



# Foundation for Development Planning, Inc

## **MISSION**

Engage with relevant stakeholders to foster sustainable development in the Caribbean, integrating social, economic, and environmental dimensions.

## **WHO WE ARE**

Founded in 2010 as a nonprofit organization, the Foundation for Development Planning, Inc (FDPI) is a public charity whose purpose is to engage in programs that lead to the sustainable development of Caribbean communities.

## **WHY WE EXIST**

A review of the FDPI's Articles of Incorporation and the Founders' Charge to the Board of Directors reveals that the FDPI is intended to be an 'Institution of Place' in the Caribbean. An Institution of Place is an institution that serves as a steward of the communities and region in which it functions, a publicly engaged institution that plays an essential role in addressing issues of importance and facilitating the development of the communities and region it serves.

## **OPERATIONAL MODALITY**

For the Foundation for Development Planning, Inc (FDPI) to achieve its stated purpose, particularly through the activities stated in its organizing documents, it must collaborate with a variety of social actors on a consistent basis. This is particularly important as large-scale social change requires sustained collaborative action across all social sectors.

One of the main strategies that the FDPI will utilize in contributing to improved social outcomes is the promotion and maintenance of collective impact processes.

Collective impact is basically the coordinated effort of organizations from different sectors to set a common agenda and work together to solve a specific social problem. It is argued that collective impact initiatives must have five elements that work together to produce successful outcomes:

1. A Common Agenda – a shared vision for change, essentially comprising a common understanding of the issues and agreed approaches and actions by the collaborating institutions.
2. A Shared Measurement System – an agreement on the way performance, outcome, and success will be assessed and reported.
3. Mutually Reinforcing Activities – institutions should undertake activities that support the activities of collaborating institutions
4. Continuous Communication – ensuring the use of common language, building trust, and supporting transparency in decision making and assessment.
5. A Backbone Support Organization – an organization that provides the expertise and support infrastructure to design and coordinate the collective impact initiative.

Backbone organizations are extremely rare in the Caribbean, and as such, even when collaborative actions have produced significant public benefits, the absence of sustained support often result in the reduction of long-term positive impact.

In its developing role as an Institution of Place, the FDPI collaborates with a range of national and regional institutions to establish the framework and support systems for collective impact initiatives, and it is anticipated that the FDPI will increasingly play the role of the backbone institution.

### **CURRENT PRIORITIES**

The FDPI is currently focused on:

- Facilitating institutional collaboration and improved outcomes.
- Framing new policy approaches and improving governance in public policy development and program design and implementation.
- Supporting information flows and enhancing access to knowledge products.

### **CREATING IMPACT**

FDPI works with a number of partners, and participates in networks involving organizations in the public, private, and civil society sectors. As such, support provided to FDPI enhances outcomes in a range of local and regional initiatives.

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### **HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **Participation in inter-governmental processes:**

- Regional Public Mechanism of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Global Environment Facility Civil Society Organization Network.

#### **Facilitating collaboration:**

- Assisted civil society organizations in the preparation of the discussion papers and statements for the preparatory meetings for the 3rd international conference on Small Islands Developing States.
- Assisted with establishment of the Protected Areas Conservation Action Team within the Caribbean Landscape Conservation Cooperative.

#### **Information dissemination:**

- Moderation of e-groups for Caribbean regional environment and development networks.
- Facilitating discussion on Caribbean development issues through social media platforms.

#### **Supporting and framing public policy initiatives:**

- Providing technical advice and support to the Government of the United States Virgin Islands in the territorial climate change program.