A summary of the Ministry’s Expenditure, Divisions and Projects
Financial Scrutiny Unit, Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
An electronic copy of this Guide can be found on the Parliament website: www.ttparliament.org

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About this Guide

This guide provides a summary of expenditure for the Ministry of Agriculture Land and Fisheries (MALF) for the period 2014-2020. It provides Members of Parliament and stakeholders with an overview of the Ministry’s responsibilities. The primary purpose of this guide is to consolidate the information contained within the various Budget Documents pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture Land and Fisheries, and provide readers with an analysis of same. This guide is based primarily on:

- the Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure;
- the Draft Estimates of Development Programme;
- the Public Sector Investment Programme; and
- the Auditor General’s Report on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the fiscal year 2018.
Head 77– Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries

Ministry Overview

Mission
To work as an innovative team championing the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable development of food and non-food systems, supported by sound public policy.

Vision
To be a client oriented, performance driven, environmentally responsible organization delivering integrated services aligned to a changing food and agriculture system.

Divisions and Units

- Agricultural Planning;
- Agricultural Services;
- Animal Production & Health;
- Extension Training & Information Services;
- Engineering;
- Fisheries;

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1Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries website; accessed on August 16, 2019: https://agriculture.gov.tt/
• Forestry Division;
• Geographic Information Systems Unit;
• Library;
• Research;
• Regional Administration North;
• Regional Administration South;
• Survey and Mapping; and
• Horticulture Services.

**Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries:** Senator the Honourable Clarence Rambharat

**Parliamentary Secretary:** Senator Avinash G Singh

**Permanent Secretary:** Ms. Lydia Jacobs
State Agencies under the purview of the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entities Falling Under Their Purview</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agriculture Development Bank</strong>²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago</strong>³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cocoa Development Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited</strong>⁴</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

² Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries website accessed on Friday September 27, 2019: [https://agriculture.gov.tt/agencies-partners/agencies/agricultural-development-bank/](https://agriculture.gov.tt/agencies-partners/agencies/agricultural-development-bank/)


| **Livestock and Livestock Products Board**<sup>5</sup> | The Board’s Mission is to create the most favorable environment possible for the production and marketing of livestock and livestock products and to maximize returns for local producers/processors through cooperative efforts. |
| **National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation**<sup>6</sup> | The National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation (NAMDEVCO) is a Statutory body created by Act of Parliament No. 16 of 1991 with a mandate "to create, facilitate and maintain an environment conducive to the efficient marketing of agricultural produce and food products through the provision of marketing services and the stimulation of business investment in the agro-industrial sector of Trinidad and Tobago". |

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UNEMPLOYMENT FUND - $7,780,133,680.56

4.6 The Unemployment Fund was established by section 14 (2) of the Unemployment Levy Act, Chapter 75:03 which provides that the Fund shall be administered by the Minister of Finance.

4.7 Section 14 (3) authorises the Minister of Finance to make advances from the Fund for stipulated purposes. Section 17 provides that all monies collected pursuant to the Act shall be paid into the Unemployment Fund.

4.8 The balance on the Unemployment Fund showed a decrease of $118,876,285.02 or 1% over the previous year’s balance of $7,899,009,965.58. Receipts to the Fund comprised Unemployment Levy collected by the Board of Inland Revenue amounting to $121,863,974.88 as well as interest of $31,111,634.12 on cash balances, miscellaneous receipts of $84,494.45 and Recoveries of Overpayment for previous years of $218,393.31. TS29 and TS30, refer.

4.9 The Unemployment Relief Programme is the programme for which advances are made from the Unemployment Fund as permitted by section 14 (3) of its Act. This is done pursuant to decisions made by Cabinet from time to time.

4.10 Records show that responsibility for administration of this Programme was changed over the years to and from the Office of the Prime Minister through various Ministries such as the Ministry of Local Government, the Ministry of Works and Transport, the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Public Utilities, and effective October 2013, to the Ministry of Works and Transport.

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the Programme is also administered by the Ministry of Agriculture.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4.11</th>
<th>Amounts were appropriated to the following Administering Officers for administration of the Unemployment Relief Programme as follows:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$                                                                                  $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Works and Transport</td>
<td>167,098,547.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Works and Transport – Tobago House of Assembly</td>
<td>18,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries</td>
<td>87,056,234.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>272,154,781.78</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS**

6.56 Ministries and Departments are given approval by the Comptroller of Accounts to maintain Deposit Accounts. Monies accepted as deposits are lodged with the Treasury for safekeeping and are referred to as “Treasury Deposits”. The amounts in the Treasury Deposit accounts are temporary lodgments and are shown as liabilities in the records of the Treasury.

6.57 The Financial Instructions 1965, Part XIII, paragraph 212 (2) states, “Departments shall prepare a reconciliation statement with details of the composition of the balance and such statement shall fully explain any difference between the departmental and
Comptroller of Accounts balances of the account.” Reconciliation Statements of Deposit Accounts and/or supporting analyses of balances where necessary were not received as shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry/ Department</th>
<th>Number of Accounts Held</th>
<th>Number of Accounts Submitted</th>
<th>Number of Accounts submitted to AGD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries</em></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) fiscal year 2018/2019 - Achievements

In 2019, a number of programmes and projects were implemented in the Agriculture Sector, to continue to transform the sector into an economic growth sector as well as to contribute to increased levels of food security. A total allocation of $100.6 million was provided to the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries (MALF), of which $68.9 million was expended for the implementation of key programmes and projects.

- **Agricultural Land Management** – The *Survey and Sub-division of State Lands Project* facilitated the resurveying and subdivision of approximately 58.9 hectares of state lands in Rio Claro into approximately 39 parcels with the sum of $10.8 million in fiscal 2019. The project was designed specifically to make lands available for farming to suitable qualified persons, to increase hectarage availability for the cultivation and production of food. The areas being developed are Supharia/ Pinder Trace, State Land Block located at Supharia Trace, off San Pedro Road and Piper Trace, off Dades Road, Rio Claro.

- **Water Shed Management** – The *Restoration and Management of the Guanapo Watershed* aimed to increase farm productivity and income of farmers in the Guanapo Watershed, through restoration and management of sustainable water resources. An allocation of $1.0 million was provided to:
  - Identify and train stakeholders in soil and water conservation;
  - Identify and map the vulnerable areas using Geographic Information System (GIS) assistance that is being provided by the GIS Unit of the Ministry; and

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Source appropriate equipment to conduct water analysis and monitor water quality.

**Fish Landing Facilities** - Improving the sanitary standards in the fishing industry is an ongoing focus of the MALF. Fish landing sites require continuous upgrades and refurbishment to combat the effects of the sea blast and deterioration due to erosion and to ensure that health standards are maintained. Further, modernizing the infrastructure and facilities at fish landing sites allow fisher folks to conduct their trade in suitable conditions. In this regard, two projects were undertaken:

- **Upgrading/ Construction of Fishing Facilities in Trinidad** – the sum of $7.4 million was expended to provide the necessary amenities for fisher folk at various fish landing sites throughout Trinidad. These upgrade works to the infrastructure at these sites provided employment opportunities within fishing communities for skilled workers, such as electricians, welders, mason and labourers; and

- **Refurbishment of Fish Landing Facilities** – and allocation of $0.7 million was provided for refurbishment and upgrade works at Claxton Bay, Bonasse and Erin Fish Landing Facilities to procure services and materials to complete electrical works, as well as to conduct repairs to vending stalls, removal of existing stainless steel countertops, installation of polished one cut terrazzo countertops, masonry, painting and plumbing works.

**Boosting Agricultural Production** – A number of Research and Development activities were undertaken in fiscal 2019 to boost growth of agricultural production:

- **Rehabilitation of Cocoa Industry** - locally harvested beans were used to produce value added cocoa products for sale locally and abroad. Over 600 farmers participated in this project for which, the sum of $0.8 million was provided for the following activities:
  - Construction of two drying houses for the Munod Nuevo and Biche cocoa clusters;
  - Improvement of disease resistance in the Trinidad Selected Hybrids varieties through breeding;
  - Establishment of budwood and seed gardens; and
➢ Mitigation of cadmium on cocoa farms through testing of samples at Caribbean Industrial Research Institute (CARIRI).

○ Coconut Rehabilitation and replanting Programme – to increase the market share of water nuts, the rehabilitation and replanting of 900 acres of land with coconut plants on the East Coast of Trinidad was undertaken through an allocation of $0.3 million.

○ Provision of Agricultural Access Roads to Targeted Commodities and Strategic Crops – projects to develop access roads and infrastructure such as box drains, cylinder crossings and gabion baskets for farmers. In 2019, an allocation of $5.0 million was provided for this project, of which $1.3 million was utilized for the following:
  ➢ Payment of previous year commitments (B.P. Coora Project) (Rio Claro Food Crop Project) (Dades Trace C and D);
  ➢ Hiring of Engineer and Site Supervisors, maintenance and calibration of lab equipment and procurement of items necessary for project management; and
  ➢ Rehabilitation of roads at
    ▪ Rajpual Trace, Rio Claro;
    ▪ Harricharan Trace, Tableland;
    ▪ Chickland, Brasso; and
    ▪ Seecharan Trace, Tabaquite.
The Ministry’s total allocation as a percentage of the National Budget for the period 2016 to 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Allocation</th>
<th>National Budget</th>
<th>Percentage of National Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$ 834,496,066.00</td>
<td>$ 56,573,913,053.00</td>
<td>1.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$ 758,084,944.00</td>
<td>$ 54,883,153,410.00</td>
<td>1.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$ 747,539,232.00</td>
<td>$ 54,211,726,813.00</td>
<td>1.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$ 679,953,300.00</td>
<td>$ 54,149,378,860.00</td>
<td>1.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$ 758,916,840.00</td>
<td>$ 58,058,338,392.00</td>
<td>1.31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Total allocation for the Ministry as a percentage of the National Budget illustrated an increase in the allocation to the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries by 0.08% between the period 2018/2019 and 2019/2020.

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9 For the Fiscal Years 2016-2018, actual figures were used to calculate the Ministry’s total allocation. However, estimates were used to determine the Ministry’s total allocation for the Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020

10 Total Allocation for the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries = Recurrent Expenditure + Consolidated Fund

11 The National Budget = Total Recurrent Expenditure + Total Development Programme Consolidated Fund
Where the Ministry spends its money

2019 – 2020 Estimates of Expenditure

The budget allocation of $778,916,840.00 for the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries is comprised of:

- The Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure\(^{12}\) in the sum of $694,735,840.00
- The Draft Estimates of Development Programme\(^{13}\) in the sum of $84,181,000.00
  - Consolidated Fund in the sum of $64,181,000.00
  - Infrastructure Development Fund\(^{14}\) in the sum of $20,000,000

The Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure include:

- 01 Personnel Expenditure - $385,541,587.00;
- 02 Goods and Services - $143,597,310.00;
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases - $6,160,952.00;
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies - $103,926,002.00; and
- 06 Current Transfers to Statutory Boards and Similar bodies - $55,509,989.00.


\(^{14}\) Head 18 - Ministry of Finance, Sub-Head 04 – Current Transfers and Subsidies, Sub-Item 11- Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF) (Infrastructure Development Fund allocation is part of the Ministry of Finance Recurrent Expenditure allocation for the financial year. Therefore, the total recurrent expenditure for the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries does not include IDF funding.)
The Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries:

- Recurrent Expenditure as a percentage of the total Recurrent Expenditure budget is 1.25%;
- Consolidated Fund allocation as a percentage of the total Consolidated Fund allocation is 2.51%; and
- Infrastructure Development Fund allocation as a percentage of the total Infrastructure Development Fund 0.75%.
Summary of Recurrent Expenditure for the period 2016-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01 Personnel Expenditure</td>
<td>$380,276,052.00</td>
<td>$383,346,775.00</td>
<td>$364,627,508.00</td>
<td>$387,520,663.00</td>
<td>$362,233,000.00</td>
<td>$385,541,587.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02 Goods and Services</td>
<td>$136,114,925.00</td>
<td>$100,894,785.00</td>
<td>$110,704,005.00</td>
<td>$123,500,354.00</td>
<td>$94,641,500.00</td>
<td>$143,597,310.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03 Minor Equipment Purchases</td>
<td>$68,173.00</td>
<td>$212,746.00</td>
<td>$186,931.00</td>
<td>$645,112.00</td>
<td>$24,800.00</td>
<td>$6,160,952.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04 Current Transfer and Subsidies</td>
<td>$220,017,941.00</td>
<td>$193,194,559.00</td>
<td>$209,622,660.00</td>
<td>$145,896,971.00</td>
<td>$167,737,400.00</td>
<td>$103,926,002.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06 Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. and Similar Bodies</td>
<td>$57,853,374.00</td>
<td>$49,874,854.00</td>
<td>$40,991,670.00</td>
<td>$49,436,900.00</td>
<td>$42,473,500.00</td>
<td>$55,509,989.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$794,330,465.00</td>
<td>$727,523,719.00</td>
<td>$726,132,774.00</td>
<td>$707,000,000.00</td>
<td>$667,110,200.00</td>
<td>$694,735,840.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Analysis of Recurrent Expenditure

Recurrent Expenditure refers to the payments for expenses which are incurred during the day-to-day operations of the Ministry for Personnel Expenditure, Goods and Services, Minor Equipment Purchases and Current Transfers and Subsidies. Recurrent Expenditure for Fiscal Year 2019/2020 is $694,735,840.00.

- Recurrent Expenditure for Fiscal Year 2018/2019 was $667,110,200.00. Comparing this figure with Fiscal Year 2019/2020, there was an increase of $27,625,640.00 or 0.04%.

- The largest portion of the allocation has consistently gone to Sub-Head 01 Personnel Expenditure which was $385,541,587.00 in 2020. This figure has fluctuated over the period, accounting for approximately 56% of total funding for the Ministry for fiscal year 2019/2020.

- Minor Equipment Purchases has consistently received the lowest portion of the total allocation for the Ministry over the period 2016 to 2020. For fiscal 2020, an increase of 0.9% of the total is noted.

- Sub-Head 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies received the second largest portion of the allocation and has been fluctuating over the period 2016–2018. Comparing 2018/2019 to 2019/2020, there was a decrease in the allocation by 38%.

- The total allocation has been fluctuating over the period from a high of $1,861,305,239.00 in the fiscal year 2016 to a low of $679,953,300.00 in fiscal year 2019.

Recurrent Expenditure Unique to the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries\textsuperscript{16}

Unique Expenditure refers to expenditure items incurred by the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries that may not feature in other ministries or departments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entity</th>
<th>2017 Actual</th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Revised Estimate</th>
<th>2020 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago</td>
<td>$2,014,299.00</td>
<td>$1,934,385.00</td>
<td>$1,931,000.00</td>
<td>$4,044,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation</td>
<td>$33,889,720.00</td>
<td>$28,691,910.00</td>
<td>$29,662,500.00</td>
<td>$34,787,162.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocoa Development Company of Trinidad and Tobago</td>
<td>$1,964,000.00</td>
<td>$2,000,000.00</td>
<td>$2,064,000.00</td>
<td>$3,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoological Society of Trinidad and Tobago</td>
<td>$12,784,950.00</td>
<td>$10,365,375.00</td>
<td>$10,880,000.00</td>
<td>$16,678,427.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estate Management and Business Development Company Limited</td>
<td>$16,000,000.00</td>
<td>$5,700,000.00</td>
<td>$10,000,000.00</td>
<td>$14,890,600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Incentive Programme</td>
<td>$10,532,629.00</td>
<td>$42,523,764.00</td>
<td>$7,143,000.00</td>
<td>$26,067,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relief of Flood Damage</td>
<td>$13,542,612.00</td>
<td>$9,666,926.00</td>
<td>$7,000,000.00</td>
<td>$10,500,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The allocation of staff expenditure for the year 2019/2020 was $449,432,907.00 which represents an increase of approximately 7.05% from the revised estimates for 2018/2019. The diagram below provides a breakdown of all expenditure related to staff from 2017 to 2020.
Summary of Development Programme Expenditure for the period 2016-2020

Development Programme is capital expenditure aimed at improving and enhancing development in different areas of Trinidad and Tobago which includes; human resources, economic and social development.

The allocation to the Ministry for development programmes and projects for fiscal year 2019/2020 = $84,181,000. These funds are presented in two parts as follows:

- Funds disbursed directly from the Consolidated Fund = $64,181,000 and represent (76%) of the total allocation to the Ministry;
- Funds disbursed from the Infrastructure Development Fund = $20,000,000 and represent (24%) of the total allocation to the Ministry.

Summary of Development Programme 2016-2020

- 001 Pre-Investment
- 002 Productive Sectors
- 003 Economic Infrastructure - Consolidated Fund
- 004 Social Infrastructure - Consolidated Fund
- 005 Multi-Sectoral and Other Services - Consolidated Fund
- 003 Economic Infrastructure - Infrastructure Development Fund
- Total
The Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP), which represents the capital expenditure component of the National Budget, is the instrument used by Government to effect its vision and policies. It is a budgeting and strategic planning tool made up of projects and programmes, designed to realise the goals set out in the Government’s overarching policy. The PSIP budget document provides a detailed description of the programmes and projects and includes a review of the implementation of projects and programmes in the previous financial year and highlights the major projects and programmes to be implemented in the upcoming financial year. The Public Sector Investment Programme is intended to achieve:

- the country’s social and economic development goals; and
- enhance the quality of life of all citizens.

One of the main goals of Vision 2030 is to increase the contribution of the non-energy sector towards diversifying the economy and achieving sustainable development. In implementing this policy agenda, the major focus of the MALF is the development of modernized, competitive systems and processes to ensure the nation’s food security. The structures put in place are expected to encourage local consumption as well as attract international investment to serve as a potentially viable economic growth sector.

Some of the major initiatives being implemented by the MALF will be facilitated through the provision of an allocation of $84.1 million. This financial allocation seeks to encourage access to safe and nutritious food, in an effort to fulfill the dietary needs and food preferences for healthy living of the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. These initiatives are as follows:

- improvements and upgrades to provide modern physical infrastructure (access roads and water management);

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• increased production of crops suitable for local consumption and export;
• development of quality livestock and small rumininat sub-sectors; and
• enhancement of modern agricultural rettrial markets.

Government intends to increased agricultural production in Trinidad and Tobago in order to improve the nation’s food security as well as meet the growing demand for food. Advancement of these objectives will be made through the following strategies:

• agricultural land management;
• boosting agricultural production;
• provision of agricultural access and upgrade of key infrastructure; and
• upgrade of fish landing facilities.
Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2016-2017

For the financial year 2017, the following new projects were scheduled for implementation under the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, and as such require further inquiry on the progress of completion:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project - Item</th>
<th>2017 Actual</th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Estimate</th>
<th>2019 Revised Estimate</th>
<th>2020 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CF-003-01-J427 Farm to Table Project</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$2,000,000.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$500,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF-005-01-L005 Development of Young Entrepreneurs in Ornamental Horticulture in Rural Communities</td>
<td>$661,895.00</td>
<td>$394,796.00</td>
<td>$1,500,000.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$1,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF-005-06-A204 Establishment of a Spatial Information Management System (SIMS)</td>
<td>$636,458.00</td>
<td>$133,715.00</td>
<td>$1,000,000.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$2,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF-005-06-A205 Upgrade of Cadastral Management Information System (MIS)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$1,000,000.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$1,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF-005-06-A206 Development of Land Management System</td>
<td>$434,397.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$11,100.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF-06-A-208 Development of an Electronic Document Management System for the State Land</td>
<td>$97,875.00</td>
<td>$405,552.00</td>
<td>$1,000,000.00</td>
<td>$610,000.00</td>
<td>$1,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2017-2018

For the financial year 2018, the following new projects were scheduled for implementation under the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, and as such require further inquiry on the progress of completion:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Estimate</th>
<th>2019 Revised Estimate</th>
<th>2020 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CF 003-01-H339</td>
<td>Sugar-cane Feeds Centre</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$1,000,000.00</td>
<td>$488,100.00</td>
<td>$1,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF 003-01-I360</td>
<td>Production of Instructional Videos for Public Distribution</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$200,000.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$220,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF 005-06-A209</td>
<td>Implementation of an action plan to address illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the ports and waters under the jurisdiction of Trinidad and Tobago</td>
<td>$345,493.00</td>
<td>$1,500,000.00</td>
<td>$380,000.00</td>
<td>$1,500,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2018–2019**

For the financial year 2019, the following new projects were scheduled for implementation under the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, and as such require further inquiry on the progress of completion:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>2019 Estimate</th>
<th>2019 Revised Estimate</th>
<th>2020 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CF003-01-F069</td>
<td>Establishment of a Land Management Authority</td>
<td>$500,000.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$500,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF003-01-F556</td>
<td>Development and Implementation of a Waste Management System for the Livestock Industry</td>
<td>$1,000,000.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$500,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF003-01-K004</td>
<td>Restoration and Management of the Guanapo Watershed</td>
<td>$1,000,000.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$1,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF005-06-F151</td>
<td>Upgrade of Centeno livestock Station</td>
<td>$1,000,000.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF005-06-F152</td>
<td>Upgrade of the Artificial Breeding Centre (ABC)</td>
<td>$1,000,000.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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## New Projects for the Financial Year 2019-2020

The new projects that received funding in the 2020 financial year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development Programme 2020 Projects</th>
<th>2020 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CF003-01-D278 Port-of-Spain Wholesale Fish Market (Upgrade to HACCP Standards-Dredging of the Harbor Basin) <em>Reactivated Project</em></td>
<td>$500,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF003-01-H559 Zoonotic Disease Management Plan</td>
<td>$861,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF004-13-B006 Upgrade of Caroni Bird Sanctuary Visitor Centre</td>
<td>$3,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF005-06-F148 Provision of a Head Office for NAMDEVCO</td>
<td>$200,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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## Committee Reports Related to the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inquiry</th>
<th>Report Status</th>
<th>Ministerial Response</th>
<th>Key Recommendations²⁴</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. The First Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee, First Session of the Eleventh Parliament on Examination into the Current Expenditure of Ministries and Departments under three Sub-Heads: Current Transfers and Subsidies, Development Programme - Consolidated Fund and Infrastructure Development Fund | Report Laid: 09.11.16 | Response laid: 27.01.17 | • Takes immediate steps to implement a fraud policy, this policy should include mechanisms for distinguishing between fraud and error.  
• In the event that at the time of this Report there is no Monitoring and Evaluation Unit takes steps to establish one by December 2016. Provisions should be made to ensure that the unit is fully staffed and regular training is provided. |
| 2. First Report of the JSC on Land and Physical Infrastructure - Inquiry into Land Tenure Issues in Trinidad and Tobago | H.O.R 26.05.2017  
SENATE 01.06.2017 | - | • The Committee therefore recommends: (i) the establishment of a Land Management Authority which will have the overarching responsibility for land administration and management. |

²⁴ Key Recommendations relate to recommendations that may have a financial impact on the Ministry.
|   | Second Report of the JSC on Land and Physical Infrastructure - Inquiry into the allocation and utilization of State lands for food production. | HOR: 23.06.2017 Senate: 20.06.2017 | • Work assiduously to implement a comprehensive management system within a twelve (12) month timeframe so that accurate information regarding agricultural State lands can be made available.  
  
• That the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries seek the immediate implementation of the National Land Policy.  
  
• That the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries take immediate action to address the issue of outstanding rents.  
  
• That the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries seek an inquiry into all the squatters occupying State lands particularly agricultural lands so that action can be taken to operationalize such lands for its intended purpose.  
   |   |   |   |
| 4. | Fifth Report of the JSC Land and Physical Infrastructure on an inquiry into the State of the Agriculture and Fisheries Industry in Tobago (with specific focus on the levels of participation in the industries and the output of farmers) | HOR: 01.02.2019 Senate: 05.02.2019 | HOR: 23.04.2019 Senate: 11.04.2019 | • The Committee concurred that there is need for the ADB to interact with fisherfolk and to provide the necessary guidance and technical assistance to access loans from the institution. Therefore, it is recommended that the Division meet with the ADB and the ATFA to establish avenues that will allow for loans to be easily accessible to fisherfolk.  
  
<p>| | | | |
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Twenty-Third Report of the Public Accounts Committee on an Examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation (NAMDEVCO) for the financial years 2008 and 2011</th>
<th>HOR: 22.03.2019</th>
<th>HOR: 07.06.2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate: 19.03.2019</td>
<td>Senate: 28.05.2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• NAMDEVCO should promote service-driven organic agriculture by working with strategic partners such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries (MALF) and farmer stakeholders to establish a system of aid for farmers to incentivize organic agriculture. This should be done by July 31, 2019;</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• NAMDEVCO should consult with MALF on the possibility of pursuing agreements with Canada and the US or determine whether such agreements already exist and report to Parliament on what exists and what can be done to establish further market expansion initiatives by March 31, 2019.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• NAMDEVCO should provide an explanation of its current procedures for handling its marketing function in the absence of marketing-related officers by March 31, 2019;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• NAMDEVCO should provide a status update on a timetable for the completion of its Strategic Plan by March 31, 2019.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• The CDCTTL’s Board should meet with the MALF to determine how to go about setting up an internal audit function at the Company and have it fully staffed and report to Parliament by July 31, 2019;</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The MALF should provide an update on the Cabinet Minute and resultant Cabinet approval for the Draft CDCTTL Strategic Plan by July 31, 2019;</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
• The CDCTTL should report to Parliament on how the prospect of approaching regional or local authorities in chocolate producing countries in Europe or elsewhere where there is market penetration or development potential for fine flavor cocoa to explore the strengthening of trade linkages for 4T cocoa by July 31, 2019.

• The CDCTTL should submit a report to Parliament on the feasibility of streamlining the dual Certification Mark / Certificate of Origin system into one fulfilling the functions of both, as is the case in Cote d’Ivoire. This would make certification easier to understand and appreciate for consumers. This report should be submitted to the Parliament by July 31, 2019;

• The CDCTTL should report to Parliament on the feasibility of establishing partnerships with the major importers of 4T cocoa for the purpose of much needed strengthening and development of production, by July 31, 2019;

• The CDCTTL should report to Parliament on the status of progress regarding the incorporation of genetic finger-printing into its Certificates of Origin by July 31, 2019;

• The CDCTTL should report on the possibility of including the Certification Mark on the labels of products containing certified 4T cocoa by July 31, 2019.
7. **Twentieth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOR: 15.02.2019</th>
<th>HOR: 13.03.2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senate: 12.02.2019</td>
<td>Senate: 15.05.2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“Cabinet approval was not seen for the Re-afforestation project. For the financial year 2016/2017 the two Forestry nurseries at Moruga and Ecclesville were selected to be constructed. Related expenditure totaled $7,001,824.65”, as stated in the Auditor General’s Report 2017.

In a written submission dated June 8, 2018 the Ministry indicated that they do not have a specific Cabinet approval for the Re-afforestation project and the entire Public Sector Investment Programme was approved by Cabinet for each fiscal year. However, a draft Cabinet Note is being prepared to seek the approval of Cabinet for the Project.

Recommendation: The Ministry should ensure that Cabinet approval is obtained for all projects undertaken by the Ministry.

8. **Eleventh Report of the JSC State Enterprises on an inquiry into the activities, administration and operations of National Flour Mills (NFM) including the Company’s role in the processing of rice from local farmers.**

| HOR: 03.07.2019 | Senate: 02.07.2019 |

- The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries put systems in place to enable the successful development of the Rice Industry in Trinidad and Tobago, with or without NFM. Necessary activities include:
  - Development of a comprehensive National Rice Development Plan;
  - Development of an appropriate programme of incentives to encourage farmers to engage in rice cultivation;
  - Improvement of:
    - Seed stock;
    - The system for payment for paddy;
    - Irrigation systems;
    - Provisions of technical support;
    - Land tenure issues; and
• Provision of a parboiled rice production facility.

• Given the issues experienced with the payment arrangements between the MALF and NFM, as the Ministry’s agent, it is recommended that the MALF review its systems in order to streamline the payment process and ensure that the issues of timeliness are resolved. A report on the streamlined process should be submitted to Parliament by October 31, 2019.

• Based on the information gathered from various stakeholders, it is the Committee’s belief that a collaborative effort among all stakeholders is needed to revive the Rice Industry. Key outcomes from the collaboration will include:
  o A comprehensive National Rice Development Plan;
  o Better quality, and higher quantities of seed stock;
  o Timely payments for paddy;
  o Efficient irrigation systems;
  o Land allocation policy;
  o Financial support services;
  o Parboiling/milling operation; and
  o Technical support from the MALF.
## Recent Legislative Developments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill No.</th>
<th>Short Title</th>
<th>Introduced</th>
<th>Progression</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 of 2019</td>
<td>The Livestock and Livestock Products Board (Repeal) Bill, 2019</td>
<td>12-Mar-19</td>
<td>1st Reading, Senate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 of 2019</td>
<td>The Animal (Diseases and Importation) Amendment Bill, 2019</td>
<td>11- Sep-19</td>
<td>1st Reading, Senate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
General Useful Information

- Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, INDIA: http://www.dahd.nic.in/
- Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food, CAN: http://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/home/?id=1395690825741
- Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, JAMAICA: http://www.moa.gov.jm/
- Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, BARBADOS: https://www.gov.bb/Ministries/agriculture
- Caribbean Agricultural Research Development Institute: http://www.cardi.org/
- The National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation, Trinidad and Tobago: http://www.namdevco.com/