



ANNUAL REPORT 2022



Foundation for Development Planning, Inc.

Introduction

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

The FDPI was granted Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council in 2021.

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

The FDPI endeavors 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*".

This report provides program highlights for the fiscal year October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022.

Corporate Governance

The FDPI Board of Directors went through its first major transition during the fiscal year with the departure of members of its inaugural board of directors and the hiring of a full-time executive director. Major activities undertaken by the board during the fiscal year included consolidation of guidelines and processes for recruitment of directors, preparation of guidelines for assessment of board performance, and a board self-assessment.

Members of the Board of Directors at the end of Fiscal Year 2021-2022 were:

- Jeremy Francis, Vice President
- Yvonne Webster-Pryce, Treasurer
- Aldene Shillingford, Director
- Natasha Pettier, Director
- Lloyd Gardner, Executive Director

Program Highlights

In September 2021, the current executive director of the FDPI, Mr. Lloyd Gardner, was appointed to serve as an author for the Caribbean chapter of the U.S. Fifth National Climate Assessment (<https://www.globalchange.gov/nca5>). That contribution continued through the fiscal year.

The FDPI also participated in the third climate change conference for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands on April 19-20, 2022.

Participation in Inter-governmental Arrangements

The FDPI continued its participation in the United Nations Environment Programme-Caribbean Environment Programme/Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention):

- Executive Director Gardner functioned as an expert in the Protected Areas Working Group established by the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee of the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region.
- The FDPI also participated in the “Workshops on Ocean Governance and the Science-Policy Interface for the Wider Caribbean and on the Scoping of the next Assessment(s) of the United Nations Regular Process for the North Pacific and the Wider Caribbean”, September 5-14, 2022, Kingston, Jamaica. The workshops were organized by the United Nations Division of Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea and hosted by the International Seabed Authority.

The FDPI maintained its membership in the following inter-governmental arrangements:

- Stakeholder, Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).
- Member, Global Environment Facility Civil Society Network (GEF-CSO Network).
- Member, Regional Public Mechanism of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (“Escazú Agreement”).

Collaboration with Caribbean Civil Society Organizations

In November 2021, Executive Director Gardner was invited by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute to serve on the Regional Advisory Committee for Phase 2 of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund project in the Caribbean. The collaboration is expected to continue to the end of the project in 2026.

The FDPI is working with other civil society organizations to establish the SPAW Consortium, a proposed alliance of organizations for the purpose of supporting implementation of the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife in the Wider Caribbean Region and its attendant sub-program under the United Nations Environment Programme-Caribbean Environment Programme.

Public Engagement

The FDPI routinely shares information through its social media platforms, the electronic group that it manages for information exchange and peer-peer learning between professionals in the Caribbean civil society sector, and other Caribbean environment and development electronic groups.

- FDPI's LinkedIn Corporate Page: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/foundation-for-development-planning-inc>
- FDPI's LinkedIn Group: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/5027470/>
- FDPI's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/DevPlanFoundation/>
- Caribbean civil society sector e-group: <https://groups.io/g/Caribbean-CSOs>

Looking Ahead

Partnerships

Attempts to establish collaborative arrangements with other institutions have produced varying levels of success. Those attempts will continue during the next program year, with particular focus on partnerships with the following institutions:

- Government of the United States Virgin Islands, primarily for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction programming.
- Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States.
- Cipriani College for Labour and Co-operative Studies, focused on climate justice and just transitions.

Information Sharing

The FDPI will continue to share information via its website, social media platforms, and networks. The organization will increase its efforts to promote the FDPI's website as a mechanism for publication of articles on Caribbean development. This includes encouraging young professionals to publish on the website or through other mechanisms.

The digital library, knowledge production mechanisms, and peer-peer learning networks remain core components of the organization's program and the organization will continue its efforts to establish these program components.

Engagement

Emphasis will be placed on the following arrangements during the next program year:

- Participation in the work of the United Nations Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, particularly the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Participation in the United Nations Environment Programme-Caribbean Environment Programme.

- Engagement with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States.
- Engagement with the Caribbean Community Secretariat and relevant Community Institutions.
- Engagement with the Caribbean diaspora.
- Participation in the activities (regional reporting and meetings) leading up to the fourth international conference on small island developing states (SIDS) in 2024.
- Participation in or collaboration with alliances relevant to the priorities of the organization, particularly the SPAW Consortium and the Caribbean Climate Justice Alliance.

Thank You

To everyone who reached out or supported us in the many ways you have during the past year. These highlights do not capture your effort, support, or faith in this organization. We will continue to show our appreciation through our input to the shared work in service to our community.

Thank you.

FDPI Objectives and Purposes

The Objects 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.

Contributing to the FDPI

The FDPI is certified by the United States Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) public charity. As such, donations by U.S. institutions and citizens are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. FDPI Tax ID Number: 66-0763692

Donations should be sent to:

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