A Vision for Jamaica

National Vision Statement
Jamaica, the place of choice to live, work, raise families, and do business

The Vision
From bustling townships and cities to the “irie” countryside, we are a people of tremendous God-given talent and potential. Out of diverse hardships we remain strong and deeply spiritual. Jamaica, an island gem basking in brilliant sunshine where cool waters cascade from the mountains to the fertile soils of the valleys below.

As a united family at home and abroad, we commit to a vision in which:

• we ensure equitable access to modern education and training appropriate to the needs of each person and the nation
• we provide quality and timely healthcare for the mental, physical and emotional well-being of our people
• our children and our children’s children can continue to enjoy the unique environmental and cultural treasures of our island home
• we seek out and support the entrepreneurial talents and creativity of our people
• we create prosperity through the sustainable use and management of our natural resources
• we create and advance national prosperity and security by vigorously seeking, learning, generating, and applying scientific and technological knowledge
• we provide full access to efficient and reliable infrastructure and services
• we are the premier destination to visit and do business
• we hold to and build on those positive core values and attitudes that have made us distinctly Jamaican
• we resolve conflicts through dialogue and mediation
• we treat each other with respect and dignity
• we all have a meaningful voice in the decision-making of our country
• we create a safe and secure society
• we know our rights and responsibilities and stand equal before the law
• Our families contribute positively to the society and nurture, protect, encourage and support their members

We especially seek to create a secure future for our vulnerable population in ensuring that:

• each child has equal opportunity to develop his or her full potential through access to the best care, affection and protection
• our youth are empowered to contribute meaningfully in building and strengthening the communities to which they belong
• our elderly and persons with disabilities are fully integrated within society, have access to appropriate care and support services and are treated as valuable human resources
• no one falls into, or remains in poverty for lack of adequate support

“One love, one heart, one Jamaica”
“Jamaica, the place of choice to live, work, raise families, and do business”

**What does this mean? (The National Goals)**

1. Jamaicans are empowered to achieve their fullest potential
2. The Jamaican society is secure, cohesive and just
3. Jamaica’s economy is prosperous
4. Jamaica has a healthy natural environment

**Where do we want to be by 2030? (The National Outcomes)**

1. A Healthy and Stable Population
2. World-Class Education and Training
3. Effective Social Protection
4. Authentic and Transformational Culture
5. Security and Safety
6. Effective Governance
7. A Stable Macroeconomy
8. An Enabling Business Environment
9. Strong Economic Infrastructure
10. Energy Security and Efficiency
11. A Technology-Enabled Society
12. Internationally Competitive Industry Structures
13. Sustainable Management and Use of Environmental and Natural Resources
14. Hazard Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change
15. Sustainable Urban and Rural Development

Figure 1: Vision, Goals & Outcomes
What do we have to do?
(The National Strategies Linked to Goals & Outcomes)

1. Jamaicans are empowered to achieve their fullest potential

**National Outcome 1: A Healthy and Stable Population**

**National Strategies:**
- Maintain a stable population
- Strengthen disease surveillance, mitigation, risk reduction and the responsiveness of the health system
- Strengthen the Health Promotion Approach
- Strengthen and emphasize the primary health care approach
- Provide and maintain an adequate health infrastructure to ensure efficient and cost-effective service delivery
- Establish and implement a sustainable mechanism for human resources
- Establish effective governance mechanisms for supporting health services
- Support national food security
- Strengthen the linkages between health and the environment
- Introduce a programme for sustainable financing of health care

2. Jamaicans are empowered to achieve their fullest potential

**National Outcome 2: World-Class Education and Training**

**National Strategies:**
- Ensure that children 0-8 years old have access to adequate early childhood education and development programmes
- Enable a satisfactory learning environment at the primary level
- Ensure that the secondary school system equips school leavers to access further education, training and/or decent work
- Accelerate the process of creating and implementing a standards-driven and outcomes-based education system
- Develop and establish financing and management mechanisms for schools
- Ensure a physical environment in all schools that is safe and conducive to learning at all levels of the school system
- Ensure that adequate and high quality tertiary education is provided with an emphasis on the interface with work and school
- Expand mechanisms to provide access to education and training for all, including unattached youth
- Promote a culture of learning among the general populace
- Establish a National Qualification Framework
- Strengthen mechanisms to align training with demands of the labour market

3. Jamaicans are empowered to achieve their fullest potential

**National Outcome 3: Effective Social Protection**

**National Strategies:**
- Infuse poverty and vulnerable issues in all public policies
- Expand opportunities for the poor to engage in sustainable livelihoods
- Create and sustain an effective, efficient, transparent and objective system for delivering social assistance services and programmes
- Promote greater participation in, and viability of social insurance and pension schemes

4. The Jamaican society is secure, cohesive and just

**National Outcome 5: Security and Safety**

**National Strategies:**
- Strengthen the capacity of communities to participate in creating a safe and secure society
- Reform and modernize the law enforcement system
- Improve the security of the border and territorial waters
- Strengthen the anti-crime capability of law enforcement agencies
- Strengthen the management, rehabilitation and reintegration of clients of correctional services

5. Authentic and Transformational Culture

**National Outcome 4: Authentic and Transformational Culture**

**National Strategies:**
- Promote core / transformational values
- Promote the family as the central unit of human development
- Preserve, develop and promote Jamaica’s cultural heritage
- Integrate Jamaica’s nation brand into developmental processes
- Strengthen the role of sport in all aspects of national development

6. Effective Governance

**National Outcome 6: Effective Governance**

**National Strategies:**
- Strengthen the process of citizen participation in governance
- Reform the justice system
- Ensure tolerance and respect for human rights and freedoms
- Engage in constitutional reform
- Strengthen public institutions to deliver efficient and effective public goods and services
- Foster equity in all areas of the society
- Strengthen accountability and transparency mechanisms

Table 1: National Strategies Linked to Goals and Outcomes

"JAMAICA, THE PLACE OF CHOICE TO LIVE, WORK, RAISE FAMILIES AND DO BUSINESS"
What do we have to do?
(The National Strategies Linked to Goals & Outcomes)

Jamaica’s economy is prosperous

**National Outcome 7:**
*A Stable Macroeconomy*

**National Strategies:**
- Ensure fiscal and debt sustainability
- Develop an efficient and equitable tax system
- Maintain financial system stability
- Maintain price stability

**National Outcome 8:**
*An Enabling Business Environment*

**National Strategies:**
- Ensure a facilitating policy, regulatory and institutional framework for business development
- Increase access to capital
- Use trade and foreign relations to create an enabling external environment for economic growth
- Strengthen investment promotion and trade facilitation
- Develop an efficient labour market
- Improve the labour environment to enhance labour productivity and worker satisfaction
- Develop the capabilities of Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises

**National Outcome 9:**
*Strong Economic Infrastructure*

**National Strategies:**
- Expand and rationalize land transport and infrastructure services
- Develop a modernized public transport system
- Expand domestic and international air transport infrastructure and services
- Expand and diversify maritime infrastructure and services
- Develop Jamaica as a regional logistics hub with multimodal transport linkages
- Expand the broadband network island-wide
- Ensure adequate and safe water supply and sanitation services

**National Outcome 10:**
*Energy Security and Efficiency*

**National Strategies:**
- Diversify the energy supply
- Promote energy efficiency and conservation

**National Outcome 11:**
*A Technology-Enabled Society*

**National Strategies:**
- Integrate science and technology into all areas of development
- Create a dynamic and responsive National Innovation System

**National Outcome 12:**
*Internationally Competitive Industry Structures*

**National Strategies:**
- Develop company sophistication and productivity
- Develop economic linkages and clusters
- Develop economies of scale and scope through collaboration among enterprises in the region
- Enhance the framework for competition among enterprises
- Promote eco-efficiency and the green economy

Table 1: National Strategies Linked to Goals and Outcomes (Cont’d)
**What do we have to do?**
(The National Strategies Linked to Goals & Outcomes)

**Jamaica has a healthy natural environment**

**National Outcome 13: Sustainable Management and Use of Environmental and Natural Resources**

**National Strategies:**
- Integrate environmental issues in economic and social decision-making policies and processes
- Develop and implement mechanisms for biodiversity conservation and ecosystems management
- Develop efficient and effective governance structures for environmental management
- Manage all forms of waste effectively

**National Outcome 14: Hazard Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change**

**National Strategies:**
- Improve resilience to all forms of hazards
- Improve emergency response capability
- Develop measures to adapt to climate change
- Contribute to the effort to reduce the global rate of climate change

**Jamaica has a healthy natural environment**

**National Outcome 15: Sustainable Urban and Rural Development**

**National Strategies:**
- Create a comprehensive and efficient planning system
- Create an appropriate framework for sustainability planning
- Create sustainable urban centres, including urban renewal and upgrading
- Create vibrant and diversified rural areas
- Ensure safe, sanitary and affordable shelter for all

Table 1: National Strategies Linked to Goals and Outcomes (Cont'd)
## Selected Socio-Economic Indicators Jamaica (1970-2007)

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<tr>
<td>Real GDP¹ (Growth) %</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>-5.7</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>1.4</td>
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<td>Debt/GDP (%)</td>
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<td>107.4</td>
<td>128.7</td>
<td>88.7</td>
<td>119.1</td>
<td>117.5</td>
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<td>Average Annual Unemployment Rate (%)</td>
<td>27.4</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>9.9</td>
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<td>Average Annual Exchange Rate (J$=US$1.00)</td>
<td>0.83</td>
<td>1.78</td>
<td>7.24</td>
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<td>62.50</td>
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<td>Inflation (%)</td>
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<td>28.6</td>
<td>29.8</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>16.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population ('000)</td>
<td>1,861.3</td>
<td>2,183.8</td>
<td>2,414.9</td>
<td>2,597.1</td>
<td>2,656.7</td>
<td>2,669.5</td>
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<td>Population Growth Rate (%)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
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<td>Life Expectancy at Birth (years)</td>
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<td>72.2</td>
<td>73.3</td>
<td>73.3</td>
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<td>Adult Literacy (% of ages 15 and older)</td>
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<td>79.9</td>
<td>79.9</td>
<td>85.5</td>
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<td>Gross Primary Enrolment ('000)</td>
<td>427.3</td>
<td>339.0</td>
<td>325.3</td>
<td>326.4</td>
<td>318.7</td>
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<td>% Population below Poverty Line</td>
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<td>18.9</td>
<td>14.8</td>
<td>14.3</td>
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<td>Access to Piped Water (%)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>66.6</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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