Migration Policies in the Caribbean

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General Characteristic of Recent Migration

• Based on the 1990 Census year, and again in 2000, the volume of \textit{emigration} from CARICOM countries was much larger than \textit{immigration}

• Destinations chiefly N. America & Western Europe

• Intra-Caribbean movements continue
Migration Characteristics contd…

- Intra-Caribbean migration is highly dynamic
- Long term labour migration
- Temporary migration
- Recruitment of persons with critical skills
  - nurses, teachers
- Trafficking
- Return Migration and the Transnational and split households, remittance receipt
Caribbean: Immigrants as a percentage of population, 2001
Occupational Categories of Jamaican Migrant Workers to the USA

2000-06

1990s

1980s

1970s

Percentage of Migrant Workers by Occupational Category

- Professional, Executive, Administrative & Managerial
- Services (except private)
- Domestic (private services)
- Other Workers
Occupational Categories of Jamaican Migrant Workers to Canada

Percentage of Migrant Workers by Occupational Category

- Other workers
- Domestic*
- Clerical Sales and Service Workers
- Professional, Executive, Administrative & Managerial
Remittances to Jamaica 1994-2007

US$MN
Trends in Ratios Reflecting the Significance of Worker Remittances in CARICOM, 1996-2005

Percentage of GDP
Total Funds Received in the Past Twelve Months from Absent Migrants (J$)

- Less than 20,000: 52%
- 20,001-40,000: 23%
- 60,001-80,000: 8%
- 80,001-100,000: 3%
- More than 100,000: 14%
Purposes for which Remittances were used by the Household (all households)

- Child Support: 35%
- Medical Expenses: 24%
- Purchase H/H goods: 17%
- H/H Business: 10%
- Funeral: 8%
- Education: 6%
THE CSME

The CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) is now in existence with thirteen of CARICOM states having acceded to the CARICOM Single Market (CSM).
Current Policy

Relating to the Free Movement of Persons within the CSME

The Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas (July 5, 2001), establishing the Caribbean Community including the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME), provides for the exercise of the right of nationals of the Caribbean Community to establish presence and to provide services according to the approved modes of supply of a service in any jurisdiction within the CSME.
Categories of persons permitted to move within the new legislative framework

University graduates
Media workers
Sports persons
Artistes and Musicians
Nurses
Teachers
Artisans with a CVQ (Caribbean Vocational Qualif)
Persons with Associate Degrees
Persons in managerial, technical and supervisory positions who are attached to persons who have established commercial presence in another Member State or are supplying a
Forecast of Future Trends in Migration

Will reflect the combination of a number of factors, including:

• The global financial trends that impact the extra-regional host countries’ employment capacities and their immigration policies and regulations;

• The specific policies of the CSME with regard to intra-Caribbean movement;

• Other aspects of vulnerability, including that due to climate change and environmental disasters.
Capacity-Building Needs

• Altering the Prevailing Views of Migration
• Building Coherence Between Migration and Development Strategies
• Increasing Institutional Integration of Migration Policy-Making and Practice
• Increasing Human Resource Capacity in the Implementation of Migration Policy
• Building capacity in data collection and analysis