally compliant and Animal Health and Welfare system. This policy covers the health and welfare of animals of aquatic and terrestrial natures that are used for food, work, sports, companionship, research, teaching and entertainment (equine).  | 2            |
| 2.         | Agriculture and Fisheries | Food Safety Policy                 | The policy aims to implement programmes that promote high standards of food hygiene and maintain systems of surveillance and control to ensure compliance with those standards.  | 6            |
| 3.         | Agriculture and Fisheries | Banana Policy                      | This policy will provide the platform for the restructuring and re-orientation of Jamaica's banana industry in light of the decline of the export banana sector.   | 4            |
| 4.         | Agriculture and Fisheries | National Organic Policy            | This policy will cover organic food and farming systems. It will address accreditation of certification bodies, development of national organic standards and legislation that will govern the production and trade of organic food. It will also address Government's role in marketing, research and development and the provision of extension services and removal of fiscal disincentives to the organic agricultural sector. Capacity building among farmers and extension officers will also be addressed by this policy. | 5            |
| 5.         | Agriculture and Fisheries | Food and Nutrition Security Policy | The food and nutrition security policy will:<br>(i) Define the food and nutritional goals that are to be met so that the country's agriculture and food systems can deliver adequate and nutritionally appropriate quantities of food, especially to low-income and vulnerable groups;<br>(ii) Make prescriptions for a structured food import replacement program and a re-orientation of food imports and the food distribution system, to increase the availability of good quality-nutritious foods in Jamaica.              | 4            |

**Key**

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| 6.  | Agriculture and Fisheries | Agricultural Land Utilisation Policy  | The goals of the policy are to :<br>(i) Ensure environmentally sustainable use of agricultural land resources;<br>(ii) Create and maintain a diversified, dynamic and progressive utilization of agricultural land;<br>(iii) Conserve, protect and manage forest lands that will lead to sustainable economic and social benefit;<br>(iv) Enable and facilitate developmental/ welfare activities through infrastructure and support services; and<br>(v) Maintain National Food Security             | 5     |
| 7.  | Agriculture and Fisheries | Policy Framework and Strategic Plan for Sustainable Fisheries Development in Jamaica    | The policy aims to improve the institutional capacity and present management practices in the fisheries industry; to mitigate further deterioration of the resource base of capture fisheries and achieve sustainability in use of the said resource base.  | 5     |
| 8.  | Cabinet Office            | Data Sharing and Pricing Policy   | The primary objectives of the data sharing policy are to provide a consensus-based and sustainable approach for the sharing of data between entities to support decision-making and more joined-up delivery of public services. It will address the issue of pricing, in order to prevent prohibitive costs that could impede the efficient delivery of services or timely decision-making.   | 4     |
| 9.  | Cabinet Office            | Decentralisation Policy   | The policy seeks to create the framework for the decentralisation of public services where appropriate.   | 4     |
| 10. | Cabinet Office            | National Fee Policy and Fee Structure for the Development Applications Approval Process | Due to the prevailing concerns relating to the proliferation of fees being imposed by commenting agencies and the non-standardized fee structure being operated by the Local Planning Authorities (LPA), this is an overarching policy to guide the manner in which the fees are administered and to implement a standardised fee structure across the LPAs. It will also include the commenting agencies which are found to qualify for the receipt of fees for their role in the Approvals Process. | 1     |
| 11. | Cabinet Office            | National Customer   | The policy will identify the core principles, standards and   | 1     |

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|     |                | Service Policy                           | strategies to promote and institutionalise service excellence across the Public Service. The policy will identify the requirements for the provision of quality customer service and provide guidance on how to institutionalise, monitor and improve service excellence in Government organisations.  |       |
| 12. | Cabinet Office | Integrated Performance Management Policy | This policy is intended to provide the basis for the establishment of a results based management system across all levels of Government's operations. The policy will establish the principles and strategies for managing performance at the sectoral, organisational and individual levels, to meet national goals, and establish linkages across these levels to strengthen existing strategies for accountability, efficiency and service delivery | 1     |
| 13. | Cabinet Office | Executive Agency Policy and Procedures   | This policy is intended to establish the principles and related mechanisms to govern the way in which Executive Agencies are created, how they operate and how they are regulated according to the Executive Agencies Act and Regulations. Procedures will also be developed to provide detailed guidance in the application of the policy principles.   | 1     |
| 14. | Education      | Safe Schools Policy                      | To provide schools with policy guidelines directed at securing children at school and addressing issues of security in schools.  | 4     |
| 15. | Education      | Compulsory Education Policy              | The policy is designed to support the mandatory engagement of all children between the ages of 3 to 18 years in a meaningful learning process and in a structured and regulated setting. It addresses regular attendance at learning institutions for all children as well as exposure to both academic and vocational programme at the secondary level  | 4     |
| 16. | Education      | Special Education Policy                 | This policy will guide the implementation of the special education mandate of ensuring adequate and appropriate provisions that will ensure access and equity, in the planning and delivery of special education services.   | 4     |
| 17. | Education      | National Lifelong Learning Policy        | To foster a climate that allows for continuous engagement by the population with knowledge and skills acquisition, leading to  | 4     |

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|     |           |  | enhanced personal and national productivity and employability as well as active citizenship, strong families, healthy population and personal fulfilment.  |       |
| 18. | Education | National Play Policy                               | This policy is in keeping with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and as part of the new thrust to make Jamaican schools more child friendly. It also supports the new child-centred play based on national early childhood curriculum.   | 4     |
| 19. | Education | National Curriculum Policy                         | The policy will create a regulatory framework that will provide clear and specific guidelines that will result in the development and implementation of curricula of the highest quality.  | 5     |
| 20. | Education | National Policy for HIV/AIDS Management in Schools | The policy will guide the management of HIV/AIDS within educational institutions in order to promote effective prevention and care within the context of the education system  | 5     |
| 21. | Education | National Policy on Independent Schools             | This policy will provide a broad-based framework to guide operations and governance of the independent (Private) educational institutions in Jamaica, outlining registration procedures, accreditation and supervision.  | 5     |
| 22. | Education | National Parenting Policy                          | To support the development of an enabling environment for our nation's children  | 6     |
| 23. | Education | National School Feeding Policy                     | To provide good nutrition for physical, social and cognitive development of students thereby increasing their ability to participate in learning activities. Additionally the policy aims at the standardization of the School Feeding Programme and regularization of programme procedures. | 1     |
| 24. | Education | The National Guidance and Counselling Policy       | To promote access to guidance and counselling programme as a fundamental right of all children of formal school age. It will focus on personal and social development, career education and the development of healthy life styles leading to the holistic development of the students       | 4     |

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| 25. | Finance and Planning              |   |  |       |
| 26. | Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade   | Jamaica's Revised Trade Policy  | This Policy is to enhance Jamaica's ability to export goods and services and to this end, to ensure that trade is mainstreamed into the National Development Plan  | 4     |
| 27. | Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade   | Cays Management Policy  | To develop a well-defined multi-agency, regulatory framework for the effective management of the Cays in recognition of the number of activities which threaten the sustainability of the ecology and economy of the Cays which are of significant ecological, economic and geo-political importance to Jamaica. | 1     |
| 28. | Health                            |   |  |       |
| 29. | Industry, Investment and Commerce | National Quality Policy (Review)  | The National Quality Policy was approved by Cabinet in 2001. The policy is now 10 years old and a review is timely.  | 1     |
| 30. | Industry, Investment and Commerce | Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSME) Policy (formerly Small Business Development) | To provide an agreed platform for the development of strategies designed to create a viable and competitive Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise sector.   | 5     |
| 31. | Industry, Investment and Commerce | Motor Vehicle Import Policy (MVIP)  | The MVIP was last revised in 2004 by way of Ministry Paper No. 73. There have been developments in the sector which require a review of the Policy with respect to other vehicles and/or parts that may need to be placed on licensing and the certification process for dealers, among other matters.           | 4     |

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| 32. | Industry, Investment and Commerce | Film Industry Policy Framework                                  | This policy framework seeks to articulate an enabling environment for the film industry as enunciated in the National Industry Policy.   | 4     |
| 33. | Industry, Investment and Commerce | Business Processing Outsourcing (BPO) Industry Policy Framework | The recommendations seek to create an environment to attract greater levels of investment in the BPO industry.   |       |
| 34. | Justice                           | Restorative Justice Policy                                      | Restorative Justice is a process whereby all the parties with a stake in a particular offence come together to resolve collectively how to deal with the aftermath of the offence. This is a different way of thinking about crime and conflict. It involves the victim, offender and community. The policy has a multi-tiered approach and allows for six (6) referral points from the formal justice system to the restorative programme.  | 5     |
| 35. | Justice                           | Child Diversion Policy  | Provide alternative options to youth offenders to steer them away from the formal justice system through warnings and cautions and referring children in conflict with the law to diversion programmes that will facilitate positive behaviour modification and rehabilitation.  | 2     |
| 36. | Labour and Social Security        | National Employment Policy                                      | To promote full and productive employment for all groups (including the disabled) and employment free from discrimination based on sex, religion, race, colour or political extraction.  | 2     |
| 37. | Labour and Social Security        | National Hazardous Installation Policy                          | The primary intent of this policy is the prevention of major accidents involving hazardous installations (locations where substances of a hazardous nature are processed, stored, disposed of or handled in such quantities) and limiting the consequences of such accidents. It will set out the types of sites deemed hazardous, systems and procedures that should be adhered to and the protocol for visiting and inspecting these locations to ensure that they are adhering to the national laws and guidelines. | 4     |
| 38. | Labour and Social Security        | National HIV/AIDS   | To provide guidelines and legislation to promote the health of   | 6     |

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|     |  | Workplace Policy                        | the population through healthy lifestyles, protect the rights of people infected with or affected by HIV/AIDS and mitigate the social-economic impact of the epidemic.  |       |
| 39. | Labour and Social Security                 | Policy on Homelessness in Jamaica       | To provide a framework for the management of the homeless in Jamaica, and clearly define the roles and responsibilities of Government agencies and other stakeholders.  | 2     |
| 40. | Labour and Social Security                 | White Paper on Flexi-Work               |   |       |
| 41. | Labour and Social Security                 | National Policy on Child Labour         |   |       |
| 42. | Local Government and Community Development | Integrated Community Development Policy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The articulation of an integrated policy that speaks to the elimination of the fragmented approach to programme development, project management and implementation.</li> <li>To provide the framework and direction for the development of stronger, more prosperous and more integrated communities.</li> <li>To enable citizens to be empowered to fully participate in the achievement of sustainable growth, Community and National Development and the prosperity of Jamaica.</li> </ul>                            |       |
| 43. | Local Government and Community Development | Social Housing Policy                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide housing accommodation for the most indigent outdoor poor.</li> <li>To establish inter-sectoral collaboration and coordination in the administration of social housing.</li> <li>To connect homeless persons to their families, friends and available resources</li> <li>To increase awareness through education and advocacy in all sectors of the society about care for the homeless.</li> <li>To obtain yearly funding from government to deal with recurrent expenses and to assist in venture</li> </ul> |       |

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|     |                              |   | capital to end homelessness in Jamaica.  |       |
| 44. | National Security            | Small Arms Policy   | To develop a policy in relation to the adoption of the provisions of two (2) conventions into our local legislation guided by the OAS model regulations and consideration given to increasing the penalties for all firearms related offences.   | 4     |
| 45. | National Security            | Vetting Policy  | To develop a policy for screening personnel to determine the suitability of persons; it is aimed at ensuring a person's character and circumstances are such that he/she can be trusted to carry out the position employed and safely manage sensitive information.  | 4     |
| 46. | National Security            | National Security Policy                                  | To develop a master plan that clarifies the institutional framework within which the armed forces and civil institutions of the State will coordinate their activities to create an integrated and cohesive national security network to safeguard national interests. It also prescribes the complementary roles and responsibilities of the public and private sectors, as well as civil society, in supporting national security. | 4     |
| 47. | Office of the Prime Minister |   |  |       |
| 48. | Transport , Works & Housing  | National Housing Policy & Implementation Plan for Jamaica | To give strategic direction to Jamaica's housing sector to enable the Government to meet its vision/target of providing access to adequate and secure shelter for all Jamaican's by 2030   | 5     |
| 49. | Transport , Works &          | National Squatter   | To provide a framework for the effective management of   | 2     |

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|     | Housing                                | Management Policy & Implementation Plan (proposed) | squatting in Jamaica.  |       |
| 50. | Transport , Works & Housing            | Construction Industry Policy                       | To provide a consistent policy framework in order to inter alia: encourage wider participation in the industry, encourage innovation on and modernisation of the industry, promote regional cooperation, speak to safety and security issues including extortion, refine procurement rules and develop skills levels in the construction industry. | 4     |
| 51. | Transport , Works & Housing            | Right-of-Way                                       | To provide an enabling environment and the necessary infrastructure to ensure the orderly and efficient use of the Right of Way along Jamaica's main road network in order to facilitate the promotion of information/communication technology as a tool for economic growth and for enhancing the quality of life of citizens.                    | 4     |
| 52. | Tourism and Entertainment              | Community-based Tourism                            | Tourism is a vehicle through which poverty can be alleviated, gender equity and the empowerment of women can be promoted and delicate natural and cultural heritage can be protected. The Policy is therefore intended to provide motes of engagement for community-based tourism initiatives to fulfil these goals.                               | 4     |
| 53. | Tourism and Entertainment              | Water-Sports Policy for Recreational Areas         | This policy, which would be an accompanying document to the National Oceans and Coastal Zone Management Policy, should also engender environmental management and protection of the Marine and Riverine environment.   | 3     |
| 54. | Tourism and Entertainment              | Health and Wellness Tourism Policy                 | Promote the development of Health and Wellness segment of the tourism product.   | 4     |
| 55. | Science, Technology, Energy and Mining |  |  |       |
| 56. | Water, Land, Environment               | Jamaica Water Sector                               | To review the National Water Sector Policy in light of the   |       |

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|     | and Climate Change                          | Policy Strategies and Action Plans (Revision)                                     | changes that have taken place since approval in 1999 and the update in 2004 such as the Vision 2030 Development Plan, the changes in the water sector and the onset of climate change.   |       |
| 57. | Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change | Beach Policy  | To provide guidelines for the use of the foreshore, beach and floor of the sea. Addresses issues of public access, coastal erosion, cays and fishing beaches   | 4     |
| 58. | Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change | National Policy and Strategy on Environmental Management Systems                  | To establish the framework within which an organization (private or public) can improve their performance by addressing the impacts of their products, processes, and services on the environment.   | 5     |
| 59. | Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change | Policy on Environmental Stewardship of Government Operations                      | To promote environmental stewardship principles within the operations of the public sector by setting out measures towards the reduction and elimination of unsustainable production and consumption patterns, with particular focus on resource conservation, pollution prevention, occupational health and safety, waste reduction, green procurement and more effective and efficient management of assets. | 5     |
| 60. | Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change | Towards a Watershed Policy for Jamaica  | To provide guidance towards the integrated management, protection, conservation, and development of land and water resources in watersheds for their sustainable use and for the benefit of Jamaica as a whole   | 5     |
| 61. | Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change | Biosafety Policy  | To provide institutional framework for biosafety in Jamaica  | 6     |
| 62. | Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change | National Hazardous Substances and Hazardous Wastes Management Policy and Strategy | To reflect, inter alia, recommendations arising out of the Hazardous Wastes Management Policy framework. The Policy will address priority areas for attention, institutional arrangements and guiding principles   | 4     |
| 63. | Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change | Orchid Policy   | Conservation and management of endangered orchids including those listed in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild fauna and flora.   | 5     |

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| 64.        | Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change | Policy Towards Dolphin Conservation  | To provide for dolphin conservation and dolphin attractions management  | 5            |
| 65.        | Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change | Coastal Resources and Wetlands Policy (a combination of the Mangrove and Coastal Wetlands , Sea grass and Coral Reef draft policies) | To establish guidelines for the protection and conservation of coral reefs, sea grass, mangroves and coastal wetlands | 2            |
| 66.        | Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change | Mariculture Policy   | To establish guidelines for mariculture   | 2            |
| 67.        | Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change | National Land Policy (Revision)  | To review and update National Land Policy (1996)  | 4            |
| 68.        | Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change | Policy Framework and Procedures Manual for the Divestment of Government-owned Lands  | To establish a clear policy framework for divesting Government-owned lands.   | 6            |
| 69.        | Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change | Policy and Procedures for the Divestment of Government-owned Houses  | To develop a Procedures Manual for the divestment of Government-owned houses  | 4            |
| 70.        | Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change | National Geospatial Metadata Management Policy   | To provide frame work and guidelines for the management and maintenance of geospatial metadata                        | 2            |
| 71.        | Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change | National Policy & Guidelines on Over-  | To provide guidelines for construction of structures over-water   | 4            |

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|     |   | Water Structure                  |   |       |
| 72. | Water, Land, Environment and Climate Change | Wild Life Trade Policy           | To provide guidelines for trade in wild flora and fauna   | 4     |
| 73. | Youth and Culture                           | Cultural Industries Policy       | Building on the Creative Industries chapter of the National Cultural Policy, the Cultural Industries Policy concerns would:<br>a) Encourage/promote innovation, entrepreneurship,<br>b) Set out strategies for creating funding opportunities, including access to venture capital, government investment, subsidies, tax exemptions, tax credit, and the creation of a creative industries fund;<br>c) Outlining programmes for market development;<br>d) The protection and fostering of intellectual property rights;<br>e) Outline the relationship between the creative industries and education, job creation;<br>f) Create measures to support research.   | 2     |
| 74. | Youth and Culture                           | National Youth Policy (Revision) | The National Youth Policy (2004) represented the first comprehensive revision of the 1994 National Youth Policy. The National Centre for Youth Development (NCYD) is now embarking on a further revision of this Policy based on the 5 year cycle of the current policy and the need to promote evidenced based policies by undertaking a number of activities (National Youth Survey, Situational Analysis, Programmatic Inventory) which are designed to determine the key areas that this policy should address and to be able to measure its future effectiveness. Through these activities there should be a greater understanding of the young people of Jamaica, their perspective on all elements of their lives and the various needs and concerns that exist. |       |
| 75. | Youth and Culture                           | Cultural Policy (Revision)       | (i) To articulate a clear vision of the place of culture in national life, the importance of cultural expression and diversity as essential factors of cultural development.<br>(ii) To make provisions to ensure the full participation of communities in cultural expression and cultural   |       |

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|     |          |                | development.<br>(iii) To outline strategies for building cultural infrastructure and enabling cultural institutions to manage cultural development.<br>(iv) To establish links between cultural policy and policies related to education, science and technology, industrial development, environmental protection, tourism product enhancement and entertainment.<br>(v) To indicate Government's intentions regarding the documentation and recording of cultural trends, the collection of oral traditions, the development of cultural centres and spaces for cultural and artistic expression at the level of communities, and the promotion of culture industries and entrepreneurship.<br>(vi) To identify sources for funding cultural development. |       |

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