Fourth Session of the 12th Parliament

FINANCIAL SCRUTINY UNIT
Office of the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

HEAD 77: MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES

ALLOCATION: $951,573,400,

A Summary of the Department's Projects Expenditure, Divisions and Projects.

Financial Scrutiny Unit,
Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago.
An electronic copy of this Guide can be found on the Parliament website: www.ttparliament.org

All correspondence should be addressed to:
The Secretary
Standing Finance Committee
Office of the Parliament
Parliamentary Complex
Cabildo Building
St. Vincent Street, Port of Spain, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Tel: (868) 624-7275; Fax: (868) 625-4672
Email: standingfinance@ttparliament.org
# Table of Contents

About this Guide .................................................................................................................................................. 5

Head 77- Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries .......................................................................................... 6

Ministry Overview .................................................................................................................................................. 6

Key Statements from the 2022 Budget Debate .................................................................................................... 11

Auditor General Report Findings for the Fiscal year 2022 ............................................................................... 13

Ref: Auditor General’s Report ............................................................................................................................... 13

Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) fiscal year 2023 - Achievements .................................................. 18

The Ministry’s total allocation as a percentage of the National Budget for the period 2018 to 2024 ............... 23

Where the Ministry spends its money .................................................................................................................. 24

2024 Estimates of Expenditure ............................................................................................................................. 24

Summary of Recurrent Expenditure for the period 2018-2024 ....................................................................... 25

Analysis of Recurrent Expenditure ...................................................................................................................... 26

Staff and Pay ......................................................................................................................................................... 31

Summary of Development Programme Expenditure for the period 2018-2024 ............................................. 33

Public Sector Investment Programme 2024 – Projections .............................................................................. 35

Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2018 ..................................................................................... 40

Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2019 ..................................................................................... 41

Status of New Projects for the Financial Year 2020 ......................................................................................... 42
Status of New Projects for the Financial Year 2021......................................................................................................................... 42
Status of New Projects for the Financial Year 2022............................................................................................................................ 43
Status of New Projects for the Financial Year 2023............................................................................................................................ 44
New Projects for the Financial Year 2024 ........................................................................................................................................ 45
Committee Reports Related to the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries.................................................................................. 47
Recent Legislative Developments.......................................................................................................................................................... 56
General Useful Information.................................................................................................................................................................. 57
About this Guide

This guide provides a summary of expenditure for the Ministry of Agriculture Land and Fisheries (MALF) for the period 2018-2024. 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 2024;
- the Draft Estimates of Development Programme 2024;
- the Public Sector Investment Programme 2024; and
- the Auditor General’s Report on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the fiscal year 2022.
Head 77– Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries

Ministry Overview¹

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;
- Forestry Division;
- Geographic Information Systems Unit;
- Library;

¹Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries website; accessed on August 16, 2023 https://agriculture.gov.tt/
- Research;
- Regional Administration North;
- Regional Administration South;
- Survey and Mapping; and
- Horticulture Services.

**Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries:** Senator the Honourable Kazim Hosein

**Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries:** Senator the Honourable Avinash G. Singh
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>&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago</strong>&lt;sup&gt;3&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cocoa Development Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited</strong>&lt;sup&gt;4&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---


| **Estate Management and Development Company Limited**<sup>5</sup> | The EMBD is a State Enterprise under the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries of the Government of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago. It was formed in 2002 with one of its major roles being to manage and develop lands formerly owned by Caroni (1975) Ltd. As the EMBD continues to expand and grow as a company we encourage you to visit our website for future updates. We also welcome your comments and feedback. |
| **Land And Survey Board of Trinidad and Tobago**<sup>6</sup> | The Land Surveyors Act 33 of 1996 (The Act) provided structure for the registration of Land Surveyors, Trinidad and Tobago Land Surveyors and Land Surveying Graduates, the regulation of the practice of surveying and connected matters. The Act was assented to 19<sup>th</sup> November 1996 and established the role and function of the Director of Surveys (DoS) as well as the Land Survey Board of Trinidad and Tobago (LSBTT) and, indirectly, the Institute of Surveyors of Trinidad and Tobago (ISTT). |
| **Livestock and Livestock Products Board**<sup>7</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>8</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”.

| **Palo Seco Agricultural Enterprises Limited**¹⁹ | Palo Seco Agricultural Enterprises Limited (PSAEL) was born out of the predecessor Company – Palo Seco Estates Limited and incorporated on October 11, 1956 as a wholly owned subsidiary of Trinidad Petroleum Development Company (TPD), and therefore has been in operation for over sixty-six (66) years. The Company had various name changes over the period as the name was changed on November 16, 1977 to Trinidad-Tesoro Agricultural Company Limited and again on January 8, 1986 to its current operating name. |
| **Zoological Society of Trinidad and Tobago Inc.** | Website not working |

¹⁹ Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries website accessed on August 16, 2023: [https://psael.co.tt/our-story/](https://psael.co.tt/our-story/).
Key Statements from the 2022 Budget Debate

During the budget debate of 2022, the following statement was made in relation to the emphasis of the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries for the fiscal year 2022/2023:

Mr. Chairman, permit me to make these four observations about the Ministry’s allocation for 2022 – 2023. Firstly, Mr. Chairman, our recurrent expenditure remains the same as the previous years and remains in an area of great concern. As with all other Ministries and statutory bodies, salary, wages, allowance consumed close to 75 per cent of the recurrent structure. Year after year, we bring expenses like travelling, overtime, gratuities for contract employees from the previous financial year because of the delays in the submission of claims and delays in processing and payments of claims. Secondly, Mr. Chair, we continue to struggle on a vital national economic issue which is the way in which we manage the multibillion-dollar state land asset portfolio. Digital transformation remains critical in this area and in this year’s Public Sector Investment Programme, you will see a continuing investment of $10.3 million in digital infrastructure within the Ministry, particularly in state lands. Thirdly, Mr. Chair, you will see in the PSIP a sustained investment in our fisheries infrastructure, produce market infrastructure via NAMDEVCO, access roads and bridges, pumps and other equipment and infrastructural upgrades within the Ministry itself. Fourthly and lastly, since 2020, with the creation of a Ministry dedicated to the youth, youth development and opportunities for youth, you will see a sustained programme of activities to support youth development in agriculture. Mr. Chair, our primary objective is to work with all individuals, groups in the farming and fishing community. Two, reengineer process as part of the digital services provided by the Ministry, example, land tenure, grants, incentives, farmer’s registration badge, permits, licences and training; create avenue for increase local food production by providing training and other support services; improve agricultural access roads; implement vegetation measures to deal with pests and diseases, example, the giant African snail, tuta absoluta, rabies; and address ongoing – about the praedial larceny across the country which has gained the attention of the national public. While we are cognizant that these objectives can take some time to achieve, we remain committed to working closely with all state agencies, statutory bodies, private sector organizations and individuals to

---

enhance the agriculture sector. Mr. Chair, we welcome today’s democratic exercise which opens the floor for increased transparency, accountability and collaboration as we continue to serve the people of our beloved country.

- Senator the Honourable Kazim Hosein

Minister of Agriculture Land and Fisheries
Auditor General Report Findings for the Fiscal year 2022

Ref: Auditor General’s Report

2.55 Financial Instruction 212 (1) requires all Accounting Officers or Heads of Departments to reconcile the balance of each Deposit Account with the corresponding balance in the accounts of the Comptroller of Accounts. Financial Instruction 212 (2) requires departments to prepare reconciliation statements with details of the composition of balances. A copy of all such reconciliations is required to be submitted to the Comptroller of Accounts and the Auditor General at the end of the year concerned. The submission of such reconciliations provides documentary support to the balances contained in the ministries’ and departments’ deposit ledgers. However, many ministries and Treasury and Funds Statements departments do not submit such reconciliations in a timely manner. Presented below are ministries and departments that did not submit the required reconciliations of deposit accounts to the Auditor General.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry/Department</th>
<th>No. of Accounts not Submitted</th>
<th>Value as per Treasury Records/Trial Balance $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>77 – Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12,955,487.03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.56 Financial Instruction 213 (1) also requires ministries and departments, unless otherwise directed, to transfer all deposits which have remained unclaimed for three (3) years to revenue. Individual ministries and departments who have deposits for more than three (3) years and other findings are given below.

### Heads of Expenditure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heads of Expenditure</th>
<th>Deposit Account</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>77- Ministry of</td>
<td>111/57 - Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources 111/503 - Financing activities for World Food Day by the Food 111/581 - Acquis/Land/NGC,AMOCO Atlantic LNG, Phoenix Park Gas Process 111/582 - Acquisition of Lands for National Gas Co. Pipeline Project</td>
<td>Authorization for the retention of these four (4) balances amounting to $13,223,539.44, by the Treasury, was not presented</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Sub-head 07 - Debt Servicing

3.13 Other yearly Debt Servicing payments for certain State agencies and Statutory Authorities are brought to account under several Heads of Expenditure. These debt payments of $3,024,463,612.28 are recorded under 04/Current Transfers and Subsides. Details of debt payments by relevant Heads of Expenditure are presented in Table 3.2 below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head</th>
<th>Ministry</th>
<th>Total ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>77</td>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries</td>
<td>132,757,675.22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Contract Gratuity Payments as per Appropriation Account 2022

3.15 With effect from October 1, 2019, a Treasury decision was taken to decentralise the payment of contract gratuities to ministries and departments. Ministries and departments are now required to bring to account contract gratuities under 04 - Current Transfers and Subsides/007 - Households/40 - Gratuities to Contract Officers. Ministries and Departments Appropriation Statements recorded $183,345,509.83 expended to meet the payments of contract gratuities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head</th>
<th>Ministry/Department</th>
<th>2022 ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Commitments

3.16 Commitments are recorded in the vote books of Ministries and Departments to record future payment obligations and to reserve funds to meet such payment obligations during the financial year. Therefore, in a financial year uncommitted balances of budgeted funds are available to meet expenditures that are supported by invoices. At the start of a new financial year, commitments recorded in the previous financial year that remained unpaid are brought forward in the vote books. 3.17 Comptroller of Accounts Circular No. 15 dated July 27, 2022 required ministries and departments to present in the Notes to the accounts at Note 2l(i) of the Appropriation Accounts a statement showing total outstanding commitments in respect of each sub-head of expenditure as at September 30, 2022. Presented below in Table 3.4 are the commitments recorded by Ministries and Departments at Note 2l(i) of their Appropriation Accounts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head</th>
<th>Ministry</th>
<th>Commitments as per Note 2l(i) ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>77</td>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries</td>
<td>2,148,403.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ACCOUNTS OF RECEIVERS OF REVENUE STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

4.4 Section 24 (1) (c) of the Act, Chapter 69:01 as amended by Act No. 23 of 1998 requires Receivers of Revenue to prepare and transmit to the Auditor General their Statements of Receipts and Disbursements in such a form as the Treasury may direct. By Comptroller of Accounts Circular No. 14 dated July 27, 2022, Receivers of Revenue were required to transmit to the Auditor General, Statements of Receipts and Disbursements in respect of monies collected under the Items of Revenue for which they are responsible on or before January 31, 2023. The following Receivers of Revenue did not comply with the Comptroller of Accounts Circular No.14, as required.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Receiver of Revenue</th>
<th>Date Received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
AL1 - Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements

4.6 There were differences between the Treasury Card balances and Statement of Receipts and Disbursements in respect of twelve (12) revenue items totalling $3,155,351.66. The difference comprises the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue Head/Sub-Head</th>
<th>Cash received as per Statement ($)</th>
<th>Cash received as per Treasury Card ($)</th>
<th>Difference ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03 - Taxes on Goods and services/06 Other</td>
<td>921,779.31</td>
<td>2,044,574.50</td>
<td>(1,098,295.19)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07 - Other Non-Tax Revenue/ Administrative Fees and Charges</td>
<td>7,500.00</td>
<td>6,500.00</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07 - Other Non-Tax Revenue/ Non-Industrial Sales</td>
<td>9,476,701.39</td>
<td>5,224,054.54</td>
<td>4,252,646.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,405,980.70</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,275,129.04</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,155,351.66</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.7 This resulted in the Statement of Receipts and Disbursements differing from the Statement of Revenue as per Treasury Card as follows: $Statement of Receipts and Disbursements 13,566,646.41 Statement of Revenue as per Treasury Card 10,411,294.75 Difference 3,155,351.66

Statement of Return of Arrears of Revenue AL1 - Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries.

4.8 The Consolidated Statement of Return of Arrears of Revenue as at September 30, 2022 was not received from the Ministry.
4.9 The Ministry has three (3) Receivers of Revenue namely AL1 - Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, AL2 - Director of Surveys Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, AL3 - Commissioner of State Lands, Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries.

4.10 The Ministry of Finance prepared a Consolidated Statement of Arrears of Revenue for all Receivers of Revenue as at September 30, 2022. This Consolidated Statement of Arrears of Revenue indicated that the Ministry did not receive Returns from Receivers AL1 and AL2.
In fiscal 2023, the GORTT intensifies its investments in the Agriculture Sector, given that the country’s food import bill accounted for one third of the country’s imports and the supply chain disruptions, which manifested during the COVID-19 pandemic. The overarching goal is to reduce the costs of imports and mitigate future disruptions. Additionally, in recognition of the potential transformative impact of technology in the sector, the GORTT took steps towards the development of a modern agricultural sector through the use of ICT that will bolster domestic food supply and increase food exports.

To this end, a revised allocation of $137.9 million was channeled towards advancing programmes and projects in the following key areas:

- agricultural land management;
- boosting agricultural production;
- provision of agricultural access roads and upgrading of key infrastructure; and
- upgrading of fish landing sites.

**Agricultural Land Management**

*Development of an Electronic Management System for State Land*

A key objective of this project was to digitise all the files related to State Lands in order to facilitate the centralisation of records and ensure the security of critical information. This project received an allocation of $2.0 million, of which, $0.5 million was expanded for the recruitment of five (5) officers to scan and update documents.

---

**Implementation of a Comprehensive Crop Biodiversity Programme for Trinidad and Tobago**

The sum of $0.3 million was utilised for this programme which aimed to secure crop genetic resources for future use. In the event of natural disasters and impending effects of climate change, the programme will contribute to national food self-sufficiency in local agricultural crop production. In this regard, the tendering process has commenced for the following:

- procurement of IT equipment for the generation of a crop inventory database; and
- purchase of seed processing and characterisation equipment for the maintenance of seed viability in storage.

**Boosting Agricultural Production**

**Coconut Industry Rehabilitation**

The Project *Coconut Rehabilitation and Replanting Programme* seeks to develop sustainable coconut-based enterprises on the east coast of Trinidad, with particular emphasis on coconut water production. This will result in the rehabilitation of 900 acres of land for the replanting of coconut trees. The major achievements for the fiscal 2023 were as follows:

- preparation of tender documents for procurement of IT equipment for the *Digitising Pest Surveillance Programme* for coconuts;
- Submission of invitations for quotations for the purchase of the following:
  - polymerase chain reaction technologies to conduct testing for the absence or presence of lethal yellowing disease in Trinidad and Tobago;
  - coconut seedlings of a superior quality that are resistant to lethal yellowing disease;
  - agrochemicals and biological control materials to manage coconut pests.

**Cocoa Industry Rehabilitation**

Activities undertaken for the project, *Rehabilitation of Cocoa Industry* included the following:
• procurement of a refrigerated incubator and low freeze. This was aimed at improving the Trinidad Selected Hybrid (TSH) cocoa varieties’ which are resistant to the Black Pod Disease, through selective breeding; and
• installation of a water purification system and repairing of fume hoods at the farm, for the management of the levels of cadmium contamination. This was to ensure safe beans for consumption whilst also meeting international standards for export.

Strengthening the Domestic Farm-to-Table Supply Chain
The main objective of the Farm to Table initiative is to train, guide and support local farmers with respect to adherence to Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and the other globally recognised regulations. The GAP Model Farm will be a national demonstrative centre for on-farm food safety and good agricultural practices. The topographic survey, as well as a geotechnical survey were completed. The MALF is in the process of finalizing the drawings and the preparation of the tender documents commenced.

Provision of Agricultural Access Roads and Upgrade of Key Infrastructure
The development of the agricultural infrastructure including roads and facilities are key requirements for farmers to access services, and produce and sustain an effective and efficient supply of agricultural commodities. In this regard, the following projects were undertaken to help build agricultural infrastructure:

Provision of Agricultural Access to Targeted Commodities and Strategic Crops
The sum of $0.3 million was expended under the project, Provision of Agricultural Access to Targeted Commodity and Strategic Crops, which aimed at the rehabilitation of 240km of agricultural access roads in areas that facilitate targeted commodities and strategic crops including cocoa, rice, citrus and root crops. A total of 1.8 km of agricultural access roads were rehabilitated in Sakeer Trace (0.8km) and Rajpaul Trace (1.0km), Rio Claro. The preparation of tender documents also commenced for upgrade of the following roads:
• Bernard Road Network (Cacandee Road, Felicity) - 1.0km of road; and
• Hart Trace (Tableland) – 2.0km of road.
**National Seed Bank**

The objective of the project National Seed Bank located at Tucker Valley, Chaguaramas is to provide adequate infrastructure including irrigation systems, field equipment and security in order to achieve the nation’s annual targets for local seed production and other vegetative planting material. As such, expenditure in the sum of $0.2 million was incurred for the procurement of seed processing equipment including a seed dryer, six (6) 14-cubic feet chillers and a seed thresher. In addition, the evaluation of bids commenced for the supply of irrigation lines and overhead sprinklers.

**Development and Provision of Facilities at Marper Farm**

Works continued with the purchase of fertilizer, saw dust, insecticides and other material for the expansion of coconut germplasm at the Marper Farm. The objectives of the project are to ensure the survival of all of the existing invaluable germplasm collections at the Marper Farm and to expand the collections of plant genetic material through the introduction of improved plant species and varieties. The investment in the development of the Marper Farm will facilitate the conservation of the fruit biodiversity of Trinidad and Tobago and ensure that the requisite planting materials for fruit tree plant propagation are available.

**St. Augustine Nurseries - Development and Provision of Facilities**

St. Augustine Nurseries houses production and propagating facilities, office buildings and germplasm fields. The project, *St. Augustine Nurseries - Development and Provision of Facilities*, entails the upgrade of the infrastructure and equipment to facilitate the production of planting material for the farming community. Activities undertaken in fiscal 2023 were as follows:

- award of a contract in the sum of $0.4 million for the refurbishment of the Sales Department at St. Augustine; and
- submission of invitations for bids for the purchase of tractors, brush cutters and minor equipment for the expansion of minor fruit germplasm and for the importation of newer citrus varieties.
**Fisheries**

**Upgrading of Fish Landing Sites**

In keeping with international best practice for the design, construction, maintenance and management of fish landing sites, the MALF continued to invest in the upgrade of various fish landing sites. In fiscal 2023, the sum of $1.2 million was utilised for the following:

- payment of outstanding commitments for the refurbishment of the locker rooms at the Erin Fishing Facility. The refurbishment included repairs to the roof and painting of the facility; and
- completion of refurbishment works to the main building at the Maracas Fishing Facility. The locker rooms, vending stalls and open vending area were refurbished. The upgrade of the electrical and plumbing systems of the entire facility was also completed.

**Fisheries Management Research and Development Programme**

The objective of this Programme is to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the delivery of services provided by the Fisheries Division of the MALF, by strengthening the institutional and ICT capacity of the Division. To this end, a total of $0.7 million was utilised for:

- payment of outstanding commitments for the purchase of two (2) multimedia projectors and a network switch; and
- recruitment of three (3) officers to aid in preservation of records related to the data on the historical fish catch.
### The Ministry’s total allocation as a percentage of the National Budget for the period 2018 to 2024

<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>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>$54,581,467,181.00</td>
<td>1.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$570,452,137.00</td>
<td>$57,388,076,726.00</td>
<td>0.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>$606,741,728.00</td>
<td>$56,498,472,820.00</td>
<td>1.07%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$763,185,525.00</td>
<td>$58,974,346,470.00</td>
<td>1.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>$636,489,615.00</td>
<td>$67,063,358,456.00</td>
<td>0.95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>$776,573,400.00</td>
<td>$68,384,229,740.00</td>
<td>1.14%</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 0.19% between the period 2023 and 2024.

---

13 For the Fiscal Years 2018-2022, 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 2023 and 2024.

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

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

2024 Estimates of Expenditure

The budget allocation of $951,573,400.00 for the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries is comprised of:

- The Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure\(^\text{16}\) in the sum of $725,923,400.00
- The Draft Estimates of Development Programme\(^\text{17}\) in the sum of $225,650,000.00
  - Consolidated Fund in the sum of $50,650,000.00
  - Infrastructure Development Fund\(^\text{18}\) in the sum of $175,000,000.00

The Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure include:

- 01 Personnel Expenditure - $328,022,900.00;
- 02 Goods and Services - $131,055,900.00;
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases - $8,356,000.00;
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies - $200,488,600.00; and
- 06 Current Transfers to Statutory Boards and Similar bodies - $58,000,000.00

The Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries:

- Recurrent Expenditure as a percentage of the total Recurrent Expenditure budget is 1.11%;
- Consolidated Fund allocation as a percentage of the total Consolidated Fund allocation is 1.57%; and
- Infrastructure Development Fund allocation as a percentage of the total Infrastructure Development Fund 5.82%.

Summary of Recurrent Expenditure for the period 2018-2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Personnel Expenditure</th>
<th>Goods and Services</th>
<th>Minor Equipment Purchases</th>
<th>Current Transfer and Subsidies</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$364,627,508</td>
<td>$110,704,005</td>
<td>$186,931</td>
<td>$209,622,660</td>
<td>$726,132,774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$349,476,807</td>
<td>$94,411,806</td>
<td>$129,652</td>
<td>$166,804,402</td>
<td>$648,686,547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$334,399,581</td>
<td>$106,645,155</td>
<td>$339,723</td>
<td>$66,547,551</td>
<td>$547,987,751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>$328,684,663</td>
<td>$92,913,668</td>
<td>$67,017</td>
<td>$133,928,479</td>
<td>$592,661,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$317,269,191</td>
<td>$118,845,056</td>
<td>$778,580</td>
<td>$264,741,763</td>
<td>$738,491,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>$315,430,500</td>
<td>$133,854,500</td>
<td>$6,287,000</td>
<td>$117,570,800</td>
<td>$617,762,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>$328,022,900</td>
<td>$131,055,900</td>
<td>$8,356,000</td>
<td>$200,488,600</td>
<td>$725,923,400</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 2024 is $725,923,400.00.

- Recurrent Expenditure for Fiscal Year 2022/2023 was $617,762,800.00. Comparing this figure with Fiscal Year 2024, there was an increase of ($108,160,600.00) or 14.89%.
- The largest portion of the allocation has consistently gone to **Personnel Expenditure**, which represents 45.18% of the allocation for Fiscal Year 2024.
- **Minor Equipment Purchases** has consistently received the lowest portion of the total allocation for the Ministry over the period 2018 to 2024.
- **Current Transfers and Subsidies** received the second largest portion of the allocation.
2022 Actual=$738,491,348.00

- Personnel Expenditure: $332,177,400, 44%
- Goods and Services: $267,689,300, 35%
- Minor Equipment Purchases: $121,262,500, 16%
- Current Transfer and Subsidies: $1,020,900, 0%
- Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. and Similar Bodies: $37,498,700, 5%

2023 Revised Estimates=$617,762,800.00

- Personnel Expenditure: $47,361,300, 8%
- Goods and Services: $96,001,400, 15%
- Minor Equipment Purchases: $20,810,300, 3%
- Current Transfer and Subsidies: $129,299,200, 20%
- Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. and Similar Bodies: $341,178,800, 54%
2024 Estimates: $725,923,400.00

- Personnel Expenditure: $200,488,600, 28%
- Goods and Services: $58,000,000, 8%
- Minor Equipment Purchases: $131,055,900, 18%
- Current Transfer and Subsidies: $8,356,000, 1%
- Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. and Similar Bodies: $317,269,191, 45%
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. and Similar Bodies: $58,000,000, 8%

Total: $725,923,400.00
Staff and Pay

The allocation of staff expenditure for the year 2024 is $394,413,400 which represents an increase of approximately 4.68% from the revised estimates for 2023. The diagram below provides a breakdown of all expenditure related to staff from 2022 to 2024.

---

Summary of Development Programme Expenditure for the period 2018-2024\textsuperscript{21}

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 2024 = $225,650,000.00. These funds are presented in two parts as follows:

- Funds disbursed directly from the Consolidated Fund = $50,650,000.00 and represent (22.4\%) of the total allocation to the Ministry;

- Funds disbursed from the Infrastructure Development Fund = $175,000,000 and represent (77.5\%) of the total allocation to the Ministry.

The fiscal 2024 Development Programme Expenditure estimate of $225,650,000.00, is a significant increase from the fiscal 2023 revised estimate of $36,226,815.00. This is primarily the result of increased allocations to Economic Infrastructure projects.

Development Programme Expenditure for the period 2018-2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Pre-Investment</th>
<th>Productive Sectors</th>
<th>Economic Infrastructure - Consolidated Fund</th>
<th>Social Infrastructure - Consolidated Fund</th>
<th>Multi-Sectoral and Other Services - Consolidated Fund</th>
<th>Economic Infrastructure - Infrastructure Development Fund</th>
<th>Social Infrastructure - Infrastructure Development Fund</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$666,000.00</td>
<td>$298,498.00</td>
<td>$20,144,681.00</td>
<td>$821,125.00</td>
<td>$8,630,921.00</td>
<td>$19,792,214.00</td>
<td>$2,910,459.00</td>
<td>$52,299,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$617,107.00</td>
<td>$370,124.00</td>
<td>$15,892,130.00</td>
<td>$127,760.00</td>
<td>$4,527,097.00</td>
<td>$42,157,264.00</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$36,226,815.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$1,197,137.00</td>
<td>$5,673,269.00</td>
<td>$1,373,873.00</td>
<td>$2,608,536.00</td>
<td>$52,461,416.00</td>
<td>$3,605,428.00</td>
<td>$5,258,715.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$12,372,552.00</td>
<td>$520,734.00</td>
<td>$7,521,824.00</td>
<td>$409,097,746.00</td>
<td>$2,494,844.00</td>
<td>$10,552,900.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$9,214,306.00</td>
<td>$743,130.00</td>
<td>$3,942,931.00</td>
<td>$48,904,997.00</td>
<td>$5,705,034.00</td>
<td>$12,486,142.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$18,359,898.00</td>
<td>$4,661,842.00</td>
<td>$4,661,842.00</td>
<td>$35,674,238.00</td>
<td>$6,117,802.00</td>
<td>$17,591,361.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$9,214,306.00</td>
<td>$3,037,400.00</td>
<td>$11,000,000.00</td>
<td>$35,674,238.00</td>
<td>$6,500,000.00</td>
<td>$17,500,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$30,000,000.00</td>
<td>$17,265,000.00</td>
<td>$17,265,000.00</td>
<td>$35,674,238.00</td>
<td>$15,000,000.00</td>
<td>$36,226,815.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Estimated Expenditure: $225,660,000.00
Investment in agriculture is of paramount importance as it constitutes a foundational pillar for ensuring food security within the nation. In this regard, the Government will continue to direct resources towards the Agricultural Sector in fiscal 2024, for purposes of establishing a sustainable food production system. An allocation of $232.5 million will be provided for projects and programmes in the following key areas:

- agricultural land management;
- boosting agricultural production;
- provision of agricultural access and upgrade of key infrastructure; and
- fishing.

**Agricultural Land Management**

The project Implementing a Comprehensive Crop Biodiversity Conservation Programme for Trinidad and Tobago was designed to ensure a reliable and sustainable food supply. This will be done, by implementing a crop biodiversity conservation strategy to mitigate the impacts of potential adverse weather patterns and conditions. The sum of $0.2 million will be provided for the following activities:

- establishment of a crop inventory database for Trinidad and Tobago;
- recruitment of a consultant for the design and outfitting of a solar seed drying room; and
- procurement of additional seed characterisation equipment.

---

Boosting Agricultural Production

Coconut Industry

The Coconut Industry Rehabilitation project seeks to develop sustainable coconut-based enterprises, with emphasis on tender coconut water production. This will be achieved through the rehabilitation and replanting of coconut in 900 acres of land on the east coast of Trinidad. An allocation of $1.0 Million will be provided for the acquisition of superior coconut seedlings and for the establishment of coconut seed gardens. Coconut products are regarded as being beneficial to human health and well-being, and the demand has increased locally, regionally and internationally. A redeveloped coconut industry is expected to re-establish the economic platform in the eastern rural communities and contribute to national income.

Cocoa Industry

The Cocoa Industry Rehabilitation project will continue to receive funding in the sum of $0.9 million. Cocoa beans produced in Trinidad and Tobago are in high demand and attract premium prices for their unique flavour. The cocoa bean industry is predominantly an export market which has the potential for the country to earn valuable foreign exchange. The major activities to be undertaken will include the modernisation of propagation methods for the production of cocoa planting material, and the evaluation of green technologies associated with the cocoa industry.

An allocation of $1.6 million will enable the advancement of works under the Farm to Table initiative. The main objective is to train, guide and support local farmers with respect to adherence to Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and other globally-recognised regulations. The National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation (NAMDEVCO) will be the implementing agency for the Farm to Table initiative, which will cover six (6) critical components as follows: research and development, upgrade of the NAMDEVCO Farm Certification and Monitoring Programme, sensitisation and awareness, establishment of a GAP Model Farm, marketing, and food safety testing.
Provision of Agricultural Access and Upgrade of Key Infrastructure

An allocation of $5.0 million will be invested for the provision of access for the cultivation of strategic crops (cocoa, coconuts), vegetable crops, staples (root crops and rice) and fruits (citrus), under the project Provision of Agricultural Access to Targeted Commodities and Strategic Crops. The project activities in fiscal 2024 will include:

- clearing and grubbing of road surfaces;
- reconstruction of base and sub-base gravel layers;
- construction of concrete drains;
- construction of cylinder culverts, box culverts, bridges and retaining walls; and
- sealing of roads with oil sand, asphalt and concrete.

National Seed Bank

The objective of the National Seed Bank project at Tucker Valley is to upgrade the infrastructure, provide a security presence, replace outdated seed processing equipment, ensure an adequate supply of irrigation water, and train staff so as to facilitate the production of high quality seeds and planting materials in sufficient quantities to meet production targets. Funding in the sum of $0.5 million will be provided for the refurbishment of the irrigation network and reconnection of the water supply by the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA), as well as the installation of security cameras in the stores, workshop and cold storage units.

The project Development and Provision of Facilities at Marper Farm focuses on germplasm conservation and the production of high-quality planting material. An allocation of $0.5 million will advance the following works:

- establishment of nursery beds/platforms;
- upgrading of the electrical system; and
• construction of a retaining wall.

The sum of $0.9 million will be provided for the continuation of refurbishment works to the propagation sheds and construction of a citrus screen house for the establishment of citrus seed garden under the project **St. Augustine Nurseries - Development and Provision of Facilities.** The project seeks to provide high-quality, targeted agricultural planting material for fruit crop farmers, home gardeners and the general public, while conserving strategic crop germplasm for the benefit of the present and future generations.

The sum of $0.3 million will be provided for the funding of feasibility studies for the following new initiatives under the MALF:

- **Establishment of a Fruit Ripening Facility** seeks to provide the infrastructure for extending the shelf-life of produce by allowing storage during periods of a glut to reduce post-harvest loss and also facilitate the ripening of produce when there is a shortage to achieve production and price stabilization;

- **Establishment of a Processing Facility for an Alternative to Wheat Flour and Pepper Mash** would involve the construction of a two (2) storey facility at the eastern side of the Piarco Packing House to enable the processing of pepper products and alternatives to wheat flours;

- **Refurbishment and Expansion of the Storage Facility** at the Piarco Packing House involves the extension of the current storage space to allow for the proper storage of chemicals to maintain the safety and quality of the chemicals stored;

- **Relocation of Central Workshop and Land and Water Development Division (LWDD) Stores, El Carmen and Refurbish Office at Centeno** includes the construction of a workshop and stores;

- **Design and Construction of Inter-bay Covering at the Southern Wholesale Market** aims to protect customers from the harsh elements of the environment (intense heat, rain fall as well as strong winds) to facilitate a safe and secure environment to allow for continuous and unaffected agribusiness/ trading; and

- the project, **Electrical Upgrade for Stations at Regional Administration North**, aims to upgrade the electrical systems in the buildings at various stations to address issues such as voltage fluctuations and overloading. The upgrade works will also ensure
that the facility is compliant with OSH standards. In the first instance, the sum of $0.4 million will be provided to undertake works at the El Reposo Demonstration Station.

**Fisheries**

**Fish Landing Sites**

The Blanchisseuse and Carli Bay facilities will benefit from investments totalling $1.0 million for the upgrade of facilities under the project **Upgrade of Fish Landing Sites**. The project includes the maintenance and management of fish landing sites by providing freshwater supplies, adequate lighting, storage for equipment, proper sanitation, and reliable security for vessels, vendors and buyers.
### Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2018\(^\text{23}\)

The status of new projects that received funding in the 2018 financial year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Actual</th>
<th>2020 Actual</th>
<th>2021 Actual</th>
<th>2022 Actual</th>
<th>2023 Revised Estimates</th>
<th>2024 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09-003-01-H339 Sugar-cane Feeds Centre</td>
<td></td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$358,300</td>
<td>$465,373</td>
<td>$302,079.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$180,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-003-01-I360 Production of Instructional Videos for Public Distribution</td>
<td></td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$60,000.00</td>
<td>Removed</td>
<td>Removed</td>
<td>Removed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-005- 06-A209 Implementation of an action plan to address illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the ports and waters under the jurisdiction of</td>
<td></td>
<td>$345,493</td>
<td>$377,354</td>
<td>$411,426</td>
<td>$583,706.00</td>
<td>$723,780</td>
<td>$576,000</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2019

The status of new projects that received funding in the 2019 financial year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>2019 Actual</th>
<th>2020 Actual</th>
<th>2021 Actual</th>
<th>2022 Actual</th>
<th>2023 Revised Estimates</th>
<th>2024 Revised Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>09-003-01-F069</strong></td>
<td>Establishment of a Land Management Authority</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>09-003-01-H556</strong></td>
<td>Development and Implementation of a Waste Management System for the Livestock Industry</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$473,302</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>09-003-01-K004</strong></td>
<td>Restoration and Management of the Guanapo Watershed</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$572,102.00</td>
<td>Removed</td>
<td>Removed</td>
<td>Removed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Status of New Projects for the Financial Year 2020**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>2020 Actual</th>
<th>2021 Actual</th>
<th>2022 Actual</th>
<th>2023 Revised Estimates</th>
<th>2024 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09-003-01-D278</td>
<td>Port-of-Spain Wholesale Fish Market (Upgrade to HACCP Standards-Dredging of the Harbor Basin) <em>(Reactivated Project)</em></td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-004-13-B006</td>
<td>Upgrade of Caroni Bird Sanctuary Visitor Centre</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$520,734.00</td>
<td>$517,312</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-005-06-F148</td>
<td>Provision of a Head Office for NAMDEVCO</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$159,364.00</td>
<td>Removed</td>
<td>Removed</td>
<td>Removed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Status of New Projects for the Financial Year 2021**

The status of new projects that received funding in the 2021 financial year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>2021 Actual</th>
<th>2022 Actual</th>
<th>2023 Revised Estimates</th>
<th>2024 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

---


Status of New Projects for the Financial Year 2022

The new projects that received funding in the 2022 financial year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>2022 Actual</th>
<th>2023 Revised Estimates</th>
<th>2024 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development of Agricultural Niche Products (Hill Rice, Honey, Forestry Products for Diversification)</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm to Agro-processing</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$700,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Food Production of Strategic Crops</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smart Agriculture Programmes (Artificial Intelligence)</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Status of New Projects for the Financial Year 2023

The new projects that received funding in the 2023 financial year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>2023 Revised Estimates</th>
<th>2024 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09-003-01-H538</td>
<td>Establishment of a Packing House Facility for Fresh Produce</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-003-01-H542</td>
<td>Expansion of Sanitary, Phytosanitary (SPS) and Food Safety Capabilities of Trinidad and Tobago</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-003-01-H552</td>
<td>Development of Forage Farms at Mon Jaloux and La Gloria</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-003-01-H560</td>
<td>Accreditation of Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL) for performing Anti-Microbial Resistance Surveillance</td>
<td>$142,000</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-003-01-H561</td>
<td>Surveillance and Control of Pernicious Pest and Diseases</td>
<td>$2,050,000</td>
<td>$3,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-003-01-I359</td>
<td>Establishment of a Central Farmers Wholesale Market</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-005-06-A150</td>
<td>Capacity Building of the Praedial Larceny Squad</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$3,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Implementation of a Document Management System at NAMDEVCO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Code</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>2024 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09-005-06-A211</td>
<td>Implementation of a Document Management System at NAMDEVCO</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-005-06-A212</td>
<td>Promoting New and Emerging Technologies to the Agricultural Sector</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-005-06-A213</td>
<td>Expansion of SFC Information and Communication Technology for Training and Outreach Programmes</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-005-06-A214</td>
<td>Compliance with Occupational Health and Safety Act, Chapter 88:08</td>
<td>$650,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-005-06-F151 (Reactivated)</td>
<td>Upgrade of Centeno Livestock Station</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-005-06-F152 (Reactivated)</td>
<td>Upgrade of Artificial Breeding Centre (ABC)</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-005-06-F153</td>
<td>Construction of an Internal Box Drain on Processing Floor at Woodford Lodge Facility</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### New Projects for the Financial Year 2024

The new projects that received funding in the 2024 financial year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>2024 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09-002-01- I144</td>
<td>Fruit Ripening Facility</td>
<td>$65,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-002-01- I145</td>
<td>The Establishment of a Process Facility for an alternative to wheat flour and pepper mash</td>
<td>$65,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-003-01-I361</td>
<td>Design and Construction of the Inter-bay Covering at the Southern Wholesale Market</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Code</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-003-01-I362</td>
<td>Renovation of Southern Wholesale Market Administrative Office</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-003-01-I363</td>
<td>Refurbishment and expansion of a storage facility at the Piarco Packing house</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-005-01-I364</td>
<td>Electrical Upgrade for Stations at Regional Administration North</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-005-01-I365</td>
<td>Relocation of Central Workshop and Land and Water Development Division (LWDD) Stores, El Carmen and Refurbish Office at Centeno</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDF-003-01-J001</td>
<td>Infrastructural Projects by PSAEL (Palo Seco Agricultural Enterprise Limited)</td>
<td>$150,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 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 Recommendations$^{29}$</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 Presented: 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. |

---

$^{29}$ Key Recommendations relate to recommendations that may have a financial impact on the Ministry.
2. **First Report of the JSC on Land and Physical Infrastructure - Inquiry into Land Tenure Issues in Trinidad and Tobago**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Report Presented</td>
<td>HOR: 26.05.2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senate 01.06.2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Recommendation:**
- The Committee therefore recommends: (i) the establishment of a Land Management Authority which will have the overarching responsibility for land administration and management.

3. **Second Report of the JSC on Land and Physical Infrastructure - Inquiry into the allocation and utilization of State lands for food production.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Report Presented</td>
<td>HOR: 23.06.2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senate: 20.06.2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Recommendations:**
- 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.
<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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)**

- 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.

- 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.

5. **Twenty-Third Report of the Public Accounts**

- Report Presented
  HOR: 01.02.2019
  Senate: 05.02.2019
- Response Laid
  HOR: 23.04.2019
  Senate: 11.04.2019

- Report Presented
  HOR: 22.03.2019
- Response Laid
  HOR: 07.06.2019
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>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>Senate: 19.03.2019</th>
<th>Senate: 28.05.2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<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>- 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>
</tr>
<tr>
<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>- 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; and</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- NAMDEVCO should provide a status update on a timetable for the completion of its Strategic Plan by March 31, 2019.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 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;

- The MALF should provide an update on the Cabinet Minute and resultant Cabinet approval for the Draft CDCTTL Strategic Plan by July 31, 2019;

- 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 of 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.

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

| Report Presented | - |
| Report Presented | - |

- 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:
  - A comprehensive National Rice Development Plan;
  - Better quality, and higher quantities of seed stock;
  - Timely payments for paddy;
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• MALF work assiduously to offer an effective service to all farmers through the ‘onestop shop’ concept. New farmers should be able to develop business plans, identify markets for produce, and obtain key information at this ‘one-stop shop’.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• MALF establish a demonstration centre in the South of Trinidad to illustrate the use of non-traditional methods of farming and digital technology in farming.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• MALF review the Agriculture Incentive Programme to provide access to credit and adequate coverage of new farming technologies.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• MALF assist with providing the required certification for farmers involved nontraditional farming to gain access to external markets.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Recent Legislative Developments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill No.</th>
<th>Short Title</th>
<th>Introduced</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/2021</td>
<td><strong>The Livestock and Livestock Products Board (Repeal) Bill, 2021</strong></td>
<td>09-Feb-21</td>
<td>🗳 09-Feb-21 1st Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/2019</td>
<td><strong>The Animal (Diseases and Importation) Amendment Bill, 2019</strong></td>
<td>11-Sep-19</td>
<td>🌲 03-Jul-20 Assent: Awaiting Proclamation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/2020</td>
<td><strong>The Fisheries Management (No. 2) Bill, 2020</strong></td>
<td>26-Oct-20</td>
<td>🗳 26-Oct-20 Referred to Committee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
General Useful Information

- 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
- The National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation, Trinidad and Tobago: http://www.namdevco.com/