



SAINT LUCIA'S EXPERIENCE

TITLE: Establishment of the National Competitiveness and Productivity (NCPC)



Country: Saint Lucia

Institution: Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs, Planning and Social Security

Type of Institution: Public

Other institutions involved: Private Sector Bodies: Chamber of Commerce, Saint Lucia Industrial and Small Business Association, Employers Federation; Trade Unions; Civil society groups, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Public Service

Start Date: 23 November 2012

Context

International best practices suggest that effective Public-Private-Dialogue (PPD) is the most effective way to achieve consensus on initiatives to stimulate Private Sector Development (PSD), enhance competitiveness, and increase economic growth over the medium term

There were no formal opportunities for public-private dialogue in Saint Lucia. The Government has expressed its desire to address this lack of formal dialogue by establishing the National Competitiveness and Productivity Council (NCPC), which will act as the main forum for public-private dialogue on the country's private sector development, competitiveness, and economic growth.

Objectives

- Promote awareness and understanding of the importance of competitiveness and productivity to Saint Lucia's economic wellbeing
- Provide advice to Government on actions required to promote productivity growth and competitiveness.
- Monitor all aspects of productivity growth and competitiveness vis-a-vis other countries
- Assess specific competitiveness and productivity topics in greater detail.
- Advocate on actions to promote productivity and competitiveness.

- Promoting productivity initiatives by proposing recommendations to the Government that will promote sustained growth in a globally competitive economy

Relevance

Given the current economic environment and stagnant growth in Saint Lucia, both the public and private sector has recognized the need to engage in continuous dialogue to promote growth prospects in Saint Lucia.

Implementation

The NCPC was established on 5 August 2013 by the Cabinet of Ministers and is expected to hold its first meeting on 18 October 2013.

Currently, a consultant is preparing a work-plan for the NCPC for implementation for the next 2-3 years along with a monitoring and evaluation system.

Distribution of tasks

All tasks are implemented by the NCPC. The Work Plan for the Council is currently being formulated.

Achievements and results

Establishment of the NCPC on 5 August 2013

Capacity to replicate and potential for exchange of this experience

Yes, there is the capacity to replicate as it engages public-public dialogue

Modalities to replicate the exchange

Workshops / Consultancies

Good practices and concrete lessons

The PPD approach in establishing the Council

Experiences and subjects to learn from other RIAC members

The actual implementation of objectives of their competitiveness councils; sources of financing for key activities

Key persons involved in the design, implementation, and evaluation

The establishment of the NCPC was part of a technical assistance project for Strengthening Public-Private Dialogue in Saint Lucia being funded by Compete Caribbean. The overall project commenced on May 29, 2012

Government of Saint Lucia:

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