PURPOSE

The Foundation for Development Planning, Inc (FDPI) was registered in 2010 in the United States Virgin Islands as a nonprofit organization, and is classified by the United States Internal Revenue Service as a public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The purpose of the FDPI is to engage in programs that lead to the sustainable development of Caribbean communities. That purpose is to be achieved by engaging with "relevant stakeholders to foster sustainable development in the Caribbean, integrating social, economic, and environmental dimensions".

In fostering engagement for Caribbean development, the FDPI aspires to function as an 'Institution of Place', defined as "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".

Corporate Governance

The affairs of the FDPI are guided by its board of directors, which is charged with two sets of responsibilities: (i) the standard fiduciary duties, and (ii) maintenance of high standards of scientific and professional integrity. The latter responsibility means that the board of directors has the primary role in ensuring organizational commitment to the founding objectives, as well as the development and maintenance of a culture of excellence.

Board of Directors 2015-2016

- Lloyd Gardner – President
- Michael O’Neal – Vice President
- Noreen Michael – Secretary/Treasurer
- Selena Tapper
- Spencer Thomas
- Yvonne Webster-Pryce
PROGRAM OF WORK

A new program of work for the Foundation for Development Planning, Inc (FDPI) was approved by the board of directors in May 2016. The Program of Work 2016-2021 focuses on areas considered to be important for Caribbean development. Program areas are:

- Water Resources Development;
- Climate Change Adaptation;
- Development Planning and Research;
- Development of Decision Support Tools; and
- Strengthening of the Caribbean Civil Society Sector.

Cross-cutting themes are:

- Capacity Development;
- Public Engagement; and
- Governance.

Operational Modality

The FDPI manifests the intent and actions of an 'Institution of Place' as it develops processes, positions, and partnerships in support of development that considers and engages the strengths and weaknesses of the cultures, traditions, practices, and institutional arrangements of the Caribbean.

In that context, one of the main strategies used by FDPI during the program year was the promotion of collective impact processes; that is, the coordinated effort of organizations from different sectors to set a common agenda and work together to solve a specific social problem. That approach guided the Foundation’s contributions to the development of the United States Virgin Islands climate change program.
OVERVIEW

During the 2015-2016 program year, the Foundation for Development Planning, Inc (FDPI) focused on information sharing and collaborating with partner institutions to influence public policy development and governance practices. The main areas of achievements are:

Building Partnerships

FDPI’s continued efforts to build institutional partnerships resulted in an agreement with the Virgin Islands University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (VIUCEDD) to collaborate on matters of relevance to at-risk groups in the climate change program in the United States Virgin Islands (USVI). FDPI contributed an article on the health impacts of climate change to VIUCEDD’s newsletter, Harambee, in Volume 7, Spring 2016. FDPI and VIUCEDD also co-authored a briefing paper on "Considerations for At-Risk Groups in the U.S. Virgin Islands Climate Change Initiative", which was submitted to the Office of the Governor of the USVI.

Participation in Inter-governmental Processes

FDPI’s participation in regional and global inter-governmental arrangements was advanced through: (i) registration to the Regional Public Mechanism of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean; and (ii) becoming a member of the Global Environment Facility Civil Society Network.

Facilitating Collaboration

FDPI continued to facilitate institutional collaboration in order to enhance program outcomes. Activities included:

(i) Participation in the climate change conference for Puerto Rico and the USVI in November 2015.

(ii) Participation in the mini research day for high school "water ambassadors" organized by the University of the Virgin Islands in February 2016.

(iii) Participation in the work of the Protected Areas Conservation Action Team of the Caribbean Landscape Conservation Cooperative to advance protected areas programming in Puerto Rico and the USVI.
**Information Dissemination**

One of the major activity areas for FDPI during 2015-2016 was supporting information flows and enhancing access to knowledge products. Structured mechanisms utilized for sharing information and supporting dialogue on Caribbean development issues were:

(i) The organization of a media symposium on climate change in the United States Virgin Islands (USVI), which was held on St. Thomas in January 2016.

(ii) Guest appearances on WUVI Radio, to discuss topics such as climate change, water resources management, and potential linkages between the local and global conservation programs.

(iii) Information dissemination via electronic groups for Caribbean regional environment and development professional networks.

(iv) The use of the FDPI LinkedIn Group and other social media platforms to facilitate discussion on Caribbean development issues.

**Participation in Public Policy Initiatives**

FDPI continued to explore opportunities to frame new policy approaches and improve governance in public policy development and program design and implementation. At the regional level, this was achieved through participation in the Regional Public Mechanism of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean. The participation in the Protected Areas Conservation Action Team of the Caribbean Landscape Conservation Cooperative provided an opportunity at the sub-regional level.

During the 2015-2016 program year, the most significant opportunity to shape public policy was the provision of technical advice and support to the Government of the United States Virgin Islands (USVI) in development of the USVI climate change program. Of note is the fact that the FDPI’s climate change project concept was selected as the template for design of the program. FDPI also played a major role in the preparation of the U.S. Virgin Islands Executive Order on Climate Change, and was appointed to the U.S. Virgin Islands Climate Change Council in December 2015.
INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

During the program year, the FDPI met its regulatory obligations and continued to focus on development of its organizational capacity.

Financial Sustainability

Financial and other resources to support the operations of the FDPI during the program year were provided by the directors and associates of the FDPI. Resources were provided in the form of: (i) telecommunication systems; (ii) information technology technical support; (iii) underwriting the cost of annual meetings; (iv) meeting office rental and other administrative costs; and (v) direct donations.

As a key step in its institutional development, FDPI initiated the process of strategic organizational design and development of its financial sustainability strategy. The value of donating to the FDPI was articulated in the form of a Value Proposition.

Reporting to Regulatory Agencies

As part of its legal obligations, FDPI submitted annual reports to the Government of the United States Virgin Islands and the United States Internal Revenue Service.

Capacity Development

During the program year, FDPI increased its capacity to participate in public policy processes, and to design and implement programs and projects. This was achieved through two mechanisms: (i) increased participation by directors in fundraising, program design, establishment of partnership arrangements, and information dissemination; and (ii) appointment of two Research Associates, Dr. Barbara Lausche and Dr. LaVerne Ragster.
Mission Statement

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

FDPI Objectives and Purposes

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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FDPI LinkedIn Group