



**FOUNDATION FOR
DEVELOPMENT PLANNING INC**

**ANNUAL REPORT
2017**

PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

The Foundation for Development Planning, Inc (FDPI) was registered in the United States Virgin Islands in 2010 as a non-profit corporation. The organization 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, in addition to its standard fiduciary duties, has the responsibility of ensuring organizational commitment to the founding objectives and the development and maintenance of a culture of excellence.

Board of Directors 2016-2017

- ✚ Lloyd Gardner, President
- ✚ Michael O'Neal, Vice President
- ✚ Noreen Michael, Secretary/Treasurer
- ✚ Selena Tapper
- ✚ Spencer Thomas
- ✚ Yvonne Webster-Pryce

PROGRAM OF WORK



Cross-Cutting Themes		
Capacity Development	Public Engagement	Governance

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

During the 2016-2017 program year, the Foundation for Development Planning, Inc (FDPI) continued its networking activities, participation in regional and international inter-governmental processes, and collaborations in support of public policy development and programs in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Networks

FDPI maintained its participation in regional environment and development networks, primarily by routine dissemination of relevant information, but also by being responsive to specific requests by institutions and professionals. More formally, FDPI became a member of American Nonprofits during the program year, and maintained its membership in the [Global Environment Facility Civil Society Network](#).

Key initiatives launched during the program year are:

- Formation of a territorial alliance of non-profits in the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- Collaboration with regional organizations to develop a coordinating mechanism for regional civil society organizations that are regional focal points or points of contact for international civil society networks or inter-governmental initiatives.

Inter-governmental Arrangements

FDPI continued its 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 process for acquiring accreditation to relevant meetings and programs of agencies and commissions of the United Nations was advanced during the program year. Following the [registration of FDPI](#) with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) in 2016, the application for accreditation by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) was submitted during the current program year.

Collaborations

During the 2016-2017 program year, FDPI continued to participate in public policy initiatives and programs in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Initiatives included:

- (i) The work of the [Protected Areas Conservation Action Team](#) of the Caribbean Landscape Conservation Cooperative in protected areas programming in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

- (ii) Workshops and project activities undertaken as part of the [U.S. Virgin Islands climate change program](#).
- (iii) Evaluation of the Virgin Islands Coastal Zone Management Program, conducted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

During the program year, FDPI commenced a new collaboration with [Virgin Islands Capital Resources Inc](#) (VICap), a non-profit organization focused on community economic development. FDPI is supporting an initiative by VICap to build a virtual community to utilize VICap's interactive communication platform, which is intended to facilitate discussions focused on economic development issues in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Leadership Engagement

FDPI's engagement activities with current and emerging leaders were given more structure and focus during the program year, and the leadership engagement strategy will be formalized and incorporated into the 2018-2020 workplan. An exploration of FDPI's potential participation in the broader area of youth development also commenced during the program year.

One of the operating concepts for engagement with emerging leaders is that FDPI will facilitate cross-fertilization of ideas among young professionals, as well as between young professionals and current leaders. This concept was put into practice during the program year. A paper co-authored by two young Caribbean professionals, and presented at a regional conference in 2017, was posted on FDPI's website and shared through FDPI's LinkedIn Group. The two young professionals and their work were subsequently introduced to other professionals participating in regional networks. Similarly, a member of FDPI collaborated with a young professional on the preparation of a paper for publication.

COMMUNICATION

A major focus of FDPI during the program year was supporting information flows and enhancing access to knowledge products. Information was shared in a variety of formats and through a range of mechanisms, including an appearance on a local radio station (WUVI Radio) to discuss issues related to water resources management and climate change and health.

Dissemination mechanisms included regional virtual networks for Caribbean environment and development professionals, and FDPI's social media platforms. A [Facebook Page](#) was established during the program year, and with the [FDPI LinkedIn Group](#), was used to facilitate discussion of Caribbean development issues.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The FDPI fulfilled its statutory reporting responsibilities to the Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands and the United States Internal Revenue Service.

Financial and other resources to support the operations of the FDPI during the program year were provided by the organization's directors and associates. Resources were provided in the form of:

- (i) Web-conferencing services;
- (ii) Information technology technical support; and
- (iii) Underwriting office rental and other administrative costs.

Subsequent to the preparation of its [Value Proposition](#), FDPI increased its efforts to gain access to federal programs based on demonstrated value to local and national programs. The broader focus on [fund development](#) was also maintained during the program year.

The outreach activities conducted during the program year reflected an emphasis on engagement, and the emerging collaborations provide points of entry for FDPI into regional development processes. However, during the program year a number of international and regional geopolitical factors converged to create new uncertainties regarding Caribbean development outcomes. In that context, FDPI is re-assessing its capability and operational modalities in order to respond appropriately to the changes in its operating environment.

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.

Mission Statement

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

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Join the discussions on Caribbean development at the

[FDPI LinkedIn Group](#)