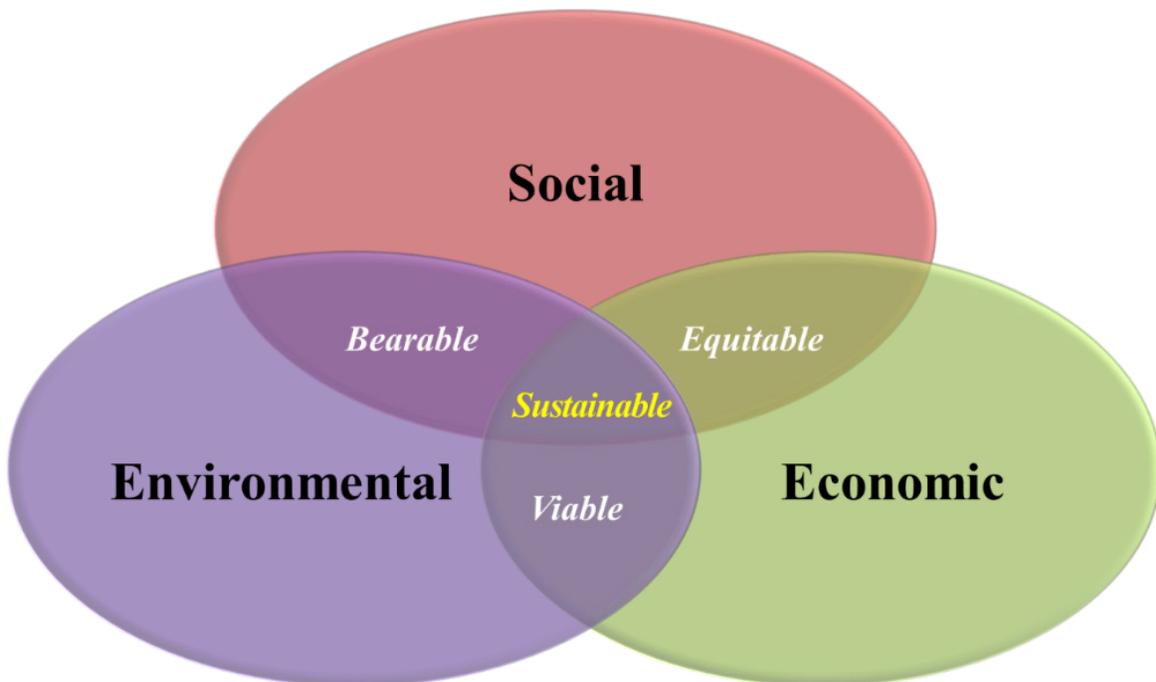




FDPI: The Inaugural Years 2010 – 2015



———— Planning for Sustainable Futures ————



Introduction

The Foundation for Development Planning, Inc. (FDPI) is a non-profit corporation registered in the United States Virgin Islands. Its Articles of Incorporation were filed on October 1, 2010, and it began operations in 2011. The Foundation is granted exemption from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is classified by the United States Internal Revenue Service as a public charity. The Foundation is therefore subject to regulatory oversight by the Government of the United States Virgin Islands and the Internal Revenue Service.

The Articles of Incorporation of the Foundation for Development Planning, Inc. state that the purpose of the organization is to contribute to the sustainable development of Caribbean communities (Appendix). The FDPI intends to become an “Institution of Place”; that is, the Foundation will add significant value to Caribbean development initiatives. In other words, the success of the Foundation is linked to the success of the community it serves—the Caribbean region.

Mission Statement

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

The FDPI defines development as “*a collaborative and transformational process that purposefully engages civil society, the private sector, and the public sector to advance and sustain an optimal quality of life for the individual, community, and nation for current and future generations.*” It is acknowledged that this transformative process must integrate the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development at the levels of the individual, institution, and society. This implies that the FDPI must address issues of individual and community identity, organizational and societal cultures, and individual and organizational competencies and capacities, as the Foundation participates in the various development processes at the local, national, and regional levels.

The Board of Directors of the FDPI dedicated a significant part of the first five years to understanding the Caribbean development landscape, determining appropriate points of entry, defining appropriate operational modalities, and contributing to program and policy initiatives where practicable. Central to the debates during this period of introspection was the imperative to ensure that the Foundation adds value to any process or network in which it participates.

This report provides an overview of the FDPI, its focus, and activities for the period October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2015.



Corporate Governance

The affairs of the Foundation for Development Planning, Inc. are governed by its board of directors, whose tasks include the appointment of new directors. The first board was appointed by the founding members, in keeping with the FDPI's Articles of Incorporation. The purpose of the inaugural board, which served during the period from March 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012, was to prepare the bylaws and initial policies needed to satisfy regulatory requirements and commence operations.

The Board of Directors of the FDPI is charged with two sets of responsibilities: (i) the traditional fiduciary duties, and (ii) responsibility for maintaining the "institutional culture" of the Foundation. The latter means that the board has the primary role in ensuring organizational commitment to the founding goals (infused through its policies, programs, operational modalities, and partnership arrangements), as well as the development and maintenance of a culture of excellence. This mission is contained in the Founder's Charge to the Board of Directors, which is accepted as one of the policy instruments that guide the development of the organization.

In addition to the board of directors, the bylaws provide for the establishment of other structures that influence corporate governance. These include appointment of associates of the FDPI, board advisory committees, and program advisory committees.

The principles of corporate governance extend beyond the legal requirements and operational structures of the Foundation. The bylaws direct that all programs conducted or sponsored by the FDPI must be strictly geared towards producing a public benefit, a provision that includes dissemination of the results of research activities. Even more broadly, the Founder's Charge encourages collaboration instead of competition, by stating the need for "*the Foundation to develop an ethic of supporting and strengthening other institutions whenever practicable.*" These considerations of stewardship and good governance have shaped the entry of the FDPI into regional institutional networks, the commitment to information sharing, and the support given to policy and program initiatives in the public and civil society sectors.

Inaugural Board 2011 – 2012

Lloyd Gardner – President

Michael O'Neal – Vice President

Noreen Michael – Secretary

Ilene Heyward-Garner – Treasurer

Carlyle Corbin – Director

Board of Directors 2014 – 2015

Lloyd Gardner – President

Michael O'Neal – Vice President

Noreen Michael – Secretary/Treasurer

Selena Tapper – Director



Program Development

The program areas selected for the FDPI's 2011 – 2015 Program of Work were identified as critical areas of focus in Caribbean development, based on a review of the reports from several Caribbean regional inter-governmental bodies. The program areas are:

- ✓ Water Resources Development;
- ✓ Climate Change;
- ✓ Development Research;
- ✓ Development of Decision Support Tools; and
- ✓ Development Economics.

Additionally, capacity development efforts were to be focused on:

- ✓ Provision of technical advice to national and regional development agencies and programs;
- ✓ Strengthening of the Caribbean civil society sector; and
- ✓ FDPI's institutional development.

Although elaborated in 2011, the FDPI's Program of Work has proven to be consistent with the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway (adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in November 2014) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015).

FDPI Program Areas	Sustainable Development Goals Supported (Agenda 2030)
Water Resources Development	2, 3, 6, 8, 12
Climate Change	3, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
Development Research	2, 6, 7, 9, 10, 15, 16
Development of Decision Support Tools	3, 4, 16
Development Economics	8, 12
Technical Advisory Service	14, 15, 16
Strengthening of the Caribbean Civil Society Sector	14, 15, 16

Program development and engagement activities were supported by consistent sharing of information through several Caribbean regional environment and development networks. Additional mechanisms were also established to provide information about the Foundation, provide updates on major regional and global development initiatives, and facilitate discussion of Caribbean development issues. These mechanisms include a website, a LinkedIn group, presentations to local groups, and an annual public briefing in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Highlights

- ✓ *The FDPI collaborated with Caribbean regional civil society organizations to ensure effective participation in the regional and inter-regional preparatory meetings for the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States.*
- ✓ *The Foundation was invited to participate in a number of workshops and conferences, such as presenting a paper at the Seventh Annual Conference on Health Disparities, November 2013.*
- ✓ *FDPI's engagement activities included individuals and institutions in the public, private, and civil society sectors. Outcomes from collaborations include the establishment of the Protected Areas Conservation Action Team within the Caribbean Landscape Conservation Cooperative and policy support for a climate change adaptation initiative in the U.S. Virgin Islands.*



Strategic Alliances

The primary geographic area of focus of the FDPI is the Wider Caribbean Region. In order to contribute to Caribbean development, the Foundation pursued the establishment of institutional linkages to facilitate program development and participation in regional development policy and planning processes. This included focusing on strategic alliances with a number of universities and regional inter-governmental institutions.

Highlights

Dr. Didacus Jules, Director General of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), addressed the FDPI's board of directors during the Foundation's annual meeting on June 5-6, 2015. Dr. Jules' participation in the meeting also resulted in the identification of specific areas and activities for collaboration between the OECS Commission and the FDPI.



Financing

Financial resources to meet the operating costs of the Foundation during the reporting period were provided by the directors and associates of the Foundation.

Annual reports are submitted to the Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Internal Revenue Service.



Appendix: Objectives and Purposes of the FDPI

The Objectives and Purposes of the Foundation for Development Planning, Inc. (FDPI) as stated in its Articles of Incorporation are:

- (1) To develop programs of study, research, and training aimed at improving the management of natural resources and the general environment of islands and island systems throughout the Caribbean and elsewhere.
- (2) To develop methods, technologies, and programs to support the conservation of natural, cultural, and historical heritage resources throughout the Caribbean Region.
- (3) To design and develop new techniques, methods, tools, and technologies for effective management of island ecosystems.
- (4) To engage in the collection, management, and dissemination of scientific information.
- (5) To support programs that lead to the sustainable development of Caribbean communities.
- (6) To provide technical support, paid or unpaid, to community, national, regional, and other organizations in the design and implementation of studies, projects, and programs in environmental management and sustainable development.



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Join the discussions on Caribbean development at the
FDPI LinkedIn Group

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